



THE BULLETIN OF THE COLORADO SPRINGS MINERALOGICAL SOCIETY Published Since 1960

Colorado Springs  
Mineralogical Society  
Founded in 1936

May 2015  
PICK&PACK

Vol 55..... Number 4

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**CSMS General Meeting**

**Thursday, May 21st, 7:00 PM**

**This month's speaker is Jennifer Farnes, Owner and Master Faceter, Revolution Jewelry Works**

**Topic: Jewelry Buying While on Vacation**

**Refreshments provided by the CSMS Board**

**May General Meeting Guest Speaker**

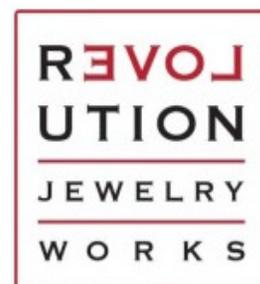


The guest speaker for the May General Assembly will be Jennifer Farnes, Owner and Master Faceter at Revolution Jewelry Works.

Jennifer was born, raised, and attended college in Montana. As a child, her brothers would take her adventuring into the mountains in search of rocks, fossils, and crystals. From sapphire hunting and digging for garnets, to panning for gold and collecting minerals, her love of the outdoors and rock hounding never subsided. In 2003 she accepted an opportunity to learn the art of stone faceting, which expanded her love of rocks into a new career. She is now a full-time Master Faceter, providing custom gemstone cutting and lapidary services to jewelers across the country. She has continued her education in the jewelry industry by receiving recognition from GIA as an Accredited Jewelry Professional.

Revolution Jewelry Works is a custom jewelry design studio focusing on unique fine jewelry, custom jewelry design, jewelry repair and offers on-site gemstone faceting services. Their experts can help you create the design of your dreams in Gold, Platinum, Palladium or Silver. Revolution Jewelry Works received Best of Colorado Springs 2014 (Colorado Springs Independent) and Best of the Springs 2014 (Colorado Springs Gazette).

Revolution Jewelry Works is located at 5928 Stetson Hills Boulevard, Suite 110, in Colorado Springs. They can also be found online at <http://revolutionjewelryworks.com/>



## CSMS Calendar

### May 2015

Thu., **May 7**—**Board Meeting**, 7 p.m., Senior Center.

Tue., **May 12**—**Fossil Group**, 7 p.m., Senior Center. Jerry Suchan 303 648-3410

Tue., **May 19**—**Micromounts**, 7 p.m., Senior Center. Dave Olsen, 719 495-8720

Thu., **May 21**—**General Assembly**, 7 p.m., Senior Center.

**Pebble Pups & Juniors**, 5:30 to 6:15 p.m., Steven Veatch, 719 748-5010

Thu., **May 28**—**Crystal Group**, 7 p.m., Senior Center. Kevin Witte, 719 638-7919

**Faceting Group**, 7 p.m., Senior Center. Paul Berry, 719 578-5466

**Jewelry Group**, Appointment Only, Bill Arnson, 719 337-8070.

**Lapidary Group**, Appointment Only, Sharon Holte, 719 217-5683

### June 2015

Thu., **June 4**—**Board Meeting**, 7 p.m., Senior Center.

Tue., **June 9**—**Fossil Group**, 7 p.m., Senior Center. Jerry Suchan 303 648-3410

Tue., **June 16**—**Micromounts**, 7 p.m., Senior Center. Dave Olsen, 719 495-8720

Thu., **June 18**—**General Assembly**, 7 p.m., Senior Center.

**Pebble Pups & Juniors**, 5:30 to 6:15 p.m., Steven Veatch, 719 748-5010

Thu., **June 25**—**Crystal Group**, 7 p.m., Senior Center. Kevin Witte, 719 638-7919

**Faceting Group**, 7 p.m., Senior Center. Paul Berry, 719 578-5466

**Jewelry Group**, Appointment Only, Bill Arnson, 719 337-8070.

**Lapidary Group**, Appointment Only, Sharon Holte, 719 217-5683

The Senior Center is located at **1514 North Hancock** in Colorado Springs. For more information on any of the sub-groups, meetings, and other CSMS valuable information, go to our website, [csms.us](http://csms.us)

## Other Events of Interest to CSMS Members

**May 21-23, Geological Society of America, Rocky Mountain Section Meeting, Casper, WY.**

**May 22-23, Mineral Show/Sale**, “Four Denver-area mineral dealers will host a new Gem & Mineral Show on May 22-23. The Rocky Mountain Gem & Mineral Co-Op will host a wine & cheese reception from 5-8pm on Friday May 22. The show and reception will be held at the “Here To Play Baseball Facility” at 601 E. 64th Avenue, Denver, CO 80229 (6 blocks north of the Denver Mart, near intersection of Washington and 64th). Please refer to the website [www.rockygems.com/](http://www.rockygems.com/) or contact Bill Jones with any questions. The four dealers (so far) from the Rocky Mountain Gem & Mineral Co-Op are: Sandra Gonzales (Rocky Mountain Gems & Minerals), Bill Jones (Sidewinder Minerals), Sherman Marsh (GAEA Minerals), Craig Hazelton (Rock Out)

**Tues., May. 26**, 10:30 a.m., USGS Rocky Mountain Science Seminar; **Anatomy of a subduction complex: Architecture of the Franciscan at multiple lengths and time scales**, by John Wakabayashi, California State University, Fresno. Building 25 Auditorium, Denver Federal Center; all are welcome. [Last USGS seminar for the season.]

