

Club News,
November, 2022



The November meeting will be held at the Lake George Charter School at 10AM on Nov. 12 (note winter time change)

**We Have No Program for November
Please consider volunteering to give a talk or take over as our program director!**

Please consider volunteering to become a Club officer. Election of officers will occur in December. Our Constitution says:

Article IV. Officers and Elections

1. The officers of this club, who shall comprise the board of directors, shall be: A. President, B. Vice President, C. Secretary, D. Treasurer, E. Newsletter Editor.

2. Election of officers: No later than June of each calendar year, the President shall appoint a nominating committee, led by the Vice President, to present a list of officer candidates at the December meeting. The President may ask those present if they would be willing to hold an office. At the October meeting, additional nominations may be made from the floor. NO PERSON MAY BE NOMINATED OR APPOINTED TO OFFICE WITHOUT HIS OR HER CONSENT. Following the nominations and the closing of nominations at the December regular meeting, elections will be held. If more than one member seeks the same office, election will be by secret ballot. If there is only one candidate for an office, election can be by show of hands. If a slate of candidates is put forward, without dissent, election may also be by show of hands for the entire slate.

3. New officers will take office in January following the December election

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- **Silent Auction!** Bring cash and bid high for Club projects!
- Here's a note from **Dave Alexander**, our field-trip maven:

Here is my plan for putting together the 2023 field-trip events program. I believe that we have Google Meet online-meetings-software available to us. It supports up to 100-person virtual meetings (I believe, need to validate). In November, I will send out an invitation for anyone who wants to participate in the discussions for the 2023 Field Trip program through the virtual meeting software. All members are welcome to join. I'll post it as an event on the website, so

everyone should see a new "Field Trip Posted" email with the details when I get that together with the exact date/time and instructions on how to join on your phone or computer.

The agenda for this meeting is:

- 1) (15min.) Figure out what trips folks are interested in for '23. Come prepared with ideas, and feel free to email me your ideas prior to the meeting!
- 2) (15min.) Discuss volunteer opportunities (individual trip coordinator vs. trip leader and events site administration) and answer questions.
- 3) (15min.) Do a call for volunteers. Volunteering at this meeting (or before!!) will give the member preference on which trips they'd like to be involved with next season, either coordinating or leading (or both).

I'm targeting having about 8 individual trip coordinators helping me in 2023, focused on 1-5 trips per volunteer. In 2022, we had 15 or so folks volunteer to lead trips. It would be nice to increase this participation as well. I will work with the coordinators throughout the season in helping to get the trips planned and published on the event site. About 80% of our trips recur from year to year (or every 2-3 years). Publishing these again takes just a few steps...it's the trips we haven't done before (or in the last 4 years) that will take a little more time to create from scratch.

I'm also looking for one or two volunteers who have interest in helping administer the events web site. If you like playing with and configuring web applications and tinkering with design and content management, you would probably enjoy our software. The duties here would be troubleshooting login or other issues; mastering the content-management editor; and helping coordinators use the software to make beautiful and informative event postings.

The ultimate goal is to have many folks trained in coordinating and leading trips so that no single volunteer takes the burden of it all. I believe this will make the club incredibly fun for members and ensure resiliency for our field-trip programs long into the future!

You don't have to wait until our meeting if you have an interest in volunteering; reach out to me and let me know your interest and I can get you on my list! Volunteers make the club great, thank you!

This year we had an epic field trip season! We offered trips to: Thomas Range Utah (topaz, etc.), trilobite fossils in Utah, Dugway geodes in Utah, Badger Flats magnetite, Badger Flats fluorite, Aroya Gulch garnets (twice), Wigwam club claims (3 times - rockhounding 101, joint trip with RAMS, joint trip with DGMG), Topaz Mountain Gem Mine (three times), Smoky Hawk (twice), Dotsero area pseudomorphs, Last Change Mine in Creede, Florissant Fossil Quarry, RAMS picnic and dig near Lake George, Rough to Gem event in Florissant, Gold City fluorescent trip (twice - evening and day), Hartsel barite, Calumet Mine, Book Cliffs barite, Yellow Cat, Utah agates, San Rafael Swell, Utah celestine geodes, 21 Mine fluorites, New Mexico, Blanchard Mine fluorites, New Mexico, Kelly Mine smithsonite, New Mexico! Thanks to all the leaders, coordinators and others who volunteered to make 2022 great! Looking forward to 2023!

