



LEAVERITE NEWS

Grand Junction Gem and Mineral Club
2328 Monument Road
P.O. Box 953, Grand Junction, CO 81502



PRESIDENTS MESSAGE BY MEL BERSCH



It seems like we went from 100° weather to snow in the mountains just like that. But now is the time to go rockhounding in the desert.

At the September board meeting, it was voted on and passed that we change from having just one meeting a month during June, July, and August to having two meetings a month. Cookie night with presentation on the second Thursday and a potluck on the fourth Thursday. This will keep the club more active during the summer.

It was nice to see so many people for the September presentation and meeting. Thanks to Joe and Bonnie Lange for the beautiful pictures. Also, thanks to all who help make the Walt Wright Seminar happen.

Remember the Moab Show will be Friday- Sunday, Oct. 13 -15, 2017; 10 to 6 on Friday & Saturday and 10 to 4 on Sunday at the Old Spanish Trail Arena, 3641 South Hwy 191. Come out and support the Moab Rock Club!

October, 2017				Volume 34 Number 7		
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4 9-12 Lapidary 12-3 Open Shop	5  Full Moon	6	7 9-12 Open Shop
EARTH SCIENCE WEEK						
8	9  COLUMBUS DAY	10 12-3 Chain Silver Smithing	11 9-12 Lapidary 12-3 Open Shop Board Meets	12 Cookie Night Guest Speaker 6:30	13	14 9-12 Open Shop 12-3 Wire Wrap Silver Smith
15	16 1-4 Intarsia	17 9-12 Filagree 12-3 Chain 1-4 Lapidary	18 9-12 Lapidary 12-3 Open Shop	19 9-12 Filagree	20	21 9-12 Open Shop 12-3 Wire Wrap Silver Smith
22	23 1-4 Intarsia	24 9-12 Filagree 12-3 Chain 1-4 Lapidary	25 9-12 Lapidary 12-3 Open Shop	26 9-12 Filagree Pot Luck 6:30	27 Mineral Group 6:30 Rock Sale Tomorrow!	28 9-12 Open Shop 9:30 Facetors Group 12-3 Wire Wrapping Silver Smithing
29	30 1-4 Intarsia	31 9-12 Filagree 12-3 Chain 1-4 Lapidary	1 9-12 Lapidary 12-3 Open Shop	2 9-12 Filagree	3	4 9-12 Open Shop 12-3 Wire Wrapping Silver

Happy
Halloween



ANNUAL PUBLIC YARD AND ROCK SALE!!

The annual public yard and rock sale will be Saturday, October 28, 2017 at The Grand Junction Gem and Mineral Club, 2328 Monument Road from 8 am – 5 pm. The yard sale will be headed by Judy Nason, 970-250-9128 and Jim Schultz, 970-242-0428, will be heading up the rock sale, Scott Warren will advertise the event. We will have yard sale items, lots of rocks and petrified wood from member's private collections, both polished and bulk, as well as jewelry made by members in our various classes. The minimum split will be 40% to the club and 60% to the seller so bring some nice items and make a little money for you and the club.

We are a non-profit organization dedicated to educating the public about geology, minerals, and earth sciences. If you have items that you would be willing to donate to our club, bring them by the clubhouse on Friday the 27th or items can be stored in our storage container. Everything will be priced to sell. See you there!

New Officers for 2018

Teri Drost, head of our nominating committee, is looking for people for the following positions: President, Vice President, Treasurer, Co-Secretary and Historian.

Thanks to Chris Henderson who agreed to be the new 2018 board member.



Petrified Wood Seminar

Walt Wright



The club sponsored a Petrified Wood seminar last month with Walt Wright who is a world-renowned expert in petrified wood identification.

This was the third time that Walt Wright has held one of his petrified wood identification classes at our Gem and Mineral Club. His classes last three days followed by two days of field trips. This was the largest class attendance yet with thirty students, many of whom had been through his training before. About half of the class came from other cities in Colorado, Utah, New Mexico, and one from Florida.

Walt made a great impression on all attending. He covered many different types of plants from all over the world including trees, cycadoidea, and tree ferns, and had beautiful examples of each type for us to look

at. He brought a lot of very unusual fossil wood specimens with him to show in the class. There was one Mel really liked and it was a green (chromium) woodworthia, 4" round about 5" long, from Arizona. Value for such a specimen is in the neighborhood of \$3000.00. It was a very nice piece.



