



**Denver Gem & Mineral Guild
Founded March 1964**

1420 S. Reed Street
Lakewood, Colorado, 80232

AFMS Silver Medal Club 2016



May 2020

President - George Daggett
720-488-5692

Vice President - Sarah Reece
303-263-9906

Secretary - Pro-tem
Marj Becker

Treasurer - Debbie Baldwin
303-377-4211

Hospitality - OPEN

Editor - Beth Simmons
303-986-9693

*Grab Bags - Joe Walkowich,
Joe Payne, Kathy Honda*
720-272-8806

Field Trips - Committee

Show Chairman - Beth Simmons
303-902-1708
Dealer Chairman
Linda Burns
303-263-0391

*Membership - Merlin Schreffler,
Sue Childs*
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303-988-8958

Ways & Means - Dave Sanchez
Gideon Breithaupt, Sandra Lucero
303-238-8344; 720-989-7202
Dave Sanchez
303-423-5206
Sandra Lucero
303-726-3829

Historian - Kathy Honda

Web Master - Bob Johnson
303-985-8167

Claims Manager - George Daggett
303-404-9944

TIPS & CHIPS

[HTTP://WWW.DENVERGEM.ORG](http://www.denvergem.org) OR
[HTTP://DENVERGEM.ORG](http://denvergem.org)
AND NOW FACEBOOK!!!

MAY 8th DGMG MEETING!

ON YOUR COMPUTER, IN YOUR OWN HOME! (see page 4)

**The Belle Monte Iron
Furnace,
Marshall,
Colorado**

By Bill Reich and **Beth Simmons**



Listen and watch this short video presentation **Bob Johnson** made from **Beth's** narrated PowerPoint about the little known blast furnace that existed at Marshall between 1864-1870. Wasn't Marshall a coal mining town? That had three different names? No, there were more! And not only coal mines—iron! Who would have guessed that iron ore could be made from concretions that were simply laying on the land surface otop of the Laramie Formation beds south of Marshall to Profile Butte? Where is Profile Butte?

Shown in only one sketch of Marshall made in 1869 (above), the furnace produced 250 TONS of iron ore during the years it operated. Iron from Marshall was fabricated into Denver's first (and only) cannon which was fired in every July 4th celebration from 1861-1876.

How did the furnace work? The nearby forest was harvested to make charcoal in pits and limestone quarried from nearby outcrops to provide flux for the furnace. But how was the iron made?

Parts and pieces of the furnace still remain in Marshall (on private property). The rest is retained in the stone buildings that exist in Marshall.

Watch on **your** computer!

And learn about the first blast furnace in Boulder County!



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56 years of DGMG Kudos, Celebrations, & Events

2020 DGMG Officers & Chairmen

President:: George Daggett
Vice President: Sarah Reece
Secretary: **OPEN PRO-TEM:** Marj Becker
Treasurer: Deb Baldwin;
Treasurer Assists: Beth Simmons
Hospitality: **OPEN**
Ways & Means:
 Dave Sanchez, Gideon Breithaupt, Sandra Lucero
Membership: Sue Childs; **Ass't.:** Merlin Schreffler
Claims Manager: George Daggett **Ass't.:** Susanne Peach
Editor: Beth Simmons; **Ass't.:** Marj Becker
Historian/Librarian: Kathy Honda
Webmaster: Bob Johnson
Show Chairman: Beth Simmons
Dealer Chairman: Linda Burns
Field Trips: Committee
Grab Bags: Joe Walkowich, Joe Payne, Kathy Honda
Merchandiser: Sandra Lucero
Council Rep: Kathy Honda; **Alt.:** Linda Burns
Denver Show Rep: Kathy Honda
Sunshine: Sandra Lucero
Party planning: Deb Baldwin, Marj Becker
RMFMS Rep: Kathy Honda
Outreach: Susanne Peach; Bob Johnson
Inventory manager: Linda Burns

An "Assistant" is the officer's backup in case of illness or other reason they can't do their job.
 Every officer needs an "Assistant"!
 Join up! Say YES when asked!

May Birthdays:

Felix Beall
 Diane Bennett
 Gideon Breithaupt
 Gary Clay
 Chelsea Daggett
 Linda Larsson
 Noah Loos
 Abby Lyons
 Alissa Matsuo
 Chuck Patterson
 Bob Pfeifer
 Joan Rinner
 Clint Schlepp
 Vicki Schlepp
 Kyle Sherman



Sarah Snow

Eric Sykes
 Chauncey Walden
 Christopher Webber
 Cass Whaley

May Anniversaries:

The Christensens
 The Daggetts
 The Gowins
 The Hanlons
 The Modreskis
 The Pattersons
 The Snellings
 The Webbers

May Sunshine Spotlight

Get well wishes to **Karlene Fry** who is recovering from her lung surgery at home. Wish her well!

And condolences to **Keith Sheel** on the death of his brother from the virus.

CONTACT **SANDRA LUCERO** TO
 INFORM HER OF SUNSHINE REQUESTS



Quote of the past month:

**STAY HOME!
 PLAY WITH ROCKS!**

NOTE: NO EMAILS ON FRONT PAGE

There is a scammer somewhere who has apparently taken email addresses off the CSS newsletters that were posted online, because they had been taken off the webpage over a year ago. And it happened to us, too! So I'm following suit and taking emails out of the newsletter. We will be posting the new member rosters in our secret place on the webpage after the virus scare ends and things settle down.

THE DENVER GEM AND MINERAL GUILD—57 Years old!



Founded in 1964, the Denver Gem and Mineral Guild pursues exploration, experimentation, and education in the earth sciences; the discovery, development and preservation of minerals and mineral deposits; and the advancement, encouragement and utilization of the principles of art and craftsmanship as applied to gems and minerals.

