

The Lake George Gem and Mineral Club -

Club News

JULY, 2018



Program for the month: Saturday July 14, 2018, 9:00AM.

Loren Lowe will talk about "Gold Mining in Colorado". He plans to start with (1) Colorado gold history, (2) Basic map reading and where to find maps, (3) Locating areas open to panning, (4) Parts of rivers and creeks that are best for prospecting, (5) The gear that is used (pans, sluices, etc) and what to take along, that will come in handy when prospecting.

Loren sent the following biographical info.:

I became involved with the Colorado Springs Gem and Mineral Society in the nineteen eighties, and held positions during that time as Treasurer, Vice President, President and as Show Chairman. During my time as President for CSMS, I was invited to attend a meeting of a new gem club starting in Lake George around 1998 / 1999 and have been a member of LGGMC ever since. Since 2001, I have been a member and newsletter publisher for the Park County Mining Assoc. located in Alma CO. I joined these organizations because of my interest in minerals and geology, and have found that these clubs provide a great experience in learning about the geology around us. Rock collecting and gold prospecting have always been fun hobbies of mine.

Silent Auction: If we have time, we will continue the monthly silent auction. Do you have extra specimens that you don't want to banish to the "rock garden", but also don't have room to store in your cabinet? You can donate them for the benefit of Club projects. This month's silent auction will feature at least one excellent fluorescent specimen, as well as more goodies from **Phil Rudd**. So, bring some CASH and be prepared for the fun!

✓ ✓ Here's a message President, **Robert Baker**:

FROM THE PRESIDENT We appreciate the hard work and dedication of our field-trip leaders and stand by their decisions on Club trips. The President or field trip chairperson will make sure that each field trip has a designated leader who will assure compliance with all field trip rules and safe practices and who is familiar with the location, ownership and hazards of the field trip site. **Participants must comply with the directions of the Trip Leader, those who cannot comply with the Field Trip Rules and any specific onsite directions may be asked to leave.** Please read the "Field-Trip Rules" at the end of this newsletter.

UPCOMING PRESENTATIONS

August- **Bob Carnein**, Starting a Mineral Collection: How do you store and catalog specimens when your basement is full of rocks and you can't remember where you found them. Adding scientific and monetary value to your collection.

September- **Dave Alexander**, Prospecting in the Pikes Peak Region

October- Hoping for a "How to clean your mineral specimen" talk.

November-**Richard Kawamoto**, Mining Claims A review of what a claim is and how to file for a claim.

December- towel show, no presentation

Coming Events

✓ ✓ Several mineral, fossil, and geology clubs meet relatively nearby and encourage visitors. These include:

>**Cañon City Geology Club**, meets on the 2nd Monday of the month at 6PM in the United Methodist Church, Cañon City;

>**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;

>**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;

>**Pueblo Rockhounds**, meets on the 3rd Thursday of each month at 6:30PM in the Westminster Presbyterian Church, 10 University Circle, Pueblo.

✓ ✓ **Pete Modreski** and others suggest **the following upcoming events:**

July 6-8, Four Corners Gem & Mineral Show, La Plata County Fair Grounds, Durango, CO, sponsored by the Four Corners Gem & Mineral Club. 10 a.m. – 6 p.m. daily.

Tues., July 10, WMMI (Western Museum of Mining & Industry) Speakers' Bureau Lecture, "**Colorado Fuel & Iron**", by Victoria Miller. The lecture will begin at 7:00 pm (doors open at 6:30 pm). \$5 per person, free for museum members. Please RSVP to 719-488-0880 or email rsvp@wmmi.org . At 225 North Gate Blvd., Colorado Springs.

July 12-15, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. daily, there will be a "**Home Rock Show (Sale)**" by John Haney, 4242 Thompson Court, Denver CO. 80216 (south of I-70, east of York St. & west of Steele St.). "Rough rock, slabs, cabs, fossils, amber, turquoise, minerals, crystals, gemstone bowls & boxes, lapidary equipment & supplies; discounts for lapidary students." Contact, rocksisme@comcast.net, 303-296-8268.

