



Colorado Springs Mineralogical Society

Founded in 1936

Lazard Cahn

Honorary President

"Pick & Pack"

Vol 60 Number 10

Dec 2020

CSMS General Assembly Thursday, Dec 17, 2020, 7:00 PM Mt. Carmel Veterans Center

CANCELED

Please note: Members whose names begin with A-L are responsible for refreshments in December

In case of inclement weather please call Mt. Carmel Veteran's Service Center 719-309-4714

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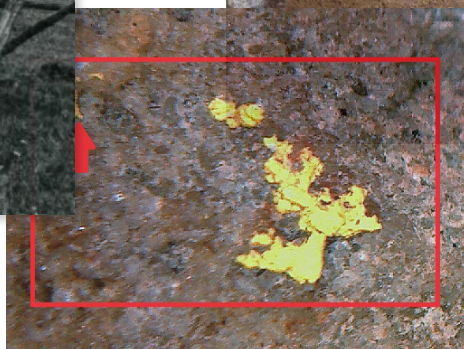
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COLORADO SPRINGS MINERALOGICAL SOCIETY PO BOX 2 COLORADO SPRINGS, COLORADO 80901-0002

Upcoming CSMS Events

ALL CSMS activities are **CANCELED** until further notice

General Assembly Meeting **CANCELED** Dec '20

Pebble Pup Meeting **CANCELED** Dec '20

Crystal Club Meeting **CANCELED** Dec '20

Board Meeting **CANCELED** Dec '20

Fossil Club Meeting **CANCELED** Dec '20

Faceting Club Meeting **CANCELED** Dec '20

CSMS Calendar

Dec '20	Jan '21						
12/01/20	1/05/20	Fossil Group	1st Tues	7:00 PM	Pikes Peak United Methodist Church	Jerry Suchan	303-648-3410
12/03/20	1/07/20	Board Meeting	1st Thur	7:00 PM	Pikes Peak United Methodist Church	John Massie	719-338-4276
12/17/20	1/21/20	See session online	3rd Thur	5:30 PM	Mt. Carmel Center	Steve Veatch	719-213-1475
12/17/20	1/21/20	General Assy Meeting	3rd Thur	7:00 PM	Mt. Carmel Center	John Massie	719-338-4276
12/24/20	1/28/20	Crystal Group	4th Thur	7:00 PM	Mt. Carmel Center	Kevin Witte	719-638-7919
12/24/20	1/28/20	Faceting Group	4th Thur	7:00 PM	Berta's House	John Massie	719-338-4276
by appt	by appt	Lapidary Group	by appt	by appt	Sharon's House	Sharon Holte	719-217-5683

Upcoming Community Events

Feb 11 4:00 PM - 5:00 PM Van Tuyl Lecture (Virtual), Colorado School of Mines, "Drilling to Magma," by Dr. John Eichelberger, Geological Society of America Distinguished Lecturer, Professor Emeritus, University of Alaska, Fairbanks. Venue: Berthoud Hall, 1516 Illinois St., Golden CO (School of Mines).

CANCELLED December 13 – 15, 2020; Flatirons Mineral Club's Annual Show; Longmont, Colorado is cancelled.

TBD Florissant Scientific Society: All live meetings are cancelled until further notice. Meanwhile check out some recent meetings that you may have missed on the FSS YouTube Channel: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCmA-JzMgXLWbAtJLVzOFQTg/videos>

End of Event Section

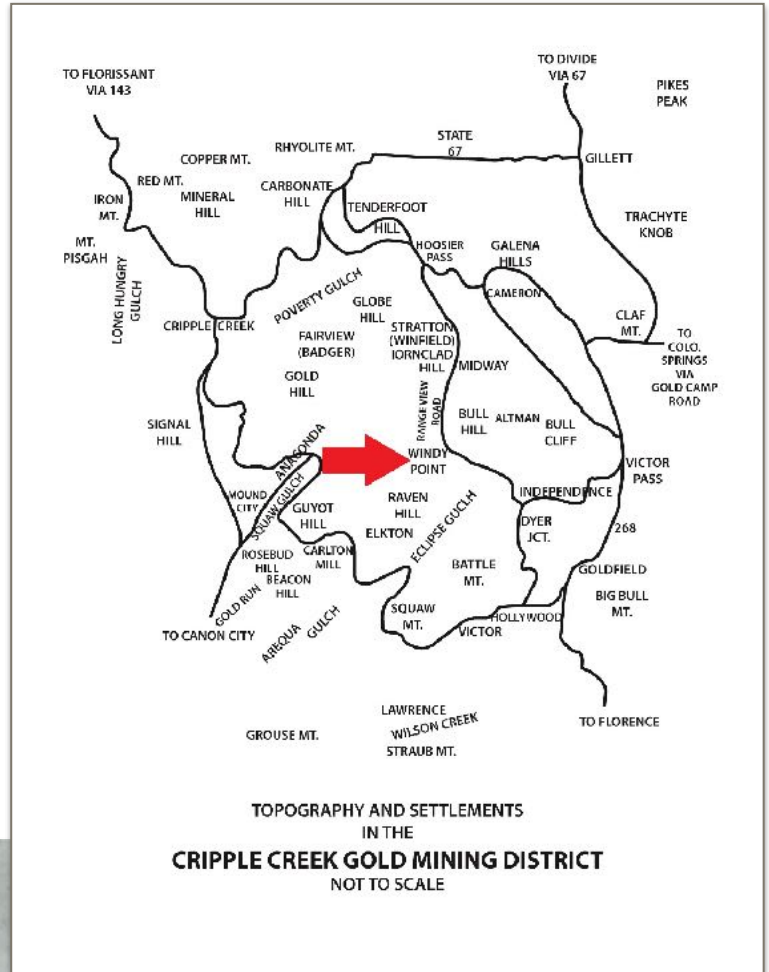
Windy Point: A Photographic Essay

Steven Wade Veatch

A collection of rare photographs of Windy Point, a tiny map-dot community situated on a saddle between Bull and Raven hills in the Cripple Creek Mining District, have turned up in the archives of the Cripple Creek District Museum.