The Guild meets on the second Friday of the month at 7:30 pm at Berthoud Hall on CSM Campus, except for June, July, August, and December. Picnics, field trips, and parties replace regular meetings those months.

Deadline for article submission for the Tips & Chips is the 20th of each month. Email photos and articles to editor Beth Simmons at cloverknoll@comcast.net. Exchange with other newsletters is invited, and reprinting of material from this newsletter with proper attribution is encouraged.

2020 DGMG CALENDAR OF EVENTS

A persistent page—watch monthly for additions! PUT THIS ON YOUR FRIDGE!!!

2020 Calendars STILL FOR SALE!

Only about 10 copies left!

\$10— stunningly beautiful!

Proceeds go to DGMG Scholarship Fund
to CSM Geology Department

See article in this issue about the
Dropbox instructions for submitting
photos for the 2021 calendar.

2020 DGMG Show Report

by **Beth Simmons**, Show Chairman

No word yet on Fairgrounds for next
year.

Profit from 2020 show—\$3000.

2021 DGMG Calendar

The DGMG Calendar is yet another way that DGMG members can strut their (photographic) stuff! The sponsorships essentially pay the printing bill, so the proceeds from the sales go to the CSM Scholarship Fund.

And it's already that time of year again to submit your pictures for the 2021 DGMG Calendar!

This year, Caleb Smith (who does the amazing job of designing our annual calendar) has asked that we rename each photograph with the following format - "FirstNameLastName.PhotoTitle.filetype" i.e. "Robert.Johnson. AmethystRose.jpg". That will assure that he can properly title and credit your photo in the calendar.

Please upload your pictures to the **2021 Calendar** Folder in DropBox. Invitations to that folder were emailed to all of last year's contributors on 4/25/2020. If you cannot find your invitation, or if you are a new contributor, please contact MineralGuild@Gmail.com to request access. If you do not receive a timely response to your request, or you need further assistance, please Call Bob Johnson 720-514-0266. When you open the folder, please create a new folder within it and give it your name, then upload your pictures to that folder.

We look forward to seeing **YOUR** amazing photos in next year's Calendar!

CONTINUING EXCITEMENT

FIRST DGMG ONLINE MEETING

MAY 8TH

**INSTRUCTIONS IN THIS *TIPS & CHIPS*
PLUS IN EMAILS**

JUNE FIELD TRIP

WIGWAM CREEK CLUB CLAIMS

DATE TBA

MAYBE WE'LL GO TO SALIDA IN JULY!

JULY 10-12 2020

FIELD TRIP—SALIDA: JOHN AND DONNA RHODES

MORE DETAILS FORTHCOMING

AND HAVE OUR PICNIC

MAYBE IN BEAR CREEK LAKE PARK

PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE

Picture yourself back in February at the Jewelry, Gem & Mineral Show, walking among tables, tables and more tables covered with mineral specimens and hand-made jewelry, pausing to look longingly at the many display cases of colorful and fascinating examples of nature's treasures and geologic art. You run into friends among the crowd and you gather to chat and cajole, people you may not have seen since a year ago at our show. So good to see you, you're looking so well, come see my display case, give my regards to your family. ... That was nine weeks ago. Now we're "socially separated," a tragic term that's becoming an appalling norm. But, it's temporary. We're living history. We feel like an asteroid has hit the Earth and covered everything with a viral dust. This will be like the K-Pg boundary where sociologists will analyze the extinction of certain things after the impact. One thing that will not go extinct is the Denver Gem & Mineral Guild. We'll keep on having meetings with presentations, we'll keep on rummaging around on our Piety Claim at Wigwam Creek, we'll keep making grab bags to raise money for Mines, and we'll still have saws and grinders for members to get hooked on beautifying self-collected rocks and minerals. In the meantime, picture yourself back with your friends.

Peace, love and happiness!

George

CONTINUING EXCITEMENT

FIRST DGMG ONLINE MEETING

MAY 8TH

INSTRUCTIONS: HOW TO COME TO AN ONLINE MEETING

The Guild has chosen to use WebEx for the venue for online meetings. The Board tested the site and held a board meeting on Friday night, April 24th. If the board can do it, the members can do it!

So here's how it will work:

Bob Johnson, our webmaster, will set up two meeting times, one for a "test" about a week before the "meeting" and one for the "meeting" on Friday, May 8th. He will be the "host" of both meetings.

Beth Simmons, editor, will send out email notices to both meetings, along with an agenda for the "meeting." If you haven't used WebEx before, you will need to attend the "Test" meeting, and instructions to upload that program will be included in the link in the email about that meeting.

When you get the WebEx uploaded, you will be able to "attend" the meeting when it opens, at the proper time. The camera you will use is built into your computer as is the microphone, unless you are a techie type with all sorts of extraneous attachments. Be aware that you can only have ONE monitor running in order to have proper sound and camera action. So unplug the extra monitors (**Beth's** hard-learned lesson!).

Bob will patiently deal with your computer and issues you might have during the "test" meeting. On the WebEx screen, **Bob** can see everyone, and so can you. There is a little icon in the upper right of the WebEx screen which says "Grid" or something like that. That will show everyone's face, perhaps small if we have a large turnout.

There is also the sound issue—only one can talk at a time. And **Bob** will explain how the Mute/Unmute button works.

During the regular "meeting" President **George Daggett** will call the meeting to order, just like always, at the appointed time. He will make sure everyone is up and running and then discuss the issues. And then take a "nay" vote, if votes are required, meaning if you don't want to vote for the issue, then send an email.

Then **Bob** will show the Youtube video that he made of **Beth's** Powerpoint about the iron furnace in Marshall.

