
Littleton Gem and Mineral Club

December 2017 Newsletter.



Christmas Party! Chili cookoff! Will be Friday, Dec 21st, at 6:30PM. See the next page for a complete description about that. Always a good time – hope to see you there.



Letter from the President

★★ Happy Holidays! ★★

I can't wait to celebrate with everyone at our annual holiday party! This year our club begins a new tradition – 2018 will mark the inaugural LGMC Christmas Chili Cook-Off Celebration! Mark your calendars for Friday December 21st and be ready to party starting at 6:30pm. Get ready for some amazing chili! I heard that Santa may be making an appearance too!

This month marks the end of my term as President. I have learned so much about the club operations and the gem and mineral community over the past year. I have made many new friends in the club, and had a great time in the process. The help and guidance of our club's knowledgeable and experienced board has been invaluable. I also want to give a special thanks to my partner Stacey Lestina for always supporting me and for all the time and effort she put into the club during my presidency. I could not have done this without her. Thank you, Stacey!!

With 2018 coming to a close, so ends my term as your LGMC President. It has been an honor and a privilege to serve each and every one of you and I am forever grateful for this experience. Moving forward I am most excited for the additional freedom and time during meetings that comes with no longer having to follow tight schedules and strict agendas. I plan to spend this newfound free time chatting with my fellow club members, both getting to know those new to our group and catching up with those that have been involved for many years. Over the next year I will serve as Past President and plan to volunteer for some of the many tasks that are required to keep our club up and running. And so, in conclusion, I wish each of you a happy and prosperous new year filled with rockhounding adventures and endless amounts of pockets. Make 2019 your lucky year by spending it outdoors and exploring the infinite geologic wonders that surround us. Finally, a sincere and heartfelt 'thank you' to the members of our club. Your interest, excitement, dedication, camaraderie, and commitment is what makes the Littleton Gem & Mineral Club so amazing.

With sincere appreciation and best wishes,

Travis Leach - President, Littleton Gem & Mineral Club

~Travis Leach, LGMC President 2018

Christmas Party! Friday Dec 21st, at

6:30PM

Where: Columbine Hills Church, 9700 Old Coal Mine Ave.
Littleton, CO 80123-4006, in the gym

We will be doing a chili cookoff!

If you do not bring chili, please follow the guidelines below.

People with last names beginning A-N are requested to bring a nutritious side dish.

Those whose names begin with O-Z are asked to bring a decadent dessert.

If you can arrive a few minutes early to help set up the tables and chairs, thank you.



Santa's many helpers at the club make this holiday event extra special for everyone.

Santa's Coming:

Santa will be at our December party. If you want to bring a gift for Santa to give to a child or grandchild that you are bringing, make sure the name is on the package, and give it to an elf at the table when you sign in and they will see that it gets in Santa's bag. Get your gift in as soon as possible. No one can forget Santa's grand entrance. Children always enjoy meeting Santa.

AND!

If you have any gifts for any others, including gag gifts, for Santa to distribute, by all means, bring those, too. Secret Santa's are always FUN and make the time enjoyable.

If you want to share something funny that someone has done on a field trip, at a meeting, at a show or anytime this will be a time to laugh **OR** get even!!!

(Be sure your gift is wrapped, name is printed legible and secure on your gifts)

Not to be forgotten, adults have a shot at some amazing door prizes. Maybe you will be among the many winners?



CHRISTMAS DRAWING

WE ARE NOT TELLING BECAUSE YOU'LL KNOW WHEN YOU SEE IT.
THIS TIME OF YEAR WE ALL KEEP SECRETS.
IT IS TRULY GORGEOUS AND HAS ALL KINDS OF BLING
SO BE SURE YOUR WALLET HAS A LITTLE EXTRA GREEN

AFTER WE HAVE ALL FINISHED OUR DINNER
TICKET WILL BE PICKED AND THEN WE'LL KNOW THE WINNER
COME TO THE PARTY, GET AQUAINTED AND HAVE FUN
WHEN THAT NUMBER IS CALLED YOU MAY BE THE ONE.

It has been donated, cut and set
by two LIFE MEMBERS

\$2.00 each - 6 for \$10.00
(All money collected is to the club to off set the expenses for this party)



The Odiorne award will be presented at the party.

