



# Flatirons Facets

Flatirons Mineral Club of Boulder County, Colorado  
Volume 61, Number 2  
March-April, 2018

The Flatirons Mineral Club is a non-profit Organization which is dedicated to developing and maintaining interests in Earth science and associated hobbies. The purpose of this Club includes, but is not limited to, studying geology and Earth science, teaching others about our hobby, including young people, collecting gem, mineral and fossil specimens and learning lapidary skills.

The Flatirons Mineral Club is affiliated with the Rocky Mountain Federation of Mineralogical Societies, the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies, and the Greater Denver Area Council of Gem and Mineral Societies.



## March Meeting – An Introduction to Micromounting

**Richard Parsons** will join us at our **March 8** meeting for a presentation on an **Introduction to Micromounting**. Micromounts are small, often beautifully crystallized mineral specimens, which are usually viewed with a microscope. Richard will talk about what is needed to start a micromount collection. For the collector who is looking to collect a large number of different minerals, many minerals are only found as very small crystals. And, you do not need much room to store hundreds of specimens.

**Richard** is a lifelong mineral collector retired from a career in human services and public administration. He has been active in local Gem and Mineral clubs since the 1960's (with a hiatus for raising a daughter and a son) and is a Past President of the North Jeffco Gem and Mineral Club. He has been a volunteer at the Colorado School of Mines Geology since 2008, working on the Museum's extensive micromount collections. Also that year, Richard co-founded and served as first President of the Rocky Mountain Micromineral Association, dedicated to encouraging and promoting the study and enjoyment of minerals under the microscope.



Club meetings begin at 7:00 pm at the Frasier Meadows North Community Room, 350 Ponca Place, Boulder, CO 80303. If you have not been to the meeting room, just ask the receptionist for directions when you arrive.

## FMC Silent Auction on April 12

Our annual silent action will take place during our April meeting at the **Left Hand Grange in Niwot** (195 2nd Avenue, Niwot, 80544). It's a fun event and is a great chance to buy and sell rock and mineral specimens, as well as equipment and other related items. See page 2 for more information about the auction.



## *President's Message*

Hello Everyone!

I want to let you know that there have been some changes to the board and to the tasks that folks perform.

First of all, Jean Orr has joined the board to be the Programs Chair. She has jumped right in with some great ideas for future programs. If you have an idea for a speaker for one of our meetings please contact her.

The task of coordinating our summer field trips has been taken over by a committee. Char Bourg, Tally O'Donnell, and Kevin Notheis are putting together a great schedule for us. Contact them with your ideas.

I understand that 21 kids attended the last Jr Geologists meeting! How wonderful that the FMC can provide such a great program to our families.

I truly appreciate the work that our members do to keep our club strong, purposeful, and interesting.

Spring is coming!

Gabi

## **FMC Silent Auction Information**

Sellers, email Eileen - [elfitz891@hotmail.com](mailto:elfitz891@hotmail.com) - to get your seller number ahead of time and then use the bidding slips that are available at our website – [www.flatironsmineralclub.org](http://www.flatironsmineralclub.org) – and attached at the end of this newsletter. Fill in the slips at home and then print them on your home printer.

There is also a flyer that advertises the auction at the end of this newsletter. Please help the club by printing out a few copies and posting them around your workplace or neighborhood. Thank you.

And come enjoy the silent auction on April 12!

## **Member Nametags Will Be Ordered in Early March**

Would you like a Flatirons Mineral Club name tag to wear at club events and field trips? The club places orders several times a year for members. The next order will be placed this month.

Please log onto our website and choose the "Request a Nametag" link in the Members Area. Add your name to the list and a name tag will be ordered for you. The cost is \$5 when you receive it.

Example of a club name tag



## Needed: Meeting Snack Czar

For the club's monthly meeting, we need someone to handle the snacks. The snack czar just needs to bring 2 dozen donuts to the meeting and will be reimbursed.

