



Colorado Mineral Society

Mineral Minutes



Volume 81, Issue 7

October 2017

President's Message

by John W. Smith

Hello everyone. Welcome back from summer vacation. As I understand we had more than a few new members join over the summer, so a special welcome to all of you. Hope to see you at the upcoming general meeting.

Well, hunting season is basically over for most of us. There are only a few multiple day trips left that the diehards will be going on. I hope each of you accomplished what you had plans to do but fear not there is always next year.

If you did not know already, you will discover by reading elsewhere in this newsletter that we (the entire club membership present at the October general meeting) will be discussing and voting on changes to the Colorado Mineral Society (CMS) by-laws. A word of warning – you must be present to vote as there will be NO proxies accepted. You will be provided a copy of these changes beforehand (by email or mailed hard copy) and there will be a limited number of hard copies available at the meeting. Please print and bring the by-laws with you to the meeting, if possible. These changes are basically updating wording – making them compatible with today's socially accepted norms and laws - and adding previously overlooked items.

It is my hope that these discussions will be succinct and not use all the time allotted for them so that we can spend time oohing and aahing over the wonderful specimens that everyone else captured over the summer. Speaking of which, would everyone please bring their best specimens to the meeting that you found on any of the CMS-sponsored field trips so that pictures can be taken to show next year's hunters the types of specimens that can be found on the various field trips. Also, bring items of special interest that you may have procured at the mineral shows in September.

Looking ahead, in November, we are still confirming the speaker and presentation for the general meeting, but members who participated in the Topaz Mountain, Utah field trip last week should bring their special finds to put together a display case. That should give everyone time to clean and prepare the specimens. There will also be a recap of trip, with the discovery of new location and future collecting possibilities.

For the December meeting, we will be voting on next year's five elected officers of the club. Again, you must be present to vote as NO proxies will be accepted. Should anyone wish to be considered for any of these positions, please make your desires known to any of this year's officers at the November meeting or before nominations are closed just prior to the election. The December meeting is also the holiday party. Always one of my favorite times of the year. There will be cake, prizes, and fun for all. Did I mention cake???? Parents be sure to remember that you will need to let Santa know if your child will be at the party, so he can plan accordingly.

See you October 6th at the general meeting. We will be starting the meeting promptly at 7:30pm.

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Next CMS General Meeting Friday, October 6, 2017

This is a reminder that the next CMS general meeting will be on October 6th at 7:30pm at the St. Paul's Episcopal Church at 10th Avenue and Garrison Street in Lakewood. Visitors and guests are welcome to attend the general meetings. There will be no presentation, because of the discussion of by-laws revisions and a vote of acceptance.

COLORADO MINERAL SOCIETY OFFICERS

2017

President: John W. Smith

First VP-Programs: Gary Rowe

Second VP-Education: Debbie Kalschauer

Secretary: Aaron Cross

Treasurer: Eva Siemonsma

Appointed Board Members - Committee Chairpersons

Annual Auction: Ben Geller

Auction Co-Chair: Rob Deschambault

Door Prizes-Guests: Cindy and Paul Hatfield

Library: Kevin Atwater

Display Chair: **OPEN**

Membership: **OPEN ?**

Field Trip Leader: Gary Rowe

Field Trip Leader Co-Chair: Nels Grevstad

Nominations: Bruce Sales

Grab Bags: Marchelle Larson

Editor: Amber Brenzikofer

Historian: Amber Brenzikofer

Scrapbook: Jennifer Knies

Jr Rockhound Coordinator: **OPEN**

Jr Rockhound Assistant: **OPEN**

Hospitality: Star Edwards

Donations: Debbie Kalschauer

Web Master: Julio Edwards

coloradomineralsociety@comcast.net



Representatives (Board Members)

Denver Council Rep: Bruce Sales

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 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 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 Amber Brenzikofer, Editor, P.O. Box 280755, Lakewood, Colorado 80228-0755; phone: 720.480.5234; or by email to:

editor.coloradomineralsociety@gmail.com

CMS Founders Day Picnic Recap

by Amber Brenzikofer

The CMS Founders Day Picnic was held on September 9, 2017 at St. Paul's Episcopal Church and there were approximately 20 CMS members in attendance. The picnic featured good food, good conversation, good weather, and above all, lots of great rocks and minerals collected by members on this year's CMS field trips. Members who could not attend the picnic made sure their great specimens were present for voting. Selections for the CMS Club Prospectors Case was made. Thank you to all the members who attended the picnic and helped pick the top specimens that were entered into the Club Prospector case. The top three vote getters were:

