

# PICK&PACK

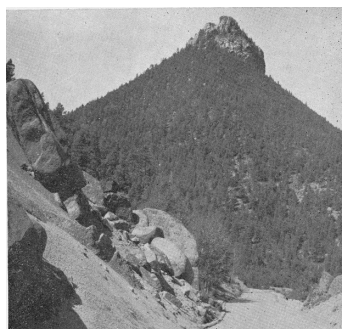
THE BULLETIN OF THE COLORADO SPRINGS MINERALOGICAL SOCIETY Published Since 1960

## CORPORAL COLLECTS IN COLORADO

By CPL. S. GILBERTSON, FROM MINERALOGIST MAGAZINE, 11/45, PROVIDED BY RAY BERRY, CSMS

(Editor's Note: This article was written by a soldier stationed in Geiger Field, Washington in 1945 who vacationed in Colorado Springs and hiked up to St. Peter's Dome, starting from here in the Springs!)

While spending my furlough in Colorado this summer, I had an opportunity to make several interesting rock-hunting trips. Being strictly an amateur, and my senses not attuned to the finer science of detecting peculiar mineral formations, I undoubtedly missed a lot of interesting observations that I would otherwise have enjoyed. Nevertheless, I had a very delightful time enjoying the colorful scenery, taking pictures, and picking up rocks that appeared to be of unusual mineral content.



The most productive trip I had was the one to St. Peter's Dome, near Pikes Peak, Colorado. I had heard a good deal about this locality in mineralogical circles and had read of it in various rock and mineral books. For that reason I was glad to have an opportunity to visit it.

The low mountain, altitude 9665 feet, can best be reached by way of the city of Colorado Springs. It's only about six miles from that city by the route a crow would undoubtedly take, but, not being that kind of bird, I took the long way.

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The Corely Road from Colorado Springs to the Cripple Creek District winds around and through canyons, over ridges, and through tunnels to within an easy mile or so from the very top of the Dome. I would advise climbing it the hard way as I did, however, by hiking from one of the canyons on the outskirts of Colorado Springs, along the winding mountain trails to the top, one can enjoy the beauty of the mountains so much better. Then, too, one may find mineral specimens that might not be so easily found on the immediate slopes of the dome-shaped mountain. I recall that my bag was already heavy with specimens before I was even two-thirds the way to my goal.

Some of the minerals I found before reaching that famous mountain were large hornblende crystals, augite crystals, a piece of hematite, which I was surprised to find in that region, several varieties of quartz, a chunk of plain, brownish-red jasper, and several others.

The hike along the brooks, among the pine and spruce trees is a magnificent treat in itself. I was hiking along on that bright, sunny day, drinking in the scenery about me, (See Soldier's Furlough on page 8)

NOVEMBER 2007

PICK&PACK

Volume 47 Number 10

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 monthly to assist and promote the above.

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Mineralogical Society

Founded in 1936

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### Our Staff...

Betty Cain	Editor
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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 in the next month's issue is the third (3rd) Friday of every month. To submit an item, please use the following:

Photos:

For hardcopy photos, mail to the address below or bring them to the General Assembly Meeting. All 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:

Mail or email to the addresses below.

Email: bcain2@earthlink.net or Info@csms.us

Address:

PO Box 2  
Colorado Springs, CO 80901

Phone:

(719) 634-8205

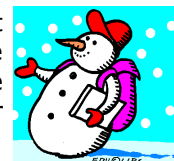
The PICK&PACK is published at least ten (10) times per year; 250-275 copies mailed per month.

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## PRESIDENT'S CORNER



Okay, we've had our first Colorado Springs snow of the season and our field trips are waning, but there are lots of other CSMS activities in store.



The monthly General Assembly meetings keep getting better and better with more visitors attending and joining CSMS. Pebble Pups is off to

a roaring start and growing in numbers each month. Steve is doing a phenomenal job of inspiring our young members to the joys of rockhounding. Guess it takes one to know one ☺.

The 2008 officers will be elected by the members present at the November General Assembly. We now have a full slate of members who have volunteered to lead CSMS during 2008. They are: President—**Rick Copeland**, Vice President—**Ron "Yam" Yamiolkoski**, Secretary—**John Casto**, Treasurer—**Ann Proctor**, Editor—**Betty Cain**, and Members-at-Large—**Bill Cain** and **Charles Webb**. Show your support for these courageous members by casting your vote! I will, of course, continue to serve on the Executive Board as Past President.

Have you started your holiday gift shopping yet? December 1st is a great date to start, and our Silent Auction & Bake Sale is the place—wonderful gift ideas and amazing prices. Join us for the fun and calories! Oh, I forgot, the calories have been *removed* from the baked items. If you have a hobby-related item, specimens, or baked goods to donate, contact **Linda Laverty**. The funds raised this year will purchase a new digital projector for the Camera Club and will be used at official CSMS events.

The Silent Auction is a great venue to pick up that "White Buffalo" for our December 20th meeting. I didn't know a buffalo could trade hands so many times in one night!

Don't forget the Annual Awards Banquet & Officer Installation that will be held at the Embassy Suites this year; set for January 17th, weather permitting. It was cold last year, but the weather didn't stop us from having a great banquet. **Pete Modreski**, CSMS & USGS, will be our featured speaker. Watch for quiz clues in December's *Pick&Pack*. A banquet registration form is included in this issue. We'd like to offer a special invitation to our new members to attend this very special meeting.

See you at the November meeting,

Drew

## NOVEMBER GENERAL ASSEMBLY PROGRAM

*Geology of the Lake George Intrusive—Minerals of the Holy Moses Pocket (Update)*

**Rich Fretterd** is a local surveyor and a high profile prospector. Rich and **Steve Veatch** will present an overview of the history of this famous claim and bring the club up-to-date on the new and exciting discoveries that have developed since originally finding the Holy Moses Pocket.

This is a presentation you don't want to miss!

## AFMS PRESIDENT

Shirley Leeson, AFMS

Greetings to you all,

As this is my first message as your president, I'd like to share with you some important things for the coming year. My first concern is communication between the regional federations and the AFMS. I want you all to know that I am just a "click" away.