Margaret Benson (Mortensen), who spent part of her childhood in Windy Point, donated those photos which belong to another time. The photographer was Nils Tycho Schedin who, with John Lehman, had a photography studio on Bennett Avenue in Cripple Creek in the early 1900s. Schedin was known in the area for his gelatin silver prints. He later moved to Leadville and had a photography studio there from 1908 to 1923 (Colorado Mountain History Collection). Margaret Benson's father was a close friend of Nils Schedin.

Below: A generalized map of the Cripple Creek Mining District. The red arrow shows the location of Windy Point. North is toward the top of the map. *Modified from Munn (1984).*



Left: A view of Windy Point. Mines and prospects cover the landscape. This is written on the back of the photo:

"The hillside at Windy Point as it looked in 1904."

Photo by Nils Tycho Schedin circa 1904. From the Margaret Benson (Mortensen) collection, courtesy of the Cripple Creek District Museum A8367.

The Windy Point area was open and rugged country that spread out in all directions. A few clumps of trees dotted the landscape. It was high country, swept by stubborn winds that seemed to come in one way and then another. It is now a place lost to time.

Windy Point was one of the smaller communities in the Cripple Creek Mining District where miners made their homes and worked in nearby mines (Collins, 2016). The *Directory of the Cripple Creek Mining District for 1900* listed only 44 households and one business, the Windy Point Boardinghouse, run by S.C. Hoskins, who had six boarders living there.



This rare photo shows the John Benson home in Windy Point, a simple wooden frame building. Everyone is dressed up. Margaret Benson (Mortensen) wrote on the back of this photo:

"Our home at Windy Point. My parents John and Christina Benson and myself (Margaret)."

Photo by Nils Tycho Schedin circa 1904. From the Margaret Benson (Mortensen) collection, courtesy of the Cripple Creek District Museum A8368.

The women of Windy Point maintained a sororal relationship and staged social

activities ranging from quilting to hosting various meetings. A reporter for the *Cripple Creek Morning Times* wrote about a Miss Brown, who hosted a meeting of a local club in her Windy Point home in January 1900 (Collins, 2016).

The Benson family lived in Windy Point for several years. John Benson and his wife brought up their daughter Margaret (Mortensen) there. The persistent wind reminded the Benson family of the difficulty in living at this high elevation and enduring winters that were so cold that the air cracked like ice.



Members of the Benson family sitting in their yard. Mining activity can be seen in the background. Margaret Benson (Mortensen) wrote on the back:

"My mother Christina Benson and Grandma Colley and myself in our yard in Windy Point."

Photo by Nils Tycho Schedin circa 1905. From the Margaret Benson (Mortensen) collection, courtesy of the Cripple Creek District Museum A8369.

Floyd Miller also called Windy Point home. During the violent 1903-1904 labor strike in the district, Harry Orchard supposedly

gave Floyd Miller money to buy explosives for him (Turner, 1907). Orchard used the explosives to make a bomb. On June 6, 1904, a bomb, made with between 150 and 200 pounds of dynamite, exploded at the Independence Depot of the Florence and Cripple Creek Railroad, killing 13 non-union men waiting for a train (Jameson, 1998).

Windy Point was near several mines, including the New Haven and Joe Dandy. The local mines were busy, and the sounds of gold mining hung in the air. Cages shook and rattled as they carried men and ore up and down shafts. Whistles blew, ore cars clacked, bells rang, and mills thumped. The wind played among the mine headframes, making them moan. An article in the *Colorado Springs*

Weekly Gazette (1904) described a gold strike at the Ramona mine on the southwestern slope of Bull Hill, next to the War Eagle mine. A later report revealed the shaft at the Happy Year mine, straight as a straw, had reached a depth of 350 feet by 1916, and the War Eagle continued shipments of ore (Carroll, 1916).

Windy Point was also a stop, about one-half mile south of the town of Midway, on the “High Line” of the Cripple Creek District Electric Railway (Directory of the Cripple Creek Mining District, 1900). The High Line trolley ran between Cripple Creek and Victor and went through several towns and mines as it wound its way up Bull Hill, reaching an altitude of 10,500 feet; a trip billed as the highest electric railway in America (Cafky, 1955).



The “High Line” of the Cripple Creek District Electric Railway nearing Midway in the winter. Undated photo by Edgar Yelton. Courtesy of the Cripple Creek District Museum 9254.

Continued...

Riders were treated to scenic panoramas where purple mountains—old as time—cut into a quiet sky behind rounded hills. When service started on January 3, 1898, the trolley reached an average speed of about 10 miles per hour, making the round trip between Cripple Creek and Victor in 90 minutes (Street Railway Journal, 1898). Trolley speeds were later increased to make the round trip in one hour (Street Railway Journal, 1898). Later, trolleys ran every two hours on the High Line route. Additional runs were made during shift changes at the mines (Cafky, 1955).

To the Bensons, Windy Point was a gritty place where one day faded away into another—an endless sameness of mining in the gold camp. After a few years, the Benson family said goodbye to their friends and left. Others left too. And as the gold boom subsided and time passed, people continued, one by one, to leave until Windy Point was empty and as still as a stone.