Denver Gem & Mineral Show Mini Report

December 2018

Planning for the 2019 show is already underway! The years just seem to keep rolling along. With many thanks to Lesley Sebol for her three years as Show Chair, the reins of the chairmanship have been turned over to George Daggett. George is excited about continuing the legacy of the show as the best show in the country bar none. The dates for the 2019 show are September 13 - 15, 2019. The theme is "Minerals of Canada". The venue is again the Denver Mart, 451 E. 58th Avenue, Exit 215 on I-25. George welcomes communication of ideas for the show with club members and can be reached at 303-453-9651 or geoddaggett@hotmail.com. George is a member of the Denver Gem & Mineral Guild.

The Show Committee is the group of dedicated club members who plan and operate the show. The committee meets the first Tuesday of each month except December, February and July at 7:30 p.m. at the Colorado School of Mines Geology Museum conference room. There is always a need for new faces on the Show Committee. George Daggett was the Grab Bag, Pins, Poster Sales Chair prior to accepting the Show Chair position so there is a need for a new Grab Bag, Pins, Poster Sales Chair. This is not a terribly difficult job and already enjoys the services of Mike Morian, a very capable assistant. Another position that needs to be filled is the Public Sector person under the Dealer Chair Regina Aumente. The Public Sector person arranges the presence at the show of groups such as the USGS, Colorado Geological Survey, Dinosaur Ridge, along with others. There are many other areas where willing volunteers could help with the show. None of the jobs are difficult and all have assistance available from seasoned committee members. It takes many volunteers to have a successful show each year. Each club has a representative to the Show Committee as follows: CMS - Amber Brenzikofer, Flatirons - Gerry Naugle, FM - Larry Havens, Guild - Kathy Honda, Littleton - Lynette Warren, North Jeffco - Ron Knoshaug, RAMS - Judy Knoshaug, and WIPS - Nancy Kimber. If you are interested, contact your club representative and let him or her know you are interested in helping with the show.

So, if you love the show, and how could you not, consider widening your experiences in the mineral and fossil hobby by joining the Show Committee. You will meet new people and be exposed to many facets of the hobby you did not expect. The Denver Show is the most exciting and rewarding annual event for the mineral and fossil hobby in the Denver area.

Respectfully submitted, Judy Knoshaug, Show Secretary

Lecture Series:

Colorado Beer Talks (2nd 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 refreshments you may choose to purchase; see <http://cafescicolorado.org/> .

Colorado Scientific Society (3rd 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; 1st 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; meeting locations vary, normally on Sundays at noon; all interested persons are welcome to attend the meetings and trips; see <http://www.fss-co.org/> for details and schedules.

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. 44th 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, 3rd Tuesday, 5:30 p.m.), <http://rmmaps.org/>

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

Thank you to Pete Modreski for this information!



Scrambled mineral names; from *The Conglomerite*, Baltimore Mineral Society

Unscramble the following to spell the names of six minerals:

Set 1:

Ice Nestle
Locate mine
Lip heaters
I time well
Dime tool
Holy rite

Set 2

Zap to
Quite sour
A dim nod
Mail punt
Orchid hooters

Answers on the next page

Submitted by Lawrence Havens

Set 1: Answers: Celestine, Colemanite, Sphalerite, Willemite, Dolomite, Rhyolite

Set 2: Answers: Topaz, Turquoise, Diamond, Platinum, Rhodochrosite

Selected upcoming LGMC and Earth Science Events

- Tue Dec 18th Faceters and Cabbers group** will meet on Tuesday, December 18th, at 7:30PM at Columbine Hills Church. This will be a good time to share what we've been working on for Christmas gifts. All Littleton members and guests are welcome to join us.
- Fri Dec 21 LGMC Christmas Party, 6:30pm (starting earlier, for the Chili Cookoff)**
- Tue Jan 22 Minerals Study Group**, at 7pm. We still study minerals from Morocco, which is the country in the Northwest corner of Africa, across the water from the Strait of Gibraltar. Morocco is at a triple junction, which is geological intersection between 3 plates, so there is a good diversity of action there to create minerals. All are welcome. We will meet at the home of Steve and Cheryl Cable, 7571 S. Cove Circle, Centennial, CO 80112. For directions, e-mail Steve at stevecableisthinkingofyou@gmail.com, or call him at 303-868-9931.
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Agate Hunters Point Way to an Impact Crater

Recognition that some agates can form in rocks produced from the impact of an asteroid on the earth has lead Finnish geologists to the site of a previously unrecognized impact crater. This is one example of how observations made by rock hounds can lead to a major scientific discovery. Finland is a bit like Minnesota and Wisconsin in that much of it is covered by glacial sediments, with little bedrock exposed. In the 1960's rockhounds began finding agates in the gravel pits north of Helsinki. These were attractive banded nodules up to 2 inches across. Their color bands ranged from white to red to brown to reddish orange. Chlorite and various zeolites minerals, particularly mordenite were associated. Unlike Minnesota and Wisconsin, the bedrock of Finland was not volcanic, consisting mostly of schist, gneiss and granite which do not bear agates. The bedrock source of these agates was unknown, and constituted a major mystery.

