

The Lake George Gem and Mineral Club - Club News June, 2010



Regular Business Meeting of the **Lake George Gem & Mineral Club** **Saturday, June 12, 9:00AM** Lake George Community Center Parking Lot

On Saturday June 12, after a short business meeting starting at 9 AM in the parking lot of the Lake George Community Center, we will convoy up to the Spruce Grove Campground for a joint field trip with the Colorado Springs Mineralogical Society. It will be important to carpool as much as possible as parking is limited outside the Campground. We already have 12 families from the CSMS who will participate in this trip.

For tools, bring picks, shovels and ¼ inch grid "hardware cloth" screen on a light frame. It will be hot and dry so bring plenty of water. There is about a half hour hike to the location from the parking area outside the gate of the campground. There are bears and cougars in the area. No dogs please. Any kids should be supervised closely. Any other questions call John Rakowski at 719-748-3861.

Directions: Provided at club meeting

Time: Starting at 9:15AM

Collectables: Smoky and white quartz, amazonite, white microcline, **topaz** (if you're real lucky!)

Mileage: About 20 minutes travel time from Lake George

Hazards: Rocky and steep terrain with loose gravel, trees that can fall and/or poke you in the face; ticks, mountain lions, bears, stray barbed wire

Terrain: STEEP, rocky, loose gravel—BE CAREFUL walking/hiking

Difficulty: Moderate

Elevation: 8500-9000 ft. or so

Vehicle suggested: no problem with regular cars to parking area

Equipment: Hiking boots, gloves, safety goggles, pick, shovel, ¼-mesh screen, first aid kit
BRING YOUR OWN WATER—NONE AVAILABLE AT SITE

Additional comments: On a hot day, this trip involves a moderately strenuous hike.

Coming Events

- | | |
|---|-------------|
| Monthly Meeting, Columbine Gem & Mineral Society, "The Leshner Dollar", by Chris Marchese, 6:30PM, Shavano Manor, 525 W. 16 th St. (at J St.), Salida | ... June 10 |
| Monthly Meeting, Pueblo Rockhounds, 7:30PM, Westminster Presbyterian Church, 10 University Circle, Pueblo | ... June 17 |
| Monthly Meeting, Colorado Springs Mineralogical Society, 7:30PM, Colorado Springs Senior Center, 1514 N. Hancock Ave., Colorado Springs | ... June 17 |
| Combined Pebble Pups Field Trip at Florissant Fossil Beds N.M. and Florissant Fossil Quarry, by Steve Veatch; Cost is \$13; details below | ... June 19 |

- South Park Symposium #6**, Fairplay. History and natural resources of South Park, with afternoon field trip on "Ice age landforms of South Park" on 6/26. Fees vary with type of registration. E-Mail pmodreski@usgs.gov for info. ... **June 25-26**
- "**Rock Fair**", Colorado Springs Mineralogical Society Show, Western Museum of Mining and Industry, I-25 Exit 156A; talks, exhibits, sales; see website for information ... **June 26-27**
- Annual Contin-Tail Mineral Show and Swap**, Rodeo Grounds, Buena Vista ... **Aug. 12-15**
- Lake George Gem & Mineral Club Gem & Mineral Show, Lake George**. See our website for information ... **Aug. 20-22**
- Creede, CO Mineral Symposium**, hosted by Colorado Chapter, Friends of Mineralogy. Talks and field trips; contact dlconti@aol.com for info. ... **Sept. 10-12**
- Colorado Mineral & Fossil Show**, Holiday Inn-Denver Central, 4849 Bannock St. (free admission and parking) ... **Sept. 15-19**
- Denver Gem & Mineral Show**, Denver Merchandise Mart, 58th Ave. at I-25 (exit 215). Theme is Minerals of the Creede Mining District, Mineral Co., CO. Admission charge; go to www.denvermineralshow.com for info. ... **Sept. 17-18**

Club News

Please Welcome New Members: Greg & Laura Fawley and family

☀️ On May 8, Vice President **Dan Alfrey** conducted the meeting in the Community Center parking lot, all of the other officers being absent. Thirty members attended. After making several announcements, Dan turned the meeting over to **Townsend** and **Frankie Wolfe**, who led a group of 28 to their Forever Mine claim. Thanks very much to the Wolfes for sharing their claim once again!



