



Colorado Springs Mineralogical Society

Founded in 1936

— Lazard Cahn —
Honorary President

"Pick & Pack"
Vol 61 Number 8
Oct 2021



CSMS General Assembly

Thursday, October 21, 2021 7:00 PM

Mt. Carmel Veterans Center

GUEST SPEAKERS:

Frank and Ellie Rosenberg
"Fossicking Around Australia"

**** Members with last name A-L bring refreshments ****
In case of inclement weather please call Mt. Carmel Veteran's
Service Center 719-309-4714



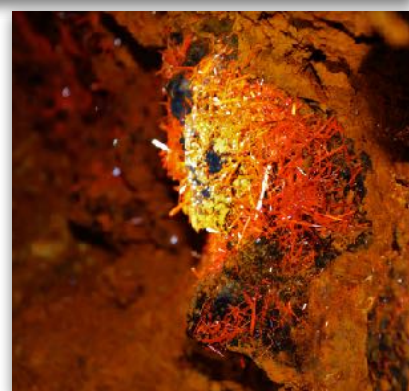
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Frank and Ellie Rosenberg - "Fossicking Around Australia"



Wondering what on Earth these specimens might be (especially bottom right)? Find out at the next CSMS General Assembly October 21, 2021 with club Librarians Frank and Ellie Rosenberg. They will present their story of rock hounding around Australia from July 2019 through March 2020. Join us!



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

CSMS Calendar

Oct '21 Nov '21

5 Oct	2 Nov	Fossil Group	1st Tues	7:00 PM	TBD	Jerry Suchan	303-648-3410
7 Oct	4 Nov	Board Meeting	1st Thur	6:00 PM	Zoom	John Massie	719-338-4276
21 Oct	18 Nov	Pebble Pups	3rd Thur	5:30 PM	Mt. Carmel Center	David St. John	719-213-1475
21 Oct	18 Nov	General Assy Meeting	3rd Thur	7:00 PM	Mt. Carmel Center	John Massie	719-338-4276
28 Oct	25 Nov	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	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

Other CSMS Events

None

Community Events (P. Modreski)

Oct 8: 7:00 PM; Denver Gem and Mineral Guild Silent Auction, at Wheat Ridge United Methodist Church, in the gym, 7530 W 38th Ave. (38th and Wadsworth), Wheat Ridge, CO. Board Meeting 6:00 pm, General Meeting & Auction 7:00 PM. Looking for a great deal on some gently used rocks, minerals, jewelry and lapidary equipment? Join us for our annual silent auction. Visitors Welcome!

Oct 9: 9:00 AM; Lake George Gem & Mineral Club meeting; program: The Crystal Peak Amazonite-Smoky Quartz Locality, Teller and Park Counties, Colorado (1873-1986), by Mark Ivan Jacobson. All are welcome! The club meets at the Lake George Community Center, north side of US 24 on the east edge of town (shares a building with the county highway shops). The abstract of Mark's talk promises a very good presentation about the early history of the Crystal Peak area!

Dec 10-12: Flatirons Gem & Mineral Show, Boulder County Fairgrounds, Longmont CO. Sponsored by the Flatirons Mineral Club, Boulder, CO; see www.flatironsmineralclub.org.

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



Secretary's Spot

2021 CSMS Officers

John Massie, President

Rick Jackson, Vice-President

Vacant, 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

2021 CSMS Chairpersons

Rick Jackson, Program Coordinator

John Massie, Show Vol Coordinator

Vacant, 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 Representative

Vacant, Federation Representative

Meeting Minutes

Colorado Springs Mineralogical Society

CSMS General Assembly Minutes

September 16, 2021

The meeting was called to order by CSMS President John Massie at 7:10 PM.

Vice President Rick Jackson gave a very interesting talk on collecting fossils in Saudi Arabia. He also brought many interesting specimens with him to show everyone.

We had 23 members attend the meeting. We gave out 6 mineral specimens.

President John Massie announced that it was time for the Pebble Pups/Earth science scholars to begin working for writing contests if they want to.

We also need a nominating committee to be formed for the November elections for the 2022 year board of directors. Interested parties can contact John Massie.

Sharon Holte presented President John Massie with a CSMS belt buckle donated by Dick's Rock Shop. This is for the president to wear to meetings and other club functions.

The need for volunteers at the gem show was brought up again!

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40

Minutes: J. Massie



President's Corner

John Massie
CSMS President



2021 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

2021 Liaisons

Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument:
Steven Veatch
Western Museum of Mining and History:
Steven Veatch



Presidential Matters



A message from CSMS President John Massie:

I want to thank all the volunteers who helped make this year's Pikes Peak Gem, Mineral and Jewelry show a success. I really want to thank our Show Chairman, Lisa Cooper for an outstanding job organizing the show. This year was extremely challenging because we had to change the show dates and deal with COVID.