**Thurs., May 28**, 6:00 p.m., a **short hike to an old copper mine prospect** at the base of Lookout Mountain, Golden, CO. This will be an “Even-tide Adventure” short field trip sponsored by the Denver Gem and Mineral Guild, but other interested persons are welcome to join us. We will meet at Parking Lot F at the edge of the CSM campus—located on the south side of 19<sup>th</sup> St., Golden, just east of 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue; from there we will drive together the short distance (1 mile) up Lookout Mtn. Dr. to park where a short walk across fields and up a

*(Continued on page 10)*

## Show Business

The Pikes Peak Gem, Mineral & Jewelry Show is right around the corner and there's still a bit more to be done!

- There will be a Show meeting at 6:00 p.m., Thursday, May 21st, in the Senior Center lobby (one hour before the General Assembly.) Please attend this meeting if you are interested in volunteering to help.
- We need volunteers for show set up, marking the lots, manning the silent auction and identifying specimens.
- If you are interested in setting up a mineral display inside the WMMI, please complete the form, found on the share drive at <http://1drv.ms/1G0K1bb> and return it to Kim at [runninboar@hotmail.com](mailto:runninboar@hotmail.com) or the mailing address on the form.
- Vendors: There will be a potluck dinner on Saturday, June 6, after the show. Please plan to provide a dish of food to share.

If you have questions or are unable to attend the meeting and would like to help, please contact Kim Packham at [runninboar@hotmail.com](mailto:runninboar@hotmail.com).

**WESTERN MUSEUM OF MINING AND INDUSTRY**

**225 NORTHGATE BLVD, I-25 EXIT 156, COLO. SPGS. CO**

# **THE PIKES PEAK GEM, MINERAL & JEWELRY SHOW**

**JUNE 5th - 7th, 2015**

**FRIDAY & SATURDAY 9-5, SUNDAY 9-4**

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& RICH FRETTERD  
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**[www.csms.us](http://www.csms.us)**

# REPORT FROM TUCSON 2015 (Part 1)

by Mike Nelson csrockguy@yahoo.com

I have been fortunate the last few years in being able to attend the annual Tucson Shows! I use the plural term “shows” since there are something like 40 different venues scattered around the city. Some of these shows might have 250 vendors while others perhaps 30. Some venues support very “high end” dealers with individual specimens “for sale” in the six figures. Others are smaller dealers with specimens ranging from one dollar on up.



**Fig. 1.** Western front of the Santa Catalina Mountains as seen from Catalina State Park campground. Folded gneiss in foreground, Wilderness Suite Granite in spires.

The 2015 Day 1 for many shows was on Saturday January 31, a period of rather rare desert precipitation in the city. In fact, the Mt. Lemon area in the Catalina Mountains (that dominate the Tucson skyline) received in excess of five inches of rain (Fig.1). Several of the area rivers, normally rather dry in most years, were roaring and quite impressive. Canada del Oro in Oro Valley near Catalina State Park, my temporary home, was booming and carrying a wide selection of sand, pebbles and cobbles. Sutherland Wash, a tributary of Canada del Oro in the Park, actually pushed enough “sand” onto the only access road and closed the campground to visitors getting “in or out.” It was great to observe such a massive desert winter storm and see associated erosional and depositional processes (Fig.2).

I spent my first show day, on Monday, visiting the Arizona Mineral and Fossil Marketplace on north Oracle Street. Essentially, the show is the first cluster of tents as one drives south on Oracle toward the city center. There are some small time “mom and pop” dealers in the tents and I am especially partial to a couple of them. Both have a wide selection of moderately-priced (sometimes cheap) minerals as well as some beautiful three figure specimens. However, I am most interested in purchasing specimens to supplement my collection that are on the lower end of the price selection. And, these small dealers are more than willing to indulge in conversation with “ordinary” citizens and rockhounds.

So, what was my best purchased specimen costing five bucks or less? Today it was a hand specimen of vanadinite crystals scattered on a bed of calcite collected from the San Carlos Mine

(Apex Mine) in San Carlos, Mun. de Manuel Benavides, Chihuahua, Mexico. I could not locate much geological information on the San Carlos area except Moore (2008) noted “the San Carlos replacement deposit of argenterous galena, mined briefly in the late 19th century and again from ca. 1930 to 1952, has produced beautiful and distinctive vanadinite specimens, as well as a limited number of superb wulfenite specimens.”