Aug. 3-5, Creede Rock & Mineral Show, at the Creede Underground Mining Museum and Community Center, Creede, Mineral County, CO. 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. daily; see <http://creederocks.com/> .

Sat.-Sun., Aug. 4-5, 2018, A symposium on **Minerals from the Metallic Ore Deposits of the American Southwest**, sponsored by the Friends of Mineralogy, Colorado Chapter, and the Friends of the Colorado School of Mines Geology Museum. To be held on the CSM campus. It will include at least 1½ days of presentations, a welcoming party and/or evening banquet, and probably one or more field trips. Presentations are invited! To offer to give a presentation, please write to fmccpresident@gmail.com . I'll share more information about this symposium as soon as it is available.

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July, 2018

Aug. 9-12, Contin-Tail rock & mineral show, Buena Vista Rodeo Grounds, Buena Vista, CO;
see www.facebook.com/ContinTail

Aug. 16-19, Woodland Park Rock, Gem, & Jewelry Show, Woodland Park, CO;
see <https://www.facebook.com/woodlandparkrockandgemshow/>

Aug. 17-19, Lake George Gem & Mineral Show, sponsored by the Lake George Gem and Mineral Club, Lake George, CO. See <http://www.lggmclub.org/>

Sep. 7-15, Colorado Mineral and Fossil Fall Show, Crowne Plaza Hotel - Airport, 15500 E. 40th Ave. Denver, CO.

Sep. 8-16, Denver Coliseum Mineral, Fossil, and Gem Show, Denver Coliseum; see <http://www.coliseumshow.com/>

Sep. 12-15, Denver Fine Mineral Show, Denver Marriott West, 1717 Denver West Blvd.;
see <http://finemineralshow.com/denver/>

Sep. 14-16, 51st annual Denver Gem and Mineral Show, Denver Mart, 451 E 58th Ave., Denver, CO. **Minerals of Mexico** is the 2018 show theme. See <http://denvershow.org>

✓ ✓ Vice President **John Rakowski** reports that, after a long and difficult bureaucratic struggle, we finally have final approval for our show in August. Thanks, again, to John for his tireless efforts.

✓ ✓ .A quick request from our Field Trip Coordinator –**Billy Bell**:

Please take a look at the remaining field trips to check that a field trip leader is appointed to each trip.

If you see my name, Billy B, on the list or no name, **please consider leading that trip**. No field trip leaders = no field trip

We would like to Thank all of the Members who have been helping us with the trips. Thanks for all your effort, time, and support.

...and here's the updated list, as of July 1:

1	2018 Field Trips	Location/Looking For?	Difficulty	Trip Leaders
2				
3	July 14 - Sat	Topaz Mountain - Topaz/Smoky Quartz) - (Dorris claim)	Easy	Billy B/???
4	July 18 - Wed	Shelf Road - Informative Trip	Easy	Paul C
5	July 21 - Sat	Gold Panning - Gold	Easy	Loren L / Bob B
6	July 25 - Wed	Houselog Creek - Geodes	Easy	Paul H
7	Aug 01 - Wed	Leadville Co - Galena/Pyrite/Peacock/Silver	Easy	Billy B/ ???
8	Aug 11 - Sat	Badger Flats - Magnetite/Fluorite/Barite/Malachite	Easy/Med	Linda W
9	Aug 15 - Wed	Piety/Patience Claim	Easy/Med	
10	Aug 17/19- Fri-Sun	LGGMC Rock & Gem Show	Easy	
11	Aug 29 - Wed	Petrified Wood - Tallahassee Rd Area??		
12	Aug 31 - Sept 2	LABOR DAY		
13	Sept 15 - Sat	Midway Springs - Banded Aragonite/Actinolite/Peacock/Opal	Easy	Bob B /Billy B
14	Sept 28/30 - Fri-Sun	Creede Co - Silver/Sowbelly Agate/Barite/Pyrite/Galena	Easy/Med	
15	Oct 05/07 - Fri-Sun	Grand Junction - Barite/Calcite/Amethyst		Billy B
16	Oct 20 - Sat	North Table Mountain Quarry	Med	Bob C
17				
18	*****	Red = Setup Trip	*****	
19	*****	Black = Still Working on Permissions or Locations		
20	*****	Blue = Special Event / Holiday		
21	****	Purple = Canceled due to Weather/Conditions		
22				
23		<<<<<< Please Check Back - More Field Trips Coming Soon >>>>>>		
24				

