



## Friends of Mineralogy, Colorado Chapter Newsletter – January 2015

**November Meeting – Thursday, Jan. 8, 7:30 pm** (*Board meeting 6:30-7:30*)  
**Denver Museum of Nature and Science – VIP Room** *Enter the Museum through the Security/Staff entrance to the left of the main entrance.*

### **January Program:**

### ***Mining and Collecting Amethyst at the Blue Point Mine, Pearl, Ontario, Canada***

*Ian S. Merkel*



The amethyst occurrences near Thunder Bay, Canada have been known about, collected and treasured for many years. The crystals are found as stubby points with little to no prism faces developed. Their crystallization occurred through multiple generations of quartz growth with concomitant crystallization of iron oxides near the final phase of quartz growth. This has led to the unique coloration of Thunder Bay amethyst; the crystals occur with red, yellow, orange brown and black minute spheres and platelets of various iron oxides imparting shades of red and browns to the deep purple color of the amethyst.

The Blue Point Mine exploits a vein system within a large fault that separates an Archean conglomerate from a mudstone. The mine is located about 65 km north-east of the city of Thunder Bay, Ontario. There are two types of veins at the mine, both containing significant cavities lined with amethyst crystals. Volumetrically the cavities are

*(cont., p. 2)*

*Collecting area at the Blue Point mine, Pearl, Ontario, Canada*

essentially amethyst only, although minor amounts of barite and calcite also occur. The amethyst occurs in various shades of purple with average crystal sizes ranging from 5 mm to 40 mm in width. The iron oxide inclusions are also variable with some crystals containing a few isolated spheres whereas other crystals from other cavities have layers so dense with iron oxides that the crystals become nearly opaque.

The author has visited the Blue Point mine four times since 2004. During those visits over 50 cavities were collected, some in excess of 4 feet long. This talk will provide an overview on the geology and mineralization observed at the mine and recounts the collecting conditions and specimen extraction successes during the visits.

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Ian Merkel attended the State University of New York at New Paltz, located midway between New York city and Albany, starting in 1997. He had graduated from High School on Long Island where he spent his childhood. It was in New Paltz that he quickly realized that he was much more comfortable in the mountains than the beaches and more importantly, that he spoke the language of geology with ease. Collecting became an inspiration for his academic efforts, which furthermore drove his collecting efforts. Ian graduated in 2004 with a BS in Geology and about 100 collecting localities under his belt.

In August 2004 Ian began his graduate work at Colorado State University, Fort Collins studying igneous petrology. During the ensuing graduate summers Ian was hired as an intern for Phelps Dodge at the Morenci Copper Mine in Arizona. Most weekends during those summers were spent collecting in desert localities and camping in the ponderosa forests with his dog, Rugosa. He acquired his MS in Geology in 2007 and began working as a full time exploration geologist at the Morenci Mine, now a property of Freeport McMoRan. During his years at Morenci Ian ran the drill program, managed the drill hole database and helped build the resource block models.

In 2010 an opportunity to transfer to the Henderson Mine in Empire, Colorado led Ian to expand his skills to underground mapping, building 3D interpretive models of molybdenum grade distributions, alterations and associated lithological models. He also manages the exploration and mapping databases and plays a pivotal role in the exploration drill program.

Because his love for mineral specimens can not be quenched with his daily geological duties Ian seeks out specimens in his spare time. He has collected at over 200 localities throughout North America since 1998. Currently he is a member of Spruce Ridge Collectors in Washington state and works on specimen extraction projects such as Hallelujah Junction, Nevada and California Blue Mine, Southern California. He spends 40+ days a year in the field and continues to expand his understanding of geology through research and short courses.

## *2014 Year in review: President's Message*

This is FM Colorado Chapter's first newsletter for 2015. As such, I'd like to sum up what the chapter has worked on and achieved during 2014.

