

The Lake George Gem and Mineral Club -

Club News,
October, 2011



Regular Meeting of the Lake George Gem & Mineral Club
Saturday, October 8, 2011, at 10:00AM
Lake George Community Center

I hope that we will have good attendance at the October meeting, as we have Annual Elections, a vote to add the Editor as an Officer of the Club, and several other items of importance to discuss. Those items include proposals relating to use of the Club claim and Lapidary Workshop, which may affect all members. If you want your opinions heard, you need to be there and speak up.

After the business meeting, **Bob Carnein** will give a short program on organizing the minerals that you have collected during the year, titled "**Keeping Your Collection from Becoming a Hodge-Podge that Gets Thrown Out When You're Gone**". --John Rakowski, President

At present, our constitution provides the following guidelines on officers and elections:

Article IV - Officers and Elections

1. The officers of this club shall be:

- A. President**
- B. Vice-President**
- C. Secretary**
- D. Treasurer**

2. Election of officers:

At the September regular meeting, the President shall appoint a nominating committee to present a list of nominees at the October meeting. The President may ask those present if they would be willing to hold an office. At the October meeting additional nominations may be made from the floor. NO PERSON MAY BE NOMINATED OR APPOINTED TO OFFICE WITHOUT HIS OR HER CONSENT. Following the nominations and the closing of nominations at the October regular meeting, election will be by secret ballot of the members present, except when there is but ONE candidate for an office. This requirement may be waived and a unanimous vote called. Officers will take office at the next regular meeting.

The Nominating Committee will present a slate of Candidate Officers at the October meeting with additional nominations welcome from the floor before the vote.

Proposal for Fifth Officer: The Club Constitution and By-Laws provide for a total of four officers: President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. Your Officers are proposing to make the Newsletter Editor an Officer. A significant contribution of information and insight is received from the Newsletter Editor. Additional ideas, thoughts, concerns and comments are valuable when decisions need to be made. As an officer, the Editor would have a stronger contribution to the Club. With four officers, a vote could result in an even split. A fifth vote would be a tie breaker. Article VI of the Club Constitution about amendments was read to the members at the September meeting, when the proposal to add the Editor as an Officer was made as a motion and approved. As required by the Constitution the vote will take place at the next regular meeting.

Other Issues of Concern: The collecting of material from the Club Claim was discussed in September. There is concern over personal use as opposed to commercial use. Club members have collected material from the Piety and/or Patience claims and offered it for sale at rock shows for personal profit. Some members feel this is inappropriate and not in accordance with Club objectives, as stated in the Club's Constitution, which states, among other things:

Article II - Objectives

The objectives of the club shall be:
(SNIP)

4. To encourage fossil, mineral, crystallographic and arrowhead study, collecting and fashioning as a hobby.
5. To perform the objectives of a NON - PROFIT organization.

We also need to address the issue of commercial cutting versus hobby cutting in the LGGMC Lapidary Shop. In the September meeting discussion, it was emphasized that the Club is a non-profit organization to promote collecting and cutting as hobby activities. There did not appear to be an objection to the occasional trades or sales, but the key word is "occasional". In order to be fair to all members and to summarize the issues clearly, it was decided to continue the discussion at the October meeting. Jerolynn Kawamoto volunteered to organize the concerns, thoughts and suggestions for presentation at the October meeting.

Coming Events

Weld County Rock & Mineral Society 6 th Annual Show, Senior Center, 1010 6 th St., Greeley	... Oct. 1-2
Earth-Science Week	... Oct. 8-15
National Fossil Day	... Oct. 12
Columbine Gem & Mineral Society monthly meeting, 6:30PM, Mt. Shavano Manor, 525 W. 16 th (at J St.), Salida.	... Oct. 13
Colorado Springs Mineralogical Society monthly meeting, 7:30PM, Colorado Springs Senior Center, 1514 N. Hancock.	... Oct. 20

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

Littleton Gem & Mineral Club Annual Auction (minerals, fossils, books, etc.), Columbine Hills Church, 9700 Old Coal Mine Ave., Littleton, 12 Noon-?. Info at 303-840-1177 or info@littletongemandmineralclub.com ... **Nov. 19**