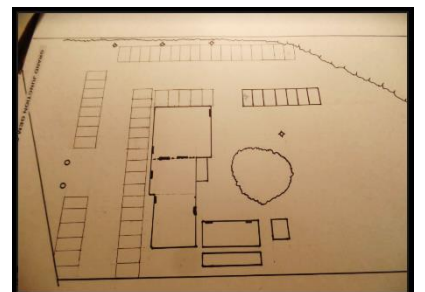
The class was eager to get out in the field for two days to find examples for themselves in both the Dewey Bridge area of the Dolores River on Monday, and the Cisco area on Tuesday.

A special thanks to Jim Schultz who organized it and got the room all set up. The lunches were prepared by Evita Schultz with help from Pam Bersch, Candy Wall, Judy Nason, Jana Burritt, and Kay Crawford. Great job everyone!

Proposed New Building



The proposed new building is estimated at 50' x 50'. Advantages include an elimination of rented venue space for our annual shows, an opportunity to provide display viewing year-round, and a potential to increase shop days and/or hours. There will be approximately 58 parking spots with some truck spaces.

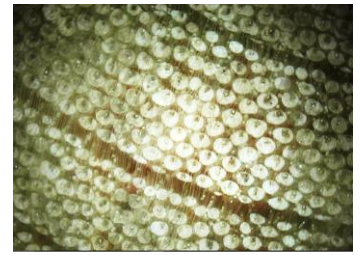


Mineral Group

Mineral group met last Friday, October 27, 2017 at the Bersch's house for a pot luck dinner. They examined a lot of beautiful specimens with the microscope.

Facetors Group

Facetors Group did not meet last month due to the Petrified Wood Seminar.



Snake wood Mel Bersch

Classes

Cindy Teare-Chairperson 462-6806

Monday Oct 16th, 1-4 pm, Intarsia with Jim Lynch
Tuesday – Thursday, 9-12am, Filigree Class starting Oct. 17th with Pam Bersch
Tuesday, 12-3 pm, Chain Making and Chainmaille with Cindy Teare
Tuesday, 1-4 pm, Lapidary with Wayne McMacken beginning Oct 17th
Tuesday, time? Silversmithing with JoAnn Piburn beginning Oct 11th

Wednesday 9-12 pm, Lapidary with Judy Mason and Sylvester Spaeth

Saturday 12-3 pm, Wire Wrapping with Joyce Trump

Saturday 12-3 pm, Silversmithing with Cindy Teare



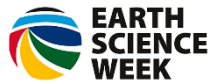
Upcoming Field Trips

October 14th & 15th Searles Lake outside of Trona, CA with Brad and Bambi.

This site is near Death Valley.

October 21st West Water, Utah, led by Mike Burritt. Weather Permitting. If it is wet the trip will be cancelled due to muddy conditions. (bone, not collectable, wood, agate).

November 4th Sands Flats, Utah lead by Jim Schultz (petrified wood).



The Museums of Western Colorado, Colorado Canyons Association, and John McConnell Math and Science Center have teamed up to bring a week-long series of educational experiences to Grand Valley residents for this year's Earth Science Week, October 8-14, 2017. This year's theme for Earth Science Week is "Earth and Human Activity." A variety of free, public activities are being planned.

Monday, October 9 – Meet Dylan at Crocodile Reef! This herpetology expert will be talking about our local reptiles and amphibians and how they support our native ecosystem.

Tuesday, October 10 – Learn how the monoliths in the Colorado National Monument were formed with a ranger-led program at the Independence Monument Overlook.

Wednesday, October 11 – It's National Fossil Day! Hike the Trail Through Time in Rabbit Valley with paleontologist, CCA education director Rob Gay. Dinosaur Journey will also be offering BOGO admissions: buy one adult admission and get a second admission FREE!

Thursday, October 12 – Come to the Whitman Educational Center to hear a lecture by Zebulon Miracle, our special guest and local historian, on the Uranium mining industry in the Grand Valley and how it shaped the economic development of our area.

Friday, October 13 – Discover minerals and mining in the Grand Valley with a geologist-led hike to the Mica Mine! Join BLM geologist, Eric Eckberg, on this scenic walk to a historic mica and quartz mine and learn how these minerals formed and why they are useful.

