



Colorado Springs Mineralogical Society

Founded 1936

~ Lazard Cahn ~

Honorary President

"Pick & Pack"

Volume 62 No. 1

February 2022

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CSMS General Assembly

Thursday, February 17, 2022 7:00 PM

Mt. Carmel Veterans Center

Program Speaker: **Ray Quinn**
"Collecting in Colorado Springs"



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

ROCKHOUNDS OF THE YEAR 2021



Left to Right: Frank and Ellie Rosenberg, Ben Elick. Details page 7.



COLORADO SPRINGS MINERALOGICAL SOCIETY PO BOX 2 COLORADO SPRINGS, COLORADO 809801-0002

CSMS Group Calendar

| Feb '22 | Mar '22 | | | | | | |
|---------|---------|----------------|----------|---------|-------------------|----------------|--------------|
| 1 Feb | 1 Mar | Fossil Group | 1st Tues | 7:00 PM | TBD | Jerry Suchan | 303-648-3410 |
| 3 Feb | 3 Mar | Board Meeting | 1st Thur | 6:00 PM | Zoom | John Massie | 719-338-4276 |
| 17 Feb | 17 Mar | Pebble Pups | 3rd Thur | 5:30 PM | Mt. Carmel Center | David St. John | 719-424-9852 |
| 17 Feb | 17 Mar | General Assy | 3rd Thur | 7:00 PM | Mt. Carmel Center | John Massie | 719-338-4276 |
| 24 Feb | 24 Mar | Crystal Group | 4th Thur | 7:00 PM | Mt. Carmel Center | Kevin Witte | 719-638-7919 |
| By appt | By appt | Faceting Group | By appt | By appt | | John Massie | 719-338-4276 |
| By appt | By appt | Lapidary Group | By appt | By appt | Sharon's House | Sharon Holte | 719-217-5683 |

CSMS Club Events

June 10-12, 2022: Pikes Peak Gem, Mineral and Jewelry Show, Norris Penrose Event Center, Colorado Springs. Friday, June 10, Noon - 7:00 PM, Saturday, June 11, 10:00 - 5:00, Sunday, 10:00 - 4:00.

Community Events (P. Modreski)


Feb 25-27, 2022: Denver Gem and Mineral Guild Show, (returning to its old location), Jefferson County Fairgrounds, Exhibit Building. The club had earlier announced that it would be necessary for this show to move to the Wheat Ridge United Methodist Church gymnasium; but this will NOT be necessary, the show will take place at the Jeffco Fairgrounds after all, as in past pre-covid years.

Mar 13, 2022: "Visits with History," presented by the Cripple Creek District Museum. *Cripple Creek's Cresson Mine: The Untold Stories*, by Steven Veatch. 2 - 4 PM, free admission, call 719-689-9540 to reserve a seat.

Mar 25-27, 2022: Fort Collins Rockhounds Show, Larimer County Fairgrounds, Longmont, CO.


June 10-12, 2022: Pikes Peak Gem, Mineral and Jewelry Show, Norris Penrose Event Center, Colorado Springs. Friday, June 10, Noon - 7:00 PM, Saturday, June 11, 10:00 - 5:00, Sunday, 10:00 - 4:00.

June 16: Victor Gem and Mineral Show // Thursday, June 16 - set-up; Show June 17 to 19, 2022. For additional information contact RuthZalewski, info@stcfg.com 719-689-2675 or 719-651-2714.



Presented by the
Cripple Creek District Museum

**CRIPPLE CREEK'S CRESSON MINE:
THE UNTOLD STORIES**
BY STEVEN VEATCH



SUNDAY, MARCH 13
CRIPPLE CREEK HERITAGE CENTER
2-4 P.M.
RESERVATIONS RECOMMENDED - FREE ADMISSION
719-689-9540

Secretary's Spot

John McGrath

2022 CSMS Officers

John Massie, President
Rick Jackson, Vice-President
John McGrath, Secretary
Ann Proctor, Treasurer
Adelaide Bahr, Membership Secretary
John Emery, Editor
Chris Burris, Member-at-Large
William Meyers, Member-at-Large
Sharon Holte, Past President

2022 CSMS Chairpersons

Rick Jackson, Program Coordinator
John Massie, Show Vol Coordinator
Kyle Atkinson, Field Trip Coordinator
Vacant, 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 Rep

CSMS General Assembly Minutes

Mt. Carmel Vet Center, Thur Jan 20, 2022 7:00 PM

Address: 530 Communications Circle, Colorado Springs CO 80905

Attendees:

President: John Massie- Present Editor: John Emery- Present Past President: Sharon Holte- Present Member-at-large: Chris Burris- Present Vice President: Richard Jackson- Present
Member-at-large: Bill Meyers- Absent Treasurer: Ann Proctor- Present
Secretary: John McGrath- Present Membership Secretary: Adelaide Bahr -Present

Agenda:

- I. Called the meeting to order by our President John Massie at 7:08 PM
- II. Pledge of Allegiance led by President John Massie
- III. Introduction of Guests: Matthew Stanley and Shelby Shaffer
- IV. Introduction of new members by Adelaide Bahr, Membership Secretary:
- V. Program Speaker introduced by VP Rick Jackson. Presentations: Critical Elements and Thin Film Photovoltaics. Rare Earth Elements and the WTO by Javier Alcaraz, MS Colorado School of Mines in Mineral Engineering and Economics. Employed as Network Engineer at Northrop Grumman.
- VI. Meeting
 - A. There were 23 members in attendance and 5 minerals were given out.
 - B. Approval of November 2021 minutes confirmed by voice affirmation
- VII. Officer Reports
 - A. Vice - President - Rick Jackson
 1. Requested recommendations for future meeting speakers
 2. Displayed an Iron Pyrite/Calcite rock given to him by a Kosovar USAFA student
 - B. Treasurer Ann Proctor- no report
 - C. Secretary John McGrath - no report
 - D. Membership Secretary - Adelaide Bahr
 1. Reinforced that if membership renewal is received prior to 31 Jan 2022, there is a \$5 discount all levels of membership
 - E. Editor - John Emery - no report