Club News

Welcome, New Members:

Tony Bondy (Cripple Creek)
David Boston (Woodland Park)
Diane Burton (Florissant)
Rod & Beth Claassen (Castle Rock)
Ernie Edgar (Larkspur)
Vera Egbert (Woodland Park)
Jeff Gaul (Divide)
Glenn Haggett (Woodland Park)
Bob Holder (Buena Vista)
Sharon Holte (Colorado Springs)
Mark Lemesany (Colorado Springs)
Michael Montesano (Florissant)
Kathy Reimer (Divide)
Dave & Sharon Tally (Eckert)

☠☠ Many thanks to 2011 Vice President and field-trip director **Dan Alfrey** for this year's great field-trip line-up. Here's the list of remaining trips; please visit our website for updates, and, remember, you must be a Lake George Gem & Mineral Club member to attend trips. **Please remember to pay your 2011 dues—now a special bargain at \$7.50 for individuals or \$12.50 for a family for the remainder of 2011. A membership form can be found at the back of the newsletter.**

October 1: Patience Club claim. Go to the Club website or contact **Dan Alfrey** for details (AlfreyDan@aol.com).

October 22: Holcim quarry (weather permitting). Contact **Richard Kawamoto** (kawahome@hughes.net) or go to the Club website for details.

If you'd like to lead a trip or have a suggestion for one, contact Dan at 719-440-6234.

☠☠ Speaking of field trips, **Dave and Gerdy Wyatt** and **Ingrid Hamilton** report that the trip to **Dave Harvey's** petrified-wood locality in South Park (August 27) was a great success, with everybody taking home some excellent material (see the Wyatt's pictures below). Many thanks to Dave for giving Club members a chance to collect there. This trip was one that didn't require a long uphill hike at one end or the other!



(Wyatt photo)



(Hamilton photo)

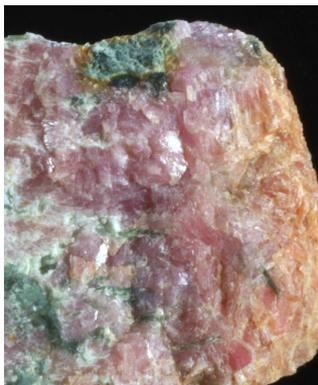


(Wyatt photo)



(Wyatt photo)

🏠🏠 Several members made it to the Sedalia mine, north of Salida, on September 10, thanks to **Fred Parker** of the Columbine Club. Despite cracking some ribs at the Devils Hole mine on Sept. 3, **Bob Carnein** hiked up to the top exposure (near the hang-gliding jump-off) to collect some relatively rare stuff, as well as the infamous pink mineral that had not been positively identified. Bob gave samples of the pink mineral and some others to John Attard, of Attard's Minerals, for X-ray diffraction analysis. See the photos below for the results.



Clinzoisite (left), **Stilbite** (middle), and **Clinoptilolite** (right) from the Sedalia mine (Carnein specimens and photos). Stilbite and Clinoptilolite not previously reported for this locality.

🏠🏠 **Andy Weinzapfel**, who knows how to find interesting, obscure localities, recently led a trip to check out an unknown locality near Ruby Mountain, in Chaffee Co. He and **Bob Carnein**

discovered a couple of perlite prospects, dubbed the "Kitty Litter mine", on Bald Mountain (appropriately for Bob). Luckily, Andy documented this important discovery with some photos:



Bald Mtn (back) and Ruby Mtn. (foreground)



Perlitic obsidian at the "Kitty Litter mine"



Spherulitic rhyolite



A bald geologist

(All photos by Andy Weinzapfel)

☠☠ Faithful member **Dan Alfrey** is stepping down as Vice President but has volunteered to continue as Webmaster and to take over as Gem & Mineral Show Director for 2012. **Richard Kawamoto** will take over as Field-Trip Coordinator, and **Maury Hammond** will take Dan's place on the Lapidary Workshop advisory group.

