



Colorado Mineral Society Mineral Minutes



Volume 84, Issue 6

November 2020

President's Message

by Amber Brenzikofer

I hope this message finds you and your family safe and healthy. For many of us, we have used the past seven months for caring for family members, homeschooling, navigating endless Zoom meetings, delivering groceries to aging parents and neighbors, or supporting loved ones who have fallen ill. As it appears this crisis will continue through the winter, it is important to keep your brain busy but relaxed by volunteering, watching videos about rocks and minerals (see helpful links in this newsletter), and getting some exercise.

The November 6th CMS virtual meeting will feature Erin Delventhal talking about the Blanchard Mine in Bingham, New Mexico. The Zoom link for the meeting is provided on Page 1. The Blanchard Mine is a favorite CMS field trip for members each year and has wonderful specimens that can be collected. Learn about the mining history and types of minerals that have been found at the mine.

CMS is run by board members who volunteer their time to further the club's mission. Executive Officers (President, 1st Vice President, 2nd Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer) for 2021 will be elected at our December 4th virtual meeting. There is more information on executive officer nominations that have been received so far on Page 2 of this newsletter. Additional nominations will be taken until November 11th. A ballot will be sent out by November 13th (more information on the process is located on Page 2). CMS has numerous chairperson volunteer positions available and they are also listed on Page 2. Our CMS virtual Board meetings are on the third Tuesdays of the month at 7:00pm.

A CMS rock sale is planned in May 2021 to help raise funds for the club. CMS has received many donations in the last couple of years. We will spend the next 6 months organizing, cataloging, and pricing donations for the sale. We are also exploring putting some of our higher-end donations online for sale or in an auction and are looking for volunteers who can help in these efforts. If you are interested, contact me at pres.coloradomineralsociety@gmail.com.

I just read on the Tucson Gem and Mineral Show website that their Main show at the Tucson Convention Center has been canceled for 2021. However, they are planning an even better show in 2022 with the theme "The Show That Glows" featuring the "Apatite Supergroup" and a special exhibit by the Fluorescent Mineral Society, celebrating their 50th Anniversary. The other Tucson satellite shows may still be going on in 2021.

This is also a reminder that to support small, local businesses this holiday season. This includes rock and mineral dealers who may be selling online. If any rock and mineral dealers are having online or in-person sales, please send the information to me and I can distribute to the club members. Stay safe this fall!

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CMS November Zoom Meeting Link: November 6th, 2020 7:30pm

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89629960802?pwd=SDMzVGorTmlrUjhHenhMNMh3VSs3Zz09>

Phone to Call In: 1-346-248-7799 US

Meeting ID: 896 2996 0802 # Passcode:150700 #

Abstract located on Page 4

Do you have a great suggestion or article for CMS' Mineral Minutes?

Let Us Know!

If you have something that you think would look great in a future edition of the Mineral Minutes tell us. We are always looking for fun new content or ideas from our members and would love to hear from you. To give us your ideas please send an email to

editor.coloradomineralsociety@gmail.com



CMS 2021 Officer Election Instructions

Officer elections will be held during the Friday, December 4th Virtual Meeting. Nominations received so far for 2021 CMS Officers include:

- ❖ President: Amber Brenzikofer
- ❖ First Vice President-Programs: Mark Jacobson
- ❖ Second Vice President-Education: Mark Leatherman
- ❖ Secretary: Ben Geller
- ❖ Treasurer: Loni Cole

If you are interested in an elected officer position, Debbie Kalscheur will be accepting nominations until November 11th. Send nominations to pres.coloradomineralsociety@gmail.com and they will be forwarded to Debbie to compile. Once all the nominations are in, a ballot will be sent out by email and posted on our website that can either be voted on by a link anonymously or printed out and mailed in to the P.O. Box. All ballots must be received by December 1st.

In addition, there are several Board-appointed chairperson positions that remain open. If you are interested or want more information, contact pres.colorradomineralsociety@gmail.com. Available positions include:

- Donations Chairperson
- Field Trip Coordinator
- Donations Chair
- Technology Leader
- Annual Auction Chair
- Volunteer Coordinator

Rocky Mountain Federation News

The Rocky Mountain Federation of Mineralogical Societies (RMFMS) is made up of 78 clubs representing 13 Western states. CMS is a member of RMFMS. The Rocky Mountain Federation News is published monthly and is located at www.rmfmms.org.



A.F.M.S Newsletter

The American Federation of Mineralogical Societies (A.F.M.S) 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>.



