



**58 Years
Diggin' Rocks
& Minerals**

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

1420 S. Reed Street
Lakewood, Colorado, 80232

AFMS Silver Medal Club 2016



May 2021

TIPS & CHIPS

President - Linda Burns
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Vice President - Pete Modreski
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**HTTP://WWW.DENVERGEM.ORG (DOWN!) OR
HTTP://DENVERGEM.ORG (DOWN!)
AND NOW FACEBOOK!!! (EMAIL = MINERALGUILD@GMAIL.COM)**

MAY ZOOM MEETING

Friday May 14

Time: May 14, 2021 07:00 PM Mountain Time (US and Canada)



A prerecorded presentation from the 2021 Seventeenth Annual Sinkankas Symposium on the theme, Agate and Chalcedony:

"The Complex Mineralogy of Agates"
by Dr. Peter Heaney,
Penn State University

Time: May 14, 2021 07:00 PM Mountain Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86732480339?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86732480339?pwd=MkRlRVNhMG90bE10bmdNZkZVdExFZz09)
[pwd=MkRlRVNhMG90bE10bmdNZkZVdExFZz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86732480339?pwd=MkRlRVNhMG90bE10bmdNZkZVdExFZz09)

Meeting ID: 867 3248 0339

Passcode: 021553

Meeting starts at 6:30 Practice time and social time

7:00 Meeting begins—BE ON TIME!

IT'S AT YOUR HOUSE, AFTERALL!

You are encouraged to login at 6:30 to make sure everything is working
At 6:45 we will have greetings/chat; the meeting will officially start at 7:00.

If you have any trouble logging in, please call Bob Johnson (*before 7 p.m.*)

Reminder will be sent out the day before and maybe even the meeting day!

See Meeting notes on page 3



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58 years of DGMG Kudos, Celebrations, & Events

2021 DGMG Officers & Chairmen

President: Linda Burns
Vice President: Pete Modreski
Secretary: **OPEN PRO-TEM:** Marj Becker
Treasurer: Deb Baldwin
Treasurer Ass't: Beth Simmons
Hospitality: **SERVE YOURSELF!**
Ways & Means:
 Dave Sanchez, Gideon Breithaupt, Sandra Lucero
Membership: Joe Walkowich **Ass't:**
Claims Manager: Fred Ceconi
Editor: Beth Simmons: **Ass't:** Marj Becker
Historian/Librarian: Kathy Honda
Webmaster: Bob Johnson; **Ass't.:** Joe Walkowich
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!

Quote of the month:

I never pass up an opportunity to learn something new.

Jim Dennis

May Birthdays:

Felix Beall
 Gideon Breithaupt
 Gary Clay
 Chelsea Daggett
 Arthur Ickes
 Bob Pfeifer
 Clint Schlepp
 Vickie Schlepp
 Eric Sykes
 Chauncey Walder

May Anniversaries:

The Hanlons
 The Snellings



May Sunshine Spotlight

CONTACT **SANDRA LUCERO** 303-726-3829
[gardengal001\(@\)yahoo.com](mailto:gardengal001(@)yahoo.com)

TO
 INFORM HER OF SUNSHINE REQUESTS



GET WELL SOON!

To **Marj Becker** who has been in an out of the hospital and had a new stent implanted, but still is having problems and is now on oxygen.

And to **Susanne Peach** who is still undergoing treatments for back issues

And to **Karlene Fry** who has a compression fracture in her back.

THE DENVER GEM AND MINERAL GUILD—58 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.

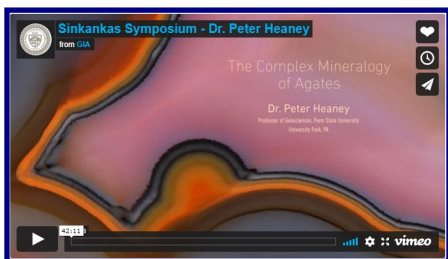
The Guild meets on the second Friday of the month at 7:30 pm at Berthoud Hall on CSM Campus, except for June, July, August, and December. Picnics, field trips, and parties replace regular meetings those months.

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 or mineralguild@gmail.com. Exchange with other newsletters is invited, and reprinting of material from this newsletter with proper attribution is encouraged.

2021 DGMG CALENDAR OF EXCITING EVENTS

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

CONTINUING DGMG ENTICEMENT! MAY 14, 6:30 PM PROGRAM NOTES



Each year, the Sinkankas Symposium, a one-day symposium on some gemological topic, takes place at the GIA World Headquarters in Carlsbad, CA:

"The Sinkankas Symposium has been described as the most important gemological conferences in North America. The annual event is named for John Sinkankas (1915–2002), one of the most distinguished and influential figures in gemology and mineralogy. Every year, presentations on a featured gem theme are given by specialists in diverse gem-related disciplines. The Sinkankas Symposium is co-sponsored by the Gemological Society of San Diego (GSSD) and the Gemological Institute of America (GIA) ."

No symposium was held in 2020 due to COVID. This year the symposium is virtual, and it is in progress right now! Registration is free, and anyone may register and log in, between April 24 to June 7, to view on-demand the 8 presentations that make up the symposium. You may view the list of presentations, and register to watch any or all of them as you wish, on your own at any time, by going to: <https://sinkankassymposium.net/>.