F. Members at Large - Chris Burris - no report

G. Renee Swanson - not present

H. Past President - Sharon Holte - present- no report

I. Website Coordinator - Lisa Kinder - not present

VIII. Satellite Groups

A. Crystal Group - F. Rosenberg announced the January meeting would be next week 27 Jan 22

B. Faceting Group - John Massie, No Report

C. Pebble Group - David St John

1. Developing plans for an Art Show for the Pick and Pack

2. Plans are in formation for a Corral Bluffs trip in April focused on Boy Scouts

3. Reminded the group about the Western Mining Museum Family Day event where the CSMS would have a table on 22JAN22. The event is free to club members with a their card. No food trucks will be at the event.

D. Fossil Group - Jerry Suchan, not present, but John Massie requested recommendation for a reasonably priced location to hold meetings. A member suggested IHOP which has advertised free meeting space.

E. Jewelry Group - needs a chair

F. Lapidary Group - Sharon Holte. Call Sunday evening after 6:30 PM. 25" cutting saw had oil, might have a switch problem.

IX. Liaisons

A. Claims - Frank Rosenberg, present, but no report

B. Social Coordinator - Mark Schutz, thanked everyone for the excellent quantity and variety of treats at the meeting.

C. Store Keeper - Ann Proctor, no report

X. Unfinished Business - none identified

XI. New Business

A. Election of Officers - the slate of officers for the 2022 Calendar Year were introduced and sworn in with John Emery reading the Oath.

1. President - John Massie, 2. Vice President - Rick Jackson, 3. Treasurer - Ann Proctor, 4. Secretary - John McGrath

5. Membership Secretary - Adelaide Bahr, 6. Member-At-Large - Chris Burris, 7. Member-At- Large - Bill Myers

XII. Meeting adjourned by President John Massie at 8:40pm

Respectfully Submitted:

John M McGrath MD COL (RET) USA



President's Corner

John Massie
CSMS President



2022 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
David St. John/ Hair/ Elick, Pebble Pups

2022 Liaisons

Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument:
S.W. Veatch

Western Museum of Mining and History:
S.W. Veatch



Presidential Matters



A message from CSMS President John Massie:

I want to thank every one for the successful year that CSMS had in 2021. I want to thank all the volunteers who helped make this happen from the group leaders, show volunteers, field trip leaders, and the volunteers who helped with special events.

As usual we are going to need people to step up and volunteer for different events and committees this year. We need a silver group leader, field trip leaders, and helpers at various events.

The pebble pups could also use samples of gems and minerals, if members have extra samples they want to part with.

I am looking forward to working with everyone to make 2022 a successful year.

John Massie
CSMS President





Federation News Post

American Federation of Mineralogical Societies
Rocky Mountain Federation of Mineralogical Societies



American Federation Rockhound Information

- [William Holland School of Lapidary Arts \(Young Harris, GA\)](#)
- [Wild Acres Retreat \(Little Switzerland, NC\)](#)
- [Bureau of Land Management](#)
- [Crystallography](#)
- [U.S. Geologic Survey Topographic Maps](#)
- [TopoZone](#) - Topographic maps of the U.S. online

AFMS Scholarship Fund numbers 2022:

| | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Albuquerque Gem & Mineral Club | \$25.00 |
| Judy Beck | \$50.00 |
| North Central Kansas Rock & Gem Club | \$200.00 |
| RMFMS | \$4,139.65 |
| So. Nev. Gem & Mineral Society | \$755.00 |
| Shawnee Gem & Mineral Club | \$3,829.03 |
| Topeka Gem & Mineral Society | \$588.20 |
| Tulsa Rock & Mineral Society | \$421.00 |
| Western Dakota Gem & Mineral Society | \$100.00 |
| Wichita Gem & Mineral Society | \$350.00 |
| Total Donations | \$10,457.88 |



Future RMFMS Convention Locations

- 2022, May 7-8 - Las Vegas, NV

Local Club Shows

- Notify other clubs in our federation about your upcoming show, [email the editor](#)
- For Member Club Show general information go to the [RMFMS Club Lists](#) page and check the club or city you are interested in.
- Want to see the shows in your state? Visit the Rock and Gem Magazine's Show page and select the state you are interested in: [Rock and Gem Magazine's Show Page](#)
- Please use the following link to the RMFMS Editor Google Drive to download the January 2022 edition of the Rocky Mountain Federation News: [RMFMS Editor Google Drive](#)
 - The RMFMS Newsletter is also available at [RMFMS.org](#)

About the AFMS - A non-profit educational federation of seven similar regional organizations of gem, mineral and lapidary societies. The purpose of AFMS is to promote popular interest and education in the various Earth Sciences, and in particular the subjects of Geology, Mineralogy, Paleontology, Lapidary and other related subjects, and to sponsor and provide means of coordinating the work and efforts of all persons and groups interested therein; to sponsor and encourage the formation and international development of Societies and Regional Federations and by and through such means to strive toward greater international good will and fellowship. Founded in 1947.

About the RMFMS - A non-profit educational organization. The purpose of the Rocky Mountain Federation is to have a close association of all clubs in the Society to promote the study of earth sciences, including the lapidary arts, the study of fossils and paleontology, and related crafts. The RMFMS was organized in 1941, and held its first annual convention at the Argonaut Hotel in Denver, Colorado. There were 16 organizations in attendance. The RMFMS became one of the original four founders of the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies when it was organized in 1947.