Local members have continued to be active within the greater community of earth science enthusiasts. Officers and directors of the chapter, James Hurlbut, Lou Conti, Alan and Norma Keimig, Larry Havens, Don Bray, and Bill Chirnside, have continued to be active in assisting the annual Denver and Mineral Show in September, a major undertaking by all the Denver areas clubs and societies. Many members provided mineral displays for the show including Bill Hutchinson, Lou Conti, Jeff Self and Donna Ware. Ed Pederson, James Hurlbut, and others manned the mineral identification booth at the show. Peter Modreski (USGS), Richard Parsons (FCSMGM) were stationed at other booths. Peter Modreski also gave his traditional presentation to new collectors on "how to start a collection." Lou Conti, our treasurer, and Diana Conti exhibited their pseudomorph collection at the Denver Gem & Mineral Show™ and received an exhibition award for Minerals, Unlimited by Size ("Master - Worldwide Minerals"). A portion of their pseudomorph collection was selected by the Geology Museum staff to be on display at the Colorado School of Mines Geology Museum for one year until September 2015.

Outside the show, the Colorado Chapter with the CSM Geology Museum and the Friends of the CSM Geology Museum successfully planned and executed the Ouray-Silverton San Juan Mineral Symposium in Ouray, Colorado in September. This symposium included five field trips led simultaneously across the area. A hundred and fifteen people registered and attended this symposium. From our chapter, Lou Conti, Jack Murphy, Pete Modreski, Jeff Self, Donna Ware, with overlapping society participation from Richard Parsons, Bruce Geller, Michael Dempsey, Norma Swan and Mike L. Smith were all planning committee members who made the event happen.

The special glue that made this symposium work was the active participation of the Ouray mayor, Pamela Larson, and Robert Larson, an active Ouray geologist, as well as numerous other Ouray-Silverton miners, mineralogists, historians and geologists. As a result of the symposium, FMCC gained 52 new members including 11 "free" honorary memberships for speakers and field trip leaders. We welcome you to our chapter and hope that after one year of membership, until December 2015, you will decide to continue your association with us. We welcome for inclusion in future newsletters any news items such as publications, discoveries or articles by you that you wish to submit.

As a society, we have improved our presentation equipment – we have our own portable sound system which utilizes a wired microphone, a hand-held wireless microphone and can utilize a wireless headset/lapel microphone if any member owns one. We also have our own society powerpoint presentation projector, thus we are able to make presentations anywhere we decide to hold meetings.

In February 2014, at the Tucson Gem and Mineral Show, James Hurlbut, Peter Modreski and others worked in the National Friends of Mineralogy booth on the ground floor. James Hurlbut also presented at the Tucson FM national symposium on The Diamond Crystal Collection of Paul Seel; the collection is part of the Denver Museum of Nature & Science collection. In addition, he traveled in July as our society representative to the joint Rocky Mountain and National Federation mineral show in Tulsa, Oklahoma where he gave a presentation on Paul Seel's collection of quartz twins and oddities, as well as providing an exhibit of specimens from the Denver Museum. James Hurlbut, in September, attended the Desautels Micromount Symposium, at Baltimore and again spoke on Paul Seel's quartz collection in the Denver Museum. Peter Modreski at the FM symposium at the Tucson show presented on The Colorado-Wyoming State Line diamond-bearing kimberlite District. Peter Modreski and Jack Thompson also presented a paper at the November 2014 New Mexico Mineral Symposium on The lesser known minerals of the Pikes Peak batholith. Peter Modreski has continued to provide FACEBOOK entries for the National Society webpage at <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Friends-of-Mineralogy/156668551041854>. as well as continuing to be our chapter newsletter editor.

Our association with the Denver Museum of Nature and Science continues. Larry Havens, James Hurlbut, Alan and Norma Keimig, and Marcus Leiberman have continued to volunteer at the museum. After much effort over many years by volunteers, all the mineral specimens in the museum collection have been indexed, cataloged and documented. Recent discussions, with James Hagadorn, the Geology Department Curator, have emphasized the additional research opportunities the museum can provide. The department strongly encourages avocational and employed scientists who wish to use the collection for research to do so. A peer-reviewed journal has been started that allows research done using museum specimens or facilities to be published to an external audience. As stated on the museum's website

“The Denver Museum of Nature & Science Annals is an open-access, peer-reviewed scientific journal publishing original papers in the fields of anthropology, geology, paleontology, botany, zoology, space and planetary sciences, and health sciences. Papers are either authored by Museum staff, associates, or volunteers, deal with Museum specimens or holdings, or have a regional focus on the Rocky Mountains/Great Plains ecoregions.”