What we will watch together at the Guild meeting will be the presentation by Peter Heaney (42 minutes) on "The Complex Mineralogy of Agates"; plus, the welcoming message to the symposium (7 minutes) by Robert Weldon, Director of the GIA Richard T. Liddicoat Library.

"How do agates form?" has always a highly puzzling question, and that's what Dr. Heaney addresses in this talk. Since the presentation will be about agates, we'll invite everyone who attend, to have handy, one of more of your own "most interesting" (or most informative, or most puzzling) agate specimens, and after the talk we can all show them to each other!

FIELD TRIP #2

FIELD TRIP #2 SATURDAY MAY 15. Phoenix Gold Mine, Idaho Springs, CO

Meet at the Idaho Springs Visitor's Center at 1:00. We will use the restrooms there and see the mineral collection, then proceed westward and upward to the Phoenix Mine where Dave Mosch, Al's son, will show us the "new, improved Phoenix." Map on page 4



PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE

The PREZ says:

It's time to reassess the annual DGMG Gem, Jewelry and Mineral show. Please electronically (mineralguild@gmail.com) answer the following questions:

How do you feel about continuing to have a DGMG show?

Would you be willing to volunteer enough time to ensure that we can do a show?

Providing we can locate a new venue, how far are you willing to drive to be a part of the show?

What would you like to see in our show that we have not done in the past?



Please let us know your opinions (email us at mineralguild@gmail.com) so we can decide whether to go on with or without a show.

As COVID restrictions ease we hope to get more field trips going and hope you can attend them. We need more trippers to make trips worth the leaders' efforts!

Linda Burns

DGMG 2021 President

2021 DGMG CALENDAR OF EXCITING EVENTS

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

CONTINUING DGMG EXCITEMENT!

FIELD TRIP #2 SATURDAY MAY 15.

Phoenix Gold Mine, Idaho Springs, CO (rain, snow, sleet, or shine)

Meet at the Idaho Springs Visitor's Center at 1:00. We will use the restrooms there and see the mineral collection and exhibits, then proceed westward and upward to the Phoenix Mine where Dave Mosch will show us the "new, improved Phoenix."

www.phoenixgoldmine.com

Watch the drone fly over Trail Creek Road—the video

Beth Simmons invites DGMG members to join in for this **free** tour of the Phoenix Mine (save \$24!!). The Phoenix Mine tour was my second underground experience in Colorado. The first was the Hidee in Central City. But the Phoenix Mine changed my life, because it introduced me to Al Mosch, one of Colorado's great legends. Four generations of the Mosch family have been mining since the late 1800s at Tolland, Nederland, and around Central City & Idaho Springs. I ended up doing my Ph.D. on the history of the family and made an hour-long movie of their amazing lives.

You can see the film on our DGMG Facebook webpage.

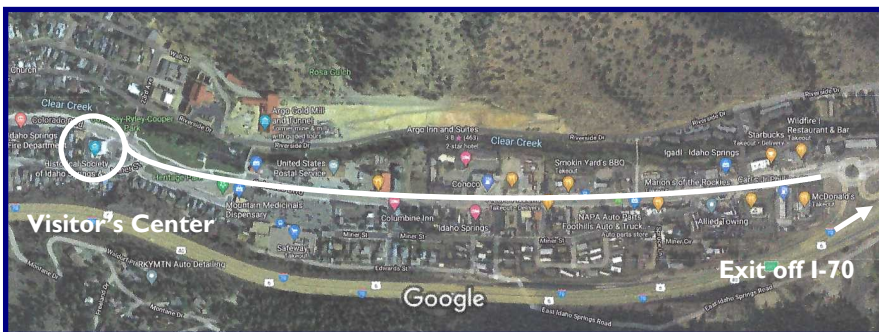
Or at this link:

www.youtube.com/watch?v=jCkqi_1Z9EQ OR on the DGMG Facebook page

This little hole in the ground is world famous, an amazing place, where your life might change, too!

Al Mosch died two years ago. Mining major son Dave Mosch inherited the mines, including the Phoenix Mine tour operation. You may have seen their exhibit at the last DGMG show in 2020. During the pandemic, Dave, Becky (his wife) and Becky's brother used their time effectively and made some major changes at the mine. Come with us on this **free** field trip to see the changes, go underground and see gold veins IN PLACE, and then pan for gold in Trail Creek.

Take I-70 west to the first exit for Idaho Springs. Get off, go around the circle and proceed west on Colorado Blvd. to the Visitor's Center on the left. Meet there at 1:00



Stop #1. Visitor's Center. 2060 Miner St., Idaho Springs, CO

Leave the Visitor's Center in caravan. Proceed west on Colorado Blvd. to the fork where the ramp goes onto I-70. Turn left, go under I-70 on the old Route 6 on the south side of Clear Creek. Proceed west past the old Stanley Mill and mine operation to Trail Creek Road on the left. Turn left and go up Trail Creek road about a mile and a half to the Phoenix Mine. Park, don coats, hats, and gloves, and meet at the entrance.



Stop #2.. Phoenix Mine 830 Trail Creek Rd. Idaho Springs, CO

DRESS WARM. The mine is NOT heated!
Bring your hard hat if you have one. And your gold pan, too!

