

Lake George Gem & Mineral Club

Club News

April, 2020



CANCELLATIONS!

The coronavirus pandemic has resulted in statewide emergency regulations and public health advisories against group gatherings. This has resulted in the cancellation of all Lake George Gem & Mineral Club activities until further notice. Cancellations include all LGGM Club meetings, programs, and field trips, as well as classes such as Rockhounding 101, Mineral Identification, and Basic Wire Wrapping. We will let you know when these events can be rescheduled.

We do not yet know whether the **Lake George Gem & Mineral Show** will be held as scheduled (August 14-16), or whether we may need to cancel it. Please check future newsletters or visit the club website at www.lggmclub.org or the club facebook page for further information.

COMING EVENTS OUTSIDE THE LGGM CLUB:

Nearly all events that are held in college facilities or local community facilities have been cancelled until further notice. Others have been postponed and may be postponed again. Be sure to check online for additional changes or cancellations! A few websites are listed below

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May 15-17 Colorado Mineral & Fossil Spring Show Crowne Plaza Denver Airport Convention Ctr., 15500 E 40th Ave, Denver, CO 80239 <https://www.rmgmpromotions.com/>

June 18-21 Rocky Mountain Federation of Mineralogical Societies 2020 Annual Conference and Gem and Mineral Show is being held in Big Piney, Wyoming. For more information and conference registration packet, click on the following link:

<https://rmfms.org/uploads/conferences/2020/2020%20RMFMS%20Convention%20Packet%20REV%2001.pdf>

Cripple Creek District Museum "Visit with History: call 719-689-9540 to make reservations or send an email to ccdm1953@gmail.com.

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

- **Cañon City Geology Club**, cancelled until further notice. <https://www.canoncitygeologyclub.com/>
- **Columbine Gem & Mineral Society**, meetings TBD. <https://rockaholics.org/about/>
- **Colorado Springs Mineralogical Society** meetings cancelled until further notice
- **Pueblo Rockhounds**, meetings cancelled until further notice.

Pete Modreski suggests the following upcoming events (if they are not cancelled):

Fri.-Sat.-Sun., May 15-17, Colorado Mineral and Fossil Spring Show, Crown Plaza Hotel - Convention Center, 15500 E 40th Ave., Denver, Colorado, 10-6 Fri. & Sat., 10-5 Sun., free parking & admission.

Fri.-Sat.-Sun., June 12-14, Pikes Peak Gem & Mineral Show, Norris-Penrose Event Center, 1045 Lower Gold Camp Road, Colorado Springs, CO 80905. Sponsored by the Colorado Springs Mineralogical Society. Hours: noon-7 pm Fri., 10-5 Sat, 10-4 Sun. Adult admission \$5.

Thurs.-Sun., July 23-26, Fairplay Contin-Tail Gem, Mineral, and Jewelry Show, Fairplay River Park.

Thurs.-Sun., Aug. 6-9, Buena Vista Contin-Tail outdoor gem and mineral show, Buena Vista Rodeo Grounds. Colorado's longtime famous and best attended tent & tailgate rock swap and show.

Fri.-Sun., Aug. 14-16, Lake George Gem and Mineral Show, sponsored by the Lake George Gem and Mineral Club. Also taking place nearby "down the road" is the **Woodland Park Rock, Gem and Jewelry Show**, Aug. 13-16.

Fri.-Sun., Sept. 18-20, 53rd Annual Denver Gem and Mineral Show, at the Denver Mart. 2020 theme is "Fabulous Fluorite".

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For more lecture series during the year see:

Colorado Café Scientifique in Denver, monthly lectures on science topics

see <https://coloradocafesci.org/>

CU Geological Science Colloquium (Cancelled until further notice - Wednesdays, 4 p.m.)

see <http://www.colorado.edu/geologicalsciences/colloquium>

CSU Dept. of Geoscience Seminars (Cancelled until further notice - Fridays, 4 p.m.),

see <https://warnercnr.colostate.edu/geosciences/geosciences-seminar-series/>

Van Tuyl Lecture Series, Colorado School of Mines, (Cancelled until further notice - Thursdays, 4 p.m.): <https://geology.mines.edu/events-calendar/lectures/>

Denver Mining Club (Mondays, 11:30), see <http://www.denverminingclub.org/> .