The Museum also in January 2014 published on Lulu.com, a 427 page (hardcover or softcover) book on the history of the museum with a lengthy chapter on the Geology Department by Logan Ivy and James Hagadorn. A hardcopy of the book can not be purchased at the museum, only online at: <http://www.lulu.com/shop/search.ep?keyWords=denver+museum+of+naure+and+science&type=> Additional details about the book can be found online. The digital text of the individual geology chapter as well as the entire book is available free online at: <http://www.dmns.org/media/1955236/c5-geology-dmns-history-printwebred.pdf>

As an example of the collaboration with the museum, Larry Havens with James Hagadorn, published in the December-2014/January 2015 issue of the Catalyst, the Denver Museum of Nature & Science Magazine, an article on the “Ground Hog wire gold” (pages 8-9). This article can be downloaded free from:

<http://apps.dmns.org/Catalyst/December2014-January2015/docs/December-2014-January-2015-Catatlyst-Resized.pdf>

The presentations at chapter meetings this year were by newcomers— Ian Merkel, John Lufkin, Philip Persson and Gary Zito, as well as old-timer collector, author and local mineral historian, Ray Berry. In addition an underground field trip was led to the Henderson Mine, near Empire by Ian Merkel, the mine geologist whose assistance in obtaining permission was invaluable.

Other news for the Chapter is the start of a project to assist Gloria Staebler in the preparation of a new book, “Collecting Colorado.” This book, to be written by Terry Wallace, modeled after the already published “Collecting Arizona,” will report on the mineral collecting activities of individuals and companies in Colorado from their beginning to the present day, within a historical context of mining development and population growth in the state. The FM chapter will provide a coordinating role in assisting in collector and miner interviews and research on the activities of collectors from the past. All interested people are encouraged to participate in this book, you do not need to be a member. Further details will be posted on the FMCC website after the book outline and further details has been matured.

The FMCC website has also continued to improve. Our Webmaster, Alan Buckman, has moved the site to a new host. Copies of past newsletters have continued to be added to the site. We now have most of the issues back to 2004 available for reading. Many of the past Symposium proceedings, which were out-of-print, have been converted or recovered back to digital formats. Thus, these can now be purchased as newly reprinted on-demand hardcopies from Peter Modreski.

I'd like to thank the strong support, we have continued to receive from all the mineral dealers who have made donations to our annual auction. The funds raised are being carefully and meaningfully used by the society as you can read in this letter.

Our only shortcoming for now is finding a volunteer who will become our new chapter treasurer\*. Lou Conti is retiring from being our treasurer after five years of keeping excellent records

and financially administering the Ouray symposium for three societies. We are all appreciative of the excellent job he has done. Two years from now, another symposium is being considered. Potential subjects, dates and locations are being considered. Your input is always welcome.

----Mark Jacobson, FMCC President

\*We are now pleased to report, that Gloria Staebler, who is already the National FM Treasurer, has volunteered to become Treasurer for our chapter also. A big round of thanks to Gloria for taking on this job!

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***Dates for upcoming FM Colorado Chapter activities:***

Meetings are normally held at 7:30 p.m. on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of alternate (odd-numbered) months, at the VIP Room in the Denver Museum of Nature and Science. (Subject to change depending on conflicts.) Visitors are *always* welcome at our meetings! Our planned 2015 meeting dates are:

- Jan. 8 FM meeting**
- Mar. 12 FM meeting**
- May 9 FM Silent Auction, Clements Community Center, Lakewood CO**
- May 14 FM meeting**
- Sept. 18-20 2015 Denver Gem and Mineral Show**
- Sept. 24 FM meeting**
- Nov. 12 FM meeting**

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***Symposiums upcoming – planned, or contemplated***

**Mar. 14-15, 2015, “Fossils and Flight”** will be the semi-annual “Founders Symposium” sponsored by the Western Interior Paleontology Society. It will be held at the Green Center, Colorado School of Mines campus, Golden, CO. “The symposium will explore “what the fossil record reveals about how life conquered the skies” and will include over a dozen speakers, half-day fossil workshops, a field trip, a poster session, exhibits, and a gallery of paleontology-related art displays. For more information see [http://westernpaleo.org/symposiums/2015\\_pages/about-2015.html](http://westernpaleo.org/symposiums/2015_pages/about-2015.html) .

**July 11-12, 2015**, a mini-symposium on the mineral occurrences of the Gunnison, Colorado area is being planned by the Friends of the Colorado School of Mines Geology Museum, to include both lectures and field trips. The meeting HQ will be on the Western State Colorado University campus in Gunnison. The symposium is still in the planning stages; more information will be available soon.

