

ON THE ROAD TO: WICHITA & THE RMFMS

BY DR. MIKE NELSON, CSMS

I was always looking ahead. I used to do all kinds of things for entertainment. When I was young, we had no radio, no TV. We were 30 miles from the public library, out in the sticks in Western Kansas, and so I'd do arithmetic exercises. **Clyde Tombaugh, discoverer of Pluto. (Cont. from last month)** The rocks of the Flint Hills contain a fantastic array of Permian marine fossils such

as brachiopods, bryozoans, corals, and some of the latest known trilobites. Almost every outcrop the traveler observes will contain collectable fossils. The rocks also produce some beautiful building stones and many of the old county courthouses, the buildings at Fort Riley, and early farm homes are constructed of local stone.



Generalized Physiographic Map of Kansas

Fig. 1. Physiographic map of Kansas. Courtesy of Kansas Geological Survey.

The Osage Cuestas, east of the Flint Hills, cover the eastern part of Kansas south of I-70 (Fig. 1). The underlying bedrock is composed of lime stones and shales of Pennsylvanian age; however, they differ from similar looking rocks in the Flint Hills in that they are devoid of the flint and chert. These beds dip gently to the west with the land surface following the dip slope; the limestone beds hold up escarpments or cuestas on the east. As in the Flint Hills, the rocks hold a variety of marine organisms and fossils are plentiful.

North of I-70 from Manhattan east to Kansas City the underlying Permian and Pennsylvanian strata are covered by widespread glacial drift resulting from incursions of the large northeastern U.S. continental glacier. The main event (in Kansas), perhaps on the order of 600k years ago, left behind various

Cont. on Page 2

thicknesses of silt, clay, sand and gravel with scattered

JULY 2010 PICK&PACK Volume 50 Number 6

CSMS is an incorporated nonprofit organization with these goals:

- To promote and disseminate knowledge of the earth sciences, especially as they relate to miner-alogy, 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.

Proud Members of:

American Federation of Mineralogical Societies (AFMS) www.amfed.org

Rocky Mountain Federation of Mineralogical Societies (RMFMS) www.rmfms.org

Colorado Federation of Gem & Mineral Societies (CFGMS)

Colorado Springs Mineralogical Society Founded in 1936 Lazard Cahn

Honorary President

Articles in this Issue:

On the Road	1-3
IJS Artist of the Month: Rick Copeland	3
A Variety of Shows	4
WMMI Show Pictures	4, 14-15, 21
A Mammoth Discover	5
Creede Symposium	6-7
Adventures	8-11
Tarryall Topaz Trip	11
Things to Do	12
WMMI Happenings	12
President's Corner	13
RMFMS President's Letter	13
Discover Victor	15
Ask a Geologist	16-17
Mystery of "Genevieve"	17
Field Trips	18
Youth Programs Take Break	18
The Suburban Rockhound	18
CSMS Picnic Brief	18

Cont. from Page 1...

boulders (termed glacial drift) (Fig. 1). Some of the erratics in the drift may be traced to their source area with great accuracy. Two of the easily identifiable cobbles came from outcrops of the Precambrian Sioux Quartzite (red quartz arenite, a sedimentary "quartzite") near Sioux Falls, SD and the Duluth "Gabbro" (dark-colored, coarse grained intrusive rocks) near Lake Superior (Fig. 6).



Fig. 6. Glacial erratic, a boulder of Sioux Quartzite (with a source in South Dakota). Photo courtesy of Kansas Geological Survey.

In southeastern Kansas is a small, but interesting, physiographic region known as the Chautauqua Hills (Fig. 1). This area of sharp to rolling sandstone hills extends as a finger up from similar rocks in Oklahoma (Sandstone Hills Region) and contains a fauna and flora similar to that state; Black Jack and Post Oak are common as are Redbud Trees. The sandstone was deposited by north flowing streams and deltas in the Pennsylvanian Period.

East of the Chautauqua Hills lies the Cherokee Lowlands, a province defined by a landscape developed on early Pennsylvanian shales (Fig. 1). In the past, the Lowlands were the site of extensive coal mining operations. Both strip mining and underground mines were common and the landscape seems permanently scarred with the huge trenches left behind by the open pit method. Most mines closed in the late 20th century after producing hundreds of millions of tons of coal. During a field trip in the 1970's I had the opportunity to observe Big Brutus, the largest electric coal shovel in the world, now preserved in a museum at West Mineral, KS (Fig. 7)

The theme of the RMFMS 2010 Show was "Tri-State Minerals", a reference to the vast mineral deposits in extreme southeastern Kansas, northeastern Oklahoma and southwestern Missouri—the Ozark Plateau. Galena (lead ore) was discovered in Missouri in the 1830's and the mines were coveted by both sides during the Civil War. In the 1870's lead was discovered in Kansas and production of both lead and zinc (sphalerite) continued for a century. The Kansas Geological Survey (2001) noted that the Tri-State District, with more than 4000 mines, produced in excess of



Fig. 7. Front view of Big Brutus, an electric coal shovel. Each "scoop" of overburden could fill nearly three railroad cars. Photo courtesy of Mike Isakson.

23 million tons of zinc concentrates and four million tons of lead concentrates—50% of the zinc and 10% of the lead in the U. S. The mining also left behind tremendous environmental damage and the U.S. Government has literally purchased and closed several towns in the region. Growing up in Kansas we were informed in school, somewhat facetiously, that the tallest mountains in the state were the "chat piles" (overburden composed of chert, limestone and dolomite and a variety of bad things", like cadmium) in southeastern Kansas (Fig. 8). On the plus side the region has produced spectacular mineral specimens of galena, sphalerite, dolomite, and chalcopyrite that occupy museum cases around the world.



Fig. 8. Chat piles and collapsed mines near Galena, Kansas---a superfund site. Photo courtesy of Kansas Geological Survey.

So, one may travel to Wichita by a variety of routes but by far the best is to wander the back roads and byways and enjoy the scenery and rocks. If you are going to travel through Kansas, or simply want to learn more about the state, I would suggest a 2010 edition of Roadside Kansas written by Rex Buchanan and Jim

Cont. on Page 3

Cont. from Page 2

McCauley and published by the Kansas Geological Survey.

There is nothing there...But there is something there... travelers sometimes must make an effort to find it. Buchanan and McCauley in describing the geology of Kansas.

REFERENCES CITED

Brosius, L. and R. S. Swain, 2001, Lead and Zinc Mining in Kansas: Kansas Geological Survey Public Information Circular 17.

IJS Artists of the Month : Rick Copeland

"I prefer simplicity in my designs. The stone is my inspiration, my muse. My goal is to present the stone and metal in its best possible form and finish. The stone is the art; I am but the artisan." -Rick Copeland

Rick Copeland lives in Colorado Springs, Colorado.



Starting in 1974 Rick took a silversmith course through an adult education program. From then on he has been self taught with occasional coaching and mentoring from fellow jewelers and silversmiths in the Colorado region.



Rick creates one-of-a-kind jewelry. He works primarily with silver and occasionally gold, and has devel-



oped his own organic style based on simplicity. He prefers to work with natural stone. Rick cuts and polishes each stone into freeform cabochons then designs the jewelry around the stone with an eye

towards simplicity. Rick feels that he is framing what Mother Nature created into a piece of wearable art. Rick's signature pieces are his inlay work with Tur-

quoise and Lapis.

Rick also has done work for known jewelry designers and repairs Native American jewelry.







Rick & Carrie at the June 26-27, 2010, WMMI show.