Denver Museum of Nature and Science, Earth Science Colloquium series, (Cancelled until further notice - 3:00-4:00 p.m.), VIP Room unless noted, meeting dates and day of the week vary. Museum admission is not required; see <http://www.dmns.org/science/research/earth-sciences/>

Denver Region Exploration Geologists Society (DREGS); (Cancelled until further notice - usually 1st Monday, 7 p.m., Room 241 Bethoud Hall, CSM campus, Golden) <http://www.dregs.org/index.html>

Florissant Scientific Society (FSS); (Cancelled until further notice - meets monthly in various Front Range locations for a lecture or field trip; meeting locations vary, normally on Sundays at noon; all interested persons are welcome to attend the meetings and trips); see <http://www.fss-co.org/> for details and schedules.

Friends of Mineralogy, Colorado Chapter, (Cancelled until further notice -usually meets on the 2nd Thursday of odd-numbered months, 7:30 p.m., Berthoud Hall Room 108, CSM campus, Golden; see <https://friendsofmineralogycolorado.org/>).

Golden Beer Talks (April talk cancelled) 2nd Tuesday, 6-8 p.m.), at the Buffalo Rose, 1119 Washington Ave., Golden. Doors open at 6; Talk begins at 6:35; Intermission – 7-7:15; Q&A/clean up 7:15-8. "Golden's grassroots version of TED talks, Expand your mind with a beer in your hand", <http://goldenbeertalks.org/>

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Nerd Night Denver is a theater-style evening featuring usually 3 short (20-minute) TED-style talks on science or related topics; held more-or-less monthly at the Oriental Theater, 4335 W. 44th Ave., Denver; drinks are available; for ages 18+. Admission is \$6 online in advance, \$10 at the door.

See <https://www.nerdnitedenver.com/> .

Rocky Mountain Map Society (April meeting cancelled) RMMS; Denver Public Library, Gates Room, 3rd Tuesday, 5:30 p.m.), <http://rmmaps.org/>

Western Interior Paleontological Society (WIPS); (April meeting unknown) WIPS will meet on the 1st Monday of the month, 7 p.m., in Petroleum Hall, Green Center, 924 16th St., Colorado School of Mines campus, Golden See <http://westernpaleo.org/> .

LGM Club News:

Membership Applications for 2020 are closed. Although non-members are welcome to attend the educational programs at the monthly meetings, you must be a member to participate in any field trips with the club.

Member Reports on Private Rockhounding Activities. With the cancellation of rockhounding field trips for our club, we would love to receive reports and photos from club members who have done rockhounding on public lands that allow rock collecting, or on private lands or mines which allow fee digs or rockhounding with permission. Please tell us where you went, what you found, and provide contact information for obtaining permission (if required). Your information and photos may be included in future newsletters.

Rocky Mountain Dinosaur Resource Center in Woodland Park, CO hosted a Free Scout Day on Mar 7, 2020. Carol Kinate represented the LGM Club with a kids activity that involved allowing the kids to "dig" for fossils and rocks in sand boxes. Thanks to all LGM Club members who donated fossils or rocks for the event.

Request for Specimens:

Our Annual Show Committee would like to request that all members who have small rock and mineral samples that they are willing to share send us your contact information so that we can have Carol Kinate contact you. These specimens will be used for our kids' activities if the show occurs as scheduled.

Links to Interesting Geological Articles Online:

Bob Carnein provided several link to interesting articles.

This article describes the discovery of a very small dinosaur preserved in amber:
https://www.sciencenews.org/article/ancient-dinosaur-smallest-size-no-bigger-than-hummingbird?utm_source=email&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=latest-newsletter-v2&utm_source=Latest_Headlines&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Latest_Headlines

This one discusses dinosaur fossil finds in Craig, Colorado:
https://www.cpr.org/2020/03/16/fossil-fuel-losses-in-craig-has-town-digging-for-new-hope-in-fossils-the-dinosaur-kind/?utm_medium=email&utm_source=lookout&utm_campaign=lookout20200316

Some people love rocks – others love music, but Bob found this article about rocks that make music!
https://www.cpr.org/2018/08/29/are-these-mysterious-great-sand-dunes-stones-musical-when-you-hear-it-you-believe-it/?utm_medium=email&utm_source=lookout&utm_campaign=lookout2020031

and Bob's final contribution for the month describes a Pueblo's Mineral Palace Gardens, which was an amazing showplace of mining and minerals from until 1940.

https://www.cpr.org/2020/03/17/lost-glory-the-story-of-pueblos-once-great-mineral-palace/?utm_medium=email&utm_source=lookout&utm_campaign=lookout20200317

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Wayne Orlowski sent us a link from the Geology Page about an amazing tanzanite article!