**A 2016 Mineral Symposium?**

After the success and completion of the Ouray-Silver San Juan Mineral symposium, it was mostly agreed that another joint symposium would be considered for two years ahead. The long lead time is to allow for proper planning without haste. A meeting will be held **on Tuesday, January 6, 2015 at 2:00 p.m.**, CSM Geology Museum, in the big conference room across the hall from the museum interior entrance. Any individual, whether a society member or not, who is interested in participating in the following discussions and decisions, is welcome. Participating in this meeting does not commit any individual to any further obligations. The meeting's purpose is to discuss and try to make the following decisions:

- 1) Symposium dates
- 2) Location: Lectures in the Denver-Golden area or remote locations. If a remote location, what town as lecture base? If in the Denver Metro – where?
- 3) Field trips - do we do them? If so, field trips starting from and to what area?
- 4) Theme - area, mineral, or deposit types?

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***Our November 18, 2014 FMCC meeting:***

Gary Zito, Colorado School of Mines, gave an interesting, stimulating, and well-attended presentation on the minerals of the Stove Mountain area, El Paso County.

**FMCC 2015 Officers:** President, Mark Jacobson, markivanjacobson@gmail.com , 1-337-255-0627  
 Vice-President, Jim Hurlbut, jfhu@earthlink.com , 303-757-0283  
 Treasurer, Gloria Staebler, gastaebler@aol.com  
 Secretary, Alan & Norma Keimig, alan.keimig@gmail.com, 303-755-9604  
 Directors: Bill Chirnside (2015-16), billdozer@mho.com , 303-989-8748  
 Don Bray (2014-15), don-bray@copper.net , 303-681-3646  
 Larry Havens (2014-15), lghavens@aol.com , 303-757-6577  
 Chairpersons: Newsletter, Pete Modreski, pmodreski@usgs.gov, 303-202-4766  
 Preservation, Jeff Self and Donna Ware, selfawareminerals@gmail.com  
 Liaison for DMNS, Alan Keimig  
 Liaison for RMFMS, Jim Hurlbut  
 Membership/Hospitality - ? (open!)

***Important notes about FM this month:***

**We now HAVE a new Treasurer!** We are pleased to report that Gloria Staebler has volunteered to take over the job of Chapter Treasurer, replaced Lou Conti who has served in this position for the past five years. Thank you very much, Lou, for your past work for us, and thank you, Gloria, for being willing to take on this job! Gloria is also the treasurer of our national organization, Friends of Mineralogy, Inc.

**Annual Dues to Friends of Mineralogy, Colorado Chapter** are \$13.00; this includes membership in the national organization, Friends of Mineralogy, Inc.. You may pay your dues now for 2015, please see our website, <http://friendsofmineralogycolorado.org> , or send a check for \$13 to FM-Colorado Chapter, P.O. Box 254, Littleton CO, 80160-0254.

**See our Colorado Chapter website:** <http://friendsofmineralogycolorado.org/>  
 A considerable archive of past newsletters and symposium abstracts, and other material about the history of the organization, as well as current meeting information, is posted here.

**USGS 2015 Rocky Mountain Science Seminars** – You may be interested in the schedule of USGS seminars for 2015; all take place in the Building 25 auditorium, Denver Federal Center, Lakewood, CO, 10:30-11:30 a.m. Tuesdays. Visitors are welcome. Enter the Federal Center via Gate 1 on Kipling St., park in the big lot east of Building 25, and enter the building via the main entrance by the security guard, entrance E-14.

**January 6**, Andreas Mulch (Stanford/Univ. of Frankfurt), **Paleotopography: From tectonics to the evolution of landscapes and life**

**January 20**, Ricardo Ramalho (Lamont-Doherty Columbia Univ.), **Megatsunami triggered by giant flank collapse of Fogo volcano, Cape Verde archipelago**

**February 3**, Peter Larson (Washington State University), **Alteration and fluid flow in large continental hydrothermal systems**

**February 17**, Christine Smith-Siddoway (Colorado College), **Cryogenian sandstone in Colorado: A new terrestrial record for Rodinia revealed through detrital zircon provenance analysis**

**March 3**, James Jones (USGS Anchorage), **Late Cretaceous through Oligocene magmatic and tectonic evolution of the western Alaska Range**

