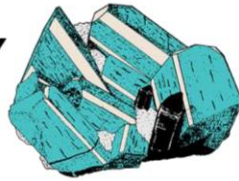


**FRIENDS OF MINERALOGY  
COLORADO CHAPTER**



**March 2019 Newsletter**  
**Meeting: Thurs., Mar. 14, 7:30 p.m.**  
**All are welcome!**  
***NEW meeting place (don't forget!)***  
***Berthoud Hall room 108, CSM***

***Our Chapter's new meeting place: Berthoud Hall, room 108, Colorado School of Mines campus, Golden.*** We've moved to the CSM campus from last year's place at the Lakeview Event Center, for several reasons—higher cost at the old place (there will be no charge for us at CSM), and a much nicer meeting room. Our original email to members said the meeting would be in room 109, but we've switched this meeting to the room across the hall, 108, a larger room (anticipating a bigger crowd for this meeting). Most times we'll meet in room 109, which holds twenty-something people. Parking on CSM campus streets and parking lots is free after 5 p.m.; parking along Maple or Illinois Streets should work well. Berthoud Hall is at 16<sup>th</sup> St., between Illinois & Maple; you may enter either from the east (Illinois), north, or west (Illinois) sides. Go to the lower level, the 1<sup>st</sup> floor.

## ***Fun in the Field: Mineral Collecting in the Southwestern United States***

*by Graham Sutton*

FMCC is very pleased to welcome Graham Sutton as the special guest speaker for our March meeting; Graham is one of the world's most renowned mineral specimen miners. He has worked on mining projects for Collectors Edge, including rhodochrosite at the Sweet Home mine, as well as numerous other localities in the U.S. and worldwide—mining wulfenite at the Red Cloud mine in Arizona is only the beginning of these. Read on (next page) for more about Graham!



## Graham Sutton

(1964- )

Graham Ian Sutton, long-time field collector and mineral dealer, was born in Montreal, Quebec, on July 11, 1964, the son of Noreen and Trevor Sutton, an aeronautical engineer. His family moved to Tempe, Arizona, when he was still in infancy, and he grew up there in the midst of Arizona's stimulating mineral atmosphere.

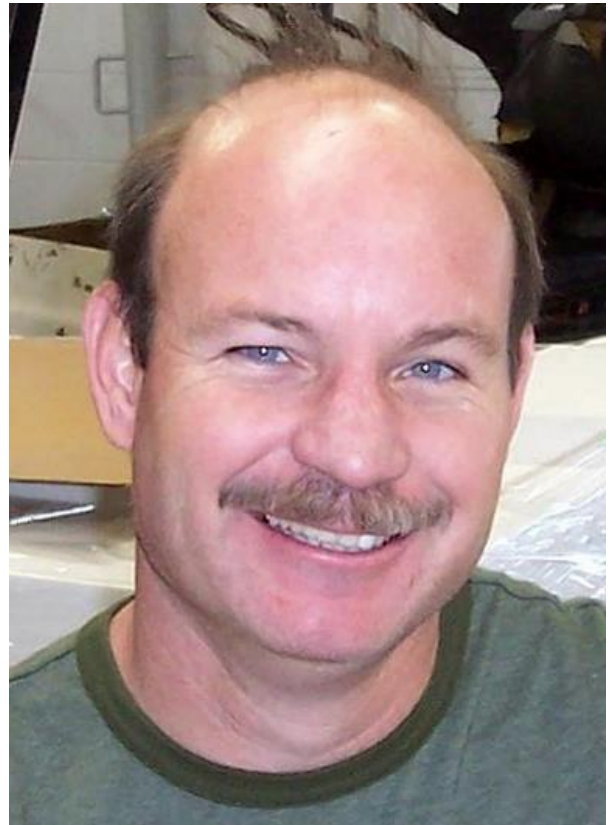
Graham's interest in minerals was kindled in 1976 when, at the age of 12, his family took a vacation through Colorado and he visited a rock shop for the first time (Benjy Kuehling's Columbine Mineral Shop in Ouray). There they cracked open a Mexican geode for him and he was hooked. During his senior year of high school Graham worked various jobs including line cook and carpenter. After graduation his entrepreneurial inclinations took over and he started his own landscaping company, though he also took classes at a local community college.