Summer 2010 Show

Show Date: August 20-22, 2010

Location: US Hwy 24, next to Post Office in Lake George, Colorado, 35 miles west of Colorado Springs.

Times: 8 AM to 5 PM each day.

Outdoor Show, 40 dealers, free parking, food available for purchase. There is a Tractor pull contest on other side of the highway same day for additional entertainment.

Dealer Chair: Becky Blair 719-748-3030, and blairra@hotmail.com

Show Chairman: John Rakowski 719-748-3861, and <u>rakgeologist@yahoo.com</u>

The show will consist of forty dealers featuring minerals, fossils, jewelry, lapidary, and <u>outstanding</u> local specimens of amazonite, smoky quartz, topaz and more !

Admission is F-R-E-E

& the Parking is F-R-E-E too!

LGGM Club member & show dealer Richard Fretterd displays a colorful specimen (Dan Alfrey photo)



Various show items will include (but are not limited to) agate clocks, tumbled stone, petrified wood, carvings, lapidary equipment and supplies, crystals, meteorites, tektites, fulgurites, cabs, beads, jade, opal, fossils and much, MUCH more!

Here are pictures by Ingrid Hamilton from last year's show!











WOODLAND PARK GEM, MINERAL & JEWELRY SHOW

Kim and Bodie Packham (of the Rock Gypsies) present the Woodland Park Gem, Mineral & Jewelry Show to be held August 19- 20 - 21 - 22, 2010, at the Woodland Park Saddle Club.

The Woodland Park Saddle Club is located on Hwy. 24, just west of the Wal-Mart, in Woodland Park, CO.

There will be Rocks– Gems– Minerals– Crystals– Jewelry– Rough Material– Cut Stones– Colorado Specimens– Free Gold Panning– Spheres– Fountains– Gifts– Lapidary– Faceting– Prospecting Equipment, and more!

Best of all, Admission is Free, as is the Parking!

There will be food available.

Contact Kim or Bodie at 719.360.9665, or at

runninboar@hotmail.com.

WMMI SHOW PICTURES

(More on Page 14, 15, 21)



A Mammoth Discovery at the **Florissant Fossil Beds By Steven Wade Veatch**

The Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument in Colorado is one of the most important late Eocene plant and insect fossil sites in the world. The 34-millionyear-old fossils range from plant and insect impressions in paper-thin shale to massive petrified tree stumps. A more recent time period is also represented in gravels that were deposited at various sites at the fossil beds. The gravels accumulated during the last Ice Age, and at one of these locations are the buried remains of a Columbian mammoth (Mammuthus colombi).

The Florissant mammoth was discovered in 1994 in a road cut near the visitor center when an intern noticed small fragments of bone material scattered around the entrance of a rodent burrow. While many fossil discoveries are the result of organized scientific work, this discovery was by sheer chance.

Two years later, the area surrounding the rodent burrow was systematically excavated by the Denver Museum



Figure 1. View of the partial deeply—close to a meter molar tooth of a Columbian mammoth found near Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument's visitor Florissant Fossil Beds National mammoth molar tooth Monument specimen FLFO- (figures 1 and 2) and 2392.

of Nature & Science in collaboration with the National Park Service. At the site, which is along the road to the visitor center, a grid system was laid out to record the location and depth of every bone and soil sample removed. Five two-by-twometer squares were dug and fossils were systematically removed. Several squares in the grid layout were dug out quite

below the surface. These excavations yielded fragcenter. mentary material from a mandible (figure 3). The fossil material was carefully boxed and stored as

Photo by S. Veatch.

part of the park's fossil collection. This was a landmark dig for Teller County, Colorado.

In 2004, measurements were made by the author on a detached molar fragment using a digital caliper and following the procedures outlined by Maglio (1973). By studying the thickness of the enamel and number of ridges across the tooth it was possible to identify the specimen as a Columbian mammoth rather than a woolly mammoth (*M. primigenius*), the latter of which was adapted to tundra conditions farther north. The author presented the findings of his research team at a

scientific conference in Denver, making the Florissant mammoth part of the permanent scientific record (Veatch et. al, 2004).

The fossil material is important for several reasons: (1) it provides documentation of the presence of mammoth fossils at Florissant; (2) this discovery at an elevation

of 8.400 feet (2.560 meters) is a relatively high elevation for Columbian mammoths; and (3)the tooth was radiocarbon dated to be at least 50,000 years old. Even though this tooth is older than the reliable range for radiocarbon dating, it shows that mammoths lived at high ele-



Figure 2. Occlusal (surface) view of the molar. Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument specimen FLFO-2392. Photo by S. Veatch.

vations before the last glacial maximum, about 18,000 radiocarbon years ago.



Figure 3.View of mandible fragment. Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument specimen FLFO-2392. Photo by S.

Veatch.

The Florissant mammoth is still being studied. Sediments found with the mammoth contain pollen and spores. A team of researchers, including the author, are currently examining these microfossils and plan to publish their results soon. These scientists hope to learn more about the Florissant mammoth's environment.

References Cited:

- Maglio, V.J., 1973. Origin and Evolution of the Elephantidae. Transactions of the American Philosophical Society, New Series 63, 1-149.
- Veatch, S. W., Graham, R, and Meyer, H.W., 2004. High elevation Mammuthus from the Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument, Colorado. Geological Society of America Annual Meeting, 2004 .: Geological Society of America Abstracts with Programs, vol. 36, no. 5, p. 381.

SEPTEMBER 10-12, 2010 CREEDE, MINERAL COUNTY, **COLORADO**

CREEDE

Our conference theme is the Creede Mining District (roughly a 5 hour drive from Denver). Talks will focus on Creede area history, economic geology, mineralogy, current events,

Creede Nineral Symposium 2010 Registration Form (We must RECEIVE these by August 25th)

 _Name
 _Mailing Address
 _City/State/Zip
 _Phone
 _E-mail address

Symposium registration fees are

\$34, which includes Friday night's meal, Saturday's light breakfast, refreshment break (snack/drink), lanyard I.D.s, exhibits, symposium proceedings, field trips, and attendance at all talks/posters.

Optional Banguet Dinner \$26.00

Please check only one entrée:	Optional box lunches \$10.00
BeefSalmonChicken	Available for Sunday's field trips, please check sandwich choice:
Vegetarian	TurkeyHamRoast Beef
	Registration does not cover the banquet, alcoholic beverages, field trip costs , lunches, lodging, or museum admission fee.

Some Area Lodging:

To avoid any potential endorsements, we recommend that you seek lodging advice from the web,

travel agents, or: Creede/Mineral County Chamber of Commerce P. O. Box 580 Creede, CO 81130 Phone: 719-658-2374 Toll Free: 800-327-2102

FAX: 719-658-2717 E-mail: chamber@creede.com Web: www.creede.com

For more information, or to remit checks (payable to Friends of Mineralogy, Colorado Chapter) for registration and optional fees:

Lou Conti 6987 S. Hill Street Littleton, CO 80120 dlconti@aol.com 303-797-3205



and artifacts. There will be displays of classic mineral specimens found in the Creede area, as well as a special micromount display by the Rocky Mountain Micromineral Association.

Dealers will be offering materials for sale. All of Friday's and Saturday's talks will be held in the community center of the **Creede Underground Museum (remember to dress warmly)**.

Optional tours of the Creede Underground Museum will be offered at reduced rates (<u>www.creede.com/mining</u>

<u>museum.htm</u>).

Schedule of Events

Friday:

5:00 P.M. - Casual icebreaker (cook-out style meal included with registration) with cash bar. Dealers will be selling mineral specimens, photographs, books, and art work.