Saturday, October 14 – Join the John McConnell Math and Science Center and **The Grand Junction Rock and Mineral Club** to learn about rocks and minerals in a series of fun, interactive stations, and activities. Learn why some rocks and minerals are hard, others are soft, how they form, and how they are destroyed. It's the best of the basics for geology! Take a "Walk through Time!"

Program Night

It was nice to see so many people for the September presentation and meeting. Thanks to Joe and Bonnie Lange for the beautiful pictures.

October Birthstone

October also has two birthstones; **Tourmaline** and **Opal**. **Tourmaline** is a favorite gemstone for many because it's available in a rainbow of beautiful colors. **Opal** gemstones are truly unique because each individual gem is adorned with a one-of-a-kind color combination.



The name opal derives from the Greek Opallos, meaning "to see a change of color." Opals range in color from milky white to black with flashes of yellow, orange, green, red, and blue. An opal's beauty is the product of contrast between its color play and its background. Opal is a formation of non-crystalline silica gel that seeped into crevices in the sedimentary strata. Through time and nature's heating and molding processes, the gel hardened into the form of opals. The opal is composed of particles closely packed in spherical arrangements. When packed together in a regular pattern, a three-dimensional array of spaces is created that give opal its radiance.

October Gem and Mineral Shows in the Region

Days	Show	Location	Web Site or Email
30-1	Nebraska Mineral and Gem Club	Omaha, NE	tjeanneret@hughes.net
4-8	Sportsman's Club of Joshua Tree	Joshua Tree, CA	jtsportsmans@ymail.com
6-8	Jay Penn , Expo	Albuquerque, NM	jaypenn246@gmail.com
6-8	Mineral Collectors of Utah	Salt Lake City, UT	fossilmin@gmail.com
7-8	Nevada County Gem & Mineral	Grass Valley, CA	anitaw1t3@gmail.com
7-8	Pacific Crystal Guild	Walnut Creek, CA	jerry@crystalfair.com
13-15	Moab Rock Club	Moab, UT	moabrockclub@live.com
14-15	Topeka Gem & Mineral	Topeka, KN	rock2plate@aol.com
14-15	Huachuca Mineral and Gem	Sierra Vista, AZ	gm Bailey@msn.com
20-22	Rockhounds Outreach for Community Knowledge	West Jordan, UT	utahinnj@aol.com
28-29	Peninsula Gem & Geology	Los Altos, CA	steve_job@sbcbglobal.net
28-29	Sacramento Mineral Society	Sacramento, CA	gemshow@sacramentomineralsociety.org



If you shop on Amazon.com we would like you to try AmazonSmile. AmazonSmile is a website operated by Amazon that lets customers enjoy the same wide selection of

products, low prices, and convenient shopping features as on Amazon.com and the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the price of eligible purchases to the charitable organizations selected by customers. We would hope you choose Grand Junction Gem & Mineral Club!



Put on your calendar the Moab Rock Show from Oct 13th thru 15th at the Old Spanish Trail Arena (3641 S Highway 191). Times for show are Fri 10-10, Sat 10-6, and Sun 10-6.

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Vanuatu volcano erupts; 11,000 prepare to evacuate

October 1, 2017, Fox News Radio New Zealand

A flotilla of boats was headed to the Pacific island of Ambae, Vanuatu, on Sunday as efforts got underway to evacuate all 11,000 residents because of an erupting volcano. Globbs of lava were seen flying as far as 300 feet every few seconds, vulcanologist Brad Scott told Radio New Zealand. The eruption has polluted water sources on the island, leaving thousands in need of safe drinking water, Red Cross delegate Joe Cropp told Reuters. While some islanders have flown out, thousands of others have gone to emergency shelters as they prepare for the total evacuation. The Manaro Voui volcano began rumbling in September and volcanoes on the Vanuatu islands of Ambrym and Lopevi are also active.



Diamonds show Earth still capable of 'superhot' surprises

September 21, 2017, Europlanet Media Centre

Diamonds may be 'forever' but some may have formed more recently than geologists thought. A study of 26 diamonds, formed under extreme melting conditions in the Earth's mantle, found two populations, one of which has geologically 'young' ages. The results show that certain volcanic events on Earth may still be able to create super-heated conditions previously thought to have only existed early in the planet's history before it cooled. The findings may have implications for diamond prospecting.



