Lake George Gem & Mineral Club Club News, September, 2024



Come to our September meeting, at 9AM Sept. 14, at the Lake George Charter School. Paul Combs will give a talk on links between birds and dinosaurs. Here's a description of Paul's talk: "As soon as paleontologists began to dig up and reassemble dinesaurs, they peticed a strong recemblance between some dinesaur skeletons.

dinosaurs, they noticed a strong resemblance between some dinosaur skeletons and those of birds. Since then, scientists have used more than 130 different types of evidence to explain the link between birds and theropod dinosaurs (*Tyrannosaurus rex* is one). More discoveries are being found every year. Paul Combs will present a PowerPoint slide lecture that illustrates about 30 of these birddinosaur links at the September 14 club meeting. You don't want to miss it! The lecture was originally created to be presented at UCCS, and it includes some evidence that was discovered only two or three years ago. Come catch the lecture and use your new knowledge to impress your friends or the people at the next table at the restaurant. See you there!"

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Pete Modreski will talk about "Mineral Identification" at the October meeting.

Show Chair **Carol Kinate** sent this report about our annual gem and mineral show: 2024 Show Update – BIG SUCCESS

Our FIRST ever Auction was a tremendous success. Thank you, Betty Merchant, for insisting we give this auction a try; and it really paid off. **Frank Rosenberg**, **Randy Hurley**, and **Melanie Briscoe** completed this team and made it so much fun. Also, many club members and vendors contributed some awesome donations that ensured the success of this auction. THANK YOU!

I would also like to acknowledge the creative and time-consuming job that **Sharon Holte**, as Vendor Host provided. The map layout created by **Jerrolynn Kawamoto**, which was constantly changing until the last moment, was brilliant. The paperwork (**John Rakowski**) to make this show happen even initially can't go unnoticed. Finally, thank you to all the club member volunteers (you know who you are) who stepped in and helped with parking, club questions, kids activities, set-up/tear-down.... The show was a team effort and was a success due to your amazing support. Carol Kinate, Show Chair

Frank Rosenberg added the following:

Frank Rosenberg and **Randy Hurley** were very pleased with how the Silent Auction worked out. We especially want to thank **Betty Merchant** for initiating the idea of having a silent auction in the

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show, and **Melanie Briscoe** (Just a friend of the club) for her tireless efforts throughout the entire show. Our success would not have been possible without Mel.

We also want to thank all the Club Members and vendors who contributed some really great donations insuring our successful auction.

[▶] Were is an additional show report from **Bob Carnein**:

"I originally planned to include in this report some photos of what I thought were notable specimens for sale by show dealers. Unfortunately, due to a personal malfunction (I won't try to blame it on the camera!), that didn't work out. My apologies to the dealers who allowed me to photograph their best pieces. However, I did get pictures of some dealers and show participants, and those are included here."



Jerrolyn and Richard Kawamoto had their reliable assortment of fine jewelry and minerals.



The silent auction was a great success, thanks to hundreds of donations and to Betty Merchant, Randy Hurley, and Frank Rosenberg, who manned the tables.

Theresa Ahmad, of Rockhouse Paintings and Treasures. had what I consider to be the show's best "sleeper"—a beautiful cluster of cuprite crystals from the Rubtsovsk mine, Rubtsovsky, Russia. As of Sunday afternoon, it had not been sold.



As usual, George and Jennifer Quist had a wonderful assortment of local minerals. I coveted a great twinned fluorite and an old amazonite twin from the Crystal Peak district!

Mark Woods, of Southeastern Mineral Specimens, brought some fine Georgia rutile and a spectacular doubly terminated amethyst crystal worthy of a museum collection.

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Austin Hartman and Chelsea Hodapp of Faceted Industries featured something new—fine specimens of purple fluorite cubes with drusy quartz from the Crystal Peak area.

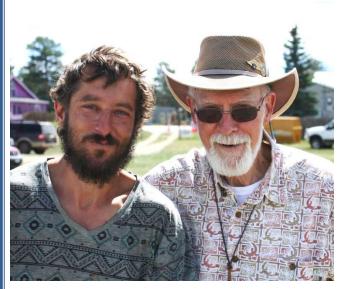




Karen Vogl had some more sleepers—a couple of very fine yellow baryte specimens from Peru and some very nice fluorites from an unknown locality.

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New dealer Blake Snyder got to pose with an old fossil. Blake had a great amazonite cluster and a fine Mannebach twin that I coveted.





You could have bought a fine opal from the South Wolo zone, Amhara region, Ethiopia!





My apologies to the dealers I missed because of my camera foul-up.

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Postscript: If you missed the yak burgers and milkshakes, shame on you. You might have another chance next vear!

Dave Alexander sent this schedule for remaining field trips for this summer:

- Sept 14. Wilkerson Pass Tourmalines (leave after meeting).
- Sept 14. Gold City Claim (leave after meeting)
- Sept 14. Gold City Claim Nighttime event.
- Sept 28. Wigwam Claims Reclamation with DGMG.

Oct 12. Badger Flats Magnetite (leave after meeting).