7:30 P.M. - Keynote address by **Ed Raines** on the general geology and history of the Creede mining district. This will be followed by discussion and fellowship lasting until late night.

Saturday:

8:00 A.M. - 5:30 P.M. A light breakfast, followed by talks from respected researchers. Talks will be similar in nature to those of other prominent mineral symposia, a mix of technical and non-technical. A few breaks are scheduled, along with an extended lunch period, with dealers open throughout the day.

List of scheduled presenters:

Kurt Allen, Warren Andrews, Bill Atkinson, Bruce Geller, Chuck Harbert, Jim Hurlbut, Ed Raines, Mike Reddy, Tom Rosemeyer, and Ken Wylie.

6:30 P.M. - The Symposium moves to the Rio Grande Club in South Fork, CO (a one half hour drive east of Creede) where there will be a cash bar.

7:00 P.M. - the optional **banquet** with door prizes occurs. Your choice of London Broil, Teriyaki Salmon, Chicken Marsala, or Vegetarian.

Sunday: 9 A.M. - ?

All field trips will depart from the Creede Underground Museum. Liability release forms will be required for participation, as will carpooling.

Wagon Wheel Gap Fluorspar Mine

Type locality for creedite. Come learn the history of this mine and mill. Specimen collecting on the dumps may be possible, but cameras are a must!

Last Chance Mine

This is a commercial mine that **charges by the pound**. Come pick over the dumps that contain many of the minerals that Creede is known for -- sowbelly **agate**, **amethyst**, **etc**.

Sponsors:

Friends of Mineralogy Colorado Chapter, Colorado School of Mines Geology Museum, and Friends of the CSM Geology Museum





ADVENTURES IN THE WILD WEST DESERT OF UTAH

Mike Nelson & The Desert Group (Frank, Ellie, Yam, Debi, and Jerry)

On Saturday, 19 June, the intrepid adventurers from CSMS, Frank and Ellie Rosenberg, Jerry Suchen, Ron "Yam" Yamiolkoski, and Debi Ropken meet Mike and Diana Nelson (and Bruiser) at the Antelope Valley RV Park in Delta, UT. The group had put their blind faith in the hope that Mike's foggy mind could re-locate collecting localities last seen while a student 40+ years ago.



Fig. 1. Notch Peak in the House Range. The Peak is capped by the Notch Peak Dolomite. Note the orange colored and intrusive quartz monzanite of the Notch Peak Intrusion. Photo courtesy of Wikipedia.

The goal Sunday was to collect trilobites from the Cambrian Wheeler Shale in the House Range. So, at 7:00 am they headed west for 30+ miles before taking the plunge north on a gravel road toward presumed collecting localities. The House Range is one of those wonders found in the west desert and the Great Basinit is a classic uplifted block of rocks, a horst, bounded by Tule and Sevier valleys, the grabens. The Range is north-south trending (~40 mi X 7 mi) and generally exposes lower Paleozoic (Cambrian and Ordovician) rocks. However, there is a major quartz monzonite (an igneous rock similar to granite but without the quartz) intrusive body of Jurassic age (Notch peak Intrusion) called Sawtooth Mountain. This name comes from the weathering of the monzonite into sharp points and ridges as compared to the more rounded peaks in the lime stones and shales.

Fig. 2. Mike offering his thoughts on west desert geology to Yam, Jerry, (Mike), Ellie, and Debi. Frank is the photographer.

Dominant topographic features of



the Range include Notch Peak at 9654 feet, but with a vertical rise (cliff) of about 2200 feet at the summit. The peak itself is floored by the Notch Peak Intrusion with overlying Cambrian and Ordovician carbonates and topped by the Notch Peak Dolomite (Fig. 1). The igneous rocks have produced minor amounts of placer gold and some claims are still active. It seems as though the source of the gold dust has never been located, perhaps representing an opportunity for a CSMS member to "strike it rich"! Mike proffered his thoughts on the fascinating geology at Sawtooth Mountain (Fig. 2) as one is able to "put your finger" on the contact between a major intrusive feature and a sedimentary rock and follow the metamorphic aureole outward (Fig. 3).



Fig. 3. Sharp contact between metamorphosed Cambrian carbonates and the Notch Peak Intrusion. It is not often that one can "put their finger" on such a contact.

This intrusive event is related to tectonic activity associated with the Nevadan Orogeny and is approximately 150 MY in age. He also reminisced about camping, on his 15th wedding anniversary, at Painter Springs on the west side of the intrusion watching the sun set across Tule Valley and the Confusion Range with small garnets sparkling in the light--a magnificent and romantic sight. Unfortunately he was with a graduate student rather than his spouse!

Continued on Page 9

Continued from Page 8

The other major topographic feature is Swasey Peak at 9669 feet and composed of Cambrian carbonates and shales. It is on the slopes of this peak that the famous trilobite collecting localities at the Wheeler Amphitheater and near Antelope Springs are located. The two stratigraphic units of interest are the Wheeler Shale and the overlying Marjum Formation (limestone) with the Wheeler our main objective (~500 MY). These units were deposited in a shallow warm seaway and contain perhaps the most famous Cambrian fossils in the United States—a wide variety of trilobites and other shelly fossils as well as spectacular soft bodied organ-



Fig. 4. Agnostid trilobite from the House Range. Note the "non-typical" shape of these trilobites and the absence of eyes. Photo courtesy of fossilmall.com.

isms. They seem closely related to the world-famous Burgess Shale organisms of Alberta Canada.

Mike's memory was tested early on and he took the group to a locality where it appeared that several thousand collectors had banged on the rocks and bagging a trilobite would be easy. However, large parts of the Wheeler are rather unproductive and this was the case at our initial locality! Although tiny agnostid trilobites



(Fig. 4; blind trilobites; we remain uncertain about their beliefs!) were common, the larger ones were elusive.

Fig. 5. Mike splitting the soft shale of the Wheeler Fm.--with good results. Photo courtesy of Frank.

Suddenly the fog of advancing age cleared and Mike was able to lead the group to his old locality a few miles down the road and up the draw and successful collecting begin (Fig. 5). The group stayed for most of the day and collected a wide variety of *Elrathia kingi* and several of the larger *Asaphiscus wheeleri* (Fig. 6).



Fig. 6. Elrathia kingi (left) and *Asaphiscus wheeleri* (right) from the Wheeler Shale. Photo courtesy of Wikipedia.

On the drive home the group explored the summit of Marjum Pass (without great success) and sort of recalled what it would be like traveling "cross county" on a gravel road in a Model A Ford (the Marjum Pass road is "old" Highway 50). Most of the group continued west and then traveled south along the west side of the Range and were able to observe the spectacular "Basin and Range" type normal fault that fronts the west side. Mike, followed by Debi, took another route back to Delta in order to explore the old lake floor of Pleistocene Lake Bonneville where they collected a nice group of snails. Yam later recounted a long story about not being interested in snails since they devoured his vegetation when living in CA.



Fig. 7. The collecting area for topaz in the Thomas range.

Continued on Page 10

Continued from Page 9

That evening the group recounted the war stories of the day around a pretend campfire (no real fires allowed in the RV Park) and munched on snacks provided by Diana and sipped on beverages of their choice. It was a relaxing end to a successful day of collecting.