- ✓ ✓ The LGGMC would like to thank Russell & Margaret Huard for their generous donation of 15 large magnetic signs for the outside of our vehicles, and 15 smaller plastic ones for inside on the windshield. This should make keeping the field trip convoy together a lot easier. We have used them on 3 or more field trips and they are Looking Good, and Working Great!
- ✓ ✓ Field-trip coordinator **Billy Bell** is working on a great schedule of trips for this spring and summer. So far:
- ✓ ✓ **Richard Walker** sent this account of how he and his wife **Sharon** found the Cotopaxi meteorite:

The story of how we found the Cotopaxi Meteorite begins with the purchase of our first metal detector in 2000. I purchased our first Metal Detector at Gold N Detectors, Golden, CO with the express purpose of searching for all that gold that was supposed to be hiding in Colorado. A friend of mine who has a house on 35 acres located on Park Mountain Ranch, 7.5 miles north of Cotopaxi, CO gave us permission to hunt his property.

Little did I know, but the nearest gold is probably in flakes at the bottom of the Arkansas River. Anyway, the night before we planned on doing some detecting, Sharon and I read the manual for the new detector, a White's Goldmaster 4, put in new batteries, and went to bed with gold visions. The next morning we headed out after breakfast, found a few nails and rusted barbed wire, and then within an hour got a solid "hit" in a dry stream bed less than 100 yards from my friend's house. Digging down about a foot, we finally hit something solid with our shovel but had trouble retrieving it because some tree roots were wrapped around it. Finally after getting this strange object out, we started scratching our heads on what it might be because it seemed to be unusually heavy even though it was about the size of a large lemon. I was about ready to just leave it there when Sharon said she remembered reading about metal detectorists occasionally would find meteorites in their searches.

Several weeks later we took the object to a local rock shop in Colorado Springs called the Adit Mineral Rock Shop. The owner called a few days later and said that, in his opinion, it was a genuine iron nickel meteorite. That sounded cool but we had no idea as to its value or how to further authenticate it. Time passed and we almost forgot about it, but reading the paper one day, we saw that somebody from the Denver Museum of Nature and Science (DMNS) was going to be in Saguache, Colorado, and they invited people to visit with them and bring in any objects they thought might be a meteorites. There had been a recent sighting of a large one falling into the nearby La Garita Mountains.

We drove down and were introduced to Dr. Jack Murphy, Curator of Geology for the DMNS. As soon as we handed him our "Meteorite" he and his staff got excited and said they were sure we had a genuine meteorite. We then let them take possession of it for further examination. During the course of the next few months the meteorite was transferred to Dr. Wasson, a chemist and meteorite expert with the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA). We gave him permission to take a small "slice" of it for their meteorite collection and examination. With the help of UCLA and the DMNS, our meteorite was given the official name of "Cotopaxi", as it was found near the town and/or post office of Cotopaxi. The find was registered with the Meteoritical Society, which is a repository of official, scientifically named meteorites.

We then sought out the services of Frederick S. Olsen, a Certified Professional Geologist, who gave us a certified appraisal for Cotopaxi in the amount of \$29,100. Hard to say if we could have ever sold it for that amount, but it was a moot point because we already had decided to donate it to the DMNS as a charitable donation. We eventually had to furnish the IRS with the certificate of valuation to enable us to take that amount off our taxes for that year. The DMNS held a news conference regarding our find, which included CNN, and later we were invited to a dinner held each year for people who have made charitable donations to the Museum. We have searched the original property with our metal detecting club, the Pikes Peak Adventure League, but to date, no other meteorites have been found. Sharon and I would like to thank everyone from the LGGMC who came out for the most recent hunt.

