

Lake George Gem & Mineral Club

Club News, November, 2023



Remember, our meetings begin at **10AM** from October through April.

Our next meeting will be at 10AM November 11 at the Lake George Charter School.

Dale Hernandez

of Newmont's Cripple Creek & Victor Gold Mine will give us an update on gold production and future plans for the Cripple Creek district.



↘↘ Our December meeting will be the annual election of officers and "Towel Show". Please think about bringing some recent finds/purchases/lapidary works to show off with other members. Minerals, fossils, jewelry, or other items that would be of interest to Club members will work. You should be able to fit your display on a bath towel—hence the name "towel show". Snacks will be provided by the Club, and we will elect officers for 2024. **Help with identification of your "mystery minerals" will be provided!**

↘↘ **Markus Raschke** will give a talk (not yet scheduled, but probably this spring) on his adventures tracking down a world-class scheelite-beryl-cassiterite deposit in the Tibetan Plateau of China.

Rocks & Rails Mineral, Gem, & Model Train Show/Expo - 12/08/2023

Start Date: 12/08/2023

End Date: 12/10/2023

Venue: Boulder County Fairgrounds

Address:

9595 Nelson Rd

Longmont, CO 80501



Free Admission *Free Parking*

GEM & MINERAL SHOW
NOVEMBER 17 -19, 2023
Jefferson County Fairgrounds
Exhibit Halls
15200 W. 6th Ave.
Golden, CO

Sponsored by
Denver Area Mineral Dealers

Public Welcome

👇👇 Here's an item of interest from the **Pueblo Rockhounds**: It is time for the Pueblo Rockhounds to have our annual rock and mineral auction! **The auction will be held at our November 16th membership meeting at 6:30 pm.** We have many different specimens for the auction this year. Besides your membership dues, this auction is how we fund our club activities. Please plan on attending the November 16th membership meeting and bidding on some of the nice specimens Larry Frank has lined up for us!

👇👇 The Pikes Peak Historical Society Chautauqua for November 19 will feature explorer, mountaineer, and archaeologist **Gary Ziegler**, who will talk about ancient human-created structures in Peru and Colorado. Everyone welcome. The free talk will be at 2PM at the Lake George Charter School.

👇👇 **ADDITIONAL COMING EVENTS OUTSIDE THE LGGM CLUB:** (Nearby gem, mineral, fossil, and geology events that you may enjoy.) Go to each club's website for more information.

- **Cañon City Geology Club** meets on the 2nd Monday of the month at 6PM in the United Methodist Church, Cañon City
- **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
- **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;
- **Pueblo Rockhounds**, meets on the 3rd Thursday of each month at 6:30PM in the Westminster Presbyterian Church, 10 University Circle, Pueblo.

👇👇 Thanks to **Pete Modreski** for the following list of upcoming events:
Coming Earth Science Events,

Mon., Nov. 6, 11:30 a.m., some of you may be interested in this week's Denver Mining Club presentation: Stacey Holzer, Gemologist, Authentic Solutions. **"Appraisal of Gems and Minerals: How to Get the Best Value for Family Jewelry."**

If you're not familiar with the Denver Mining Club, it has luncheon meetings every Monday, 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m., at Golden Corral Buffet & Grill, 3677 South Santa Fe Drive, Sheridan, CO 80110 (southwest side at Santa Fe Dr. & Hampden Ave.; purchase of buffet lunch required). All are always welcome; see their website for the full schedule of each month's meetings & speaker topics: www.denverminingclub.org.

Fri., Nov. 10, 7:00 p.m., **Fossil Diatoms in the Florissant Formation**, by Mary Ellen Benson; at the monthly meeting of the Denver Gem and Mineral Guild, Wheat Ridge United Methodist Church, Wadsworth & 38th Ave. See <https://denvergem.org/> for details. All are always welcome.