At 7:00am the next morning the group was on their way to the Thomas Range, about 50 miles northwest of Delta, to hunt for topaz crystals (Utah state gemstone). Unlike the House Range, the Thomas Range is composed of topaz-bearing rhyolitic (fine-grained white to gray volcanic rock with high amounts of quartz and feldspar) flows and domes along with some associated tuff (compacted volcanic ash) of Miocene age. Our major goal was the amphitheater at Topaz Mountain, an area that was wisely established by the BLM as a public collecting area (Fig. 7). We started out swinging our four pound crack hammers looking for the fabled sherry-colored crystals-with modest success. Mike, whose mother didn't raise no fools, decided that the crack hammer likely would result in a sore arm and decided to search the stream bed and was almost immediately successful with a large crystal. That prompted



Fig. 8. Pahvant Butte rising from the floor of ancient lake Bonneville, Black Rock Desert Volcanic Field.

Yam to establish a screening operation, again almost immediately producing a fine termination point. The rest of the group joined in and the hunt was on.

Jerry and Mike started up the west wall with Jerry locating a great pocket or two of the sherry-colored crystals along with three small tabs of red beryl. Mike picked up several termination points loose on the ground and one large crystal. He returned to get Debi, Ellie, and Frank and all were successful as they scampered up the slope. Meanwhile, Yam continued with his screening project. From a personal viewpoint (Mike) it was the best collecting of his trips to the Range. Again, the general geology was fascinating as one can only imagine the cataclysmic eruptions with hot, molten ash flows zipping through the countryside and loose ash clogging the air and falling to the ground. The vents erupted perhaps six to seven million years ago along faults in the area. Deep thoughts about this event were evident at the nightly pretend campfire.

Early the next morning the group was off to collect sunstones and obsidian south of Delta. Along the way, but east of the road, Pahvant Butte was always in sight (750 feet above ground level). The butte is an extinct? volcano with a tuffaceous cone built on basaltic lava that erupted through the waters of Pleistocene Lake Bonneville about 16k years ago (Fig. 8).

Sunstones are a type of plagioclase feldspar termed labradorite (a calcium, aluminum, sodium feldspar) that may be best known for certain cleavage faces showing multi-colors and a play of light--labradorescence (the Schiller effect from intergrowths inside the crystals). Some labradorite crystals, especially those that are bluish in color with good labradorescence, are cut as gemstones (most are free form cabs).



Fig.9. Small volcanic vent rising from the floor of Lake Bonneville. Weathering of the basalt produces labradorite crystals that litter the slopes.

The Utah sunstones are translucent to transparent and pale yellow in color. The best stones have weathered out of a basaltic lava that erupted from several small vents about 1 MY ago (Fig. 9). One can observe the stones emplaced in the basalt but extraction requires the crack hammer and usually does not produce satisfactory results. It seems much easier to pick up the stones from millions (yes millions) lying around loose on the ground. Most are small, but nice stones are fingernail size and Mike located one approaching an inch in length. It would be nice to see a faceted specimen since some of the Oregon sunstones are cut into beautiful gems.

Continued on Page 11

Continued from Page 10

At noon the group departed ways. Mike and Diana, having been absent from Colorado Springs for two weeks, headed toward home (with a few intermediate stops in the San Rafael Swell and an overnight in Grand Junction). Mike sent the rest of the group another 30 miles south to collect obsidian (dark-colored volcanic rock that formed when lava "super cooled") in the Black Rock Desert Volcanic Field. There are numerous volcanic vents, domes and cones that have produced a variety of rhyolitic and basaltic flows in the Field (in the last million and a half years) and some contain obsidian. The group was able to collect "buckets" of black and mahogany-colored obsidian along with a nice selection of snowflake obsidian (Fig. 10). This later variety is black in color with white spots



Fig. 10. Collectable specimens of snowflake obsidian, Black Rock Volcanic field. Photo courtesy of Frank.

(crystals of a high-temperature quartz called cristobalite).

By this time the group was ready for the trip back to Delta and the comforts of pizza. They departed early Wednesday for the return trip to Colorado; however, the long 500 miles was made easier by the magnificent scenery of Salina Canyon and the San Rafael Swell in eastern Utah, and the canyons and mountains of western Colorado. We are already planning for a future trip to the west desert. A "good time was had by all"!

I've been through the desert on a horse with no name It felt good to be out of the rain In the desert you can remember your name 'Cause there ain't no one for to give you no pain

America

June 2010 Tarryall Topaz Trip a Success for Several Screeners!

John Rakowski lead an intrepid group of people to an old Tarryall mine site, and several people found nice specimens. A huge, approximately 25 carat super clear topaz was found by "new" CSMS member, Heather McKiddy. Jan Barglowski cut the giant stone into a brilliant trillion cut weighing about 10 carats!





Heather McKiddy (in red) & Teri Stoiber at the site where the "giant" was discovered!

Heather showing the size of the rough topaz compared to her diamond engagement ring completely dwarfed it!





Jan Barglowski cut the topaz into a "Tabby" trillion cut—an amazing job for a phenomenal stone!

THINGS TO DO FROM CSMS MEMBER PETE MODRESKI

Aug. 12-15, "Contin-Tail" mineral show and swap, Rodeo Grounds, Buena Vista, CO.

Aug 20-22, Lake George Gem & Mineral Show, Lake George, CO. For more info: <u>www.lggmclub.org</u>.

Sep. 10-12, Creede, Colorado, Mineral Field Symposium, to be held in Creede, CO, sponsored by the Colorado Chapter, Friends of Mineralogy, & the Colorado School of Mines Geology Museum; a two-day symposium with lectures & field trips. More info will be available soon; contact Lou Conti, <u>dlconti@aol.com</u>

Sep. 17-18, Denver Gem and Mineral Show, Denver Merchandise Mart. For more info

see <u>http://www.denvermineralshow.com/</u> Combined with Colorado Fossil Expo. Dealers, many museum and club exhibits; admission charge; free parking. The theme of the 2010 show will be "The Creede Mining District".

Sep 15-19, Colorado Mineral and Fossil Show, Holiday Inn - Denver Central, 4849 Bannock St. Free parking and admission, many mineral dealers; see http://www.mzexpos.com/colorado_fall.htm

WMMI HAPPENINGS

225 Northgate Blvd. Colorado Springs, CO 80921

Main: 719.488.0880 Toll Free: 800.752.6558

Hours: 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Monday-Saturday (June-August) 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Monday-Saturday (September-May) Daily Guided tours at 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. (included in admission). **The Western Museum of Mining and Industry is a private, nonprofit museum founded in 1970. We educate over 8,000 school children a year on the importance of mining in the American West.**

Farmers' Market Runs through October 27, every Monday & Wednesday through October: Farmers' Market featuring Colorado Grown Fresh Produce Fresh vegetables from local Pueblo farms, breads, meats and more—located in front of the Red Farmhouse. Guests visiting the museum get the opportunity to see operable steam engines, learn how to gold pan, see a recreated mine drift, play with hands-on exhibits, and catch a glimpse of the pioneer lifestyle. There are over 27 acres to explore at the Museum, with picnic grounds and two very adorable burros. WMMI 28th Anniversary Tuesday, July 6, 9:00 a.m. -5:00 p.m. The Western Museum of Mining and Industry celebrates its 28th Anniversary! Celebrate with us as we offer \$2.80 admission per person. The museum opened in 1982 with the mission to preserve America's rich western mining heritage. Since then, we have been educating the public about the importance of mining past, present and future. Don't miss this special day at the museum. Visit wmmi.org or call us at 719-488-0880 for more information.

Outdoor Machinery Days Fridays, July 9 & 23, 10:00 a.m. & 1:00 p.m. Hear the shrill whistle of the Western Museum of Mining & Industry's 1928 Osgood Steam Shovel. Learn how compressed air locomotives replaced the poor mule in hauling mountains of ore, and then see one rumble out of the past and down the track! Last, but not least, walk into the Museum's operating gold refinery. Listen to the stories describing the dangers of being a mill man. Understand how industrial revolution technology helped our ancestors hew a living out of Colorado's hard rock, and then brace yourself as the kinetic energy of the 1890's refinery comes alive. FREE with paid admission.