Geologist finds new Bitterroot fault line

By Eve Byron, Ravalli Republic Published 2:59 p.m. MT Sept. 23, 2017 Hamilton (AP)

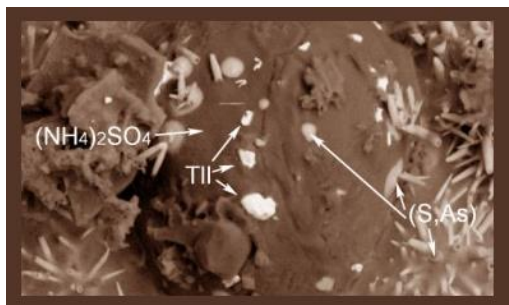
A mapping method used to look at floodplains in the Bitterroot Valley turned up something unexpected: a new fault line that just might cross under the Lake Como Dam. Jeff Lonn, a geologist with the Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology in Butte, said Ravalli County was using Light Detection and Ranging — or LIDAR — equipment as part of a floodplain study. LIDAR uses laser to map the ground, showing what the land is like devoid of homes, grasses and trees. With tall grasses covering a landscape that's dotted with trees, it's easy for the untrained eye to miss the scarp. But a closer look shows where an earthquake offset the surface of the earth, dipping the east side down and pushing the west side up. In other areas, the scarp is closer to a couple hundred feet.



New Mineral Discovered: Nataliyamalikite

Jul 6, 2017 by Natali Anderson

An international team of geologists led by Monash University Professor Joël Brugger has discovered a new thallium mineral — nataliyamalikite. "It contains thallium, a rare heavy metal most famous for its qualities as a poison," said Prof. Brugger, lead author of a paper published in the journal *American Mineralogist*. The new mineral was discovered in the Kamchatka Peninsula — one of the long-lived volcanically active areas on Earth, with activity dating back to the Late Triassic epoch. It occurs as pseudo-cubic nanocrystals at Kamchatka's Avacha volcano, in association with active high temperature (up to 1,148-1,184 degrees Fahrenheit, or 620-640 degrees Celsius) fumarolic vents. "The discovery of this new mineral means we will be able to better understand how metals are extracted from deep-seated sources within our planet, and concentrated at shallow levels to form economic ore deposits," Prof. Brugger said. "This will give us a unique insight into the processes responsible for the geochemical evolution of our planet."



Grand Junction Gem and Mineral Club

Officers

President	Mel Bersch	242-3134
Vice President	Mike Burritt	260-3897
Co-Secretary	Anita Martinez	434-9270
Co-Secretary	Chris Henderson	719-244-3192
Treasurer	Pam Bersch	242-3134

Directors

Pat Martinez	434-9270
Cindy Teare	462-6806
Teri Drost	256-0983
Jim Schultz	242-0428
Betty Jo (BJ Brown	241-3051

Committee Chairpersons

Audit	Kathy Ericson	623-2522
Building and Ground	Sylvester Spaeth	846-5716
Compliance	Judy Nason	250-9128
Correspondence	Jim Schultz	242-0428
Decorating	Bambi Harmon	216-4540
Display Cases	Linda Dunham	623-3610
	Val Meduros	773-4244
	Carmen Bruno	773-4247
Education	Cindy Teare	462-6806
Field Trips	Wayne Sims	314-2970
Funding/Constr.	Mike Cosby	589-0687
Historian		
Hospitality	Judy Nason	250-9128
Inventory	Pat Martinez	434-9270
Name Tags	Melinda Hanson	712-6972

Leaverite Editors

Librarian

Meet-Up

Membership/Badges

Carrie Riggs and

Nominating

Publicity

Scholarships

Shop Foremen

Show

Show Assistant

Supplies

Vests

Website

Lorrie Wallace	250-1122
JoAnn Whalen	424-2007
Joyce Frost	255-7078
Jim Schultz	242-0428
Evita Shultz	242-0428
Sue Smith	245-5602
Teri Drost	260-2478
Wayne McMacken	208-2534
Bill Hood	241-8020
Thom Ericson	623-2522
Scott Pugsley	972-953-7735
Wayne McMacken	208-2534
Bambi Harmon	216-4540
Evita Shultz	242-0428
Linda Sims	314-2970
John Mayerik	243-8589

Board Meeting

The board will meet at Mel Bersch's house, 248 Little Park Road, at 7:00 pm on the Wednesday before the 2nd Thursday Cookie Meeting each month. All club members are welcome to attend. Hope to see you there.

