



THE BULLETIN OF THE COLORADO SPRINGS MINERALOGICAL SOCIETY Published Since 1960

Colorado Springs Mineralogical Society

Founded 1936
 ~ Lazard Cahn ~
 Honorary President
 "Pick & Pack"
 Volume 64 No. 6
 July 2024

CSMS General Assembly

Thursday, July 18, 2024 7:00 PM
 Colorado Springs Christian School
 4855 Mallow Road

~ Price and O'Connor ~

Updating Paleontology Collection Conditions at Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument

A-Z BRING SNACKS

Society members are always encouraged to bring specimens to general assembly to share and/ or for help with identification

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Maddie Price has been the paleontology intern at Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument since September 2023. She earned a bachelor's degree in geological sciences from the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill and a master's degree in museum science from Texas Tech University. While completing her master's degree, she worked in the Lubbock Lake Landmark laboratory and the Denver Museum of Nature and Science, collaborating with the U.S. Forest Service. In her free time, she enjoys playing with her two cats, Moon and Saturn, and making friendship bracelets.

Conni O'Connor earned a Bachelor's of Science in Biology (Ecology and Evolution) with a minor in Museum Studies from the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs and has worked at Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument since 2010. In 2019, she was hired as the park's first permanent Museum Technician.

Project info:

After the current Visitor Center was built in 2012, it was discovered that the door and fire wall separating the collections storage area and the Paleontology Division did not pass National Park Service Museum Standards. While waiting for construction to begin, the paleontology collections were completely rehoused, improving the longevity of the collection by updating all storage materials to archival standards. A multi-step inventory process was completed which ensured the accuracy of the documentation attached to the collection. Finally, individual specimens and drawers were packed to maintain the collection's safety during the construction project. Construction is scheduled to start towards the end of 2024.



Above: Pikes Peak gem show boss Lisa Cooper and husband Steve at the smash hit 2024 Pikes Peak Gem, Mineral and Jewelry Show at Norris Penrose Event Center, Colo Spgs. Photo courtesy of Laura Garrett.

COLORADO SPRINGS MINERALOGICAL SOCIETY PO BOX 2 COLORADO SPRINGS, COLORADO 80901-0002
 Visit our website: <http://www.csms1936.com/>

CSMS Group Calendar

Jul '24	Aug '24						
10 Jul	14 Aug	Fossil Group	2nd Wed	6:00 PM	East Library	Kristine Harris Richard Villareal	719-593-1524 831-760-6985
4 Jul	1 Aug	Board Meeting	1st Thur	6:00 PM	Zoom	Alex Field	719-351-4897
2 Jul	6 Aug	Pebble Pups	1st Tue	4:15 PM	East Library	David St. John	719-424-9852
18 Jul	15 Aug	General Assy	3rd Thur	7:00 PM	Co Sp Christian Sch	Alex Field	719-351-4897
PAUSED	26 Sep	Crystal Group	4th Thur	7:00 PM	Co Sp Christian Sch	Kevin Witte	719-638-7919
By appt	By appt	Faceting Group	By appt	By appt		John Massie	719-338-4276
By appt	By appt	Lapidary Group	By appt	By appt	Sharon's House	Sharon Holte	719-217-5683

Community Events (Pete Modreski)

July 25-28: Fairplay Gem, Mineral, and Jewelry Show; Platte Drive, ½ mile west of US-285, Fairplay, CO; free admission and parking.

Aug 8-11: Buena Vista Contin-Tail Gem, Mineral, and Fossil Show, Buena Vista Rodeo Grounds; free admission and parking.

Aug 15-18: Woodland Park Gem & Mineral Show; located outdoors off US-24; free admission and parking.

Aug 16-18: Lake George Gem & Mineral Show; located outdoors off US-24; free admission and parking. Sponsored by the Lake George Gem & Mineral Club.

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.

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

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.

Sept 7: CSMS annual picnic, Western Museum of Mining and Industry. Visit the museum's website at <https://wmmi.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 Nov. 8-10.]

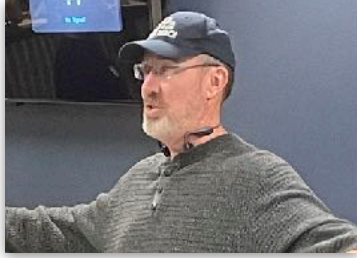
Nov 15-17: (anticipated date), Denver Area Mineral Dealers (D.A.M.D.) Gem and Mineral Show, at the Jefferson County Fairgrounds, Golden.

Dec 8-10: (anticipated date), Flatirons Gem and Mineral Show, at the Boulder County Fairgrounds, Longmont; sponsored by the Flatirons Gem & Mineral Club.



Secretary's Spot

John McGrath



2024 CSMS Officers

Alex Field, President
Shane Riddle, Vice-President
John McGrath, Secretary
Ann Proctor, Treasurer
Adelaide Bahr, Membership Secretary
John Emery, Editor
Chris Burris, Member-at-Large
William Meyers, Member-at-Large
John Massie, Past President

2024 CSMS Chairpersons

Shane Riddle, Program Coordinator
John Massie, Show Vol Coordinator
Kyle Atkinson, Field Trip Coordinator
Vacant, Science Fair Chair
Frank and Ellie Rosenberg, Librarians
Tina Cox, Social Committee Chair
Ann Proctor, Store Keeper
Lisa Cooper, Show Chairman
Lisa Cooper, Webmaster
Lisa Cooper, Facebook Keeper
Mike Nelson, Federation Rep
Vacant, Federation Rep

CSMS General Assembly Minutes

7 PM, Thursday June 20, Colorado Springs Christian School

Address: 4855 Mallow Rd, Colorado Springs CO 80907

Board Attendance: President: Alex Field, Vice President: Shane Riddle, Past President: John Massie, Secretary: John McGrath, Treasurer: Ann Proctor, Member-at-large: Chris Burris, Member-at-large: Bill Meyers, Membership Secretary: Adelaide Bahr, Editor: John D. Emery.