We hope you will join us in this FIRST DGMG online meeting!

GRACIAS to life member Rick Estes!

Rick donated a whole stack of flats of Oklahoma selenite, Utah geodes, and Utah topaz and bixbyite for grab bags and giveaway specimens! Plus boxes full of plastic display cases!

Thank you, **Rick**! **Kathy Honda** is bagging them as we speak.

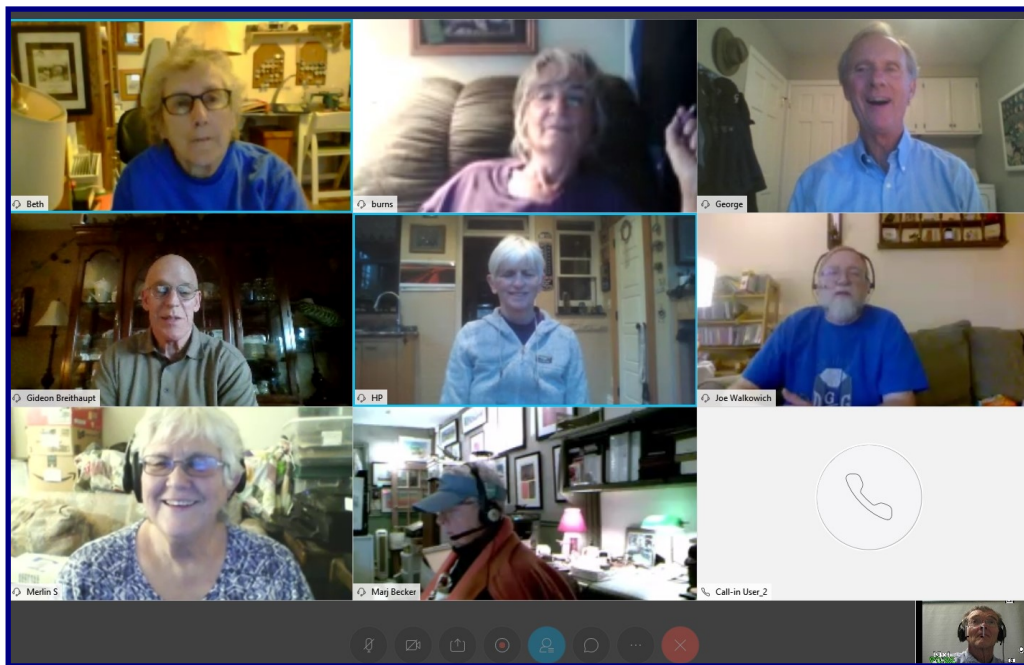
DGMG **FIRST** ONLINE BOARD MEETING

Because of the virus we have to change our ways. And one of those ways is holding DGMG meetings in a different venue. The venue the DGMG board chose was WebEx.

Bob Johnson, our very capable webmaster, arranged for a board meeting to be held on Friday April 24 on our computers. With a little coaching and making sure things work, eight members of the board did business for about an hour and ten minutes, via the Internet!

Bob recorded the entire meeting, so it's available if you want to see it. We won't be posting it on the web!

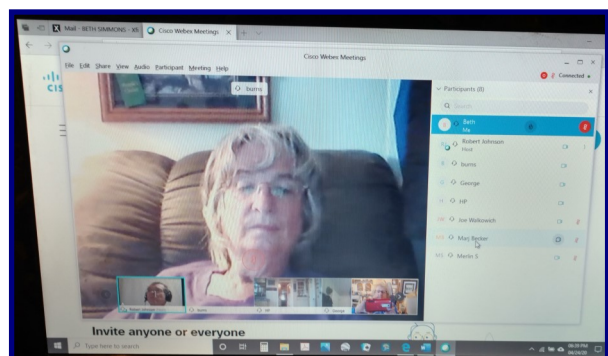
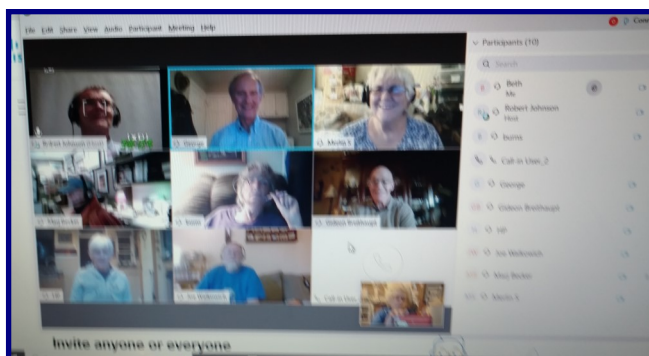
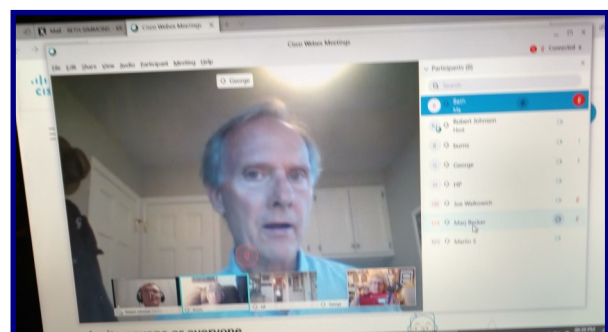
And the board decided that we should be able to carry off an online group meeting on May 8th. So we'll see you (on your computer) then. Make DGMG history!



George Daggett,
DGMG President
conducting the **FIRST** DGMG board meeting on the Internet

Above and below: Composite of attendees in the "Grid View."

Linda Burns sitting in her comfy chair



DGMG **FIRST** ONLINE BOARD MEETING—

If the board meets online as consented at this meeting, the minutes will appear in the T&C or in emails.