LET BETH SIMMONS KNOW IF YOU ARE PLANNING TO GO—mineralguild@gmail.com

DENVER GEM AND MINERAL GUILD

MINUTES, April 9, 2021

Zoom meeting

Attendance: If the substitute secretary's count is accurate, seventeen people attended.

Call to Order at 7:07 p.m. by President Linda Burns

(People need to be on time to Zoom meetings—strolling in late delays the program for the rest of us!)

Minutes: Pete Modreski

Approved as written and published.

Treasurer's Report: Debbie Baldwin

April 2021

Checking account = \$14,377.38

Regular savings = \$5,990.56

Time deposit = \$4,094.18

People are still joining the club and paying dues.

PROGRAM: Good friend Joe Dorris, Pinnacle Peak Mining Company, about mining amazonite for many years! A recording of a program he gave to the weekly mineral collectors, he showed many spectacular specimens that don't leave their home because of their supreme value. Congratulations to Joe on receiving the Lifetime Achievement Award from Mineralogical Record! Joe was present and took queries at the end of the program. It was good to have him there! Thanks to Pete for arranging this program!

Yet another advantage of ZOOM meetings—you get to see folks from far away and things that don't ever see the lights of display cases! Plus, for those of us who are hard of hearing, we can hear almost every word through our earphones!

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned about 8:45 pm.

Beth Simmons (because Marj was in the hospital)

Acting Secretary



PICNIC ANNOUNCEMENT #2 Sunday, July 25 9:30ish eat at 10:00 AM

**Annual (except 2020) DGMG Picnic to be held at Bear Creek Lake Park
Skunk Hollow Picnic Shelter (as ever before)
Plans to be forthcoming as COVID-19 releases its stranglehold on the planet.
Breakfast Brunch; rubber ducky races (creek permitting); grab bag stuffing**



Comanche Grasslands Field Trip April 17-18, 2021

By **LINDA BURNS, DGMG Prez and field trip leader**

Where will you be? Where will you be when the next great mineral specimen is found? Will you be the one saying could'a, would'a, should'a been there?

Sure, we understand some people cannot make it because of work schedules and it was short notice because COVID has put things like answering the phone on the back burner (the Comanche National Grasslands returned my call a week after I left a message). The Grasslands office is closed to visitors for the time being so don't try to go there for now.

As they say you can't "win it" if you don't have some skin in the game.

The five of us—Bob Pfeifer, Ernie and Marilyn Hanlon, and CJ Duran, plus me, who decided to brave the conditions had a great field trip to Otero County. There was a great "poker chip" calcite found by myself and CJ found some awesome barites. CJ came home with a world class barite specimen which we hope to get a picture of when he cleans it so you can see what you missed by not being there. Got some big clams, too, in Bent County!

You did not miss the snakes, the scorpions or the blackflies but then neither did we because of the cold. So it was a great trade off for us. We could enjoy the "dig" without the disruptions of unwanted visitors. Sooo, will you want to go on the next field trip? We are still looking for members to step up and lead field trips. It could be to the club claim, or any of the sites you prefer to visit.

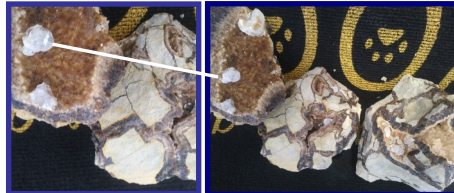
CJ Duran's barite & calcite crystal after cleaning and almost reconstructed (LB)



Barite crystals straight from the ground (LB)



Poker Chip Calcite (LB)



Calcite plates and calcite in septarians (BP)



Limonitic coprolites = fossil poop! (LB)



Fossil clams = *Inoceramus* (BP)



Bob P. et al on site (LB)



Spring Snow 2021

A Haibun

by

Marj Becker



It appears that spring 2021 has arrived. And with spring, the spring snows have also arrived. At the beginning of this week, a neighbor's daffodils were up, yellow blossoms bobbing in the breeze. My crocus, yellow and purple, were showing their welcome flowers. White blossoms replaced the snow patches in my gazing ball garden. Wednesday, Alexa said that snow was in the forecast. I didn't ask how much.

And, snow it did. Until I looked outside in the front, I thought the snowfall depth was about three inches. Wrong! Six inches lay on top of the split rail fence posts and along the rails between. Six inches mounded on the gazing balls. The precious daffodils lay on the ground, flattened by the weight of the heavy, wet snow.

The night before I'd decided to go to bed at eleven o'clock, rather than my usual midnight. It was snowing, then. As I got into bed, the lights went out! That didn't concern me - I figured that when I got up in the morning, the heroes in white trucks would have restored power to our neighborhood. When I woke at about 2:30 am, I called the non-emergency police number to ask if they knew when power would be restored. "No," was the answer, I would need to call Xcel. I didn't; I went back to sleep.

Waking in the morning, the situation was disappointingly the same. Finally, that day at 1 pm, the lights came back on. I had already made a fire in the wood stove; it kept me warm for the morning. I had cold cereal with fruit for breakfast. No coffee. Maybe, the sun would come out and melt the snow. Probably not!



Blossoms on the ground.

Snow on driveway and sidewalk.

Snow falls from the trees.