[Like Colorado Mineral Society on Facebook](#)

CMS New Members

Another warm welcome to all our new members who joined CMS over the summer

First Listing

Harry and Amy Kampakis
Blake Lohman and Phuong Phan
Andrea Puyear and Ambrey Nichols & family

Second Listing

Vanessa and Jon Bayer
Billy and Debra Bell
Caryn and Keith Brick
Jessica and Todd Brookhart & family
Autumn Buehler
Parker Carman
Linda Chorney
Elizabeth and Kelsey Chorney & family
Theresa Corley
Josephine Dalugdug
Stacy and C. Todd Eary & family
Silvan Erb-Summers
Nicholas Griffes
Travis and Alliene Gunn & family
Kylee Hahn
Jeffery and Irene Hall & family
Shannin and Orlando Hamilton
Daniel Helfer
Mark Irby-Gill
Bruce and Tina Jakel
Andrea and Scott Jones
Keita and Madoka Kato
Megan and Darrell King & family
Michael Leonard
Robert and Valerie Leonard
Jessica and Jeffrey Linder
Sue and Sheldon Longhini
Melissa and Felipe Lopez & family
Mildred Lough

Second Listing

Rebecca Lubitsky
Vanessa and Nolan Mandonado
Mallory McCormick
Jena McGarrah
Joanne and Phil McKay
Michael McNichols
Nathan Meader
Harold (Beau) and Beth Merkel
Eva and Bryan Millwood
Gene Monroe
Bridgette and Joseph Moss & family
Noel and Jason Nemcik & family
Shenna and Nathan Nichols & family
Axel and Ashley Palmstrom
Elizabeth Perillo
Melanie and Nick Polanco
Sami Reuter
Jessica and Ryan Rhodes
Alma and Gwen Rode
Kirah Romo
Taron and Melissa Rueger
Jamie Salazar
Julie and Tim Sharp
Kate and Josh Spring
Rebecca and Brian Stetson & family
Dayshun and Kevin Stevens-Felling
Ariel Stokes
Kelly Sullivan
Tony and Penelope Trease
Nicholas Villarreal
Marie and Wesley Wang
Chris Willis
Mark and Ashley Woods & family
Jennifer and Curtis Wright & family

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

INTERESTING LINKS:

A Visitor's Guide to Colorado Gemstones: <https://www.gemsociety.org/article/colorado-gemstones-guide/>
(complements of Lake George Gem & Mineral Club)

Rocky Mountain Map Society RMMS; Denver Public Library, Gates Room, 3rd Tuesday, 5:30 p.m.), Online via Zoom until further notice. For further information see: <http://rmmaps.org/>

November Virtual Meeting Presentation

“The Blanchard Mine: The Little Mine That Couldn't Ore”

by Erin Delventhal

The Blanchard Mine, located in the Hansonburg District in the northern portion of the Oscura Mountains, Socorro County, New Mexico, has earned its place as a classic New Mexican locality through the production of widely available, high-quality mineral specimens - most notably the “Blanchard blue” fluorite (often associated with galena) as well as the discovery of some of the world’s largest known linarite crystals. However, the rich mineralization at the Blanchard Mine produces a suite of other minerals that appeal to many varieties of collecting styles.



Fluorite on quartz
21 cm x 10 cm x 8 cm
5.4 cm edge on large crystal
Across from the ore bin
Ray DeMark specimen
Erin Delventhal photograph



Malachite ps. linarite ps. galena
Sunshine #1 adit
11.2 cm x 4.8 cm x 4.8 cm
Mike Sanders specimen • collected 8/30/1987
Erin Delventhal photograph

Fluorite on quartz
Across from the ore bin
21 cm x 10 cm x 8 cm, 5.4 cm edge on large crystal
Ray DeMark specimen
Erin Delventhal photograph

Malachite ps. linarite ps. galena
Sunshine #1 Adit
11.2 cm x 4.8 cm x 4.8 cm
Mike Sanders specimen collected 8/30/1987
Erin Delventhal photograph

The history of the Blanchard Mine reaches into Indigenous Peoples and Spanish colonial history, but large-scale development began in the early 1900s. Numerous attempts were made to develop an economic source of lead at the Blanchard, but all were victim to the trials found in mining in a harsh and remote desert. Throughout the years, the Blanchard has been utilized as a “collector’s dream,” with visitors arriving from around the globe to be lead through the property by characters such as Ora Blanchard (“The Lady on the Mountain”), Sam “Rattlesnake” Jones, and, in present times, Ray DeMark, Mike Sanders, and Brian Huntsman.

