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!

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
Reminder
If you are feeling ill, running a fever, have a cough or other symptoms, or have been exposed to someone with COVID-19 in the past 2 weeks, please do not attend any field trips or events. Participants will be asked to wear face masks and practice social distancing. Carpooling is discouraged for now.

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.coloradomineralsociety@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.rmfms.org.

A.F.M.S Newsletter

Like Colorado Mineral Society on Facebook
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 McCarrick  
Jena McGarrahan  
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:**

(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/](http://rmmaps.org/)

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**CMS Mineral Minutes**           **3**           **November 2020**
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.

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 led 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.

Continued on Page 5
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

Continued on Page 6
The Blanchard Mine (Continued)

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Elstone, E. F., 1961, Facts, Data, and Estimates - Bingham Project of Sunshine Mining Company, Socorro County, New Mexico.


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Eveleth, R. W., 2018, Chronology of the Hansonburg Mining District (working notes).


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Kottlowski, F. E., Steensma, R. S., 1979, Barite-fluorite-lead mines of Hansonburg mining district in central New Mexico: New Mexico Geology Vol. 1, No. 2.


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Continued on Page 7
The Blanchard Mine (Continued)


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Peters, E. D., 1882, Notes on the Oscura Copper-Fields, and Other Mines in New Mexico: The Engineering and Mining Journal.


Rocks and Minerals magazine, December 1936, Vol. 11, No. 11.


Steensma, R. S., 1979, Feasibility of gravitational ore separation, Hansonburg mining district, central New Mexico: New Mexico Geology.


Sun, M., 1957, Minerals of the Hansonburg Mining District, Socorro County, New Mexico: Rocks and Minerals Magazine.


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

1st Place (Trophy) Features–Photo Collage: Mount Xuebaoding, China
Markus B. Raschke

2nd Place Large Bulletin: Mineral Minutes
Amber Brenzikofer, Editor

2nd Place Written Features: 2018 CMS Holiday Party
Eva Siemonsma

2nd Place Features-Photo Collage: 2018 CMS Field Trip Photographs
Amber Brenzikofer

Honorable Mention Written Features: CMS Strategic Plan
Debbie Kalscheur

AFMS Awards

7th Place Large Bulletin: Mineral Minutes
Amber Brenzikofer, Editor

3rd 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 lieu 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     - Technology Leader
- Field Trip Coordinator   - Annual Auction Chair
- Donations 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
  - November 6th – live presentation from Erin Delventhala 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 Kellman
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.

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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
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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