Agenda:

- I. Meeting was called to order by our President Alex Field at 7:00 PM
- II. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by our President.
- III. Introduction of Guests and New Members There were 17 in attendance.
- IV. Program: Alex informed all that this was an informal meeting focused on introducing all New Members and Guests to the Groups within the CSMS and that there would not be Officer Reports.
- V. Meeting - There were 58 members/guests in attendance and 22 minerals were given out to New Members and raffle winners
- VI. Mike Nelson, a member since 2006, chairman of our scholarship program, regular Pick and Pack contributor and frequent, sought after presenter, announced that he was leaving the Colorado Springs area to move back to his home in La Crosse, WI.
- VII. Club Presentations
 - A. Shane Riddle displayed finds from his frequent job travels that allowed him rockhounding opportunities.
 - B. John Massie - Faceting Group
 - C. Kyle Atkinson - Field Trips.
 - D. Kevin Witte and Austin Cockrell - Crystal Group
 - E. John McGrath - Rock Stalkers
 - F. Kristine Harris and Richard Villareal - Fossil Group
 - G. David St John - Pebble Pups
 - H. Claims and Library - Ellie and Frank Roseberg
 - I. Social Coordinator - Tina Cox
- VIII. Meeting adjourned by President Alex Field at 20:45 pm. The next meeting is 18 July 24 at 7pm at CSCS.

Respectfully Submitted

John M McGrath MD COL (RET) USA

Secretary

Thank You Volunteers!



Thank you to the volunteers for helping to make the 2024 Pikes Peak Gem, Mineral, and Jewelry Show a success. Once again Lisa Cooper did an excellent job of organizing the show.

Our President Alex Field and I want to thank the volunteers who made the show possible. We most appreciatively thank the following people: John McGrath, Mike Nelson, Shane Riddle, Kellie, Chris Burris, Bob and Carol Falls, Blake Reher, Brian Annen, Joi, Austin Cockell, Chris Lambert, Adelaide Bahr, Valerie Babitz, Sara Freur,

Mike McCarthy, Barbara Middlemist, Tina Cox, Tom and Ayumi Towles, Sandy Lewis, Mark Mann, Maureen Richardson, Marilyn Hanlon, Ray Quinn, Rick Jackson, Jerry Perkins, Brenda Perkins, Randy Hurley, Kyle and Shelby Atkinson, Frank and Elli Rosenburg, Bob and Barbara Landgraf, Ann Proctor, David St John, Sawyer Blizzard, Kathy McCarthy, Keystone Harris, Angels Kekahuna, Jennie McGucken, Cindy Stadole, Betty Merchant and friend, and a mysterious person known only as H.

I got the list of names from the sign up sheets, If I missed any one I sincerely apologize. Thanks again to all for helping make our show a great success again this year!

John Massie
Past President and Show Volunteer Coordinator

President's Corner

Alex Field
CSMS President



Presidential Matters



Happy July friends!

I hope you're all enjoying your summer so far!

As you will see in this issue of the Pick & Pack, we hosted a wonderful 60th Anniversary Gem & Mineral Show in June that was a great success. Thanks again to those of all of you who helped or volunteered in some way.

If you're able or interested in getting more involved in our growing society, we have a few areas in need of volunteers - for example, if any of you is interested in helping out with hospitality, food, and drinks at our general assembly meetings, let me know. This is an easy way to get plugged into the club!

Finally, a quick reminder: in September we will start to talk about CSMS board and other leadership positions again, as we do every year. If you're interested in leading in an area of the club, please let me know.

Thanks everyone, enjoy the rest of your summer!

Regards,
Alex

Alexander Field
alexfield1@gmail.com

2024 Satellite Group Chairs

- Kevin Witte/ Bob Germano, Crystals
- John Massie, Faceting
- K. Harris/ R. Villareal, Fossils
- J. Barglowski, Jewelry
- Sharon Holte, Lapidary
- Vacant, Micro-mount
- Vacant, Photography
- David St. John Pebble Pups

2024 Liaisons

- Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument:
S.W. Veatch
- Western Museum of Mining and History:
S.W. Veatch

Right: CSMS President Alex Field (center right) and Past President John Massie (far right) present a check for \$800.00 to the team from the Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument on June 9, 2024 at the CSMS-sponsored Pikes Peak Gem, Mineral and Jewelry Show, Norris Penrose Events Center, Colorado Springs CO. The CSMS donates to Florissant Fossil Beds every year, to support geological research at the park.





Meet & Greet

June 20, 2024

58 Rockhounds gathered on a hot dry evening at Colorado Springs Christian School to meet, greet and mingle with this year's new rockhounds. 19 new rockhounds signed up at the show this year. Society officers and group leaders put together display tables for newcomers to visit and ask questions. The tables included the crystal group with legendary rockhounds Kevin and Austin, the "Rock Stalkers" group with super-rockhound John McGrath, the fossil group with Kristine and Richard, the faceting group with past president John Massie, famous field trip leader Kyle Atkinson, the librarians with Ellie and Frank (Mark standing in) and various hardy rockhounds with samples from their amazing collections. Thanks to all!

The legendary Mike Nelson announced he's moving to Wisconsin. We'll miss you Mike! Thanks for all you have done for the society!

No official business was conducted.



Echoes of the Past: E. A. Yelton's Photographic Odyssey in Cripple Creek

Steven Wade Veatch

The mining town of Cripple Creek, Colorado, was busy during the early Saturday afternoon of April 25, 1896. Merchants sold goods, patrons packed saloons, and miners mucked ore in the mines. At approximately 1 p.m. a man engaged in a dispute with a woman knocked over a gas stove. This started a fire on the second floor of the Central Dance Hall on Myers Avenue. Angry flames flared and spread rapidly from the dance hall and through the heart of Cripple Creek's business district. Fire Chief Allen fired three shots into the air to alert the town to the spreading fire.¹ Volunteer firefighters, with help from the Victor fire department, worked together to battle the uncontrollable fire, but ran out of water in less than forty-five minutes.² To block the fire's path, firefighters intentionally blew up buildings with explosives.

Edgar A. Yelton, a local photographer, heard the commotion outside his studio at 556 Cripple Creek Heights.³ He looked out the window and saw thick black smoke billowing into the sky. He knew what that meant. Grabbing his camera, Yelton ran from his studio, set up his camera on a tripod, and began taking photographs of the firestorm. The smell of smoke filled the streets and reached Yelton, likely making him cough. He constantly wiped his eyes so he could see to work his camera, but the tears kept coming, and he kept taking photographs.



Figure 1. Chaos on Bennett Avenue during the “great” fire on April 25, 1896. A large part of the city was destroyed. *Courtesy of the Cripple Creek District Museum. CCDM A 8463.*

¹ Sprague, Marshall, *Money Mountain: The Story of Cripple Creek Gold* (Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 1953).