☠☠ The Nominating Committee, consisting of **Maury Hammond** and **Dick Lackmond**, will present the following slate of nominees for 2012 officers at the October meeting:

President: **John Rakowski**
Vice President: **Jo Beckwith**

Treasurer: **Wayne Johnston**
Secretary: **Charlene DeVries**

☠☠ Highlights of the September meeting include the following:

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John Rakowski reported that the 2011 Gem & Mineral Show made a profit. Seven dealers are pre-paid for the 2012 show. **Bob Kane** has once again agreed to be in charge of the jump start. Many thanks to **Bart and Raymond Johnson** for allowing us to use their property for the show! **Dan Alfrey** has done the annual assessment of the Patience Claim and filed a "small-miners" waiver. He also renewed the registration for the Club's website. **Dick Lackmond** reported that all of the Lapidary Workshop equipment is now "up and running". The members approved the cost of installing additional electrical outlets. Dick led a Lap Workshop open house after the business meeting.

☠☠ **Dick** also reports that the Lapidary Workshop could use the following items:
Tool set: hammer, 2 ea pliers, 8- or 9-inch crescent wrench, screwdrivers (small and medium phillips and straight), 4- and 2-inch scraper - metal. Also disposable plastic aprons, paper shop towels, and ? nitrile gloves.

Of course any donations of the above or other things (equipment - etc.) will be appreciated!

☠☠ Speaking of the Lapidary Workshop, Dick and his group have lined up a **great program for Columbus Day**.

"At the next Lap shop meeting (Oct. 12, 6pm), we will have the pleasure of having a Wire Wrapping lesson - demonstration to help us all understand and maybe get into wrapping. Wire wrapping tools and techniques will be demonstrated.



Our guest speaker will be Kim Packham, Running Boar Minerals, a well known jewelry wrapper. Kim will have many fine pieces to show and sell!

Please bring you equipment, if you have any, and learn how to use it. Kim will bring hers, so you can play and get a feel for how it works.

What a great opportunity--- SEE YOU THEN!!!"

Location: **Mountain Aspen Granite Countertops**, 213 Aspen Garden Way #4

Remember, **Glenn Raymond**, the owner of the business, has made the space available to the Club at No Cost!!! In return for his generosity, we encourage all Club members to keep **Mountain Aspen Granite Co.** in mind for stone counter tops, hardwood flooring and window coverings. They have polished natural granite and other rock that they can custom fit to kitchens, bathrooms or elsewhere. Phone **719-641-0214**.

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--Dick Lackmond

 **Reminder:** We now have an expanding **Club library**, overseen by **Duane Russell**. Here's a short note from Duane explaining how you can access items in the collection:

We have completed the inventory of the club's publications. Duane will bring several hard copies to the next meeting. We hope to soon have it on the club website. The plan is Duane will hold the material. Should you wish to check out an item, contact him at: 719-748-3946 or duaneruss@msn.com. He will make arrangements to get it to you (pick it up at his home, leave it for you at the Pikes Peak Historical Museum, or meet you somewhere). He will similarly accommodate you upon the return.

If you would like to come to his home and peruse the entire collection, call him and see if you can make an appointment. Duane will keep track of who takes what when. Initial check-outs will be limited to two weeks; however, if you wish to extend it, contact Duane and he will extend it unless someone else has requested the item.

If you have something to donate, please get any additions to our collections to Duane and he will update the inventory.

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

You may find this news video of some interest. It's about the origins of some of the Earth's gold.

<http://news.nationalgeographic.com/news/2011/09/110907-gold-metals-earth-meteors-oldest-rocks-nature-science/>

- Brad Smith

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REMOVING A STONE FROM BEZEL SETTING

If you've forgotten to use dental floss and got your stone caught in a bezel, there's one thing you can try before starting to pry. Find some sticky wax or beeswax. Roll it into a pencil-sized cylinder and stick the end onto the top of the stone. Mold it on well and yank.

If all else fails, you either have to very carefully pry open the bezel with a sharp knife blade or drill a small hole in back of the stone and push it out with the point of a scribe.

