

The Lake George Gem and Mineral Club -

Club Monthly Meeting, February 8, 2014



Regular Meeting of the Lake George Gem & Mineral Club
Saturday, February 8, at 10:00AM
Lake George Community Center

"Practical Tips for Pikes Peak Area Pegmatite Collecting"

John Rakowski will give a follow-up to Pete Modreski's excellent presentation on pegmatites last month. John's emphasis will be more toward the "How-to's" of finding and extracting mineral specimens from pegmatites in our area. There will be hints on best tools to use as well as some ideas for cleaning specimens you find.

Dues are due....see membership application at the end of this Newsletter.

Coming Events

- Arizona Mineral and Fossil Show**, Hotel Tucson City Center (formerly Inn Suites). ... Feb. 1-15
- Tucson Gem & Mineral Show**, Tucson Convention Center. ... Feb. 13-16
- Columbine Gem & Mineral Society**, Monthly meeting, 6:30PM, Mt. Shavano Manor, 525 W. 16th (at J St.), Salida ... Feb. 13
- "Diamond"**, Friends of Mineralogy/Mineralogical Society of America 35th Annual Mineralogical Symposium, 10AM-3PM, Crystal Ballroom, Tucson Convention Center. ... Feb. 15
- Pueblo Rockhounds**, Monthly meeting, 7:30PM, Westminster Presbyterian Church, 10 University Circle, Pueblo. ... Feb. 20
- Colorado Springs Mineralogical Society**, Monthly meeting, 6:30PM, Colorado Springs Senior Center, 1514 N. Hancock, Colorado Springs. ... Feb. 20
- Denver Gem & Mineral Guild Show**, Jefferson Co. Fairgrounds, 15200 W. 6th Ave., Golden. ... Feb. 21-23
- "Stories in Stone Symposium"**, 10AM-3:30PM, Colorado Springs Pioneers Museum, free, go to www.cspm.org for more info. ... Feb. 22
- "Publish: History and Science Writing for Teachers and Learners of All Ages"**, 10AM-1PM, Western Museum of Mining and Industry; fee charged; go to www.wmmi.org for info. ... Feb. 22
- Fort Collins Rockhounds Mineral Show**, Larimer Co. Fairgrounds. ... March 21-23
- North Jeffco Gem and Mineral Club Silent Auction**, 6:45PM, APEX Community Recreation Center, 6842 Wadsworth Blvd., Arvada; info at sidewindermin@comcast.net. ... April 11
- Colorado Mineral and Fossil Show**, Ramada Plaza Denver Central (old Holiday Inn) ... April 18-20

Colorado Mineralogical Society Annual Auction, Holy Shepherd Lutheran Church, 920 Kipling St., Lakewood; info at rsnelson@gmail.com. ... **May 3**

Friends of Mineralogy, Colorado Chapter, Silent Auction, Clements Community Center, 1580 Yarrow St., Lakewood. ... **May 10**

Club News

▶ At the October meeting, the following officers and committee chairs were elected for 2014:

President: **Suz Core** (suzc@peakinet.net)
Vice President: **Jo Beckwith** (shawneewolf@hotmail.com)
Treasurer: **Wayne Johnston** (wjohnston719@q.com)
Secretary: **Norma Engelberg** (njengel60@gmail.com)
Newsletter Editor: **Bob Carnein** (ccarnein@gmail.com)
Membership/Badges: **Jerolynn Kawamoto** (Jerrolynn@wildblue.net)
Field-Trip Coordinator: **Todd Mattson** (busman842@q.com)
Webmaster and August Show Chair: **Dan Alfrey** (AlfreyDan@aol.com)
Pebble Pups Coordinator: **Steve Veatch** (sgeoveatch@att.net)

▶ **Bob Carnein** will give a workshop for the Canon City Geology Club/Fremont County Stones 'n Bones on Feb. 22. The 2-hour class covers the basics of mineral identification, using the minerals of the Mohs hardness scale as examples. The class will be offered Sat., Feb. 22, at 9AM, at the Fremont campus of Pueblo Community College, with a small fee.

▶ **Bruce Geller**, of the CSM Geology Museum, sent his annual update (somewhat shortened below):

2013 Colorado School of Mines (CSM) Geology Museum Musings

Life in our Geology Museum continues in the fast lane. My sixth year at the helm of the Museum has seen more guests and gifts. I'm proud to announce that, as of this writing, we were ranked by Tripadvisor.com as the #1 tourist attraction in Golden, in terms of visitor satisfaction, and were again awarded their Certificate of Excellence. This resulted from the help of our Advisory Council, Student Aides, staff, Friends of the CSM Geology Museum (FCSMGM), donors, volunteers, specimen loaners, visitors, visiting researchers, CSM faculty, administrators, and students who support us in so many ways.

