



Friends of Mineralogy-Colorado Chapter  
P.O. Box 5276  
Golden, CO 80401-5276

## Friends of Mineralogy, Colorado Chapter Newsletter – January 2010

**Next meeting January 14th, 2010 at the Denver Museum of Nature and Science**

2001 Colorado Blvd., Denver, CO

[Enter the museum via the staff/security entrance, to the left of the main entrance doors on the north side of the museum. Security staff will direct you to the V.I.P. Room, which is to the left, past the T-Rex Cafeteria area.]

*(Board meeting 6:45-7:30)*

### **FRIENDS OF MINERALOGY PROGRAM FOR JANUARY 2010**

**Thursday, January 14, 7:30 p.m., VIP Room, Denver Museum of Nature & Science**

#### ***“Your Stories About Minerals”***

Our plan for this month’s meeting is for *our members* to each come prepared to show & tell a story about some aspect of their own collecting experience; perhaps, but not necessarily, in Colorado, and about material either personally collected, or not. You are welcome to bring in specimens (for those that are delicate, we’ll provide a small display case), and we will have a 35mm slide projector and a digital projector set up so those who care to may bring slides or digital images to show and illustrate your “story”. We hope everyone will cooperate; this is *your opportunity* to share your knowledge or experience about some mineral or mineral locality in which you have a special interest, while at the same time allowing everyone to get to know each other a little better. Of course, you are still welcome to come to the meeting without any prepared story, visual aids, or specimens—but we’ll reserve the right to put you on the spot and try to get you to tell us something about your personal interests or experiences, regardless!

***Coming later this year:*** Our vision for programs for the coming year is to have presentations by some of the Colorado mineral collectors and dealers who have been most active in field collecting in Colorado. We began this series with Joe Dorris’ presentation in November about the excavation and collecting work on his amazonite-smoky quartz claims in the Crystal Peak area. We hope to follow Joe’s excellent presentation with some similar ones in the coming months.

**2010 FMCC Board of Directors:**

*President, Larry Havens, 303-757-6577\**  
Vice-President, Jim Hurlbut, 303-757-0283  
*Treasurer, Richard Parsons, 303-838-8859\**  
Secretary, Alan Keimig, [alan-a-k@juno.com](mailto:alan-a-k@juno.com)  
Co Secretary, Norma Keimig 303-755-9604  
Director, Bill Chirnside (2009), 303-989-8748  
Director, Bruce Geller (2009), 303-237-2947  
Director, Pete Modreski (2009), 303-202-4766  
\* Ended their term in office.

**2010 Chairpersons:**

Membership/Hospitality  
Preservation, Richard Parsons, 303-838-8859  
Program, Pete Modreski, 303-202-4766  
Editor, Bill Hutchinson, 303-452-9009  
  
Liaison for DMNS, Alan Keimig 303-755-9604

2010 Candidate for President; Pete Modreski

2010 Candidate for Treasurer; Lou Conti

**MUSEUM MUSINGS;**

## CSM Museum Musings

The Friends of the Colorado School of Mines Geology held their first meeting on December 3, 2009. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Museum Director Bruce Geller who welcomed all on a very bone chilling night. Approximately 20 attended this historic inaugural event. Bruce described the purpose of forming the Friends group and the role it will play in promoting the museum.

Officers were then elected from the persons present: President - Sherm Marsh, Vice-President - Ed Raines, Secretary - Beth Simmons, Treasurer- Jay Fell. Besides these officers who will constitute temporarily the Executive Committee, it was decided to have a board consisting of "Members-at-Large." The following members were elected "Members-at-Large" - Don Wray, Leonard Himes, and student representative, Chuck Perko.

For this important event, Ed Raines unveiled his new book, "Historic Photos of Colorado Mining." Ed presented a short program full of humorous anecdotes about his dealings with non-mine oriented, young editors from the east and then proceeded to point out the errors he had found in the book already (a rather unusual way to introduce one's book to the public!) After rapturous applause, Ed then sold and signed books for members.

Membership #0001 was auctioned to the highest bidder. Marty Zinn can now say he was the FIRST member in this new organization! Thank you, Marty!!!! The Executive Board met briefly after the signing to set the date for their first meeting which was held December 10th, Thursday, at 9:00 am, at the Museum, where they discussed goals, by-laws, and ideas for future events.

Those interested in possibly joining the Friends of the Colorado School of Mines Geology Museum are encouraged to download a membership application at:

[http://issuu.com/csmgeologymuseum/docs/friends\\_app?viewMode=presentation&mode=embed](http://issuu.com/csmgeologymuseum/docs/friends_app?viewMode=presentation&mode=embed)

Respectfully submitted,  
Beth Simmons, Ph.D.  
Secretary, Friends of the CSM Geology Museum

## CSM Museum Musings continued

As for new donations, we've received some lovely Brazilian agates, specimens such as native copper from Michigan, fluorite from China, wulfenite from Mexico, spessartine from Pakistan, cavansite from India, an apophyllite "stalactite" from India, wulfenite from the Defiance Mine (AZ), wulfenite from the Hilltop Mine (AZ), native copper from the Chino Mine (NM); a slice of the Franconia meteorite, some Montana mining artifacts, cash, and perhaps the largest fulgurite ever found in Colorado. Not all of these materials have been placed on display yet. In addition, we've received some awesome loaned materials recently, including a large cluster of Sweet Home rhodochrosites. We are grateful to all our devoted donors and loaners.