I also want to remind members that the election for board of directors will be held in November, I still need volunteers for the nominating committee. The nominations need to be presented to the membership at the October general assembly meeting, October 21, 2021.

Finally, I also want to thank the volunteers who led all the successful 2021 field trips to our claims and other collecting sites.

John Massie
CSMS President





Federation News Post

American Federation of Mineralogical Societies
Rocky Mountain Federation of Mineralogical Societies



American Federation Convention and Show

- 2022, Jan 29 - 30 - Tyler TX

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 United States on-line.



Future RMFMS Convention Locations

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

Local Club Shows

- To let other clubs in our federation know about your upcoming show, [send an email to the Newsletter 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](#)

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.

Cripple Creek High Grader has Change of Heart

By Steven Wade Veatch

Cripple Creek.
Colo.
July 25-96

Mr. Dandignac P.O. Box 53

Mr. Morse.
Treasurer of Union Mining Co

Please find enclosed a gold stud
I took the gold out of the Porcupine
mine. 85. There is 4.00 worth that is all I ever took
except a specimen of quartz about the size of a
walnut and I gave that is back east
but I have taken God at his word and have
found Peace & my soul. and I find that a true
follower of Christ can't wear much gold. and
especially if he gets it this way. for this has
robbed me of my Peace for three months
so I hope you except the stud as an
atonement for the crime

Yours Very Respectfully
Geo. T. Dandignac

Above: A letter (dated July 25, 1896) to Mr. Morse, treasurer of the Union Gold Mining Company, from George Dandignac, a Cripple Creek miner. His letter was about gold ore stolen from the Porcupine mine. Source: Dandignac, 1896.

Cripple Creek is Colorado's most famous and storied gold camp. High-grading, or the theft of gold ore by miners who worked in Cripple Creek's gold mines, was rampant. These miners were called "high-graders," and they sneaked out small pieces of rich ore in their hair, secret pockets in their clothes, boots, toolboxes, lunch pails, and anywhere else they could (Veatch, et al. 2017). Many people were involved in high grading—from those who stole the ore to those who bought it—assayers, bank tellers, and merchants (Sprague, 1979). It was a dilemma that mine owners had to deal with constantly.

A letter, written by a high grader, was recently found in the Union Gold Mining Company's collection of correspondence at the Western Museum of Mining and Industry in Colorado Springs. The letter was addressed to the company treasurer. In the letter, the writer, George Dandignac, confessed that he took some ore from the Porcupine mine during the month of June 1895. Dandignac wrote

that a year later he found God, and that he was compelled to return it "as an atonement for the crime." The high grade was returned with the letter. Dandignac also confessed to stealing a specimen of quartz the size of a walnut but could not return it as it was "back east."

This crumbling letter, more than 12 decades old, attests to how Dandignac's newly found faith produced such an amendment of his life that he could not keep his ill-gotten gold.

References and further reading:

Dandignac, G. T., Letter to Mr. Morse. 25 July 1896. Union Gold Mining Papers, Western Museum of Mining and Industry, Colorado Springs. Manuscript.

Sprague, M., 1979, Money Mountain: Lincoln, University of Nebraska Press, p. 205.

Veatch, S.W., B. Elick, and J. Salvat, 2017, Cripple Creek High Grading: The Untold Stories. 38th Annual New Mexico Mineral Symposium, Socorro, NM, November 11-12, 2017, Program with Abstracts. New Mexico Bureau of Geology and Mineral Resources. pp. 26-28.

Trip Report: Sublette County Rock Hounds' Gem and Mineral Show 2021

Mike Nelson
csrockguy@gmail.com



Last year (2020), in the middle of the pandemic, the Rocky Mountain Federation of Mineralogical Societies (RMFMS) was forced to scramble after their scheduled meeting location closed shop due to state regulations. Other regional Federations faced the same big questions and decisions loomed—cancel the meetings, postpone the meetings, or find new locations (in a hurry). In an amazingly short period of time the Sublette County Rockhounds (Wyoming), with Jim and Leane Grey at the rudder, invited RMFMS to Big Piney in the western part of the state for the convention and show. I guess the local rockhounds figured that the wide-open spaces would not allow the COVID 19 critters to congregate. By all accounts the events were well attended and participants came away “happy.” Hosts of the 2020 American Federation of

Mineralogical Societies (AFMS) also needed to back out so a ZOOM meeting was held although a quorum was not reached, and official business could not be conducted.