I'd like to see everyone attend a regional show outside of their own. Let's get to know each other. As you read this, I'll be at the Southeast Federation's convention and show in Biloxi, Mississippi. I had hoped to attend each of the regional federation shows this year, but the Midwest and Northwest federation conventions are on the same weekend. A dilemma. Each regional president will receive shortly a letter regarding your current and future show dates from the new Show Consultant, **Bob Livingston**. Please work with him so that this dilemma can be avoided in the future. If dates are known ahead of time, there might be some wiggle room to change them.

During my budget proposal at Roswell, **Ed Romack**, AFMS Past President asked to speak about our continuing "deficit budget." His suggestion of raising the AFMS dues to cover this deficit budget that has been going on for years was hotly debated. At one point it was moved to increase the dues. And it might have passed then and there, but it was out of order. So we are asking all the federations to strongly approve of increasing the AFMS dues by 25 cents. It will be brought up under New Business at Houston, TX in September, 2008. A dues increase has not been made since 1993 when it was raised from \$.25 to \$.50 per person. Because of a deficit budget for many years, many of the officers and chairs have not submitted their expenses or only submitted partial expenses. This is asking a big sacrifice of those who serve. In addition, we all know that expenses for things like postage, printing, and travel are increasing rapidly so our budget, like yours, is becoming even more strained.

Now, on a lighter note, I have some important news:

I have appointed **Bob Jones**, Senior Editor of Rock and Gem magazine and long time friend to the post of International Relations and have added "Goodwill Ambassador" to the title. If you have had a chance to read his article in the November issue of Rock and Gem magazine, pages 88 & 89, you'll see that Bob is already hard at work.

Another appointment is **Fran Sick**, recently President of Eastern Federation, who will be taking over the Public Relations committee. Watch for her articles.

Two new ad hoc committees were approved at my request at Roswell. The first is Inter-Federation Field Trip Coordinator. **Dick Pankey**, recently President of California Federation, was appointed to this chair. Dick successfully ran the Tri-Federation Field Trip to Texas Springs, NV in 2002. Dick will be recreating that event again over Memorial Day weekend, 2008. Watch for his articles.

The second ad hoc committee is Study of AFMS Contest and Competition. Why has there been a huge decline in interest? Have some of these contests become obsolete? Can we update them and bring interest back? This will be chaired by **Ron Carman**, AFMS Past President. Ron is currently getting his committee together. He will be interviewing both present and past chairs of the various committees. If you have some thoughts on any of these committees, please contact Ron or a member of his committee. WE NEED INPUT!

Money has been allotted in the 2008 budget to the Program Competition Chair, **Marge Collins**, to save our early slide programs before  
(See AFMS President, page 4)

## UPCOMING SHOWS

### Nov 2-4

Mineral Sale at the Jefferson County Fairgrounds.

### Nov 3-4

OK Mineral & Gem Society show, OK City, OK Fair Park, 10th St. East exit off I-44, Modern Living Bldg.

### Nov 10-11

28th Annual NM Mineral Symposium, Socorro, NM. Info (505) 835-5140

### Dec 7-9

Flatirons at Boulder County Fairgrounds.

### Mar 28-30

Fort Collins Show, contact (970) 493-6168 or showchairman@fortcollinsrockhounds.org

## SWARF...AND HOW TO TAME IT

FROM GEM CUTTER NEWS, 11/84  
VIA AFMS NEWSLETTER, 10/07

**S**warf is that milky liquid you get when you cut cabochons or facet stones. Although it appears to be harmless, swarf can be deadly to your plumbing system and lapidary equipment if not handled properly.

When you grind rocks to make cabochons or faceted stones, you're removing tiny bits of the rock and carrying them away from your work with water. When the water evaporates, the tiny rock bits are left behind as a sort of concrete gunk. Over time, this gunk will harden like concrete.

So how do you tame the swarf? Never, never, ever, dispose of swarf in your plumbing system. Don't pour it down a sink or toilet because eventually that gunk will harden and narrow your pipes. Because it's concrete-like when hardened, it will be almost impossible to remove! Instead, take the swarf outside to a non-important part of your garden and dump it there—or if there is no garden, allow the swarf to settle in the bottom of a bucket for a day or two, then carefully pour off the now clear water, and scoop out the swarf, put it in a plastic bag and toss it in the trash.



## AFMS PRESIDENT—CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

they are lost. This will be done digitally. Marge is looking into ways to do this and the costs involved. If you have had success in doing this, please contact Marge.

Money has been allotted in the 2008 budget to the Junior Activities Program Chair, **Jim Brace-Thompson**, for six new badges. You can read about these new badges in the October AFMS newsletter. Please get your juniors involved. If your club doesn't have juniors, you might consider "adopting" a Scout group into your local club and assisting them in these "rockhound badges," as well as their own badges.

Now comes my most important goal for 2008. ALL EDITORS PLEASE COPY. I have asked **Wendell Mohr**, Commemorative Stamp Chair, to change his proposal of U.S. Gemstone Stamps to U.S. GEMSTONE BIRTHSTONE STAMPS. That would be a collection of twelve stamps. Wendell and **Bob Jones** are teaming up to put this information before the public. YOU can help. If your club is having a show, please copy the flyers; you can get them from the AFMS web site, <www.amfed.org>, and distribute them at the show. If your show includes "Kids Day", please be sure to give the teacher/student worksheets to them as well as the flyer, and ask for their help. You personally can take the flyers and teacher/student worksheets to a school in your area and get them involved. We've had minerals stamps, and they were successful. Let's go for gemstone/birthstone stamps. If you have some suggestions on how to get this before the public and generate interest, please contact either Wendell Mohr or me. Teachers like to get students involved in government; this is a chance for students to help with the process of selecting a set of stamps. Just think of the money these stamps could generate for the post office, maybe they could improve their service...but again, that's a whole different story.