Cordially,  
Bruce

Cordially,  
Bruce Geller  
CSM Museum Director

## MINERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS:

### TUCSON GEM and MINERAL SHOW

TUCSON- Buyers, sellers, collectors, and admirers of nature's treasures in almost every form imaginable gather in Tucson for the 56th annual Tucson Gem, Mineral, & Fossil Showcase January 30-February 14, 2010.

This year there are 44 individual shows at 42 different venues throughout the Metropolitan Tucson area. Thousands of individual vendors from all over the world are participating. Anybody looking for treasure will find it in one of thousands of vendor booths at this world-renowned event.

Each year in February approximately 4,500 unique vendors converge on the charming, eclectic southwestern city of **Tucson, Arizona** for the world's largest natural history showcase. Vendors from all over the planet offer the finest selection of natural history wonders ever assembled.

It all started pretty small, back in 1955, with a free exhibition put together at a local school by the Tucson Gem and Mineral Society. That show continues to this day as the **official Tucson Gem and Mineral Show™** and is held every year in mid-February at the Tucson Convention Center (TCC). In later years the event that started it all moved to a spot in Tucson's Rodeo Grounds. Over the years, additional shows sprung up and collectively grew into the largest and most amazing display of rocks, fossils, gems, minerals, jewelry, beads, dinosaurs, and meteorites of all time. Conservative estimates put the annual number of show visitors at 50,000, and that's a big influx for a city with an urban population of about 550,000. Today, the Tucson shows consist of about 45 separate events running concurrently in hotels, parking lots, and tents from the end of January through the middle of February. All shows are free except for the TCC event, and most are open to the public, though a few are wholesale only and ID is required for entrance.

Repeat Performance please fill in and return to 440 E 104<sup>th</sup> Place, Northglenn, CO 80233.

FRIENDS OF MINERALOGY

## Colorado Chapter Member Questionnaire

# January 2010

Approximately how long have you been a member of FM? \_\_\_\_\_

Do you belong to any other local gem and mineral clubs? \_\_\_\_\_

Do you consider yourself to be (please check all that apply):

- mineral collector     dealer     geological professional
- museum staff or volunteer     teacher/educator     lapidarist
- \_\_\_\_\_ (other, you name it)

Concern	Strongly Agree	Somewhat Agree	Somewhat Disagree	Strongly Disagree	No Opinion
FM Club meetings are fun					
FM Club meetings are informative					
I feel welcome at FM meetings					
I think the club makes good use of my skills or knowledge					
I am concerned about potential road closures affecting access to Colorado collecting localities					
There is a need for FM to develop a program on development and curation of private collections, to be offered to other clubs in the area.					
FMCC should explore with the State Historical Society the potential for gathering audio/video-taped accounts from individuals having special knowledge of mining or collecting in Colorado.					

What would you most like Friends of Mineralogy to do to improve its value to members, or do more of, or do better?

Future programs I would enjoy : \_\_\_\_\_

I can do a program on: \_\_\_\_\_

I know of other available programs: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact person(s): \_\_\_\_\_

What else could the club do to increase your enjoyment of the hobby?

\_\_\_\_\_

Name (optional but helpful): \_\_\_\_\_

## FROM THE EDITOR:

### The Mineral Collection

Young and old, self taught or degreed  
Crystals will call and some crazies will heed  
This mysterious yearning to put rocks out to view  
And challenge themselves to find something new.

Repeating patterns of symmetry shown  
Time and pressure may change as the crystal is grown  
Faces expand as impurities are captured  
Once on the shelf, collectors enraptured.

If you know 2/m is monoclinic, prismatic,  
Or Miller indices of faces, then you're a fanatic.  
Rotational axis and slide planes and twinning,  
a complicated structure will find you a-grinning.

Colors and textures from deep in the earth  
Time and erosion will eventually birth  
The fine detailed growth of chemical bonds  
To this creation the rock hound responds.

Hike long and hard to find exposures with hope  
Deep in the trenches or on a radical slope  
A peg or a skarn, ubiquitous or rare  
We only wish for an answered prayer.

To lift from the earth a fine quality rock  
If ever we found, it will give us a shock  
That we were first to set eyes on this crystal perfection  
And add to our expanding mineral collection.

By William H Hutchinson 2010

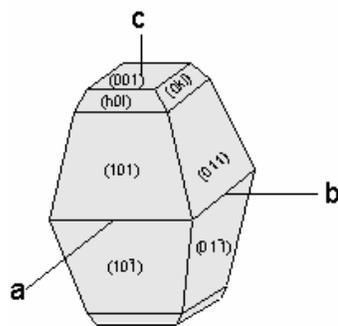
### Meeting Dates for 2010

The dates for our next 2010 meetings will be January 14<sup>th</sup>, March 11<sup>th</sup> and May 13<sup>th</sup>.

Membership in FMCC and National FM is \$13 in 2009/10. Payment by check can be sent to our Treasurer or any Board member.

**Your newsletter editor encourages all FMCC members to send your email address so that you will receive the newsletter electronically. The email version of the newsletter is in color; the paper version will have none. Please send your email address to Editor Bill Hutchinson at [wmhutchi5@msn.com](mailto:wmhutchi5@msn.com). Also if you only want a paper newsletter but are presently receiving an email newsletter, please let your editor know.**

**Friends of Mineralogy–Colorado Chapter**



**P.O. Box 5276**  
**Golden, CO 80401-5276**