The Advisory Council has met monthly and has discussed many topics, one of which is publishing a book about our Museum. On-going projects involve cataloguing new specimens, improving our database, and researching new advances in LED lighting. Our Advisory Council has played a key role in planning the logistics of several major construction projects. First, we moved our two safes from the CSM Library into our main Museum gallery in August. Second, we have held serious discussions about remodeling our Gift Shop. Third, we are now engaged in discussions with contractors to rehang our elegant Irwin Hoffman mining murals this spring. The Advisory Council has budgeted for a complete conversion of our large format (free standing halogen) displays to LED illumination. We also discussed how to welcome special needs visitors, developed criteria for what sorts of donations we will accept, and how to respond to guests who wish to trade specimens.

I held weekly meetings with our Collections Managers and volunteers. These folks ran our Book/Garage Sales and have been busy keeping our Gift Shop well stocked. Our 2013 Gift Shop sales were down 21% but our donations box was up 9%. Our volunteer ranks have mushroomed. Our Facebook fans are up 74% over last year. Check out our Facebook page at: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Colorado-School-of-Mines-Geology-Museum/168875179736>, and you can follow the link to hundreds of lovely photos of our specimens.

I have met monthly with our Student Aides, who have led a vast majority of our tours last year (including our largest ever – 180 students in two hours in July), rented our teaching and fossil kits, helped with our Book/Garage Sales, and rung up all of our Gift Shop sales. One of our Student Aides compiled

our attendance data from 2013, which indicate that we entertained over 23,000 guests, which is up 4% over 2012. Guests came from 114 Colorado towns, 46 foreign countries, and six continents. Interestingly, over 79% of our guests were first-time visitors.

Our Friends of the CSM Geology Museum (FCSMGM) is growing in leaps and bounds. They have ratified their By-laws and conducted field trips to Collector's Edge Minerals Inc., Cripple Creek, Dallas, and the Harding Pegmatite in New Mexico. As always, FCSMGM members receive 20% discounts in our Gift Shop. Application forms can be found at:
http://issuu.com/csmgeologymuseum/docs/friends_app.

In September, we debuted nine new and four upgraded exhibits at our Annual Open House. In December, show organizers from Mineralien Hamburg paid for us to ship roughly three dozen specimens to their show, whose theme was American minerals. They flew me and representatives from New Mexico Tech, Harvard, and the Smithsonian to speak about our Museums. It was great being featured by the Germans and our display was truly splendid!

As for upcoming events, we will hold another famous (infamous?) combined Book/Garage Sale on 4/18+19 from 9-4 P.M. and on 4/20 from 1-4 P.M. in the Conference Room across the hall from our Museum entrance. This is a big change from past years because we are experimenting with dates that correspond with the Denver Spring Mineral Show at the Ramada Plaza (aka the old Holiday Inn), instead of what we have done the past few Februaries. Prices will drop every half day on most items. We are also planning an Ouray-Silverton San Juan Mountains Mineral Symposium for September 6 and 7 with one day of talks and one day of field trips in the Ouray or Silverton areas, similar to what we did in Creede in 2010. Stay tuned for more details as we work them out. Our Annual Open House is scheduled for September 10, 2014 from 6 to 9 P.M., and we hope that rain doesn't drench us like last year!

In conclusion, I encourage your club to schedule a private visit at the CSM Museum. Simply pick three nights or weekends that your club would like to visit the Museum and have a club representative contact me at 303-273-3823. I'll try my best to accommodate your club at one of those times. You're also welcome to visit on your own during our normal hours: Monday – Saturday 9 A.M. to 4 P.M., Sundays 1 P.M. – 4 P.M., except for certain legal and school holidays. Our address is 1310 Maple Street, Golden, CO. Admission to our Museum is free (donations are greatly appreciated), but parking fees are required in our lots and on campus streets Mondays through Fridays before 5 P.M. Further information is available on our website (http://www.mines.edu/Geology_Museum).