--dave (dave@davealex.com)

- There is still time to sign up for the **Wire-Wrapping Class** offered by **Jerrolynn Kawamoto** and **Darlene Cotton** **November 13 or 17**. Here's a brief description from Jerrolynn:

"**Darlene Cotton** and I have set up two wire-wrapping classes from 10:30-2:30 on Sunday, November 13th and Thursday, November 17th for interested LGGM Club

members and non-member guests who expressed an interest in wire-wrap classes at the Pikes Peak Historical Society Museum demo.

I will try to contact the people who have already expressed an interest first, then open up any remaining spaces to members at the October club meeting before getting it on the website, but anyone who is interested can email me at jerrolynnk@gmail.com to get their name on the waiting list.” --Jerrolynn

- **Election of officers** Please contact one of the current officers (listed at the end of this newsletter) if you would consider running for a 2023 office. Our annual election occurs in December.

ADDITIONAL COMING EVENTS OUTSIDE THE LGGM CLUB: (Nearby gem, mineral, fossil, and geology events that you may enjoy.)

- **Cañon City Geology Club, Bob Carnein** will talk about “**Cripple Creek “Eye Candy”: The Minerals of the Victor/Cripple Creek District**” on Nov. 14. The club meets on the 2nd Monday of the month at 6PM in the United Methodist Church, Cañon City
- **Columbine Gem & Mineral Society**, meets on the 2nd Thursday of each month, 6:30PM in the meeting room, Mt. Shavano Manor, 525 W. 16th (at J St.), Salida
- **Colorado Springs Mineralogical Society**, meets on the 3rd Thursday of each month at 7PM in the Mt. Carmel Veteran’s Service Center, 530 Communication Circle, Colorado Springs;
- **Pueblo Rockhounds**, meets on the 3rd Thursday of each month at 6:30PM in the Westminster Presbyterian Church, 10 University Circle, Pueblo.

Save the Date

November 17, 2022 at 6:30 pm

The annual Pueblo Rockhounds Mineral Auction will be held at our November meeting on November 17, 2022 at 6:30 pm. Please plan on attending this wonderful event. Larry Frank has many really nice mineral specimens that will be auctioned. Remember: you don’t have to be a member to attend any of our meetings, so invite your friends!

Save the Date

November 18-20

Annual Gem & Minera Show
Exhibit Hall, Jeffco Fairgrounds
15200 W. 6th Ave, Golden
Fri/Sat 10-5; Sun 10-4
Free admission and parking

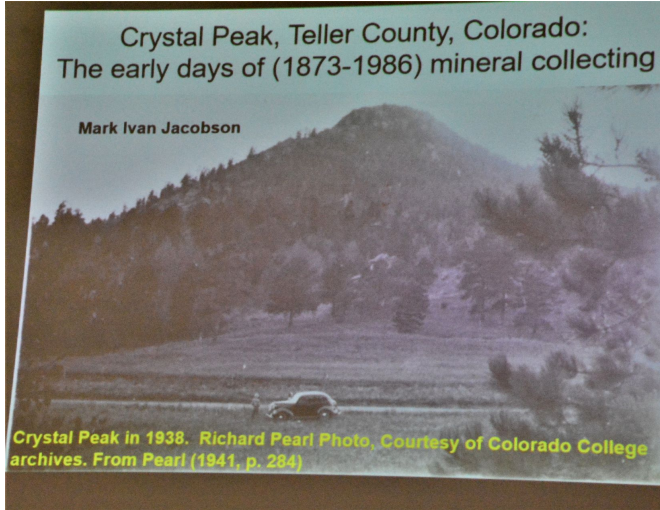
- If you don’t already subscribe to *Rock and Gem* magazine, you may want to read this article about mineral collecting from a recent issue:

<https://www.rockngem.com/10-tips-for-collecting-fine-minerals/>

- We had good attendance at our October meeting. **Frank Rosenberg** sent the following, including pictures:

“At our October meeting, we were fortunate to have prolific author and speaker, **Mark Jacobson** enlighten us on the history of collecting minerals in the Crystal Peak area. Mark is currently working on his latest book on the minerals and collecting history of our local area. Thank you Mark for an enthralling presentation.”