A Finnish geologist, H Papunen, noted that the agates were found with chunks of other rocks that were typical of those found in craters formed by asteroid impact with the earth. Rocks melted by such a powerful event would form gas bubbles just like those in conventionally formed lava flows. These gas bubbles could then easily be filled later on by agate-forming solutions. The agates, being so hard and chemically resistant were much more likely to survive weathering and erosion than the typical rocks formed by such impact. Consequently the agates would be widely dispersed by the glacier that scraped through the older crater. Papunen (1969) began plotting the location of the pits in which rockhounds were finding agates. Those pits formed a distinct trail leading north. Using the known direction of glacial movement in that area, he was able to trace the agates back to what he thought was the buried site of the crater. Drilling and geophysical work verified that there was in fact a buried crater there. This crater came to be called the Lake Saaksjarvi crater, and turned out to be 5 kilometers across. None of it outcropped at the surface.

A recent study by Karla Kinnunene and Krisitan Lindqvist (1998) of the Finnish Geological Survey investigated whether these agates were different from agates formed in other environments. They found that the impact agates were similar in all measured physical, chemical and structural aspects to those agates formed in sedimentary or volcanic environments. Consequently, the presence of agates in an area such as ours, where agates from other sources are widely distributed in the glacial drift will not be useful in identifying the location of buried asteroid impact sites. In other areas, where agates aren't ordinarily found in the bedrock, agates may form a useful "path-finder" mineral pointing the way to the discovery of more impact structures.

- *Dr. Bill Cordua, University of Wisconsin-River Falls*

References:

Kinnunen, K and Lindqvist, K., 1998, "Agate as an indicator of impact structures: an example from Saaksjarvi, Finland," Meteoritics and Planetary Sciences, vol. 33, #1, p. 7-12.

Papunen, H. ,1969, "Possible impact metamorphic textures in the erratics of the Lake Saaksjarvi area, Finland," Bull. Geol. Soc. Finland, vol. 41, p. 151- 155.

Club Announcements

Winners of the Best Specimen Awards

At the November club meeting, we voted on 3 awards:

- 1) Tom Odiorne Memorial Award for best specimen collected by a member in the last year.
This winner will be announced at the Dec. Holiday meeting.
- 2) Best specimen over \$20, won by Nick North, **top**. The specimen is Aragonite from France.
- 3) Best specimen under \$20, won by Jim Hooten, **on the right**. The specimen is Pink Halite from California.



Grab Bag News Update

Although we will mostly be partying at the December meeting, I can take any grab bag donation items you or Santa wishes to pass on to the club. I'm hoping to have specimens for stuffing if you think you will have time for that over the holidays.

See you at the party.

~**John Kleber**, The Bag Begger

Welcome to Our New Members:

Paula Kautzmann, Greg Jensen and Drake Jensen

Moving? Change of Address, Email or Phone Number? Ready to go paperless?

Please notify **Ian Duncanson** of any changes at idunc@q.com or 303-798-9174.

Do you know someone who could use some sunshine? Send a note to our sunshine coordinator and let her know, **Lynette Warren**, flywithle123@comcast.net.