The old days of Windy Point are gone, vanished from sight and memory. Much of the town's history is lost to the erosive power of time. After the gold boom, Windy Point became a ghost town and a place for tourists to come for scenic views. And now that is gone. Current mining operations have removed Windy Point from the landscape. These rare photos and essay will hopefully serve to coax Windy Point out of the shadows of history and back into the light.



References and further reading

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Acknowledgments

I would like to thank **Ben Elick** for preparing and modifying the map used for this paper. I thank **Shelly Veatch** for reviewing the manuscript, and **Dr. Bob Carnein** for his valuable comments and important help in improving this paper.

Chasin' the Blues with Elwood, Jake, Bob, Kevin, Jerry & Bill

Mike Nelson
csrockguy@yahoo.com

In this time of the Covid-19 pandemic and self-isolation my mind wanders, as do the minds of several rockhound friends. That wandering activity is not a “bad thing” as most of us have some degree of “COVID fatigue.” Listen to the advice of newscaster Diane Sawyer, *I've always found a cure for the blues is wandering into something unknown, and resting there, before coming back to whatever weight you were carrying.*



... and the idea of just wandering off to a cafe with a notebook and writing and seeing where that takes me for a while is just bliss.

- J. K. Rowling

For me, I often wander into nagging questions, like how does one open plastic veggie and fruit bags at the grocery store when finger licking is not allowed? Between wandering I try to keep busy with other chores (I am tired of raking leaves) and activities. I read a new book about every three days or so, play with the minerals, devour the newspaper, write letters to the editor (few are published), write/read several hours a day, watch a little TV (mostly older “happy” movies with such phrases as, *Jake: That Night Train's a mean wine*, exercise a little, and listen to the oldies music channel,

Elwood: *What sort of music do you usually have here?* Claire: *Oh we got both kinds, We got country, AND western.* As you can probably surmise, I have a weird sense of humor and enjoy watching the Blues Brothers movies: *I'll have four fried chickens and a coke.* OK you need to see the two movies to understand the humor of Jake and Elwood!



Elwood and Jake, Movie Poster, Public Domain. *The Blues Brothers* (1980): Universal Studios.

My days are not strenuous but are not too exciting either; however, we have food and shelter and family wellness and for this I am happy. And, as you might suppose I am “retired” with Social Security and do not hold an actual working position and that certainly skews my activities and thinking. One of the good things about my life is that I am learning much, not only about minerals, but about the world in general, how a virus operates, a new word every day, how bars/breweries form a significant part of our social wellbeing, about economics as the price of groceries heads upward while gasoline trends down, and how scientists are taking a bum rap with this pandemic. Personally, I am waiting for

scientists to conquer the Covid-19 pandemic.

But as I said, my mind tends to wander and this week, for some strange reason, my thoughts moseyed over to the color blue and all sorts of items popped into my mind, like: what is your favorite color? For me it is blue. As John Lennon once sang, “The sun is up, the sky is blue” or Judy Garland’s “Somewhere over the rainbow. Skies are blue.” Thinking about blue: 1) there are more songs with blue in the lyrics than any other color; 2) blue is the only color to have a genre of music named after it, The Blues; 3) if one of our 50 states primarily votes for the Democrat presidential candidate, it is a “blue state” 4) and so it goes. As for music:

Blue
Oh, so lonesome for you
Why can't you be blue over me
Blue

Bill Mack/ LeAnn Rimes

Well it's one for the money, well it's two for the show
Well it's three to get ready, now go, cat go
But don't you step on my blue suede shoes
Well you can do anything but lay off of my blue suede shoes

Carl Perkins/ Elvis Presley

Devil with the blue dress, blue dress, blue dress,
Devil with the blue dress on

Mitch Ryder

Blues stay away from me
Uh-uh-uh, blues why don't you let me be
I don't know why you keep a-hauntin' me. and I guess that's why

Delmore Brothers

Got the blues, got the blues
Got the blues, got the St. Louis blues
Louis Prima

What about your favorite Blues genre or blue in the lyrics song? Do rockhounds have a favorite? Well, as an ole rock and roller like me (my age is certainly showing) Carl Perkins and Mitch Ryder are tough to beat. But my all-time favorite is the Delmore Brothers, “Blues stay away from me.”



A poster advertisement of the Delmore Brothers.
Source unknown

The music is very haunting, probably because of the tenor four string guitar and the harmonica of Wayne Raney, but it brings back memories of my youth when Saturday night dances were scattered across the rural areas of Kansas. Those dances usually presented a “big band” sound, or “hillbilly” music; rock and roll generally was confined to high school dances. In the days before cable TV, high school or “town team” sporting events, and local dances were the major sources of entertainment in rural parts of our country.

Yeah, I know very few readers have heard a recording by the Delmore Brothers! But consider they were stars of the Grand Ole Opry in the 1930s and wrote more than 1000 songs. Perhaps Bob Dylan summed it up best: "The Delmore Brothers, God I really loved them! I think they've influenced every harmony I've tried to sing."

So, there you know some of my strange secrets! Take a peek at this YouTube recording:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YUk9UDoVyKk>

Maybe you have a favorite "blue movie? Who could forget The Blues Brothers--*It's 106 miles to Chicago, we've got a full tank of gas, half a pack of cigarettes, it's dark and we're wearing sunglasses. Hit it.* Perhaps Blue Velvet, The Blue Lagoon, Blue Hawaii, or the IMAX film the Blue Planet? But again, I am showing my age. So, what about your favorite blue mineral? I presume a large segment of the rockhound population would immediately state azurite, the copper carbonate. Others might spout turquoise or zoisite (tanzanite), opal, aquamarine, or numerous others.