The “official” listing can be found at: [Meteoritical Bulletin: Entry for Cotopaxi](#)

Richard Walker

Frank Rosenberg sent this account of the Club trip to the Cotopaxi area, including photos:

Our thanks go out to Richard and Sharon Walker, who led an enthusiastic group of us in search of meteorites to an area near where they found the Cotopaxi meteorite. This gave some of us an opportunity to use our seldom used metal detectors, while other members of our group had the chance to hone their advanced skills in this field. We also give our thanks to our Field-trip coordinator, Billy Bell, for organizing a full and exciting season of varied collecting opportunities. We did not find any meteorites; but, we did find a horse shoe, a nut, barbed wire, nails, and a 1942 Kansas license plate, among other things.





✓ ✓ And here is the latest installment of “Bench Tips” by Brad Smith (www.BradSmithJewelry.com):

SAVE WHEN BUYING SILVER

Silver products like sheet, wire, and casting shot are sold by the troy ounce at what is called the spot price. That's what companies pay for the pure metal on the commodities market, and the spot price changes daily. But in addition to the spot price, there is also a cost to fabricate the metal into wire or sheet, so the price of the item you buy is the cost of the metal plus the cost to make it. Different products have different fabrication charges because each takes a different amount of labor. Also, different companies will have different fabrication charges because of local labor rates and their desired profit margin.

You can save money by finding a company with a lower fabrication charge. Also, note that the fabrication charge per ounce is less on larger orders, so you can save more by buying more. Find a friend to place a joint order and split the shipping charges.

But for casting purposes, there's an even better way to save. Buy your silver at a coin store. They sell bars and rounds in pure and Sterling for the spot price plus about a dollar per ounce. The local coin shop adds only a small profit over the

spot price. So I save about \$3 per ounce, pay no shipping charges, don't have to wait for mail order, and support a local business.

SAWING JUMP RINGS

The difficult part of making jump rings for me has always been holding the coil while cutting off the individual rings. I use a saw to get the best fit when closing the rings later. I've seen all sorts of suggestions for ways to hold the coil, but the one that works best for me is this little jig made from scrap wood.

It's about 2 inches wide and 4-5 inches long with a groove cut down its length to cradle the coil of wire and a thin stop attached to the front end.

To cut the rings, thread your saw blade through the coil, hold the coil down in the groove and against the front stop, and saw through the bottom of the coil at about a 40 degree angle.

Don't forget to use some wax or cutting lube. It really does make a difference. If you don't believe me, do an experiment while you're cutting a lot of rings. Count how many rings can be cut before the blade breaks. First, do the test without lube, and then do it again while adding some lube to the blade after cutting every 8-10 rings.

It's the best way I've ever found to hold the coils easily and securely. If the coil doesn't move, you break fewer blades. And it is safer than some other techniques because you are cutting away from the fingers.

For those who enjoy these bench tips, I'm happy to announce a second volume is now available on Amazon. "More Bench Tips" includes 86 additional ways to save time, avoid frustration or improve quality at the bench. These new tips cover problems in fabrication, stone setting, casting, soldering, and polishing. Browse through a couple of the new ones at <https://amazon.com/dp/B07D4B45JJ/>

Pick Up a Few New Jewelry Skills With Brad's "How To Do It" Books
<http://amazon.com/author/bradfordsmith>

Notes from the Editor

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Here's a short article by President **Bob Baker** about the K-T boundary at Trinidad Lake:

Lake George Gem and Mineral Club

July, 2018

K-T BOUNDARY TRINIDAD LAKE STATE PARK: A BAD DAY AT LONGS CANYON

by Bob Baker

It was a hot, clear day at Longs Canyon. The daily grazing was interrupted by a brilliant flash of light, brighter than the sun. Some time later an unimaginable loud blast of sound accompanied by a wall of debris shattered the calm of the canyon. An event so enormous that it signaled the end of the reigning species on Earth and was marked as the end of the Cretaceous. This ending was also a beginning of a new period – the Tertiary and the rise of an insignificant species – Mammals.