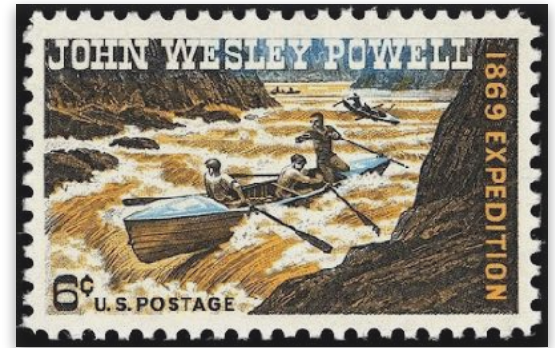
But back to Wyoming. The first thing that most RMFMS members needed to ask themselves was “Where in the world is Big Piney, Wyoming?” It turns out that, as a local cowboy told me in the café, in a fast pickup and no big animals on the road, we can make it to Jackson in an hour and a half, a little less time if you are needing medical help. Jackson is 92 miles northwest of Big Piney.

Move forward a year and decision time was again at the table and host cities were backing out, mostly due to state rules and regulations. Guess what? Along came the Sublette County Rockhounds (with Jim and Leane still at the helm) with an offer to host the 2021 RMFMS show and convention, and oh by the way, you might as well throw in the AFMS hoopla. The more the merrier. Well, the Federations could not turn down an offer like that so here we come.



Although I could not attend in 2020, I made early plans to haul my travel trailer over the mountains and across the plains to Big Piney (I knew Bill Smith from Kansas would do the same). I actually had been to the area before—in the summer of 1969 I worked for Texaco out of Casper and another geologist and I drove over to “check out the rocks.” I remember little else about the town. In addition, I came close several other times since my professional paleontological fieldwork in southwestern Wyoming extended to north of Kemmerer (the town is 70 miles south of Big Piney).

So off we went from Colorado Springs traversing the interstate from Hades (construction on I-35 from the Springs to north of Fort Collins) jerking a 38-foot 5th wheel. Wow. Overnight in a campground in Cheyenne, a second cup of coffee in Laramie, and we were off to the races on I-80 along with several thousand 18-wheelers that were heading to the west coast. Unfortunately, as the journey resumed west to Rock Springs another construction project, 18 miles of rough single lane with the trucks, was far from enjoyable. Crossing the Green River at Green River, Wyoming, reminded me of one of my heroes, John Wesley Powell, who disembarked at that point in 1869 on his epic journey to, and through, the Grand Canyon.



Above: Stamp published in 1969 by the U.S. Postal Service to commemorate Powell's first journey down the Green and Colorado Rivers.



Above: Citadel Rock Butte, Green River Wyoming, 1868. Albumen print by Andrew J. Russell showing construction of a railroad bridge across the Green River. The area is the Type Locality of the famous (fossilized fish and oil shale reserves) Green River Formation (mostly Eocene in age) and all rocks in the print are of the Formation. The Butte is still an impressive site along I-80. *Photo: Public Domain from the Library of Congress Prints and Photographs division under the digital ID ppmsca.03147.*

Finally, near the town of Green River we left the I-80 and headed north through some country where you could actually enjoy the rocks and landscape without fearing for your life traveling with the trucks. On the two-lane without traffic, I tried to imagine what it was like for fur trappers who were heading north in the early 1800s to the big rendezvous on the Green River.

Continued ...

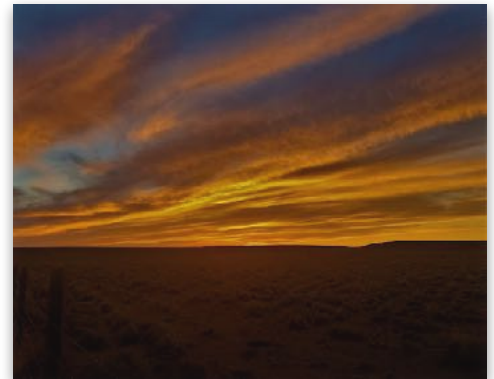


Above: Annual rendezvous of Rocky Mountain trappers. *Original sketch: Oregon Trail Museum.*
Photo: Public Domain courtesy of U.S National Park Service and Scott's Bluff National Monument.

Finally, there it was---Big Piney, much like I remembered---without a single pine tree, big or small. I had to stop and ask a local about the fairgrounds, home of the show and convention. Little did I know that one had to proceed through both Marbleton and Big Piney to locate the mass of fairground buildings. An amazing setup for what must be a large county fair.

Unfortunately, Marbleton and Big Piney (within a half mile of each other) have suffered like many other small rural towns---businesses have pulled up stakes and moved on. What they left behind was one small eating establishment. Fortunately, this café served some of the best Mexican style food in

Wyoming. Another business that survived is Jim and Leane's rock shop in Marbleton---what a pleasant surprise and enjoyment. Be certain to stop in if you are in the area.