² *ibid.*

³ See address stamp on Yelton photo in figure 1.

Hysteria gripped the town. While people were running all around filling wagons and buggies with their possessions, Yelton captured scenes of the spreading inferno with his camera.

Within minutes, he saw fierce flames consume a row of buildings. Business buildings burned with intensity as deep red, orange, and amber flames engulfed them from all sides. There was fire everywhere: roofs burned, doors were on fire, and windows cracked and shattered as hungry flames ravenously engulfed everything in sight, sparing little.

About three hours passed before firefighters extinguished the blaze.⁴ Thirty acres of the city had burned.⁵ There were countless numbers of injured and displaced people, and the monetary loss was staggering. Rebuilding began the following day.

Then, on Wednesday, April 29, just four days after the first fire, at about 1:45 p.m. a fire started in the kitchen of the ramshackle Portland Hotel. Gusts of wind fanned the fire into a ruthless rage, causing the hotel to burn with an unbelievable ferocity and the fire to jump to the adjacent buildings. The flames spread rapidly, and Fire Chief Allen once again fired three shots into the air to alert the volunteer firefighters and get them into action.⁶

Red-hot embers fell on the roofs of nearby buildings, setting them on fire. Unexpected explosions occurred because of caches of dynamite. Yelton must have heard the explosion of 700 pounds of dynamite, stored at the Harder Grocery Store. The explosion happened in an instant. One moment the grocery store, stocked full of provisions, was there; the next second the store was gone. The Palace Hotel's boilers also exploded, with flames reaching a height of 100 feet.⁷



Figure 2. The El Paso Livery's cache of dynamite explodes during the April 29, 1896, fire. E. A. Yelton photo, courtesy of the Cripple Creek District Museum.

⁴ Sprague, *Money Mountain: The Story of Cripple Creek Gold*.

⁵ *ibid.*

⁶ *ibid.*

⁷ MacKell, Jan, *Cripple Creek District: Last of Colorado's Gold Booms* (Charleston, SC: Arcadia Publishing, 2003).

Wagons and buggies jammed Bennett Avenue. Bartenders rolled whiskey barrels from saloon storerooms onto Bennett Avenue to save them. Horses and burros ran out of control. Men, women, and children swarmed the streets. There was chaos as looters and thieves took advantage of the fire. Some individuals intentionally started additional fires hoping to profit from insurance.

The depletion of the water supply in just one hour impeded firefighting efforts.⁸ As the flames raged uncontrollably, residents loaded wagons and escaped to the outskirts of town. Hours later, on the edge of town, refugees watched as firefighters put out the flames. At nightfall, looters came back to the destroyed area to steal whiskey and valuable items.

After the smoke cleared, the victims faced burned, blackened ruins. The fire leveled three hundred businesses and burned down no less than 1,000 houses, and more than 3,600 residents of Cripple Creek were homeless.⁹ Authorities estimated that the fire killed at least six people and injured an unknown number of residents.¹⁰ The two fires destroyed one-third of the central business district. It took several weeks for workers to clear the debris away; most of it was hauled to the city dump, the rest thrown down abandoned prospect holes.



Figure 3. The Tutt and Penrose block "After the Great Fire of Cripple Creek, Colorado." Photo date 1896 by E. A. Yelton. Courtesy of the Cripple Creek District Museum.

⁸ MacKell, *Cripple Creek District: Last of Colorado's Gold Booms*.

⁹ Kennedy, A. "Review of Cripple Creek Fires of 1896" in *Colorado Encyclopedia*, 2021. <https://coloradoencyclopedia.org/article/cripple-creek-fires-1896>.

¹⁰ Katie Rudolph, review of *A Fire Nearly Levels Cripple Creek*, Denver Public Library, 2016. <https://history.denverlibrary.org/news/april-29-1896-fire-nearly-levels-cripple-creek>.

Despite the dangers, Yelton photographed both devastating fires. His photographs of the fire have survived over the decades and document this sad week in Cripple Creek's history. It would seem the smell of fire is something he never got used to. Something that haunted him as he remembered those desperate days of fire in the gold camp.

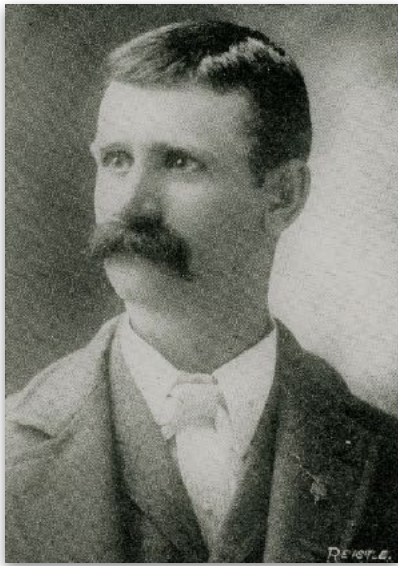


Figure 4. Studio photograph of Edgar Yelton. A man-about-town who witnessed firsthand many notable events in Cripple Creek history. Photographer and date unknown. Source: *Program of the Trans Mississippi Commercial Congress, Cripple Creek, 1901.*

Raised in the West, Edgar A. Yelton (1866-1946) consistently sought adventure. He was born in Indiana, but left with his family when his father, Oliver Perry Yelton, Sr., a Union Civil War veteran, took a job as a U.S. Marshal in Wyoming. After his work in Wyoming, the senior Yelton became a marshal in Colorado.

In 1890 Yelton, twenty-three married Maggie Bateman, who was twenty, in Bethel, Nebraska.¹¹ Edgar and Maggie were living in South Bend, Wyoming when their son Frank was born in 1890.¹² By 1892, the family was living in Sydney, Nebraska where Clara was born.¹³ In 1894 Annie was born in Laramie, Wyoming.¹⁴

Newspaper stories about the glittering goldfields of Cripple Creek, on the west side of Pikes Peak, caught Edgar Yelton's attention. Drawn to the excitement and prospects of the raucous gold camp, Yelton and his family packed their bags, he grabbed his camera, and they broke loose from their moorings and went to Cripple Creek around 1896. He established himself as one of several photographers who chronicled this larger-than-life mining district.