The calcite matrix is rather gemmy and fluoresces a nice green color with my UV light. The vanadinite crystals, intergrown in the calcite rhombs, are elongated and euhedral, up to 5 mm in length, are tan to tan-orange in color, and have the typical barrel shape in cross section (Figs. 3 & 4). One dealer told me that most specimens like this were mined during the 1970s and 1980s and very few have come out in the last 25 years.

Vanadinite is a lead chlorvanadate  $[Pb_5(VO_4)_3Cl]$  with hexagonal crystals, various hues of red to orange to brown in color, less than adamantinite in luster, and soft at ~2.5-3.0 in hardness (Mohs). It forms a solid solution with



**Fig. 2.** Sutherland Wash drains the bajadas coming off the western flank of the Catalina Mountains. During times of high rain fall the Wash funnels (right to left) large amounts of “sand” toward the master stream, Canada del Oro (hidden to the left), and often deposits the sediment in and on the major road leading to the Park campgrounds.

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Fig. 3. Gemmy calcite matrix with scattered tan vanadinite crystals (largest is ~5 mm).

pyromorphite (lead chlorophosphate) and mimitite (lead chloroarsenate). MinDat notes it is a secondary mineral found in the “oxidation zone of lead deposits in arid climates resulting from the alteration of vanadiferous sulphides and silicates of the gangue and wall rocks.” My question is: what sulfide (primary zone) in the Apex mine contains vanadinite? The list of 17 minerals noted in MinDat does not list a sulfide that is obviously, at least to me, a “vanadiferous sulphide.” Of course I am far from any sort of a petrologist.

I found it interesting that Professor del Rio (School of Mines of Mexico) discovered the mineral vanadinite (brown lead) in 1801 before

Niles Sefstrom

“discovered” the element vanadium in 1830. Del Rio knew that his “brown lead” contained a new element which he named erythronium but later recanted his name.

So, the big event was off and running and I was excited for the chance to explore during the next two weeks.

#### REFERENCES CITED

Moore, Thomas, 2008, Famous Mineral Localities: The Apex Mine, San Carlos, Chihuahua, Mexico. *Mineralogical Record* v. 39 no. 6.

*Editor's Note: Be sure to catch Part 2 of Mike's trip to the Tucson Gem and Mineral Show in the June edition of the Pick and Pack. (There will be lots of photographs of beautiful minerals!)*



Fig. 4. Photomicrograph of a ~4.5 mm vanadinite crystal. The cross sectional view show the typical hexagonal shape.

## The Gravel Pit

- ◆ We are looking for a volunteer (or two) to lead a field trip on Friday, June 19, to Dave Harvey's Blue Agate Claim in Hartsel, and a field trip on Saturday, June 20, to Dave Harvey's Blue Barite claim, also in Hartsel. If you are interested in leading either or both of these trips, please contact Sharon Holte, at [sharonrocksc@gmail.com](mailto:sharonrocksc@gmail.com).
- ◆ The Colorado Springs Mineralogical Society's and the Lake George Gem and Mineral Club's Pebble Pups groups share a website and Facebook page to promote their work and their organizations. The website is used to post work, provide updates, and have a place to study for the AFMS merit badge program. The website is also used by distance students to participate in Pebble Pup activities. Check out the Pebble Pups website at: <http://pebblepups.blogspot.com/>.

The Pebble Pups use social media to communicate and share information. Their Facebook platform has been an important and effective use of the Internet. The Pebble Pup Facebook page is: <https://www.facebook.com/PikesPeakPebblePups>

# AN UNEXPECTED FIND

by Jack Shimon, age 10

It was a sweat dripping summer day in the Badlands, my favorite National Park, but my dog Comet didn't care about that. Three days into our camping trip we had explored the park, enjoyed a ranger talk about the constellations in the amphitheater, seen the stars through our telescope, and we were packing up to leave. Well, mom and dad were. Comet and I were playing fetch. The campground was mostly sand and grass so I could easily throw the ball as far as I wanted to and see Comet while he chased it. But on my last throw Comet didn't come back. I jogged over to find him and picked up the ball along the way. Comet was in a small ditch excitedly wagging his tail and digging in the sand. As I reached him he turned around and had what looked like a long stick in his mouth. On closer inspection I saw that it was a bone, long and slightly curved, easily identified as a rib...



Illustration by Andrey Atuchin, Professional Artist  
<http://olorotitan.deviantart.com/>

...Badlands Park, over 30,000 years ago, although it wasn't called that at the time. Billy was a young bison living in the Ice Age. With his thick fur to stay warm, he relished snow days like any young kid that ever lived, human or bison. He lived near a water hole with his family.