In 1983 Graham took a Geology class from Ray Grant at Mesa Community College, and Ray invited him to come along with some friends during Christmas break to collect minerals at a mine. Thus his first-ever collecting trip was to the famous Red Cloud mine. Everyone had fun on the trip, and Graham found a wulfenite that he still has in his collection. On that trip he also met well-known mineral dealer Dave Shannon and they became good friends, collecting together off and on for the next 15 years.

The next semester he took a mineralogy class from Armand J. Lombard, and he too became a lifelong friend and mentor. Within a few months of the Red Cloud trip, Graham quit his landscaping business in order to spend more time collecting minerals. Now fatally bitten by the "mineral bug," he left Mesa Community College after three semesters to pursue an opportunity to mine placer gold near Quartzsite. He also bought and operated a decorative-boulder quarry north of Phoenix. He and Phoenix dealer Bob Lane collected a lot together during that time, and Bob showed him how the mineral business worked. They worked together as partners for about five years. Another of Graham's early mentors was Bill Hawes. In those days there was a pretty large group of field collectors in the Phoenix area, and Graham collected with many of them—all contributing in one way or another to his fascination with mineral collecting and the mineral business.

Graham began working part-time as a commercial specimen miner in 1983, but by 1985 it had become a full-time job. His first Tucson show as a mineral dealer came in 1984, when he shared a room with Bill Hawes at the Travelodge. In subsequent years he shared rooms in Tucson with whomever was willing to have him. He made his first visit to the Denver show in 1988. From 1983 to 1998 Graham was on his own as a mineral dealer, under the name "Graham Sutton Minerals." He enjoyed collecting any minerals that would sell, of which Arizona had no shortage, and partnered with many other field collectors, always splitting whatever they found. He still has a small collection of self-collected miniatures and thumbnail specimens, but most of what he found was eventually sold to support his business. His labels show his Tempe, Arizona, address in 1983-1990, and his Mesa, Arizona, address in 1990-1998. In 1998 Graham was hired by Bryan Lees' of Collector's Edge Minerals, and thereafter gave up his personal mineral business.

Graham made many collecting trips back to his old stomping grounds at the Red Cloud mine during the 1980s and early 1990s. In 1996 he managed the first open pit project there for Wayne Thomson and was there for the



“Big Pocket” that year. He then made the big open cut at the Red Cloud mine for Collectors Edge in 2004, the year the Red Gem pocket was discovered.

Graham's work in Arizona has covered most of the state's more famous mineral localities, as well as some of the more obscure ones. Working with George Godas, he reopened the North Geronimo mine, installing a new shaft in 1994. He later expanded the workings there for Collector's Edge in 2004. He also mined the Veta Grande mine near Quartzsite for hematite and faden quartz, the Iron Cap mine for sphalerite and galena; the Finch mine for drusy quartz-coated wulfenite; Stanley Butte for garnets; the Grand reef mine for linarite, cerussite, laurelite and aravaipaite; and the Silver Hill mine for rosasite-aurichalcite-malachite. At the Bagdad mine, Graham and Bruce Barlow collected close to 100 tons of blue drusy quartz with chrysocolla. He has also collected (though less successfully) at the Blue ball mine in Globe for azurite nodules, the Hull mine near Yuma for wulfenite and cerussite, the Hamburg mine for vanadinite, the Morenci mine for azurite, the Cohen mine for scheelite, the Melissa mine for wulfenite, the Rowley mine for wulfenite, the J. C. Holmes mine for vanadinite, the Hardshell mine for pyromorphite, the Helvetia area for aurichalcite and malachite, and many many others. The extensive list of important Arizona localities where Graham has collected is a testament to his enthusiasm as a field collector.

He opened the Sweet Home mine for Bryan Lees in 1991 and then left, but returned again in 1998 to mine rhodochrosite specimens until the mine closed in 2004. Working for Collector's Edge, he also mined benitoite specimens in California for three years, then took on the Twin Creeks Orpiment project in Nevada in 2000. He collected at the 29 mine in Missouri, bringing out 20,000 pounds of calcite crystals. He dug for topaz at the Maynard claims in the Thomas Mountains of Utah; barite in the Book Cliffs of Colorado; and collected calcite, fluorite, and associated minerals at the Elmwood mine in Tennessee. At the Nevada lode in La Salle, Utah, Graham and Bob Lane collected 125,000 azurite specimens. It is safe to say he has collected over half a million mineral specimens in his life so far.

Graham's collecting exploits also include numerous foreign localities. He has collected crocoite at the Red Lead mine in Tasmania, diopside at Altyn Tyube in Kazakhstan, fluorite at the Xianghualing mine in China, and red grossular and vesuvianite at Sierra de las Cruces in Mexico. At the San Francisco mine in Mexico he mined over 2000 *flats* of wulfenite.