Heritage Lecture - "Oil Sands" Thursday, July 15, 7:00 p.m.-8:30 p.m. Canadian journalist and author Andrew Nikiforuk will be presenting a fascinating perspective on one of the world's largest energy projects, the tar sands located in Alberta, Canada, for the museum's Heritage Lecture Series. Nikiforuk is the author of multiple publications including his latest book, The Tar Sands: Dirty Oil and the Future of the Continent. The book is a national best seller and it received the 2009 Rachel Carson Environment Book Award along with being listed as a finalist for the Grantham Prize for Excellence in Reporting on the Environment. Heritage Lectures are free and open to the public with the lecture starting at 7:00 p.m. Make reservations by calling 719-488-0880 or email us at RSVP@wmmi.org. To learn more about Andrew Nikiforuk listen to his postcast at http://www.wmmi.org/multimedia.

Burro Birthday Bluegrass Bash

Date: August 7, 2010 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Oro & Nugget's Bluegrass Birthday Celebration! This will be an all day event with multiple bands playing throughout the day-bring your lawn chairs and plan to sit back and enjoy the music. Food vendors, Bristol Brewing, outdoor equipment, museum tours, and, of course, birthday cake for Oro & Nugget! Performances By: Palmer Divide— Fireweed—High Atmosphere—CountryLine Ramblers—John Swayne

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

by Ron Yamiolkoski, CSMS

By the time most of you read this, the Rock Fair will be history. As I sit here now, I keep trying to think of things that need to be done and determining when I will do them. I hope all goes well.

The other thing that will be over is Mike Nelson's Field Trip to Southern Utah (Delta area). Right now I am thinking of what I need to bring to make this a success-



ful trip. I keep checking the weather and hope that it does not get hotter than the 86-88 degree highs that are predicted. Some of us will be talking about this FT during the Rock Fair and for months to follow.

The Annual Picnic is almost upon us and Dave Olsen and Maria Weisser are working

on the details. I am sure that they will get back to you at the July General Assembly Meeting with all of the details.

Field Trips for the rest of the year are also on my mind. We have a couple on July 10th and one in August, but after that it is thin. I need some folks to step up and say they will lead a field trip. Any volunteers?

Well, that just about wraps it up, so I think I'll take some space and discuss this year's upcoming elections. Since I have been a member of the Club, it seems that it has been difficult to find folks willing to serve. Oh, there are those who complain about what is happening but some of these folks don't think to volunteer to serve. I cannot speak for all of the officers, but I am sure that they would be happy to have a little competition for the various positions. For those of you who don't wish to serve as an officer, many of our chairs and appointees have been doing there jobs for several years. Maybe it is time for some of you to step up and relieve them. Being an officer or a chair requires work, but it also gets you more involved with your club. If this message gets to you, pick a position that you might be interested in holding and chat with the current person to see if they need help or would be willing for you to take over the reins. This is the first step in getting involved.

One last item. The 2011 Rock Fair will be the Rocky Mountain Federation of Mineralogical Societies annual show. Unlike our regular event, there will be things to do throughout the coming year. We will start detailed planning efforts in September. This event will require the whole Club to come together and to work as a team in order to make this a great event. The 2011 Rock Fair will have need for 11 speakers, 5-7 field trips, banquet coordination, editor's Breakfast coordination, favors to make, and a bunch of other items above and beyond our usual annual Rock Fair. While I have committed to lead the effort, I cannot do it alone. This will take a team.

A word of warning! The rattle snake population seems to be more active this year. Please be careful when you are out there rock hounding.

Take care,

Yam

RMFMS PRESIDENT'S LETTER

BY BILL SMITH, RMFMS

It is with much sadness that I inform you of the passing of our Nebraska/South Dakota State Director, Donald Rathert. Don was an active member of the Western Dakota Gem and Mineral Society.

It is almost show time, and by the time your receive this newsletter, the show will be upon us. I do hope you are planning on attending.



Our daughter and family visited us in March. We did have some fairly nice

weather and even went rock hounding; found some nice petrified wood and agates on a private ranch. The collecting sure made me wish warmer weather would arrive. It did, as today it reached 90 degrees.

We just received our mounted bobcat facing off with a Western Diamondback rattlesnake. Both were collected locally so must remember, safety comes first in these hills.

We also visited the Alabaster Caverns near Freedom, OK. We viewed many different colors of alabaster with very unique formations, as well as several hundred bats.

The Salt Plains near Cherokee, OK, opened the first of April for the beautiful hourglass selenite crystals. These would be wonderful places to visit during the Wichita show.

See you at the show, or until next month.



CSMS Rock Fair at WMMI June 26-27, 2010





All Pictures Courtesy of Frank Rosenberg—See if you can identify yourself and fellow CSMS members! It was a very enjoyable and pleasant weekend. Thanks to all the volunteers, vendors and guests—it made for a great time for all!

































More Pictures on Pages 4, 15, 21

Discover Victor Colorado!

Experience Victor, City of Mines, Through the Victor Lowell Thomas Museum: Discover the rich history of Victor, City of Mines, in a special program during Victor Gold Rush Days this July.

Sunday, July 18 Steve Veatch will present the second annual Discover Victor program and guided tour. The program includes a one-hour presentation and two-hour guided tour of the Victor area, with stops at historic sites. The event benefits the Victor Lowell Thomas Museum. There will be two sessions for the event on July 18 – one at 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. This is a great opportunity to learn about Victor's gold rush history from a well-known geologist, historian and author.

The presentation, which will be held at the Victor Community Center at Second and Portland Avenue in Victor, will be about one hour long, followed by a guided two-hour tour, packed with information. A shuttle will be available for a limited number of participants, and for the rest, carpooling will be required. The cost for the event is \$15 per person, including handouts. The fee also includes admission to the museum for the day. Please reserve by calling 719-689-5509 or email museum@victorcolorado.com. Walk-ins are welcome as long as you are willing to carpool. The event is sponsored by the Southern Teller County Focus Group, which is donating all the proceeds of this event to the Victor Lowell Thomas Museum's building restoration fund. This 50-year old museum houses gold rush era history in downtown Victor.

The presentation was first made last year courtesy of Veatch and the Lake George Gem and Mineral Club and has since been improved and presented all over the country. Veatch and the gem club's study group delved into the little-known facts of Victor's amazing history, the famous mines on Battle Hill that made Victor famous, and the remarkable minerals of the mining district.



Gold Rush Days, July 16-18, honors the town's mining heritage with mining games that give visitors a close-up look at mining skills of yesterday and today such as jackleg drilling, hand mucking and hand steel drilling as well as gold panning. Pan for real gold at the museum and take a modern mine tour. CC&V gold mine tours are offered during Gold Rush Days this year Friday, July 16 and 17

at 10 and 1 – reserve on line at VictorColorado.com to see the giant trucks, rock crusher and open pit mine. All

proceeds from these tours benefit the Victor Lowell Thomas Museum.

Families can also enjoy vendors, Victorian home tours, a street dance on Friday night, the District Reunion dance on Saturday night, kids games and clowns, and a parade on Sunday afternoon.

Victor, one of the last authentic mining towns in the state of Colorado, offers the visitor an interesting selection of eateries, saloons, hotels and turn-of-the-century manufacturing, products and antiques all on the sunny southern slope of Pikes Peak, just one hour west of Colorado Springs. The Gold Rush Days event is presented by the Victor Elks Lodge #367. For more information call 719-689-5509 or email

museum@victorcolorado.com.