DENVER GEM AND MINERAL GUILD

MINUTES, April 24, 2020

Participants' homes

Denver Metropolitan Area, COLORADO

NOTE: March and April meetings were canceled because of coronavirus. Colorado State Governor Polis issued an order affecting meetings.

Attendance:

Ten board members were present on-line.

Call to Order at 6:47 p.m. by President George Daggett

Minutes:

No minutes were considered.

Treasurer's Report: Debbie Baldwin

Information taken from e-mail of April 24, 2020.

Checking account: \$16,997.78

Regular savings: \$5,989.41

Time deposit: \$4,077.74

2020 Calendar Proceeds: Sale of Calendars, \$105.97

The report was accepted.

A scholarship fund donation of \$3,100; this is larger than the results from the show; it includes the amount from the Calendars. We need the approval from the membership to send this amount to CSM; approval by the membership can be done on-line. An e-mail* for approval can be sent to the membership with the statement, "If you object, please let us know by [date certain]."

Annual Summer Picnic: Deb had volunteered to make a reservation for Skunk Hollow. However, shelters are not being rented at the park, right now. She will continue to check on this for the picnic. Another suggestion about where we could have the picnic was at the Club House. There seems to be plenty of parking, etc. We do have some time to make this determination. Beth's location would have enough room for parking. We will dispense with having the piñata. Consensus of the Board is that any decision regarding the location of the picnic be tabled to May's meeting.

Rooney's donation of lapidary equipment. Linda indicated that it was well worth the trip to Westminster. She thinks that it was good that we touched base with Christine Rooney, Albert Rooney's daughter, which indicated that she thinks her father will offer more equipment. Linda thinks that for a lot of that equipment, if there are things we don't need, we will be able to put it out for "adoption" and draw names if there is more than one person who wants a specific piece of equipment. Much of the equipment would be good for a beginner, someone just starting out in this art form. Linda indicated that the donation is for the Guild to use it as the Guild determines. George appointed Linda to be in charge of this acquisition. Jim Dennis accompanied Linda on the visit.

Using Webex to hold Board Meetings: Does this system work? It was determined that DGMG will use WEBEX for a May General meeting. May 8 would be the date of the May meeting.

Equipment: One of the pieces of equipment in the Club House needs some major repair. We need to decide what to do about this. We don't yet know the cost of the repair. Grinding wheels are worn out because they are used a great deal. Part of the problem is that users are using the wheel in one place rather than all over the wheel, thus, making a groove in the wheel. This question of approving the cost of repair of the wheel can also be sent to the membership by e-mail with the caveat that they need to respond only if they object to the expenditure. George: "We really need to get this fixed."

Wigwam Creek Field Trip: The question is, do we want to have a trip to Wigwam Creek in June? At this point, we don't know if we would need to divide into less than ten in a group because of social distancing. The trip is being considered for the second Saturday, June 13. This could be a question to the membership by e-mail*. "How many people would want to go to Wigwam Creek on June 13?" Membership would need to respond by a certain date. [Editor's note: There is a forest fire presently at Wigwam Creek!]
(con't. next page)

DGMG **FIRST** ONLINE BOARD MEETING— Minutes Con't

Trip to Salida, July 10, 11, 12: Discussion tabled to the May meeting.

If we do this field trip, it would be more like the field trips in the beginning of the Guild's history.

Change of Board Meeting Structure: Discussion ensued regarding the most effective way to hold Board meetings. It was consensus of the Board members that the Webex meeting held this evening was effective and could be continued in the future. It appears that the Board Meeting would need to be held on a date before the regular meeting. It was noted that the President can call for a Board meeting as needed. The board determined that Board meetings will be held electronically going forward from this date.

Paul Kendall's donation: Paul Kendall donated a great amount of things that will be good for auction, etc. It will go into the Club House for safe keeping. Gideon and Dave will actually have charge of this donation.

Grab Bags: Kathy has made about 3,000 grab bags.

There were no reports from Committee Chairs

No General Meeting was attempted.

There being no further business, the meeting is adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

Marj Becker

Acting Secretary

*NOTE: The e-mail will ask for responses for these items:

1. Approval of the scholarship donation.
2. Intent to go on the Wigwam Creek Field trip.
3. Approval of the cost of the wheel repair for the machine.



SPOTLIGHT ON MAY'S SPONSOR:

DGMG George Daggett—Coping with Corona

What a different world we've created! Who would have thought that when **George** was elected President of the Guild he would have to cope with the Corona virus? That he would have to cope with having meetings via the Internet? That he has to cope with staying home when he wants to go collecting? And as he tries to carry on business as usual?

There can be no more "Business as Usual!" Rock shops are considered "non-essential businesses" so they can't be open. Gatherings are limited to no more than ten. So there are no gem and mineral shows this spring. PERIOD. There may be no DGMG picnic. No field trips. MAY NOT BE.