General Assembly/ Christmas Party, Dec 16, 2021



General Assembly 16 Dec 21

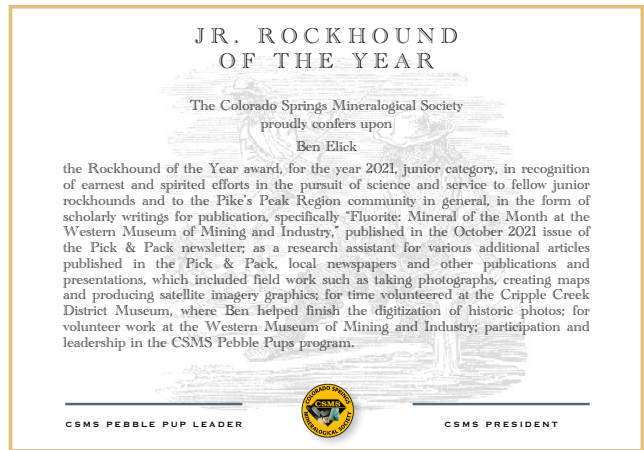
31 rockhounds gathered on a starry night at Mt. Carmel Veteran Center for the general assembly and Christmas party December 16, 2021. We had turkey and ham plus potluck sides that club members brought. VP Rick Jackson led us in nice Christmas sing-alongs and the night ended with a gift exchange. It was a really nice evening spent with fellow rockhounds.



CSMS Rockhounds of the Year 2021

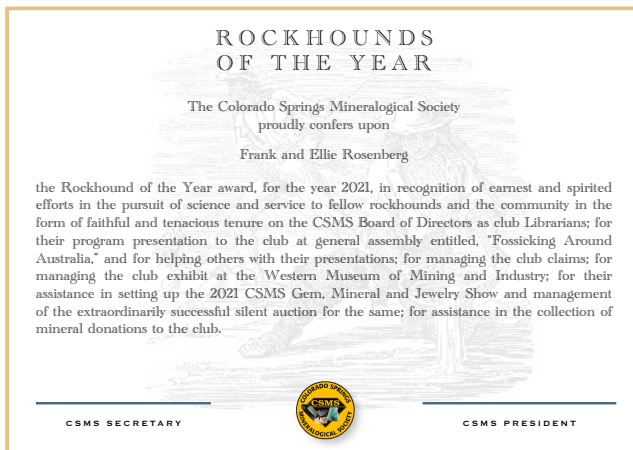
Frank and Ellie Rosenberg, Ben Elick

The Colorado Springs Mineralogical Society proudly confers upon **Ben Elick** the Rockhound of the Year award, for the year 2021, junior category, in recognition of earnest and spirited efforts in the pursuit of science and service to fellow junior rockhounds and to the Pike's Peak Region community in general, in the form of scholarly writings for publication, specifically "Fluorite: Mineral of the Month at the Western Museum of Mining and Industry," published in the October 2021 issue of the *Pick & Pack* newsletter; as a research assistant for various additional articles published in the *Pick & Pack*, local newspapers and other publications and presentations, which included field work such as taking photographs, creating maps and producing satellite imagery graphics; for time volunteered at the Cripple Creek District Museum, where Ben helped finish the digitization of historic photos; for volunteer work at the Western Museum of Mining and Industry; participation and leadership in the CSMS Pebble Pups program.



The Colorado Springs Mineralogical Society proudly confers upon **Frank and Ellie Rosenberg** the Rockhound of the Year award, for the year 2021, in recognition of earnest and spirited efforts in the pursuit of science and service to fellow rockhounds and the community in the form of faithful and tenacious tenure on the CSMS Board of Directors as club Librarians; for their program presentation to the club at

general assembly entitled, "Fossicking Around Australia," and for helping others with their presentations; for managing the club claims; for managing the club exhibit at the Western Museum of Mining and Industry; for their assistance in setting up the 2021 CSMS Gem, Mineral and Jewelry Show and management of the extraordinarily successful silent auction for the same; for assistance in the collection of mineral donations to the club.



CSMS Federation Representative: Opinions and Concerns

Mike Nelson
csrockguy@yahoo.com

CSMS is currently in the midst of electing a slate of officers to lead the club in the coming year. Fortunately, a number of excellent rockhounds have stepped forward to fill the slots and I personally wish to thank all volunteers, especially the Board members. There are also the officers who are not classified as Board members but who are critical cogs in the smooth operation of the Club—such as the Show Chair, Field Trip Coordinator, and the person who rounds up the snacks each meeting (Hospitality Coordinator). The Satellite Group Chairs teach us how to collect fossils or facet crystals or become lapidaries, or teach the inspiring Pebble Pubs and Junior Earth Scholars. A fantastic group of people.

Down at the bottom of the Club list are the Liaisons, members who work with the Science Fair and the Mining Museum and at the very bottom of the list are the two Federation representatives.

Did you ever wonder about the duties of a Federation representative? Probably not, however, here is a little information. I have served as the CSMS Federation representative for several years since I do have an interest in both the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies and the Rocky Mountain Federation of Mineralogical Societies. I try to supply Editor John with some Federation information that might be of interest to club members, and I also chair two different RMFMS committees: the Public Lands Access Committee (PLAC), which each state has a separate chair, and the International Relations Committee (IRC), a committee of 1. Members might remember some of my past Pick & Pack articles on fossil collecting regulations. With the IRC I answer a number of emails each year regarding international collecting or international visitors wanting to collect in the US. In PLAC, I try to

keep abreast of federal and state regulations concerning land use and collecting of both fossils and minerals. At any rate, I also write a report each year about activities of the committees and submit such for use at the annual meetings. The following is a synopsis of my recent report for PLAC.

[Note:] Management of public lands is often a contentious issue. The information provided below is my personal opinion and report as a committee chair. It does not necessarily represent the opinion of CSMS nor the RMFMS.