So, it popped into my head, since we do not have club meetings, ask members of the CSMS to send me photos of their favorite blue minerals. I was expecting about 50 bored rockhounds to flood the emails! But it appears that most members must be occupied with other important activities and I sincerely thank Kevin Rockhounding the Rockies Witte, the guy who knows about fluorite Bob Landgraf, and Mr. Lapidary Tool Man Bill Kern. But most of all I thank John Emery, the fantastic Pick & Pack Editor for allowing me to add rather

frivolous material to a mostly serious newsletter. However, this activity perked up my mind and perhaps readers might find a little humor to help put a damper on "Covid fatigue." Photo submissions begin on the next page.

I have espoused my views on blue minerals with numerous Pick & Pack articles and today have a couple of new, blue, copper arsenates: guanacoite and arhbarite. You aren't familiar with them? Neither was I until I found them in a dusty drawer of a small rock and mineral store and started reading.

Arhbarite, hydrated copper magnesium arsenate $[\text{Cu}_2\text{Mg}(\text{AsO}_4)(\text{OH})_3]$, gets its "strange" name from the Type Locality in Morocco, the Arhbar (or Aghbar) Mine. It usually has a dark blue color, a vitreous to sub-vitreous luster, a blue streak, and often forms as botryoidal cluster of radially grown crystals. However, at times the crystals are so tiny that the mineral appears massive. Arhbarite forms in the oxidized zone of polymetallic ore deposits due to percolating hydrothermal fluids and is usually associated with other copper arsenates such as conichalcite and guanacoite. Arhbarite is a rare mineral only found in two localities, the Type and in Guanaco in Chile.

The "strange" name for the second mineral, guanacoite, comes from its Type Locality in the El Guanaco Mine (Atacama Desert, Chile). The mine produces gold (primary commodity), silver, and copper (chalcocite, bornite, enargite, and covellite) from Eocene rhyolite. It is both a subsurface and surface mine. In addition, the Mine is a source for numerous

Continued ...

Guanacoite is similar to arhbarite in that it is a hydrated copper magnesium arsenate except it has additional water $[\text{Cu}_2\text{Mg}_3(\text{AsO}_4)_2(\text{OH})_4 \cdot 4\text{H}_2\text{O}]$. It has a pale blue to blue color, a white to light blue streak but most important for identification, it usually occurs as prismatic, acicular to bladed, translucent crystals. Guanacoite is often found as tiny blades lining, or associated with, vugs of arhbarite. Again, it is a rare mineral only known from the Type Locality, Morocco, and Spain.

This web site lists several tens, hundreds of blue minerals.

The question I have not answered was what causes the blue color in minerals? I have a very good excuse or two: 1) I am red-green and blue-purple colorblind so lots of purple things look blue to me; therefore, I have learned to ignore certain colors; 2) determining the cause of color in minerals is above my pay grade. So, I have two suggestions: ask Kevin, or take a peek at: <https://nature.berkeley.edu/classes/eps2/wisc/Lect7.html#:~:text=%20%20%20Color%20in%20Minerals%20%20,%20%20%20%20%20%206%20more%20rows%20>

The entire point of this article was to release some tension from fighting “Covid fatigue.” Several months ago, I laughed at this term. Now I firmly believe “Covid fatigue” is a

So, if you want to cooperate on any sort of Pick & Pack article, frivolous or not, just contact me (Mike Nelson). Perhaps you have other ideas to hold the club together? Would having zoom meetings be an option, or even zoom talk sessions? We seem to be in a long haul for there future. Please stay well, keep in contact, and wear your mask! Meanwhile, check out our virtual blue stone collection:



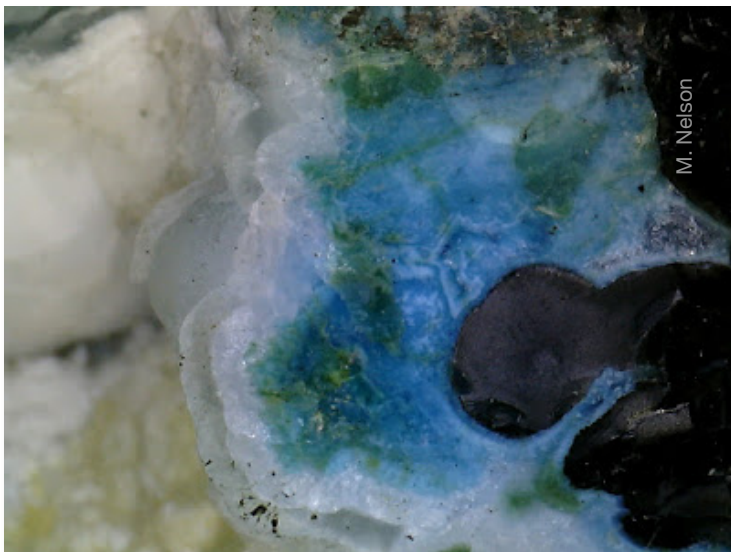
Sprays of blue brochantite on quartz terminations (photomicrograph). Width FOV ~1 cm. *Photo: Mike Nelson*



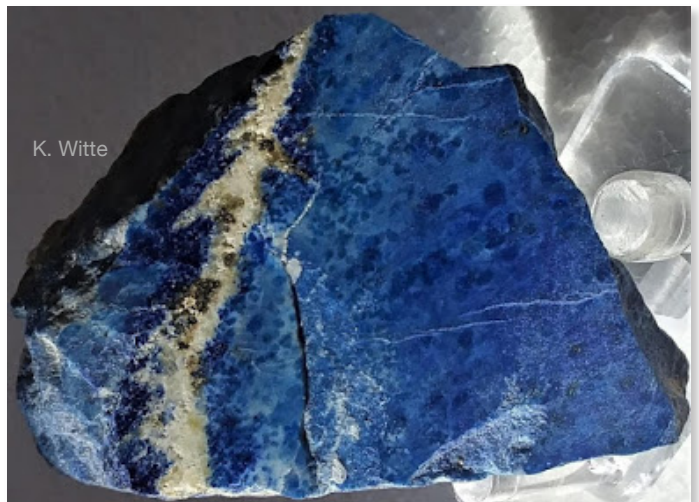
Kyanite, a metamorphic aluminum silicate from Brazil.
Photo: Kevin Witte.