**Frankie finds a new pocket
(Townsend Wolfe photo)**



**The Mothers Day pocket is very popular today!
(Dan Alfrey photo)**

☀☀ Awards were presented at the recent Wichita meeting of the **Rocky Mountain Federation of Mineralogical Societies**, which includes over 80 clubs. The Lake George Gem & Mineral Club was represented by Ron Yamiolkoski and Mike Nelson as proxies, who picked up several awards for Club members who couldn't be present:

- Our newsletter came in 5th (for small club bulletins);
- Members of the Club took the top three awards for adult advanced articles:

Steve Veatch came in first
Mike Nelson came in second
Bob Carnein came in third

- **Steve Veatch** received the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies award for poetry
- **Steve Veatch**, and **Mike Nelson** came in 8th, 9th respectively, for feature articles, some of which appeared here.



Pictured, Bob Carnein is presented one of two awards by president John Rakowski (*Dan Alfrey photo*)

☀☀ Many thanks to **Dick Lackmond**, who sends me many interesting web-site references. Among others, he brought a great new resource to my attention. Called the American Agate Jasper Index, it includes photos of microcrystalline quartz varieties by region. Volume I covers Utah and Colorado, and you can download it (warning: 16Mb) at: http://www.4shared.com/document/mNXTQALM/Agate_index_Vol_1_2nd_ed.html

☀☀ On May 15, several members checked out potential Club claims at Wigwam Creek.



Reconnaissance group
(Dan Alfrey photos)



Prez Rakowski uses GPS to survey claim site
with the Lost Creek Wilderness in background

☀☀ **Dan Alfrey** and **Dick Lackmond** have planned a visit to Creede and the Last Chance mine (agate) on July 17 and Del Norte (geodes) July 18. **Dan needs to know who is going asap so he can make arrangements. Trip is described below:**

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We will all meet at the Mining Museum Parking Area (see photo below), on the North side of Creede at **11:00am** on **Saturday, July 17th**. Carpool on your own. We can have around 70 people with about 25 cars for the rest of the day there!

This is 190 miles (each way) from Lake George.
It is approx. 3 Hours & 20 Minutes travel time per www.Mapquest.com

The owner has agreed to a **Group Rate of only \$2 per pound for prized sowbelly agate** pieces. He will also have other mineral specimens available for purchase.

There is also a **free-area for agate**, with a very strenuous hike required! (see the top of the photo)

The plan is to hang out there, visit with the Mine Owner, utilize his unique rustic cabins onsite, maybe have an adult beverage, and Talk Mining all evening.

The next day, we will go to **Del Norte area to explore for geodes and fossils** (no fee required).

Now the important part - - - We have reserved the 2 cabins. They will sleep approx. 12 to 15 - - -

They are on the Mining Site. There is no fee required; however, we each will make a donation for our night's stay. This donation will go towards the owners mining restoration project onsite. There are other options that you can handle on-your-own (fee camping, Del Norte hotels, etc.) These cabins will be roughing it! Visit the web site for pictures! <http://lastchancemine.com/lcm.html>

WE NEED TO KNOW HOW MANY ARE INTERESTED IN THESE CABINS BEFORE MONDAY, June 7-TH, 10pm

If we only need 1 cabin, we want to let the owner know the other 1 is available!

Contact Dick Lackmond Lackmond@msn.com or Dan alfreydan@aol.com to reserve your spot!



Creede Underground Mining Museum; **meet across the road, on the right**

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☀☀ Baculite Mesa is a famous locality for collecting Cretaceous fossil ammonites (these were shelled, squid-like animals). The genus name for these critters is *Baculites*. Dan Alfrey and Dick Lackmond have planned two trips to Baculite Mesa (near Pueblo) for June 19 and October 2. The owner has opened up a new area for collecting, so this should be a great trip! Meet at the Pueblo K-Mart at 9AM. **Long pants, boots and a hat are required; this is rattlesnake country!** Visit http://www.paleocurrents.com/baculite_mesa/index.html for more information.



Baculites in weathered Pierre Shale



Collecting area (gray area in distance)

☀☀ Here's a rundown from Dan Alfrey of field trips that are in the works:

June 5, 2010 ~ 9:00am (meet at Bayou Salado in Hartsel) InterClub Trip hosted by The CSMS to their Private "Peridot" (Club) Claim (Leader: Ron Yam' -CSMS)

* **(Sat.) June 12, 2010** ~ 9:15am ~ InterClub Trip (as hosts to The CSMS) to Spruce Grove / topaz (Leader: John Rakowski)

(Sat) June 19, 2010 ~ 9:00am ~ Baculite Mesa trip #1 - - Meet at Pueblo K-Mart Pkg lot (Hwy. 50 @ I-25) North side (Leaders: Dick Lackmond & Dan Alfrey)

(Sat) June 19, 2010 ~ Combined Pebble Pups field trip to the 'Florissant Fossil Beds N.M.' & 'the Fossil Quarry' < \$13 Fee, sponsorship avail. > (email Steven at steven.veatch@gmail.com for details)

(Sat) June 26, 2010 ~ (Only 20 allowed, not including kids) "Topaz Mtn Gem Mine" Private Claim / TOPAZ! (Leader: Dan Alfrey) Open on First come - First serve basis!