This has been an interesting year, to say the least. All rockhounds have probably suffered from the effects of the pandemic, perhaps not being ill but suffering due to cancellation of club meetings, shows, other monthly events. I suspect club memberships have declined and certainly the lack of shows has hurt the budgets. However, clubs have become quite innovative in trying to keep the members together. CSMS dropped the membership fees for returning members in 2021, as have several other clubs. Then amazingly a computer program called Zoom suddenly appeared on the market and not only were companies signing in to Zoom in lieu of business travel, rock and mineral clubs found a way to hold monthly meetings and symposia. My first attended symposium was in October 2020 when I Zoomed into the annual Desautels Micromount Symposium held in Baltimore, Maryland.

However, trying to interpret what is going on in the public land arena is much more difficult than Zooming to a club meeting! This difficulty is more due to a change in administration on the national level than the pandemic. In 2020 it appeared that the energy industry was in charge of public lands while rockhounds and small claim owners were drawing the short straw. One never really knew who had authority over parcels of Federal land! Was it being “claimed” by the energy industry or could rockhounds actually get on the land and collect? It was really tough to locate the truth and fully understand what was going on with

the US Forest Service (USFS) and the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). In addition, the hard working, local, federal employees simply were not getting appropriate information coming down the line. Currently land managers are waiting to learn how a new administration handles public lands. In my humble opinion there will be less emphasis on opening lands to mineral and energy exploration, and more emphasis on preserving public lands for the people. Now the big question: what is the place of public recreation on federally managed, and to a lesser extent, state lands? I view the glass as half full while some of my colleagues view it as half empty and note that rockhounding on federal lands will disappear. As an optimist I believe rockhounds now have a great opportunity to convince land managers that we are the “good persons” and will be thrilled to work on developing land use policies with a conservation ethos. Instead of declaring rockhounding on the verge of extinction, I have written the Secretary of Interior, and some of her ranking subordinates, explaining what rockhounds really do when collecting on federal lands. We are not the persons destroying landscapes, knocking down fences, leaving tire tracks in the mountain tundra, and digging unfilled holes. Yes, those sorts of things occur with renegade rock and mineral collectors, those looking for a quick profit in the selling of minerals; however, most destruction is caused by persons who have little regard for public lands and view such lands as their personal playground to desecrate in whatever manner they choose. I have fixed broken fences, and our local club (and most others) are constantly filling holes dug by claim jumpers. Most clubs have a rule: fill a hole left behind before prospecting. Shirley Leeson (CA) was a leader in working with BLM to clear trash near Quartzite. And importantly, rockhounds must stay on approved BLM and USFS roads. Write your congressional members and local federal land managers. Volunteer to help with decision making about appropriate land usage.

Two years ago, then President Donald Trump signed into law the John D. Dingell Jr. Conservation, Management, and Recreation Act (S.47, the Dingell Act). The Act was heralded as the single most important and wide-ranging public lands management law to be passed with bipartisan support in over a decade. The Act:

- Encompassed more than 100 individual bills
- Permanently reauthorized the Land and Water Conservation Fund
- Created new Federal authorities to assist the Department in managing endangered and invasive species
- Called for increasing access to public lands for hunting, fishing, and recreational shooting
- Advanced a wide variety of conservation and recreation initiatives for the American people

I had great hopes that the Act would at least rank rockhounding up there with recreational shooting. However, rockhounding did not even get a mention anywhere in the Act (we do not have a strong congressional lobby). In addition, Interior found ways to skirt certain portions of the Act to benefit persons/ companies other than rockhounds. But there may be a ray of light in the Act---it noted that the Secretary shall administer [certain Federal areas] in accordance with the laws generally applicable to the National Forest System. I believe, at last count, that the USFS allows collecting of rocks and minerals with a free use permit, or sometimes without a permit. The big problem is that the USFS (in my opinion) has not formalized any sort of National Forest collecting regulations. The National and Regional offices, as best I can determine, have left regulations to individual Forests and that has left a state of confusion among collectors. So, it is critical that rockhounds contact individual Forests for information about collecting.

Rockhounds first need to examine Forest web-

sites and if they disagree with regulations, have this information in hand before a personal visit to the office. Collecting fossils is another area of confusion. Collecting of vertebrate fossils on any Federal land is not allowed without a formal permit (essentially you work for a museum and will deposit such collected fossils in a federally approved repository). Collecting invertebrate fossils on USFS land is, as my mother used to say, a bag of worms. I have written several articles on collecting of invertebrate fossils and I don't need to repeat such words in this report. A fossil collector really needs to visit with the USFS local office to understand what they consider critical fossils or common fossils, and ground disturbance, and shovel size, and the need for a permit, etc. Formalized regulations of collecting invertebrates on BLM land is essentially "on hold." However, make certain to visit BLM websites since many/most offices have decided to construct their own rules but most are not as onerous as the USFS regulations. Just be nice to the local offices since most workers are as confused as the collectors. But you should know details about federal laws and be able to present such if questioned by personnel.

Last year I spent much time trying to decipher the Dingell Act (try reading the Federal Register before bedtime!!!). This year I am still trying to understand The National Defense Authorization Act that was passed in December 2020 over a then President Trump veto (this bill was mostly in the news due to renaming of military bases). At first glance I was interested in the section on money laundering and antiquities but then decided that the government's definition of antiquities does not include fossils. The bill originally included some important proposals regarding public lands. One of these land priorities was found in Senate 823, the "Colorado Outdoor Recreation and Economy (CORE) Act," which would guarantee the state about 73,000 acres in newly designated wilderness and around 80,000 acres of new recreation and

conservation management areas. This section failed to pass due to concerns about the bill's prohibition on new oil and gas development on Colorado's Thompson Divide.