Years and years ago, one spring when Larry and I were still in college, we invited my sister Clara and two of my nieces to join us in Gunnison for Easter. I went to Pueblo to pick up all of them. We started back about noon and reached Salida at the eastern foot of Monarch Pass just as snow began to fall. Thinking nothing of "a little snow," we headed up Monarch Pass. We learned later that we had just passed the place where the "Pass Closed" notice is posted when the notice was posted. Monarch Pass was closed. No traffic was allowed past that point on the way over the pass to Gunnison.

I remember that the snow was so heavy that, at one point, Clara got out of the car to make sure we were staying on the road - my thinking, now, is that it was not a clever or smart thing to do. When we reached the crest of the pass, the snow dissipated, and we reached Gunnison safely to enjoy the Easter weekend.



Snow storm on the hill.

Clara assured our car's path.

Safely got us down.



What happens during a spring snow can give a clear picture of family and the neighborhood you live in. This year, my neighbors (Keith and Rita) are in Mexico. They often help me with things I need to have done that, at my age, I am not able to accomplish. This year, in particular, I've needed help more than usual. A hospital stint because of a fall - passed out, I did, and down I went - left me with a very painful and unworkable shoulder and a third stent. Daughter Heidi stepped up to take care of the house, the dog, and the tortoise.

Of course, there would be no snow shoveling. And, yet, the snow was cleared from my driveway and sidewalk without my asking by neighbor Michael. Neighbor Bill called to offer any help that I needed; other friends also called with offers of help. In this topsy-turvy world with a pandemic and other tragedies, people have shown their caring remains endless.



Where are the kind folks?

In my neighborhood, I know.

I love my neighbors!

(with photographic help from Pete Modreski)



May's birthstone is EMERALD

Here is an old article from June 1972 *Rockhound* magazine about great find from Hiddenite, North Carolina. Hiddenite also gave its name to another green mineral, a variety of spodumene.

ROCKHOUND

Vol. 1, No. 3

June, 1972



HIDDENITE YIELDS BIGGEST FIND

Amateur trio discovers a 1,500-carat emerald cluster that is said to be the largest ever found in North America

By XANTHUS CARSON

May-June, 1972



Two rockhounds dig in the micaceous, red clay soil of the old mine field where a fabulous emerald was recently found.

The photo shows the "Reitzler Twin Emerald" that is now in the Smithsonian, 3rd largest ever discovered in North America.

Not many of America's seven million rockhounds can count on the sort of luck that recently befell R. N. "Red" Reitzel and his two partners, Johnny Williams and Jack Harwell.

On a hot June day in 1971, the trio stopped digging in a weed-grown patch in an old 285-acre gem mine field near Hiddenite, North Carolina.

The reason they stopped digging was hurriedly pointed out to his partners by Reitzel. He had just "hit a lick" and exposed about four inches of emerald crystal in the mi-

aceous, red clay soil of the old field. The three men could only imagine the ultimate size of the fantastic find.

The three were not veteran gem prospectors, by any means. Reitzel and Williams, his cousin, had been digging together only about a year, at various locations, in the Hiddenite area, which is famous for its spectacular emerald finds (see "The Fabulous Emeralds of Hiddenite," *Rockhound*, Feb., 1972, p. 4). Harwell joined the pair only a few weeks before Reitzel's jackpot discovery.

May's birthstone is EMERALD, con't

Hiddenite continued

The three run businesses—Reitzel and Harwell in Newton, North Carolina, and Williams in nearby Taylorville, the county seat of Alexander County. Just ordinary run-of-the-mill buffs until their big find, they usually met on Wednesday afternoons and weekends to dig for emeralds. They had recently started digging in this old gem field near Taylorville because it had paid terrific dividends at various times since 1879, when a farmer named P. L. Warren plowed up a brilliant stone and became curious about its beauty.

The excited farmer lost no time in finding someone to evaluate his find. A New Jersey mineralogist, W. E. Hidden, happened to be prospecting in the area. Hidden was fascinated by the stone. He sent it to a scientist, Prof. J. Laurence Smith, who studied the gem and immediately declared it to be extremely valuable—the only one of its type known to exist in America.

Prof. Smith named the mineral "hiddenite" for W. E. Hidden. Thus, Hidden is generally credited as the discoverer of the mineral—an emerald green variety of spodumene—while the name of the farmer who plowed up the first specimen has been virtually forgotten.

But regardless of who gets credit for the discovery of hiddenite, the discovery area itself boomed, chiefly because of the emeralds that were also found there. Scads of money was reaped from the mining of these precious gemstones. Activity continued for many years. Later, Mrs. Ruby Turner, the only child of a former Hiddenite miner, fell heir to the property. Gem seekers paid



In this prospect hole, R. N. "Red" Reitzel, left, "hit a lick" and exposed an emerald cluster that weighed 10.5 ounces (1,500 carats). With Reitzel is Johnny Williams, his cousin and a partner in the emerald dig.

her \$3 a day for prospecting privileges. Over the years, many people went away rich.

Eventually, Red Reitzel and his partners were included among the diggers. Reitzel was walking across the oil field when he picked up a quartz crystal encrusted with mica, and deduced that a mica vein was close by. When he and his partners started to dig, their prospect hole was only a few feet from the original hole sunk by W. E. Hidden back in 1880. When down about three and a half feet, the men struck their fabulous pay zone.