<http://www.geologypage.com/2020/03/the-mawenzi-the-largest-tanzanite-rough-in-the-world.html>

The Mawenzi : The Largest Tanzanite rough in the World

Posted: 22 Mar 2020 08:11 AM PDT



The Mawenzi : The Largest Tanzanite rough in the World

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Wayne also contributed this link to an article on the world's largest fluorescent rock:

In a New Jersey mine spanning 2,670 vertical feet—more than twice as deep as the Empire State Building is tall—visitors might notice a little glow. The Sterling Hill Mining Museum is well known to have

the largest collection of fluorescent rocks publicly exhibited in the world— one that shines bright neon colors under certain types of light.

http://www.geologypage.com/2020/03/worlds-largest-fluorescent-rock-found-in-new-jersey.html?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+geology-page+%28Geology+Page%29

The latest installment of “**Bench Tips**” by **Brad Smith**: (www.BradSmithJewelry.com)

PROBLEMS WITH SMALL DRILLS

Drilling small holes can be a problem. With drills that are less than 1mm (18 gauge or .040 inches), some chucks will not tighten down well enough to hold the drill securely. The problem is easily solved in either of two ways: 1) with a chuck adapter, or 2) by buying your small drills with a 3/32 inch shank size. Either way you have a large shank to be gripped in your drill press, Foredom or Dremel, so changing bits is fast and easy.



Fig. 1. Chuck adapter



Fig. 2. Drill Adapter

PRE-MADE BEZEL CUPS

As a general rule of thumb, I assume it will 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 three things in mind. 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. In addition, 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, check the fit of your gemstone in the cup before setting, particularly around the bottom. The bottom corners of a stamped cup may be 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).

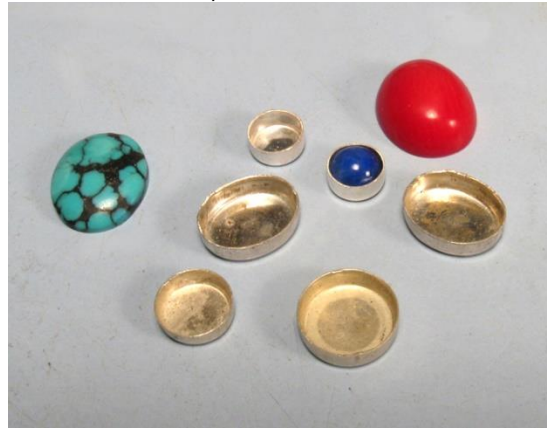


Fig. 3 Bezel Cups

Work Smarter With Brad's "How To" Jewelry Books
www.Amazon.com/author/bradfordsmith

Happy hammering,
- Brad

Notes from the Editors

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Ben Elick is a member of the Pebble Pups, and an intern at the Western Museum of Mining and Industry in Colorado Springs. Ben presented the following story of the Cresson Mine in the Cripple Creek-Victor area to the LGGM Club in August, 2019, and to a huge crowd at the 40th Annual New Mexico Mineral Symposium in November, 2019. The resulting article by Ben and Steve Veatch is printed here.

Steve Veatch has also provided us an entertaining article about the wild times in the early era of gold mining in Cripple Creek, Colorado.

The Cresson Mine: The Untold Stories

by

Benjamin Hayden Elick and Steven Wade Veatch

The Cresson mine (figure1), situated between Cripple Creek and Victor, Colorado, was established in 1894 (MacKell, 2003). No one is certain who started the mine, but records show that two brothers, insurance agents J.R. and Eugene Harbeck from Chicago, were early owners. After a hard night of drinking, they sobered up the next day and learned of their new acquisition (MacKell, 2003). The Cresson Mining and Milling Company was organized a year later, in 1895, to raise capital and operate the mine (Patton and Wolf, 1915). The mine continued operating through several leases with low but steady proceeds.