Graham's career in the mineral business has also included numerous specimen-buying trips to fang-flung corners of the world for Collector's Edge. He has been to China over 100 times, and has also purchased specimens in Colombia, Vietnam, Kazakhstan, Portugal, Mexico, Thailand, Bulgaria, Zambia and Namibia.

Graham's entrepreneurial spirit continues to drive new and exciting ventures; he established a successful mineral show case company, “Its West Display”, about 6 years ago. And he is promoting a new show at a new venue in Tucson, the “Mineral City Show,” beginning in 2019.

In 2019 Graham's many years of digging minerals was officially recognized when he was awarded the American Mineral Heritage Award, for field-collecting achievements contributing to the Heritage of American mineral specimens.

He can be contacted at [Graham\\_s2002@yahoo.com](mailto:Graham_s2002@yahoo.com)

*Biography from:*

WILSON, Wendell E. (2019) Mineralogical Record Biographical Archive, at [www.mineralogicalrecord.com](http://www.mineralogicalrecord.com).

**From the President:**

Greetings fellow Friends of Mineralogy Members,

In case we have not met my name is Bob Hembree and I am the current president of FM. I am a retired mining engineer and geologist with 45 years of experience in the mining industry. I started collecting minerals in Grand Junction, Colorado at the age of 6 and have never quit. I live northwest of Bailey.

As we get closer to warmer weather many of us are getting ready for the collecting season to start. Because of the heavy snows this winter many of the collecting locations in the high peaks are not going to be accessible until later this year. In the mean time I am still cleaning up some of my finds from last year.

This month's talk will be by Graham Sutton, on "Fun in the Field: Mineral Collecting in the Southwestern United States", which should be an interesting talk given Graham's vast experience collecting in the SW US. The meeting starts at 7:30 pm in Berthoud Hall Room 108. Hope to see you there.



Bob Hembree

\* \* \* \* \*



Bob gave our January presentation, *“Exploring Mines and Mineral Collecting in the Magdalena Mining District of New Mexico in the 1970’s”*. You may have seen, in addition to specimens he brought to our meeting, that Bob displayed a case of specimens from Magdalena at the Denver Gem & Mineral Guild Show, Feb. 22-24 at the Jeffco Fairgrounds. Below, I’ll repeat Bob’s bio from our last newsletter:

**Bob Hembree** is a retired mining engineer and geologist who lives in Bailey, Colorado. He graduated for New Mexico Institute of Mining & Technology in 1975.

After graduation he spent his career working at various mining operations around the US and in Kazakhstan. He has worked at operations that produced gold, silver, copper, lead, zinc, vanadium, and uranium. One of his more interesting positions was as manager of technical services at the Nyrstar zinc mines in Tennessee which included the Elmwood mine. He currently spends his time mineral collecting, fishing, building a model railroad, and occasionally consulting. Bob is the current (2019) president of the Friends of Mineralogy, Colorado Chapter.

### **March 1, 2019 Membership report**

At the end of 2018, FMCC had 78 members, 76 paid memberships and 2 life members. Every person is counted even if you have a family membership. As of March 1, 2019, FMCC has received 14 paid members and the continuing 2 life memberships.

Mark Jacobson, FMCC Treasurer

\* \* \* \* \*

**Dues for 2019:** As per Mark's report above, it appears that most members (at least as of March 1) had NOT yet sent us their dues for 2019! Please do this as soon as possible; a membership form is attached as the last page of this newsletter, or, see our website, <https://friendsofmineralogycolorado.org/>. Dues are \$15 for individual, \$25 for a family. Dues automatically include membership in the National organization, Friends of Mineralogy, Inc. Send payment to FMCC, P.O. Box 234, Arvada CO 80001-0234.