More from the WMMI Show:









More Pictures on Pages 4, 14, 21

ASK A GEOLOGIST BY MIKE NELSON, CSMS



(**Cont. from Last Month**) Jason writes: *Mr. Rockguy I am a Cub Scout in Utah and learning skills for the wild. Can you really start a fire with fools gold?*

On the other hand paleontologists, but especially vertebrate paleontologists, and museum workers are often concerned about "pyrite disease" eating up their specimens. If fossil "bones" (as an example) contain even small amounts of pyrite and are exposed to conditions of high humidity then the mineral begins to oxidize and forms iron sulfate (perhaps the mineral melanterite), FeSO₄. Iron sulfate is of greater volume than iron sulfide (pyrite) and so causes expansion in the specimens and breakage and crumbling soon follow. In addition, sulfuric acid forms and discolors the specimens. Once pyrite disease begins the process seems irreversible. That is one reason museum collections are stored in dry conditions, 45% humidity or less. And, individual collectors should keep their prized fossil specimens in a sealed container along with a package of silica gel, a desiccant. Without proper storage they may begin to oxidize within a few months. Larger specimens of pyrite cubes are slower to oxidize and most collectors will only see some "tarnishing" on their specimens. This is the same chemical reaction plus water and perhaps microbes that produces the very acidic (sulfuric acid) acid mine drainage.

Another interesting occurrence of pyrite is the discoidal concretions plucked from coal mines in Illinois (and perhaps elsewhere) that are aptly named "pyrite suns" or "pyrite dollars" (Fig. 4). Early collectors believed



Fig. 4. Pyrite Sun or Pyrite Dollar.

Photo courtesy of crystal-cure.com

them to be fossil sand dollars (a type of echinoderm); however, they probably represent pyrite crystals that did not have room to grow into cubes.

So, can you start a fire with pyrite? Well, maybe! I found references to using flint (microcrystalline quartz) and fine-

grained pyrite as a fire starting tool. The outdoorsman should bang the two minerals together so small pieces of pyrite "fall off" as sparks. The secret seems to be getting the sparks to ignite---you need very dry and fine tinder. In my experiments I could produce the sparks but could not get the ignition. Perhaps the sparks were too cool! On the other hand there is a great video of a person flailing away at a piece of pyrite with a fragment of flint until the tinder actually ignites:

http://www.blinkx.com/watch-video/starting-a-firewith-simple-pyrite-crystals-flint-and-tinder-fungus/ DJ4i6ieqmv8lQb3fNQiK1g

I also know that pieces of pyrite were used in Wheelock guns during the 1500's and 1600's. The pyrite was put into a clamp (a 'dog' in gunsmithing parlance) and when released, struck a piece of hardened steel. The sparks produced from this action then ignited the priming pan that in turn ignited the main powder charge. If this sounds cumbersome realize the Wheelock replaced the Matchlock where "shooters" needed to put a lighted match to the priming pan! Talk about delayed reactions!

There also seems to be some evidence that "nature" uses pyrite to start fires in coal beds and in "oil shales". Scientists know that oxidation of pyrite is an exothermic process (a chemical reaction where heat is produced), and if the oxidation occurs in a closed environment (as in a waste pile) the dissipation of heat is inefficient and the temperature rises (Schoonen and others, 2000). What this means--heat is produced when pyrite is exposed to oxygen in a somewhat closed system.

With this knowledge in mind, the 10 December 2008 issue of the **New Scientist** (www.newscientist.com) reported on a wildfire in 2004 near Santa Barbara, CA that researchers traced to a recent landslide but were uncertain about how the fire started. Geologists from the US Geological Survey visited the site and found that the temperature of the rocks in the landslide was $307 \degree \text{C}$ - hot enough to start a fire. They determined that a chemical reaction in the rocks caused the ignition. Furthermore, they noted the landslide exposed pyrite to the air, which in turn caused an oxidation reaction that heated a nearby patch of low-grade coal to more than $300 \degree \text{C}!$

In the May 2010 Pick & Pack I noted the existence of "burning shale" (actually low grade oil shale beds of the Sharon Springs Member of the Pierre Shale) near Chamberlain, SD and how in 1804 members of the Lewis and Clark expedition looked nearby for the existence of a volcano (the explorers were told to watch out for volcanoes as they passed through this region: On September 14, 1804 both captains *walked on Shore with a view to find an old Volcano Said to be in this neighborhood by Mr. McKey [a gentleman from St. Charles, MO]. Could not see any Signs of a Volcanoe).* Earlier in the expedition (August 24, 1804) Clark had noted in his diary while passing through Nebraska: *West under rugged Bluffs 1¾ ms. passing Several Small Dreens* (drains), *falling into the river those Bluffs has*

Friday, August 12, 1932

COLORADO COLLEGE TIGER

been lately on fire and is yet verry Hott, Great appearance of Coal, & imence quantities of Cabalt in Side of that part of_the Bluff which Sliped in (Moulton, 1986).

Early settlers in this part of northeastern Nebraska were fearful of this erupting volcano (the "Ionia Volcano", Clark's burning bluff) until the early 1900's when geologists proved that the burning was started by the oxidation heat created by damp pyritiferous and carbonaceous Carlile Shale (Cretaceous and older than the Pierre) on fresh exposures provided by the rapid erosion of the river bluffs (Moulton, 1986).

Since you are in the Cub Scouts, I might mention that many years ago I helped my son build a couple of "crystal radios" for a Scout project. We actually used a piece of pyrite as the mineral detector in the receiver and were able to pick up the local AM radio station!

So Jason, it appears that both nature and men/women may start fires with the help of pyrite. The "naturestarted fires" are more like a smoldering fire, something without actual flames. However, banging pyrite and flint together may produce sparks which then could translate into actual flames.

And finally, whenever I am in doubt about something concerning the outdoors I consult my favorite wild west philosopher, western writer, Louis L'amour! He noted, in the novel Galloway: What I hunted was iron pyrites, and I found several chunks and broke off two pieces to use in starting a fire... I tried striking the two chunks of iron pyrite together. The sparks came easy, but it taken nearly an hour to get one into the shredded leaves and the bark. Flagan Sackett, alone and in the wilderness, trying to start a fire to broil elk meat he nabbed from a wolf.

REFERENCES CITED

Moulton, G. E., Ed., 1986, The Journals of the Lewis & Clark Expedition: Lincoln, University of Nebraska Press.

Schoonen, M., A. Elsetinow, M. Borda, and D. Strongin, 2000, Effect of temperature on prite oxidation between pH 2 and 6: Geochemical Transactions 2000, article 4, online journal: http://





Fig. 1. Mass of intergrown pyrite cubes displaying striations on crystal faces. Photo courtesy of Wikipedia.com.

GENEVIEVE, COLLEGE'S LATEST ACQUISITION NOW READY TO RECEIVE CALLERS. MADE PRESENTABLE BY PROFS.