Club Information

The Grand Junction Gem & Mineral Club, Inc. is affiliated with the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies, and the Rocky Mountain Federation of Mineralogical Societies. The club is located at 2328 Monument Road Grand Junction, CO, mailing address: P. O. Box 953, Grand Junction, CO 81502 The Club is a nonprofit, 501(c)(3 tax-exempt, educational organization. Our purpose shall be exclusively educational and social: To increase and disseminate knowledge of the earth sciences pertaining to minerals, gems, rocks, artifacts, fossils and similar subjects; To promote and perpetuate knowledge of the lapidary arts; To encourage field trips; To encourage greater public interest and education in gems, fossils and minerals, cooperating with established institutions in such matters. The Grand Junction Gem and Mineral Club meets on the second and fourth Thursday of each month at 6:30 pm in our club building. June, July, and August meetings will be on the fourth Thursday only. November and December meetings will be on the second Thursday only. Our Annual Show is Mother's Day Weekend and is held at Two Rivers Convention Center at 159 Main St, Grand Junction, CO 81501. Classes and workshops are offered throughout the year and are announced in the newsletter.

The Facetors Group

The Facetors Group meets at the clubhouse on the 3rd Saturday of each month at 9:30 am. They have a Project of the Month and a People's Choice. They also have teachers available for one-on-one classes. Contact Connie Duncan at 244-2984 for information about the group or classes.

The Grand Valley Gold Prospectors Group

The Grand Valley Gold Prospectors Group is now part of the Gem and Mineral club. They will meet each month at the clubhouse at 7:00 pm on the 2nd Tuesday. Everyone is welcome to attend the group. P.O. Box 1357 Grand Junction, CO 81501. Laura Adamson pres., 260-6375; Robert Hubbard vice pres., 254-1449; Chuck Shepard Secretary, 270-5807

The Mineral Group

The Mineral Group meets at the Bersch's, 248 Little Park Rd, at 6:30, on the Friday after the 4th Thursday's Club Meeting and is open to all club members and guests. A potluck will be followed by discussion and microscopic images of various minerals. Please bring up to 5 specimens, and/or other minerals you wish to look at for the discussion.

New Members

Welcome to the Grand Junction Gem and Mineral Club. Include your email address when you register to receive newsletters and updates. Check out the website for past newsletters and general information. Order a vest made to your size from Linda Sims for \$20.00 and a name Tag from Melinda Hanson for \$10.00. Be sure to sign up for some classes to learn how to use the machines in our shop so you can participate in open shop.

Dues

Our calendar year is January 1 - December 31. Dues are due by January 1 but must be in by January 30 for names to be included in the Club Directory. Please pay your dues at the meeting or send check made out to Grand Junction Gem and Mineral Club, P. O. Box 953 Grand Junction, CO 81502. Prospective members should attend one general meeting to obtain a membership application. Annual dues will be prorated after July 1st.

Adult Member - \$30.00 (18+), 2nd Adult, same household - \$10.00 Children under 18 years, same household - No Cost

Club Rules and Regulations

The notebook of rules and regulations is available on the front table at all meetings for members to read.

Gem and Mineral Classes

Most classes are 6 weeks. Member's cost \$30.00. Non-member's cost is \$60.00. The cost of the classes is based on 6 weeks and prorated when the class is shorter. Please contact instructors to sign up for classes.

Class	Instructor	Phone	Open Shop
Beading	Tiny Blasdal	858-7975	Shop Chairman: Thom Ericson 623-2522
Chain Making	Cindy Teare	462-6806	Shop Supervisors:
Faceting	Connie Duncan	244-2984	Wednesday: 12-3 Thom Ericson 623-2522
Filigree	Pam Bersch	242-3134	Saturday: 9-12 Scott Pugsley 972-953-7735
Intarsia	Jim Lynch	361-2123	Previous instruction in use of equipment is required
Lapidary	Jim Schultz	242-0428	before using any tools or machines in the shop.
Lapidary	Mike Burritt	260-3897	Sign in each time you use the shop.
Silversmith	JoAnn Piburn	245-1669	Help with the clean-up before leaving.
Silversmith	Wayne McMacken	208-2534	Shop fee is \$5.00/session.
Wire Weaving	JoAnn Piburn	245-1669	Slab saw \$.26 per square inch.
Wire Wrap			Always—Safety First