He did not listen but he could run, and he was always running away from his mom to play. Six years later Billy was King of the Herd. One day Billy heard a scream that he recognized as his mom's. He rushed to the noise and saw a hungry Saber Tooth Cat ready to feast on fat bison flesh. It was circling the herd trying to get to the children.

Billy stampeded the Saber Cat and injured his leg in the process. But he did save the herd—that day. A few days later Billy knew that he wasn't going to survive his injury. As he had done so often before, he wandered off, this time slowly limping, knowing that he wouldn't return to the herd. Billy was never seen again... Until, I found this rib bone on a camping trip with my dog Comet.



Illustration by Andrey Atuchin, Professional Artist  
<http://olorotitan.deviantart.com/>



Jack won this Ice Age rib bone by correctly guessing that it was a rib bone of a large animal in a recent Pebble Pups meeting. It measures 20 inches straight line from end to end. It was fun to think of the animal it once belonged to and that became the inspiration for Billy's story.

References: [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bison\\_latifrons](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bison_latifrons)



**About the author: Jack Shimon** is in the 4<sup>th</sup> grade. This article, Jack's first historical fiction piece, was illustrated by famous Russian professional paleo-artist, Andrey Atuchin.

Jack is an award winning poet, writer, and researcher. He has wide interests in geology, paleontology, and geoarchaeology. Jack has spent half of his life as a member of the Pikes Peak Pebble Pups. He lives at home with his family and his dog Comet.

# CHASING ONYX

by Mike Nelson csrockguy@yahoo.com

I try to attend local rock shows when “on the road” and never pass up a chance to peruse a rock and mineral shop. As a result I have observed thousands, or more, of black onyx pendants, rings and unset cabs. Depending on my mood, I might inquire about the legitimacy of the jewel and if the stone had been altered in any way. I especially enjoy this activity in more upscale venues. At other times I might clean the stone to the best of my ability and then smell or taste it. This latter activity will rule out or confirm a “plastic” stone, and usually disgust the clerk. If the jewel is a plastic fake and the clerk will not accept that fact, then I will ask if I may heat up a small pin and insert such in the “stone” and watch the acid smoke roll up. That is usually enough to lose my privileges of examining stones!



**Fig.1.** Black and white onyx, eye agates. Collected Brazil and shown at the 2014 Denver Show.

The deal is that most of the black onyx on the market is chalcedony ( $\text{SiO}_2$ ) that has been subjected to a dye. One of the simplest ways to achieve results is to boil chalcedony in a solution containing dissolved sugar and allow the stone to absorb the solution. Then carbonize the sugar by applying sulfuric (mostly) or hydrochloric acid and *voilà* - black chalcedony. However, the black color of the onyx is only a few microns thick so any attempt at rough polishing or re-cutting would reveal the non-black interior. It also is my understanding that: 1) at times black glass is substituted for black onyx; and 2) the sugar-acid solution is used on non-precious opal in order to transfer the mineral to “precious” black opal!

Now, black onyx does exist in the natural world (Fig. 1); however, it is rather scarce. Onyx, by definition, is a banded black and white form of chalcedony, similar to banded agates. By far the most spectacular black and white onyx that I have observed are the “eye agates” quarried from Minas Gerais, Brazil, and cut into sphere or sphere-like forms resembling eyes. Sardonyx is a name usually reserved for banded chalcedony with red to brown bands (Fig. 2). As I understand the situation, rockhounds prefer to use the name agate for banded chalcedony with the bands being “wavy or non-parallel” while onyx and sardonyx are reserved for agates with the parallel bands. Of course, some rockhounds freely use the term agates for any piece of chalcedony, banded or not.

And, there is more confusion in the world of onyx! Go to any rock show or tourist shop in the western U.S. and you will see “onyx” carved into a jillion types of bowls and animal fetishes or pipes or whatever. Their color is usually a cream (or so) and all are banded with layers of red to brown to yellow to all sorts of pastels. However, these specimens are not composed of authentic onyx, that is chalcedony ( $\text{SiO}_2$ ), but of some variety of limestone---a calcareous ( $\text{CaCO}_2$ ) rock. At times this “onyx” is really banded travertine formed around springs or caves or waterfalls. At other times the calcareous “onyx” is a fresh water limestone. Most of the calcareous “onyx” on the market was quarried (and perhaps carved) in Pakistan or Mexico and usually is travertine. But rarely are “raw” specimens labeled as to country of origin; however, finished carvings usually have a small label attached stating “Product of country.” I have also seen this “onyx” sold as Mexican Marble or Onyx Marble.