Continued ...

Blue Stone Challenge



Photomicrograph banded chalcidony left grading into blue chalcidony or silica infused chrysocolla surrounding black tenorite. Notice green chalcidony encased in the blue. Width of photo ~1.2 cm. Photo: Mike Nelson.



Lapis Lazuli, metamorphic rock composed of sulfur-rich hauyne (mineral in the Sodalite Group) with lesser amounts of calcite and pyrite. Photo: Kevin Witte.



Top: Blue-green microcline var. amazonite collected Lake George area Colorado. Photo: Kevin Witte. **Bottom:** Blue-green microcline var. amazonite collected Galway, Ireland. Photo: Bob Landgraf.



Lazulite a magnesium, iron, aluminum phosphate from Rapid Creek, Yukon, Canada. Width of crystal ~3 mm. Often confused with Lapis. Photo: Mike Nelson.



Blue halite from the Delaware Basin, New Mexico. Cube ~2.5 cm x 2.5 cm. Photo: Mike Nelson.



Winner of the blue stone challenge: Marge Simpson

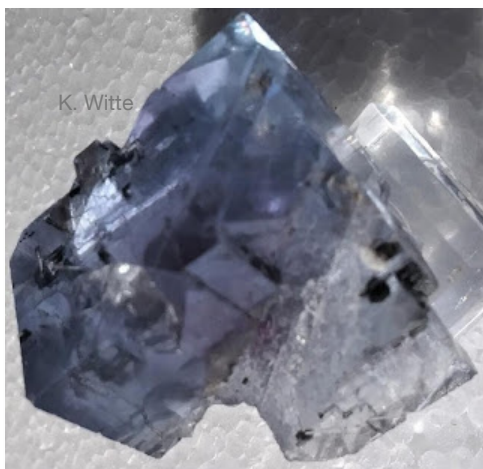
Blue Stone Challenge



Lake George area, Colorado. Photo: Kevin Witte



Quartz, enhanced (radiation?) to form "blue quartz." Photo: Bill Kern



Namibia. Photo: Kevin Witte



Aquamarine - Namibia.
Photo: Kevin Witte



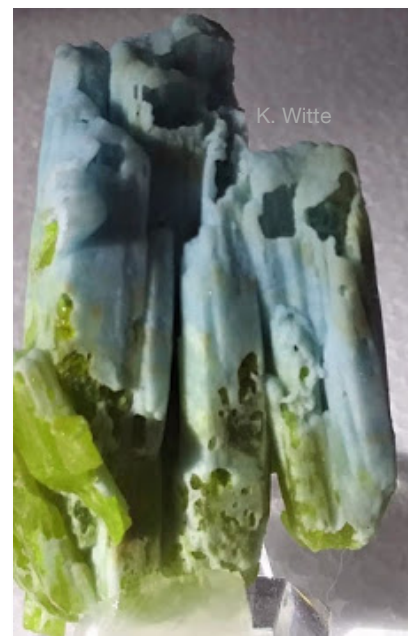
Bingham, New Mexico Photo: Kevin Witte



Barite. Sterling, Colorado.
Photo: Kevin Witte

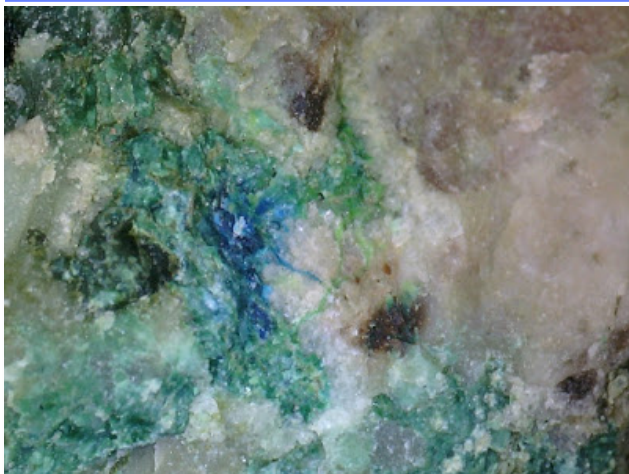


Fluorite, calcium fluoride - Italy.
Photo: Kevin Witte



Plumbogummite with pyromorphite - China. Photo: Kevin Witte

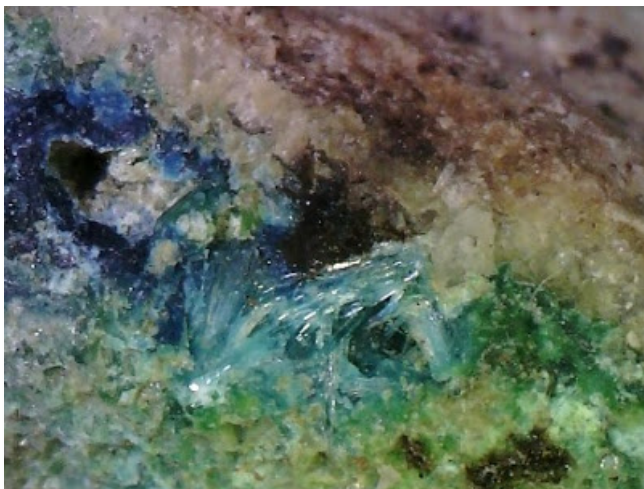
Blue Stone Challenge



Dark blue arhbarite surrounded by prismatic crystals of guanacoite. Maximum width of blue mass ~1 mm.
Photo: Mike Nelson