* **(Sat.) July 10, 2010** ~ 9:10am-4pm ~ "Petra Placer" Private Claim / TOPAZ! (Leaders: Richard Fretterd & Dan Alfrey) 10,000' elevation, strenuous!

(Sat.) July 10, 2010 ~ Alma Geostudy group will tour the Paris Mill in Buckskin Gulch (email steven.veatch@gmail.com for details)

(Sat-Sun) July 17-18, 2010 ~ "Last Chance Mine" Creede <\$2/lb.> & NF exploration Del Norte < FREE! > / sowbelly agate, geodes, thunder eggs (Leaders: Dick Lackmond & Dan Alfrey)

July 31: Restricted "Glacier Peak Amazonite Mines" (private claim)

August 7: New Hope Amethyst Locality (Canon City Club claim)

(Sat. Sept. 4: "Sedalia Mine" Salida/fist-sized garnets, along with numerous other minerals. Strenuous climb to main collecting area; details later.

Sept. 18: Holcim Cement Quarry, Penrose (calcite, pyrite, quartz)

Sept. 25: GodSend (private claim) (amazonite, smoky quartz)

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Visit the www.LGGMClub.org website for details on these and updates on other trips.

Pebble Pups Corner

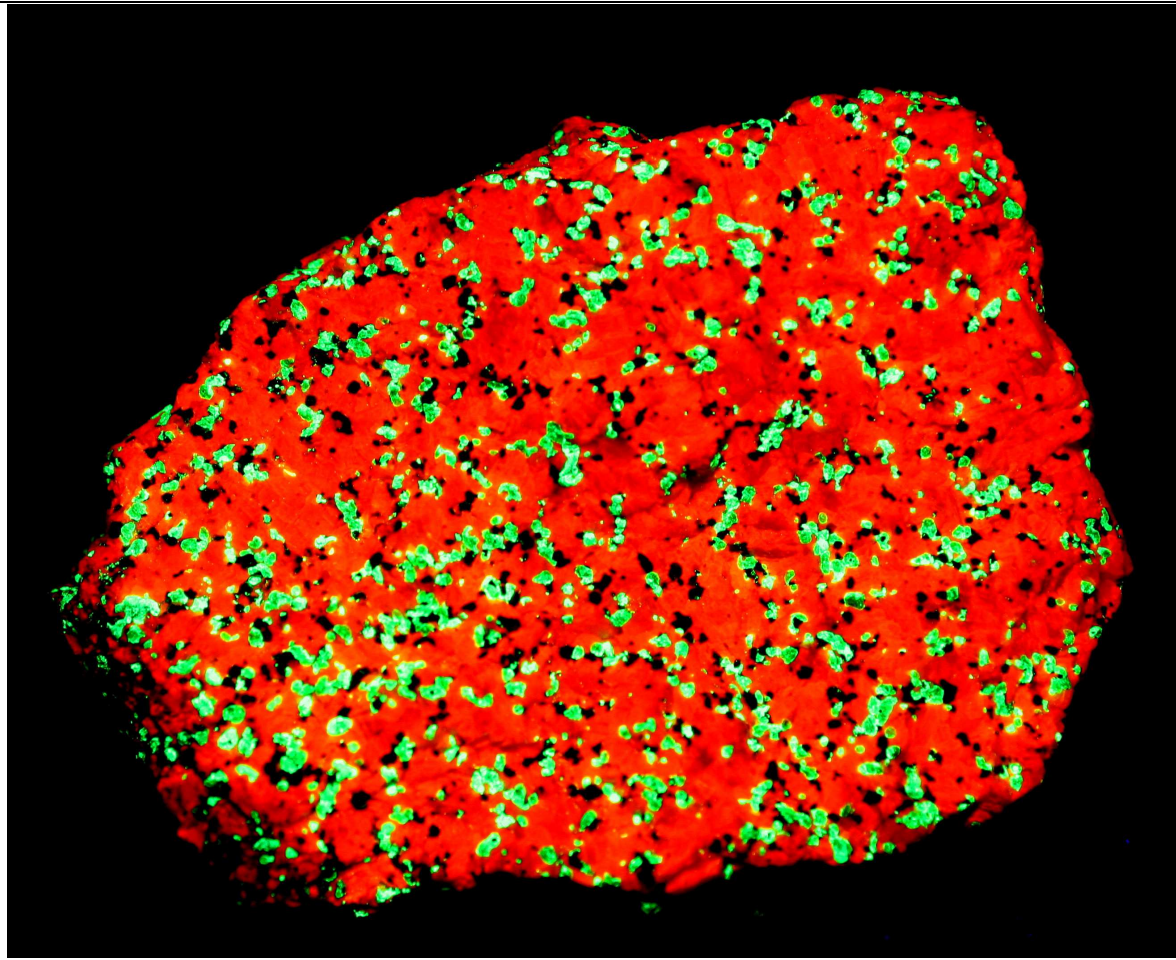
At the May meeting, **Steve Veatch** gave a presentation on "**Fossils: Windows to the Past**". Five "Pups" attended, and everybody had a good time. Steve also prepped the kids for the upcoming field trip to the Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument. The first Pebble Pups field trip occurred on May 8. It was a joint trip (with the Colorado Springs group) to a public peridot locality in southwestern South Park. We all found a lot of peridot, and a few of the kids even found some crystals still embedded in the host rock.