GENEVIEVE, as she awaited the cament crews in the basement of Cutler hall. This dinosaur is one he rarest finds ever made in the Pikes Peak region even tho she has only two legs. The pieces were by the Geology department for a public "coming out" party held last month. Now she has a pedestal her own in the museum.

fired by the Geology department for a puble "coming out" party held ast month. Now she has a pedes all her own in the museum. Genevice, Colorado's oldest resi and from now on will be part of the solage museum. During the and from now on will be part of the solage museum. During the add from now on will be part of the solage museum. During the eavorted in the primeval mire. Hand from now on will be part of the solage museum. During the eavorted in the primeval mire. Hand from now on will be part of the solage museum. During the eavorted in the primeval mire. Hand from now on will be part of the solage museum. During the eavorted in the primeval mire. Hand from now on will be part of the solage museum. During the eavorted in the primeval mire. Hand from now on will be part of the solage museum. During the eavorted in the primeval mire. Hand from now on will be part of the solage museum. During the eavorted in the primeval mire. Hand from now on will be part of the solage museum. During the eavorted in the primeval mire. Hand from now on will be part of the solage museum. During the eavorted in the primeval mire. Hand from now on will be part of the solage museum. During the form any solage many solage museum. Hand from now to part of the solage museum. During the form any solage many solage museum. Hand from now to part of the solage museum. Hand from now to part of the solage museum. Hand from now to part of the solage museum. Hand from now to part of the solage museum. Hand from now to part of the solage museum the solage museum the form any solage museum. Hand from the solage museum the solage museum this poor orphan of the messo part of the solage museum t

Dr. Robert E. Landon, of the college geology department has been in charge of nursing Gene-vieve along to health. The discov-ery was made early in July and the

Dan Alfrey sent this article, along with a mystery...The above fossil is no longer on display at the college, and its' whereabouts are unknown. The club geostudy is uncovering more information, as is Steven Veatch, so we should have more information on it next month. Meanwhile, get out your Sherlock Holmes gear and tune up your investigative abilities, and see what you can uncover about "Genevieve."

I did find out she was related to diapsids, a group of lizards that flourished around 200 million years ago and included birds and crocodiles, and the name Rhynchocephalia means "beak head." Other dinosaurs found in Alma were smelted back in the early 1900s for their gold...A loss to us all, but hopefully someone will recollect something about "Genevieve."

Good luck, and send any new information to me at blacklabaccounting@gmail.com for inclusion in the next newsletter.



A male Tuatara, native of New Zealand, one of the last two remaining Sphenodontia, a distant relative of "Genevieve." Photo courtesy of Wikipedia.

CSMS FIELD TRIPS

Field Trips for 2010 have already been set. As usual, check the CSMS website (<u>www.csms.us</u>) for the latest list of Field Trips. Also, if you have an idea about a field trip or would like to lead a field trip, contact Yam our Field Trip Chair at <u>ron.yamiolkoski@aecom.com</u>.

July 10: April Fools Claim, John Casto, Jcasto@fvs.edu

July 10: Peridot Claim, Yam, ron.yamiolkoski@aecom.com

<u>July 18</u>: **GPOC Woody's Claim,** Big Ben Higley, <u>president@gpoc.com</u> - opportunity to pan for gold on a proven claim!

<u>July 28</u>: **Cotapaxi,** Marg Regal, 719.599.3031— Meet at 8:30 on road behind high school; limited to 20 people—search for many minerals and gemstones—more details on csms.us, or call Marg

<u>Aug 21</u>: **Peridot Claim,** Yam, ron.yamiolkoski@aecom.com

FROM THE LIBRARY by Frank Rosenberg, CSMS

This is your library. We encourage all CSMS members to take advantage of our fairly extensive inventory of reading material. Check the CSMS website to make your selection then Email or call Frank or Ellie to make your request. We appreciate all mineralogical book donations.



CSMS Annual Picnic

Get ready for fun, food, and tailgate sales! Sign up at the July 15 General Assembly Meeting—the theme is "Northern Europe." You must RSVP by no later than August 5, 2010, by contacting Dave or Nina at 719.495.8720, or Maria Weisser at 719.229.1587. More details to follow.



PEBBLE PUPS/JUNIORS BREAK

The Pebble Pup and Junior program will follow the academic year and will meet September through December. We have a break in January, and then will go from February to May. Since attendance drops off in the summer, we are making the change effective this month. The month of May was our last regular third Thursday meeting until next September. We will not meet June through August. These meetings will be replaced with our summer field trip season. Our first summer trip will be to the Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument.

THE SUBURBAN ROCKHOUND AND THOSE ROCKHOUNDING BOOKS

Before I joined a rock hounding club, I went out and bought some books about rock hounding (what to do and where to go). These had various titles and were by various authors. Some of these books were highly praised and indeed the information was fairly good, but there were a few problems. The first big problem was time. Most of these books had been written a few years ago. Property ownership, claiming, government action and Mother Nature have changed things. Forest service roads are being closed with gates, folks are placing claims on certain mineral resources, and some folks are buying property for homes and saying no to digging in their "yard". The second problem is the success of these books. Folks buy them and they go out and collect material. After a while there is little or no material left. That is usually when I arrived on the scene. The third problem is the result of poor workmanship in the preparation of the books, but I will not go into that. Perhaps in this day age of technology the next series of these books will provide better directions and pin point locations.

So what do you do? The answer for me was to join a club. I personally can recommend this solution. Club field trips are definitely more rewarding than going out alone – especially for the beginner. Maybe when I have a bit more expertise and experience like Chuck, Ray, Kerry, Marg, and Mike; I will be able to go out into the countryside and find some special spot not listed in the books and collect something that I can share with my friends. Until that day, I will enjoy the field trips and try to learn from those who have enjoyed this hobby longer than me.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	JULY 2010 - 0	CSMS CALENDAR				
				1	2	3
				7 p.m. Board Meeting		
4	5	6 7 p.m. Micro-Mounts	7	8	9	10 12-14 Lapidary Group 8 a.m. April Fools Claim 9 a.m. Peridot Claim
11	12	13 7 p.m. Fossil Group	14	15 7:30 p.m. General Assembly	16	17 12 p.m. Jewelry Group
18	19	20	21	22 7 p.m. Crystal Group 7 p.m. Faceting Group	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

Feb—Crystal May—Jewelry Aug—Picnic

REFRESHMENTS FOR GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETINGS Mar—Faceting June—Lapidary Sept—Projects

April—Fossil July-Micromounts Oct-

_	R	0	a	r	d

Pon Vamiolkoski		
NULL TATHIUKUSKI	488-5526	Ron.Yamiolkoski@aecom.com
David Olsen	495-8720	Djnvgo_95@yahoo.com
Jennifer Beisel	434-2574	jenniferbeisel@comcast.net
Al Zelenak	598-3515	adzelenak@comcast.net
Teri Stoiber and Ann Proctor	N/A 684-9010	blacklabaccounting@gmail.com annmgmt@msn.com
Roni Poteat	390-6065	talknrocks@gmail.com
Sharon Holte	217-5683	SHolte@csu.org
Bob Germano	487-8945	(gliders1@hotmail.com
Drew Malin	531-7594	advanceone@comcast.net
Ron Yamiolkoski	488-5526	Ron.Yamiolkoski@aecom.com
Brenda Hawley	633-5702	bghsprings@hotmail.com
Frank & Ellie Rosenberg	594-0948	emr80918@yahoo.com
Maria Weisser	229-1587	mariaweisser@yahoo.com
Ron Yamiolkoski	488-5526	Ron.Yamiolkoski@aecom.com
Ann Proctor	684-9010	annmgmt@msn.com
Kerry Burroughs	634-4576	kburrou@comcast.net
Paul Berry	578-5466	paulpopsplace@aol.com
Mike Nelson	522-1608	Bill.Arnson@live.com
Bill Arnson	749-2328	ritaarnson@msn.com
Jennifer Bailey	638-8169	Notes_test@yahoo.com
Steven Veatch	748-5010	Steven.Veatch@gmail.com
Phil McCollum		acc@frii.com
Ron Yamiolkoski	488-5526	Ron.Yamiolkoski@aecom.com
Allen Tyson	268-0775	allentyson@yahoo.com
	Jennifer Beisel Al Zelenak Teri Stoiber and Ann Proctor Roni Poteat Sharon Holte Bob Germano Drew Malin Ron Yamiolkoski Brenda Hawley Frank & Ellie Rosenberg Maria Weisser Ron Yamiolkoski Ann Proctor Kerry Burroughs Paul Berry Mike Nelson Bill Arnson Jennifer Bailey Steven Veatch Phil McCollum Ron Yamiolkoski Allen Tyson	David Olsen495-8720Jennifer Beisel434-2574Al Zelenak598-3515Teri Stoiber and Ann ProctorN/A 684-9010Roni Poteat390-6065Sharon Holte217-5683Bob Germano487-8945Drew Malin531-7594Ron Yamiolkoski488-5526Brenda Hawley633-5702Frank & Ellie Rosenberg229-1587Ron Yamiolkoski488-5526Ann Proctor684-9010Kerry Burroughs634-4576Paul Berry578-5466Mike Nelson522-1608Bill Arnson749-2328Jennifer Bailey638-8169Steven Veatch748-5010Phil McCollum268-0775