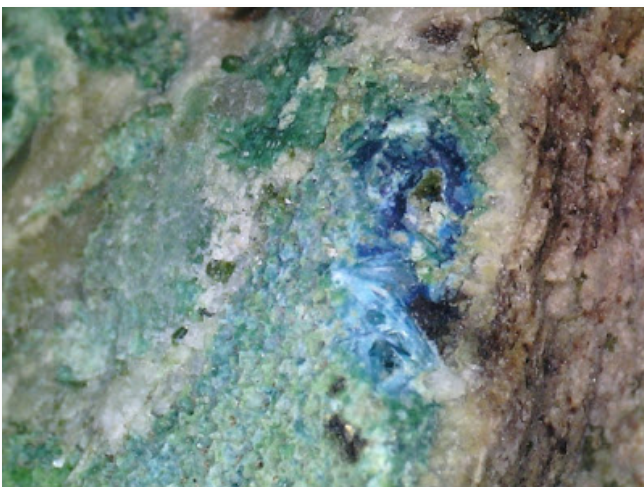
Azurite with malachite collected Arizona 1980s. Photo: Bill Kern



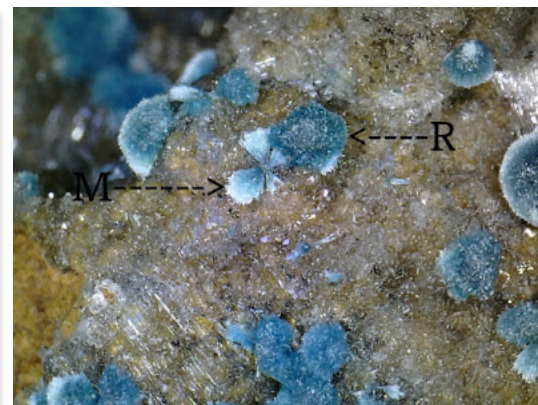
Closeup of above photomicrograph. Photo: Mike Nelson.



Azurite with malachite, Cuba, New Mexico. Photo: Kevin Witte.



Dark blue massive arhbarite vug (top) with light blue guanacoite prismatic and bladed crystals (bottom). Length (vertical in photo) of both minerals ~3 mm.
Photo: Mike Nelson



The copper zinc carbonate, rosasite (R) and the arsenate mixite (M) from the Tintic District, Utah. FOV ~ 1 cm. Photo: Mike Nelson

Left: Aquamarine - Pakistan. Photo: Kevin Witte

Blue Stone Challenge



Microcline var. amazonite collected Pikes Peak region. *Jerry Anderson, collector and photo*



A spectacular 800 ct. blue topaz collected 2018 at the Dorris Topaz Claim, Lake George area, Colorado. *Jerry Anderson, collector and photo*

Acknowledgements

I sincerely thank Kevin “Rockhounding the Rockies” **Witte**, the guy who knows about fluorite, Bob **Landgraf**, Jerry “the collector” **Anderson**, and “Mr. Lapidary Tool Man” Bill **Kern**.





We are asking for your thoughts and prayers for one of our pebble pups and their family member who are both battling COVID-19.

NOTICE: Regular Pebble Pup meetings are **SUSPENDED** until TBD

- Please visit our blog for special announcements and field trips:
<http://pebblepups.blogspot.com>
<http://www.csms1936.com>
- Find your assignments at:
<http://pebblepups.blogspot.com/p/merit-badge-assignments.html?m=1>

Pebble Pups,

Although regular meetings of the pebble pups have been suspended, I remain in contact by email with pebble pups monthly and send out the youth science magazine *Mini Miner Monthly*, also each month. I continue to encourage any interested pups to start research projects for publication, write a poem about a rock or fossil, create artwork related to our hobby, or similar projects. Several pebble pups have responded. Ben Elick, an Earth science scholar, continues to assist the curator of the Western Museum of Mining and Industry with important projects. I met with Ben and the curator last month to help with one of the projects. Ben also assists me with making maps for my publications, including the map for the Windy Point article on page 3. On top of that, we are working on a large project on Castle Rock Rhyolite.

I also met with two former pebble pups (who are now young men) for career advice this month. One is a senior at UNC Greeley and will graduate with an Earth science degree. He plans to pursue graduate studies in paleontology. The other just graduated with a degree in archaeology. I'm helping him find employment with the National Park Service in geoarchaeology, or in climate change studies.

I'm also working with several pebble pups at the Cripple Creek District Museum where I'm training them on archival techniques, scanning historical documents and photos, and general concepts in preserving artifacts. Several CSMS pebble pups have won awards in the RMFMS and the AFMS editor's contests (Gavin and Ben) this year.

We're staying busy!

Steve

Impact Gold

Jonathan David Hair

FOUND! A sandstone rock found near Salida, Colorado, close to the Arkansas River with crystalline and impact gold embedded in it. How and why did it come to be with these pieces of gold imprinted onto it?

Sandstone is a rock consisting of several materials, such as quartz, calcite, clay, and mud. Sandstone forms when immense quantities of heat and pressure bond the materials that make up its composition. The sandstone found near Salida, Colorado likely came from an exposed sandstone deposit from the formation of the Sawatch and Sangre de Cristo Mountain Range 70 million years ago, which now surrounds the city of Salida. A close-up identification of the specimen using a digital microscope enabled further understanding of it.