We have changed the schedule a bit, switching the June and July programs. On June 8, **Bob Carnein** will talk about "glowing rocks"—mineral luminescence. All Pups need to bring along their mineral collections so we can test them for fluorescence and phosphorescence. They're also welcome to bring along anything else they want to test—some brightly colored clothing "glows" brightly when exposed to UV radiation.

Steve Veatch will lead the June 19 Pebble Pups trip to the Florissant Fossil Beds. Details have been sent to all "Pups" by e-mail; if you need more information, please get in touch with Steve.

Dan Alfrey reports that, through the generosity of some anonymous members, 2 scholarships are available for needy Pups to attend the June field trip. Once again, please contact Steve steven.veatch@gmail.com or Dan AlfreyDan@aol.com for details.



Fluorescent calcite (red) and willemite (green), Franklin, NJ (Carnein photo)

Once again, the Pebble Pups group encourages any members who want to "sit in" to come to the meetings on the second Tuesday of the month, at 6PM, at the Lake George Charter School. We are looking for specimens to give to the kids at the meetings, so go through that pile of rocks in your garage and see what you can spare. Remember, we're looking for 8 to 10 samples of each.

NOTES FROM THE EDITOR

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



I ran out of time this month and don't have an article (there's a lot going on with the Club, as you can see!). However, I'd like to report that the Alma Project is going strong, with all kinds of new things cropping up. Steve and I drove up to Colorado School of Mines on May 28 to photograph specimens. Thanks to the kind help of Beth Simmons, Ed Raines, and Bruce Geller, we saw a lot of material, most of it, unfortunately, aesthetically challenged. Except for the Sweet Home mine, we don't have the abundance of beautiful specimens that we had for the Victor project. However, Steve has a contact at Collector's Edge Minerals, and we hope to get some photos of eye-candy from the Sweet Home mine. Here's a brief update from Steve:

Greetings--Here is an update on the project:

1. There are two field trips set for this summer. The July 10 trip will include a guided tour of the inside to the Paris Mill. I am still working on a visit to the Snow Storm Dredge.
2. I have attached a rough draft of the info on Buckskin. I would like to add a few images of specimens to this paper. I need Marge to paint something nice for the cover. I just put the head frame on the cover until I get her painting. Remember, this is a very rough draft. I need to add a few more things that Christie Wright has provided. I have very little geology in it. I have spent 3 months on this Buckskin paper. It will take about the same time for the Alma and Mosquito paper.
3. Bob C. is working on a geology paper.
4. I will begin working on a paper about Alma and Mosquito. It will be close to the same number of pages as the Buckskin paper.
5. All of the papers will be boiled down into an expanded abstract for the New Mexico Mineral Symposium.
6. I am working with Maury R. for a trip to one of his mines.
7. The PowerPoint is about 65% done.
This is shaping up to be a great project that will have lasting benefits to the communities we are researching. Thanks to everyone for your hard work and dedication.

--Steve

Lake George Gem and Mineral Club

June, 2010



Lake George Gem and Mineral Club
Box 171
Lake George, Colorado 80827

2010 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. **Anyone joining after August 30 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**

www.LGGMclub.org

Lake George Gem and Mineral Club

June, 2010

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 2010 are:

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