Regular Meeting of the Lake George Gem & Mineral Club

Saturday, December 8, at 10:00AM
Lake George Community Center

The December meeting will feature the Annual “Towel Show”. For new club members, let me clarify – You don’t come to the meeting wearing a towel; it’s not a Toga Party. Rather, our Towel Show means you bring some interesting item(s) you may have found or purchased this past year to show other club members. It’s a grown-up “Show and Tell” session. If the items are exciting and interesting to you, please bring them to show to other club members. Also, bring any items you’re having trouble identifying and let’s see if some other club members can help.

The December meeting will also be a light snack-type of pot luck. Bring a snack-type dish or treat that can be shared with 8 or 10 people (bring serving utensils). Remember that others will be bringing snacks too, and one person doesn’t need to bring enough to completely feed everybody. The club will supply coffee, lemonade, plates and eating utensils.

And, finally, we will have a discussion about Paul Combs' proposal for a Club research project to help Joel Duncan, from Colorado School of Mines, gather evidence for his "Colorado Cataclysm" hypothesis. This is the recently developed idea that there is an impact-crater cluster in the central Front Range. Possible craters are located near Tarryall and north of Woodland Park. Dr. Combs has limited resources to explore the craters at the south end of his cluster—exactly the area where we might provide help.

If anyone has a subject they would like to see as a winter-meeting program, please send in that suggestion to Glenn or any other officer. We want to continue to have interesting programs.

Coming Events

Columbine Gem and Mineral Society, monthly meeting, 6:30PM, meeting room, Shavano Manor, 525 W. 16th (at J St.), Salida. *** Dec. 13

Pueblo Rockhounds, monthly meeting, 7:30PM, Westminster Presbyterian Church, 10 University Circle, Pueblo. *** Dec. 20

Colorado Springs Mineralogical Society, monthly meeting, 7PM, Colorado Springs Senior Center, 1514 N. Hancock, Colorado Springs. *** Dec. 20

"**Ice worlds and their fossils**", Western Interior Paleontological Society annual symposium, Green Center, CSM, Golden; admission charge. For info, visit [symposium@westernpaleo.org](mailto:symposium@westernpaleo.org).

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### Club News

- **Congratulations to our new President-elect, Glenn Haggett!** For those of you who don’t know Glenn, here’s a thumbnail bio: "I'm a marine engineer by trade. Retired as Chief Engineer with Exxon Shipping Co. in 1989. (Was not on the Valdez.) Worked on Fort Carson for the last twelve years as an operator in the central heating and cooling plant. Now retired again. Been a resident of Teller County for 32 years."

![Image](11_28_2012.jpg)

- **...and many thanks to our outgoing President John Rakowski for his excellent service to the Club.** The following officers were re-elected to serve in 2013:

  - **Vice President:** [Jo Beckwith]
  - **Treasurer:** [Wayne Johnston]
  - **Secretary:** [Charlene DeVries]
  - **Newsletter Editor:** [Bob Carnein]

- **Dick Lackmond** sent the following note from [Kathi Kier](mailto:symposium@westernpaleo.org), Secretary of the Columbine Gem & Mineral Society, about a wire-wrapping class to be held in January. If you're interested, contact Dick ([dlackmond@q.com](mailto:dlackmond@q.com)) or Judy ([jewelsbyJudy@hotmail.com](mailto:jewelsbyJudy@hotmail.com)).

  "**Judy Paulsen** has asked me to forward her scanned basic supply list for the January wire wrap class. The date is: January 10, 2013. Time: 6 pm. If the stars align and you're planning on attending (just to give us some idea of the interest) let me know and I'll forward to Judy. Or you may contact her directly: [jewelsbyJudy@hotmail.com](mailto:jewelsbyJudy@hotmail.com)"

Lake George Gem and Mineral Club

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**December, 2012**
"We had a good month at the lap shop. There were 4 different reservations to play. May agates - moss, red and other, Sowbelly, emeralds, and malachite were cut and polished to fine display and jewelry quality. Remember it is nice to be able to continue to play with your finds in the winter months.

http://s325.beta.photobucket.com/user/dlackmond/media/sowbelly10-2311002.jpg.html"

Reminder: Our lapidary workshop is open by appointment only, at least for now. Contact Dick or Richard Kawamoto (kawahome@wildblue.net) if you'd like to use the equipment. Please give Dick or Richard a week's notice, if possible, so they can accommodate your needs.

Bob Carnein agreed to coordinate publicity and applications for the Lake George Gem & Mineral Club's annual $500 scholarship for 2013. Any Teller or Park County senior who plans to major in the Earth sciences (geology, Earth-science education, paleontology, mining engineering, geophysics, etc.) in college is eligible for consideration. The application process is very simple. Contact Bob (ecarnein@gmail.com) if you know an interested student (or if you are one, yourself).