Good news for all: Our new President-Elect, **Joy Bourne**, will continue this coming year as Endowment Fund Chair, along with her new duties as President-Elect. So, when she contacts you asking for a donation for the Endowment Fund, give generously. The Endowment Fund works for YOU. A number of our important programs wouldn't be funded if it wasn't for the Endowment Fund.

There are other exciting things coming in 2008. **Cathy Gaber**, Chair of AFMS Club Rockhound of the Year, will be issuing AFMS certificates to those rockhounds chosen after November 1, 2007. These certificates will be given out at each of the regional convention/shows during 2008.

Watch for Cathy's articles regarding this.

Let me introduce you to **John Wright**, the new Conservation and Legislation Chair. He will be following a long list of dedicated people who have worked tirelessly to keep our collecting areas open. John is from the Southeast Federation and is a retired geologist.

We have several other new chairs, but I'll mention them in the next issue. Till then, I leave you with this information; please use all email addresses noted (shirleyleeson@msn.com, beauholland@salmoninternet.com, or president@amfed.org). If I don't answer you within a day via email, then I'm probably "on the road." If it's important, please contact Carolyn and Steve Weinberger; they will know where we are. If you have surface mail you want to send me, please send it to PO Box 23, Tendoy, ID 83468-0023. This is because the post office in La Mesa/San Diego area can't keep things straight, and things are sent back or lost. The Tendoy postmaster will see that we get the mail, wherever we are.

Till next month,

Your president,  
Shirley

**Dinosaurs and Babies** will be the subject at the next Fossil Group meeting, November 29th, 6:00-8:30p, at the Senior Center, 1511 N. Hancock, COS.

Join John Harrington and Steve Veatch for an exciting meeting. Each attendee will receive a dinosaur coprolite (fossil excrement) specimen.



## REQUESTING YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS

If you haven't received an email notice from CSMS, it means:

1. You don't have email;
2. You didn't give us your email address;
3. The email address we have is incorrect.

If the reason is #2 or #3, please send your correct information to us—Info@csms.us. Email addresses are used only for official CSMS activities and are not shared.

## PEBBLE PUPS

BY BETTY CAIN

Our Pebble Pups had a successful and informative second meeting on October 18th at the Senior Center; approximately 15 pups attended, some were accompanied by parents or grandparents. Everyone had a great time learning about the types of volcanoes, earthquakes, faults, and the structure of the earth.



Thank you, Executive Board, for meeting a need and showering us with 3" binders! Each pup has their own book in which to save their lessons, notes, and reminders. The rock collections are growing in our egg crates, and the pups are adding their own found treasures.

Next month's program will be, "Colorado's Sedimentary Rocks and How They Reveal Geologic Time."

It's not too late to be a part of the fun; bring a friend to the next meeting—November 15, 6:45p, Senior Center.

## RMFMS PAST PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

BY RICHARD JAEGER, RMF NEWS, 11/07

I have enjoyed my two years as president of the RMFSM; thank you for letting me serve in the capacity. I have been fortunate to have a number of Executive Committee members and committee chairs who have been most supportive and made my job easier. I know that **Stan Nowak** will receive the same support which I have. Stan will have several new appointments to make, so please be receptive to him if he asks you. If all of us work together we can improve the RMF to the benefit of all our member clubs.

I missed the Denver Show this past September for the first time in several years but was able to make shows in Siloam Springs, AR and Enid, OK. Hopefully I will also have been to the Idabel, OK show by the time you receive this newsletter. Many members from other clubs have supported our area shows; this is something we need to continue to do. Once again, thanks for allowing me to serve as president of the federation, and I wish each of you a successful year of rockhounding.

## RMFMS TREASURER'S CORNER

BY GENE MAGGARD, RMF NEWS, 11/07

**DUES—DUES—DUES:** Dues, annual report, and club insurance forms were sent to all clubs in mid-October. If you have not received yours, please contact me by either email <gandpmaggard@wildblue.net> or by phone (316) 742-3746. The reports are due December 15 unless other arrangements are made.

**BUDGET—BUDGET—BUDGET:** It is that time of year, again. I am working on the 2007-08 RMF budget. If you are an officer or committee chair, and you want to spend RMFMS money, your request must be submitted for the budget and approved by the executive committee. Send me your request ASAP.

Financially, RMFMS completed the 2006-07 fiscal year in good financial shape. Finances are stable and adequate to fund our current and expected activities. Accordingly, there is no increase in either dues or insurance fees for 2007-08.

A cost saving measure that will help us hold the line on future costs is for you to receive your newsletter by email and thus avoid publishing and postage costs. If everyone with on-line capability would use this feature, savings would be substantial. You do have to have Adobe Reader capability, which can be downloaded free. Just send me an email to <wgms2001@yahoo.com> to request receiving the RMFMS Newsletter via email.

I have enjoyed my first year as your treasurer, and look forward to the 2007-08 year.



What do silversmithing and mothers-in-law have in common? Silversmithing by the American Indians is not an ancient art, having begun in the 1860's in the southwest. Among the first creations were tiny silver bells worn by mothers-in-law. Since it was the custom in some tribes for the husband to have nothing to do with his mother-in-law, when he heard the tinkle of the bells, he would absent himself from the premises.  
Author unknown; source Hourglass News Jul-Aug '94, via Rocky Mountain Federation News, 9/07

## CSMS SCHOLARSHIP WINNER REPORTS ON SUMMER INTER- SHIP ADVENTURE

BY MICHAEL MITCHELL, CSMS



**T**his summer I had the opportunity to work with Dr. Jay Pulliam, an earthquake seismologist at the University of Texas at Austin's Institute for Geophysics. During my time in Austin I worked on a series of different projects including seismic studies of the northeast Caribbean just north of Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands and the Cameroon Volcanic Line in the Gulf of Guinea, offshore central west Africa. Through my work on

these two projects I learned many of the basics of earthquake seismology and gained valuable computer experience with the Unix and Linux operating systems and several computer programs, including Antelope, SeisGram2K, an OBS tool, which are specifically designed for the analysis of seismic data.

