

**Official Bulletin  
of the  
Chugach Gem & Mineral Society**

Alaska Pebble Patter  
Chugach Gem & Mineral Society  
P.O. Box 92027  
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<http://chugachgms.org/>

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**ELECTED POSITIONS**

**PRESIDENT**

Greg Durocher 337-2553

**FIRST VICE PRESIDENT**

Phillip Elrod 349-5457

**SECOND VICE PRESIDENT**

Sheila Macias 274-2204

**TREASURER**

Anita Williams 345-2541

**RECORDING SECRETARY**

Chris Teutsch 694-6586

**CORRESPONDING SECRETARY**

Nancy Danford 694-3288

**APPOINTED POSITIONS**

**PROGRAM**

Andre Macias 274-2204

**MEMBERSHIP**

Bea Allen 696-4047

**FIELD TRIP**

Bonnie Hepburn 274-0941

**SUNSHINE**

Dorothy Arnold 279-3876

**PARLIAMENTARIAN**

Norval Kane 243-4648

**FEDERATION LIAISON**

Tom Cooper 262-9759

**NEWSLETTER EDITOR**

Sue Hilton 694-1934

sueh@mtaonline.net

**CLUB GREETER**

Melvin C. Bennett 770-2732

CHUGACH GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY maintains memberships in:  
AMERICAN FEDERATION OF MINERALOGICAL SOCIETIES  
NORTHWEST FEDERATION OF MINERALOGICAL SOCIETIES

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CHUGACH GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY MEETINGS ARE HELD AT  
FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, 725 WEST 9<sup>TH</sup> AVE., ANCHORAGE, AK  
(Enter the church from the rear parking lot, south of 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue between G & H Streets.)

BUSINESS MEETING – 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month at 7:00 PM.  
POTLUCK MEETING – 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of each month at 6:30 PM.  
Bring an entrée, side dish, salad, or dessert (plus serving utensil) to serve at least 5 people.  
Also bring your own plate, silverware and drink.  
Most importantly, bring a rock to show!

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Annual membership fees: Individuals - \$15.00; Families (2 or more) - \$20.00; Bulletin only - \$10.00  
Lifetime membership fees: Individuals - \$150.00; Families (2 adults & children under 18) - \$200.00



President's Message

Greetings, Rockhounds!

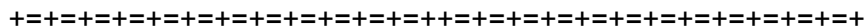
It's been almost four weeks since our last CGMS field trip (Fire Island). The leaves were multicolored and camping was not survival-mode only. Now I've already been ice-skating on the lake by my office, and the ski hills will soon be beckoning. It is not time to forget about rockhounding however, as there is the Rock & Mineral show coming up in early November, and our annual Christmas party on December 11<sup>th</sup>.

It is time to put in a plug for your trip preferences for 2009. For our Outside Adventure, we've already got the January trip to Arizona moving up quickly. What would you like to see us do in-state? You can find the list of our most recent trips at: <http://chugachgms.org/fieldtrips.html>. Should some of these be repeated? Do these inspire other ideas? Contact Bonnie Hepburn (or any board member) if you'd like to lead a trip or have suggestions. We'd especially like to see some new trip leaders. Any of us "old hats" would gladly mentor you with that!

Here's wishing you all an enjoyable holiday season. May visions of crystal vugs dance in your heads!

Rock on!

Greg Durocher, President



**October Business Meeting**

President Greg Durocher called the meeting to order at 7:40 PM on October 9<sup>th</sup>. 19 members were present, but there were no guests.

The September 2008 business meeting minutes were accepted as written.

Treasurer Anita Williams reported a total of \$66,845.24 in club accounts.

About fifteen more "thank you" letters arrived from Eagle school children, who appreciated all the school supplies that club members donated.

Upcoming field trips:

Alaska Volcano Observatory - October 15<sup>th</sup>. Contact Greg Durocher for information. [gfdurocher@usgs.gov](mailto:gfdurocher@usgs.gov)

CGMS 2008 Rock and Mineral Show at the Sheraton Anchorage Hotel, November 7<sup>th</sup> through 9<sup>th</sup>. Contact Anita Williams for information. [awilliam@alaska.net](mailto:awilliam@alaska.net)

Quartzsite Rock Show with side trips – 3<sup>rd</sup> week of January 2009. Contact Tom Cooper for information. [alaskahornandantler@gci.net](mailto:alaskahornandantler@gci.net)

Scholarship Chair Andre Macias said that only one application was received despite Katch Bacheller giving presentations to geology classes and the Geology Club at UAA.











One of the highlights of my visit to the institute was the opportunity to see the office of Alexander Petrovich Karpinsky, preserved with its original furniture. A.P. Karpinsky became famous for his prolific research in paleontology, mineralogy, and petrology in the Urals and served as GeolCom director from 1885 through 1902 and honorary director from 1905 until his death in 1936.

institute under the communist regime. Today there is a medal named in his honor that is awarded for outstanding geologic research in Russia.



I left my visit to the institute with a profound and better understanding of how the profession of Geology is celebrated (even venerated) throughout Russia by the government and its people. For example, they even have a Geologists' Day in Russia (first Sunday in April), and poems are written to celebrate geologists and their works. There was even a popular board game during Soviet time named "Geology", similar to our Monopoly, in which the players discovered important mineral and oil resources for the country. This love of Geology is reflected in the attention to geologic detail throughout the institute in both its museum and research branches.



First Russian-made geologic map of European Russia (Western Russia) published in 1897 by GeolCom (now VSEGEI)

He also completed the first Russian-made geologic map of European Russia that I observed hanging on the wall in this office.

Dr. Karpinsky was instrumental in preserving scientific equipment and many invaluable records during the 1917 Revolution. He also secured an important role for the



50 Kopek postage stamp honoring Karpinsky and Karpinsky medal awarded for outstanding contributions to geology.