Image 1: Impact gold on the edge of the sandstone rock.
Photo: Jonathan Hair, 2018

After examining the sandstone, a piece of gold (image 1) is pushed flat against the sandstone, and therefore the name "impact gold" is given. In the corner of image 2, there is a gold piece in the shape of a needle. This needle-like formation of gold appears to be "crystalline gold" (images 2 and 3). Crystalline gold forms through heat, pressure, and hydrothermal activity.

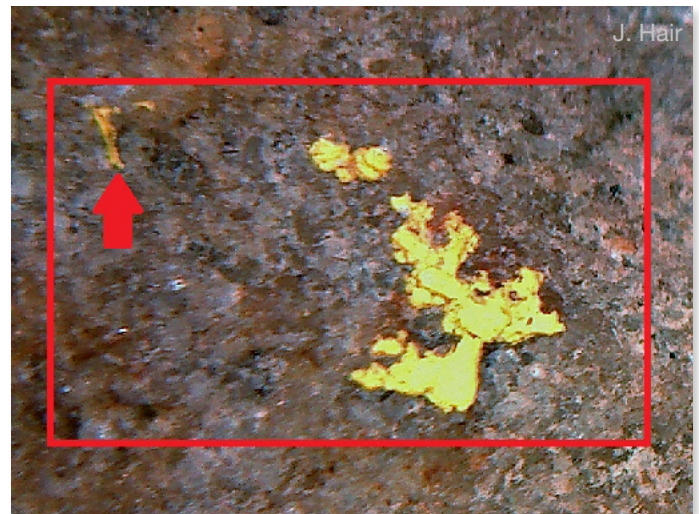


Image 2: Crystalline gold top left, impact gold to the right.
Photo: Jonathan Hair, 2018

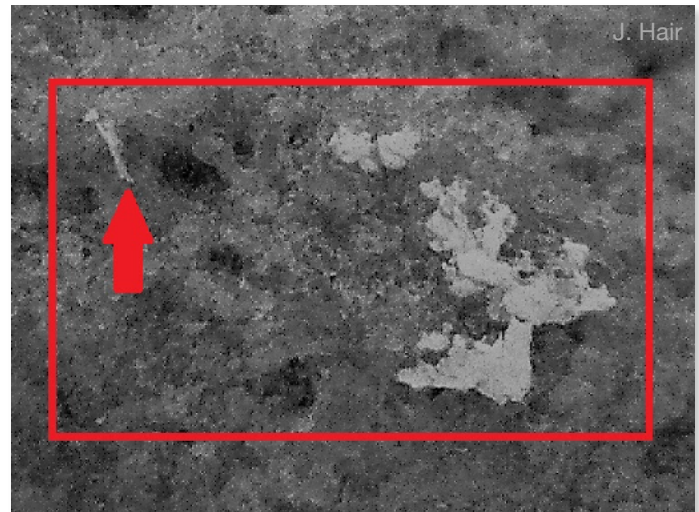


Image 3: Crystalline and impact gold on sandstone (B&W).
Photo: Jonathan Hair, 2018

The crystalline gold specimen has little to no exposure to weathering or transport in the river and appears to have formed on the sandstone

rock recently. Since the crystalline gold retains most of its crystalline shape, it must not have been inside a moving body of water for long; however, it could have been inside a small placer deposit. An alluvial/placer deposit occurs when higher ground erodes, releasing heavy minerals such as gold, platinum, and silver. Gravity and rain force these heavy minerals down to accumulate in a river and form placer deposits. Placer deposits may consist of gravel, gold, silver, iron pyrite, garnets, and other materials.

Prospectors would work these deposits for gold using techniques such as panning, sluice boxes, and dredges. During the time of the gold rush, prospectors would labor over placer deposits and set up small placer mines in attempts to strike it rich along the Arkansas River and its tributaries.

The Arkansas River is known for several of these gold rushes - one of the most famous being the Pikes Peak Gold Rush of 1858. The discovery of gold and the excitement generated from these gold rushes sprouted many small and large-scale mines. Most of these mines slowly puttered out and were shut down by the owners.

Impact gold is an enigma. It seems that a small vein of gold in the local area releases gold that impacts and then sticks on sandstone and other kinds of rocks in the river. The gold specimens in this study impacted a sandstone in the Arkansas River. Some of the gold particles show they have been on the rock surfaces for some time, as they show signs of being weathered and pounded in the river by other rocks, yet some particles look fresh—

they appear to be crystalline gold. For now, the crystalline gold, that impacts these sandstone rocks, appears to be recently released from their placer deposit, and hit the sandstone in the river with enough force to be splattered on its surface. What is intriguing is that the impact is recent, demonstrated by the lack of weathering and rounding of the crystalline specimens. This demonstrates that the impact was recent, and there is still gold in the area.

References and further reading

“Alluvial Fans.” Utah GIS Portal, gis.utah.gov/data/geoscience/alluvial-fans/.

Rakovan, John, et al. Characterization of Gold Crystallinity by Diffraction Methods. Jan. 2009, www.cas.miamioh.edu/~rakovajf/characterization%20of%20gold%20crystallinity%20by%20diffraction%20methods.pdf.

Watterson, J.R. “Crystalline Gold in Soil and the Problem of Supergene Nugget Formation: Freezing and Exclusion as Genetic Mechanisms.” Precambrian Research, 1 Jan. 1985, pubs.er.usgs.gov/publication/70012691.

About the author:

Jonathan Hair is 17 years old and lives in Colorado Springs, Colorado, with his brother Joshua and his parents. He attends College Pathways at The Classical Academy. His interests are geology, tennis, biking, architecture, and technology.