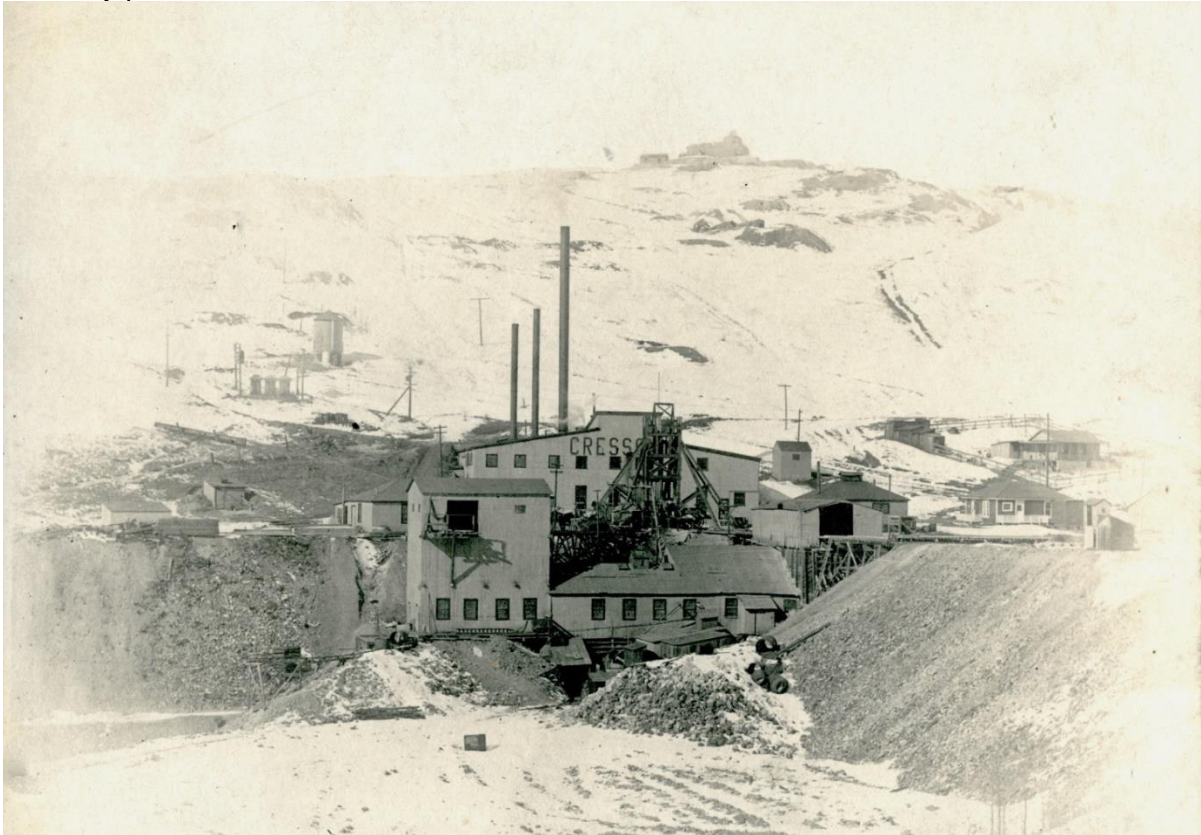


Figure 1. Early view of the Cresson mine, Cripple Creek, Colorado. Photograph date circa 1914, courtesy of the Cripple Creek District Museum.

The Cresson mine became profitable when Richard Roelofs, a known mining innovator, was hired by the Harbecks as mine manager in 1895. Roelofs wrote on an undated letterhead: "I was a prospector, a leaser, a miner, an assayer and chemist, an underground shift boss, foreman, superintendent and then general manager of one of the greatest of Colorado's mines" (Roelofs, n.d.).

Roelofs (figure 2) was a newcomer to Colorado, as many were when the Cripple Creek gold rush ignited in 1891. He moved to Cripple Creek in 1893 with his wife, Mabel. They had one child, Richard Jr., who was born on August 19, 1894 in Cripple Creek.

Not only did Roelofs have to manage the Cresson mine, he had to raise his son alone. Shortly after the birth of Richard Jr., Mabel left her husband and went to Philadelphia, taking their infant son with her. She left Cripple Creek to pursue riches. Then, in July 1895, police arrested Mabel Roelofs for passing bad checks (Keels, 2018). Richard Jr. was sent back to Cripple Creek to join his father. Mabel Roelofs later fled to New York, where she continued a life of crime working con after con. As authorities

began to close in, she committed suicide by poisoning in 1908 (Keels, 2018). Richard Roelofs, in his employment contract, earned a percentage of the Cresson mine's profits, making him a very rich man. If Mabel Roelofs had stayed with Richard, she would have of the Cripple Creek District Museum.shared in his fabulous wealth.