- 1) Topaz from Tarryall Mountains, Colorado by Ron Wankner (Prospector Case Specimen #1)
- 2) Actinolite after Diopside from Calumet Mine, Colorado by Linda Anderson (Prospector Case Specimen #2)
- 3) Botryoidal Goethite from US 60 Mine, New Mexico by Gary Rowe (Prospector Case Specimen #3)

Other specimens that were included in the Club Prospectors case was Robert Boehm's and Keely Nolan's (her first CMS field trip) petrified wood specimens from Blue Forest, Wyoming and Nels Grevstad's fluorite specimens from Blanchard Mine, New Mexico. I put together the base model to replicate a mine in the side of a mountain to go along with the mining theme of the show. It is with great pride to announce that CMS won 1st Place for the Club Prospectors Case Trophy again this year. The 1st Place plaque came with a piece of gold nugget on it.



CMS Club Prospectors Case at the Denver Gem and Mineral Show.



Ron Wankner and his 257-carat topaz at Joe Dorris' topaz mine in the Tarryall Mountains. With the white light underneath in the display case, the blue and brown colors come out in the topaz.



Linda Anderson standing next to her Actinolite after Diopside specimen at the Denver Show.



Robert Boehm and Keely Nolan digging out their Blue Forest petrified wood specimens in Wyoming.

Photos by Amber Brenzikofer

CMS New Members

First Listing

Ryan Aldrich
Luke Burroughs
Jason Evans
Tim and Eileen Hackett & family
Samuel Hays
Kent (Jr) and Patti Hedges
Ryan Hostetler
Rebecca Jehorek
Samuel Kingsbury
James and Kathy Kucera
Sierra Neblina
Chris and Mara Nelson & family
Keely Nolan
Shannon and Patrick Reilly & family
Crystal Sziklas and Jimmie Bonato
Alicia Todd and Eric Winkler
Wendie and Jeff Weber & family

Second Listing

Alexandre Marti
Masaki Tsukada
Gary and Michele Eye
Candi Finger and Matthew Roger
Charles and Virginia Kooyman & Family
Catherine and Pat Shirk
Teresa Westhoven & Family
Mariah Williams and Chris Hrach
Jaclyn and Rachael Brown
Jan Fairchild
Stephanie Kane
Patrice Leonard and Robert Larsen
Nicole and Ted Leonard & Family
Robyn Tapp

Welcome!

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

CMS Education Update

The 2017 dig season is wrapping up and the Denver Show is over for this year. The Fall CMS meeting season is just getting started. The CMS Education Committee is working hard to pull together some educational opportunities for both Fall and Spring. Fall is relatively short, so the turn on possible classes will need to be quite quick.

One possible Fall offering will be a wire wrapping course. We are in process of identifying a course instructor and firm up the details of the course so that we can share those details and gauge interest at the October meeting. The course will likely meet weekly for 3-4 weeks targeting the Nov/Dec timeframe. If you are interested in learning the basics of wire wrapping, please be prepared to sign up at the October meeting. This is an opportunity to learn how to wrap your own material you found out in the field or minerals you have acquired some other way. Course cost and curriculum description are planned to be presented at the meeting. If we cannot get the class organized for the Fall, we will target the class for early next year.

We are also gauging interest in other courses, perhaps one around the basics of building out a mineral collection and considerations for managing the collection over time. We are working on possible class details.

I also wanted to provide an update on Ed Raines Mineral Identification Course. We have been trying to get the Mineral ID course together for some time now and unfortunately it looks like we will not be able to offer this course this Fall. We will revisit the possibility of offering this course in the Spring.

If you have any ideas for classes or are interested in teaching a class (or know someone who is), please email me at Kalscheur2016@gmail.com or find me at the October meeting to discuss further. Thank you.

Debbie Kalscheur, CMS Education Committee Chair

CMS Beading Guild

This is a group that gathers to make earrings and necklaces. If you would like to explore your creativity, come join the group on **October 8th at 2pm**. The cost? 20% above cost of piece you design. Tools needed? Contact Eva for details. CMS has some findings and beads available for your project or you can bring your items to create your project.

To be sure we can all play in the space available, RSVP to Eva.