**March 17**, Marty Goldhaber (USGS Denver), **Critical zone science and global societal challenges**

**March 31**, Alexis Templeton (Univ. Colorado) **Seeking subsurface biospheres sustained by water/rock interaction**

**April 14**, Jake Lowenstern (USGS Menlo Park), **Magma intrusion rates and crustal degassing at Yellowstone: Insights from gas chemistry, isotopes, and emissions**

**April 28**, Bob Reynolds (Denver Museum of Nature and Science). **Colorado's stratigraphy: Do all the pages fit into 8 chapters?**

**May 12**, Kate Scheiderich (USGS Denver), **Investigating stable isotope fractionation in rare earth elements: a case study with cerium**

**May 26**, John Wakabayashi (CSU Fresno), **Anatomy of a subduction complex: Architecture of the Franciscan at multiple length and time scales**

***Denver Museum of Nature and Science, 2015 Seminar Series:***

All talks are held from 3:00-4:00 p.m. in the VIP Room at the Museum; all are welcome to attend, and Museum admission is not required to attend these seminars. (Day of the week varies.)

**Jan. 14**, Julia McHugh, Museum of Western Colorado, "Surviving Earth's largest mass extinction: Amphibians at the Permian-Triassic boundary", DMNS Host: T. Lyson

**Feb. 3**, Craig Jones, U. of Colorado, "Making the Rockies by drowning Colorado", DMNS Host: I. Miller

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*DMNS seminars, continued:*

**Mar. 12**, David Krause, SUNY Stonybrook, "Bizarre and marvelous dinosaurs and other vertebrates of Madagascar: Insights into the southern end of the world", DMNS Host: J. Sertich

**Mar. 17**, Catherine Sartin, Johns Hopkins, "A slice of prehistory: Histological Insights into how Iguanodontian dinosaurs grow", DMNS Host: J. Sertich

**Apr. 14**, Mark Kirschbaum, Colorado School of Mines, "The life cycle of a field geologist: Time travel to the Mesozoic", DMNS Host: I. Miller

May 12, Steve Mojzsis, U. of Colorado, "Early Earth vs. The origin of life", DMNS Host: J. Hagadorn

June 4, Laura Wilson, Fort Hays State U., "Shiver me timbers! A look into the bones of high-latitude seabirds", DMNS Host: T. Lyson

June 5, Bill Galloway, U. of Texas, "Birth of huge rivers: The Rocky Mountains' impact on the filling of the Gulf of Mexico", DMNS Host: B. Raynolds

**Aug. 18**, Paul Myrow, Colorado College, "The dynamic early Paleozoic world of Colorado: Faunas, environments, tectonics, and large earthquakes", DMNS Host: B. Raynolds.

**Sep. 15**, Charles Henderson, U. of Calgary, "The WHAT of conodont science: Insights into Permian oceans and beyond", DMNS Host: J. Hagadorn

**Oct. 14**, Jeff Over, SUNY Geneseo, "Conodonts: Deep time clue to mass extinctions in Colorado", DMNS Host: J. Hagadorn

**Nov. 11**, David Evans, Royal Ontario Museum, "The Southern Alberta Dinosaur Project: A decade of discoveries", DMNS Host: T. Lyson

**Dec. 9**, Mark Clementz, U. of Wyoming, "From river horses to sea cows: Geochemical approaches to studying aquatic mammals in the fossil record", DMNS Host: I. Miller

***For other lecture series during the year see:***

CU Geological Science Colloquium (Wednesdays, 4 p.m.) see

<http://www.colorado.edu/geolsci/colloquium.htm>

CSU Dept. of Geoscience Seminars (Fridays, 4 p.m.), see <http://warnercnr.colostate.edu/geo-news-and-events/department-seminars>

Van Tuyl Lecture Series, Colorado School of Mines, (Tuesdays, 4 p.m.) see

[http://inside.mines.edu/GE\\_Lecture-Series](http://inside.mines.edu/GE_Lecture-Series)

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

Denver Region Exploration Geologists Society (DREGS; 1<sup>st</sup> Monday, 7 p.m.),

<http://www.dregs.org/index.html>

Western Interior Paleontology Society (WIPS; 1<sup>st</sup> Monday, 7 p.m.), <http://westernpaleo.org/>

## Calendar of Coming Events

**Mon., Jan. 5**, 7:00 p.m., **Geology of the Long Canyon Gold Deposit, Northeast Elko County, Nevada**, by Jeff Blackmon; at the monthly meeting of DREGS, Berthoud Hall Room 241, Colorado School of Mines, Golden; all are welcome. See <http://www.dregs.org/index.html> .

