

## CANON CITY GEOLOGY CLUB

Meeting May 12, 2014

Attendance: 43 for the meeting and 69 for the program

Meeting time: 6:00 pm at the First United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall

The meeting was called to order by Treasurer Erika Goodland.

President, Jim Meacham introduce the new members as well as asking if we had visiting members of other clubs or other visitors.

Erika gave the Treasurer's report with the following balances reported:

Checking account: \$1464.29

Savings account: \$ 426.42

There were no expenses over \$100.00 this past month.

Bill Coyle reported on the trip the Holcim on May 10, 2014. There were 12 members in attendance for this field trip. The quarry is in two parts. In the limestone part of the quarry, the members found fossils and calcite crystals. In the shale, they found pyrite crystals and small pyrite balls as well as calcite crystals. Many of the samples they found were on display at the meeting.

Jim reported on the trip to the Cripple Creek and Victor Mine on May 8, 2014. There were 27 present for this field trip. The basic structure of the mine is a volcano that went thru several different eruptions. The Cressant Pit is the deepest pit at the mine right now. Bill reported that a loaded truck going up the spiral ramp out of the pit weights 2 million pounds and travels at about 2 mph. Along the walls of the pit you can see black holes that are the shafts of old mines that have been exposed. Erika shared numbers about the mine. They produced 230,000 ounces of gold last year. They take out about a hard hat full of gold each day, melt it down, and that is they way they ship it. Each piece weights about 65 pounds and is worth 2 to 2.5 million dollars. This is a daily process. The gold is then shipped by armored truck to Utah for further processing. The mine employs about 350 people and will increase that to 500 in the next year.

Erika reported that her family went down the Molly Kathleen Mine. They went 1000 feet underground and they really enjoyed it. She also recommended that people visit the Heritage Museum which is very interesting.

Kit Kederich reported on looking for turquoise in the tailings of a mine near the Molly Kathleen Mine.

Mary Chamberlain told the members present who were not able to make the trip to CC&V that you can sign up for tours online at [www.ccvgoldmining.com](http://www.ccvgoldmining.com). CC&V runs tours twice a day form Memorial Day throughout the summer. The cost is \$12.00 and is well worth the cost.

Jim also talked about going to the tunnel that was in the road north of Cripple Creek on the road to Divide, CO, between mile markers 61 and 62. He had been there in about 1957 and found a pegmatite with a series of fluorite crystals and some quartz crystals. He wants to see if he could find anything else. His luck was not too good this time.

Cindy Smith reported on a rock from the Canon City High School collection. One rock that was of interest to Jim Copeland, Cindy took it to the Colorado School of Mines for Ed Raines looked at it. The rock says Geyser silver from Colorado. The report from Ed said he ran an RXF analysis on it and that the rock does not have any silver in it. The Geyser Mine is just north of Silvercliffe, Colorado.

Cindy also asked if anyone was a good typist as she need help typing the master list of specimens for the Canon City High School rock collection. She estimates that it will take about 5 hours to do this.

Cindy reported on her and Barry's trip to England where they spent 3 week hunting fossils and having a great time. Unlike the United States, England does not restrict what you can collect. She brought samples of graptolites. The samples were very interesting. She also kept members up to date on their trip through e-mails during their trip.

Jennifer Gerring reported on the progress of the NOI for the New Hope Mine. The NOI was given to the BLM on April 16, 2014 and they were to reply in 15 days. Stephanie Carter contacted Jennifer and asked for an additional 15 days. If this is approved, we will need to get a bond. On the NOI, expenses were kept to a minimum - about \$680.00 in expenses, including material and volunteer labor. What we do now will help to reduce the cost of the bond. As far as the road is concerned, if we do any work on it then we have to do all of the work. BLM does not want us to work on the road. No trips can be scheduled until the NOI is approved.

Jennifer also reported that she went to the Colorado School of Mines on Good Friday to pick up some boxes of teaching samples that they were cleaning out from storage. Cindy and Barry Smith have worked there helping to organize and label their boxes of teaching samples. Cindy had asked Bruce Geller if Fremont County could have a few boxes to teach our students and adults about fossils and other specimens. Thinking she was only getting a few boxes, Jennifer bought five boxes for herself from the "garage sale". She also got full year copies of Lapidary magazines they were giving away. Then Bruce produced 40+ boxes of samples for Cindy. Jennifer had a Jeep full coming home.

Members present were told about a trip to the Travertine Quarry on June 7, 2014. John Foraker has agreed to take us on a tour. This quarry is very near Canon City. An e-mail will be sent with further details and let members, and you must be a member, know how to sign up and where to meet.

Mary announced that the Fremont County Historical Society will present a program on Sunday, May 18, 2014, entitled "From The Earth To The Moon" at the Shepard of the Hills Church in Canon City, at 2:00 pm. If you like rocks, you will enjoy this program.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:10 pm. The next meeting will be June 9, 2014.

After the meeting, Dan Grenard introduced Amy Englert, from the Colorado Parks and Wildlife in Denver, who presented a very interesting program on “Bats in South Central Colorado”.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy West  
Recording Secretary