Here are this month's Bench Tips from Brad Smith:

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**OCHRE APPLICATOR**

Yellow ochre is used when you want to be sure the solder will not flow onto an area of your piece while you're soldering on another area. The only problem with ochre is coming up with a good way to store and apply it. I like recycled nail-polish bottles. They seal well and have a built-in brush. Just clean them out with a little acetone or nail-polish remover, and they're ready to go.

"Bench Tips for Jewelry Making" is now available as an e-book for Kindle and Nook readers. Free apps allow it to be read on most phones, tablets, and home computers.

The book can be found at several locations:

Kindle edition - www.amazon.com/dp/B00A5ELDRU
Nook edition - www.bn.com/w/?ean=2940015848915
Print edition - www.createspace.com/3976439

Makes a good holiday present for friends who do jewelry.

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**SANDING/POLISHING IN TIGHT PLACES**

Often, you'll need to sand or polish an area that's impossible to reach with even a small wheel on a flexshaft. Other times, it might be the bottom of a pocket or inside bottom corner of a box that needs to be finished. One trick for these nit-picky jobs may be left over from your last Chinese dinner - a chopstick.

I've found quite a few uses for these in the shop. Prepare the tip by simply sawing it off at a 45-degree angle. Then apply whatever abrasive grit you will need for the job or hold a strip of sandpaper around the end. Loose grit can be held onto the tip with a bit of Vaseline or oil. Tripoli or rouge can be just rubbed onto the end of the chopstick.

More BenchTips by Brad Smith can be found at: facebook.com/BenchTips; or at groups.yahoo.com/group/BenchTips/.
Earth-Science Scholars/Pebble Pups Corner

Earth-Science Scholars and Pebble Pups meet on the **third Tuesday of each month at 6PM in the Lake George Community Center.** Here’s this year’s schedule:

- **Dec.:** "Stone Age Tools and Art"—S. Veatch & Luke Sattler
- **Jan., 2013:** Field Trip to Denver Museum of Science and Nature—S. Veatch and others
- **Feb.:** Special class on Science Writing and Research—S. Veatch
- **Feb. or March:** Field Trip to Cave of the Winds
- **March:** "Minerals and How We Identify Them"—B. Carnein
- **April:** "The Amazing World of Crystals"—B. Carnein
- **May:** "Orienteering"—D. Alfrey

Be sure you check regularly at [www.LGGMClub.org](http://www.LGGMClub.org) for details and updates.

Pebble Pups/Earth-Science Scholars leaders are working on a proposal for a project that will qualify for the President's Environmental Youth Awards program. For more information, contact Steve Veatch.

**Remember**, new students and their parents are always welcome; Earth-Science Scholars and Pebble Pups are welcome on LGGM Club field trips!
I'm pleased to publish the following article, by Lake George Earth-Science Scholar **Reilly Blakeslee**, and a poem by Colorado Springs Pebble Pup **Blake Reher**, which were sent in by **Steve Veatch**. These efforts should give all of you an idea of why the Pebble Pups/Earth-Science Scholars program is so important.

**Porcupine Cave: A Window to the Ice Age**

by Reilly Blakeslee  
Lake George Gem and Mineral Club, Earth-Science Scholar Program

Porcupine Cave, located in Park County, Colorado is an important part of the paleontological world. It is a wild cave and not easily explored (Figure 1). It contains several types of ice-age animals, as well as clues to the Pleistocene Epoch. Another uncommon feature of the cave is its mud stalagmite.

![Figure 1. Entrance into Porcupine Cave. Photo © by S. W. Veatch.](image_url)
Several of the world's oldest ice-age animal bones/fossils have been found in the cave. The oldest mountain-goat, coyote, and black-footed-ferret bones have been identified. Several cheetah teeth have been discovered. Ice-age camel, ground sloth, wolves, deer, badgers, skunks, prairie dogs, lizards, snakes, turtles, frogs, and salamanders have all been found. These fossil animals provide insights about what the climate and ecosystem were like when all of these creatures were alive (Table 1, Figure 2).

**Table 1. Types of Fossil Taxa Found in Porcupine Cave**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Taxa</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Badger</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bear</td>
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<tr>
<td>Black-footed ferret</td>
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<td>Bobcat</td>
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<td>Cheetah</td>
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<td>Coyote</td>
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<td>Raptors</td>
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<td>Weasel</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wolverine</td>
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<td>Wolf</td>
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**Figure 2.** Ice-Age animal bones are everywhere. The bones can be simply scooped up by hand from the cave sediments that have been lost to time. Photo © by S. W. Veatch.
It is possible that some of the animals were killed by predators, and then dragged into the cave. It is also possible that some of the animals were trapped there by snowstorms or predators. Some animals could have chosen to die in a place that was out of the snow.