The glowing gem that Reitzel called to his partners to stop digging and come and see was about four and a half inches long. There were large twin crystals, each more

than an inch in diameter, fused together. At the base were smaller crystals,

The whopping emerald cluster weighed 10.5 ounces (1,500 carats), the finders told this writer, and is the largest ever unearthed in the old mine field. The previous record stone had measured two and three-fifths inches by one-half inch by one-quarter inch, with one end a very fine green emerald color.

Later, the discovery made by Reitzel and his partners was declared to be "the largest ever unearthed in North America." It is worth many thousands of dollars. The three men will share the rewards of their find under a gentlemen's partnership agreement between them.

The trio found several other emeralds while following the vein (one newspaper report said they had unearthed 200). With the gemstones weighing from six to eight ounces each, theirs was a rich find indeed.

The Smithsonian Institution may become the custodian of the "Reitzel Emerald." A San Francisco benefactor has indicated an interest in buying the huge gemstone and donating it to the Smithsonian.

After Reitzel's discovery, the old gem mine field roared into a brand-new boom, becoming a beehive of activity. Red Reitzel and his zealous partners continue to dig, however, with plenty of confidence in the future, they said, as they paused long enough in their glory hole to tell this writer of their marvelous find

—Xanthus Carson



News of Reitzel's discovery brought rockhounds from all over the nation to this small frame mine office near Hiddenite, North Carolina.

Hardest diamonds are manmade! And grow quickly!

As a follow-up to April's diamond stories, comes this tale of the **creation** of the hardest substance known described in 2006.

Arlington, VA.: Producing a material that is harder than natural diamond has been a goal of materials science for decades. Now a group headed by a scientist at the Carnegie Institution's Geophysical Laboratory in Washington, D.C. has produced gem sized diamonds that are harder than any other crystals and at a rate up 100 times faster than other methods used to date. The process opens up an entirely new way of producing diamond crystals for electronics, cutting tools, and other industrial applications.

"This is a great example of fundamental research that will not only give us a better tool to duplicate conditions in the core of the Earth, but will stimulate many other scientific, technical, and economic advances," said Geologist James Whitcomb of the National Science Foundation (NSF) Division of Earth Sciences which funded the research.

"We believe these results are major breakthroughs in our field," said Chih-shiue Yan, lead author of the study published in the February 20, (2006) online Physica` Status Solidi. "Not only were the diamonds so hard they broke the measuring equipment, **we were able to grow gem-sized crystals in about a day.**"

The researchers developed a special high growth rate using a Chemical Vapor Deposition (CVD) process to grow crystals. They then subjected the crystals to a high-pressure, high-temperature treatment to further harden the material. In the CVD process, hydrogen gases and methane gases are bombarded with charged particles (or plasma) in a chamber. The plasma prompts a complex chemical reaction that results in a "carbon-rain" that falls on a seed crystal in the chamber. Once on the seed, the carbon atoms arrange themselves in the same crystal line structure as the seed. This method has been used to grow diamond crystals up to **10 millimeters across and up to 4.5 millimeters thick.**

CVD-produced crystals are very tough. "We noticed this when we tried to polish them into brilliant cuts," said Yan. "They were much harder to polish than conventional diamond crystals produced at high pressure and high temperature."

The researchers then **subjected the tough CVD crystals to high temperature and high pressure conditions. The diamonds were heated to 2,000°C and put under pressures of 50,000 to 70,000 times atmospheric pressure for 10 minutes.** This final process resulted in the ultra-hard material, which was at least 50% harder than conventional diamonds.

The research was also supported by the U.S. Department of Energy, the National Nuclear Security Agency through the Carnegie/DOE Alliances Center, and the W.M. Keck Foundation. It was conducted in collaboration with researchers at the Phoenix Crystal Corporation and Los Alamos National Laboratory.

Ref: BEMS Tumbler 6/06; via Breccia, 4/06; via The Backbender's Gazette, 8/04; via Cedar Valley Gems, 5/04; from National Science Foundation www.nsf.gov

Greater Denver Area Gem and Mineral Show

TO BE HELD IN CONJUNCTION WITH

HARD ROCK SUMMIT

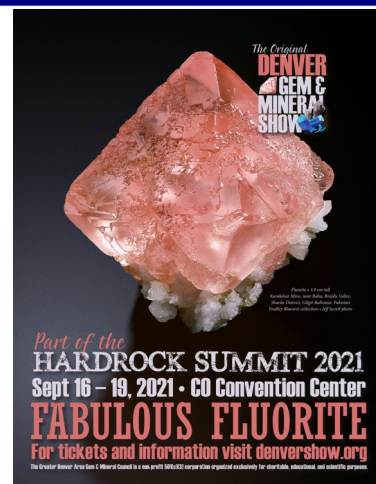
DENVER CONVENTION CENTER

SEPT. 16-19, 2021

Club tables & Demos—Dealers—Speakers—Exhibits

Fabulous Fluorite will be the theme!

Amber Brenzikofer will be the new show chairman





Web Corner – Web and Computer Resources for Rockhounds –repeat!

The New DGMG Website – by DGMG Webmaster **Bob Johnson**

BUT THE WEBSITE IS DOWN, DOWN, DOWN because of a fire in the WebNX datacenter facility in Utah, where the web hoster lived. So what to do? GO TO THE Denver Gem and Mineral Guild Facebook page! (where you can read about the outage). And learn more about the club you didn't know!