**Fig. 2.** Is this sardonyx? Collected Brazil and shown at the 2014 Denver Show.

During my past camping episodes in Arizona I have tried to run down quarries or mine dump piles and explore the offerings. Last year I visited an Arizona rock shop and noted a huge hunk of what appeared to be travertine but was labeled Cave Creek Onyx. So, I was off to investigate and try to find the source of the hunk. I could not locate much of scientific

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interest on the “onyx” but did find references to the collecting locality on web sites or blogs where the authors had collected specimens. The Arizona Geological Survey had produced a photo of the quarry for one web site and an obscure publication, *Stone: An Illustrated Magazine, Vol. 5, No. 5, October 1892, pp. 289*, noted: “So far as developed, the Cave Creek onyx beds do not seem to be as large as the Yavapai beds [probably Mayer, see below], though the stone is as fine, but even as they are, they will produce large amounts and in blocks of very satisfactory size. J. B. Dougherty, of New York, is doing a great deal of development work, and as soon as the road is completed, he will put teams to hauling and loading it on to the cars at Phenix [Phoenix], for shipment to New York. – *Phoenix Gazette.*” So, off I go in search of the “onyx.”

I did locate the old quarry by heading north from Carefree, Arizona, on the Camp Creek-Seven Springs-Bloody Basin road (Fig. 3). The road goes through typical desert scrub; however, there are a couple of interesting sites along the trail. One is the Sears-Kay Ruins, a 40 room village built around 900 years ago and constructed by people of the Hohokam Culture (Fig. 4). It is built on a hill and has spectacular views of the surrounding foothills, and has a nice hiking trail winding through.

Continuing up the road, rockhounds drive through the Seven Springs area where sycamore trees line permanent water flowing from local springs (Fig. 5). There is a recreation area located along the creek that is the site of a former Civilian Conservation Camp (CCC). The area really is a jewel in the desert.

The old “onyx” quarry is located upstream from Seven Springs and seems out of place in this desert environment of volcanic rocks of all sorts. The deposit has been known for years but I am uncertain about the total tonnage removed, or when the quarry was closed for commercial use (Fig. 6). Townsend (1961) implied that the quarry was closed by 1961: “Near Cave Creek in Maricopa County, greenish and yellowish onyx with veins of brown and red is deposited in intimate association with basalt. Although of fine quality, only relatively small pieces may be removed due to shattering by volcanics.”

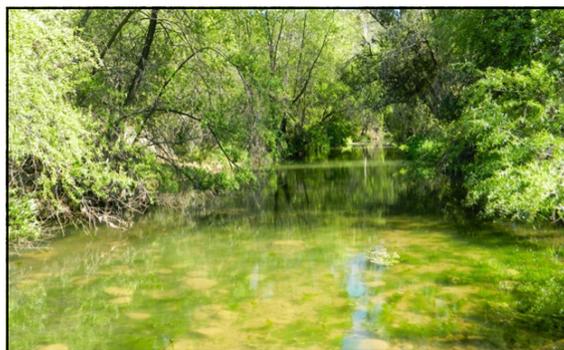
As best that I can tell the “onyx” is a freshwater limestone (Gilbert and others, 1998), or perhaps a travertine (Anthony and others, 1995). I believe the quarry is situated in what Gilbert and others (1998) mapped as “**Tcl** of Late Oligocene and Miocene Age: Conglomerate and limestone--Conglomerate and sandstone, mostly of granitic origin, interbedded with thin- to medium-bedded white, lacustrine limestone. The limestone is typically recrystallized, but locally preserves ooid-pisoid grainstone/packstone textures and stromatolites. The unit is interbedded with subaqueous basalt lava flows.” See figs. 7-9.



**Fig. 3.** Back wall of Cave Creek Onyx Quarry.



**Fig. 4.** Sears-Kay Ruins, Hohokam Culture.



**Fig. 5.** Seven Springs area of Cave Creek.

For the rockhound, the quarry seems accessible and perhaps on public land (Do not take my word for this, check with the USFS, Tonto). I picked up as many specimens that I wanted of baseball-softball size in a small drainage fronting the abandoned quarry. I actually did not attempt to go near the quarry wall since the space between the creek and the wall is filled with brush, many with spines, and I observed two beautiful rattlesnakes with 10 feet of hiking to the face. It was a nice sunny day and these two gentlemen were out sunning.

Perhaps the most “famous” onyx marble collecting locality in Arizona is near Mayer, Yavapai County, where, according to numerous non-technical sources, considerable amounts of white to pale green to

*(Continued on page 9)*



**Fig. 6.** A boulder in wash left behind by commercial operations. Unfortunately, it was too large for a haul home, FOV ~four feet! Note travertine on right attached to a volcanic agglomerate on left.

cream to brown to yellow banded “onyx” has been produced (Fig. 10). Anthony and others (1995) noted that the Mayer “onyx” is actually calcareous travertine. Evidently the deposit has been known, and mined, for several decades as the Archives in the Arizona State Library note that “more than 1 million pounds of onyx were shipped in 1922. The onyx was made into lamp stands, jewelry boxes, church alter rails, tabletops and other ornamental items. In 1927, seven automakers, including Ford, were using Mayer onyx for decorative detailing in their cars.” This latter statement was sort of fascinating to me. Unfortunately, I have been unable to locate photos or descriptions of these onyx accessories.