The Yeltons had two children in the gold camp, Clarence in 1896 and Mabel in 1898.¹⁵

Yelton started a successful photography business at 556 Cripple Creek Heights and later moved to 357 Bennett Avenue. He tramped around the district and photographed events, mines, miners, merchants, and municipalities of the early days of the mining district. He blended well into the gold rush atmosphere of Cripple Creek and became an independent and self-made man.

Yelton traveled around the mines and photographed surface operations, underground scenes, and groups of miners posing in front of their mines. His photos have become an important visual archive that documents the early mining days in the district. Yelton became well known for the fabulous mineral collection he amassed while photographing the mining district. It was likely the miners paid Yelton in gold—ore specimens in payment for his photographs. There is no documentation that his mineral collection survived. It is likely that it is lost to history. Around 1897 he had a partner, E. D. Webster, helping him with his photography studio.

¹¹ Yelton Family Genealogy, accessed February 22, 2024, <https://yelton.oldmtnlady.com/index.php>

¹² *ibid.*

¹³ *ibid.*

¹⁴ *ibid.*

¹⁵ *ibid.*



Figure 5. The Anchoria Leland and other mines on Gold Hill. Photo date circa 1896 by E. A. Yelton. Courtesy of the Cripple Creek District Museum. CCDM 2008-026.

Yelton remained in business for several years. In the Dec. 22, 1898 Cripple Creek *Morning Times*, he advertised his photograph “Sunset from Cripple Creek” as a Christmas present. The new year, 1899, brought something new for Yelton. By that time, Yelton, along with another partner, D. C. Crawford, operated a mining and real estate brokerage firm, “Crawford and Yelton,” in rooms 8 and 10 in the Nolon block on Bennett Avenue. This company also had money to lend. Running this business was more difficult, more challenging than being a photographer and selling photographs. Now and then, Yelton had some problems to deal with. For instance, a reporter for the Cripple Creek *Morning Times* wrote:

Sheriff Stewart on June 1, 1899, returned from Omaha, bringing with him Mrs. Euphemia M. Proper. The sheriff arrested her on the charge of obtaining money under false pretenses. It seems that some time ago she sold to E. A. Yelton a piece of property here in the city, representing it as clear of encumbrances. After the sale Mr. Yelton found differently and had her arrested. She was released under \$1,000 bond to appear in Brewster’s court tomorrow.¹⁶

There were other problems with the loan and real estate business in the gold camp. According to the newspapers, Dewitt Browne, angered by Yelton, took a shot at him. Browne’s bullet missed, and, for that crime, the court fined Browne \$50 and then ordered him released from jail.¹⁷ Yelton continued to operate his photography studio with a succession of partners while engaged in the real estate and loan business.

¹⁶ *The Morning Times*, June 2, 1899, 1.

¹⁷ *The Walsenburg World*, July 31, 1902, 5.

Another fire broke out in the gold camp on August 21, 1899—this time in Victor. The fire originated in a dance hall and rapidly engulfed the wooden structures. Part of the business section, two railroad stations, and the Gold Coin shaft house were destroyed. Firefighters managed to put out the flames, but not before the blaze had ravaged twelve city blocks and caused damage to twenty-five more.¹⁸



Figure 6. The fury of the Victor fire on August 21, 1899, photographed by E. A. Yelton. *Photo courtesy of the Cripple Creek District Museum.*

According to the 1900 census, Yelton lived on West Eaton Avenue (Cripple Creek) with his wife, Maggie, and four children. This was a comfortable residential area. Records show that Yelton was still in Cripple Creek in 1902. A few photos that Yelton took with a partner, Michael Albert Wisda (1875-1941), survive. Wisda was a miner and photographer who lived at 535 East Carr in 1905. He was born in Defiance City, Ohio. He graduated from Defiance College in 1896 in commerce and normal (teacher) training. Wisda worked as an assistant for his father, who was the county treasurer. He enlisted in the Spanish American War in 1898. He later went to Colorado where he worked as a miner, an accountant, and a photographer. He married Georgia Gosney in 1904, and their son, John Albert, was born in 1905 in Cripple Creek. Wisda and his family left Cripple Creek when their son was two years old, around 1907. Wisda then went to sea.¹⁹

¹⁸ Levine, B., *Cities of Gold: History of the Victor Cripple Creek Mining District* (Denver: Stonehenge Books, 1981).

¹⁹ Shields, 2004. Shields, Beth, *The Gosney Family in America: 300 Years of History, Bloodlines, and Collateral Families* (Self-published: Seminole, Florida, 2004).

In 1903, a strike by mine workers resulted in the suspension of mining operations in the district. Multiple mines attempted to resume operations by hiring nonunion workers. Violence erupted and quickly spread through the gold camp. The governor of Colorado declared martial law, and one thousand national guard troops swiftly overtook the district. Their presence loomed over the district: the sound of their boots echoed through the streets, as they stood tall and vigilant, their weapons gleaming in the sunlight, creating an atmosphere of tension and authority. For six months, the district remained under their watchful gaze, with a constant feeling of unease lingering in the air. The labor wars ended in 1904 when the union was broken and left the camp. Mines began operating again with nonunion workers. Yelton and Wisda photographed some of the labor difficulties in the district (Figures 7 and 8).



Figure 7. Camp Goldfield, near Victor, Colorado. The governor of Colorado sent national guard soldiers to control the violence during the Cripple Creek labor wars. Photo date 1903 by Yelton & Wisda. From the S. W. Veatch collection.



Figure 8. Camp Goldfield. Members of the Colorado National Guard pose for a photo (1893) by Yelton and Wisda. Photo courtesy of the Cripple Creek District Museum.



Figure 9. View of Goldfield, Colorado. Photo date 1897 by Webster and Yelton. Courtesy of the Cripple Creek District Museum.

After a while, Yelton became restless in the gold camp and looked for new prospects. Around 1904, he shut down his business, pocketed his savings, and relocated to Grand Junction, Colorado. He operated a secondhand store there and also worked in insurance and real estate. In 1905 he built a house on North 12th Street where he raised ducks and blue Andalusian chickens. A reporter wrote this about his ducks:

Tuesday night the coyotes came into E. A. Yelton's yard on North 12th street and killed six of his eight valuable Pekin ducks. This is pretty bold when they come into the city, stand off a dog and help themselves to the fatted duck.²⁰

Another article appeared several months later on December 10, describing how Yelton caught a loose horse:

There was an exciting runaway last Saturday evening on Main Street. A horse attached to a buggy and belonging to A. N. Anderson became frightened and started to run. He dashed across the street onto the sidewalk and for a time the big glass windows of the Fair store were in danger. The horse then went east on Main Street and was caught in front of the courthouse by E. A. Yelton.²¹

Yelton was active in several fraternal societies, including the International Order of Odd Fellows. In 1906, the Yeltons welcomed the birth of their new daughter, Dorothy.²² He also entertained a group in town with stereopticon slides with views in and around Cripple Creek.