2017 Denver Gem & Mineral Show Recap

by Amber Brenzikofer

CMS was well represented at the 50th Annual Denver Gem & Mineral Show on September 15-17, 2017 at the Denver Mart Expo Hall. Thank you to all the CMS members who volunteered for various show committee positions, including security, admissions, treasurer, setup and take down, etc. A big thank you to Lesley Sebol, a CMS member along with other local clubs, for continuing as the Show Chair; she did a great job!!! Thank you to Gary Borkan for organizing the CMS club table, which included organizing the giveaway minerals, setting up the displays, and coordinating volunteers to man the table throughout the show. Thanks to those members who volunteered at the club table and promoted CMS to prospective members. Fridays are fun when all the school children stop by for a free rock and may need help with their show homework assignments. CMS gave away a ton of great rocks and minerals to kids and adults, so thank you to all those who provided donations for the give-away. A special thanks goes out to Dale and Virginia Block for putting together 600 grab bags on CMS's behalf for this year's show.



CMS club table at the 2017 Denver Gem and Mineral Show draws a crowd for free rocks and minerals. Left photo: Bruce Sales, former CMS President and John Smith, current CMS President promoting the club. Right Photo: Jim Hall and Debbie Kalscheur giving away rocks and answering questions. Bottom Left Photo: Gary Borkan, Sabra Hoerter, and Amber Brenzikofer manning the booth on Friday morning with all the school kids. Bottom right Photo: Club case with gold and silver specimens from member's collections. All photos from Amber Brenzikofer.



Thank you to everyone who brought gold and silver specimens from their collections to put in the CMS club case. It was a very impressive case. Members who contributed gold and/or silver specimens included:

Boyd Cook
Chris Keilman
Debbie Kalscheur
Jeff Self and Donna Ware

Bob and Kate Chavez
Gary Rowe
Amber Brenzikofer

Denver Gem & Mineral Show 2017 - Winners in the Special Competitions

Richard M. Pearl Award: Phil Gregory (Rhodochrosite, Park County, Colorado)

Best of Species Trophy:

Thumbnail - Larry Havens (Stephanite, Bolivia)

Toenail - Jack Halpern (Gold, Eagles Nest Mine, California)

Miniature - Jack Halpern (Gold, Venezuela)

Cabinet - Jack Halpern (Silver, Kongsberg, Norway)

Best of Colorado - Judy and Ron Knoshaug (Gold, Breckenridge)

Best Fossil: Jim Hooten (Devonian brachiopod, Garfield County, Colorado)

Prospector Trophy: Randal Kokkinen (Smoky quartz and amazonite, Colorado)

Junior Prospector Trophy: Hunter Kokkinen (Amazonite and quartz, Colorado)

C. E. Withers Award: John Warn (Himalaya Mine Tourmalines)

Winners of Competitive Exhibits:

Donna Chirside Memorial Museum Trophy: Museum of Western Mining and Industry, Colorado Springs, Colorado

Individual Competitive Case Trophies:

Thumbnails of One Mineral Species - Barbara Sky (Masters, Barites)

Worldwide Thumbnails - Nick North (Masters)

Worldwide Miniatures - Ron and Judy Knoshaug (Masters)

Open Minerals - Larry and Denise Rossum (Advanced, Barites, Elk Creek, South Dakota)

Specialized Fossils - Evan Walsh (Novice, Cretaceous Theropod Dinosaurs)

Educational, General Audience, Minerals - Erin Delventhal (Novice, "Naming Minerals")

Educational, Informed Audience, Other - Dale Plume (Novice, "Complex Gold & Silver Ores of Colorado")

Educational, General Audience, Other - Dale Gann (Novice, "Gold and Silver Ore to Coins and Bullion")

Club Prospector Trophy - Colorado Mineral Society

Submitted by Judy Knoshaug, Secretary



Junior Rockhounds Rock!!!!

CMS Junior Rockhounds did a great job this year collecting in the field and entering specimens in the Junior Prospector competition. First and second place went to Hunter Kokkinen (left) and there was a third-place tie between Lizzie Kent and Bella Kent (left). Congratulations!



Lightning Position

by

Ray McPadden

They say if lightning is close, you shouldn't lie on the ground. You should assume the lightning position: one squats down, balancing on the toes, with heels pressed together and hands over the ears. It's supposed to minimize your exposure to lightning. The position feels more like medieval torture than science. I used to be convinced it wouldn't matter anyway; if lightning struck close, you'd be cooked, whatever position you were in. Wouldn't it be better to die comfortable?