MAKING YOUR OWN MOKUME

Ever think about making your own mokume? Here's a link to the detailed steps in the sequence as done by a professional. Look for mokume on <http://www.rchristopher.com/tech/>

FOREDOM STAND

A quick and easy way to suspend a Foredom over your jewelry bench is to use some steel pipe components from your local hardware store. It attaches with a couple screws and costs a little over \$10

I use 1/2 inch galvanized pipe and fittings. To build a stand that attaches to the top of your bench, all you'll need is a flange and a thirty inch length of the pipe. If you prefer a stand that attaches to the side of your bench, you'll need a little longer pipe, three foot, a flange, and a 90 degree "street elle".

Finally, make a hook that goes into the top of the pipe to hang the motor from. You can use heavy coat hanger wire or better yet, a 1/8 steel rod from the hardware store.

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More BenchTips by Brad Smith are at: groups.yahoo.com/group/BenchTips/ or facebook.com/BenchTips.

Pebble Pups Corner

Our condolences go out to our faithful Pebble Pups leader, **Steve Veatch**, whose mother passed away in late August.

Pebble Pups classes started on September 20, with a presentation by **Steve Veatch** on how to organize a mineral and rock collection. Several activities have been planned for October (contact Steve Veatch steven.veatch@gmail.com for more information on these programs):

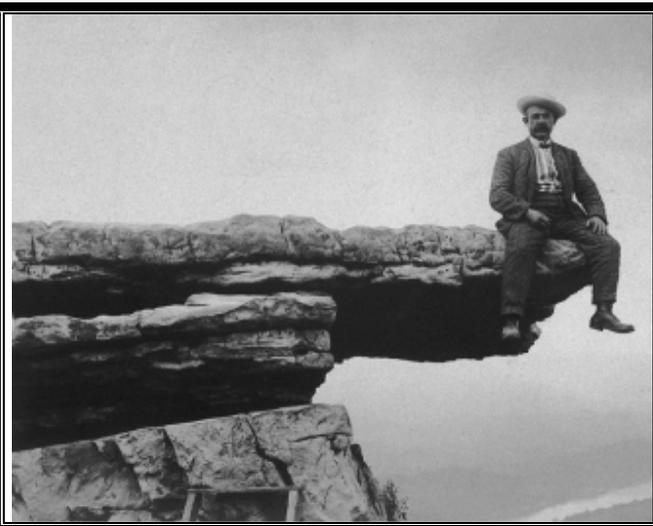
October 8: Red Rock Canyon Open Space field trip. Learn about Geocaching, GPS, and basic map reading (Leaders: **S. Veatch and J. Shimon**)

October 16: Wilkerson Pass field trip. Collect metamorphic rocks and magnetite (Leaders: **Steve and Shelley Veatch**)

October 18: Regular meeting (Lake George Community Center, 6PM). Igneous Rocks and Volcanoes (Leader: **John Rakowski**)

NOTES FROM THE EDITOR

Bob Carnein, Editor
ccarnein@gmail.com
719-687-2739



Dick Lackmond sent me the following article, which came from a website that you can access at <http://toagem.com>. Thanks to George Ing for permission to reprint it here.

Lake George Gem and Mineral Club

October, 2011

Lapidary History / Early Gemstone Cuts



The bead was probably the first gemstone cut used by man, dating back several thousand years. Limited by the tools available at the time, as well as the hardness of most gemstones, the simple bead or 'cabochon' were the logical choice for jewelry making and ornamentation. Stones were shaped by rubbing them with other stones, then polished using 'sand' as an abrasive.

Intricately carved cabochon cuts known as 'Glyptic' gem carvings, date back to the 7th millennium BC, and were popularized throughout ancient Egypt (scarabs), Indus Valley, and China (carved jade).

Engraved 'Glyptic' gems were used as personal signets or seal-stones which could be impressed into wax or clay to create a signature. The examples above are of early Roman gemstone cuts using the pre-renaissance cabochon cut with several variations of cameo and intaglio styles.