Sat., Nov. 11, 1-4 p.m., **Free Mineral ID Day** at the Mines Museum! "Let us identify the most mysterious specimens in your collection! (All are welcome; museum admission is always free. Limit 3 specimens per visitor; only identification assistance will be provided, we will not offer value assessment.) **Just to mention**—all persons interested in helping to support the museum and in taking part in special members-only activities, are invited to join the Friends of the Mines Museum! See www.friendsofminesmuseum.com. Annual membership, students \$10; adults \$30; family \$50.

Thurs., Nov. 16, 7:00 p.m., **Colorado Scientific Society** November meeting, **Glaciers and Rock Glaciers** by Bob Anderson, Univ. of Colorado. [The CSS' previously scheduled talk, Colorado Structural Evolution, by Lon Abbott, had to be postponed; we hope to have it given sometime in 2024. The meeting will be in-person meeting at Calvary Church Golden, and also available via Zoom; see <https://coloscisoc.org/> for details. All are always welcome.

Fri.-Sat.-Sun., Nov. 17-19, **Denver Area Mineral Dealers ("DAM") Gem and Mineral Show**, 10-5 Fri. & Sat., 10-4 Sun., Jefferson County Fairgrounds, Exhibit Hall, 15200 W. 6th Ave., Golden. No admission charge.

Wed., Nov. 29, 7:30 p.m., **Friends of Mineralogy, Colorado Chapter**, bimonthly meeting; Berthoud Hall, room 109; presentation on some topic of mineralogical interest TBA at this time, but see <https://friendsofmineralogycolorado.org/> for an update on this. All are welcome to attend. [P.S., NOT on what would have been our regular meeting date of Thurs. Nov. 16, as you may have seen in one of my earlier "calendars of coming events".]

Sat., Dec. 2, **WIPS (Western Interior Paleontological Society) Holiday Party and Silent Auction Fundraiser**, at the Clements Community Center, Lakewood. All are welcome. See the WIPS website for details!

Fri.-Sat.-Sun. Dec. 8-10, **"Rocks and Rails" Gem and Mineral Show** sponsored by the Flatirons Gem and Mineral Club, Boulder County Fairgrounds, 9595 Nelson Road, Longmont; combined with the Boulder County Model Railroad Club model train show; one admission for both, adults \$8, seniors \$5, children under 12 free with adult. Fri & Sat. 10 a.m. – 5 p.m., Sun. 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Thurs., Dec. 14, 6:00 p.m., **Colorado Scientific Society, December Annual Meeting, Potluck Dinner and Presidential Address, Cal Ruleman, US Geological Survey (presentation title TBA)**; in-person meeting at Calvary Church Golden; see <https://coloscisoc.org/> for details. All are welcome.

👉 Thanks to **Frank Rosenberg** for this report and photos of the October meeting:

At our October meeting, editor **Bob Carnein** led our business meeting followed by our club member **Dan Mira's** very interesting presentation "The Geology, Minerals, and Cultural History of Maramures County, Romania". Here are a few photos:



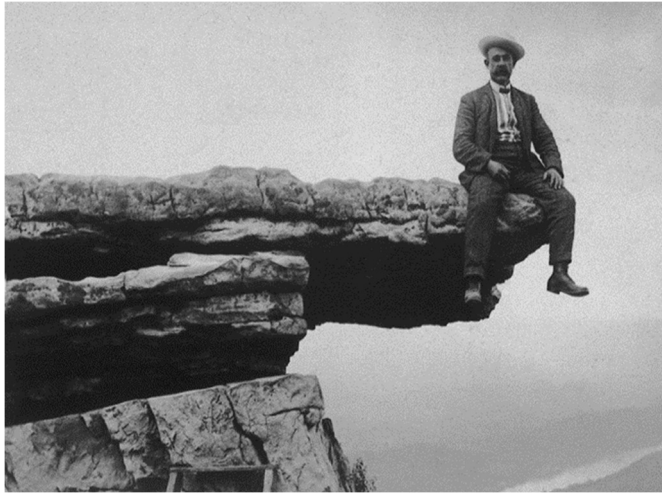
↘↘ **Sharon Holte** reports that we have 6 dealers signed up for next summer's Gem and Mineral Show: Jeremy Berg, Taylor Harper (Silicates for You), Jerrolynn Kawamoto, John & Nancy McKnight (McKnight's Creations), George & Jennifer Quist (Quist Fine Minerals), and Tani Vasholtz (Happiness is Sunshine Studio).