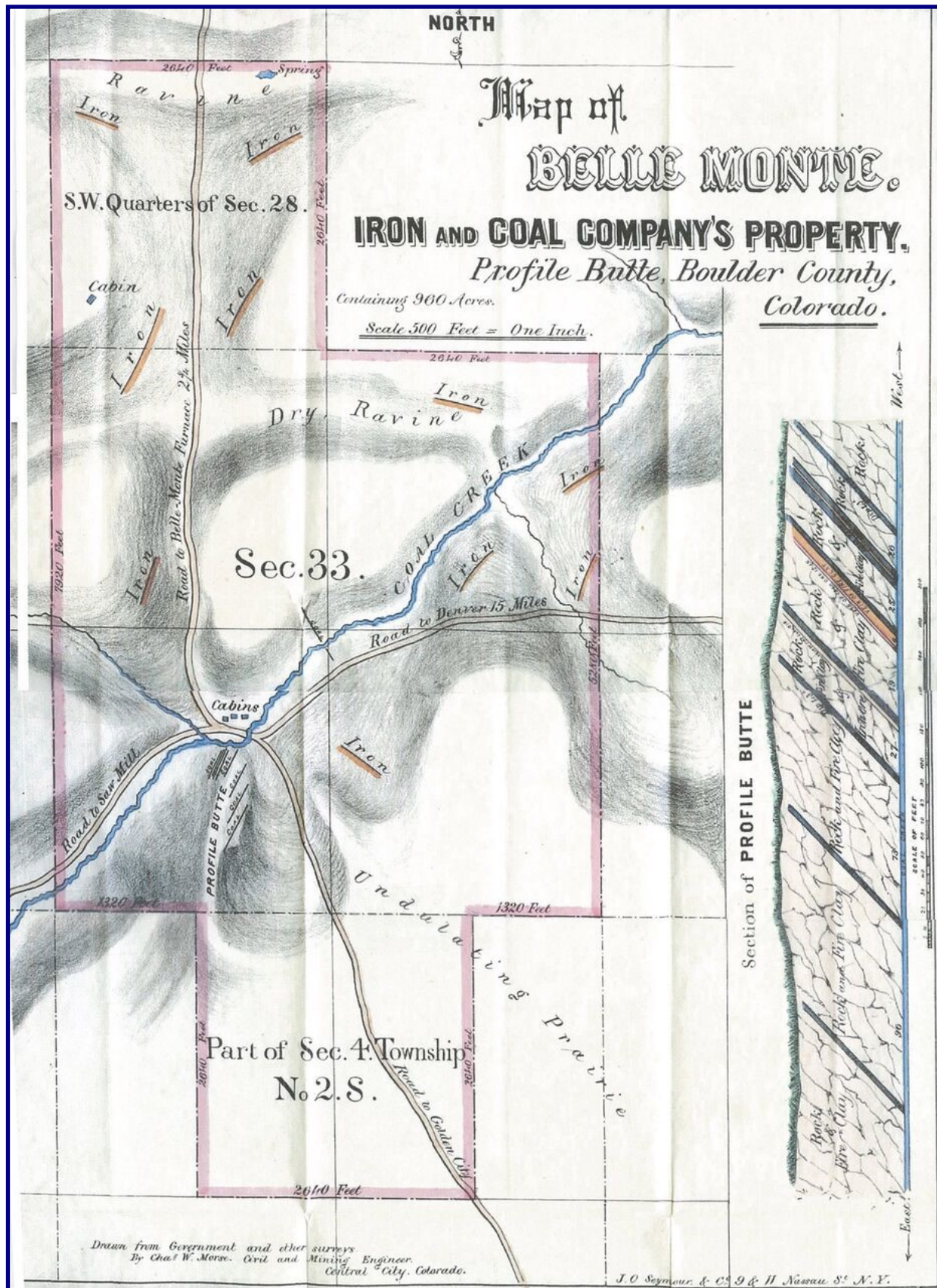
Will there a show in September? **George** is also the chairman of the Greater Denver Gem and Mineral Show. So he is compelled to cope with decisions that might be made far above him but that will determine the future of the Denver Show. That's a lot of coping for one person! For problems that are way beyond his control.

We **thank** **George** for taking on the responsibility of the positions and now, more importantly **thank** him for competently coping with the Corona. **And for sponsoring May and contributing photos in the 2021 ODGMG calendar.**



Map to accompany Belle Monte Iron Furnace program. This is the first geologic map of anywhere in Colorado! Made in 1866. (Courtesy DPL)

Now can you figure out where Profile Butte was?



Why Are You Crying Today?

by
Marj Becker

This year of 2020 has been
Hell-On-Wheels for most of us.
I spend a lot of time
Crying.

Crying for the tens of thousands
Of dead, victims of this virus.
Crying for the old and
Not so old.

Crying for the victims dying alone
Without loved ones beside them.
Crying because there will
Be more.

Crying for the first responders,
For nurses and doctors and EMTs
Crying for hospital staff
Living with death, every day.

Crying for hospital janitors,
For grocers, for bakers, for teachers.
Crying for police and fire fighters,
Workers all.

Crying for the farmers,
For store clerks and delivery people.
Crying for workers who must
Leave their families, every day.

Crying because if they don't work
They will be fired.
Crying as they leave their houses
Not knowing what they will bring home.

Crying for the garbage men
Who faithfully come once a week.
Crying for the postman
Who comes every day.

Crying for construction workers,
For zoo keepers and maintenance men.
Crying for restaurant workers
And bus drivers.

Crying for myself and others
Not allowed to go away from home.
Crying because we are old
Or have infirmities.

Crying for the children
Who may not go to school.
Crying for the moms and dads
As they strive to provide without jobs.

Crying for babes born into
A normal world they won't remember.
Crying for babes who will say,
My grandma was killed by **The Virus**.

Who do you cry for?

Patricia Emerald by Dennis Gertenbach

For thousands of years, men and women have admired gem-quality emeralds for their deep green color. One of the most spectacular of these gems ever found is the beautiful Patricia Emerald, showcased in the American Museum of Natural History in New York. Because of their value, most emerald crystals have been cut into gemstones and sold commercially. This emerald is one of the largest gem-quality emeralds in the world still preserved in its original natural crystalline state.

Measuring just over 2.5 inches tall and weighing 632 carats (over a quarter pound), it is the largest example recovered from the Chivor mines in Colombia, one of the world's most renowned emerald-producing countries. Not only is it one of the largest gem-quality emeralds in the world, but it is also dihexagonal, or 12-sided, rather than six-sided as are most emeralds.