## Needed: Space for a Club Lapidary Lab

Our club has a number of saws, a Genie, and other lapidary equipment. Some of this equipment is scattered in club members homes (see page 13), while other equipment is in storage. Many of you have indicated an interest in learning lapidary skills and using the equipment. Ideally, a club "Lapidary Lab" would be a great place to have this equipment available to club members and to teach lapidary skills. Years ago, equipment was set up at Charlotte Morrison's house, and members could use the equipment one night a week.

To reestablish this, we need a space to set up the equipment for our members' use. If anyone has space in a garage or other building that you would be willing to let the club use for our new lapidary lab, please contact Tally O'Donnell at [phantom@indra.com](mailto:phantom@indra.com). The club would be willing to cover utility costs.

## A Sneak Peek at the Upcoming Field Trips

The summer field trip schedule is starting to fill up! Here are some of the places we're heading off to this summer:

- \*\*Anita Colin is taking us to Yellow Cat Flat in Utah for petrified wood and agate after barite pseudomorphs. Anita is also heading a trip to the famous Como Bluff so we can participate in excavating dinosaur bones.
- \*\*Brian Walko has two field trips to the panhandle of Nebraska. One to collect fossils and one for the prized Fairburn agates.
- \*\*Tally O'Donnell will lead a trip to the Montezuma area for pyrite and galena.
- \*\*Char Bourg is leading a trip over to Two Creeks for blue barite.

The summer is shaping up, so grab your picks and shovels,  
**this winter can't last forever!**

If anyone has an idea of where to go or would be willing to lead the trip, please contact Charlotte Bourg at [rckhnd4252@gmail.com](mailto:rckhnd4252@gmail.com)

## North Table Mountain Field Trip



Our annual field trip to North Table Mountain outside of Golden will be on Saturday, May 5th, to collect zeolites and other minerals. The trip will be held before the publication of the Field Trip Guide at the May club meeting. Please contact Dennis Gertenbach at [gertenbach@comcast.net](mailto:gertenbach@comcast.net), if you and your family would like to sign up for this field trip. This is a great trip for families and everyone will find nice specimens to take home.

## Club Lapidary Equipment Available

The club has 2 locations where the club's lapidary equipment can be used by our members.

One of our big saws is at Markus Raschke's house. Call him at 303-499-9157 to arrange a time to use the saw.

Another saw is at Terry O'Donnell's house. His email address is [whee0297@msn.com](mailto:whee0297@msn.com).



## Get Your Very Own Flatirons Mineral Club Baseball Cap

The club now has baseball caps in a variety of colors for sale, sporting the new Flatirons Mineral Club logo. Buy them at any meeting. The member price is \$10 each, while the non-member price is \$15.

## Jr. Geologists Activities

During the past two months the Jr. Geologists have been learning how ancient peoples used the rocks and minerals around them in their everyday lives. Karen Simmons put together a wonderful program, which included a trip to the CU Museum of Natural History, a meeting learning about the tools used by the Native Americans, and a second meeting about pictographs, petroglyphs, and other art. The kids even made their own pictographs from



paint made from ground minerals and pictographs chipped out of sandstone, as they earned the Stone Age Tools and Art badge.



Karen Simmons demonstrates to the Jr. Geologists how ancient people used rock tools

The Jr. Geologists have also been learning how to polish rocks in a rock tumbler. We have been polishing a batch of rocks, covering each step each month. In March, our rocks will be polished. Craig Hazelton will teach wire wrapping techniques to the Jr. Geologists, using some of the rocks we have been polishing.

Jacque Mahan reports that the kids have been very busy this winter earning badges, with 17 earning the Fluorescent Minerals badge, 15 earning the Stone Age Tools and Art badge, and 3 completing the Showmanship badge. That is impressive!

The Jr. Geologists program is open to all Flatirons Mineral Club families. Each month we learn about different aspects of geology, minerals, and fossils, plus earn badges for different earth science activities. Meetings are on the third Wednesday of most months at the Meadows Branch Library at 4800 Baseline Rd, Boulder, CO 80303 (behind the Kaiser Permanente medical offices). For information about the Jr. Geologists program, please contact Dennis Gertenbach at [gertenbach@comcast.net](mailto:gertenbach@comcast.net) or 303-709-8218.