↘↘ From Rock&Gem: Best rocks for tumbling:
https://www.rockngem.com/best-rock-tumbling-rocks/?fref=1228ab2c-0ff5-4a37-afab-e24eac618bbc&em=Y2Nhcm5laW5AZ21haWwuY29t&utm_campaign=RnG+Weekly+Oct+12_2023

↘↘ Don't have a tumbling machine? Rock & Gem has an article about hand polishing rocks:
https://www.rockngem.com/how-to-polish-rocks-by-hand/?fref=3c113fc1-c5d1-47b6-ada2-2d940c3eecd9&em=Y2Nhcm5laW5AZ21haWwuY29t&utm_campaign=RnG+Weekly+Oct+12_2023

↘↘ Do you know who compiled the first list of birthstones? Find out here:
https://www.rockngem.com/who-is-george-frederick-kunz/?fref=eb56c1ba-47f6-4229-a09c-bfe7c63ff840&em=Y2Nhcm5laW5AZ21haWwuY29t&utm_campaign=RnG+Weekly+Oct+05_2023

↘↘ Here's an article about ancient human footprints found in White Sands National Park that may re-write the history of human occupation of North America:
https://steady.substack.com/p/ancient-footprints?utm_source=post-email-title&publication_id=247881&post_id=137904906&utm_campaign=email-post-title&isFreemail=true&r=19cpt&utm_medium=email



Notes from the Editor

Bob Carnein

Newsletter Editor
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Help! We still need a volunteer to take on the job of Newsletter Editor. If you're interested in helping your Club, please contact Frank Rosenberg of the nominating committee. Elections are held in December. Frank's email address is: fs_rosenberg@hotmail.com.

Monthly Mineral Quiz

The Monthly Mineral for November (Carnein photos and collection)



This month's mineral is one of those common ones that many collectors don't think about. It often occurs as pseudo-hexagonal twins (left and middle photos), but it's really orthorhombic (right photo). Excellent orthorhombic crystals are rare; the one above came from the Czech Republic. Fluorescent mineral collectors love specimens like the one on the left (from Sicily) because they fluoresce a beautiful soft red color. It has a vitreous to resinous luster, hardness is 3 ½ to 4, SG is about 2.95, and its color varies depending on impurities. This is another mineral named by Abraham Gottlob Werner (see below). Mindat.org (accessed October, 2023) lists only 36 Colorado localities, but there are probably many more where it has not yet been described. What is this common mineral?

Last Month's Mineral: Grossular



Grossular $\text{Ca}_3\text{Al}_2(\text{SiO}_4)_3$ is one of several common members of the garnet group. It was named by Abraham Gottlob Werner, a famous German geologist-neptunist from the Freiberg School of Mining, in 1803 for its color's resemblance to that of gooseberries, *Ribes grossularium*. However, as is typical of garnets, the color really isn't a very good indicator of species. It can sometimes be identified by its association with vesuvianite, wollastonite, sphene, and other calcium and magnesium silicates in metamorphic rocks derived from original clayey limestone ("lime-silicate rock"). You may have found it at the Gold City claims or at other occurrences in central Colorado.

As in most garnets, the high hardness, lack of cleavage, and moderately high SG mean that it sometimes occurs in placer deposits. When transparent, it makes an excellent gemstone (e.g., tsavorite, hessonite). It often forms well developed dodecahedral crystals, as in the example shown.



The Lake George Gem and Mineral Club is a group of people interested in rocks and minerals, fossils, geology 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 normally 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 September, 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). New memberships and renewals are only accepted Jan 1 through March 31 each year.

Our Officers for 2023 are:

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