Above: There may not be Pine Trees in Big Piney; however, the sunsets are spectacular over the sagebrush steppe.



Above: The eatin' place in Big Piney.
Photo: courtesy of Frank Tank.

The number of campsites at the fairground is quite large as I suppose the cowpokes attending the fair events need hookups for their horse trailers/sleepers. The Show RVs were simply backed up to a barbwire (bobwire in the vernacular) fence and were awakened by "mooring" cattle in the morning.

Although the fairgrounds did not have a permanent eating establishment, two or three food trucks served the show visitors. And speaking of visitors, I was amazed at the number of people of all ages who trekked across the country to see the

rocks and minerals. I talked to one family who made a 100-mile (one way) trip to see the show---"heck, not far at all for some entertainment." Reminds me of my early hometown in Kansas.

Since this was both a RMFMS and AFMS get together I attended a number (well, actually there were just a few) of Federation meetings. I will leave explanations and results of these meetings to the officers. I headed for Colorado after the Sunday morning breakfast and awards presentations for writing and newsletters.

I must say that CSMS came out a big winner in both RMFMS and AFMS contests. Our local Society has a fantastic *Pick & Pack* editor - John Emery.



Above: A hog at the Sublette County Fair "Hog Show."
Photo: courtesy of Joan Mitchell.



Above: Since Big Piney is close to the fossil fish digs near Kemmerer several dealers had many nice Eocene specimens for sale.



Above: The Wyoming State Gemstone is jade of the variety nephrite, a calcium magnesium silicate varying in composition from actinolite to tremolite (an amphibole). Most Wyoming jade is some sort of green but blue, brown, black, and white specimens are rare.



Above: Fossil Butte National Monument is not far from Big Piney and the Ranger staff offered a nice display and explanation.



Above: The local club excelled in offering fun opportunities for the younger rockhounds to explore and learn about Geology.





Above: Flintknappers always draw an audience.



Above: The silent auction is a popular fundraiser for the local club.

During the shows and meetings, I kept gazing east across the sagebrush and the valley of the Green River to the Wind River Mountains. This section of Wyoming has fascinated me since kiddom as I read a voluminous number of books and articles on the early fur trappers and their rendezvous along this section of the Green. As a geologist I was always interested in the large number of mountain glaciers still present on the flanks of the peaks. The Winds have the largest number of glaciers still alive in the lower 48 and Gannett Peak has the largest of these remaining glaciers. As a result, the glacial topography presents a textbook study that beginning students can easily understand—horns, arêtes, cirques, etc. carved into the Precambrian granite. Although there are no 14-ers in the Winds, Gannett Peak at 13,809 ft is the highest point in the state of Wyoming. Coming in second at 13,775 ft is the much better-known Grand Teton. After that the next highest 19 Wyoming peaks are all located in the Winds. It is truly a magnificent mountain range; unfortunately, I have explored very little of the topography (always spending my time wandering around Utah and Colorado).

Although I came to Big Piney for the meetings, deep down in my heart I came to see the headwaters lakes of the Green River! This particular area in the Winds has been on my bucket list for over a half century! I had been close before but no bingo. This time I was going to check it out, and so I did.

From Big Piney one travels north to Cora and east towards Pinedale before turning north on WY 352 for about 50 miles. Approximately half is paved, and half is washboard bumpy gravel, but all is scenic as one follows the Green River to its source, a lake backed up behind a glacial moraine with a magnificent mountain called Squaretop Mountain (11,695 ft) at the far end. WOW, what a view. So inspiring. There are several small lakes in the source valley that are fed by glacier meltwater; however, the lake “at the end of the road” is usually referred to as the source of the Green. BTW, there is a nifty little sandwich shop in Daniel on the way to the lake—take advantage, your last, before starting the 50-mile stretch.

Continued ...



Above: Thirty miles below the source lakes the Green River meanders along in a wide valley.



Above: Squaretop and the lake.

So, it finally happened and was made so much better by the company of two friends from Salt Lake City (the dinosaur ladies) and my spouse. Another checkoff on the list. How many more bucket list spots can I make that check mark? Don't know.

A different route was selected for the trip back home—different rocks and landscapes for an ole geologist to peek at. I wanted to see again the sagebrush steppe of the vast Wyoming Basin (actually composed of a number of smaller basins). I had camped before on the Big Sandy River near the southern end of the Winds while on a field trip looking for fossils in Eocene rocks. In addition, the area along the Big Sandy has the largest herd of migrating pronghorns in the U.S. (I only observed small groups or individuals).