Another conservation priority, the "Protecting America's Wilderness Act," was also not included in the NDAA final bill. The legislation, House Resolution 2546, was a package of six individual bills crafted to protect nearly 1.3 million acres of wilderness and designate more than 1,000 miles of rivers across Colorado, California, and Washington state. Negotiators also did not approve a House provision that would have permanently banned new mining claims around Grand Canyon National Park. However, President Biden has endorsed the continued ban on the mining (uranium). Then there is the continued confusion about Grand Staircase Escalante & Bears Ears National Monuments. Most remember that former President Trump greatly reduced the size of both monuments and created a firestorm. President Biden then commissioned a committee to examine the issue, and recently restored the monuments to near the original size.

In my personal opinion, the collecting of rocks and minerals in this area of the country, call it Four Corners Region, (mostly varieties of silica) has been confused with collecting of Native American artifacts - everything has been lumped together. If a rockhound was out collecting jasper would they pick up an "arrowhead"? I can't answer that question; therefore, it is much easier to simply ban all collecting. Rockhounds are also often lumped with renegade OHV riders and get blamed for creating new trails. Rockhounds do not have any sort of a congressional/land manager lobby and therefore, very few decision makers know much about our hobby, nor do they really care. I certainly don't have answers to my many questions. But again, I suggest rockhounds continue to contact land managers and congressional delegations to express your opinions and concerns.

General Assembly Jan 20, 2022 with Javier Alcaraz

RARE EARTH ELEMENTS AND WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

By Javier Alcaraz



General Assembly 20 Jan 22

Rockhounds gathered for CSMS general assembly 20 Jan 22, 7 PM at Mt. Carmel Veteran Center. Club member and School of Mines Alumnus **Javier Alcaraz** gave an informative talk about rare Earth elements: what are they, where are they and what are they good for. Afterward, the new CSMS board of officers was installed and “sworn” in (more of a promise than a swear). At the end of the meeting, CSMS president John Massie conducted the usual free drawing for gems and minerals. Thanks to club members A-L for refreshments! Thanks to Javier for the amazing talk!



Below: The newly installed 2022 CSMS board of officers





Next Pebble Pup Meeting: 2/17/22 5:30 PM - 6:15 PM, followed by the General Meeting at 7 PM.

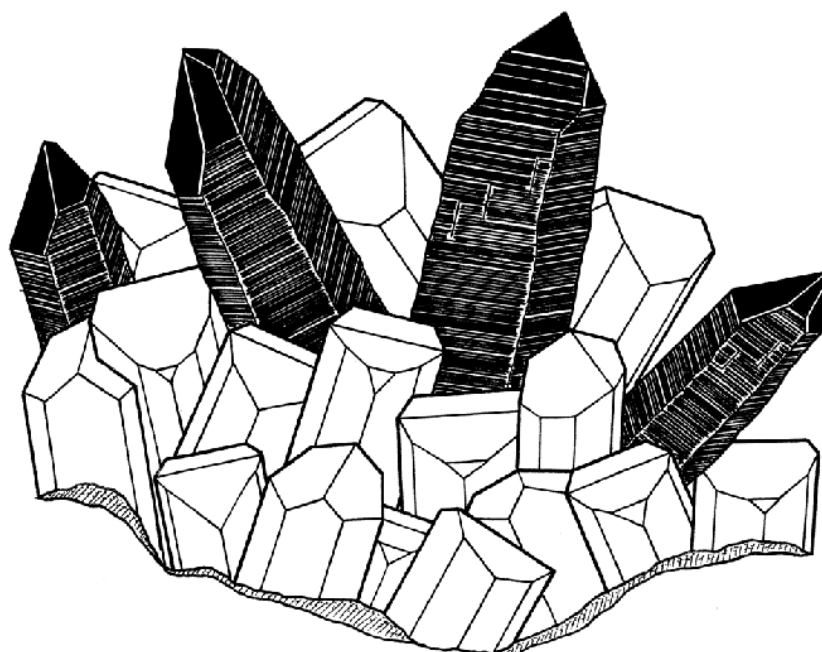
The topic will be “Colorado Past to Present Earth History Minerals and More.” We are kicking off an Art Contest this month - draw your favorite mineral, rock, fossil, dinosaur, or make up something not yet found like from Mars. Turn it in for a free prize and winner will be show-cased in the *Pick & Pack* newsletter. Treats and samples will be offered as well. See ya there!

Pebble Pups and Earth Science Scholars 2022

We had a great meeting in January with the Pups and Scholars on Geology with a large selection of minerals, rocks, and fossils for hands on learning. Western Mining Museum Geology Day on 1/22 was so much fun and we met a lot of great visitors in such a great environment. As a member of the CSMS, the museum is free with your membership card. Special thank you to John Massie our President for supporting our outreach program all day. We made so many friends and created some new opportunities for future club events.

It is not too late to submit a poem on Earth Science, but time is running out for submitting in March for state and national contests.

**** NEWS FLASH – Steve Veatch** will be coming in March to teach a lesson for the Pups and Scholars on Fossil Collecting in the Field.



Color me and guess the Colorado Mineral



A Cripple Creek Profile: William James Hosley

Steven Wade Veatch

Looking for a fresh start, William James Hosley came to the goldfields of the Cripple Creek mining district in Colorado at the dawn of the 20th century. He brought his young bride with him, set up a home in the thin mountain air, and went to work in one of the celebrated mines of Cripple Creek in the summer of 1900. This is his story.

On a wintry Christmas night in 1869, William Hosley was born in a log cabin—across the road from the Hosley family farm—near Howell, Michigan, to Elijah B. and Nancy M. Lawther Hosley. Hosley was born in the cabin because the original farmhouse had burned down and was being rebuilt. The Hosley family farm was in Livingston County, Oceola Township, Michigan, about 4.5 miles from Howell, the county seat.