Roelofs introduced new technology and mining techniques at the Cresson mine, including an aerial tramway he designed that transported ore to a railway at the bottom of the large hill on which the Cresson sat. The tramway reduced the costs of transporting ore (Sprague, 1953). Roelofs deepened the shaft and enlarged the mined-out voids (or stopes). The Cresson's stopes were the largest in the district, at almost 100 m in width and hundreds of meters high. It is estimated that several houses could fit inside the stopes of the Cresson (Jensen, 2003; Sprague, 1953). Roelofs's work allowed the mine to be debt free by 1911, and it earned \$150,000 annually between 1912 and 1913.

Miners discovered the famous Cresson vug by accident on November 25, 1914 (Smith Jr., Feitz, and Raines, 1985). While following large ore shoots on the 12th level, miners broke into the large chamber (or "vug") which was in the shape of a pear (Patton and Wolf, 1915). It was approximately 12 m tall, 7 m

long, and 4 m wide. The walls were lined with delicate, sparkling crystals of gold tellurides. However, many had fallen to the floor—disturbed by nearby blasting (Jensen, 2003).

The ore minerals in the vug were mostly the gold tellurides sylvanite and calaverite. Sylvanite is comprised of gold, silver and tellurium, while calaverite contains only gold and tellurium. The tellurides within the Cresson vug occurred as crystals, varying in length from 1 mm to 3 mm. On some crystals of calaverite, pure gold was found, suggesting chemical alteration (Patton and Wolf, 1915). These ore minerals penetrated beyond the surface of the vug into the surrounding rock to depths of up to 1.5 m (Mehls and Mehls, 2001).

The gold camp was soon buzzing with conversation about the vug and word of the discovery spread across the nation. National newspapers said the vug "*staggered the imagination*," and another paper declared it "*the most important strike ever made in the Cripple Creek District*" (Various period newspapers: Cripple Creek District Museum, n.d.). This astonishing discovery supported Cripple Creek's claim that it was the "*World's Greatest Gold Camp*."

The vug, and a considerable amount of Cresson ore, was a part of the Cresson pipe, or blowout. The Cresson pipe is an elliptical cylinder of lamprophyric material (mafic rocks) 100 m to 150 m in diameter (Jensen, 2003). The lamprophyric matrix graded into a lighter colored carbonate matrix (Jensen, 2003). The entire blowout is encased inside a diatreme, a carrot-shaped volcanic complex, emplaced in the Oligocene (about 30 Ma) that reached deep into the crust (Jensen, 2003). The perimeter of the pipe produced 2,000,000 ounces of gold, indicating major deposits of gold-bearing solutions along the contact between the Cresson pipe and the diatreme (Jensen, 2003).

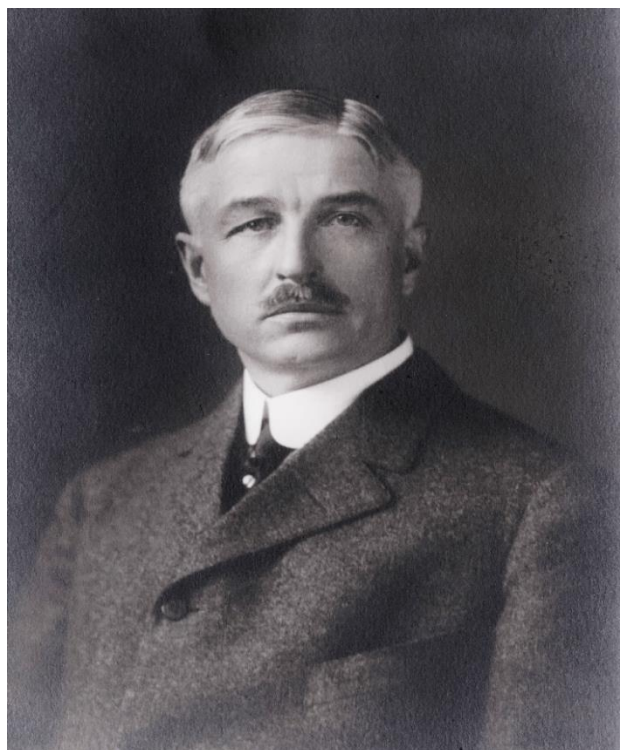


Figure 2. Richard Roelofs, manager of the Cresson mine. Photograph date 1914, courtesy of the Cripple Creek District Museum.

