

The Lake George Gem and Mineral Club -

Club Monthly Meeting, October, 2014



Regular Meeting of the Lake George Gem & Mineral Club

Saturday, October 11, at 10:00AM

Note: We are now on "winter hours"—meetings start at 10:00

Lake George Community Center

After a short business meeting, there will be an awards ceremony. President Core will present awards won by members and Pebble Pups/Earth-Science Scholars at the AFMS and RMFMS Tulsa meeting last July. Please join us in celebrating A LOT of LGGMC awards!

After the awards ceremony, **Bob Carnein** will give a brief (I promise) talk titled:

"Knowing What to Expect: the Key to Successful Mineral Identification"

"Over 4000 different minerals are known to exist on Earth. When somebody asks me for help identifying an unknown, I first try to eliminate as many unlikely candidates as I can. To do this, I look at the whole specimen, including what occurs with the unknown, the kind of host rock, and any information I can get from the collector about where the specimen was found. Then, knowing which common minerals occur in a particular association, I try to come up with the most likely ID. Short of sophisticated (and expensive) testing, this usually works."

Note: At the October meeting, we will renew an old tradition—the **silent auction**.

Thanks to the help of **Frank and Ellie Rosenberg**, we have received some nice collector specimens that will be auctioned for the benefit of the Club. These include, for this month, four excellent specimens of **fluorescent minerals** from the Sterling mine, Ogdensburg, NJ. Willemite fluoresces bright green and calcite bright orange/red, in shortwave ultraviolet. If you haven't seen these minerals before, you'll understand why the Franklin/Sterling Hill area is known as the "Fluorescent Mineral Capital of the World". There will be low starting bids (think what it would cost to visit Sterling Hill or to ship the specimens by USPS), and a UV lamp will be provided so that you can check the specimens out. **If you aren't into fluorescents**, some other items will be available for bidding, starting as low as 50 cents, and more minerals will be available at future winter meetings. Please consider donating a few of your duplicates to help the Club, and bring some cash! It's for the Club's benefit.

Coming Events

- Fall Gem, Mineral, and Jewelry Show**, Expo New Mexico (State Fairgrounds), Albuquerque. ... **Oct. 3-5**
- "Pyrite: It's More Than Just Fool's Gold"**, by Bob Carnein, Columbine Gem & Mineral Society monthly meeting, 6:30PM, Shavano Manor, 525 W. 16th (at J St.), Salida. ... **Oct. 11**
- "The Fantastic Varied Geology of Big Horn Sheep Canyon"**, by Robert Hickey, Canon City Geology Club monthly meeting, 6PM, First United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall, 9th & Main, Canon City. Call 719-275-9781 for info. ... **Oct. 13**
- Pueblo Rockhounds**, Monthly meeting, 7:30PM, Westminster Presbyterian Church, 10 University Circle, Pueblo. ... **Oct. 16**
- Colorado Springs Mineralogical Society**, Monthly meeting, 6:30PM, Colorado Springs Senior Center, 1514 N. Hancock, Colorado Springs. ... **Oct. 16**

Club News

Please Welcome New Members:

Larry & Sharon Bertram (Florissant)
Roger & Terry Clem (Penrose)
Trinity Comes (Aurora)
Harry Dougherty (Colorado Springs)
Jeff, Caroline, Nathan, & Jerrod Gallup (Woodland Park)
Tom Greene (Woodland Park)
Paul & Lauren Groves (Divide)
Steve & Shelly Kahler (Cascade)
Robert Lee (Canon City)
Mike Mortensen (Colorado Springs)
Tomi Michaels (Woodland Park)
Jack & Jo Owens (Lake George)
Alexander & Antanas Valys (Colorado Springs)

►► **Pete Modreski** sent some information about upcoming talks at the Denver Museum of Nature and Science:

More about the new DMNS Colloquium Series, from Ian Miller and James Hagadorn, DMNS Department of Earth Sciences:

"We are pleased to announce the continuation of the Department of Earth Sciences Colloquium Series. We strongly feel that one of the hallmarks of a successful and vibrant scientific department (volunteers and staff included) is the regular and free exchange of ideas. This process leads to shared learning, the initiation of innovative and collaborative projects, and ultimately, better information reaching our museum visitors, because we, ourselves, are better educated. A tried and true mechanism for accomplishing this exchange is a colloquium or speaker series.