As best that I can determine, the Mayer quarry did not operate commercially from sometime in the 1930s until reopening in 2001 by a company called Stoneworld International. The company noted that a core drilling study revealed that the deposit of onyx is at least 55 meters deep (Stoneworld, 2005). That seems to me a phenomenal thickness of travertine. The modern quarry produces, and markets, two colors of onyx: Grand Canyon Onyx, with brown, red, white and green, and Black Canyon Onyx, with black, gray, dark brown and white. (Above from Stoneworld, 2005). But again, the onyx is really travertine.



**Fig. 7.** Algal mats with recrystallized calcite, stromatolites. Width FOV ~ 5 cm.



**Fig. 8.** Cut slab of Cave Creek Travertine. Width ~12 cm.

I was unsuccessful in locating geological information about the Mayer deposit other than thinking the travertine is Quaternary in age. Of course, I am not an Arizona native rockhound and could not find a local person with additional geological knowledge about Mayer. But, I liked the specimen for sale at a rock show and snapped it up for three bucks.

I know even less about a banded calcareous stone (Fig. 11) picked up at the same show that was collected at “Grapevine Canyon southeast of Flagstaff.” It also was labeled “onyx” but does not appear, at least to me, to be travertine but some sort of a banded piece of calcite. The seller was quite hesitant about divulging a more precise location! I have hunted in detail for references about rocks at Grapevine Canyon, especially travertine or onyx, but have been mostly unsuccessful. The only real clue is a website called “agates with inclusions” that has four photos, but no other information, of “Grapevine Canyon Plume Onyx” that pretty much matches my specimen. The canyon is located in the Chavez Mountain NE topographic quadrangle near Morman Lake. MinDat, in its list of minerals for Coconino County, noted “calcite: var. limestone onyx.” Again, I am certain that a more experienced Arizona rockhound would be able to supply additional information on this locality.



**Fig. 9.** Reverse of above figure. Note beds of algal mats perpendicular to upper surface.

So, I have learned much from this little exercise, especially that one cannot believe everything one reads—advertised onyx is usually not

onyx---and that locating geological information about some localities is sometimes difficult for a non-native rockhound! But, learning is a very necessary part of the process of life.

*It is not knowledge, but the act of learning, not possession, but the act of getting there, which grants the greatest enjoyment.* ~ Carl Friedrich Gauss

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## Other Events of Interest to CSMS Members—continued

hillside & gully will take us to the site of the old mine adit & dump. We'll see traces of copper minerals, plus garnet crystals in the metamorphic rocks nearby. Led by Pete Modreski; email [pmodreski@usgs.gov](mailto:pmodreski@usgs.gov) or call 720-205-2553 with any questions or for more info.

### May 31-June 3, American Association of Petroleum Geologists Annual Meeting, Denver, CO.

**Thurs., June 4**, 3:00 p.m., DMNS Earth Science Seminar, ".**Shiver me timbers! A look into the bones of high-latitude seabirds**", by Laura Wilson, Fort Hays State Univ., Kansas. Free lecture, is museum admission not required.

**Fri., June 5**, 3:00 p.m., DMNS Earth Science Seminar, "**Birth of huge rivers: The Rocky Mountains' impact on the filling of the Gulf of Mexico**", by Bill Galloway, Univ. of Texas. Free lecture, is museum admission not required.

**June 5-7, Pikes Peak Gem and Mineral Show**, at Western Museum of Mining & Industry, Colorado Springs; 9-5 Fri. & Sat., 9-4 Sun.; adult admission to show & museum is \$5. Sponsored by the Colorado Springs Mineralogical Society; theme is "Topaz from Around the World". We'll have a USGS booth here at the show all weekend (come say hello!), featuring education about rocks & minerals.

**June 11-14, "Contin-Tail at Fairplay"**, a new "rock swap" type rock & mineral show; see [www.coloradorocks.org](http://www.coloradorocks.org) or [gregtunncliff@yahoo.com](mailto:gregtunncliff@yahoo.com)

**(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9)**



**Fig. 10.** Mayer travertine, polished left, reverse right photo. Specimen width ~7.5 cm.



**Fig. 11.** Banded calcite with massive brown crystalline calcite in lower third. Width of specimen ~7 cm. Grapevine Canyon.

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**SECRETARY'S SPOT**  
by Melanie Glascoe

**Minutes of the Colorado Springs Mineralogical Society General Meeting April 16, 2015**

The meeting was called to Order at: 7:00 PM, by Mark Lemesany – President, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Program for the Evening: Rock Hounding 101 by Ronald “Yam” Yamiolkoski.