A GOOD DAY AT LONGS CANYON

It was a hot, clear day, no one at the trailhead. Signs indicated that it was only a ¼ mile walk to our goal – one of the best spots on Earth to view the K-T Boundary. An insignificant 1" layer of white claystone that contained shocked quartz and iridium. Twenty five feet above the dirt track, beneath a ledge of sandstone there it was – a narrow band of white rock between a large layer of Cretaceous coal and a thin layer of Tertiary coal. Insignificant? Maybe, but what a huge milestone in the evolutionary story of the Earth.



Monthly Mineral Quiz

Answer to last month's quiz: Olivine One of the commonest minerals in Earth's crust, olivine is actually a group of simple silicates whose compositions, in general, range from Fe_2SiO_4 (**fayalite**) to Mg_2SiO_4 (**forsterite**). Most olivine has a magnesium rich composition, with increasing iron causing a darkening of the color. Olivine is common in basalt lavas of the ocean basins and in oceanic islands that overlie "hot spots" in the mantle (e.g., the Hawaiian Islands). It also occurs in a relatively rare rock called *peridotite*, two varieties of which (kimberlite and lamproite) are major sources of diamonds. The gem variety, peridot, is the birthstone for Leos (August birthdays).

Because I'm trying to prepare for the growing fire 7 or 8 miles from us, there isn't a mineral quiz this month. Maybe we'll get some rain soon and things can get back to "normal", whatever that is! Stay safe!

Lake George Gem and Mineral Club

July, 2018



Field-Trip Rules

The President or field-trip chairperson will make sure that each field trip has a designated leader who will assure compliance with all field-trip rules and safe practices and who is familiar with the location, ownership, and hazards of the field-trip site. Participants must comply with the directions of the Trip Leader; those who cannot comply with the Field-Trip Rules and any specific onsite directions may be asked to leave.

Each person participating in a field trip agrees to abide by the AFMS Code of Ethics and the club's Field-Trip Rules. In particular, participants agree to leave the area at least as clean as they find it, and not to leave open holes or other hazards where they may be a threat to people or livestock. Each participant agrees to abide by any and all restrictions and/or conditions imposed by the land/claim owner when collecting on private land/claim, **including but not limited to signing the owner's separate release of liability as a condition of participation.**

Only paid members may participate in club-sponsored field trips. Non-member guests are no longer allowed to attend. On inter-club field trips, no guests will be allowed by either club.

All participants must reserve a spot for each field trip on the lggmcfeldtrip.com website. This is a "reservation" to attend, and it is important to also include family member participants as well. Sign-in sheets will be circulated at the designated meeting place for each trip. Unless advance arrangements have been made with the trip Leader, if a member does not sign in, their reserved "spot" will be considered forfeited.

Please, carefully review the information/detail sheets attached to each field trip online and discuss any transportation or physical restrictions that may affect your participation with the trip leader, who can advise you about any special difficulties getting to or around the site. Special restrictions may be made for some field trips due to special hazards, collecting, or weather conditions, etc.

Be prompt in meeting at the designated departure point. Field-trip leaders will need to leave promptly at the planned departure time, and tardiness may result in your missing the field trip altogether. It is not fair to the on-time members to delay departure for late members.

Firearms are discouraged as they are not needed with a noisy crowd; dynamite or other explosives are not allowed on any field trip. Power equipment is not allowed. Family Member children are usually welcomed on field trips; however, they are the responsibility of their parents or an accompanying adult **AT ALL TIMES** while on the trip. **Only Certified Service Animals are allowed on field trips and must be kept under control.**

If you leave the group for any reason (including exploration of the surrounding area), please inform the trip leader. The "buddy" system is strongly encouraged on all field trips.

First aid items should be carried by all members, as part of their equipment. REMEMBER! When a newly worked area is left unoccupied, but tools are in or near the hole, this is off limits to all but the owner of the tools!

Failure to comply with these rules may result in the suspension of club membership and/or revocation of a member's rights to participate in field trips conducted or sponsored by the Lake George Gem and Mineral Club.

Rev. 6/28/201

Lake George Gem & Mineral Club
PO Bo 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 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 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).

Our Officers for 2018 are:

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