The study in the northeast Caribbean utilized both active and passive seismic monitoring techniques to locate seismic events and model the substructure in an effort to explain a large negative gravity anomaly which could possibly be the result of the tearing of the crust and subduction of the North American Plate under the Caribbean Plate. It is important to understand the mechanism behind the seismic activity because historically this region has suffered large earthquakes and tsunamis. Most of my work on this project consisted of picking P and S wave (*compression or primary waves and shear or secondary waves*) arrivals from seismic recordings of both temporary Ocean Bottom Seismographs (OBSs) and permanent stations on the Puerto Rico Seismic Network (PRSN). By including the data from the OBSs we were able to better constrain the locations of earthquakes detected by the PRSN network and to find and locate earthquakes that were not detected by the PRSN. Better constraints on the locations of these seismic events will ultimately help to determine the source mechanisms behind the regions seismicity, will aid in the development of subsurface models, and will give researchers a better idea of the range and depth of these events.

The project in the Gulf of Guinea, just off the coasts of Cameroon, Nigeria, and Gabon, was designed to investigate the origins of the Cameroon Volcanic Line. The Cameroon Volcanic Line includes seamounts, islands, and volcanic peaks which extend linearly through the gulf of Guinea and across Cameroon. This chain of volcanic activity could easily be described as the result of a hot spot if a linear age progression existed among these structures. However, after dating the volcanic material from which the islands, seamounts, and peaks are formed it becomes clear that no such age relation

(See Scholarship at Work on page 10)

## ANCIENT MEDICINAL USES OF GEMS, ROCKS, AND MINERALS

BY ANN JAMES, MEMBER PCBMS  
VIA T-TOWN ROCKHOUND, 9/07

**T**his is a continuation of an article begun in the October *Pick&Pack* regarding the medicinal preparations of old.

### Coral

Powdered coral was found to be both sweet and sour by Hindu physicians. They used it for ailments concerning certain secretions, principally that of the mucous membranes and bile. An old pharmacopoeia was found to provide directions for the preparation of "tincture of coral" which supposedly had a diuretic effect.

The Romans used amulets of coral to protect and heal their children. When worn around their necks, it would protect against respiratory diseases and rubbing the coral onto their gums would ease teething pain.

### Emerald

The "tincture of emerald" was used as an internal remedy for the cure of dysentery by Arab physicians.

Worn as an amulet, it was said that it would strengthen the memory, restore sight, and drive off evil spirits.

### Diamonds

Hindu physicians found the diamond to have six flavors: sweet, sour, salty, pungent, bitter, and acid. Since the stone was considered to have such diversity in flavors, apparently it was felt that it could cure all diseases. Therefore, it was considered as a great elixir. At a point in history, it is said that diamonds were used as a poison by the upper classes. Diamonds ground into a powder, were put into an enemy's food or drink and is acclaimed to have resulted in the deaths of many prominent people. Diamonds were worn by the aristocratic families in the Middle Ages to ward off the plague.

### Malachite

There are many remedies attributed to malachite. Egyptian physicians used malachite for circulatory problems. Powdered malachite mixed with milk and taken internally was supposedly beneficial for colic and cardiac pains. If mixed with honey, it was used as a salve for wounds. As a cure for ulcers, powdered malachite was mixed with wine and taken internally.

Ancient Egyptians used finely ground malachite as a cosmetic eye shadow, not only for eye adornment but it was thought to provide "clear vision and insight."

As an amulet, it was supposed to prevent attacks of faintness, hernias, and enhance visionary powers. At present day, Bavarian mothers wear malachite to help the dentition of their children.

### Sapphire

Hindu physicians described the sapphire as being bitter as well as having a lukewarm feel. It was considered beneficial for phlegm, bile, and flatulence. Also, sapphire potions were used to aid those having intestinal ulcerations, growths in the eye, and boils.

### Topaz

Ancient Hindu physicians stated that the topaz was sour and cold. It was a remedy for flatulence and thought to calm the emotions, prevent colds and tuberculosis, and quench thirst. Topaz was worn either around the neck or an elixir was made. In the Middle Ages topaz was placed under the pillow at night for stress relief.

Continued in the Dec 07 edition of the *Pick&Pack*



## CSMS IN THE CLASSROOM

BY BILL CAIN, MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR

**R**oger Pittman is currently our CSMS Secretary and Camera Club Leader. A Past President, as well as other officers, Roger is a firm contributing and committed member of CSMS as evidenced by his school geology presentations.

One of his latest classes was at Palmer High School on September 28th. The presentation covered the many facets of rockhounding—everything from what makes a rock a rock, how they're formed, their potential commercial use, and how they fit into the world we live in today, from lead to gold.

At first there didn't seem to be much interest from the high school students, but then he began to talk about the different kind of minerals and how they impact our daily lives. For instance, clay; used in toothpaste, cosmetics, and medicine—that got their attention.

Kimberlite pikes, those places where diamonds are found, really got the girls to listen. There are 18 to 22 areas in Colorado where kimberlite pikes occur; only 1 has been inspected and studied.

Gold—now the young men sat up and listened. Everything from gold to the chrome on our cars, to copper in wire that helps light our homes. One student asked, "What's so important about rocks?" Roger answered, "How about the road you drive on, the bridges you cross over, the buildings in our cities? The school you're in today is made of rock (stone) and concrete that comes from a combination of rock. The runways at the airport. There's no limit to what can be done with rock."

Samples of different mineral specimens were shown, and the ears perked up. Roger had examples from gold to dinosaur pooh (coprolite) and asked if the class would like to approach the table and examine the different items he'd brought; every group in CSMS was represented from lapidary to fossils. All of the students, as well as the teacher, Mrs. Trammel, crowded around to touch,

feel, and ask questions.

I asked Mrs. Trammel to rate Roger on a scale from 1 to 10; she gave him a 9-1/2!!

This "tough audience" happened to be a group of high schoolers, but Roger's passion lies in the younger students. He can quickly whip out a fistful of 'letters' from the students he's taught; most are on construction paper with crayon drawings and sweet sentiments. Roger could most likely paper a house with all the letters he's received.