**Other Business:**

1. The minutes of the March General Meeting, as they appeared in the March Pick & Pack, were accepted and approved as written.
2. Group Announcements were made as usual. Important items of note were that the Lapidary equipment is now available for use at Frank and Ellie Rosenberg’s house by appointment. Also we have a new Photography Group starting up. Contact Gary Del Valle by e-mail at [gdv123@comcast.net](mailto:gdv123@comcast.net) if you are interested in joining the group.
3. An announcement was made advising members that the Club library list was available on the CSMS website.
4. Kim Packham, the show organizer, updated the members about this year’s Gem and Mineral show. The theme will be “Topaz Around the World.” A request for volunteers was made for show set up, marking the lots, manning the silent auction and identifying specimens. If you are able to help, please contact Kim by e-mail at [runninboar@hotmail.com](mailto:runninboar@hotmail.com). Specimen donations are also needed for the silent auction and (lesser specimens) for the kid’s area.
5. There was a discussion of upcoming field trips. Detailed information for all of these field trips and others as they are developed will appear on the CSMS Calendar. Please email Sharon Holte with any field trip suggestions at [sharonrockSCO@gmail.com](mailto:sharonrockSCO@gmail.com).
6. There was an announcement that Joe Dorris’ daughter, Krystal Dorris was the winner of the Miss Colorado Pageant.
7. Roger Pittman won the Ugly Rock contest for his specimen of matrix with peridot. He was presented with a plaque made by Oscar Price.

The meeting was adjourned at: 8:56 PM



**Blue Barite with Calcite. Stoneham, Weld Co., Colorado**

**2015 CSMS Officers**

- Mark Lemesany, President
- Jean Miller-Luce, Vice President
- Melanie Glascoe, Secretary
- Ann Proctor, Treasurer
- Lisa Kinder, Editor
- Ariel Dickens, Membership Secretary
- Doreen Schmidt, Member-at-Large
- Yam Yamiolkoski, Member-at-Large
- Roger Pittman, Past President

**2015 CSMS Chairpersons**

- Kim & Bodie Packham, Show Chairs
- Sharon Holte, Field Trip Director
- TBD, Science Fair Chair
- Frank & Ellie Rosenberg, Librarians
- Georgia Woodworth, Social Committee
- Ann Proctor, Store Keeper
- Jackson Pierce, Webmaster

**Sub-Group Responsibilities for Refreshments for General Assembly Meetings**

Feb. Jewelry	Mar. Lapidary	Apr. Micromount
May Board	June Crystal	July Faceting
Aug. Picnic	Sept. Fossil	Oct. Jewelry
Nov. Lapidary	Dec. Christmas Party	

## CSMS FIELD TRIPS

by Sharon Holte

Below are the trips scheduled through August for rock hound season 2015. **Please review the information for each trip on the Event Calendar at [www.csms.us](http://www.csms.us).** Click on the trip link for the specific day to view the trip overview and trip detail sheet.

If you have suggestions or would like to lead a field trip, please contact Sharon Holte, Field Trip Director, at [sharonrocksCO@gmail.com](mailto:sharonrocksCO@gmail.com). **If you are available to lead the field trips on June 19th or 20th, please contact Sharon, as soon as possible.**

**Saturday, May 30: Calumet Iron Mine, Salida, Colorado** — This is a collecting trip that requires expending energy, although some specimens can be found by looking near the foot of the hill. We are required, by the owner of the Calumet Iron Mine, to stay out of the underground mine workings and do our collecting in the disturbed area and along the road serving the old mine and on the tailings piles. Adequate material can be found by doing this. Trip Leader: Don Bray; Meeting Place: Safeway parking lot at 3rd Street and G Street in Salida, Colorado. Meeting Time: 9:00 a.m.

**Friday, June 19: Dave Harvey's Blue Agate Claim, Hartsel, Colorado** — Trip Leader: **NEED VOLUNTEER**; Meeting Place: Bayou Salado Trading Post, Hartsel, Colorado; Meeting Time: 9:00 a.m. (\$20.00 fee)

**Saturday, June 20: Hartsel Barite, Hartsel, Colorado** — Trip Leader: **NEED VOLUNTEER**; Meeting Place: Bayou Salado Trading Post, Hartsel, Colorado; Meeting Time: 9:00 a.m.

**Saturday, August 1: Last Chance Mine, near Creede, Colorado** — This field trip is to a commercial collecting site, which was an historic mine near Creede. The mine appeared in the recent movie "The Legend of the Lone Ranger". Collectors will be required to pay \$2.00 per pound in order to keep their finds. Trip Leader: Jeanne Miller; Meeting Place: Last Chance Mine; Meeting Time: 8:30 a.m.