"Our first colloquium featured Dr. Warren Hamilton who regaled us with an alternative view of early earth geophysics. While we will certainly entertain topics within the broad theme of Earth Science, we are a paleobiology group and so we will focus more heavily on paleontology- and/or soft rock-based presentations. As promised, we give you the 2014 fall lineup of speakers:

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"THESE ARE FIRST-COME, FIRST-SERVED; NO NEED TO RSVP. Parking at the Denver Museum of Nature and Science is free, the VIP seminar room is to the left of the T-Rex café, and admission to the Museum is not needed in order to gain access to the VIP seminar room.

October 28th, 3 pm, VIP Room, "**TBD: Paleoclimates**", Caspar Ammann (NCAR).

See <https://www2.ucar.edu/news/experts/caspar-ammann>

November 17th, 3 pm, VIP Room, "**Reconstructing Ancient Colorados with geologically accurate animations**", James Adson, Joseph Rogers, Eric Lobato, Paul Weimer (UC-Boulder).

See <http://igp.colorado.edu/>

December 17th, 3 pm, VIP Room, "**On the trail of Colorado's newest, oldest sedimentary rock formation: Eluded at every turn by the Tava sandstone**", Christine Siddoway (Colorado College). <http://sites.coloradocollege.edu/csiddoway/>

"The presentations will be approximately 45-50 minutes in length with 20 minutes for Q&A. They will all take place in the VIP room next to the T-rex cafeteria starting at 3 pm. The websites for each of our fall speakers are given above. You can visit them to learn a little more about each of our presenters. I hope you have the chance to join us!"

▶▶ The last topic of the DMNS Colloquium Series is of local interest. **Jennifer Gerring** and **Dick Lackmond** sent this link to a really cool article about the "mystery (Tava) sandstone" in the Ute Pass fault zone. This was the subject of a field trip led by **Bob Carnein** and **Steve Veatch** a couple of years ago: <http://www.geologypage.com/2014/09/strange-formation-on-colorado-rockies.html#.VCIYs44H7ZM.mailto>

▶▶ Speaking of the Show, next year's Gem & Mineral Show will be held **August 20-23**. Keep those dates open!

▶▶ We have an almost complete slate of nominees for next year's officers and committee chairs:

President: **John Rakowski**
Treasurer: **Suzanne Core**
Secretary: **Norma Engelberg**
Newsletter Editor: **Bob Carnein**
Field Trip Coordinator: **Todd Mattson**
Webmaster: **Dan Alfrey**
Show Coordinator: **Becky Blair**
Memberships/Badges: **Jerolynn Kawamoto**

We're still looking for a nominee to be Vice President next year. If **you are interested in serving** or know somebody who might be willing, please let Suzanne, Jo Beckwith, John Rakowski, or Bob Carnein know. We will vote on new officers at the December meeting.

▶▶ In case you haven't bought your LGGMC tee-shirt or hat yet, they're selling like hot cakes. The tee-shirt company did a great job modifying the late **Mary O'Donnell's** logo design, and you can still get them at our cost.

▶▶ A couple of years ago, **Bob Carnein** offered to host a course in basic crystallography for Club members and other area mineral enthusiasts. There was not enough interest at that time, but he has agreed to try it again. This is a serious course—it will meet for 10 2-hour sessions and will cover everything you need to know to make crystallography a part of your mineral ID "toolkit". Please contact Bob at ccarnein@gmail.com or 719-687-2739 for more information.

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▶ Lake George Gem & Mineral Club officers and committee chairs 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)

▶ Here's a late-breaking release about an upcoming program from Steve Veatch:

For Immediate Release:

September 24, 2014

Local Geologist & Historian, Steven Veatch to Speak!