*(Editor's note: It took several attempts to reduce the poster-sized letter from Bailey Peterschmidt down to a size we could reprint!)*

Roger Pittman is truly a CSMS rockhound and a credit to us all. Thank you, Roger, for your time and the knowledge you share with our youth. You are influencing the future!



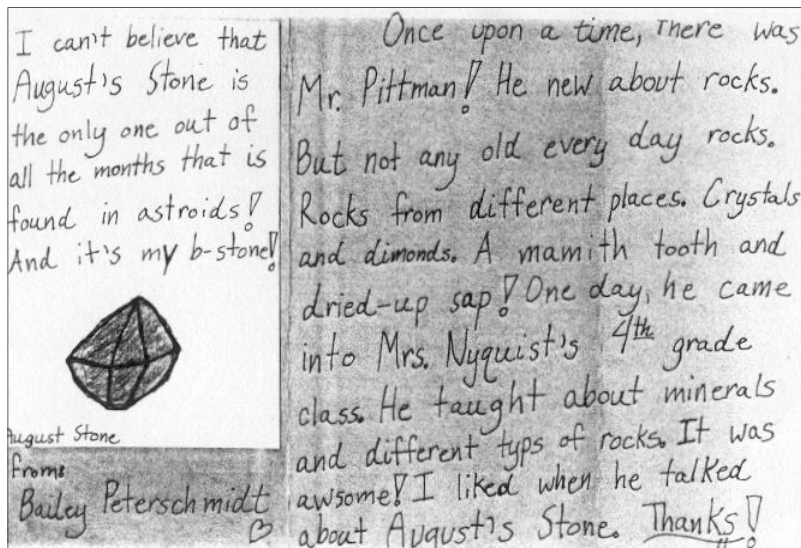
## HOW GULLIBLE ARE WE?

FROM ROCKHOUND GAZETTE 10/07, VIA ROCKY TRAILS, 10/98

**A** freshman at Eagle Rock Junior School won first prize at the Greater Idaho Falls Science Fair. He was attempting to show how conditioned we have become to the alarmists practicing junk science and spreading fear of everything in our environment. In his project, he urged people to sign a petition demanding strict control or total elimination of the chemical, "dihydrogen monoxide". And for plenty of good reason, since:

1. It can cause excessive sweating and vomiting.
2. It is a major component in acid rain.
3. It can cause severe burns in its gaseous state.
4. Accidental inhalation of it can kill you.
5. It contributes to erosion.
6. It decreases effectiveness of automobile brakes.
7. It has been found in tumors of terminal cancer patients.

He asked 50 people if they supported a ban of the chemical. Forty-three said yes, six were undecided, and only one knew the chemical was "water". The title of his prize-winning project was "How Gullible Are We?" He feels the conclusion is obvious.





## SOLDIER'S FURLOUGH—(CONT'D FROM

PAGE 1)

when over on the face of one of the slopes something unusual caught my eye. It appeared to be a lot of small chunks of ice scattered about. Closer observation revealed it to be an outcropping of milk-white quartz.

There was some charcoal scattered about, but not much else. Here was something odd, a piece of charcoal fastened in a rock! What had appeared to be charcoal wasn't charcoal at all, but a mineral. Black tourmaline? It certainly looked like some specimens I had collected elsewhere. There was something different about this shiny, black mineral, however. There was a cleavage at a certain angle that tourmaline didn't have. This was evidently the amphibole, hornblende.

Later I found a greenish-black crystalline specimen in matrix, which at first I took to be another form of hornblende. It looked very much like hornblende in cleavage and crystalline shape. This time I was introduced to the mineral, augite, of the pyroxene family. The easiest way to distinguish the one from the other seems to be to observe the angle of cleavage. Cleavage angles of hornblende are much more oblique, being 56° in one angle and 124° in the other. Augite is more square shaped in cleavage, having angles of 87° and 93°. It was necessary for me to enroll the help of a mineralogist to identify this and a number of the other specimens I found.

A reddish stone caught my eye. It was a rather plain, homely old stone, but it was decidedly different from the rest lying about. As soon as it was in my hands, I knew by its weight as well as its color that it was hematite. Though not large, it was uncomfortably heavy to carry in my bag. Consequently, I broke it apart. The cross section revealed a red, earthy mass on the one side of the stone graded into an iron grey, metallic mass on the other side. A choice piece went into my bag.

By this time I was completely rock conscious and oblivious to all else. I was finding things that I hadn't expected to find.

A bright bluish piece of feldspar seemed to call for attention. Turning it over it revealed a beautiful bluish-green. I identified it immediately as green micro-

cline or amazonstone, so famous in several other localities near Pikes Peak, notably Crystal Park and Crystal Peak. I kept a sharp lookout the rest of the day for signs of more, but found none. Several places yielded common blue feldspar and the red and whitish varieties, however.

The last mile or so to the top of St. Peter's Dome is decidedly "rough" if one isn't used to the thin air at 9000 feet altitude. I found myself laboring like a steam engine, but the cool, fresh air and the anticipation of the view I'd get from the top, spurred me on. On reaching the top, I was glad I hadn't given up, and I felt more than repaid for the effort expended. The view was breathtaking. Snow-covered Pikes Peak looked very close indeed and made a striking view. Colorado Springs seemed small and a long way off, however.

St. Peter's Dome is composed chiefly of a reddish potash granite called Pikes Peak or Mt. Rosa granite. This granite is made up of quartz, reddish feldspar, and black biotite. The reddish color varies from light pinkish to the darker shades, depending on the coloration from its iron content. Basaltic dykes can be found running to the surface in several places. The piece of hematite I found may have come from one of the dykes as I found it near some basaltic rocks.


Around the immediate base of St. Peter's Dome, and especially on the eastern and southern slopes, are a number of old mine diggings. Near one of them I picked up a large, beautiful piece of translucent, green and purple fluorspar carrying a heavy amount of metallic mineral. The metallic mineral, I learned later, was argentiferous galena. Some mining is being done in that district at present for fluorspar. The ore is hauled to Colorado Springs, where it is processed. The product is used as a flux in iron smelting and for other chemical purposes. Lead and silver are profitable by-products. Traces of gold have been found there also.