Emeralds are gem-quality beryl, a beryllium aluminum silicate mineral with the formula $\text{Be}_3\text{Al}_2\text{Si}_6\text{O}_{18}$. (Aquamarine, Colorado's state gem, is also a gem-quality beryl.) The deep green color of emeralds is caused by traces of chromium and/or vanadium atoms in the crystal structure which replaces the aluminum atoms.

So, how did the Patricia Emerald get its name and how did it get to the American Museum of Natural History? That story is part history and part legend.

Early Emerald Mining in Columbia

The Patricia Emerald originated from the Chivor mines of Colombia, an historic and ancient emerald mining district of Colombia situated northeast of Bogota, high up in the Andes. The region is rugged and inaccessible with thick forest vegetation.

The Chivor mines, along with the Muzo and Coscuez mines (also in Columbia), were worked by the native Chibcha Indians, at least 500 years before the Spanish conquest. These stones were in great demand, and the Chibcha Indians traded the stones for other goods from Peru and Mexico.

The Spaniards first saw the brilliant green stones when they arrived in Peru and Mexico in the early 16th century. Considered sacred by Mesamerican Indians, emeralds were being worshiped, were used in jewelry, and played an important role as sacrificial offerings in ceremonies. When the Spanish conqueror Cortes met the Aztec emperor Montezuma in Mexico in 1519, it was said that the latter was bedecked with fine emeralds. Reportedly, Spanish conqueror Pizarro sent four chests of emeralds from Peru to the King of Spain in 1533.

But, the early Spanish conquerors were not aware of the actual source of the emeralds. It was not until later that the Spanish rediscovered the Chivor and Muzo emerald mines in 1537 and 1559 respectively. The Spanish expanded and operated the Chivor mines using Indian slave labor under incredibly cruel conditions. Mining operations in the Chivor mines were intermittent, and the mines were closed from time to time due to various reasons such as the barbaric cruelty towards the workers resulting in frequent work stoppages, the lack of proper equipment for mining, and blatant corruption. Eventually conditions in the Chivor mines became so brutal and unbearable that the mine was closed down indefinitely in 1675 by royal decree issued by King Charles II. The abandoning of the mines led to the surrounding jungle reclaiming the area; its location eventually became a mystery.

In 1896, the abandoned Chivor mines were rediscovered, after studying documents written by a Spanish priest. In 1901, Francisco Restrepo and his associate Fritz Klein, successfully negotiated a deal with the government that bestowed perpetual title of the area to them. The agreement stipulated that title for the land would be conveyed to them only after the payment of an amount equivalent to the total of twenty years of taxes on the land. Accordingly, after payment was made, Francisco Restrepo and Fritz Klein were granted perpetual title for the area. The clearing of the jungle in the mine area and its immediate environs then began, and the mine was reopened and operations commenced in 1911.

Ownership has changed hands repeatedly since then, with intermittent production to this day.

(con't. next page)



The Patricia Emerald is one of the largest uncut emeralds in the world, weighing 632 carats.
Credit: M. Shanley/American Museum of Natural History

The Discovery of the Patricia Emerald

Legend has it that around 1920, Justo Daza, an experienced mine worker, and Fritz Klein, a mining engineer, were exploring the area around the Chivor mines looking for new emerald veins. They were breaking rocks apart with long iron poles and using explosives packed into drill holes to uncover new pockets of crystals. However, their search had been futile.

Klein was ready to give up, but Daza pleaded for one more try. They upped the dose of explosives and blasted open a gaping hole that revealed promising glints of a mineral vein. When Klein reached into the hole, he fished out bits of quartz, feldspar, and apatite. Probing deeper, his hand closed around a large crystal with smooth surfaces. When finally extracted from the hole, the crystal was the fabulous emerald later named the Patricia Emerald.

Historical sources say that the Patricia Emerald was part of a pocket that featured an even larger crystal. Unfortunately, miners attempted to extract the stones from the surrounding rock using dynamite, and the resulting explosion shattered the larger stone.

As for its distinctive name, it is thought that the Patricia Emerald was named after the daughter of an owner of the Chivor Mine. Just who that owner was, though, is unclear: a German owner, numerous American investors, and a Canadian corporation all held rights to the mine around this time. Others credit Klein for naming it after his daughter. A third story claims that the stone was named after the patron saint of Ireland, St. Patrick, named Patrizius in the Spanish, which subsequently became the Patricia Emerald.

Klein sold the find for tens of thousands of dollars, while Daza was supposedly given ten dollars and a mule. Later it was donated to the American Museum of Natural History in New York. Another account has Klein donating it directly to the Museum.

After the Patricia Emerald was presented to the American Museum of Natural History in New York, it has been displayed in the Morgan Memorial Hall of Gems, along with the Star of India (the world's largest blue star sapphire), the De Long Star Ruby from Burma, the Midnight Star Sapphire (a deep purple-violet star sapphire from Sri Lanka) and other famous gemstones. In 2019, the Hall of Gems was refurbished to better display the Patricia Emerald and these other gems in all their glory.

References and Additional Reading

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Angier, Natalie (2017), "Precious Gems Bear Messages from Earth's Molten Heart," *The New York Times*, December 11, <https://www.nytimes.com/2017/12/11/science/gemstones-diamonds-sapphires-rubies.html>.

Keller, Peter C. (1981), "Emeralds of Colombia," *Gems & Gemology*, Summer, <https://www.gia.edu/doc/Emeralds-of-Colombia.pdf>

Larif, Shihaan, "Patricia Emerald," <https://www.internetstones.com/patricia-emerald-632-carat-uncut-colombian-origin-chivor-mine.html>.