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.

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Show season is in full swing: <u>Please note that the Southern Colorado Rock and Mineral Show,</u> <u>scheduled for Aug. 30 through Sept. 1 has been canceled (again).</u>

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♥ Speaking of events, **Pete Modreski (who will be our speaker in October)** (pmodreski@aol.com) sent this list of geology-related talks and other events that are coming up this summer:

Thurs.-Sun., Sept. 12-15, Denver Gem and Mineral Show, part of the Hardrock Summit Show, and cosponsored by the nonprofit Greater Denver Area Gem and Mineral Council, an association of 7 Front Range area gem, mineral, and fossil clubs. In 2024 this will be held at the **Westin Westminster Hotel,** 10600 Westminster Blvd., Westminster CO. The show includes museum displays, club booths and demonstrations including free mineral and gem identification, and sale of grab bags for kids that goes toward a scholarship fund at Colorado School of Mines. Free admission and parking.

Fri., Sept. 13 (6-9 p.m.), **Colorado School of Mines Museum's annual Open House**, held during the week of the Denver Gem and Mineral Show. All are welcome! See the Mines Museum website or facebook page for more information.

Several other gem, mineral, and jewelry shows will take place in Denver during the week preceding the "Denver Show." These include:

Fri.-Mon., Sept. 5-8, Just Minerals and Crystals Event Denver, Denver Airport Marriott at Gateway Park, 16455 E. 40th Circle, Aurora CO. Free parking & admission.

Sept. 6-14, Colorado Mineral and Fossil Fall Show, Crowne Plaza DIA, 15500 E 40th Ave., Denver CO 80239. Free admission & parking.

Sept. 6-15, Denver Mineral, Fossil, Gem & Jewelry Show; Denver Expo Gem Show; and Miner's Co-op Show; all at the National Western Complex, 4655 Humboldt St., Denver. Free parking & admission.

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More upcoming events:

Thurs., Sep. 19, 7 p.m., Colorado Scientific Society Past Presidents Dinner, "What do two geologists know about pandemics? Economic cascades, tipping points, and the costs of a business-as-usual approach to COVID-19". David Goodwin, Denison University, and Peter Roopnarine, California Academy of Sciences. At the Mount Vernon Canyon Club or join us on Zoom. For full information see the CSS website, <u>www.coloscisoc.org</u>

Fri., Oct. 25, Colorado Science Conference, a conference and workshop for all science educators. Held at the CSU-Spur Education Center at the stock show complex, Denver. For full registration, program, and other information see https://coloradoscienceconference.org/.

Nov. 1-3, New Mexico Mineral Symposium, Socorro, NM, sponsored by the New Mexico Bureau of Geology & Mineral Resources, Mineral Museum, and held at the Macey Center, New Mexico Institute of Mining & Technology. For information see https://geoinfo.nmt.edu/museum/nmms/home.cfml . [Note, this is a recently announced date change to Nov. 1-3, from the earlier anticipated date of the weekend of Dec. 8-10.]

Nov. 15-17 (*anticipated date*), Denver Area Mineral Dealers (D.A.M.D.) Gem and Mineral Show, at the Jefferson County Fairgrounds, Golden.

Dec. 13-15, Flatirons Gem and Mineral Show, at the Boulder County Fairgrounds, Longmont; sponsored by the Flatirons Gem & Mineral Club [Boulder].

Here's the monthly mineral quiz for September. Good luck; let me know what you think it is!

Monthly Mineral Quiz

Monthly Mineral for September, 2024 (Carnein photos and collection)



This month's mineral is another one of those secondary products of weathering. In this case, the parent is a very important ore mineral that can be found at thousands of localities, including many in Colorado. Colorado boasts about 70 localities for our unknown, which has a H of 4 ½ to 5, SG of 3.48, and commonly occurs as orthorhombic crystals or radiating/botryoidal aggregates. Its name refers to the fact that crystals have different forms at the two ends of the c axis. The color varies, depending mainly on impurities; when pure, it's white or colorless. Common associated minerals include smithsonite, anglesite, cerussite, and other secondary minerals. However, this mineral is a silicate, rather than a carbonate or sulfate. I recently found some of this on the dumps of mines on Mt. Sherman. What is this common mineral?

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Last Month's Mineral: Chalcanthite, CuSO₄.5H₂O

Last month's mineral is a water-soluble secondary copper compound that is sometimes found in arid climates or in mine passages in copper deposits. It typically forms post-mining as a result of breakdown of sulfides followed by copper- and sulfate-rich water evaporating into mine openings. The type locality is the huge porphyry-copper deposit at Chuquicamata, Antofagasta, Chile, which is famous for some very odd and rare minerals (Mindat currently [August, 2024] lists 139 minerals found at Chuquicamata, of which 19 were first described there). Chalcanthite is toxic and should be kept out of the reach of children. Fine crystals, often seen online or at mineral shows, are grown in the lab—don't be taken in by them. The specimen in the photo was given to me by Richard Kawamoto, who collected it in a mine in Utah.