The Leaverite News

The Leaverite News is your newsletter. Articles, ideas and news should come from the club members. If you are an officer, director, or committee chair person you should plan to submit monthly updates by the 15th of each month. News should be emailed to leaveritenews@gmail.com or contact Lorrie Wallace (250-1122 or JoAnn Whalen (424-2007, 554 Casa Rio Ct., Grand Junction, CO, 81507. *Leaverite News is published nine months of the year (Sept-May by the Grand Junction Gem and Mineral Club, Inc. Articles printed in this newsletter are the experiences and/or opinions of the individuals submitting them. They do not necessarily reflect the views or opinions of the Grand Junction Gem and Mineral Club, nor of the editors. Articles written without a byline are written by the editor. We are not responsible for authenticity, safety, or reliability of publications. All articles/photos are included in accordance to fair use for research and education. Caution and safety should always be practiced when trying out any new idea, venture or exploration in the field. We request corrections and/or additions to articles.*

Grand Junction Gem and Mineral Website

Our website, www.grandjunctionrockclub.org, has meeting information, Leaverite Newsletter, Classes, Field Trips, & Photo Gallery. Send information to John Mayerik; 243-8589; email Grandjunctionrockclub@gmail.com

Meetup

Meetups are neighbors getting together to learn something, do something, share something. The Club is registered at the Grand Junction Meetup. Go to http://www.meetup.com/cities/us/co/grand_junction/ to register or for information or call Jim Schultz at 242-0428.

Summary of Minutes of the Gem and Mineral Club

Board Meeting

Old Business:

Yard Sale: Saturday Oct 28th from 8-5pm.

Summer Meetings: The Board voted to include cookie nights in the months of June, July and August.

Physical assets inventory by Pat Martinez.

Show committee: said to stick with Mother's Day for 2018 because the dealers are planning on this date. However, they suggested the weekend before Mother's Day may increase attendance to our show because there will be fewer conflicts with other Mother's Day events. Two Rivers is thinking about having a breakfast in the other half of the building which could improve foot traffic to our 2018 show. Someone needs to talk to Scott Warren about advertising. We may want to approach the Girl Scouts and/or Boy Scouts to increase attendance. A scavenger hunt may increase attendance. The Board voted to increase the entrance fee to \$5. Seniors 65+ and veterans will be \$4 and kids 12 and under will be free. Mel will look for a Show Chairman replacement.

Finances: The club had less income in 2017 because not all members paid their 2017 dues, we had one less rock auction, and we made very little on the show. On another matter, the Board voted to reduce the number of checking accounts from three to one.

Open Shop: we may want to increase open shop opportunities. An evening open shop might be best. We need to change the locks on the shop to prevent folks from using it during off hours.

New Business:

Gold claims: Our gold enthusiast members have renewed payment to the BLM for five claims. All GJGMC members can access these gold claims.

Proposed New Building

Submitted by Anita Martinez, co-secretary

Official minutes are posted at the club.



Sulfur Chrystal Kay Crawford

General Meetings

September 28, 2017

Show Committee chaired by Wayne McMacken: Please call Wayne to let him know if you will continue to help with the 2018 show and if you are willing to do the cases.

On Saturday Oct 28th there will be a **yard sale**, from 8-5pm, led by Judy Nason. 100% of the proceeds will go to the club. Items can be stored in the storage container. Call Judy for more information 970-250-9128. Concurrently, there will be a rock and jewelry sale. At least 40% of the proceeds of these sales will go to the club.

Put on your calendar the **Moab Rock Show** from Oct 13th thru 15th at the Old Spanish Trail Arena (3641 S Highway 191). Times for show are Fri 10-10, Sat 10-6, and Sun 10-6.