The 10-year-old DGMG website is being redesigned. It has a new address: <https://denvergem.co.education/>. The old address will still redirect you there - for now. Many additional pages will be added to the site in the coming months.

Here are the procedures for logging into the new Members Only area.

On the top menu, click on Login.

Enter your email address as your username.

Be sure to use the same email address that is listed in the club roster – the email address used to send you the Tips & Chips.

If you have forgotten your password, or if this is your first time logging into the new site, click on “Forgot password” and the system, after asking for your email address again, will automatically send you an email with a link to create your new password.

Please keep our members area secure for everyone by using a strong password.

See these recommendations: <https://blog.avast.com/strong-password-ideas>.

The system will suggest a password. You can use that one, or enter your own.

The *Members Only* area currently contains the most recent members directory in both excel and PDF format, and the DGMG photo albums. There are nearly 200 different albums which contain pictures that go all the way back to 1964 – our founding year.

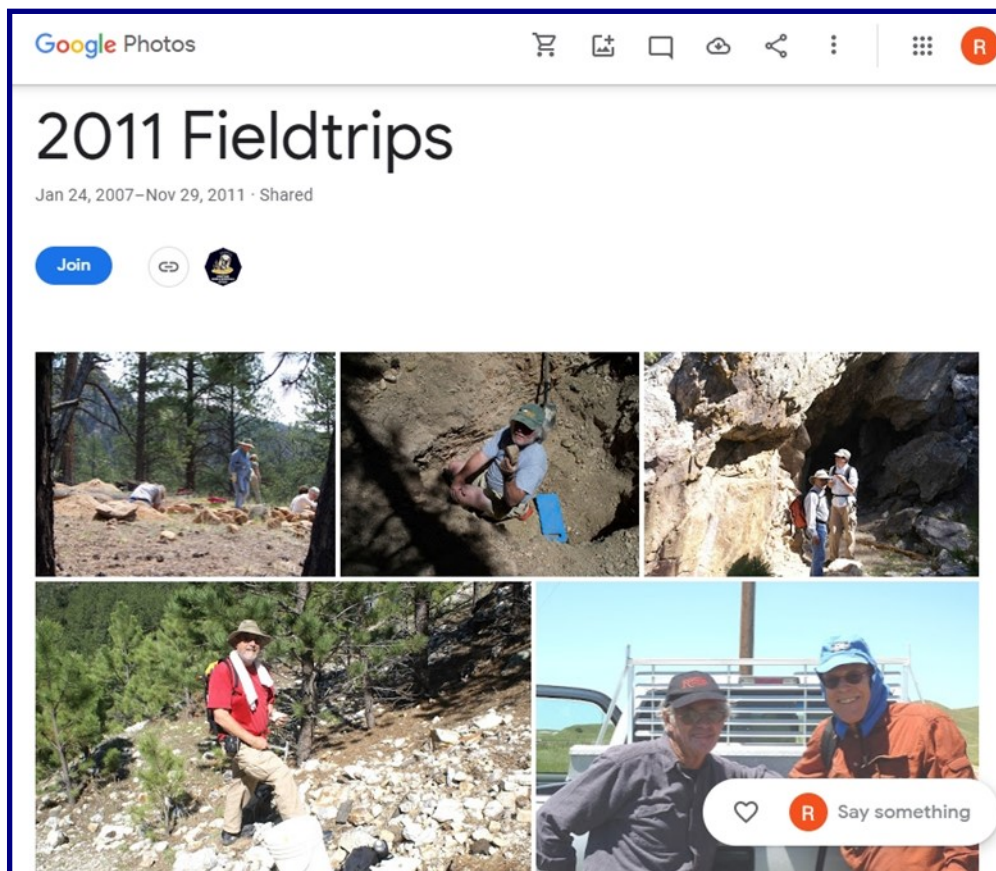
Clicking on an album name will open that album in Google Photos. The initial album view will show all the pictures in the album (you may need to scroll down to see them all). Clicking on any picture will open a larger view of that one picture and from that view you can scroll left or right to see the individual pictures. To save any picture to your computer, just right click on it and select “save image as”. From the Album view, you can click on the 3 dots (in the top menu) to download the whole



Web Corner – Web and Computer Resources for Rockhounds (con't.)

At the bottom of the screen, you will see a button that says "Say something" Click on that button to leave a comment (about the whole album - from the album view or about an individual picture - from the picture view). You are encouraged to leave your comments and share your stories about these pictures!

The menu at the top of the picture view gives you additional options. The circled "i" will display additional information about that image, and the 3 dots will allow you to order prints, download, or view the pictures as a slideshow.



For more, see *The Ultimate Guide to Google Photos* -<https://techpp.com/2015/12/23/google-photos-guide/>

If you have additional pictures that you would like to add to our collection please contact the webmaster!

Below the Photo Albums are the Videos. Listed there are over 100 videos produced by DGMG Historian Marjorie Payne. They are selectable by categories (All, Fieldtrips, Programs, etc.) Note you will need to hit the "Load More" button at the bottom to be sure that all the videos of any category are actually displayed.

If you have questions, comments, suggestions or any problems logging in to the new site, please contact me, the DGMG webmaster. (The most capable computer guy on the planet –ed.!))