The gold ore from the vug was so valuable that Roelofs quickly took measures to prevent theft or high grading. He ordered a storehouse built underground (on the same level as the Cresson vug) into an old drift and secured it with solid steel doors. Bags of gold ore were stacked by hand and securely locked inside. A newspaper article described the magnitude of ore as “they had stacked between 80 to 100 tons of the phenomenally rich ore at the time of my visit, and from all indications, will continue stacking this ore for some time” (Various period newspapers: Cripple Creek District Museum, n.d.). At times, up to \$500,000 (1914 value, or \$36,250,000 in today’s dollars) worth of gold ore was stored there.

The Cresson vug’s valuable gold ore also needed special handling. Roelofs hired guards to protect the vug and ore. The guards watched over the ore on every part of its journey through mining, transportation and processing—keeping it safe from thieves. Two to three armed guards worked each shift underground, providing constant protection for the ore and vug. To prevent high grading, Roelofs allowed only two of the most trusted and senior miners to work the vug at a time, and always under close supervision.

The Cresson mine took precautions to secure the ore while it traveled on the railways to smelters. These measures included locked box cars and guards carrying sawed-off shotguns and rifles, who rode inside and on the top of the cars (Newton, 1928). Accounts claim that gold ore was scraped off the vug’s walls and then shoveled into large canvas bags (figure 3). It took four weeks to mine the vug out (Cunningham, 2000).



Figure 3. Canvas bags of gold ore from the Cresson vug are brought to the surface. Men are getting the bags ready for shipment. Photograph date 1914, courtesy of the Cripple Creek District Museum.

There were two main grades of ore from the Cresson vug: the first grade included ore worth over \$5,000 (1914 dollars) per ton and the second grade from \$1,000 to \$1,500 (1914 dollars) per ton (“\$10,000,000 Strike in Cresson Mine Proves Again that Colorado is the Paradise for the Gold Hunter,” 1914, p. 5). The higher-grade ore had 250-plus ounces of gold per ton, while the second grade of ore had 75-plus ounces per ton, based on the 1914 gold price of \$20 per ounce (Historical Gold Prices, 2015).

In all, a whopping 60,000 ounces of gold was recovered from the vug (Hunter, 2002). The total value of the vug’s ore in 1914 gold prices was \$1,200,000 (Smith Jr., Feitz, and Raines, 1985). Based on today’s gold values, the vug’s rich ore would be worth over \$87,000,000.

The discovery of the Cresson vug prompted other mines in the district to deepen their shafts, since the vug was found on a deep level of the Cresson. Mine owners also expanded exploration in their mines.

Roelofs, at the age of 50, sold out in 1917 and spent the next 30 years comfortably in New York while spending time abroad, mostly in Paris Richard. He died at the age of 82 in 1939 (Sprague 1953).

The Cresson mine was operated for 66 years, finally closing in 1961 (Munn, 1984). After finishing as one of the top producing mines in the district, its buildings were torn down and the head frame and its machinery were moved to a park in Victor.

In the early 1990s, exploration geologists discovered a 2.5 million-ounce gold deposit in the same area as the historic Cresson mine, called the Cresson deposit. The Cripple Creek and Victor Gold Mining Company submitted permit applications in 1994 for open pit mining of the Cresson deposit and surrounding areas. Mining started in December 1994 and, by the end of 1995, 76,500 ounces of gold were produced. The Cripple Creek and Victor Gold Mining Company is still mining the area today under the ownership of Newmont Goldcorp with headquarters in Greenwood Village, Colorado.

The original Cresson mine shaft is long gone and, in its place is the Cresson open pit at 518 m deep (Poulson, personal communication, 2019). Newmont will deepen the pit another 91 m for an ultimate depth of 609 m. At this point, a portal for underground exploration is planned at the bottom of the pit. This project is planned in two phases. In phase one, a decline drift is planned with 762 m of easterly exploratory drifting underneath the Cresson pit. The intention is to establish drill bays at the end of the drift for core drilling below the historic Orpha May and Vindicator mines. The estimated cost of this phase is \$26 million. Phase two includes 3,048 m of exploration drifting and positioning core drilling bays at an additional \$100 million cost. The goal is to prove the potential for underground mining projects. If Newmont Goldcorp's investment council approves this plan, the project would start as early as the first quarter of 2020 (Poulson, personal communication, 2019).

