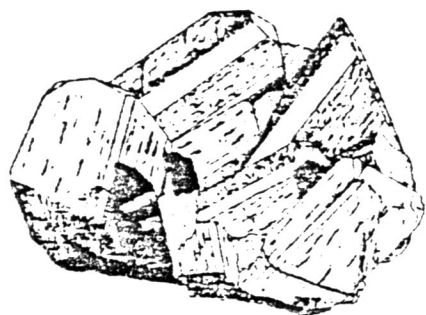


Colorado Chapter

Friends of Mineralogy

NEWSLETTER - July 1984 (No. 3 for 1984)



President - Pete Modreski
Vice-president - Tom Michalski
Treasurer - Barbara Muntyan
Secretary - Jack Murphy
Board members - Steve Brighton,
Mark Jacobson, Jim Hurlbut

* PICNIC * * * FIELD TRIP * * * PICNIC * * * FIELD TRIP * * * PICNIC *

Saturday, July 14 - Green Mountain Cabin Picnic Area, Boulder Mountain Park, 3 miles west of Boulder - 10:00 am to 5:00(?) pm - featuring a guided visit to the "Green Mountain kyanite"

This Saturday we will be holding a combined picnic and field trip in the foothills west of Boulder. The notice time is rather short, but we will look forward to seeing as many of you as possible to (hopefully) have a pleasant picnic, search for a few minerals, and get to know each other better. As we feast we'll be able to tell true collecting stories and tall tales, and perhaps even get down to planning a more ambitious, future field trip.

To reach the picnic area, drive west on Baseline Road out of Boulder; we will be meeting about 3 miles west of the point at which Baseline Road deviates from its straight west course and begins to switch-back up the canyon. Park at a pull-off area on the left (south) side of the road; this is near the junction at which a road takes off to the right to the Flagstaff Mountain picnic area and monument, and a dirt road (closed off) takes off left and downhill to the Green Mountain cabin. We will have a sign at the parking area, and trail markers on the route to the cabin/picnic area. It is about a 1/4 mile (5-minute) walk from the parking area to the cabin/picnic area; follow the dirt road down the hill, then to the right up the stream valley (Long Canyon) to the picnic area, which is the take-off point for the Green Mountain and other trails. Because of the fair walk, whatever ice chest or picnic basket you take along should be easily portable. We are not renting the use of the Green Mountain cabin (the cost is too great), but there will be outside fireplaces and we will have at least one charcoal fire going for cooking. For simplicity, this will be a bring-your-own-food-and-drinks affair.

We will plan to assemble first at the picnic area, then take a short hike to the kyanite locality. This will be about a 1/2 mile walk which climbs about 250', first following the Green Mountain trail to the top of a ridge, and then taking off cross-country eastward, across a small valley and up the next hill. We'll figure on returning to the picnic area about 1:00 for lunch; any late-comers can show up just for the picnic, or can take an after-lunch walk up to the kyanite.

This kyanite is noted mostly for its similarity to the

diamond-bearing kimberlites now being prospected and mined near the Colorado-Wyoming line. No diamonds, however, are known to have been found at the Boulder occurrence (does that mean none are there?). The kimberlite outcrop is quite fresh, and affords specimens of the "xenocrystal" minerals typical of kimberlite--olivine, pyrope garnet, chrome diopside, ilmenite, and phlogopite--in rounded grains up to about 1 cm in size. This will be a good opportunity to take a first-hand look at an unusual (and potentially valuable) mineral occurrence; the visit will be led by a team(?) of our kimberlite experts, instigated by Tom Michalski.

Everyone recognizes how hard it is to pick a date in the summer when many people can get together; if you're not otherwise out of town, we'll hope to see you on Saturday!

OUR 1984 AUCTION: The chapter's "second annual" auction in May raised \$1589.75 to be used for the preparation of the Minerals of Colorado volume. This was a few dollars more than the 1983 auction, and we consider it to have been a great success, and a lot of fun to boot. Hot items at the auction included an autographed Rocks and Minerals - Colorado Issue, an old U.S.G.S. Colorado Springs map folio, a giant, orange Idaho pyromorphite, a nice copper in calcite from Michigan, and lots of things on the silent auction tables. Our sincere thanks go to all who donated specimens and to all who bought some. We are also pleased to report that the Colorado Springs Mineralogical Society has donated \$500 to the Minerals of Colorado project.

COLORADO FEDERATION OF GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETIES FIELD TRIP: to Summitville, Colorado, Saturday, July 21, 1984. This annual "West Slope Field Trip" is open to all members of affiliated organizations, which includes our own. The group has received permission from Galactic Resources to visit the mine dumps of the Reynolds Tunnel, Missionary Shaft, and Chandler Tunnel at Summitville; expected minerals include covellite, enargite, barite, rhodochrosite, chalcopyrite, galena, sphalerite, and gold. The group will meet at the old Summitville townsite at 10:00 am, July 21. Hard hats, safety glasses, and sturdy footwear are required. For further details contact one of our officers (who will have the full information sheet about the trip) or trip leader Arnold Hampson, Cortez, Colo. (565-3007)

MEMBERSHIP ROSTER: A copy of our updated membership list is enclosed with this newsletter. It seems impossible to keep anything completely current, however, and we have three new members to add to this list:

Howard Bachman, 411 Balsam St., Lakewood, 80226; 232-7070

Horace Hall, 1543 Salida Ct., Aurora, 80017

Annabelle McGraw, 5327 S. Louthan, Littleton, 80120; 794-0034

Also, address changes:

Don Hoover, to 14142 W. 59th Ave., Arvada, 80004; 420-9649

Mark Jacobson, to 1350 E. Easter Ave., Littleton, 80122; 794-1150

It is possible that one or two names appear on this membership roster of persons who attended one of our last meetings but never actually joined the chapter. If that's you, either contact the Treasurer and explain, join us for real, or just enjoy the unsolicited complimentary membership!

We'll defer all other matters of consequence to a future newsletter. Enjoy your summer, and remember the Denver Show, Sep. 7-9, and our FM Symposium on Sep. 9 at the show!