Then one day my wife, Elizabeth, and I were collecting at 13,300 feet on Mt. White, under the cobalt sky of summer. We were chasing a seam of beryl, 3 feet below the overburden. In my hole, hammer blows had sharpened the rock edges. My blood dripped from the rocks, for I'd forgotten to don my gloves, a recurring problem when I was excited. With my hammer, I aimed and struck again. Sparks jumped while more rock fragments fell away. The blood was now flowing from my hands. I paused and finally pulled on my gloves and looked west. On the horizon, a storm was taking shape, billowing into a beautiful gray battleship. In short order, the storm raced toward us and slammed into the mountain, dropping black tendrils of rain. Lightning forked across the sky while fog wreathed the nearby summits of Mt Antero and Carbonate.

It had all happened so fast. The heart of the storm was upon us. Elizabeth and I jumped from our holes and ran downslope, plunge-stepping, the scree parting and reforming around our boots like water. Now lightning danced across the south knob of Antero. Rain came in slants. I heard the crackle of hail hitting granite. About then, lightning struck a gendarme just above. Now lightning split the valley below. Running between the folds and rills of the mountain, we came upon an overhanging rock. The ground beneath was dry. My wife curled up in this little oasis.

Pointing to my truck, I yelled, "We've got to keep going down." The vehicle, our island of safety, was a small red dot far below. Crack went the sky. It sounded like the fabric of the universe had been torn. Crack!

In a trembling voice, Elizabeth asked, "Are we going to be okay?"

It was a simple question, a question that cut to the heart of everything there on the mountainside, the type of question people ask when scared out of their wits. I hadn't heard a question like that since a gunfight in the Afghan mountains in 2009.

I told Elizabeth, "We're fine," though I wasn't sure. "Keep going down. Hurry."

We ran again, making an undignified retreat. Twice I fell headfirst and tumbled, the contents of my pack spilling. I did not return for them. It's a shame to lose good beef jerky. Crack went the sky again. Thunder bowled through the valley between White and Antero. A white flash touched a spine 300 feet above us. There was a shower of sparks. The boom was simultaneous.



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Lightning Position (Continued)

We were caught, the storm swirling overhead, lightning crashing into everything. In my mind, there was no other choice. Grabbing Elizabeth's shoulder, I said, "Get down." We both took up the lightning position in a train of boulders. Our form was textbook. Then, as we squatted side by side, Elizabeth reached out and clutched my hand. You aren't supposed to stay together. They say you should spread out—to minimize the risk of a strike injuring multiple people. But there on the mountain, under the hungry jaws of a thunderstorm, we didn't spread out. We wanted to die holding hands. We stayed like that for a long time.

I don't know exactly how long we held on, but the strikes moved on, growing more vague as the storm barreled west. The Arkansas Valley disappeared behind the curtain of rain. Breathe. Breathe. When I stood, I saw I had squeezed all the blood from Elizabeth's hand. It was ghostly white.

"Sorry," I said. "That was a close one."

Elizabeth replied, "Not cool."

"I suppose I'll go look for that jerky."

38TH ANNUAL NEW MEXICO MINERAL SYMPOSIUM

November 11 and 12, 2017

The 38th annual New Mexico Mineral Symposium will be held Saturday and Sunday, November 11th and 12th, at the Macey Center at the New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology, Socorro, New Mexico. The symposium consists of a day and a half of formal papers presented in 30-minute talks. On Saturday evening, there is a dinner and silent auction. For registration information call 575-835-5302.

Field Trip: There will be a field trip to the US 60 Mine on Friday, November 10th led by Allan Perryman. The mine is located about 20 minutes from Socorro.

Registration: Online registration opens October 9th. For registration information call 575-835-5302, email nmms@nmbg.nmt.edu, or go to <https://geoinfo.nmt.edu/museum/minsymp/home.cfm> for more information.

Colorado Mineral Society Special Board Meeting August 22, 2017

Attendance: John Smith, Ben Geller, Debra Kalscheur, Bruce Sales, Eva Siemonsma, Leslie Osgood, Sandra Gonzales, Loni Cole, Amber Brenzikofer

Call to Order – John Smith

Bylaws Update:

- A draft version of the current by-laws was sent to the Board prior to the meeting and all comments were received electronically and incorporated into one document prior to this special board meeting.
- At the Board meeting, each addition or edit was reviewed carefully and discussed vigorously.
- A motion was made and seconded to raise the dues, effective 1/1/2018. A majority of the Board members present approved the motion for a dues increase.
- A second motion was made to grandfather in those that have already made 2018 dues payments prior to 1/1/2018. A majority of the Board members approved the motion.
- Amber will take all the comments and incorporate them into the revised document and distribute prior to the next Board meeting for final approval before it is distributed to the CMS members for review.