²⁰ Daily Sentinel, Oct. 18, 1906. 5.

²¹ Daily Sentinel, Dec. 10, 1906. 5.

²² Yelton Family Genealogy accessed February 22, 2024, <https://yelton.oldmtnlady.com/index.php>.

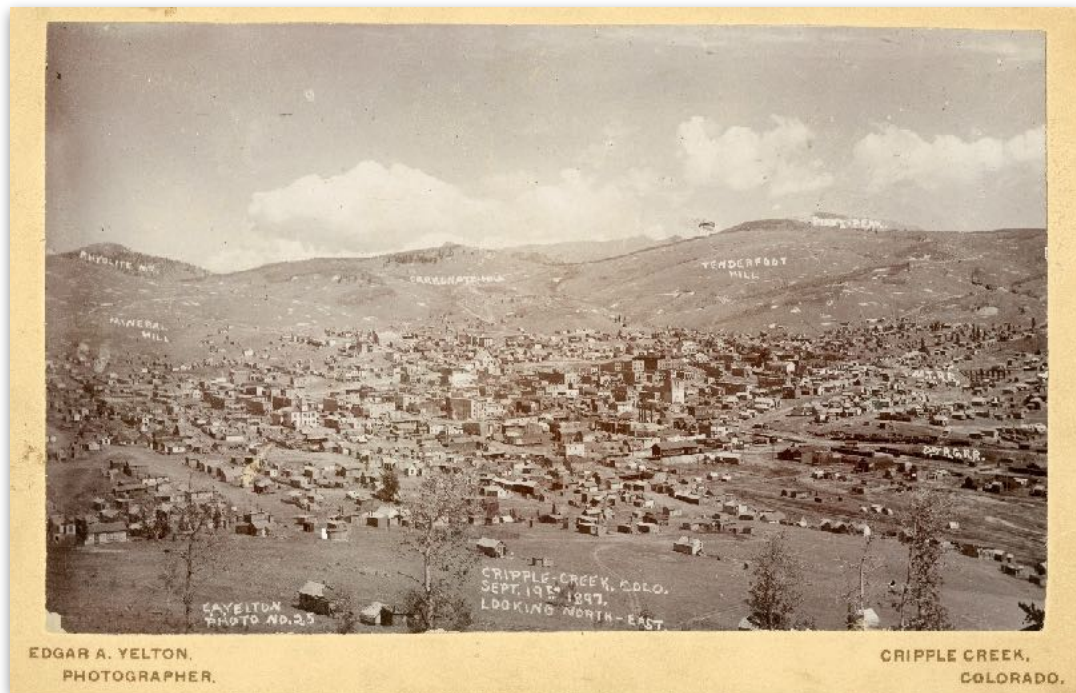


Figure 10. View of Cripple Creek. Photo date 1897 by E. A. Yelton. Photo courtesy of the Cripple Creek District Museum.

By 1909, Yelton had relocated to Santa Cruz, California where he worked as a retail merchant. He and his wife had their last child, Oliver, in 1909 in Santa Cruz.²³ They had three boys and four girls.

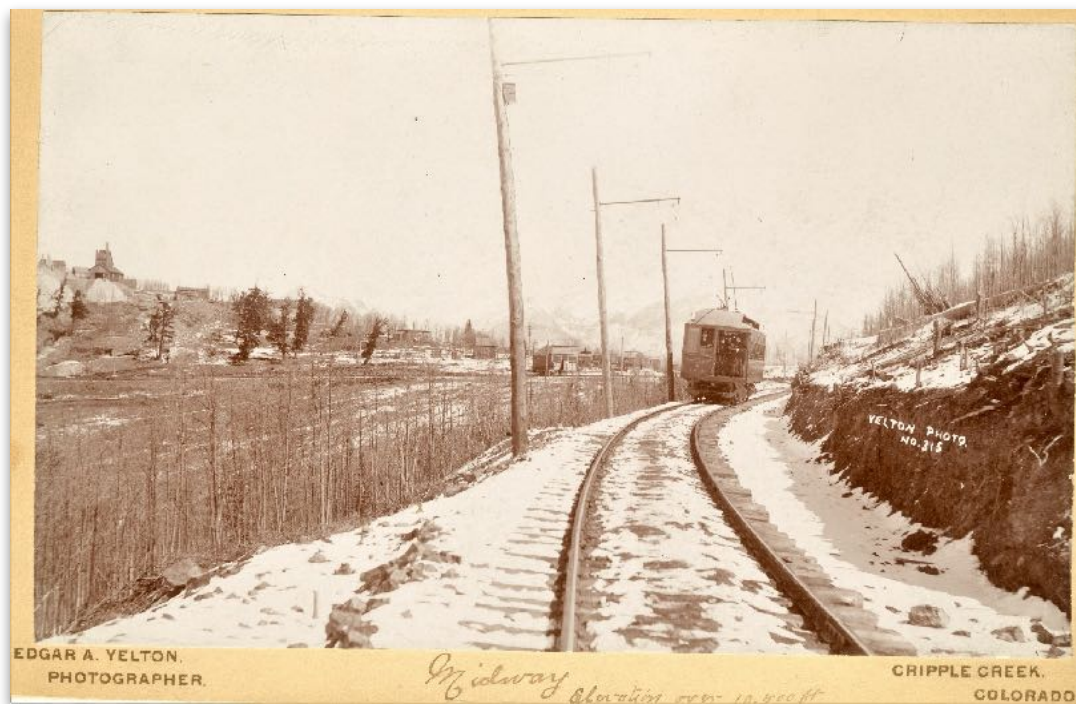


Figure 11. Electric trolley car at Midway. The Midway saloon is framed by the first two electric poles. Photo by Edgar A. Yelton. Photo date unknown. Cripple Creek District Museum CCDM 92-54.