**Saturday, August 22: Peridot Claim, near Hartsel, Colorado** — This field trip is to the CSMS Peridot Claim and is a joint field trip with the Gold Prospectors of Colorado. It is part of our field trip sharing efforts to provide more opportunities for more Rock Hounds. Trip Leader: Ronald (Yam) Yamiolkoski; Meeting Place: Bayou Salado Trading Post, Hartsel, Colorado; Meeting Time: 9:00 a.m.

## Rock Hounding 101

by Frank Rosenberg

At our April meeting, Yam gave a primer on Rock Hounding 101 setting forth the basic instruments needed to successfully prospect and collect some of the great mineral specimens we have in the Pikes Peak region. Our appetites were whetted with the thought of getting out and starting the collecting season. Rock Hounding 101 notes can be found on the share drive <http://1drv.ms/1E0PAU7> or the club website [www.csms.us](http://www.csms.us). Good hunting!



Yam presenting "Rock Hounding 101" at the CSMS General Assembly, April 23, 2015.



Yam showing the basic tools in his "Rock Hounding 101" presentation to the CSMS.

**Our Staff...**

**Lisa Kinder—Editor**

We encourage everyone to submit articles, photos, illustrations or observations.

Share your experiences, your new finds, or simply your experience at our last field trip.

Handwrite it, type it, or email it. Format does not matter. All submissions are welcomed. The DEADLINE for items to be included in the next Pick & Pack, is the **21st of the month**

To submit an item:  
For hardcopy photos or articles, mail to the address below or bring them to the General Meeting. All hardcopy photos remain the property of the submitter and will be returned. Electronic photos should be submitted at resolutions above 200 dpi in TIF, BMP, JPG, or PIC format. Articles are preferred in word. Editors will correct font.

E-Mail to:  
[csmseditor@hotmail.com](mailto:csmseditor@hotmail.com)

Mail to:  
Pick & Pack Editor  
PO Box 2  
Colorado Springs, CO 80901

The PICK&PACK is published ten (10) times per year (no issues in January or August). Unless otherwise marked, materials from this publication may be reprinted. Please give credit to the author and CSMS PICK&PACK.

**CSMS**

**T-Shirts, Badges, and Pins** are available for sale.

If you celebrated a CSMS anniversary in 2013 or 2014, you are eligible for your one year pin award

Please see Storekeeper,  
Ann Proctor

**Classifieds**

**16<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL  
CHEYENNE MINERAL, FOSSIL,  
GEM & ROCK SHOW**

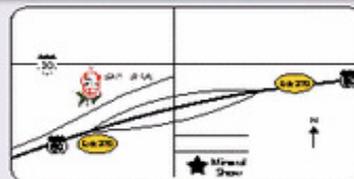


**MAY 16-17, 2015**  
**SAT. 9 AM UNTIL 6 PM**  
**SUN 10 AM UNTIL 4 PM**  
**ADMISSION: \$3**  
**CHILDREN 12 AND UNDER FREE**  
**IF ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT**

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**Do Not**  
**Delay**



### **CSMS is an incorporated nonprofit organization with these goals:**

To promote and disseminate knowledge of the earth sciences, especially as they relate to mineralogy, lapidary, and fossils.

To encourage study, collection, and fashioning of minerals.

To accomplish the same through social meetings, lectures, programs, displays, shows, and field trips.

The Pick & Pack is published 10 times each year to assist and promote the above.

### **Joining the Colorado Springs Mineralogical Society (CSMS):**

Meetings are held the **third (3rd) Thursday of each month**, except January & August, **7:00 p.m.** at the Colorado Springs Senior Center, 1514 North Hancock Ave., Colorado Springs, CO. **Visitors are always welcome.**

CSMS also offers Satellite Group meetings that allow more focused attention in specific areas of our members' interests. Our current Satellite Groups consist of the following: Crystal Study Group, Faceting Group, Fossil Group, Jewelry Group, Lapidary Group, Micromounts Group, and Pebble Pups/Juniors. For details on Satellite Group meetings, check out the calendars on page 2 and the web site.

Yearly dues include 10 issues of the *PICK&PACK*, all field trips (additional fees may be required on some field trips, and members are responsible for all transportation to and from), participation in all Satellite Groups (some groups may request additional fees to help cover resource costs), free admission to the *Western Museum of Mining & Industry*, a year of learning and enjoyment, plus a lifetime of memories.

Individuals—\$30, Family—\$40, Juniors—\$15, Corporate—\$100, \*\*\*\*\*Application is on the web site.

If you are interested in joining CSMS or would like more information, we encourage you to attend our next General Meeting or visit our web site: [www.csms.us](http://www.csms.us).

### **CSMS is a Member of the following organizations:**

American Federation of Mineralogical Societies (AFMS) [www.amfed.org](http://www.amfed.org)

Rocky Mountain Federation of Mineralogical Societies (RMFMS) [www.rmfm.org](http://www.rmfm.org)