\* \* \* \* \*

### **FM Colorado Chapter meetings:**

Meetings are normally held at 7:30 p.m. on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of alternate (odd-numbered) months. Our meeting place for the remainder of 2019 will be as with this month, Berthoud Hall Room 109 or 108, at 16<sup>th</sup> and Illinois Streets, Colorado School of Mines campus, Golden.. Meeting dates may be shifted in September and November so as not to conflict with the Denver Gem & Mineral Show or the New Mexico Mineral Symposium. Visitors are *always* welcome at our meetings! Planned meeting dates for the rest 2019 will be:

- Thursday, May 9, FM meeting**, speaker TBA
- Sunday, May 19, FM Silent Auction**, Clements Community Center, Lakewood, **see flier & bid slips attached!**
- Sept. 13-15, Denver Gem and Mineral Show; 2019 show theme, "Minerals of Canada" (52<sup>nd</sup> annual show)**
- Thursday, Sept. 19, FM meeting**, speaker, Dr. Virgil Lueth, topic TBA
- Thursday, Nov. 14, FM meeting**, speaker, Dr. Terry Wallace, **Gold: A journey from the Big Bang to the forest of the Amazon"**

\* \* \* \* \*

### **Friends of Mineralogy, Colorado Chapter, 2019 officers:**

- President:** Bob Hembree, rhembree@comcast.net, 720-201-5486
- Vice President:** Gloria Staebler, gastaebler@aol.com, 303-495-5521
- Treasurer:** Mark Jacobson, markivanjacobson@gmail.com, 1-337-255-0627
- Secretary:** Ed Pederson, mineraljeep@aol.com
- Denver Museum N&S Liaison:** Alan Keimig, alan.keimig@gmail.com, 303-755-9604
- DG&MS Council Trustee:** David Bunk, dave@davebunkminerals.com;  
Alternate, Mark Jacobson
- Newsletter editor:** Peter Modreski, pmodreski@aol.com, 720-205-2553
- Field trip planner** (not field trip leader): unfilled
- FMCC Website:** unfilled
- Postings for the FM national facebook page:** unfilled
- At-large Directors:**
  - Don Bray, don\_bray@copper.net , 303-681-3646
  - David Bunk, dave@davebunkminerals.com
  - Larry Havens, lwrnchavens@comcast.net, 303-757-6577
  - Peter Modreski, pmodreski@aol.com, 720-205-2553
  - Jeff Self, selfawareminerals@gmail.com, 303-898-7539

## *Calendar of Coming Events, 2019*

**Thurs., Mar. 21, “A Cook's Tour of Colorado's Glacial Landscape”** by Dr. Vince Matthews. Monthly meeting of the Colorado Scientific Society, Shepherd of the Hills Church, 11500 W. 20th Ave., Lakewood; all are welcome.

**Fri.-Sat.-Sun., Mar. 22-24, Fort Collins Gem & Mineral Show**; at Thomas M. McKee Building, at The Ranch/Larimer County Fairgrounds, 5280 Arena Circle, Loveland, CO (I-25 exit 259); hours 4-8 Fri., 9-6 Sat., 10-5 Sun. Sponsored by the Fort Collins Rockhounds Club.

**Sat.-Sun., Mar. 23-24, WIPS (Western Interior Paleontological Society) semi-annual Founders Symposium, “Lagerstätten: Exceptional Preservation, Extraordinary Fossils”**. Lowry Conference Center, 1061 Akron Way, Denver. Two days of lectures, educational exhibits, displays of fossils, paleo art show and sale with over a dozen artists. See [https://www.westernpaleo.org/symposiums/2019\\_pages/about-2019.php](https://www.westernpaleo.org/symposiums/2019_pages/about-2019.php) .

**Mon., Apr. 1, 7:00 p.m., The Leadville Limestone-The Magic Rock of Central Colorado**, by Ed Raines, Collections Manager, Colorado School of Mines Geology Museum; at the Western Interior Paleontological Society meeting, Lowry Conference Center 1061 Akron Way, Denver.

**Fri.-Sat.-Sun., Apr. 12-14, Colorado Mineral and Fossil Spring Show**, Crown Plaza Hotel /Convention Center, 15500 E 40th Ave., Denver, Colorado, 10-6 Fri. & Sat., 10-5 Sun., free parking & admission.

**Fri., Apr. 12, 6:45 p.m., North Jeffco Gem & Mineral Club Silent Auction**; all welcome (setup begins at 5:30). APEX Community Recreation Center, 6842 Wadsworth Blvd., Arvada. For more info, Bill Jones, 303-503-6288.

**Thurs., May 9, 7:30 p.m., Friends of Mineralogy, Colorado Chapter, bimonthly meeting**; topic TBA.

**Sun., May 19, Friends of Mineralogy, Colorado Chapter, Silent (+Vocal) Auction**. Noon to 4 p.m., Clements Community Center, 1580 Yarrow St., Lakewood CO. All are welcome to attend.