Board Meeting: 1st Thursday @ 7:00p. Senior Center, David Olsen: 495-8720

Crystal Study Group: 4th Thursday of the month @ 7:00p, Senior Center; Kerry Burroughs: 634-4576

Faceting Group: 4th Thursday @ 7:00p, Senior Center, Paul Berry, 578-5466

Fossil Study Group: 3rd Tuesday @ 7:00p every other month, Senior Center, Mike Nelson, 522-1608

Jewelry Group: 3rd Saturday @ 12:00p, 15610 Alta Plaza Circle, Peyton, Bill Arnson, 749-2328

Juniors & Pebble Pups: 3rd Thursday @ 5:15p & 6:30p, Senior Center, Steven Veatch, 748-5010—on hiatus for summer.

Lapidary Group: 2nd Saturday @12:00p, 6570 Ramrod Road, Colorado Springs,, Jennifer Bailey, 638-8169

Micromounts Group: 2nd Tuesday @ 7:00p, 1514 North Hancock, Phil McCollum, acc@frii.com, Moyra Lyne, 442-2673

Project Group: Meeting time TBD, Ron "Yam" Yamiolkoski

July 2010

PICK&PACK

JUNE 17, 2010 GENERAL ASSEMBLY MINUTES

BY JENNIFER BEISEL, CSMS SECRETARY

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm followed immediately with the salute to the Flag.

David Olsen introduced the Second place winner of this year's science fair competition, Sara Kurko. Sara then presented her prize-winning program, "Trickle Down Effect" to the enjoyment of the members present.

A Motion was made to approve the May 2010 Minutes as they appeared in Pick & Pack with corrections (change Mike Wetoo to Mike Wheat and add am/pm after noted times). It was seconded and the motion passed.

Treasurer's Report – Al Zelenak

Introduction of New Members- Mark Smagner (from SC)

Introduction of Guests – Wayne & Ben from the Gold Prospectors of CO

Chair's Group Introductions:

Pebble Pups/Juniors - Steven Veatch

 3^{rd} Tuesday of the month at the Senior Center. Juniors meet at 5:15 PM and Pebble Pups meet at 6:30 PM

FIELD TRIP THIS WEEKEND – Florissant & the quarry

Rock Fair Chair – Ronald "Yam" Yamiolkoski

The dates are June 26 & 27, 2010. Roger Pitman will deliver the trailer. We're scheduled to have 8 exhibits & 28 vendors. Still need lots of help, sign-up sheets up front. We are still looking for stuff to auction and for the kids area. Dave is looking for an auctioneer.

Field Trip Chair - Ronald "Yam" Yamiolkoski

We have 11 Field Trips posted on our website as of today. The big field trip to Utah led by Mike Nelson starts this Saturday with the drive to Delta, Utah followed by three days of collecting and the return on Wednesday. July 10th is the next big day with Field Trips to the April Fool's Claim and the Peridot Claim. (See List) Bob Germano said he's going to try for a Sept/Oct Holcom cement quarry trip (summer's too hot). Ben from Gold Prospector's group is hosting a field trip at the Woodier claim on the Arkansas river east of Wellsville (about 4 mi south of Salida) on July 18th. There's gold in every pan. On 21 August we'll host the gold prospector's at the peridot claim.

President's Report (Yam): We will be having a Silent Auction at the Rock Fair. We will need donations in order to have some things to sell. Please bring them to the Fair on Saturday morning before 9:00 AM.

Vice President's Report (Dave Olsen): The picnic is August 14th at WMMI. Dave asked the president of the Colorado Gold Prospector's Club to speak in July – he will check his calendar.

Secretary's Report (Jennifer Beisel) - none

Members-at-Large Report (Sharon Holte & Bob Germano) - none

Membership Report – Ann – filling in for Roni Poteat. Have applications available.

Editors Report – Teri Stoiber/Ann Proctor- will mail the P&P if they don't have an email there will be no August issue

Final reminders:

I am still looking for Field Trips to offer to our members. Please help out. It's easy and fun.

Lastly, thank you to Maria Weisser our Social Committee Chair and the Lapidary Group for tonight's treats.

Close Meeting motion made and seconded; meeting closed.

Dave Olsen will now introduce tonight's speaker, Ray Berry.



Our Staff... Teri Stoiber and Ann Proctor *Editors*

CSMS Members Reporters

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

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

The ability to write well is NOT a requirement. We will fix the grammar while keeping the author's voice, style, and work intact.

Handwrite it, type it, or email it. Format does not matter. All submissions are welcomed.

DEADLINE for items to be included is the Saturday after the General Assembly every month.

To submit an item, please use the following:

For hardcopy photos or articles, mail to the address below or bring them to the General Assembly 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.

All articles not shown with an author are provided by the Editor.

Mail or email to: b | a c k | a b a c c o u n t ing@gmail.com PO Box 2 Colorado Springs, CO 80901

The PICK&PACK is published at least ten (10) times per year; 350-375 copies e-mailed/ mailed per month (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.



More Pictures on Pages 4, 14, 15—a huge THANK YOU to Frank Rosenberg for such a great job taking the pictures.

CLASSIFIEDS . .

NOTICE—Items listed for sale in the Pick & Pack are displayed only as an informational service to our members and advertisers. CSMS and/or the Pick & Pack do not promote nor warranty any item displayed. The sellers and buyers are responsible for the condition and ownership of any item shown.

CSMS T-Shirts, Badges, and Pins are available for sale at each meeting. See Store Keeper, Ann Proctor.

Have You Picked Up Your Membership <u>Award</u> Pin?

If you celebrated a CSMS anniversary in 2007, 2008 or 2009, your year pin award is available from the Storekeeper, Ann Proctor. Last call for 2007 pins.



Postage Here



PICK&PACK P.O. Box 2 Colorado Springs, CO 80901-0002



Time Value Do Not Delay June 2010

Joining the Colorado Springs Mineralogical Society (CSMS)

General Assembly meetings are held the third (3rd) Thursday of each month, except January & August, beginning at 7:30 p.m. at the Colorado Springs Senior Center, 1514 North Hancock Blvd., Colorado Springs, CO. <u>Visitors are always welcome</u>.

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, see page 13.

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—\$10 Corporate—\$100

If you are interested in joining CSMS or would like more information, we encourage you to attend our next General Assembly meeting or visit our web site: www.csms.us.