Medieval Lapidary Techniques

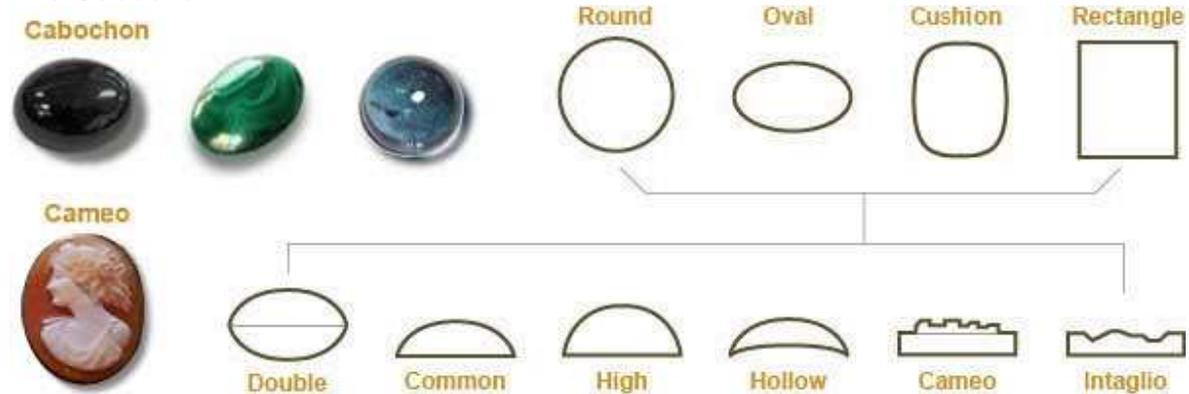
A "lapidary" (*edelsteinschneider*) is an artisan who works with stone, minerals, or gemstones, forming them into decorative or functional objects. The term "lapidary" is derived from the word lapidaries, which were medieval 'treatises' on alchemy, mineralogy, chemistry and other sciences.

Perhaps the best documentarian on the subject of medieval gem-cutting was Theophilus Presbyter (c.1070 - 1125), a Benedictine monk with a fascination for the applied arts. In Theophilus' 'On Divers Arts' *De diversibus artibus* (c.1125), his treatises on the polishing of gemstones go into great detail in describing various techniques. For the polishing of "onyx, beryl, smaragdus (emerald), jasper, chalcedony, and the other precious stones" you would make a very fine powder from "fragments of crystal" or "emery" and then work the stone on a "smooth flat limewood board, wet with saliva."

Theophilus also describes the method for using a 'dop stick' by attaching the gemstone to a "long piece of wood of comparable thickness" using "chaser's pitch," then rubbing the stone on a wet "piece of hard sandstone," and decreasing the grit of the abrasive until the stone "becomes brilliant." Then, using "tile dust moistened with saliva on a goat skin," you would rub the stone until it is "completely clear."

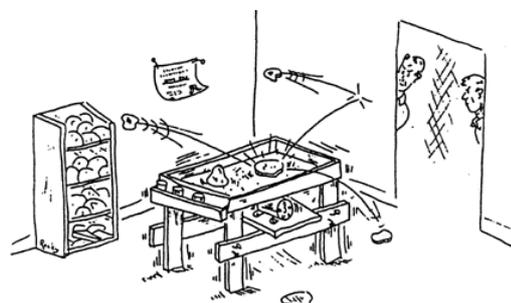
To create intricately carved cabochons, cameos, and intaglios (photo above) out of sapphire, early Roman engravers may have used 'adamas' (diamond) fragments as carving tools, given that they are the only material that is harder than corundum.

The Cabochon



A cabochon (*cabouchon*) is a gemstone which has been rubbed and polished into a simple rounded shape, as opposed to a faceted cut. Up until the 1400s, gem cutters were constrained to cabochon style cuts and odd asymmetrically faceted cuts due to the limited technology at hand. The resulting shape has a convex top with a flat or concave back. The term cabochon is used to describe any gemstone cut shape that is not faceted.

When a gemstone is cut *en cabochon*, the miniscule amount of light that is able to enter and exit through the stone is due primarily to its crystalline structure and optical properties, and has little to do with the gem-cutter's expertise.



YOU'RE RIGHT FRANK ---
YOU HAVE GOT A PROBLEM !

By Harlan "Rocky" West
From T-Town Rockhound 11/61 & 7/98

Lake George Gem and Mineral Club

Box 171

Lake George, Colorado 80827

LGGMClub.org

2011 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 our LGGMc August Gem Show 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 John Rakowski (719) 748-3861

Rev. Jan. 2011

**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 September, 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 2011 are:

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Wayne Johnston, Treasurer
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