²³ Yelton Family Genealogy.

Yelton had many talents and interests. In 1910, the U.S. Patent Office granted him a patent on a threadless nut lock. By 1920, he had moved once more and established himself as a real estate agent in Chester, Pennsylvania.

It is plausible that, as a photographer, Yelton moved around frequently because of several factors. His photography skills or equipment might have become obsolete due to technological advancements and changing tastes, leading him to relocate and find work in other, more stable occupations. Furthermore, his constant moving around could be attributed to personal motives like family commitments, health concerns, or a longing for new experiences.

After a five-month illness, Yelton died at his home, 207 East 8th Street, Chester, Pennsylvania on Sunday morning, October 6, 1946, due to prostate cancer. He was eighty.

Yelton's historic photos are visual artifacts that capture more than just moments in time: they are priceless time capsules. Through his collection of photographs, he takes us on a visual adventure connecting us to the dynamic history of Cripple Creek.

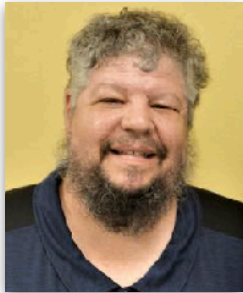
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About the author: Steven is a geologist who joined the CSMS when he was 10, in 1965. The club met at that time at the old IBEW hall near the west side of the city. He was inducted into the Rockhound Hall of Fame in 2015. His complete profile is available at:

<https://www.blogger.com/profile/06566101278318062273>



Fossilfun14@gmail.com

June 4th Meeting at East Library

We had a busy month in June with the Pups. Our June meeting on the 4th was extra special with a guest speaker: retired teacher Jen Johnson and a lesson on fluorescent minerals collected by her father and herself over many years. The pups were amazed by all the glowing rocks under long and short wave and were able to take home several free samples. Our next Pups meeting is July 2nd at the East Library room F1 from 4:15-5:15, the theme is Agates. Bring any Agates or other things to show and tell or for identification of new treasures.



Rock Show Booth

Our Rock show booth was so fun this year and the many volunteers made it run smooth as a polished stone. The president will post the names in a different spot, but thank you to all that helped this year including our pup Eva and Scholar Sawyer.



Field Trip July 13

A field trip is set with the club on Saturday July 13th Florissant Fossil Quarry arrive am (9:00) tentative. The cost is \$20.00 for any person over 5 years old and be sure to bring a little more for the gift shop. Parents will need to bring snacks, water, sunscreen, and digging clothes as well as drive to the quarry. I will have maps available at the next meeting. We may go the fossil beds and walk around for anyone that wants to. Now let's go on an adventure!



August

August has some really cool things coming up with a guest speaker on tumbling rocks and a club picnic with a special pebble pups table and prizes.



wonderwoman627 at Pixabay



wonderwoman627 at Pixabay

Wandering at an Old-timey Show and Finding a Rare Phosphate Mineral

Mike Nelson
csrockguy@yahoo.com



Above: 55 or so dealers spread out at the Miners Coop Show.

One of the many Tucson shows that I make time to attend is the Miners Coop Rock Show. This venue seems to be the most western and most northern show situated at Mike Jacobs Sports Park at the corner of Ina Road and I-10. The location is away from the hustle and bustle of the major venues in and near the city center, southeast near the Kino and Holiday Inn Shows, along the Oracle Road and I-10 motel strips and the 22nd street monster. The Coop show is a mom & pop, old timey show where vendors are outside or small open tents displaying their wares. Don't worry about a rainstorm, of which are numerous, just throw a tarp over the specimen tables and retreat to their small RVs parked behind the tables. The show is described as the people who dig and mine and the home of the diggers and do-ers.

The vendors are likely to be perched on a lawn chair and snoozing in the sun but are more than willing to engage in a lively conversation. These are the vendors who may have come from a month in Quartzite and may be heading to February/March New

Mexico shows in Los Cruces, then Deming, Albuquerque, Santa Fe, and Truth or Consequences—any place to avoid snow shoveling back at their home base.

Generally speaking, the vendors are about the same each year and I enjoy talking to a parrot from Arkansas, the azurite blueberry dealer from Moab, and Kim and Bodie from Divide, Colorado, just up the road from my home base in Colorado Springs. No expensive motel rooms or giant tents or the convention center—just a bunch of friendly diggers and do-ers!



Above: Take your choice, everything is on sale.

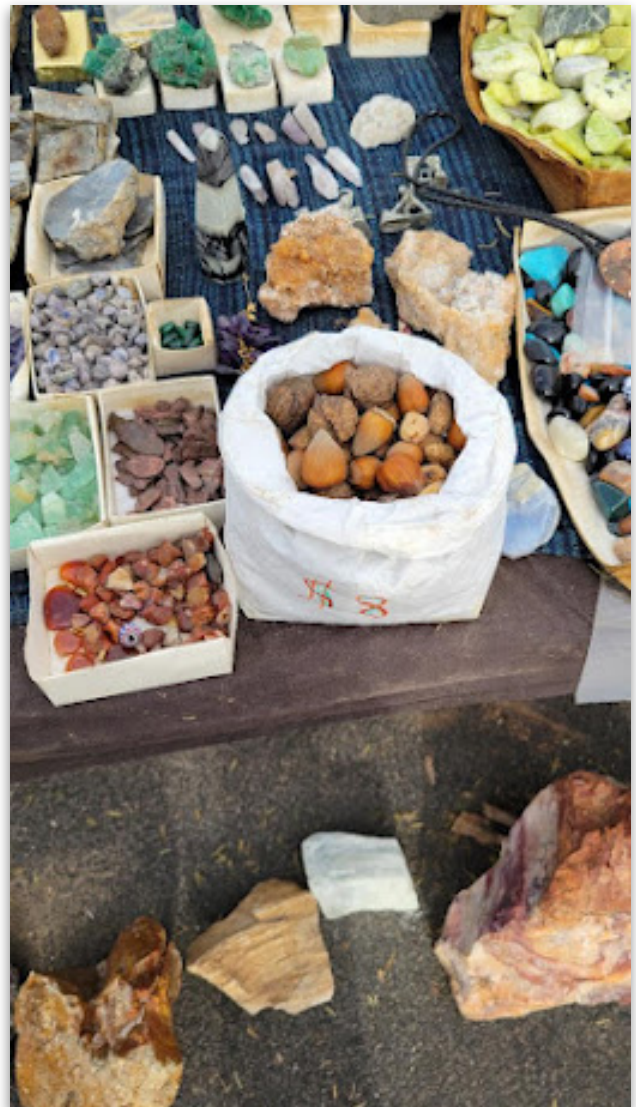


Above: All sorts of rocks, minerals and fossils for sale.