As a descendant of Cripple Creek, Colorado miners, Steven Veatch is a passionate about the District! He's also a published geologist and historian - recognized for his academic contributions. Combine these two qualities, and Steve can tell a story that will thrill and educate an audience at the same time! Join us on Saturday, October 18, 2014, at 10:00 a.m., to explore how a geologic survey, conducted in 1894, created the foundation on which Cripple Creek miners made millions.

Have you heard the name Penrose? Does it make you think about Pikes Peak history, big business, philanthropy, or the Broadmoor Hotel? Then come to hear this presentation: "Cripple Creek's Foundation of Fortune: The 1894 Cross and Penrose Geological Survey," and you'll learn how that name became famous in the "World's Greatest Gold Camp."

The presentation is sponsored by the Cripple Creek & Victor Gold Mining Company (CC&V), and is free and open to the public. After the presentation, CC&V will pay admission for presentation attendees to visit the Cripple Creek District Museum to see their Cross-Penrose Rock Collection.

The location for this presentation is CC&V's Visitors Center at 371 E. Bennett, Ave., Cripple Creek, Colorado 80813 – seating is limited, so RSVP today to: 719-689-2341.

For additional information, please contact:

Brad Poulson, Communications Specialist
Cripple Creek & Victor Gold Mining Company
719-689-4052
Brad@CCVMine.com
P. O. Box 191
Victor, Colorado 80860

Earth-Science Scholars/Pebble Pups Corner

Pebble Pups/Earth-Science Scholars leader **Steven Veatch** sent the following updates on upcoming and recent activities:

Check this research out by a pebble pup:

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<http://pebblepups.blogspot.com/2014/09/quick-notes-on-amethyst.html>

This is scheduled for publication in a newspaper and magazine!

Please check out this URL on our blog:

<http://pebblepups.blogspot.com/2014/08/contests-for-you-to-enter.html>

It is about two contests that you should consider participating in.

October 4 I am teaching a 4-hour class on the geology of Cripple Creek, and then a bus will take us to the gold mine where we will take a **tour** and maybe get to collect. There is a fee for students--it is \$9 for the bus and facility. Parents are \$25. The class at the Cripple Creek Park and Rec. The tour will start from the Rec Center. This class and field trip is suitable for middle school students. Please call the Cripple Creek Park and Rec Class to register at [719-689-3514](tel:719-689-3514). The rec center is at 128 Bennett Ave. There is 1/2 semester **graduate school credit** available from the Colorado School of Mines for college students or teachers who desire credit. This will be an amazing class with a mix of community people, college students, teachers, rock hounds, and pebble pups. *See you there.*

October 11 is Cool Science at UCCS. I need help in the morning to set up and help in the afternoon to put stuff away. I also need some helpers to meet the public and demonstrate our displays. These are two hour shifts or all day. Please email me your availability.

On October 18 I am presenting a PowerPoint program at the Cripple Creek and Victor Gold Mine Visitor Center in Cripple Creek (on Bennett Avenue). I will present the story of Cripple Creek's rock collection at 10 am. I would like pebble pups, earth science scholars, and their families to attend. I will talk about 40 minutes. We will look at the mine's visitor center and then have a field trip to explore Cripple Creek and look for rocks. **If you can come, send me an email and I will get you details.** This will be really fun, and I would like to count on your support. I would like you and your parents to be with me on October 18.

The Roman Artifact collection is almost ready for publication. Sean Kosman is providing a few details. Clay West did the photography of the collection. There will be a release party when this is published by *Deposits* magazine.

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

Here's a preliminary schedule for this year's Pebble Pups/Earth-Science Scholars program:

Oct.: National Fossil Day trip to Dinosaur Ridge and the CSM Museum.

Cool Science Carnival at UCCS.

Meet Dr. Scott Sampson, Denver Museum of Nature and Science.

Earth-Science Poetry (**Betty Merchant**)

Basics of Mineral Identification (**Bob Carnein**) (TBA)

Nov.: Crystals (**Betty Merchant**)

Dec.: A Bad Day for Dinosaurs (**Steve Veatch**)

Jan.: Your Planet Earth: Volcanoes.