Contact details are at the bottom of the site.



Spring Cleaning to Spring Sprucing Up"

By **Susanne Peach**

Many of us are doing some spring cleaning right now. Clearing out the home, garage, yard, etc. We often end up with a lot of unwanted "junk" that, sadly, ends up in the landfill.

I would like us all to take a page from DGMG's member and editor extraordinaire, **Beth Simmons**.

She has taken old "trash," including cat food cans, garage door hinges, spent concrete saw blades and street sweeper brooms, and turned them into beautiful art. She has transformed her fences from "ho hum" to "Holy Crow!"

And in doing so she is doing her part in caring for the earth. Keeping perfectly good, but unwanted and discarded items out of the landfill. And with a bit of paint and a lot of screws she has turned her landscape into beautiful scenery.

We may not all have Beth's keen eye for creating the flowers and leaves, placing them in ways that turn her fences from ordinary to extraordinary. But we can all give it a try. And I bet if you are unsure of how to place items you could call Beth for a consult.

For those of you unaware of this method, it's called "upcycling." And is the hottest trend online (google upcycling or go to Pinterest and add the word upcycling.)

We have ALL been out in the mountains and plains looking for minerals and come across trash some irresponsible people left behind. What if we could show them how to turn their trash into treasure? Because we all know their trash can be harmful to the planet and especially the wildlife. The more we can upcycle like Beth the better it will be for our planet.



Red & Yellow, Catch a Fellow!

Fan Flower

Dark Blue Daisies and Sunflowers



Beth & White asters
Rake donated by Sue
Childs!

Sewero



Up-
cycle
definition
ac-



Crafty Club Members

By **Beth Simmons**

DGMG members are creative, not just with rocks, slabs, minerals, but with wood and other objects.

Bob Pfeifer made this cute scenario for his wife **Beverly**.



Marvin the Martian and Duck Dodgers fighting over mineral rights.

Except the Jet OK selenite and the Chalcedony Rose from NE, all minerals are from CO. 8 "Nada Diamonds," 2 Quartz from Smoky Hawk claim, Quartz and 2 Fluorites from the DGMG claim, Barite from Hartsel and 2 pyrites or Limonites (not sure) from La Junta.

And **Jim Dennis** is creating amazing wood burnings!



What have you made recently?



Michigan Copper Mining by Europeans – the beginnings

From Travels and adventures in Canada and the Indian territories, between the years 1760 and 1776 : in two parts : Henry, Alexander, 1739-1824 : Free Download, Borrow, and Streaming : Internet Archive

The adventurous European men who eventually mined the first copper tried to mine the yellow sand on the island of Michipicoten in Lake Superior (in Canadian waters, 109 miles northwest of Sault Ste. Marie; 47°45'N 85°45'W) having mistaken it for the precious metal. They soon turned their mining operations to copper.

In **1770**, Mr. Baxter, who had sailed for England, returned, bringing with him papers, by which, he, with Mr. Bostwick, and a Mr. Alexander Henry, local fur trader, constituted a joint-agent and partners in and for a company of adventurers for working the mines of Lake Superior. They passed the winter together at Sault Sainte-Marie, where they built a barge for the navigation of the lake, at the same time laying the keel of a sloop of forty tons.

Early in **May, 1771**, the lake became navigable and the men departed from Point aux Pins (Pine Point), five miles west of Sault St. Marie, their safe harbor shipyard and sailed for “the island of the yellow sands,” promising themselves to make their fortunes, “in defiance of its serpents.” The men coasted westward; but found nothing until they reached the Ontonagan peninsula, where besides the detached masses of copper, they saw the copper imbedded in stone. Deciding to make a trial on the hill till they were better able to go to work on the solid rock, they built a house and sent to Sault St. Marie for provisions. Where they started their work, a green-colored water, which tinged iron of a copper color, issued from the hill (they called that a **leader**). In digging they frequently found frequent masses of copper, some of which were up to three pounds. Having arranged everything for the accommodation of the miners during the winter, they returned to the Sault.

Early in the **spring of 1772** the men sent a boat-load of provisions to the miners; but it came back on the June 20th, bringing with it, to their surprise, a whole establishment of miners. They reported that in the course of the winter they had penetrated forty feet into the hill. However, on the arrival of the spring thaw, the clay which, had been stiff and supported them, had caved in. To resume their search would be hard work and costly. The detached masses of metal, which has surfaced daily, led them to believe there must be ultimately an ore body but they had no idea of its distance. It was probably far enough off to require the hands of more men than could be fed, considering the country.

Thus, their operations during that quarter ended. The metal was probably within their reach; but, if they had found it, the expense of shipping it to Montreal would have exceeded its marketable value. Besides, it was never for the exportation of copper that their expedition was formed. It was always with the silver which it was hoped occurred with the ores might contain.

Their prediction was that the copper ores of Lake Superior would never be profitably sought for but for local consumption! They thought the country must be cultivated and peopled before the ore would be noticed. The neighboring lands were good. Mr. Henry distributed seed-maize (corn) among the Natives which they planted. The white men were apparently unaware that the Natives had mined and used the copper for centuries!