The Cresson mine took its place among the important mines in Cripple Creek as a result of its early establishment in the district, an innovative mine manager, expansive underground workings and the discovery of the rich Cresson vug. Mining continues at the Cresson today.

References & Further Reading:

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Incident at the Kalamazoo Gold Mine

By **Steven Wade Veatch**

During the cold day of December 27, 1901, Martin Gleason, a mining superintendent working in the goldfields of Cripple Creek, Colorado, was attacked in the shadows of the Kalamazoo mine. Gleason's assailant struck him on the head and then pushed him into a mine shaft, where he fell 500 feet to the bottom of the mine. The attack left behind two things: Martin Gleason's corpse and footprints suggesting a struggle. What brought Martin Gleason to this grim end?

Martin Gleason was born in Queenstown, Ireland, on December 25, 1848. When he was 18, he immigrated to America. Gleason worked for fifteen years in the Pennsylvania coal mines before coming west to Colorado in the early 1880s (Anonymous, 1900). He ended up working for the Consolidated Gold Mines Company in the Cripple Creek Mining District in 1898 (Poet, 1932). Two years later, the Woods Investment Company employed him as the superintendent of the Wild Horse (Fig. 1), Deadwood, and Battle Mountain mines.

Things were looking good for Gleason. His reputation as a hard-as-nails mining man brought him success in the mining district. Prior to Gleason becoming a mine superintendent for the Woods Investment Company, the Cripple Creek Mining District experienced its first labor strike in 1894. The union called a strike to resist wage cuts and a longer workday. Specifically, the miners demanded a minimum daily wage of \$3.00 and an eight-hour workday.

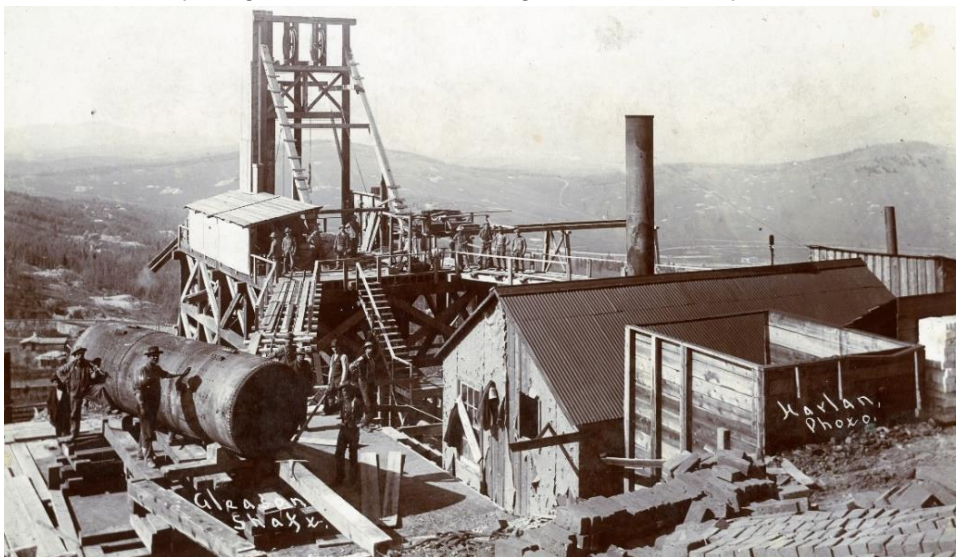


Figure 1. View of the Wild Horse mine. The writing on the left lower corner states "Gleason shaft." The Wild Horse mine was one of several mines under Martin Gleason's management when his troubles with the union deepened. Undated photo by A. J. Harlan. Photo courtesy of the Cripple Creek District Museum (CCDM 82 591).

During the strike, James C. Veatch, former Denver chief of police, arrived in Cripple Creek with a force of 125 heavily armed deputies, mainly former policemen and firemen, to confront the striking miners (Rastall, 1906). The pro-labor Populist governor Davis Waite used the state militia (Fig. 2) to stop this army of deputies from advancing on union miners. The strike was resolved in favor of the miners, and the power of the union was firmly established in the mining district.