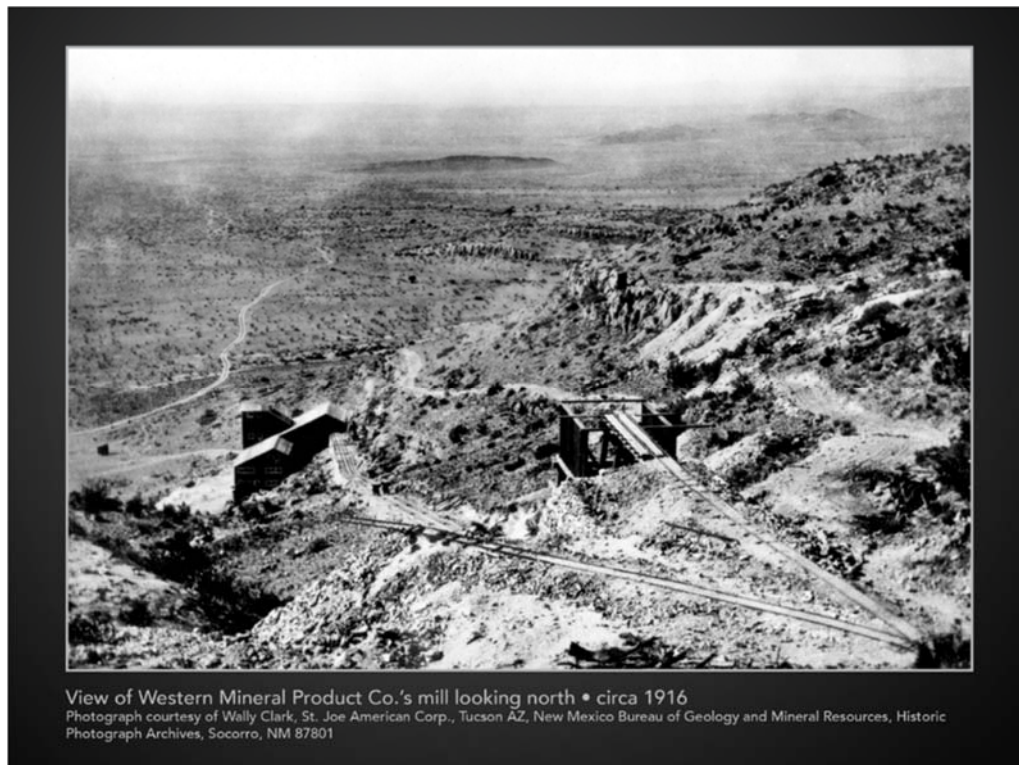
The Sierra Oscura Mountains consist of basement Proterozoic granites and gneisses with overlying Pennsylvanian formations of marine limestone and shale with interbedded arkosic sandstone. Mineral deposits at the Blanchard Mine are concentrated as open-space fillings in fissures, fault breccia, and solution cavities that are primarily concentrated in the Council Springs limestone. The Blanchard Mine and the Hansonburg District have been the subject of numerous academic studies as one of the most prominent of the Rio Grande Rift deposits.

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The Blanchard Mine (Continued)



Ora Blanchard at the rock shop in Bingham - circa 1967
Photograph by Vera Jones, courtesy of Vera Jones and the New Mexico Bureau of Geology and Mineral Resources, Historical Photograph Archives, Socorro, NM 87801



View of Western Mineral Product Company's mill looking north – circa 1916
Photograph courtesy of Wally Clark, St. Joe American Corp./ Tucson, AZ, New Mexico Bureau of Geology and Mineral Resources, Historic Photograph Archives, Socorro, NM 87801

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The Blanchard Mine (Continued)

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CMS 2021 Membership Dues – Time to Renew

A membership form is located on the CMS website at www.coloradomineralsociety.com.

CMS Membership Dues:

Family: \$20 per year
Senior 65+ (single or family): \$15 per year

Single: \$18 per year
Junior (<12 years old): \$15 per year

CMS memberships run from January 1st to December 31st. Here are two ways to pay your dues:

1. Renew your 2021 membership online at <https://fieldtrips.coloradomineralsociety.org/> and log in to your account.
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. Membership cards will be mailed to you.

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. If you ordered a name badge and have not received it, please contact cmsmbrshipchair@gmail.com.

Congratulations!