At Rock Springs it was back to truck infested I-80 until WY789/CO13 turned south towards Craig, Colorado, and our campground along the Yampa River. Decades ago, in my oil finding days, I had been through Baggs, Wyoming, on the state line. If anything, this small oil community has, shall I say, gone downhill. It was not a pleasant experience when, on this traveling Sunday, I blew the sidewall out of one of the 5th wheel tires. No indeed, not a pleasant experience; however, I got it changed and limped down to Craig and I-80, camped, and steered her home to Colorado Springs. Yes, I stopped at several locations, but no one wanted to sell me a tire with installation—too busy today.

Although I enjoyed the show and vendors associated with the convention, I purchased very few specimens—nothing I really needed. I did manage to bring home a number of hand size specimens mostly covered with scalenohedron crystals of calcite---really nice well-formed crystals. The collecting location is a little fuzzy! They were advertised as coming from Mexico. In asking a more definitive location the two young sellers stated specimens were collected by their grandfather; in Santa Eulalia they thought. Now the Santa Eulalia Mining area is a very large mining district in Chihuahua with many mines; therefore, I am unable to further pinpoint the collecting locality. I plan on giving these specimens to my kiddie (and a few adults) rockhound friends.

Continued ...



Above: A group of partial and full scalenohedron crystals of calcite. Width FOV ~2.0 cm. *Photo: M. Nelson*

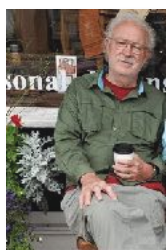


Above: A gemmy scalenohedron calcite crystal. Length of crystal ~1.0 cm. *Photo: M. Nelson*



Above: Calcite crystals that may be hematite included and some may have phantoms. Width FOV ~1.0 cm. *Photo: M. Nelson*

So, the 2021 RMFMS and AFMS events are now history—at least in my mind. A big thanks to Jim & Leane, the Sublette rockhounds, Prez Judy and the Central Office (Cheryl) from AmFed, and Prez Bob, VP Sheri, Sec. Wayne, and my good friend Tres. Gene, who makes it all run, from RMFMS.



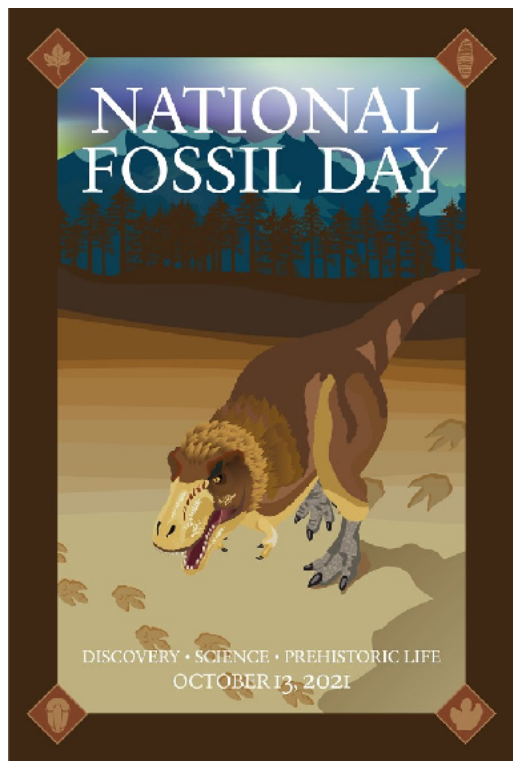
Mike is a former University professor and administrator who enjoys outdoor activities, and writing articles for the Pick & Pack, other rock and mineral clubs, and the Newsletter of the Rocky Mountain Federation of Mineralogical Societies (www.rmfmts.org). He also writes, and occasionally speaks, about members of the Colorado Cavalry/Infantry who participated in the march to Glorieta Pass (1862), helped settle central Kansas (1865), and later fought at Beecher Island (1868). In CSMS he heads up the Undergraduate Research Committee as introducing students to geology research is a long-time passion. But mostly he just tries to enjoy life with frosty IPAs, travel, and collecting mundane facts and pretty rocks/minerals.



Pebble Pups and Earth Science Scholars

Our poetry contest started in September, which was announced at our 5:30 PM meeting on 9/16/21. Please include full name, grade, school and a good contact email or number to reach if needed. Please start creating your poems about Earth Science this Month and you can turn them in during the October meeting on the 21st at 5:30 PM, Mt Carmel center. It can be any form of poetry and we had many winners last year. Good Luck! Or email me at fossilfun14@gmail.com

7th Annual Fossil Day at Garden of the Gods Visitors Center



National Fossil Day is Wednesday, October 13! Join the festivities at Garden of the Gods Visitor Center (across from the park entrance), Saturday Oct 16, 2021 from 10 AM to 3 PM. There will be free samples, coloring pages, experts to help identify your fossil treasures, and other great booths to see and experience. Free admission. Hope to see you all at this event.