On the northeast slope of St. Peter's Dome small brown zircon crystals can be found. Their square pyramidal shape somewhat reminds one of the simple diamond tetrahedral crystal. It was here that I picked up specimens identified later as


(See Soldier's Furlough on page 10)




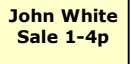



### TIPS & TIDBITS:

 **Cabochon Scratches**—Don't be satisfied with scratches in your cabochon. Go back to the sanding wheel again. When stone is properly polished, you can read the reflection from the bottom of an overhead light bulb in the high polish of your stone. To work out the flat spot in the cab, mark across the stone with aluminum pencil. When properly ground and shaped, you will have erased the cross and flat spot. *From Ft. Lewis Rock Club News via SCRIBE 2006 CD*

 **Aluminum Scribe**—Often used with a template to outline stones. This same scribe can give you an idea as to the hardness of a particular stone. If you can see the mark but have to look carefully, the stone is about 7 Mohs. If the mark is very bold, the stone is about 5 Mohs. If the mark cannot be seen, the stone is more than 7 Mohs. *From Ft. Lewis Rock Club News via SCRIBE 2006 CD*

 **Polishing Coral**—Gem coral is calcium carbonate, an organic material, and is 3.5 in hardness. It can range in color from white to dark red. Gem coral can be cut and polished on a regular cabochon unit, but you must be careful when dopping since it is heat sensitive. Use only a fine grinding wheel that has been dressed down to a smooth even surface, and keep plenty of water on the grinding wheels and sanding cloth. Hold the stone against the wheels and sanding cloth with a light pressure. Coral requires a 400 or 600 grit wet sanding cloth for the final sanding. It can be polished on either a hard felt wheel or a leather disk with tin oxide or cerium oxide. *From Labs-N-Cabs 3/96 via SCRIBE 2006 CD*



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>NOVEMBER 2007 — CSMS CALENDAR</b>				<b>1</b> 7p Board Meeting	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> 12n Lapidary Group Meeting
<b>4</b>  Daylight Savings Time Begins—fall back 1 hour	<b>5</b>  John White Sale 1-4p	<b>6</b>  Election Day	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> 7:30p Crystal Study Group Meeting	<b>10</b>
<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>  Veteran's Day	<b>13</b> 6:30p Micromounts Group Meeting	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> 6:45p Pebble Pups 7:30p General Assembly Mtg	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> 3p Jewelry Group Meeting
<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>  THANKSGIVING	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> 7:30p Camera Club Meeting	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> 6p Fossil Study Group 7p Faceting Group Meeting	<b>30</b>	<b>Dec 1</b> 10a-1p Silent Auction & Bake Sale—Embassy Suites

**"The true test of a first-rate mind is the ability to hold two contradictory ideas at the same time."**  
F. Scott Fitzgerald

## Locations

**Board Meeting:** 1st Thursday @ 7:00p. Location TBD, Linda Laverty, 964-6222

**Camera Club:** 4th Tuesday @ 7:30p 1514 North Hancock, Roger Pittman: 683-2603

**Crystal Study Group:** 2nd Friday @ 7:30p, 1514 North Hancock; Kerry Burroughs: 634-4576

**Jewelry Group:** 3rd Saturday @ 3p; 6608 Gambol Quail Dr E; contact Rick Copeland: 594-6293 or Bill Arnson: 749-2328

**Faceting Group:** 4th Thursday @ 7:00p, 1514 North Hancock, David Wilson: 635-7891 dlwilson@pcisys.net

**Fossil Study Group:** Meets at 6p quarterly at the Senior Center (next mtg on 11/29), contact John Harrington, 599-0989 or Steve Veatch 748-5010

**Lapidary Group:** 1st Saturday @ Noon 3085 Rhapsody Drive, Drew Malin: 531-7594

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

**Pebble Pups:** 3rd Thursday @ 6:45p, 1514 North Hancock, Steven Veatch: 748-5010

## REFRESHMENTS FOR GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETINGS

November=Camera

December=**Everyone**

PRESIDENT	Drew Malin	531-7594	advanceone@comcast.net
VICE PRESIDENT	Linda Laverty	520-5939	chilipepper24@juno.com
SECRETARY	Roger Pittman	683-2603	prpittman@netzero.com
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MANAGING EDITOR	Betty Cain	634-8205	bcain2@earthlink.net
MEMBER-AT-LARGE	John Casto	329-0912	Jcasto@fvs.edu
MEMBER-AT-LARGE	Brent Williams	632-3552	zaphod1863@yahoo.com
PAST PRESIDENT	Robert Landgraf	685-1364	RMLWP74@aol.com
MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR	Bill Cain	634-8205	bcain2@earthlink.net
FIELD TRIP DIRECTOR	Brent Williams	632-3552	zaphod1863@yahoo.com
SHOW CHAIRPERSON	Kaye Thompson	636-2978	
LIBRARIAN	Sarah Udell	237-7985	sarahudell@hotmail.com
CAMERA CLUB	Roger Pittman	683-2603	prpittman@netzero.com
CRYSTAL STUDY	Kerry Burroughs	634-4576	kburrou@comcast.net
FACETING GROUP	Dave Wilson	635-7891	dlwinlson@pcisys.net
FOSSIL GROUP	John Harrington	599-0989	harrington1@mindspring.com
JEWELRY GROUP	Rick Copeland	332-7915	rick.copeland@covad.net
LAPIDARY GROUP	Drew Malin	531-7594	advanceone@comcast.net
MICROMOUNT GROUP	Phil McCollum		acc@frii.com
PEBBLE PUPS	Steven Veatch	748-5010	sgeoveatch@worldnet.att.net

# COLORADO SPRINGS MINERALOGICAL SOCIETY

## General Assembly Minutes

October 18, 2007



President Drew Malin called the meeting to order at 7:33p.