Field trip: Denver Museum of Nature & Science (**Dr. Ian Miller**).

Feb.: Family Geology Day.

Giants of the Ice Age.

March: Exploring Caves: How Caves are Formed (**Blake Reher**).

Field trip: Cave of the Winds (**Steve Veatch**)

April: National Poetry Month.

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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



Thanks to Club Librarian **Norma Engelberg**, who sent this review of a book that's available in the Club library:

Ice Age Wonders in the Colorado Rockies By Norma Engelberg

Many of the publications in the Lake George Gem & Mineral Club library are technical in nature – how-to books with lots of pictures, field guides to gems, minerals and fossils; geology books suitable for beginners and amateurs and deeper books on such subjects as plate tectonics and cosmology for readers with a serious scientific bent.

One book that should appeal to everyone is “***Digging Snowmastodon: Discovering an Ice Age World in the Colorado Rockies***” by Kirk Johnson and Ian Miller of the Denver Museum of Nature & Science. It chronicles the story of the fossil mastodon found in 2010 when the Snowmass Village Water and Sanitation District was removing 80,000 cubic yards of dirt from the bottom of Lake Deborah, a shallow high-elevation reservoir, to create Ziegler Reservoir. URS Corp. and Gould Construction workers didn’t know that deep under the shallow lake there was an ancient lake bed that harbored the remains of 130,000-year-old mastodons and a lot of other Ice Age animals and plants. Working under a deadline, some construction crews might have ignored any fossils they found. However, when Gould crews started to run into bones, tusks and teeth in the giant hole they were digging, they halted their heavy machines and made some phone calls. The results of those calls are told in hundreds of photos and thousands of words by Johnson and Miller.

They tell the story of the Snowmastodon in three acts, as if it were a play. Act One covers Oct. 15-Nov. 16, 2010, the discovery to the end of the first dig season when the ground froze and snow covered the site. Act Two covers the work that took place at the DMNS that winter, starting on Nov. 17, with the drying and sorting of the bones. This phase of the story ends May 12, 2011, when crews started moving back into the dig site. Act Three starts on May 13 with the arrival at the Snowmass dig site of dozens of professional and amateur paleontologists and hundreds of volunteers; runs through “Mud Season”; and ends on July 1, when the digging ended.

The entire adventure is a race against the clock. The reservoir had to be constructed by the end of October, 2011, or the water and sanitation district would have to pay large penalties. How many fossils could the diggers retrieve and still leave enough time for the reservoir to be completed? Diggers took the place of heavy equipment and removed 7,000 cubic yards (8,000 tons) of dirt one shovel-full at a time. The largest mastodon in the dig was found on June 27, and the last fossil, found on July 1, was the tusk and skull of a baby mastodon.

Johnson and Miller introduce the many players in this mad rush to retrieve the fossils, and they also take side trips into the technical aspects of Ice-Age fossil hunting, explaining how carbon dating works, how fossils are removed from the site safely, the reconstruction of whole plants from fossil bits, the Ice-Age history of the Roaring Fork Valley, and the types of animals and plants found at the dig, including a surprising find of fossilized birds eggs. They also include surface maps and stratigraphy, showing the layers of fossil-bearing sediments and what was found in each layer. There are also artist renderings of what the site might have looked like when the mastodons and the Ice-Age giant sloths, camels, bison and horses lived there. The hundreds of photos show not only the digging process but also how much fun the workers had. For most, this dig was a once in a lifetime opportunity. For those of us who missed it, "Digging Snowmastodon" shares the excitement and gives us a feel for what it was like. Of course, the work on the hundreds of fossils found didn't end when the diggers left on July 2. The work of cleaning, drying, cataloging, studying and displaying the fossils was just beginning.

Snowmastodon is available for check out from the LGGM Club Library. The complete list of books available is on the club website. To request a book, email njengel60@gmail.com before the monthly meeting.



(aspenjournalism.org)

Lake George Gem and Mineral Club

Box 171

Lake George, Colorado 80827

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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 15 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**

Lake George Gem and Mineral Club

October, 2014

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:

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