Denver Gem & Mineral Show Mini Report May 2020

The Denver Gem & Mineral Show is planned for September 18 - 20, 2020 at the Denver Mart, 451 E. 58th Avenue. The theme this year is fabulous fluorite! The Show Chair is George Daggett, who can be reached at geoddaggett@hotmail.com or 303-453-9651. George is always available for talking with club members regarding ideas about the show.

At the current time as everyone knows Covid-19 is impacting all of our lives. As of this writing Colorado is under a "safer at home" directive from our Governor. There is much uncertainty about the course of this pandemic. The Show Committee is closely monitoring the situation but is also continuing to plan that the show will take place in September as usual. Dealers, speakers and exhibitors are being confirmed for the show. Although clubs are not meeting, it is hoped that volunteers continue to be signed up to help at the show. For current information regarding the show, please contact your club representative. Here are the names and contact information for them:

Colorado Mineral Society - Amber Brenzikofer 720-480-5234 or amberbrenzikofer@gmail.com;
Flatirons Mineral Club - Gerry Naugle 303-591-2830 or gnaugle@earthlink.net;
Friends of Mineralogy - Larry Havens 303-757-6577 or lwrnchavens@comcast.net;
Denver Gem & Mineral Guild - Kathy Honda 303-315-7749 or katherine.honda@ucdenver.edu;
Littleton Gem & Mineral Club - Lynette Warren 303-956-4634 or flywithle123@comcast.net;
North Jeffco Gem & Mineral Club, Inc. - Ron Knoshaug 303-423-2923 or jrknoshaug@comcast.net;
Mile Hi Rock and Mineral Society - Judy Knoshaug 303-423-2923 or jrknoshaug@comcast.net;
Western Interior Paleontological Society - Nancy Kimber 303-470-6491 or nkk9960@hotmail.com.

Please remember that the show has so much to offer all of us. The opportunity to fully immerse ourselves in this wonderful hobby of rocks, minerals, fossils, and gems. There will be fantastic and colorful displays of the finest fluorite from renowned collectors, unusual and incredible specimens from the dealers, informative talks by notable speakers, experiences and laughter shared with friends, a visual extravaganza in the Fluorescent Room (fluorite is a fluorescent mineral), and so much more.

Hopefully there will still be opportunities for us all to go out this summer to collect and explore a little. But please stay safe, support and encourage each other so that when this is over we will be able to gather again in friendship and hobby adventures.

Here are some pictures of fluorite to inspire you.

Respectfully submitted, Judy Knoshaug, Show Secretary





Web Corner – Web and Computer Resources for Rockhounds

Buying and Selling Rocks in 2020 – by Bob Johnson

Now that the Coronavirus Pandemic has shut down rock shops, rock shows and even club auctions, where can we go to buy and sell rocks? The answer of course is **ONLINE**. Here are just a few suggestions.

Ebay: This is the one most people would be familiar with. (At least two of our DGMG Mineral Show Dealers [Jensen Meteorites](#) & [Costigan's/Rockman69](#) are on Ebay.) Ebay offers both auctions and fixed price sales, plus a choice of shipping or free pickup from local dealers. Sellers must pay listing and commission fees. Check out [The Beginner's Guide to Selling on eBay](#) & [49 Secret Selling Tips by Seasoned eBay Experts](#).

Etsy: Lots of rocks here, many with free shipping. (at least one of our DGMG Mineral Show dealers, [Orca Minerals](#), sells there) For sellers, starting an Etsy shop is free, but there are listing fees, transaction fees and payment processing fees. There is also an advertising fee for sales that come from offsite ads. For more information read: [Beginner's Guide to Selling on Etsy](#) & [Top 30 Tips for Selling on Etsy From the Pros](#).

Instagram: is the 3rd largest social network with over 800 million users. Check out: [How to Sell Your Products on Instagram](#) & [How to Sell on Instagram \(In 9 Easy Steps\)](#).

Pinterest: Even if you are not out to buy or sell, just go there and check out the *AMAZING* Pictures! But be careful because 87% of Pinterest users end up *buying* the items they see. (At least [one of our DGMG Mineral Show Dealers](#) is on Pinterest) For details on selling there see: [How to Sell on Pinterest and Explode Ecommerce Sales](#) & [The Secret to Selling on Pinterest and Growing Your Brand](#).

Craigslist: Plenty of rocks and minerals are being sold here, but to avoid scams, Craigslist recommends that you only deal with locals that you can meet in person (which limits your market to your local area). There are no fees or commissions for sellers. Here are [10 tips for buying and selling on Craigslist](#).

FACEBOOK is the largest social network with over 2.5 billion monthly active users, and users over 65 are the fastest-growing group. There are *at least* 4 different ways to buy and sell rocks on Facebook:

Facebook Pages: Anyone can create a Facebook page and list things for sale there. It is completely free. There are no listing fees or commissions to pay. (At least 3 of our DGMG Mineral Show Dealers have Facebook pages, including: [Costigan's](#), [Amethyst Rose](#) & [Morgan Trinkets](#).) On your page you can create posts showing what you have for sale and you can have customers send you a private message to ask questions and discuss payment and delivery terms. The biggest drawback is, with over 42 million Facebook pages, how will you get people to find yours?

Facebook Shops: For more formal selling you will want to add a Shop to your page. This will provide for automated online payment. To learn more about this option read: [How to Sell on Facebook in 2020 \[Tutorial for Beginners\]](#)



Photo by Yaroslav Danylchenko
from Pexels

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Facebook Marketplace: is basically an online classifieds site. Until last year, Facebook Marketplace worked much like Craigslist with buyers and sellers meeting in person. But they now offer an option to pay online with buyer protection, similar to Ebay. And like Ebay, this option will charge the seller a transaction fee. Check out this [Guide to Selling on Facebook](#).