The young William Hosley attended the Kneeland school, a country school about a mile north of their farm, where his mother taught school. After Hosley graduated from Howell High School, he attended the Cleary Business School in Ypsilanti, Michigan.

Following his business school classes, Hosley worked as a shoe salesman for a short period with his cousin, Frederick Hosley. That job did not pan out; so in 1897, he left Howell and traveled out west to Colorado, where he visited his second cousin, Eva Lawther Parker and her husband, Clarence E. Parker. Clarence Parker lived in Ward and worked as the hoistman at the Modoc mine near Ward. Eva lived in Boulder so their two daughters could attend high school. Both Eva and Clarence Parker were also from Howell, Michigan.



Fig 1: Modoc gold mine and mill near Ward, Colorado. Clarence Parker worked in this mine, and his stories of mining encouraged William Hosley to become a miner. Photo date 1894. Unknown photographer.

Photo courtesy of the Carnegie Library for Local History/Museum of Boulder collection.

William Hosley stayed with Clarence Parker in Ward. After Hosley arrived there, Parker talked him into becoming a miner. Parker helped Hosley get a job at the Modoc mine, and this was the start of his mining career.

During Hosley's stay in Ward, he met Parker's daughter, Jennie E. Parker (Hosley's third cousin) when she came from Boulder to help her father with housekeeping.



Fig 2: William Hosley on his wedding day, July 6, 1900, in Denver, Colorado. Unknown photographer. From the private collection of Kathleen Liddy.

Hosley didn't court Jennie for very long. It was summer, and their romance swept them along to their wedding day. Hosley and Jennie were married in Denver on July 6, 1900. Jennie was 17; Hosley was 30. He was an energetic young man with a sharp sense of his future.

While working at the Modoc mine, Hosley would surely have heard the news coming from Cripple Creek, the "World's Greatest Gold Camp." As Hosley thought about the exciting tales of gold mines, jobs, and limitless opportunities, he grew restless. He could not resist the call of the glittering gold fields of Cripple Creek, and soon after his wedding, he and Jennie moved to the gold camp.

William Hosley and his wife settled in the town of Independence, one of more than a dozen camps in the Cripple Creek mining district. Hosley then started work as a miner at the nearby Vindicator mine. He quickly fell into the routine of his job, and each day brought him a sense of purpose.



Fig 3: Jennie and William Hosley stand on the porch in front of their home in Independence. William holds a cigar in his right hand and a miner's lunch bucket in his left as he gets ready for a shift at the Vindicator mine. Photo date circa 1900. Unknown photographer. From the Kathleen Liddy collection, courtesy of the Cripple Creek District Museum.



Fig 4: Sterling Elijah Hosley, born August 12, 1901, in the Cripple Creek mining district. Unknown photographer. From the Kathleen Liddy collection, courtesy of the Cripple Creek District Museum.

At 17 years old, Jennie Hosley set up housekeeping with immense pride—she had a home of her own and a husband with a steady job at the *Vindicator*. In the winter of 1900, she was pregnant with her first child when she contracted smallpox. Despite her health struggles, she gave birth to a healthy boy, Sterling Elijah Hosley, on August 12, 1901. The arrival of little Sterling crowned her happiness.

Independence was platted in a ravine in 1894 and soon became a popular place for miners and their families to live (Taylor, 1966). By 1900, when Hosley arrived, 1,500 people lived in Independence, mainly in roughly built, one-story lumber houses (Sprague, 1953). Montgomery Avenue was the main street, and 11 other streets filled the roughly square boundary of the town (MacKell, 2003).

The bustling town's business buildings were made of wooden boards with false fronts. Businesses included an assayer, jeweler, photographer, and one physician. They also included a drugstore, a grocery, a meat market, one restaurant, two saloons, and a lumber mill. The town had a boardinghouse and two hotels (MacKell, 2016). Mrs. Mamie Crook ran the Hotel Montgomery, and she advertised a “nice home for miners, good board and clean rooms at reasonable rates” (MacKell, 2016).

Independence was the site of a major ore loading rail yard. Locomotives made it a noisy place with their pistons chuffing, whistles blasting, and brakes squealing. Switch engines and crews traveled around to the various mines and mills and switched ore cars out—pulling the loaded ore cars away and replacing them with empty cars. The switch crew would then assemble loaded



Fig 5: The town of Independence, Colorado looking northwest. Photo date 1897, by Webster and Yelton, photographers. Courtesy of the Cripple Creek District Museum. CCDMA82.

ore cars into a train that delivered the ore to a mill. Hosley surely would have felt the deep rumbling of a train pulling loaded ore cars as it rolled by. He no doubt noticed locomotives belching plumes of thick black smoke, soot, and cinders and the smell of coal and hot valve oil as the trains passed through town. And then there was the odor of freshly applied creosote that covered the wooden railroad ties. The Midland Terminal Railway provided passenger service and stopped at the depot on First and Montgomery (MacKell, 2003).



Fig 6: Gold ore specimen that William Hosley collected from a tailings dump near the Vindicator mine. Visible gold, from roasting the sample, appears on the specimen. Ruler in centimeters. From the private collection of Kathleen Liddy. Photo date 2021 by S. Veatch.



Fig 7: Another Vindicator mine gold ore specimen that William Hosley collected and roasted. Note the gold bubbles indicated by the red arrow on the surface of the rock. Field of view is 2.5 cm. From the private collection of Kathleen Liddy. Photo date 2021 by S. Veatch.

The Vindicator mine, where Hosley worked, was next to the town of Independence. He worked at shaft number one, or the main shaft. The Vindicator was the fourth largest producer in the Cripple Creek mining district, and its underground workings reached a depth of 2,150 feet (Sprague, 1953).