Next scheduled CMS Board Meeting: September 19, 2017 7:00pm Location: TBD

Notes taken by Amber Brenzikofer

Colorado Mineral Society Board Meeting September 19, 2017

Attendance: John Smith, Gary Rowe, Eva Siemonsma, Debra Kalscheur (by phone), Aaron Cross, Bruce Sales, Leslie Osgood, Loni Cole, Cara Reynolds, Melanie Dies, and Amber Brenzikofer

Call to Order – John Smith

Board-Appointed Positions Available for 2017:

- **Jr Rockhound Chair – Open (critical)**
Ben Geller will do October and November general meeting junior rockhound classes on an interim basis, but cannot do it after that.
Need to split age groups and have different lessons for younger and older kids.
- Jr Rockhound Assistant - Open
- Display Chairperson: Open
- Membership Chair – Open. Cara will stay on and manage database if we can get people to cover the meetings. Melanie Dies has volunteered to help with membership.

Grab Bag Committee:

Eva is collecting donated material and giving out to CMS members to fill small bags and add a label. The flats of material need to be given back to Eva.

Club Assets:

Inventory is ongoing.

Bylaws Update:

Meeting held on August 15th to discuss by-laws, Amber updated by-laws with additional comments.

Revised by-laws were discussed and approved for distribution.

Make 20 color copies of by-laws and bring to the meeting.

Membership:

Cara has the new laptop and software.

Need to get Debbie a letter for her donation of a laptop to CMS. John will sign the letter.

New Business:

Treasurer's Report – Eva Siemonsma - The fiscal year ends at the end of September, so need to get in receipts to Eva as soon as possible. Eva will prepare a year-end report for the next Board meeting.

Storage Unit – Amber will look into the cost of a 10'x10' storage unit to house all of CMS equipment and materials in one place. The Board approved a \$200 limit for hardware and wood for shelving units for the storage unit to be built by Bruce Sales.

Membership Report -Cara Reynolds – Cara will be training Melanie on how to collect membership dues and give out membership cards at the general meetings. Currently there are 256 member units in CMS and 26 life members.

Field Trips – Gary Rowe – Three field trips left in the season. Will look at moving Founders Picnic up a week or two next year so it does not conflict with the mineral shows going on in early September. Also exploring online field trip sign-up capabilities.

Education – Debbie Kalscheur – Possible education classes include wire wrapping and beginning a mineral collection. Ben suggested doing something at Dinosaur Ridge.

Auction Report – Ben Geller – nothing to report.

Denver Council Report – Bruce Sales – Council meeting may be postponed until October.

Denver Show Committee Report – Amber Brenzikofer – Denver Show was a great success (she hopes). The show needs mineral judges as well as additional volunteers next year.

Newsletter Deadline – Amber Brenzikofer – **September 24, 2017**

Other Business: Amber is exploring putting together another T-shirt order because many new members are asking for them. Will look at embroidered polos and hats as well.

Next scheduled CMS Board Meeting: **October 17, 2017 7:00pm** Location: **Leslie Osgood's house.**

Notes taken by Aaron Cross, Secretary and Amber Brenzikofer



Colorado Mineral Society
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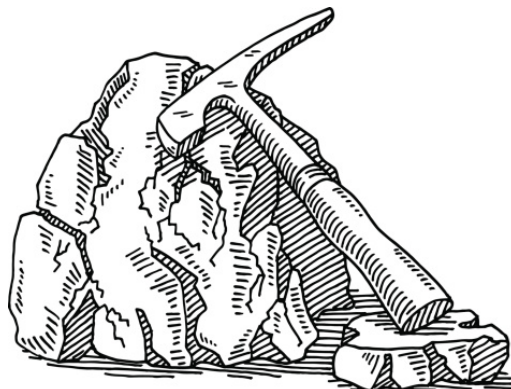


Calendar of Events

October 6, 2017, CMS October General Meeting at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Lakewood, 7:30pm

November 3, 2017, CMS November General Meeting at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Lakewood, 7:30pm

December 1, 2017, CMS December Holiday Party at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Lakewood, 6:30pm



<http://www.coloradomineralsociety.org>