2020 Bulletin Contest Results

Several club members have won awards from the 2020 Rocky Mountain Federation of Mineral Societies (RMFMS) Bulletin Contest and the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies (AFMS) annual meeting for outstanding bulletins and newsletter articles.

RMFMS Awards

1 st Place (Trophy) Features–Photo Collage: Mount Xuebaoding, China	Markus B. Raschke
2 nd Place Large Bulletin: Mineral Minutes	Amber Brenzikofer, Editor
2 nd Place Written Features: 2018 CMS Holiday Party	Eva Siemonsma
2 nd Place Features-Photo Collage: 2018 CMS Field Trip Photographs	Amber Brenzikofer
Honorable Mention Written Features: CMS Strategic Plan	Debbie Kalscheur

AFMS Awards

7 th Place Large Bulletin: Mineral Minutes	Amber Brenzikofer, Editor
3 rd Place Written Features: 2018 CMS Holiday Party	Eva Siemonsma

Note: First place winners for RMFMS and AFMS receive a trophy, ribbon, and certificate; second and third place winners receive a RMFMS ribbon and certificate; and honorable mentions receive a RMFMS certificate. First and second place winners from RMFMS contest are submitted to the AFMS contest. The Features-Photo Collage category is only judged by RMFMS and is not a category judged by AFMS.

Colorado Mineral Society General Meeting Minutes

Friday, October 2, 2020

Meeting Start Time: 7:35 PM

General Announcements – Amber Brenzikofer, President

- Tomorrow (10/3) 12pm-3pm Founders Day Celebration at Addenbrooke Park, CMS will have some specimens (slabs, carvings, general meeting rocks that has already been priced) for sale and some buckets (mainly petrified wood) of minerals
- Planning on Virtual Meetings November/December
 - Nov. 6th will be Blanchard Mine (Erin D)
 - Dec. 4th tentatively will be Mark Jacobson. Talk to be determined, also possibly doing trivia or games, etc.
 - Anticipating virtual meetings January through May 2021
- Board and Other positions available
 - One open position is first VP (speakers for meetings and help out during meeting, attend board meeting are duties)
 - Several committee chair people available, Field Trip Coordinator is included in this
 - Donations Chair is needed
 - Technology leader is needed
 - We will be doing new platform for website and field trip website (not new sites though)
 - Ideas came from our CMS strategy sessions (need IT)
 - Annual Auction Chair is open
 - In leu of an auction, will likely have a large rock sale (will be the main source of income for our club)
 - New position open is *Volunteer Coordinator*
 - Consider if you are interested in putting together volunteers for club meetings, trips, etc
- December we vote for elected officers
 - Will likely send out an online ballot as well as paper ballot
 - Taking nominations for positions, First VP or any other board positions,
 - Current executive board positions have agreed to run again this year
- Have had really good, but limited field trips this year
 - Due to claim owners limiting lists, among other reasons
 - Field Trip Coordinator would help
 - Baculite Mesa Trip still on the schedule (half full, plenty of room as of 10/2)
- Lost two CMS members this summer
 - Pete Modreski's wife Jane in Michigan this summer
 - Jack Gray passed away near Creede
- RMFMS newsletter gave us 1st place from Markus Raschke's talk last year on China - plaque and ribbon were given to him! CMS won 2nd place for large newsletter for 2019, Eva and Debbie also won awards
- Have had a lot of people join our club in the summer! Amber did not read all the names, referenced the newsletter
- Bruce Geller asked a question about who attended the two Denver shows and what they thought - Many meeting participants were in attendance at various shows

Markus Raschke - Presentation

- Speaking about Mount Xuebaoding in China

Meeting Adjourned: 8:30 PM

Colorado Mineral Society Board Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, October 20, 2020

Call to Order @ 7:02 pm – Amber Brenzikofer

Attendants: Amber Brenzikofer, Ben Geller, Loni Cole, John Papes, and Debbie Kalscheur

Open Positions

- First VP
- Field Trip Coordinator
- Donations Chair
- Technology Leader
- Annual Auction Chair
- Volunteer Coordinator – new position