~**Tammy**

Congratulations to our 2019 president:

Ron Wankner

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the newsletter! Tammy



☞ 2018 Board of Trustees ☞

President	<i>Travis Leach</i>	303-887-9787
Vice President and Membership Chairman	<i>Ian Duncanson</i>	303-798-9174
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Trustee-at-Large	<i>Dale Gann</i>	720-981-5526
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Historian	<i>Maxine Sheel</i>	720-532-0784
Junior Historian	<i>Chloe Lovitt</i>	303-791-3112
Photographer	<i>Bob Zartman</i>	303-973-0405
"	<i>Mike Snively</i>	720-981-0752
Junior Photographer	<i>Hunter Kokkinen</i>	720-922-1096
Hospitality	<i>Nick North</i>	303-840-1177
Grab Bags	<i>John Kleber</i>	720-851-8510
Web Administrator	<i>Kollin Olsen</i>	303-233-9492
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RMFMS & AFMS Representative	<i>Larry Havens</i>	303-757-6577
Denver Council Representative	<i>Nick North</i>	303-840-1177
Cabbers & Faceters Group		
" "	<i>John Revis</i>	720-569-6685
" "	<i>John Kleber</i>	720-851-8510
Mineral Study Group	<i>Bob Zartman & Nick North</i>	303-973-0405

Meetings: The Littleton Gem & Mineral Club meets the third Friday of each month, September through May, at the Columbine Hills Church, 9700 Old Coal Mine Avenue, Littleton, CO 80123. Doors open at 7:00 p.m. and the meetings begin at 7:30 p.m. All meetings are open to the public. Club and section meetings may deviate from their regular schedules due to holidays, shows, inclement weather, etc.

The Littleton Gem and Mineral Club is affiliated with the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies, The Rocky Mountain Federation of Mineralogical Societies, The Colorado Federation of Gem and Mineral Societies, and the Greater Denver Area Gem and Mineral Council.

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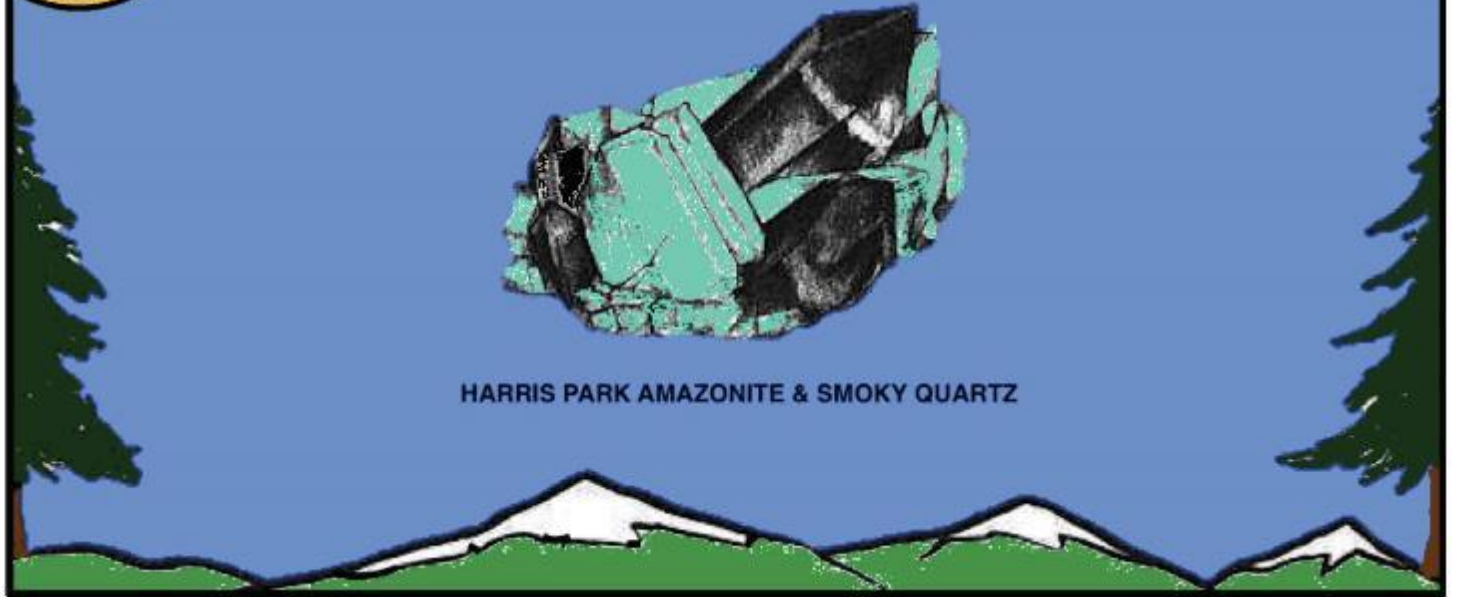
****The deadline for submissions is the 1st Friday of each month.** Please send your material by email to jacobstammy80@gmail.com.

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Highlites

LITTLETON GEM & MINERAL CLUB



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