Left: Official National Fossil Day 2021 artwork courtesy of the National Park Service. The 2021 National Fossil Day Logo is inspired by the diverse record of Late Cretaceous dinosaur footprints from Denali National Park and Preserve in central Alaska. The logo features an Alaskan tyrannosaur walking under a northern polar night sky, through a mudflat, and encountering a trackway left by a hadrosaur (duck-billed dinosaur). In the distance, an ancient boreal forest outlines the Cretaceous landscape. For more information visit [NPS.gov](https://www.nps.gov). *Graphic: National Park Service.*

Next Pebble Pup meeting, 21 Oct 21, 5:30 PM - 6:15 PM

ATTENTION: We respect your safety during this COVID-19 next phase.

CSMS really wants to see our Pebble Pups and Earth Scholars come back to our monthly meetings when they feel comfortable. The meeting is October 21, 2021, at 5:30 PM - 6:15 PM. There will be free samples. Bring your questions and rock, minerals, and fossils you need identifying. Drinks and snacks will be provided. The lesson is "Rocks, Mineral, and Fossils Used by Native Americans." Share a family story of collecting arrowheads or other tools used by the Native Americans from all 50 states.



Fluorite: Mineral of the Month at the Western Museum of Mining and Industry

Ben Elick, CSMS Junior Member

This fluorite specimen was found outside of Cripple Creek, on the Shelf Road. These *massive** specimens of purple fluorite can be found throughout a greater area, known as the Cripple Creek Mining District. The fluorite from the district can be found in massive form or in crystalline form, with light to dark purple colors. This fluorite is often referred to simply as Cripple Creek fluorite because of its abundant presence in the district. Finding this fluorite while mining was often met with excitement, as gold-rich tellurium minerals form in veins near the purple fluorite. Purple fluorite was a likely indication of gold-bearing minerals, although fluorite specimens that did not contain gold-bearing minerals were considered worthless. Therefore, these specimens would commonly be discarded in the mine dumps along with the other waste rock.



Above: The Shelf Road fluorite specimen is on display at the Western Museum of Mining and Industry. The specimen may have been brought to the Shelf Road area through the development of the Roosevelt Tunnel that drained water from the district mines. *Photo: Kaitlyn McGann.*



Left: View of the top of the fluorite specimen. Scale for size. *Photo: Kaitlyn McGann.*

* Massive - minerals found with no internal structure or habit

About the author: Ben Elick is a junior member of the CSMS and a former Pebble Pup. He is now one of the instructors in the Pebble Pup and Earth Science program. He volunteers at the Western Museum of Mining and Industry and recently helped finish the digitization of the historic photos at the Cripple Creek District Museum.



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 welcome. 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 can be in MS Word or Mac Pages, preferably NOT pdf.

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

Club Officer Vacancies

We have one club officer position and two chairpersons vacant. Please consider volunteering for these fun and rewarding club positions.

Secretary (Club officer)

- Produce General assembly and board meeting minutes for publication in the Pick & Pack newsletter
- Ensure updates are made to the Society constitution and By-laws when resolutions and/or revisions are duly authorized by the membership
- Have name plates and position plates created for officer installation in January
- Preserve all records necessary to conduct the business of the Society
- Receive, read and answer Society communications
- Submit to the Pike Peak Library: Penrose Library: Historical Department, for the purpose of maintaining the Society's history as stated in the constitution

Field Trip Coordinator (Club Chairperson)

- Plan summertime field trips for the club

Federation Representative (Club Chairperson)

- Liaison to the American Federation of Mineralogical Society (AFMS) and the Rocky Mountain Federation of Mineralogical Society (RMFMS)

Science Fair Chair (Club Chairperson)

- Help junior members participate in Science Fairs

Contact CSMS President John Massie, jmassie1075@gmail.com if interested in any of these positions.

Call for Nomination Committee Volunteers

We need 3 volunteers to contact people to serve on a nominating committee for the 2022 year board of directors. They need to contact members to see if he or she will serve on the board of directors for the 2022 year. Current board members cannot serve on the nominating committee. Please contact John Massie if you would be will to serve on the committee:

jmassie1075@gmail.com

Your Announcement Here

Club members are invited to use this space to make announcements related to rockhounding, such as rockhounding items for sale or other general rockhounding information they wish to share with fellow club members. Announcements won't be limited to this tiny block at the bottom of the page; announcement space can be expanded to fit submitter needs.

Club Meetings: Teaching and Learning

Below: Pics from the CSMS General Assembly Sept 16, 2021. CSMS VP Rick Jackson shared great stories of rockhounding in the deserts of Saudi Arabia.