What I found at the show was a small box, still partially damp from rain, that had been tossed in a flat of minerals with other specimens. Always curious, I pulled out my loupe to take a peek at the specimen labeled “montgomeryite, Tip Top Mine, Black Hills.” Wow. I zealously guarded the box and continued to peek at others but none piqued my interest. “How much do you want for this mineral? How about three bucks.” I hesitated but pulled out the money and was happily on my way. Montgomeryite is a pretty rare secondary phosphate named for Arthur Montgomery and is associated with Colorado Springs, the Black Hills, and Utah—three of

my favorite places.

In 1940 E.S. Larsen of Harvard University described two new minerals collected from phosphate nodules near Fairfield, Utah. Larsen had been working and describing minerals from this area for at least a decade and finally “got around” to formally naming the hydrated calcium magnesium aluminum phosphates: overite $[\text{CaMgAl}(\text{PO}_4)_2(\text{OH})\cdot 4\text{H}_2\text{O}]$, named for Edwin Over of Colorado Springs, and montgomeryite $[\text{Ca}_4\text{MgAl}_4(\text{PO}_4)_6(\text{OH})_4\cdot 12\text{H}_2\text{O}]$ for Arthur Montgomery of New York City.



Above: Not all minerals are what they appear to be! This is a sack of nice fresh oak acorns.



Above: Kim and Bodie from Runnin Boar Minerals near Divide sell a variety of minerals including amazonite from their quarry.

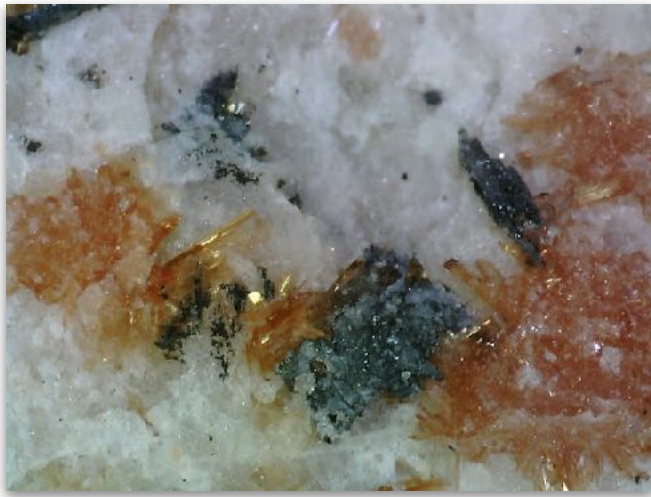
Over and Montgomery had spent part of the years 1936-1940 prospecting and mining phosphate nodules from Clay Canyon near Fairfield in the Oquirrh Mountains southwest of Salt Lake City. They were mainly after variscite, a beautiful green, hydrated aluminum phosphate $[AlPO_4 \cdot H_2O]$ that was sliced for mineral collectors and cabbed for jewelry. However, these nodules also contained a plethora of micro minerals that were of great interest to collectors. Today the Fairfield site is closed and remediated or

perhaps open to the claim owner every few years?

Today, the best-known montgomeryite crystals are found from a few mines in the Black Hills of South Dakota, especially the Tip Top Mine near Custer, formally a lithium mine in pegmatites associated with the Precambrian Harney Peak Granite. Here montgomeryite generally occurs as small lath-like crystals that are flattened, striated, elongated and capped by a pyramid. Crystals are translucent, have a vitreous luster, and a hardness of ~4.0 (Mohs). At the type locality at the Little Green Monster Mine in Utah the crystals are generally colorless to pale green and occur in nodules that are of sedimentary origin. At the Tip Top Mine the lath-like crystals are colorless to some sort of red to orange to salmon to pale yellow color and are associated with several other secondary phosphate minerals and primary phosphates like triphylite as well as and the pegmatitic microcline feldspar.

Below (and next page): Montgomery laths on a microcline matrix. Black mineral is some sort of a phosphate perhaps rockbridgeite and/or triphylite. Width FOV ~ 7 mm. Photos: M. Nelson





Somewhere I read that not all people who wander are lost; some are rockhounds. And wandering through a slew of tables with vendors in lawn chairs selling everything from acorns to zeolites is a rockhound kind of day.



About the Author

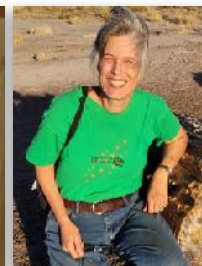
Mike is a former University professor and administrator who enjoys outdoor activities, and writing articles for the *Pick & Pack*, other rock and mineral clubs, and the Newsletter of the Rocky Mountain Federation of Mineralogical Societies (www.rmfmts.org). He also writes, and occasionally speaks, about members of the Colorado Cavalry/Infantry who participated in the march to Glorieta Pass (1862), helped settle central Kansas (1865), and later fought at Beecher Island (1868). In CSMS he heads up the Undergraduate Research Committee as introducing students to geology research is a long-time passion. But mostly he just tries to enjoy life with frosty IPAs, travel, and collecting mundane facts and pretty rocks/ minerals.

Smoky Hawk Field Trip June 15, 2024



PEOPLE'S CHOICE AWARD
Pike's Peak Gem, Jewelry and Mineral Show
June 7-9 2024 Colorado Springs
 by Bob Landgraf

I wish to congratulate The Western Interior Paleontological Society (WIPS) for winning the People's Choice Award for the 60th Anniversary of the Pikes Peak Gem, Jewelry and Mineral Show in 2024. The display, known as the "Barbie Case," is themed *Women in Paleontology – collecting, research, education and outreach*.



Nancy Kimber



Susan Passmore



Gary Raham

Above: The Barbie Case – Women in Paleontology. Principle creators: Nancy Kimber, Susan Passmore, Gary Raham.

I also want to thank Marge Regel, Barbara Middlemist, Kristine Harris, Jack Null, and others who spent time in the exhibits area talking with the visiting public. Such engagement with the public can be very rewarding to both you and our visitors as our visitors also share their collecting experiences with us. Thanks to all our participating exhibitors!