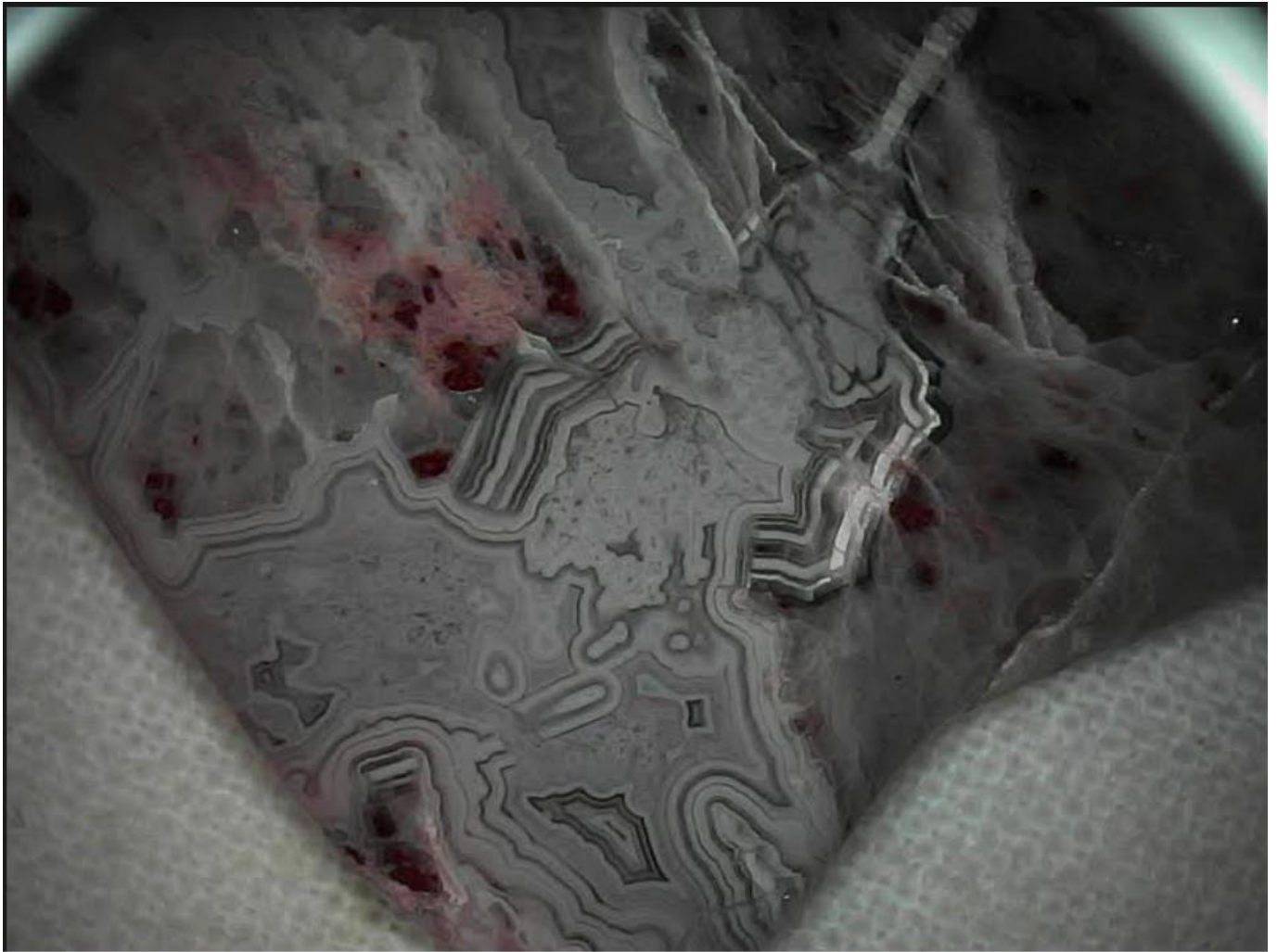
More Mineral Group pictures:



Chester Cheetah



Dino bone Mike Burritt



Crazy Lace Agate Kay Crawford





Flame Agate Mike Burritt

**Astronomers discover a pitch-black planet
that reflects almost zero sunlight**

Mike Wehner © Provided by BGR

When you imagine planets outside of our solar system you might dream up ocean worlds, thick plains of ice, or boiling seas of molten rock. Worlds like those certainly do exist out there somewhere, but the exoplanet known as WASP-12b most definitely doesn't fall into any of those categories. A new research effort to study the planet hasn't exactly revealed what it's made of, but it has discovered that the planet is the blackest of blacks, and reflects so little sunlight that not even freshly-laid asphalt can compare.