--Frank



As usual, Wayne Orłowski sent some interesting links:

- In case you haven't read about the enormous tsunami triggered by the K-T impact event, here are a couple of links:
A short time ago there was some reporting of seiche waves and the resulting deposits in N. Dakota or Wyoming, along the shoreline of the Interior Cretaceous Seaway related to the K-T impact:
https://www.realclearscience.com/articles/2022/01/26/the_dinosaurs_probably_met_their_demise_in_june_813804.html

HERE IS THE ARTICLE ON THE MODELED WAVE, INCLUDING A VIDEO.

[Asteroid that wiped out dinosaurs triggered 'megatsunami,' with mile-high waves](https://www.washingtonpost.com/climate-environment/2022/10/19/tsunami-dinosaur-meteor-extinction-waves/)

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/climate-environment/2022/10/19/tsunami-dinosaur-meteor-extinction-waves/>

- If you aren't familiar with the "Fluorescent Mineral Capital of the World" and the Sterling Hill Mining Museum, you might want to check this out:
More on fluorescent minerals - Sterling Hill Mine in Ogdensburg, NJ

GOOD Video history of petrology and the mine - <https://youtu.be/YcvyajaPjlc>

Sterling Hill Mine Museum - especially the education tab <https://www.sterlinghillminingmuseum.org/home>

- **PBS** has this great program about the largest flood we know of in Earth's history:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cxxLU8ZtMH4&t=310s>

One day around 15,000 years ago, a wall of ice 2,000 feet tall and 30 miles wide suddenly broke wide open, and it unleashed the largest flood that we know of in the history of Earth. Come and hit the road with me as we search for the geologic fingerprints of the Missoula Ice Age Floods, and learn the story of one of the worst natural disasters that's ever happened!

- Have you ever heard of helenite? Here's some information on this attractive gem:

<https://www.geologyin.com/2016/12/worlds-most-amazing-gemstone-found-in.html?fbclid=IwAR1ZOnvzEY9OyXfro9QUziQWQCWRO6uwcuzeHGgd9VmvxUV7hOubrQPZZhY>

- Are you looking for used lapidary equipment? Here's some advice from Rock Seeker:

"Hey. It's Don from Rock Seeker. A while back while putting together my list of **lapidary supplies for beginners**, I couldn't help but take a step back at some of the prices on tools these days! If you haven't looked...they're not cheap! So I ended up putting together this article: **7 Places Where You Can Buy Used Lapidary Equipment**

I firmly believe that tools are an investment. And if taken care properly, they can pay for themselves many times over, as well as work for you years into the future.

The fact is however, that not everyone can simply lay down \$700 for a trim saw, or \$150 for a rock tumbler, myself included. But that doesn't mean we still can't get our hands on some really decent, high quality tools at a fraction of the cost of new ones.

You can read the article here: **7 Places Where You Can Buy Used Lapidary Equipment**

I hope you find this info useful and are able to find the lapidary tools you've been looking for!

Have a great week!"

--Don G. Rockseeker.com

- And here is the latest installment of "**Bench Tips**" by Brad Smith: (www.BradSmithJewelry.com)



PRE-MADE BEZEL CUPS

As a general rule of thumb I assume it's going to take me 15 - 20 minutes to make a bezel for an ordinary cabochon, so for some projects buying pre-made cups can save a lot of time. But if you go this route, keep in mind three things. First, try to get cups made from fine silver, not sterling. Fine silver is softer and burnishes over the stone more easily.

Second, you may have trouble matching the shape and size of the stone with the shape and size of the bezel cup. Purchased cups can only be found in a limited number of standard sizes. You may have to adjust your choice of gemstone to match the cup. The other consideration is that pre-made cups often have fairly low side walls. While these are fine for low-dome stones, they're not dependable for stones with steep side walls.

Lastly before setting, check the fit of your gemstone in the cup, particularly around the bottom. The bottom corners of a stamped cup are much more rounded than a bezel you would fabricate yourself. This causes a problem with stones that have a sharp edge around the bottom. Burnishing the bezel over one of these stones will place a lot of stress on the stone and may cause it to crack. To avoid this, I round off the bottom edge of the stone with a diamond file (or use sandpaper on soft stones).



DIVIDERS

A set of dividers is a tool I find very useful in laying out the geometry of a piece I'm making. It has two needle-like tips with an adjustment to set the spacing between them.

They can be used to transfer a measurement. Let's say you need a 7mm wide strip of sheet metal. Set the spacing between the divider tips to 7 mm on the ruler. Then lay the sheet on the bench, put one tip against the edge, and run the dividers down the edge scribing a line parallel to the edge.