Bob Landgraf
 Show Exhibits Coordinator

Celebrating Women of all Ages Who Love Paleontology
 Susan Passmore

The Barbie-themed display case from the Western Interior Paleontological Society (WIPS) is a light-hearted shout out to women and girls who pursue their career passions, in this case (pun intended), paleontology. Fossils in the case are from members' collections.

The poster backdrop features a photo of the dramatic ammonite pavement in Lyme Regis, UK, with an inset of a statue of the 19th century female paleontologist, Mary Anning. The bronze monument of Mary was erected in Lyme Regis in 2022 to recognize her pioneering work, which was under-appreciated and under-recognized by the scientific establishment during her lifetime. Other photos show women in WIPS involved in fieldwork, education, and lab work.



Pikes Peak Gem, Mineral and Jewelry Show 2024

CSMS conducted the annual Pikes Peak Gem, Mineral and Jewelry Show at the Norris Penrose Event Center, 1045 Lower Gold Camp Road, Colorado Springs, CO, 7-9 June 2024. Attendance was robust and over 55 vendors set up booths. Photos courtesy of Laura Garrett.

Volunteers

CSMS President Alex Field and Past President John Massie extend congratulations and thanks to Lisa Cooper and the volunteers that made the show happen: John McGrath, Mike Nelson, Shane Riddle, Kellie, Chris Burris, Bob and Carol Falls, Blake Reher, Brian Annen, Joi, Austin Cockell, Chris Lambert, Adalaide Bahr, Valerie Babitz, Sara Freur, Mike McCarthy, Barbara Middlemist, Tina Cox, Tom and Ayumi Towles, Sandy Lewis, Mark Mann, Maureen Richardson, Marilyn Hanlon, Ray Quinn, Rick Jackson, Jerry Perkins, Brenda Perkins, Randy Hurley, Kyle and Shelby Atkinson, Frank and Elli Rosenburg, Bob and Barbara Landgraf, Ann Proctor, David St John, Sawyer Blizzard, Kathy McCarthy, Keystone Harris, Angels Kekahuna, Jennie McGucken, Cindy Stadole, Betty Merchant and friend, and a mysterious person known only as H.





John Emery
Editor

Thanks to our contributors. We encourage everyone to submit articles, photos, illustrations or observations. Share your experiences, your new finds, or simply your enjoyment of our last field trip. Handwrite it, type it, or email it. Format does not matter. All submissions are welcome. The deadline for items to be included in the next Pick & Pack is the **last day of the month.**

To submit an item:

For hardcopy photos or articles, mail to the address below or bring them to the General Meeting. All hardcopy photos remain the property of the submitter and will be returned. Electronic photos can be submitted at resolutions above 200 dpi in any format.

Feature articles can be in MS Word or Mac Pages, preferably not pdf. The newsletter is produced in Mac Pages.

e-mail the editor:
pickandpackeditor@gmail.com

Mail to: Pick & Pack Editor PO Box 2 Colorado Springs, CO 80901

The PICK & PACK is published ten times per year (no issues in January or August). Unless otherwise marked, materials from this publication may be reprinted. Please give credit to the author and CSMS PICK & PACK.

Field Trip Schedule

Subject to the Laws of Nature

- Jul 13th** - Florissant Fossil Quarry (Need Leader)
- Jul 20th** - Rocky Mountain High with Lake George Club (Need Leader)
- Jul 27th** - April Fools Claim (Need Leader)
- Aug 3rd** - Hartsel Barite
- Aug 24th** - Mt Antero
- Aug 31st** - Rocky Mountain High Claim
- Sep 14th** - CSMS Denver Show Meet-up
- Sep 21st** - April Fools Clean-up Day (STC)
- Sep 28th** - Rocky Mountain High Claim Clean-up Day (STC)
- Oct 5th** - Book Cliffs (Need Leader)

Contact field trip planner Kyle Atkinson with questions:
atkinson.kyl@gmail.com 719-453-3653

Position Opening: Social Coordinator

You don't need to know much of anything about rocks to be able to contribute to the monthly meetings. CSMS is seeking a new social coordinator. In this simple role you will meet lots of CSMS members as you fill an important function in our monthly meetings. This is a **super** way to hit the ground running with your new club membership. Long time members are also welcome to volunteer. Interested individuals should contact Tina Cox for more information, RkyMtnTina@gmail.com

We're also looking for micromount and photography experts to chair those groups.



Pick & Pack
P.O. Box 2
Colorado Springs, CO 80901-0002



CSMS is an incorporated nonprofit organization with the following goals:

- To promote and disseminate knowledge of the earth sciences, especially as they relate to mineralogy, lapidary, and fossils.
- To encourage study, collection, and fashioning of minerals.
- To accomplish the same through social meetings, lectures, programs, displays, shows, and field trips.
- The Pick & Pack newsletter is published 10 times each year to assist and promote the above.

Joining the Colorado Springs Mineralogical Society (CSMS):

- Meetings are held the third (3rd) Thursday of each month, except January & August.
- 7:00 PM at Mt. Carmel Veterans Service Center; 530 Communication Circle, Colorado Springs, CO 80905
- Visitors are always welcome.
- Individuals—\$30, Family—\$40, Juniors—\$15, Corporate—\$100.
- Find the application at the web site: www.csms1936.com. If you are interested in joining CSMS or would like more information, we encourage you to attend our next General Meeting or visit our web site.

Meetings: CSMS also offers Satellite Group meetings that allow more focused attention in specific areas of our members' interests. Our current Satellite Groups consist of the following: Crystal Study Group, Faceting Group, Fossil Group, Lapidary Group, and Pebble Pups/ Juniors. For details on Satellite Group meetings, check out the calendars on page 2 and the web site.

Membership Benefits: Yearly dues include 10 issues of the *PICK & PACK*, all field trips (additional fees may be required on some field trips, and members are responsible for all transportation to and from), participation in all Satellite Groups (some groups may request additional fees to help cover resource costs), a year of learning and enjoyment, plus a lifetime of memories.

Colorado Springs Mineralogical Society is a Member of the following organizations:

- American Federation of Mineralogical Societies (AFMS) www.amfed.org
- Rocky Mountain Federation of Mineralogical Societies (RMFMS) www.rmfmfms.org