Figure 2. Encampment of state militia on Bull Hill, Cripple Creek Mining District, June 12, 1894. Cripple Creek was the site of two labor conflicts: the first in 1894 and the second one in 1903-1904. Photo by A. James Harlan. Courtesy of the Cripple Creek District Museum.

After the miners won the strike, the union's power continued to expand, and by 1902, unions organized most of the workers in the district, including bartenders, clerks, cooks, waitresses, laundrymen, and newsboys (Jameson, 1998). However, power soon began to shift from the unions to the mine owners and capitalists. Trouble brewed as organized labor worked to maintain its authority while intimidating miners to either join the union or leave the district. Violence escalated. Union thugs threatened miners in their homes and assaulted them as they went to and from their work. Sometimes the beatings resulted in death (Montgomery, 1904).

About this time, Martin Gleason, the superintendent of several local mines, aroused the enmity of the union as he supported nonunion labor. According to an article in the *Victor and Cripple Creek Daily Press* (December 28, 1901) Gleason "had the reputation of not discriminating in the employment of men" (Jameson, 1998).

Gleason further antagonized union bosses and miners when he hired a black miner at the White Horse mine. There were few black miners in the Cripple Creek Mining District, and when the White Horse mine employed another black miner, most of the white miners opposed the hiring. Gleason reminded the angry miners that President Lincoln had issued the Emancipation Proclamation 35 years earlier and that they should show some "brotherly love" (Jameson, 1998). Gleason's remarks held no sway, and the white miners refused to go work with the black miner.

The circumstances turned lethal. Two days after Christmas, 1901, Martin Gleason, 50 years of age, was found dead, with his head crushed in, at the bottom of the Kalamazoo shaft—Miners brought his mangled body up 500 feet to the surface. The Woods Investment Company, Gleason's employer, offered a \$5,000 reward for the capture of his killer (Anonymous, 1902).

Several men were charged with this crime but were later released. According to Poet (1932), the principal of the Victor High School, "the murderer was never brought to justice." We may never know who murdered Martin Gleason.

Although Martin Gleason worked for mine owners as a superintendent, he was sympathetic with the plight of the miners. As he tried to bridge the two worlds of labor and capital, Gleason became a grim statistic in the violence leading up to the second (1903-1904) of two Cripple Creek labor strikes.

References Cited

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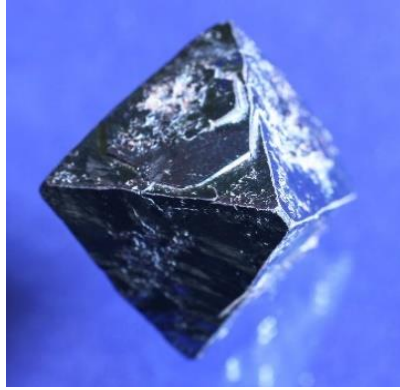
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Monthly Mineral Quiz



Last Month's Mineral. **Cuprite, Cu_2O** , occurs in the oxidized zone above copper sulfide deposits, along with azurite, malachite, chrysocolla, "limonite", and dozens of other minerals. Its association and its red streak, red color in strong light, and crystal habit are useful properties that help with identification. Currently, very fine, affordable specimens (like the one to the left) come from Russia.



This month's mineral, in specimens from (left to right) Arizona, Mexico, and China. (Carnelin photos and collection)

This Month's Mineral. The mineral for April is yet another colorful, widespread, highly collectible product of oxidation, this time of a very common silvery gray ore mineral. And so, a space explorer would not encounter this one on the Moon, Mercury, or Mars. Crystals are very common and are usually simple tetragonal plates, sometimes with a square outline and beveled edges (see left photo above). The crystal habit helps to distinguish it from vanadinite (see the February, 2020 newsletter). Here are some other useful properties: $H=3$; $SG=\sim 6.8$; it has a distinct cleavage and glassy to adamantine luster. You might look for this mineral in the oxidized zone (above the water table) in a mixed sulfide deposit containing Pb (lead) and Mo (molybdenum). Arizona has historically produced superb specimens, but good specimens are rare in Colorado. What is it?



The Lake George Gem and Mineral Club is a group of people interested in rocks and minerals, fossils, geography 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 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 September, 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.

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