Dividers can be used to mark equal segments of a line or arc. For instance, assume a line between A and B that might be straight or curved, and you want to divide it into 5 equal lengths. Set the dividers to an estimate of the distance. Starting at Point A, use the dividers to mark off five lengths along the line. If you end up short of Point B, lengthen the distance on the dividers. If you end up overshooting Point B, shorten the length of your dividers. After a few tries, the length on the dividers will be the exact distance you need to mark the 5 segments.

Dividers can let you quickly find the center of a circular disk. With one tip of the dividers at the edge of the disk, set the other tip to an estimate of where the center might be. Fix one tip of the dividers at the 3 o'clock position and scribe an arc with the other tip near the center. Do this again from the 6 o'clock, 9 o'clock, and 12 o'clock positions. The arcs at the center will form a small four-sided box. The center of the box is at the center of the disk.

**Smart Solutions for Your Jewelry Making Problems:
[Amazon.com/author/bradfordsmith](https://www.amazon.com/author/bradfordsmith)**



Notes from the Editor

Bob Carnein

Newsletter Editor

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Nobody submitted an article in time for this month's newsletter. However, **Paul Combs** has an interesting article "in the works" that should appear next month. And **you** are welcome to write up an article for a future newsletter. Don't be shy—if you need help, we can provide that. Send your articles, as Word documents, in Arial 11-point font, single spaced, to me at ccarnein@gmail.com. We would like to see more articles about all those field trips we have each summer and about your other collecting interests! We also need your articles about jewelry making and lapidary topics. Our club includes members with all kinds of interests, and we want the newsletter to reflect that fact!

Monthly Mineral Quiz

The Monthly Mineral for October (Carnein photos and collection)



This month's mineral is an important source of a precious metal. It has a low hardness (2 to 2 ½) and SG of about 7.3. The luster is metallic, but this mineral often exhibits a "sooty" appearance, as in the specimen on the far left. Although crystals commonly appear to be isometric (cubic), it's actually a monoclinic mineral. The cubic or octahedral habit results from the mineral starting out cubic when it crystallizes and retaining this external shape as it transitions to monoclinic symmetry below 177 degrees Celsius. Mindat (accessed October, 2022) currently lists about 150 Colorado localities. What's this economically very important mineral?



Last Month's Mineral: Cassiterite SnO₂

Cassiterite is the only important ore of tin (Sn). It's high hardness and SG, along with its chemical stability and poor cleavage make it an ideal candidate for placer deposits. So-called "stream tin", which accounts for 80% of world production, consists of water-worn lumps of cassiterite, but minable deposits are often found in beach deposits, rather than streams. The greatest concentration is in a band stretching from China in the north through Thailand, Myanmar, Malaysia, and the islands of Indonesia. In the US, deposits in Alaska are a potential resource, but we import about 75% of our tin (the rest comes mainly from recycling). Cassiterite is common in certain types of granites and in greisens and skarns

associated with them. Small amounts occur in the Pikes Peak Granite and in the Badger Flats beryllium deposits, in Park County.

Eckel, E.B., 1997, *Minerals of Colorado, Updated and Revised by R.R. Cobban, et al.*: Golden, Colorado, Fulcrum Publishing.



The Lake George Gem and Mineral Club is a group of people interested in rocks and minerals, fossils, geology and history of the Pikes Peak/South Park area, Indian artifacts, and the great outdoors. The Club's informational programs and field trips provide opportunities to learn about Earth science, rocks and minerals, lapidary work and jewelry making, and to share information and experiences with other members. Guests are welcome to attend, to see what we are about!

The Club is geared primarily to amateur collectors and artisans, with programs of interest both to beginners and serious amateurs. The Club normally meets on the second Saturday of each month at the Lake George Community Center, located on the north side of US Highway 24 on the east edge of town, sharing a building with the county highway shops. **In the winter, we meet at 10:00AM. From April through October, we meet at 9:00AM, to allow more time for our field trips.**

Our organization is incorporated under Colorado law as a nonprofit educational organization, and is a member of the Colorado, Rocky Mountain, and American Federations of Mineralogical Societies. We also sponsor an annual Gem and Mineral Show at Lake George, where collectors and others may purchase or sell rocks, minerals, fossils, gems, or jewelry. Annual membership dues (Jan. 1 through Dec. 31) are \$15.00 for an individual (18 and over), and \$25.00 for a family (parents plus dependents under age 18). New memberships and renewals are only accepted Jan 1 through March 31 each year.

Our Officers for 2022 are:

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