Cordially,
Bruce Geller, Museum Director

►► **Dan Alfrey** recently visited the Club Claim and filed the following report:

I made a visit to the Claims on Wed., Jan. 22, 2014 mid-day. The roads were open & dry, up until the last couple miles. It was then accessible by high-clearance 4-WD. The area was mostly covered in snow. The ground was hard; frost levels were approx 6" in sunny spots, near 1' in shaded areas. The main two dig areas remain entirely untouched. (The firewood is still stacked as we left it.) One small (approx. 2' diameter) new hole was noticed at the bottom of an ancient dig just north of the main parking. The recent photos by club member (Harry) were verified to be of an old dig & off the claims slightly to the West.

**For the Club Claim We have simple guidelines
& a simple *internal* reporting system.**

Notify the Club Claim manager:

It is acceptable by phone, by text, or by email.

The claim managers are:

Dan Alfrey (LGGMClub) [719.440.6234](tel:719.440.6234) AlfreyDan@aol.com;
& **Fred Ceconi** (DGMG) [303.404.9944](tel:303.404.9944) fceconi@gmail.com

THIS IS NOT COMPLICATED. It is Required!

*** Submit the Date, who all attended, Approx. Hours on site, & comments (if any)

Comments are if Any thing seems Unusual. Carry your current member ID.

This is Required EVERY visit. Thank-You & Enjoy!

Lake George Gem and Mineral Club

February, 2014

▶ Field-trip coordinator **Todd Mattson** has been working hard to fill up this spring/summer's trip schedule. A preliminary (NO PROMISES) list includes the following: Holcim quarry; Ace-In-The-Hole claim (**Rich Fretterd**); Forever mine (**Townsend and Frankie Wolfe**); Wigwam Creek; Spruce Grove Campground; Bad Boys of Cripple Creek; Petra Placer (**Rich Fretterd**); Topaz Mountain (**Joe and Krystal Dorris**); St. Peters Dome; Smoky Hawk mine (**Joe and Krystal Dorris**); Hartsel barite (**Dave Harvey**); Goethite Hill; Devils Hole mine; New Hope amethyst (**Jim Meacham**); Last Chance mine; Molly Kathleen Gold mine.

▶ **Rich Fretterd** recently donated a second huge (345-pound) smoky quartz crystal to the Pikes Peak Historical Society Museum, in Florissant. The crystal, which came from the Holy Moses pocket of the Godsend claim, will join the 439-pound crystal from the same place that is already on display. It honors Rich's brother Vincent, recently deceased. The PPHS Museum has excellent displays of mineral, fossil, and rock specimens and historical items from central Colorado. Thanks to **John Rakowski** for the information.

Earth-Science Scholars/Pebble Pups Corner

Four Pebble Pups/Earth-Science Scholars, along with parents and others, came to the January meeting, where **Bob Carnein** presented an introduction to metamorphic rocks.

Here's the schedule for this year's Pebble Pups/Earth-Science Scholars classes and activities:

Feb. World of fossils (**Steve Veatch**)

Family Geology Day at WMMI

Science writing and research (**Steve Veatch; Zach Sepulveda**)

March: Amazing world of garnets (**Steve Veatch; Jenna Salvat**)

Field trip: Cave of the Winds

April: Colorado-Wyoming diamond area (**Steve Veatch; Gavin Noller**)

National Poetry Month

May: Orienteering (**Dan Alfrey**)

Earth-Science Scholars and Pebble Pups meet **from September through May** on the **third Tuesday of each month at 6PM in the Lake George Community Center**. Be sure you check regularly at www.LGGMClub.org for details and updates, or contact **Steve Veatch** at steven.veatch@gmail.com.

Remember, new students and their parents are always welcome; Earth-Science Scholars and Pebble Pups are welcome on LGGM Club field trips.

NOTES FROM THE EDITOR

Bob Carnein, Editor
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719-687-2739



Here's an article sent by **Steve Veatch** by a Pikes Peak Pebble Pup. It's about interpretation of dinosaur tracks.

A Dinosaur Track Meet? By Jack Shimon

My "fossil Grandpa" took me to visit this neat site when I was in Texas last summer. We drove away from Austin to a small rural community where it seemed there wasn't anything to find. My Grandpa pointed me to a small trail, full of flowers that Jane stopped to admire, which eventually led down a steep trail into the river bed. This was definitely not a popular hiking trail and I doubt many people except geocachers have been to this spot. The site is an Earthcache which is a type of geocache that teaches you about a unique geoscience feature. I have been to several Earthcaches in Texas and in at least four other states (Colorado, Iowa, North Carolina and Florida) and learned some interesting lessons. Our job was to study the dinosaur tracks and answer some questions¹.