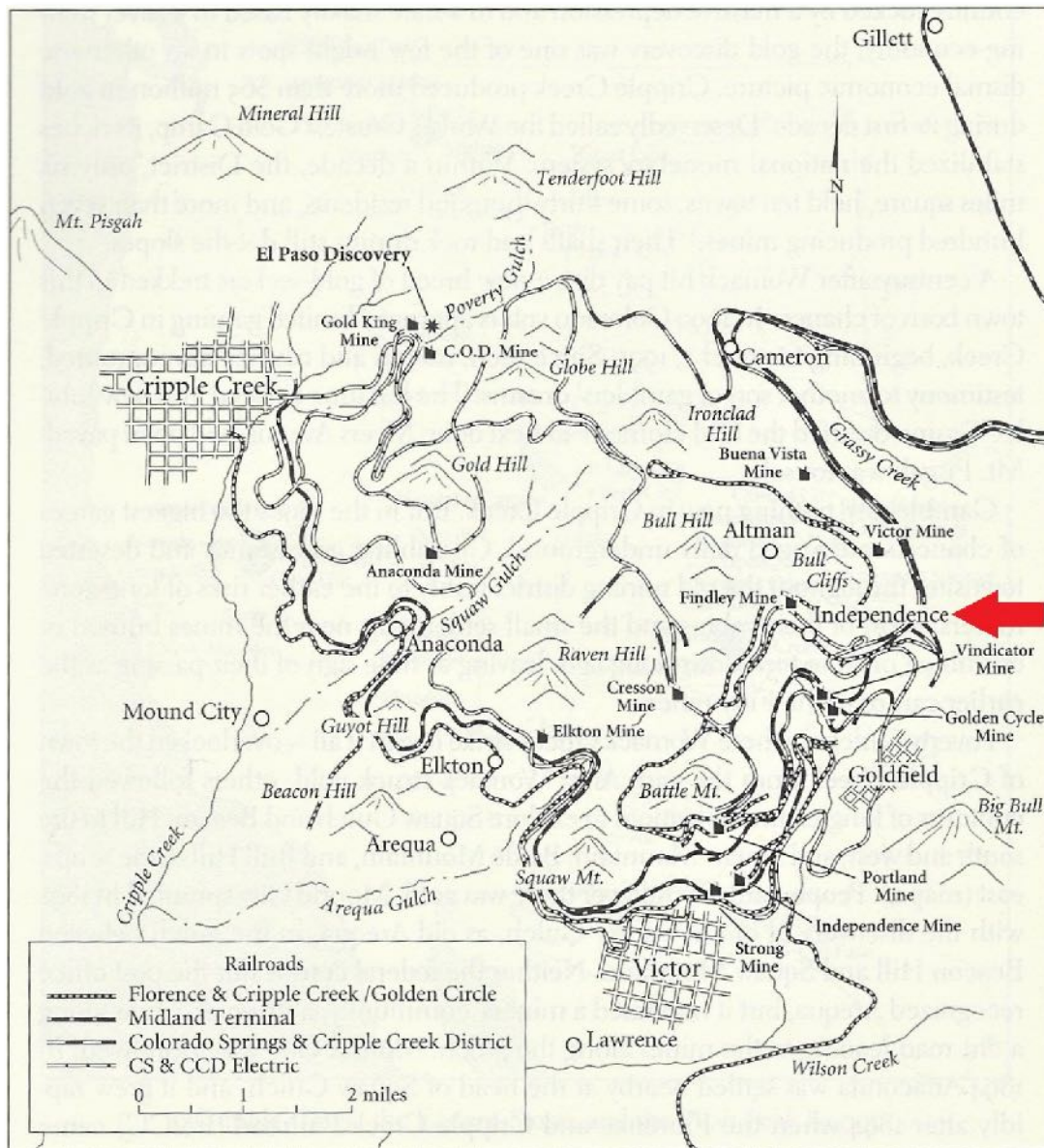


Fig 8: Map of the Cripple Creek mining district. A red arrow points to the town of Independence. The Vindicator mine is directly below the arrow. From Jameson, 1998.

Continued ...



Fig 9: Vindicator shaft number two in upper left foreground and shaft number one, the main shaft, in the background. The town of Independence is below the Vindicator property. False-fronted businesses are built into the mine tailings. Photo date circa 1900. Unknown photographer. *From the Lodi Hern collection, courtesy of the Cripple Creek District Museum.*



Fig 10: A Cripple Creek panorama circa 1900. Photographer unknown. *Courtesy of the Cripple Creek District Museum CCDM A82 5.*

Gold production in the Cripple Creek mining district peaked around 1900—the year that Hosley came to the district—with production valued at \$18 million for that year (Taylor, 1966). The Cripple Creek Times reported that 55,000 people were living in the district in 1900. Cripple Creek had 25,000, Victor had 12,000, and 11 other towns scattered around the district had populations that ranged from a few hundred to over 2,500 people (Sprague, 1953). On Sunday mornings, the district's churches were full, and during the week, nearly 4,000 students attended the district's 19 schools. Men worked the mines day and night; merchants were busy selling their wares while papers were printing the news. Saloons filled with miners who bet on spinning roulette wheels and played faro or poker. Outside entertainment included boxing, horse racing, and baseball (Taylor, 1966). The Fourth of July ran for three days—the third, fourth, and fifth. There were parades each day. Men exploded boxes of dynamite to celebrate, while rock drilling contests went on in some towns in the district.