Items for Board Approval/Special Topics

- Approval of September 22, 2020 Meeting Minutes - Loni made motion, John seconded motion to approve board minutes from September 2020, unanimous approval
- Remaining 2020 general meetings – online video conference calls
 - Amber bought Zoom for the presentations, up to 100 people
- **November 6th** – live presentation from Erin Delventhal on History and Specimens of Blanchard Mine, call for officers and board member nominations, Debbie is part of the nominations committee
- **December 4th** – officer elections, presentation, online trivia, mineral ID with pictures competition
- Raffle expenditures for educational items needed by 12/31/20 and 3/30/21
 - 10 rock/mineral ID kits for kids – pricing provided
 - 24 backpacks for the kids – pricing provided
 - Junior rock logs – pricing provided
 - Motion to purchase the kits and backpacks (general expenditure was approved last month), Loni motioned, Ben seconded, passed unanimously
- Membership databases and reconciliation
 - Ongoing, report formats need to be sent to Joey
- CMS storage unit organization of donations for rock sale/raffle/give-away – Saturdays in 2020 (November 7, November 14, December 5, December 12)
 - New donations were given by club members, priced and labeled
 - Approval of \$423 expenditure for shelves, table, and 4 chairs, Ben motioned, Debbie seconded, unanimous approval
- Donations spreadsheet update - Amber - ongoing
- Online auction/sales for higher end specimens
 - Online options, photographing specimens, online sales, tracking, etc...
- Creation of a CMS Store to sell specimens, T-shirts, hats
 - Amber has run out of patches, is getting a quote
- CMS Library Books – Need to move from Church to storage unit
 - Display cases and hospitality need to be added to this list

Officer/Committee Reports

- Education Update – Mark – no report
- Treasury - Loni
 - Speaking about past fiscal year, spoke about account standings
 - Biggest expenses were in education, newsletter expenses, RMFMS Dues
 - Some income from the current fiscal year (rock sale in October picnic)
 - Someone lined up to do the annual audit
- Membership – Amber read three new members
- Newsletter – Jimmy, deadline 10/23/2020
- Technology committee – John T.- no report
- Field Trip Committee Update – Amber
 - One more field trip (Baculite Mesa, Saturday)

Next CMS Board Meeting: November 17th, Conference/Video Call

Call to Adjourn: 8:11pm

COLORADO MINERAL SOCIETY OFFICERS
2020

President: Amber Brenzikofer
First VP-Programs: **OPEN**
Second VP-Education: Mark Leatherman
Secretary: Ben Geller
Treasurer: Loni Cole

Appointed Board Members - Committee Chairpersons

Annual Auction: **OPEN**
Door Prizes-Guests: Jonathan Papes
Library: Kevin Atwater
Display Chair: Chris Keilman
Membership: Leslie Osgood
Field Trip Leader: **OPEN**
Field Trip Leader Co-Chair: Nels Grevstad
Nominations: Debbie Kalscheur
Grab Bags Coordinator: Wendy Carley
Publications: Jimmy Betsill
Historian: Amber Brenzikofer
Jr Rockhound Coordinator: Mistyann Bateman
Jr Rockhound Assistants: Joanna Morsicato/Wendy Carley
Hospitality: Star Edwards
Donations: **OPEN**
Technology Leader: **OPEN**
Volunteer Chair: **OPEN**
Web Master: Julio Edwards

coloradomineralsociety@comcast.net

Representatives (Board Members)

Denver Council Trustee: Debbie Kalscheur
Denver Show Rep: Amber Brenzikofer

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 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 usually 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. **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.

MEMBERSHIP: Open to all persons who agree to abide by Society rules and rules of the Federations. Annual fees are: \$20.00 for a Family living at the same household, \$18.00 for a Single Membership, \$15.00 for a Senior Membership (single or family over 65), and \$15.00 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 as a member of the Denver Greater Gem and Mineral Council and the original Denver Gem and Mineral Show; 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.

Any material herein may be reproduced by any club if proper credit is given. Material from many sources is used in the Mineral Minutes. While it is believed that these items are accurate, neither the editor nor CMS assumes any liability for their use. Advertiser's claims are their own, and their products are not warranted by CMS.

Deadline for publication is the 20th of the month prior to publication. All correspondence to Mineral Minutes or questions should be sent to Jimmy Betsill, Editor, P.O. Box 280755, Lakewood, Colorado 80228-0755; phone: 720.480.5234; or by email to:

editor.coloradomineralsociety@gmail.com



Colorado Mineral Society
PO Box 280755
Lakewood, CO 80228

FIRST CLASS MAIL



Calendar of Events

November 6, 2020, CMS VIRTUAL November General Meeting

Presentation: Blanchard Mine by Erin Delventhal

December 4, 2020, CMS VIRTUAL December/Christmas Party

**Presentation: How to Identify Colorado Minerals
by Mark Ivan Jacobson**



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