A STONE MAYAN BEAD

Nathan Gallup

Mayans lived in places now called Mexico, Honduras and Guatemala. Their jewelry dates to 5,000 years ago. The Mayan's first types of jewelry were made out of stones, jaguar teeth, feathers and various colorful shells. Later, jewelry was made from gold, silver, copper, jade and bronze. This stone bead I researched was made by the early Mayans.

References:

Ancient Jewelry History.
<http://ancient-jewelry-history.com/Ancient-Civilizations-Jewelry/Ancient-Mayan-Jewelry.shtml>



A Haiku Poem

Masterpiece of stone

Made by an ancient craftsman

An old creation

Poet's bio: Nathan Gallup is a member of the Pikes Peak Pebble Pups.

President's Corner

John Massie

Presidential Matters



2020 Satellite Group Chairs

Kevin Witte/ Bob Germano, Crystals

John Massie/ Bertha Medina, Faceting

Jerry Suchan/ Joy Price, Fossils

Vacant, Jewelry

Sharon Holte, Lapidary

Vacant, Micro-mount

Vacant, Photography

Steven Veatch/ Betty Marchant, Pebble Pups

2020 Liaisons

Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument:
Steven Veatch

Western Museum of Mining and History:
Steven Veatch

To CSMS members

December 6, 2020

I realize this is late, but we need to vote for board members for the 2021 year. The following people have agreed to serve on the board of directors for 2021, if elected.

President	John Massie
Vice President	Richard Jackson
Secretary	
Treasurer	Ann Proctor
Membership Secretary	Adelaide Bahr
Member at large	Chris Burris
Member at large	Renee Swanson

Please respond to John Massie at jsmassie1075@gmail.com by December 11, 2021 if you want the above people to serve on the 2021 board of directors. If you want to run for one of the board positions, or nominate someone else to a position, let me know and I will make a new ballot and do a new vote next week.

John Massie
President
Jsmassie1075@gmail.com

Secretary's Spot

Lisa Cooper

Meeting Minutes

Colorado Springs Mineralogical Society

2020 CSMS Officers

John Massie, President

Vacant, Vice-President

Lisa Cooper, Secretary

Ann Proctor, Treasurer

Adelaide Bahr, Membership Secretary

John Emery, Editor

Chris Burris, Member-at-Large

Renee Swanson, Member-at-Large

Sharon Holte, Past President

No minutes to present

Hey! We still need to nominate and elect a 2020 CSMS Adult Rockhound of the Year!

- Please refer to the November 2019 issue of the Pick & Pack, page 3. If you do not have a copy, you can access www.CSMS1936.com and go to the Newsletters. Print off a form or two and nominate your best rockhound!!

2020 CSMS Chairpersons

John Massie, Program Coordinator

John Massie, Show Vol Coordinator

Mike Webb, Field Trip Coordinator

Steven Veatch, Science Fair Chair

Frank and Ellie Rosenberg, Librarians

Mark Schultz, Social Committee Chair

Ann Proctor, Store Keeper

Lisa Cooper, Show Chairman

Lisa Cooper, Webmaster

Lisa Cooper, Facebook Keeper

Mike Nelson, Federation Representative

Vacant, Federation Representative



John Emery
Editor

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

Share your experiences, your new finds, or simply your enjoyment of our last field trip.

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

To submit an item:

For hardcopy photos or articles, mail to the address below or bring them to the General Meeting. All hardcopy photos remain the property of the submitter and will be returned. Electronic photos can be submitted at resolutions above 200 dpi in ANY format.

Articles are preferred in MS Word, preferably NOT pdf, but the editor will correct font.

e-mail to the editor:
csmseditor@hotmail.com

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

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

Classifieds and Announcements

The Weird Thing Challenge

A MESSAGE FROM CLUB MEMBER MIKE NELSON

Rockhounds,

A recent posting on the Rockhounds site gave me an idea to insert some personal rockhound trivia into the Pick & Pack. Rockhounds hunting or digging for minerals or fossils often find weird items in the field, or have weird experiences! What is the weirdest object, thing, event that you have found/observed while in the field? Any hoards of coins, bodies, treasure chests, etc. show up in your digs? Any wild kangaroos chase you up a tree while visiting Australia? President John Massie has promised the "winner" of this contest (a lottery winner) will be awarded a nice mineral. Help me with this little project. If you have a photograph, even better but not required. Send material to:
csrockguy@yahoo.com by January 10 (earlier preferred) so I can format for the February issue.

Although this experience "does not count," one really weird personal experience I had was in a hotel hostage situation while attending a fossil meeting. Yep, real guns and the SWAT Team. Pretty weird!

mike nelson



Pick & Pack
P.O. Box 2
Colorado Springs, CO 80901-0002

Postage Here



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 newsletter is published 10 times each year to assist and promote the above.

Joining the Colorado Springs Mineralogical Society (CSMS):

- Meetings are held the third (3rd) Thursday of each month, except January & August.
- 7:00 PM at Mt. Carmel Veterans Service Center; 530 Communication Circle, Colorado Springs, CO 80905
- Visitors are always welcome.
- Individuals—\$30, Family—\$40, Juniors—\$15, Corporate—\$100.
- Find the application at the web site: www.csms1936.com. If you are interested in joining CSMS or would like more information, we encourage you to attend our next General Meeting or visit our web site.

Meetings:

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, Lapidary Group, and Pebble Pups/Juniors. For details on Satellite Group meetings, check out the calendars on page 2 and the web site.

Membership Benefits:

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* (carry your card), a year of learning and enjoyment, plus a lifetime of memories.

Colorado Springs Mineralogical Society is a Member of the following organizations:

- American Federation of Mineralogical Societies (AFMS) www.amfed.org
- Rocky Mountain Federation of Mineralogical Societies (RMFMS) www.rmfm.org