The September minutes were approved as printed in the *Pick&Pack*.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Rick Copeland gave the Treasurer's report.

### **Group Reports**

- Camera Club: Roger reported on the Camera Club—November subject is "sand"; 4th Tuesday.
- Crystal Group: Kerry reported that they meet at the Senior Center on the 2nd Friday—November subject is fluorite.
- Faceting: Paul Berry reported that they meet on the 4th Thursday 7:00 at the Senior Center.
- Fossil: John Harrington reported the fossil group has stopped having monthly meetings and is now holding quarterly meetings; the next will be November 29th, 6-8:30; video on Dinosaur eggs and babies.
- Micromounters: No report; check the P&P.
- Lapidary: 1st Saturday at Drew's house, 12-4:00.
- Jewelry: 3rd Saturday at Rick Copeland's house—subject: fire scale, the jeweler's nightmare.
- Field Trips: April Fools Claim Saturday 8:00am. Field trip to the Gold Camp area cancelled because the road is washed out.
- Other Reports: Drew will be the show chairman in '08. Show dates are June 21 & 22, which is the weekend after Father's Day. Upcoming Shows: Reported by Joe Dorris—Nov 2nd & 3rd mineral sale at the Jefferson County Fairgrounds and next the Flatirons at Boulder County Fairgrounds on Dec 7, 8, 9.

### **Old Business**

- None.

### **New Business**

- Visitors were recognized and new members Tom and Dan were welcomed.
- Introduced the 2008 officers slate. Installation banquet Jan 17th, Embassy Suites, 6:00-7:00 drinks and socializing; 7:00 eat.
- Auction: 1st Saturday, Dec 1st, Silent Auction & Bake Sale, 10:00am-1:00pm. Six vendor tables; four auction tables. Monies raised will go toward the purchase of a digital projector for the use of the Camera Club and the main club.
- December meeting—white buffalo swap—bring a wrapped gift worth \$5-\$10, all participants draw a number, the first opens a package; from then on, each participant may either 'steal' an opened package or open a new package. You cannot steal something you've had before. When the last package is opened, its over.
- John White has a health problem and must sell his material and possibly his equipment. Tentatively Nov 3rd. Check website.

### **Program**

Steven Veatch presented "Dinosaur Tracks".

Happy Thanksgiving



## **SCHOLARSHIP AT WORK**—CONT'D FROM PAGE

6)

ship exists. As a result of the area's unique characteristics an active seismic study was conducted in conjunction with a survey being done by an oil exploration company in order to ascertain the mechanism by which the region is being shaped.

As a whole this internship was a very enriching experience. Although I did not get an opportunity to do any actual field work I developed an appreciation for the tedium which lab analysis often entails. I also gained an invaluable knowledge of the ins and outs of geophysical research and reaffirmed by desire to pursue a degree in this field.

At this time I would also like to thank the Colorado Springs Mineralogical Society for your investment in my future as a prospective geophysicist. I appreciate your ongoing support as I continue my studies at the Colorado School of Mines.

## **SOLDIER'S FURLOUGH**—(CONT'D FROM PAGE 8)

containing apatite and a very fine one containing long, slender, bladelike, bronze-colored astrophyllite crystals. It was interesting to learn that this is one of the few places in the United States where this orthosilicate is found. Other minerals said to be found in this vicinity are topaz, rutile, cryolite, phenacite, and a half-dozen or so others less commonly known. The variety of minerals that may be found in that district is indeed impressive and will undoubtedly tempt any rock hunter like myself. Digging, hunting, and hammering for them, as well as identifying them, is not easy, however. An experienced mineralogist would undoubtedly have observed more mineralogical phenomena and found a lot more specimens than I. Nevertheless, I had a very enjoyable time and picked up some fine specimens to add to my collection. This trip was much more productive than I had anticipated, and I hope to go on other such trips whenever the opportunity presents itself.

## Regular meetings of various groups

**Café Scientifique** features a talk and discussion on some current science topic; 6-30-8:00 p.m. Tuesday evening once a month (approximately the 3rd Tuesday) at the Wynkoop Brewery (Mercantile Room), corner of 18th & Wynkoop Streets, Denver. No charge; all are welcome.  
<http://cafescolorado.org>

**Colorado Scientific Society**, monthly meetings with one or two speakers on an earth science topic, 3rd Thursday, 7:00 p.m. American Mountaineering Center, 710 10th St. (NE corner with Washington), Golden, CO. <http://www.coloscisoc.org>

**Denver Mining Club**, Informal weekly luncheon meetings with a speaker, every Monday, 11:30-1:00, Country Buffet, 8100 W. Crestline Ave, #A3, Littleton, CO (about 1/2 mile north and east of the intersection of Wadsworth Blvd. & Bowles), tel: 303-933-9923. No charge, but all who attend must purchase a lunch at the restaurant. See web site [http://china-resources.net/den\\_min.html](http://china-resources.net/den_min.html)

**Denver Region Exploration Geologists' Society (DREGS)** meets monthly on the 2nd Monday, 7:00 p.m. Consolidated Mutual Water Company (lower level), 12700 W. 27th Ave., Lakewood, CO; no charge, all are welcome to the meetings. See <http://www.dregs.org/>

**Rocky Mountain Assoc. of Geologists (RMAG)** has monthly luncheon meetings with a speaker at the Marriott City Center, California St. between 17th & 18th Streets, 11:30 a.m. Luncheon cost is \$24; no reservations are needed for the talk only. See <http://www.rmag.org/>

**USGS Colloquium Series**, lectures on Thursday, 1:30-2:30 p.m. Foord Lecture Room, Bldg. 20, Denver Federal Center, Lakewood, CO. USGS staff, visitors, and guests are welcome. See <http://geology.cr.usgs.gov/crg/colloquia.htm>

**Western Interior Paleontology Society (WIPS)**, meets 7:00 p.m. first Monday of the month, Sep-May, Rick- etson Auditorium, Denver Museum of Nature and Science, <http://www.wipspc.com>

## 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.*



Mettler H33AR Electronic Scale, 160 gal max; accurate to .0001 grams. \$170  
 Dick's Rock Shop



4-1/2" Trim Saw \$195  
 Dick's Rock Shop

### FOR SALE

14" diamond  
 Lapidary Saw  
 Highland Park  
 \$800

### JOHN WHITE, CSMS SPECIMEN & EQUIPMENT SALE

Lapidary equipment, roughs, slabs, and whatever!