**Mon., Jan. 5**, 7:00 p.m., **Stuck in the Pleistocene: Tar Pits from Around the World** by Greg MacDonald, Senior Curator of Natural History, National Park Service; monthly meeting of the Western Interior Paleontology Society, Ricketson Auditorium, Denver Museum of Nature & Science; see <http://westernpaleo.org/>

**Tues., Jan. 6**, first of the year's biweekly USGS Rocky Mountain Seminar series: 10:30-11:30 a.m., **Paleotopography: From tectonics to the evolution of landscapes and life**, by Andreas Mulch, Stanford and Univ. of Frankfurt; Building 25 Auditorium, Denver Federal Center, Lakewood; all are welcome.

**Thurs., Jan. 8**, **Friends of Mineralogy, Colorado Chapter bimonthly meeting**, Mining and collecting amethyst at the Blue Point Mine, Pearl, Ontario, Canada, by Ian Merkel

**Wed., Jan. 14**, first of the year's Denver Museum of Nature & Science Earth Science Seminar Series: 3:00-4:00 p.m., VIP Room, **"Surviving Earth's largest mass extinction: Amphibians at the Permian-Triassic boundary"**, by Julia McHugh, Museum of Western Colorado.

**Thurs., Jan. 15**, 7:00 p.m., Colorado Scientific Society monthly meeting, Shepherd of the Hills Church, 20th Ave., and Simms St., Lakewood; all are welcome. Topic, **"The May 2014 West Salt Creek landslide in Mesa County, Colorado"**, by Jonathan L. White, Senior Engineering Geologist, Colorado Geological Survey.

**Sun., Jan. 18**, 12:00 noon, potluck lunch meeting of the Florissant Scientific Society followed by viewing of **"Dinostampede"** a movie featuring Martin Lockley and other dinosaur trackers around the world as they unravel the mystery of the Lark Quarry tracksite in Australia. At the Dinosaur Discovery Center, west side of Dinosaur Ridge, Morrison. All are welcome; no charge.

**Thurs., Feb. 5**, the **Friends of the Colorado School of Mines Geology Museum** will be instituting a monthly lecture series, to take place on the first Thursday of each month, in the conference room opposite the museum entrance, 6 p.m. Another good reason to become a member of the FCSMGM! (But we believe anyone will be welcome to attend.) Topic for this first lecture is still TBA.

**Feb. 12-15**, **Tucson Gem and Mineral Show; theme, Minerals of Western Europe**. The Friends of Mineralogy-sponsored symposium of talks on this theme, will take place at the show on Saturday, February 13.

**Feb. 16-20**, Annual book and map sale at the Colorado School of Mines Library, Golden.

**Feb. 27-28**, **Denver Gem and Mineral Guild Show**, Jefferson County Fairgrounds.

**March 12**, **FM Colorado Chapter bimonthly meeting**

**March 14-15, WIPS Symposium, “Fossils and Flight”, Golden, CO**

**March 27-29, Fort Collins Rockhounds Club Gem & Mineral Show**, at McKee 4-H Building, Larimer County Fairgrounds, I-25 exit 259.

**April 24-26, Colorado Spring Mineral and Fossil Show**, Ramada Plaza-Denver Central.

**May 9, Friends of Mineralogy Silent Auction, Clements Community Center, Lakewood CO**

**May 14, FM Colorado Chapter bimonthly meeting**

**June 5-7, Pikes Peak Gem and Mineral Show**, at Western Museum of Mining & Industry, Colorado Springs

**July 11-12, Gunnison, Colorado** symposium, sponsored by Friends of CSM Geology Museum

**July 16-18, Rocky Mountain Federation of Mineralogical Societies Convention and Mineral and Gem Show, Cody, Wyoming**

**Aug. 13-16, Contin-Tail Rock Swap/Gem & Mineral Show**, Buena Vista, CO

**Aug 21-23, Lake George Gem and Mineral Show and Woodland Park Gem, Mineral, and Jewelry Show**

**Sep. 18-20, Denver Gem and Mineral show**; theme, “Minerals of the American Southwest”

*Special exhibits continuing in 2015:*

**Steps in Stone: Walking Through Time**, at the University of Colorado Museum of Natural History, CU campus, Boulder. “A new exhibition that features real fossil tracks and trackways from the University of Colorado Museum of Natural History collections”. Open 9-5 weekdays, 9-4 Saturdays, 10-4 Sundays; closed on university holidays. Exhibit runs through December 2015; see <http://cumuseum.colorado.edu/> .