Jane and I at the dinosaur tracks. We are each standing by a footprint.
Photo credit: Julie Shimon.



Dinosaur track. Photo credit: Julie Shimon

What type of dinosaur made these tracks? A theropod like velociraptor or *T-rex*, or maybe even the recently discovered *Lythronax argestes*. Some type of carnivorous predator, and to think, I was standing right where it walked so long ago! It was a little frightening to imagine one coming along and what that would be life in real life.

The first task was to measure the stride. The stride is the distance between two footprints (right- right), not the step length as shown by Jane and I (right-left). I measured the stride length as 112 inches.



Photo credit: Julie Shimon

Next I had to measure the length of one footprint. I measured several and took the average to be 18 inches long.



Photo credit: Julie Shimon

Then I calculated the hip height, which equals five times the print length, or 5×18 inches, which is 90 inches. My hip measures only 30 inches high.



The tape measure indicates the height of the dinosaur hip.

Photo credit: Julie Shimon

Next, I calculated the length of the dinosaur, which is ten times the print length, or 10×18 inches, which is 180 inches. I am only 52 inches long but I also don't have a tail like a theropod.



The tape measure indicates the length from head to end of tail.
Photo credit: Julie Shimon.

The final task was to determine if the dinosaur was walking, trotting, or running. To do this you divide stride length by hip height, which is $112/90 = 1.244$. I first guessed that it was walking because the prints were so clear and there was no smudging. Was I right?

Yes, I guessed correctly! For the calculation stride length divided by hip height the following values correspond to motion: <2.0 is walking, $2.0-2.9$ is trotting, and >2.9 is running.

I had a lot of fun at the Earthcache with my Grandpa and enjoyed learning how to interpret dinosaur tracks. As we were exploring some more he showed me these interesting layers. The thick hard white layers are deep water limestone deposits. The thin bedded gray layers in between are shallow water mudstones. The dinosaur tracks were found at the base of the lower mudstone layer.



Photo credit: Julie Shimon

References:

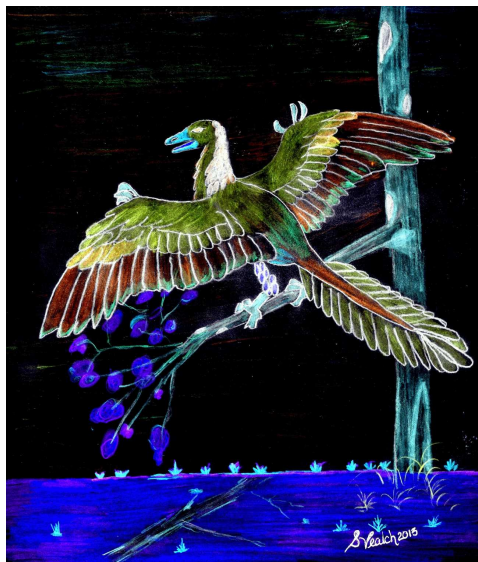
1. Track Meet? Cache GC1RZM5 by Waterweasel & Tygress

About the author: Jack Shimon is a member of the Pikes Peak Pebble Pups in Colorado Springs, and is in the Colorado Springs Mineralogical Society Unit. He is in 3rd grade and also enjoys cub scouts, mountain biking and playing the drums. He is always conducting research on Earth science topics either through science or art.



Speaking of dinosaurs, here's something submitted by **Steve Veatch**.

Archaeopteryx
A dinosaur with feathers
Transition to flight



Haiku poetry about *Archaeopteryx lithographica*, the famous dinosaur with wings and feathers. Found in the Jurassic Solnhofen Limestone of southern Germany, *Archaeopteryx* is a transitional fossil between dinosaurs and birds. Watercolor pencil drawing by **Steven Wade Veatch**.

Lake George Gem and Mineral Club

Box 171

Lake George, Colorado 80827

LGGMClub.org

2014 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 ___ Crystals ___ Micromounts ___
Other _____

I would be willing to give a talk to the Club or Pebble Pups. ___ If yes, what topic?:

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 Suz Core (719) 689-2092.

Rev. December, 2013

**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 2014 are:

Suz Core, President

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719-689-2092
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Jo Beckwith, Vice President

PO Box 275
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719-689-0248
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Wayne Johnston, Treasurer

207 Cooper Lake Drive
Divide, CO 80814
719-687-6067
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Norma Engelberg, Secretary

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