Sometimes the exciting gold rush days of Cripple Creek turned into violent nights. Hosley surely read the headlines about Sam Strong, a district mining millionaire, who owned a mining claim near the Independence mine. On August 22, 1901, there was a disturbance in the Newport Saloon on Bennett Avenue in Cripple Creek. Grant Crumley, co-owner of the saloon, was tending bar when he quarreled with Sam Strong. Crumley then blasted Strong in the face with a sawed-off shotgun. Strong fell to the floor and blood pooled around his head. The stinging smell of gun smoke filled the room as men gathered around the body in somber silence. The Sheriff charged Crumley with murder. Crumley pleaded self-defense, and a jury acquitted him. Grant, and his brothers Sherman and Newt, were thought to have been members of the notorious Dalton gang before they came to Cripple Creek (Sprague, 1953). Once in Cripple Creek, the Crumleys robbed trains, jumped drunks in dark alleys, and took part in other criminal activities (Sprague, 1953). Hosley must have thought about the dangers of raising his children in the district's wild gold-rush atmosphere.

And there were perils underground. Hosley worked 100s of feet below the surface of the Vindicator mine, where he trudged through claustrophobic tunnels. He toiled amid creaking timbers and dripping water. Grime stained his clothes from the damp and muddy places he worked. The blackness of the mine swallowed the flickering light of his candle. The roar of blasting and the deafening racket of pneumatic drills shook him. The acrid fumes of dynamite blasts and rock dust from drilling filled the air, making him cough. Despite these conditions, he came to work to earn his paltry pay of three dollars a day.

Cripple Creek mines were dangerous, and there were many ways to be killed or injured, both underground and on the surface. There were rock falls, cave-ins, explosions from un-ignited rounds of dynamite, and accidents with machinery. Toxic gases brought death. Hosley risked his life daily in one of the most dangerous of all occupations. He likely wondered from time to time whether he would make it out of the mine alive.

In the spring of 1902, at the end of a long day digging gold in the dim light of the mine, Hosley decided he wanted to move back to his home state of Michigan. He quit his job at the Vindicator, packed up, got on the train with his wife and son Sterling, and moved to the green

fields of his parent's farm near Howell, Michigan. Hosley no doubt struggled with raising a family in the gold camp, and he must have been relieved to return to his home in Michigan.

The days of mining were behind Hosley as he stepped off the train in Howell. With Jennie and Sterling, he traveled down a country road, with corn fields on either side, on his way to his family's farm. He became a farmer and helped his father. The Hosley family had named their place the Spring Valley Farm because there were springs on the property. They piped cold water from a spring into a long trough that went inside the milk house. Hosley and his father put cans of milk in the trough to keep them cold until the milk truck arrived to pick the cans up. Hosley and his father worked the 330-acre farm, raising crops of hay, oats, corn, and beans, along with livestock such as shorthorn cattle, horses, Shropshire sheep, hogs, and chickens. It was a busy place.



Fig 11: The Hosley family farm, known as the Spring Valley Farm, on Fisher Road, Oceola Township, Livingston County, Michigan. Photo date circa 1920s. Unknown photographer. From the private collection of Kathleen Liddy.

By 1915, William and Jennie had nine healthy children, five boys and four girls. All except Sterling were born on the family farm. Hosley said to his friends he had enough children for his own baseball team—the “Hosley nine.” All the children had chores to do on the farm.

Jennie's father, Clarence Parker, stayed in Colorado for the rest of his life. Jennie's mother, Eva, worked as a housekeeper in Boulder, until she moved to California where she lived out her remaining years.

William and Jennie celebrated their 25th anniversary July 6, 1925, at home on the Hosley Farm. Some of the children who were there became ill with scarlet fever, so they quarantined everyone for the summer.

In January 1927, Hosley suffered from his annual attack of pleurisy. He treated his illness by swabbing iodine on his side. However, he became sicker, developed pneumonia, and died on Jan. 27, 1927, the same year two of his children graduated from Howell High School. Jennie died Jan. 25, 1972, at a retirement home in Chelsea, Michigan. She was 89 years old.



Fig 12: William and Jennie's nine children posing in an undated cyanotype. From left to right in the back row: Roger, Katherine, Clarence, Sterling, Robert (sitting on a small table) Margaret, and Martha. In the front row is Henrietta and Wilfred. Photo date 1916, Emile Bode, photographer. *From the Kathleen Liddy's private collection.*

Sterling, born in the goldfields of Colorado, was an insurance agent for Citizens Mutual Insurance Company in East Lansing. He contracted tuberculosis and suffered from its debilitating effects. In those days, there was no cure for tuberculosis. The treatment was fresh air. Sterling returned to Howell to stay at a sanatorium. Life and energy drained away from him, and he died in 1944 at the age of 43.

Roger Hosley (third child) was the last Hosley descendant to own the Hosley farm, which had been in the family for over 100 years. Roger sold the family farm in 1967, and the farm was subdivided into lots. Private homes now break up the old farmland.

William Hosley's days in Cripple Creek are gone, like pollen scattered on a breeze. He was there during the last part of Cripple Creek's golden age. Today, the district would be unrecognizable to him. With his wife's help, Hosley went on to become a successful farmer and raise nine children. Work on the farm planned his life like a railroad timetable and defined the rest of his days.

The artistry of time, family memories, archival records, and old photographs have revealed an intriguing story of William Hosley, who shared for a time in the brotherhood of hard rock miners in Cripple Creek, "the World's Greatest Gold Camp."

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John Emery
Editor

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UTAH (May 21-26) 5 different areas and if you find something and want to stay there you can by notifying leader. You could spend a week at any area as they are large.

1 day: Grand Junction for barite

2 days: Yellow Cat for agate, red-wood, and barite pseudomorphs, black/white wood, anything else you might find

2 days: San-Rafael swell or reef Celestine, grape agate

1 day: Crystal Geyser (6 miles out of Green River) travertine, "buttons" precipitated out of the overflow geyser goes off 2-3 days- not predictable (may go 4-5 miles further to look for more barite pseudomorphs as there is the Morrison formation that way. I only scouted it once as was told it was there also and found a few as it was late and fellow that lives a mile from the geyser told me about it but I was limited on time. There is a state park in Green River.

Contact: marjory.regel@yahoo.com



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