**Fri.-Sat.-Sun., May 31-June 2, Pikes Peak Gem & Mineral Show**, Norris-Penrose Event Center, 1045 Lower Gold Camp Road, Colorado Springs, CO 80905. Sponsored by the Colorado Springs Mineralogical Society.

*For more lecture series during the year see:*

**Colorado Beer Talks** (2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday, 6-8 p.m.), Windy Saddle Café, 1110 Washington Avenue, Golden, “Golden’s grassroots version of TED talks, Expand your mind with a beer in your hand”, <http://goldenbeertalks.org/>

**Colorado Café Scientifique in Denver**, monthly lectures on science topics held either at Blake Street Station or Brooklyn’s, Denver; open to the public, no charge other than food or drink; see <http://cafescicolorado.org/> .

**Colorado Scientific Society** (3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday, 7 p.m.), see <http://coloscisoc.org/> . Meets at Shepherd of the Hills Church, 11500 W. 20th Ave., Lakewood CO, except when noted.

**CU Geological Science Colloquium** (Wednesdays, 4 p.m.) see <http://www.colorado.edu/geologicalsciences/colloquium>

**CSU Dept. of Geoscience Seminars** (Fridays, 4 p.m.), see <https://warnercnr.colostate.edu/geosciences/geosciences-seminar-series/>

**Van Tuyl Lecture Series, Colorado School of Mines**, (Thursdays, 4 p.m.): <https://geology.mines.edu/events-calendar/lectures/>

**Denver Mining Club** (Mondays, 11:30), see <http://www.denverminingclub.org/> .

**Denver Museum of Nature and Science, Earth Science Colloquium series**, 3:00-4:00 p.m., VIP Room unless noted, day of the week varies. Museum admission is not required; see <http://www.dmns.org/science/research/earth-sciences/>

**Denver Region Exploration Geologists Society** (DREGS; 1<sup>st</sup> Monday, 7 p.m.), <http://www.dregs.org/index.html>

**Florissant Scientific Society** (FSS); meets monthly in various Front Range locations for a lecture or field trip; normally on Sundays at noon; all interested persons are welcome to attend the meetings and trips; see <http://www.fss-co.org/> .

**Nerd Night Denver** is a theater-style evening featuring usually 3 short (20-minute) TED-style talks on science or related topics; held more-or-less monthly at the Oriental Theater, 4335 W. 44<sup>th</sup> Ave., Denver; drinks are available; for ages 18+. Admission is \$6 online in advance, \$10 at the door. See <https://www.nerdnitedenver.com/> .

**Rocky Mountain Map Society** (RMMS; Denver Public Library, Gates Room, 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday, 5:30 p.m.), <http://rmmaps.org/>

**Western Interior Paleontological Society** (WIPS); beginning January 2019, WIPS will meet on the 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of the month, 7 p.m., at Lowry Conference Center, 1061 Akron Way, Denver. See <http://westernpaleo.org/> .



Prospective members for the Colorado Chapter, please send this form with your check to the address below. This form may also be used to renew your membership. Membership in the local chapter includes membership in the National Society. A local chapter member does not need to live within the area. Membership lists are not shared outside of the organization. Membership in the local chapter provides membership in the Rocky Mountain Federal of Mineralogical Societies (RMFMS) with its associated group 3<sup>rd</sup> party liability insurance for field trips.

**Please mail annual dues of \$15 for an individual, or \$25 for a family made out to Friends of mineralogy, Colorado Chapter to:**

Ms. Gloria Staebler

Friends of Mineralogy - Colorado Chapter  
P.O. Box 234  
Arvada, CO 80001-0234

Please complete the following for new members.

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_ First name: \_\_\_\_\_

Middle name (optional): \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address (used for mail): \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State or Province: \_\_\_\_\_

County: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip or Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone (land line): \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone (Cell phone): \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

My primary area of interest is: \_\_\_\_\_

Chapter and National newsletters will be sent to you by email unless you request a paper copy to be mailed. \_\_\_\_\_ Please note that mail newsletter as sent as a black and white paper copy.

Friends of Mineralogy Colorado Chapter is affiliated with the Mineralogical Record Magazine, The Mineralogical Society of America (MSA), the American Geological Institute (AGI), Rock and Minerals magazine, the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies and the Rocky Mountain Federation of Mineralogical Societies.

Friends of mineralogy, INC. is composed of member of local chapters, of which in 2014, seven chapters existed. Members may affiliate with any chapter or none. Local chapters issue newsletters as does the national organization.