Below: Pics from the Crystal Group. Crystal Group leader Kevin Witte (top photo), introduces Bob Germano (bottom photo), the speaker for the Sept crystal group meeting. Bob talked about how to find crystals in the Pikes Peak Batholith.



Trip Report: Rocky Mountain High, 11 Sep 21- Amazonite/ Smokies



Above: Photo of a natural rock formation at RMH 11 Sep 21. *Photo: E. Giles*



Above: The view north-westerly from RMH 11 Sep 21. *Photo: E. Giles*



Above: The view north from RMH 11 Sep 21. *Photo: E. Giles*



Above: Amazonite found by CSMS member Fran Nimick at RMH 11 Sep 21. *Photo: F. Nimick*

REPORT
Rocky Mountain High 8 Sep 21
John Emery

Six hardy rockhounds scoured the CSMS club Rocky Mountain High claims 11 Sep 21 with field trip leader John Emery. It wasn't too hot - mid/low 80's and clear skies. Amazonite and smoky quartz were found, as shown.



Above: Smoky quartz found by CSMS VP Rick Jackson at RMH 11 Sep 21. *Photo: R. Jackson*



CSMS member Richard Cook and John Emery set up a campaign tent for rockhounds to rest and cool off. *Photo: J. Emery*



Some of the amazonite found by team Giles (Emily and Dan). *Photo E. Giles*

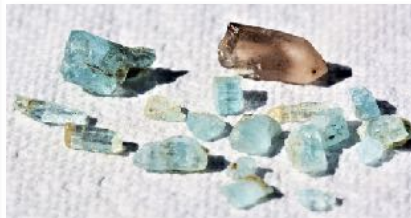
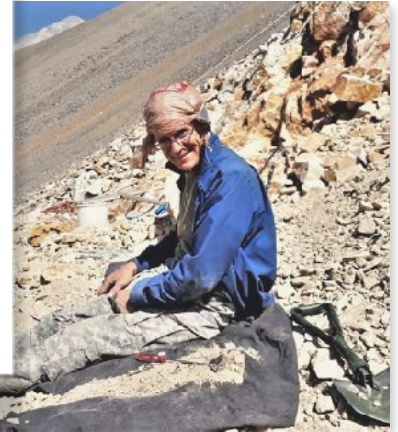
Trip Report: Mt. Antero, 8 Sep 21- Aquamarine



REPORT

Mt. Antero 8 Sep 21
Frank Rosenberg

Colorado Springs Mineralogical Society had a great field trip on Mt Antero with Brian Busse. The day was clear with a mild temperature. It was one of those good days when everyone came back with Aquamarine.