The following year, the miners gave seed to the Natives; both years the Indians produced good crops. Whether or not they continued the practice, but because of losing the seed the Natives ate the maize (corn) green and only saved a small quantity for sowing. In August, the men launched their sloop, and carried the miners to a vein of ore on the north side of the lake. Little was done during the winter, but between spring and September of 1773, they penetrated thirty feet into the solid rock, blasting the rock with great difficulty. Unfortunately, the vein, which, at the beginning, was four feet wide shrank to four inches. They quit and took the miners back to the Sault.

What copper ore they had collected they sent to England. The next season, they were told that their partners didn't want to pay for any farther expenses. Who were the stingy partners in England? His Royal Highness the Duke of Gloucester, Mr. Secretary Townshend, Sir Samuel Tutchet, Baronet; Mr. Baxter, counsel of the Empress of Russia; and Mr. Cruickshank. In America, investors were Sir William John(son) Baronet (long time Indian agent for the British), and Mr. Bostwick, Mr. Baxter and Mr. Henry. A charter had been petitioned for and obtained but was never taken from the seal office. In the interim, the men had explored the north shore, as far as the river Pic, but didn't make any important discovery. In 1774, Mr. Baxter sold the sloop to fur traders, plus other effects of the company and paid its debts. The failure of this copper enterprise was not blamed on mismanagement, but to the extreme difficulties of forwarding supplies, especially provisions, to the miners.



A copper/silver half-breed from Houghton, Michigan.

IT'S TIME TO PAY UP!

DENVER GEM AND MINERAL GUILD MEMBERSHIP 2021

☐ Renewal

☐ New Membership

Annual Dues:

- Individual=\$15.00

☐ Family=\$25.00 (Family is one or two adults, living at the address, and your children, under 18)

Primary member _____ Birthday _____
Name Month Year

Phone number _____ Email address _____

Spouse/Partner _____ Birthday _____
Name Month Year

Phone number _____ Email address _____

Anniversary Month _____

Junior Member _____ Birthday _____
Name Month Year

Junior Member _____ Birthday _____
Name _____ Month _____ Year _____

Junior Member _____ Birthday _____
Name Month Year

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

☐ Check this box if you DO NOT want your name, phone number and email address included in the Members Only section of the DGMG website.

interests and Skills (check all that apply)

- Fossils
- Lapidary
- Faceting
- Jewelry
- Have a collection
- Display at shows
- Attend mineral shows
- Willing to volunteer at shows
- Field trips

○ Mineral collector: (list favorites)

○ Willing to share special skills with others:

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Return membership form, liability form for each person, and payment to Membership Chairman at a monthly meeting or mail to: DGMG

Membership Chairman
1420 S. Reed Street
Lakewood, CO 80232

DENVER GEM AND MINERAL GUILD

RELEASE OF LIABILITY

By signing below, I acknowledge that all activities sponsored or conducted by the Denver Gem and Mineral Guild (DGMG), a non-profit organization, may be hazardous and may result in loss, damage, or death.

With full knowledge of these dangers, and in consideration for my acceptance as a member of the DGMG and participant in any and all field trips **and activities** sponsored by the DGMG, and the services and amenities to be provided by the DGMG in connection therewith, I confirm that I have read the foregoing and voluntarily assume all risks of such damages and hazards occurring in connection with the **activity**. I hereby agree for myself, all of my family, and heirs to **RELEASE** the DGMG and any of its trip leaders, club officers, club members, **hosting property owners** and claim owners, instructors, guides, or representatives from liability, claims, demands, or any causes of action.

I UNDERSTAND THAT THIS IS A LEGAL DOCUMENT AND BY SIGNING IT, I AM GIVING UP MY RIGHT TO SUE OR OTHERWISE MAKE ANY CLAIM against DGMG or any of its trip leaders, club officers, club members, **hosting land owners and claim owners**, instructors, guides, or representatives which may arise during my participation in any and all activities of the DGMG **or activities I conduct as an individual on DGMG owned or leased properties**.

I intend this RELEASE OF LIABILITY to be effective whether or not any loss, damage, injury, or death RESULTS FROM NEGLIGENCE of the DGMG or any of its trip leaders, club officers, club members, hosting land owners, and claim owners, instructors, guides or representatives. I understand that negligence means failure to do an act which a reasonably careful person would do, or the doing of an act which a reasonably careful person would not do, under the same or similar circumstances to protect himself, herself, or others from injury or death.

I agree to be solely responsible for my own safety and to take every precaution to provide for my own safety and well being while participating in the activities of the DGMG. Also, I understand that on DGMG trips, there may not be rescue or medical facilities or expertise, which may be necessary to deal with potential injuries to which I may be exposed. I understand that these risks exist and notwithstanding them, I wish to participate in DGMG activities.

I HAVE READ THIS RELEASE AGREEMENT AND HAVE FULLY INFORMED MYSELF OF ITS CONTENTS BEFORE I HAVE SIGNED IT. ALSO, I PLEDGE TO UPHOLD THE CODE OF ETHICS ATTACHED TO THIS RELEASE.

Printed Name (Please print legibly): _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

IF UNDER 18 YEARS OF AGE, PARENT OR GUARDIAN MUST READ AND SIGN BELOW

I am the legal guardian of the above minor and have read the above RELEASE. I hereby consent to the terms of the RELEASE on behalf of the named minor, and give my consent to the participation of the above named minor in all activities of the DGMG on the terms stated.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