Tentatively scheduled for Sunday, Nov 4, 1:00—4:00.  
 Watch your email for more details or see [www.csms.us](http://www.csms.us).  
 Contact Linda Laverty at (719) 964-6222 for info.

(719) 633-1153

### Ackley's Rocks & Stamps

3230 NORTH STONE AVE.  
 COLORADO SPRINGS, CO 80907

RHONDA JO HART  
 ART & HELENA ACKLEY  
 OWNERS

### DICK'S ROCK SHOP and Bead Store

- Natural Stone Beads
- Natural Stone Eggs
- Exotic Wood Pen Sets
- Mineral and Fossil Specimens
- Gemstones
- Gold and Silver Jewelry
- Natural Stone and Wood Bookends

- Cabs/Slabs
- Lapidary Equipment
- Silversmithing Equipment

**Diana Wing - Owner**  
**719-390-7788**  
[www.DicksRockShop.com](http://www.DicksRockShop.com)

108 W Ohio Avenue • Fountain, Colorado 80817

### ED RAINES CLASS GRADUATES WANTED

Dick's Rock Shop found some mystery rocks during their recent shop move and is looking for assistance in identifying them.

You could be part of the 'discovery' process.

Stop by Dick's new shop and lend your knowledge.



### KRYSTALS

Gems Minerals Jewelry  
 Crystal Skulls

by Appt. Only

**719-531-7203**

Joe & Marylee Swanson Colorado Springs, CO  
[Krystals@webtv.net](mailto:Krystals@webtv.net)





Colorado Springs Mineralogical Society

# Silent Auction & Bake Sale

**December 1, 2007**

**10:00 am to 1:00**

Embassy Suites  
7290 Commerce Center Dr.  
Colorado Springs, CO  
(719) 599-9100

**Great gift ideas at  
Silent Auction Prices!!!**

## Bargains

## Fun!

- ♦ New items every 20 minutes
- ♦ CSMS Member Vender Tables
- ♦ Sweets to please any palate
- ♦ Proceeds to benefit CSMS Camera Club

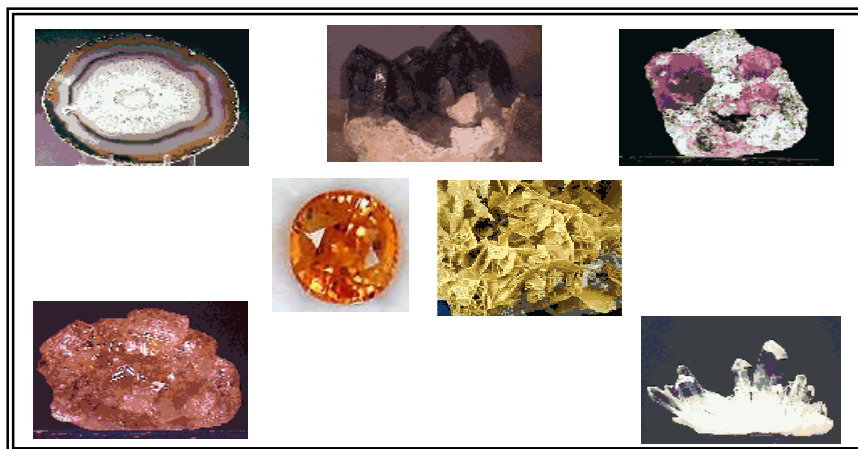
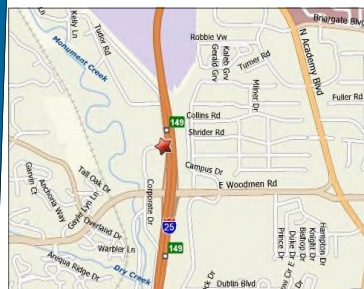


## Baked Goods

Colorado Springs Mineralogical Society

PO Box 2  
Colorado Springs,  
CO 80901  
[www.csms.us](http://www.csms.us)  
[Info@csms.us](mailto:Info@csms.us)

Contact:  
Linda Laverty  
(719) 964-6222  
[chilipepper24@juno.com](mailto:chilipepper24@juno.com)





# Colorado Springs Mineralogical Society

## 2008 Banquet Registration

### January 17, 2008

Embassy Suites  
7290 Commerce Center Drive  
Colorado Springs, CO

Cocktails—6 pm     Dinner—7 pm     Program—8 pm

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Dinners: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Vegetarian Dinners: \_\_\_\_\_

Total Number of Dinners: \_\_\_\_\_

x \$15.00

Total Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

Send check payable to **CSMS** only along with this registration by 1/11/07 to:  
Drew Malin, President  
3085 Rhapsody Drive  
Colorado Springs, CO 80920

BETTY CAIN, EDITOR



Postage & Fees Paid  
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Colorado Springs,  
CO 80901

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PICK&PACK  
P.O. Box 2  
COLORADO SPRINGS, CO 80901-0002

November, 2007



## Joining the Colorado Springs Mineralogical Society (CSMS)

General Assembly meetings are the third (3rd) Thursday of each month, except August, beginning at 7:30 p.m. at the Colorado Springs Senior Center, 1514 North Hancock Blvd., 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: Camera Club, Crystal Study Group, Faceting Group, Fossil Group, Jewelry Group, Lapidary Group, Micromounts Group, and Pebble Pups. For details on Satellite Group meetings, see page 9.

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—\$20

Family—\$30

Juniors—\$2

If you are interested in joining CSMS or would like more information, we encourage you to attend our next General Assembly meeting (see page 2 for details of the next meeting) or visit our web site: [www.csms.us](http://www.csms.us).