A unique type of stalagmite was found at Porcupine Cave (Figure 3). The stalagmite is made of mud from melting glaciers. Mud stalagmites are formed the same way as regular stalagmites, but with one small difference. Instead of water with a mineral component forming the stalagmite, it is mud with a mineral component. Add dirt, water, and calcium carbonate, and you have a mud stalagmite. However, still more steps must occur before the stalagmite can form. The drips of mud must come at a regular interval. If not, the stalagmite will be irregular. The mud hardens, forming layers of mud, which eventually become big enough to be considered a stalagmite.

![Mud stalagmite](image)

**Figure 3.** Mud stalagmite found in one of the several chambers of Porcupine Cave. Photo © by S. W. Veatch.

Porcupine Cave is full of biodiversity and includes many animals that lived during the Earth’s last ice age. It has a surplus of rare features. From animal fossils to cave formations, Porcupine Cave has something to interest everyone.

**References Cited:**
http://books.google.com/books?id=F9rs7k52goQC&printsec=frontcover&q=porcupine+cave+colorado&hl=en&sa=X&ei=PdyfUMOjEMS0rQGp5oH4DA&ved=0CDAQ6wEwAA#v=onepage&q=p orcupine%20cave%20colorado&f=false

About the author:

Reilly Blakeslee is a twelve-year-old, seventh grade student from central Colorado. She enjoys soccer, basketball, reading, and learning; especially about science and math. She participates in 4-H with her horse, sheep, pigs, and turkeys. This is Reilly’s first published article. Reilly is a member of the Pikes Peak Pebble Pups/Earth-Science Scholars Program through the Lake George Gem and Mineral Club, where she participates online. http://pebblepups.blogspot

**Cretaceous Petrified Wood**

By Blake Reher

It is hard to believe this ancient rock was once a living thing;
That grew in the ground of the Cretaceous from a tiny seed.
Who knows, maybe a mammal ran up it one night searching for food?
Not knowing of its future wonder.
*Triceratops* may have fought for mating rights near this magnificent tree—
But of course we will never know—
For the secrets of the past are forever a secret.
DUES ARE DUE!  DUES ARE DUE!  DUES ARE DUE!  DUES ARE DUE!
Lake George Gem and Mineral Club
Box 171
Lake George, Colorado 80827
LGGMClub.org

2013 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name(s) ___________________________________________ ___________________

Address __________________________________________ City __________ State ___ Zip ______

Telephone (    ) ______ -   _______________      E-mail _________________________________

Names and ages of dependent members: ___________________________________________

Annual membership - dues Jan. 1 through Dec. 31 are as follows:

- Individual (18 and over) ......................................................... $15.00
- Family (Parents plus dependents under age 18) ..................... $25.00

Annual dues are due on or before March 31. Members with unpaid dues will be dropped from the roster after this date. Any new member joining on/after August 30 shall pay one half the annual dues.

I hereby agree to abide by the constitution and by-laws of this club.

Signed __________________________________  Date: __ __/____/____

I have previously been a member of Lake George Gem & Mineral Club. Yes __ No ___

My interest areas include:

Minerals __  Fossils__    Lapidary __    Micromounts __

Other __________________________

I would be willing to demonstrate any of the above for a club program or educational activity? If yes, which: ____________________________

Please indicate which of the following activities you might be willing to help with:

Writing _____ Editor _____ Mailing _____ Local shows _____

Club Officer _____ Programs _____ Field trips _____ Refreshments _____

Questions about the club or club activities? Contact Glenn Haggett, 719-687-6549.
Rev. Dec., 2012

Lake George Gem and Mineral Club

December, 2012
Lake George Gem and Mineral Club
P.O. Box 171
Lake George, CO 80827

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 an opportunity to learn about earth sciences, 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 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 10:00 AM. From April through October, we meet at 9:00 AM, 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).

Our Officers for 2013 are:

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Email</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Glenn Haggett</td>
<td>President</td>
<td>PO Box 985, Woodland Park, CO 80866</td>
<td>719-687-6549</td>
<td><a href="mailto:gshaggett@msn.com">gshaggett@msn.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jo Beckwith</td>
<td>Vice President</td>
<td>PO Box 275, Guffey, CO 80820</td>
<td>719-689-0248</td>
<td><a href="mailto:shawneewolf@hotmail.com">shawneewolf@hotmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wayne Johnston</td>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>207 Cooper Lake Drive, Divide, CO 80814</td>
<td>719-687-6067</td>
<td><a href="mailto:wjohnston719@msn.com">wjohnston719@msn.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charlene DeVries</td>
<td>Secretary</td>
<td>280 Homestead Rd. Divide, CO 80814</td>
<td>719-686-1822</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dave.devries@verizon.com">dave.devries@verizon.com</a></td>
</tr>
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C.R. (Bob) Carnein, Editor, 507 Donzi Trail, Florissant, CO 80816
ccarnein@gmail.com; 719-687-2739

December, 2012