**Brilliant: Cartier in the 20th Century** continues at the Denver Art Museum through March 15. “The DAM will host the world-exclusive exhibition of Brilliant: Cartier in the 20th Century, featuring stunning jewelry, timepieces, and precious objects created between 1900 and 1975. This exhibition highlights Cartier’s rise to preeminence—and the historical events pushing the brand’s evolution—as it transformed itself into one of the world’s most prestigious names in jewelry and luxurious accessories. Organized by the DAM, the exhibition will be on view in the Anschutz and Martin and McCormick galleries on level two of the Hamilton Building. See:

<http://www.denverartmuseum.org/exhibitions/brilliant-cartier-20th-century>

## ***Denver Gem & Mineral Show Mini Report December 2014***

The dates for the 2015 Denver Gem & Mineral Show are September 18 - 20, 2015. The theme is "Minerals of the American Southwest". So you might ask yourself what is the American Southwest? After much deliberation, the Show Committee has defined the American Southwest to be the states of New Mexico, Arizona, Nevada and Utah. This definition will include a wide variety of minerals for purposes of the Best of Species competitions at the show. Colorado has been omitted because the state has been covered by prior show themes in so many ways. California is a large state with a generous variety of minerals and may be covered in a future show theme. The location for the show remains the Denver Mart at the intersection of I-70 and 58th Avenue.

Bob Berry is the Show Chair for 2015. Bob has been a member of the Show Committee for several years and is also a member of four of the local clubs. Bob is always interested in talking about any concerns or suggestions club members may have about the show. Bob can be reached at 303-638-5000 or debitcard@msn.com.

There are other personnel changes on the Show Committee. Gloria Staebler, who is well known in the local mineral community, has assumed the responsibilities for Publicity, Posters, and the Show Program. Gloria can be reached at 303-495-5521 or gastaebler@aol.com. Due to other changes there is a need for an Exhibits Chair, a Security Chair, and a Show Website Chair. If you think you would be interested in any of these positions, please contact Bob Berry.

To plan the show, the Show Committee meets every month of the year except December, February and July. The meetings are held at the Denver Museum of Nature & Science commencing at 7:30 p.m. We are always looking for new persons to join us - new persons with new ideas to improve the show. Undoubtedly there are some members of your club who are already on the Show Committee. Look up these persons and tag along to a Show Committee meeting to see what it is all about. You do not have to assume some responsibility immediately but can be an At Large member. You will meet new people from other clubs and can be proud to have a hand in planning the show. If you have any questions, you may contact me at jrknoshaug@comcast.net or 303-423-2923.

Respectfully submitted, Judy Knoshaug, Show Secretary



# 2015 RMFMS CONVENTION & MINERAL AND GEM SHOW

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**JULY 16 - 18, 2015** ★ **CODY, WYOMING**

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Hosted by  
Wyoming State Mineral and Gem Society  
Cody 59ers Rock Club      Shoshone Rock Club

## ☞ REASONS TO ATTEND ☜

- ★ Convention schedule will allow time to explore museums, entertainment, and varied dining within walking distance.
- ★ You can drive or fly commercial airlines to Cody.
- ★ Convention meals will be buffets - your choice.
- ★ Mineral and Gem Show will feature multi-state dealers, demonstrators, speakers, kids corner, & field trips.
- ★ Your family will want to come with you.
- ★ Only 50 miles to Yellowstone.
- ★ Be a Cowboy/Cowgirl for a few days:



## LET 'ER BUCK!

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Check out Cody: <http://www.codychamber.org>  
Check out WSMGS: <http://www.wymineralandgemsociety.org>  
2015 RMFMS Convention Contact: Stan Strike (307-250-1244)  
[wsmgpsres@wymineralandgemsociety.org](mailto:wsmgpsres@wymineralandgemsociety.org)