Facebook Groups: If your Facebook Page is not getting any traffic, you can join a Facebook Group that already has traffic. Selling on a Facebook Group is completely free – no fees or commissions. Dealers will often go live on these groups so that buyers can ask them questions in real time. For details on selling in Facebook Groups check out [How do I sell something in a Facebook buy and sell group?](#), [5 Ways I Use Facebook Groups to Sell My Stuff Online](#), and [Facebook Buy/Sell policies](#). Finally, be sure to [watch this video](#) of a lady who makes **\$90,000 a month** selling on Facebook Groups. I've listed some of the more active rock and gem buy and sell Facebook Groups below.

Gems and Minerals Kingdom 9625 members, anyone can watch, must join group to post or comment. This Group is only for Minerals, Crystals, Specimens and also Faceted gemstones. Members can post 3 items per day. This group is created for sale and purchase aspects. Regular posts and live stream.

Gemstones Worldwide 5620 members, 1500 posts per month. Join to post or comment. Buy and sell. Join to post or comment.

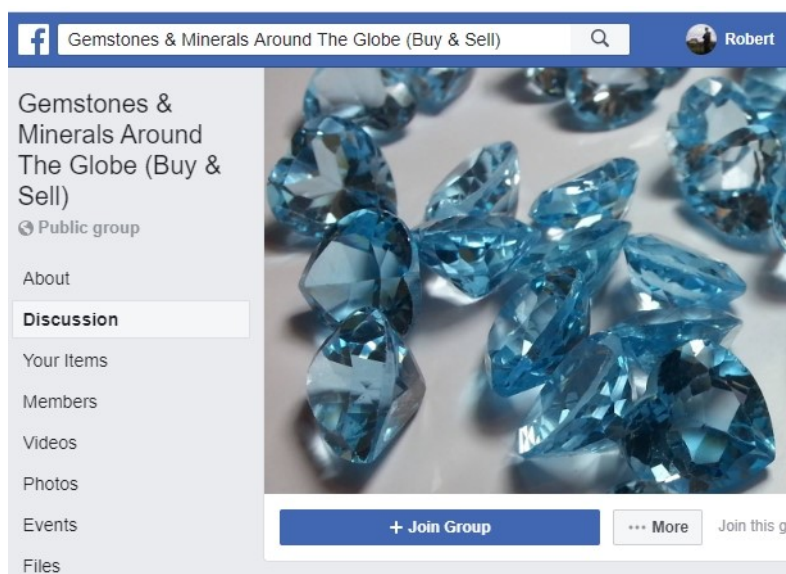
Minerals Treasure 9,286 members, 1,000 posts/month. Join to post or comment. Minerals Treasure is an Open group where the members can Post their Items for sale and discussions. Maximum 3 Posts are allowed per day.

Gems Stone Auction Buy/Sell Group 15,887 members, 3,200 posts a month. Must join to view/post/comment.

Gemstones & Minerals Around the Globe (Buy & Sell) 14,246 members, 2,550 posts/month. Join to Post/comment. You can post here anything related to Gemstones and Minerals (Crystals, Rocks, Minerals, Gems, Jewelry, Wirewraps Rough & Cut).

Stones (buy/sell) 21,825 members, 1,900 posts/mo. Join to view/post/comment. Buy and sell gemstones.

Minerals (sell / buy) 9,463 members, 1000 posts/mo. Join to view/post/comment. Posts may contain only the description of goods, pics, price, conditions for payment and delivery and phone number or whatsapp or email but no links to other sites (ebay, etsy, etc.).



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Minerals & Gemstones Connections 7,941 members, 2,200 posts / month. Join to post/comment. Group for sharing minerals and gemstones for sale and discussions.

Gems Minerals and Rocks Buy and Sell 15,588 members. A common Place to Buy and Sell Precious and Semi Precious Natural Stones, Rocks, Minerals, Crystals & Specimens from All Over the World Without Limitation. Synthetic Stones are not allowed.

Crystals & Gemstones – Buy/Sell & Trade 14,599 members, 6700 posts/mo. Join to post/comment. Created for crystal lovers by Crystal Dreams! An international new age store based in Montreal, Canada. You can sell, buy or trade your crystals or gemstones. Discussing, selling, sharing, identifying, metaphysical and just plain beauty of Crystals & Gemstones Group.

Fossils, Rocks, Relics and Minerals for Sale 10,037 members, 2,100 posts/mo. Join to view/post/comment. Post what you want, when you want, however you want, but no spam and no links.



That's quite a smoky, **Joe Payne!**

DEALERS – If all of the above is more complicated than you want to deal with, the *easiest* way for you to divest yourself of your rock collection may be to sell out to an existing rock dealer. Just be aware that they will need to buy your rocks at a price that will give them room to cover all of their many expenses and still sell at a competitive price which will make them a profit.

DONATIONS – Also remember that your local rock club, including the DGMG, is always happy to accept donations. They will work to find a new owner for your rocks, who will love and care for them as much as you did.

IMPORTANT!!! The current Covid19 stay-at-home orders have been very hard on small businesses including many of our favorite mineral dealers. The *Denver Show Committee* has asked that if you are looking to buy minerals at this time that you first consider the many dealers who support our September Show. Without our dealers there would be no show! The same goes for our DGMG Show in February. You can find a list of our Denver Show dealers, along with a link to their online presence on the Show Page:

<https://www.denvermineralshow.com/dealers>. You can find the list of our DGMG Show dealers on the DGMG Show Page: <http://denvergem.org/Shows.html>

AND THANK BOB for all the work he puts into bringing this info to us! Plus his work to set up the board and general meetings! And his work to create a working webpage that is FULL OF INFO!