Rhodochrosite - world class specimens from the Sweet Home Mine



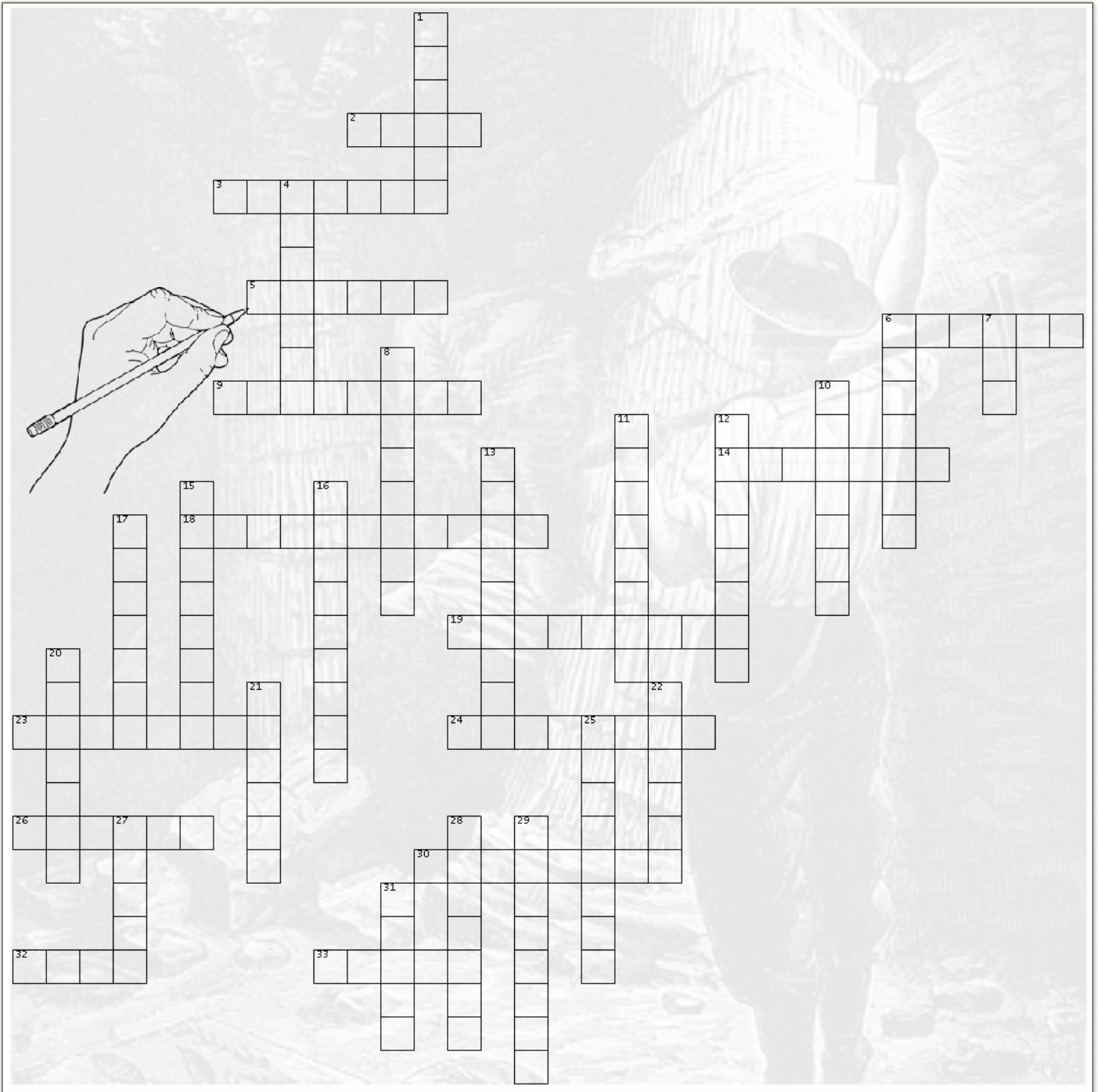
The Rhodochrosite specimens shown above were on display at the Denver Gem and Mineral Show 2021. The specimens came out of the Sweet Home Mine in Alma, Colorado but have been assembled here on loan from various museums. **Bottom Left:** the “Desert Rose” courtesy of the Rice Museum. **Center:** the “Alma King” courtesy of the Denver Museum of Nature and Science. **Right:** the “Alma Queen” courtesy of the Houston Museum of Natural Science.

Photo: Frank Rosenberg.

Thanks to CSMS Librarian Frank Rosenberg for the photo and information.



Crossword Puzzle - “Rocks and Minerals”



“porous: Contains voids, pores, cells, and other openings that may or may not interconnect.”

Crossword Puzzle Clues

ACROSS

- 2. Those minerals in which there is a total absence of luster, as chalk or kaolin.
- 3. To become stone.
- 5. The way a mineral reflects light or shines. It is one of the means for distinguishing minerals.
- 6. Contains voids, pores, cells, and other openings that may or may not interconnect.
- 9. The resistance of a mineral to abrasion or scratching.
- 14. The part of a rock formation that appears at the ground's surface.
- 18. A mineral with cross meshes, like a net.
- 19. Able to be hammered into thin sheets without breaking, as gold or silver.
- 23. Refers to a crystal with no well-formed external faces.
- 24. A mineral group that consists of abundant, light-colored, rock-forming silicate minerals.
- 26. A lump of native gold, silver, platinum, copper, etc.
- 30. The strength of a mineral; its resistance to breaking, crushing, bending, or tearing.
- 32. Very small in size, weight, or bulk.
- 33. Having the form of a cube, as a cubic crystal.

DOWN

- 1. Having the color, luster, or general appearance of chalk.
- 4. Crystal habit with the appearance of a paper tablet.
- 6. Having a feathery appearance.
- 7. Rocks or minerals that can be mined for a profit.
- 8. Minerals having the luster of a metal, for example gold and copper.
- 10. Capable of being cut with a knife into thin shavings.
- 11. A mineral consisting of fine needle-like crystals.
- 12. Thin, leaf-like layers of intergrowth, such as micaceous or schistose rocks.
- 13. Easily split into smaller fragments.
- 15. Consisting of grains of approximately equal size and ranging from two to ten millimeters.
- 16. Resembling schist.
- 17. Breaks or powders easily. A type of tenacity.
- 20. Rock formed by the solidification of molten rock (magma).
- 21. Elongated and flattened; descriptive of some minerals.
- 22. Rough to the touch; dull and lusterless.
- 25. A sample, as of a mineral, rock, ore, or fossil.
- 27. A hollow nodule or concretion, the cavity of which is commonly lined with crystals.
- 28. A small cavity in a glassy, igneous rock formed during the solidification of the rock.
- 29. A craftsman who cuts and polishes precious stones.
- 31. The characteristic or typical crystal form, combination of forms, or other shape of a mineral.





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



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.rmfmfms.org