Liam (left) and Jack (right) show off their pictographs, based on Native American art from the American southwest

## Thornton *Triceratops* Gets a Name and a New Identity

Dennis Gertenbach

One of the biggest dinosaur finds in Colorado for a number of years is the triceratops found in Thornton, Colorado. On September 1, workers excavating the new public safety building in Thornton uncovered the skeleton and skull of a *Triceratops* dinosaur. Paleontologists and volunteers from the Denver Museum of Nature and Science collected the bones from the site under the direction of curator Joe Sertich. An estimated 80 percent of the skull and at least 15 percent of the skeleton was recovered, making this the most complete Cretaceous Period fossil discovered in Colorado.

Now, this dinosaur has a name – Tiny. Students from Brantner Elementary School selected Tiny as the name for the *Triceratops* excavated from a City of Thornton construction site. In a press release from the Denver Museum of Nature and Science, Michele Saller, Brantner Elementary School principal, is quoted “This *Triceratops* is already a community icon, and we can’t wait to see what Tiny will help reveal about life in Thornton 66 million years ago.”

And in a second press release in December, the Museum announced that after a month of cleaning the fossils collected in Thornton, paleontologist have discovered that the discovery is not a *Triceratops*, but another horned dinosaur – a *Torosaurus*. As the comparison in the photo shows, both dinosaurs have three horns, two large ones

A



B

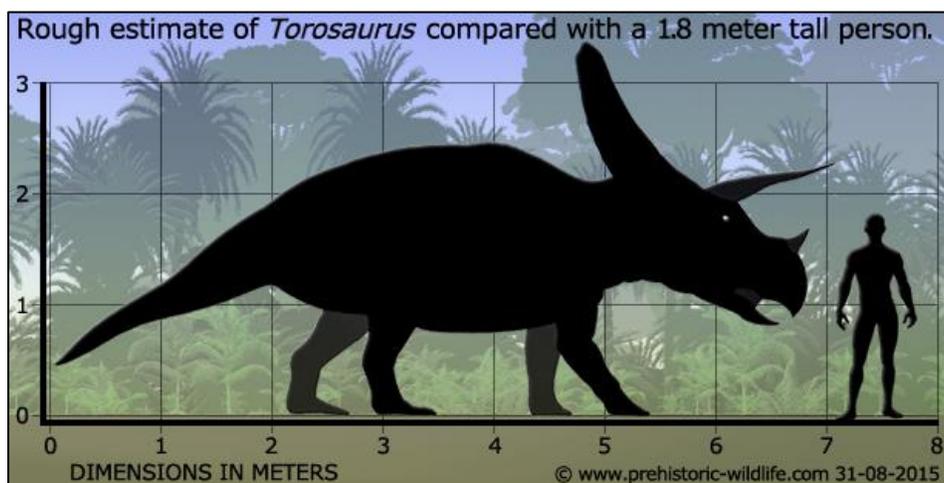


*Triceratops* (A) and *Torosaurus* (B) skulls. Credit: Wikimedia Creative Commons

above the eyes and a smaller one near the nose. The most noticeable difference is the frill at the top of the head. The *Torosaurus* frill is longer and has two large holes. When the Museum paleontologists saw these two holes after cleaning the skull, they realized that their initial identification as a *Triceratops* was wrong.

*Torosaurus* fossils are much rarer than their close cousins, Triceratops. As quoted in the Museum press release, Joe Sertich stated “While the number of good *Triceratops* specimens collected from the American West likely exceeds 2,000 individuals, there are only about seven partial skulls of *Torosaurus* known. The Thornton beast is by far the most complete, and best preserved, ever found.” *Torosaurus* was also larger than *Triceratops*, dwarfing a six-foot man as shown in the drawing.

CBS Denver created and aired a 25-minute special in December giving viewers the opportunity to learn more about this rare discovery. You can watch this special at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qMFiqXegfYU>.



Size comparison between a 6-foot man and an adult *Torosaurus*. Credit: <http://www.prehistoric-wildlife.com/species/t/torosaurus.html>

## Great Meetings

We had two great meetings in January and February. In January, we learned about gold and silver mining in Colorado from Beth Simmons. Damon Hauschulz took us on a journey to India as we tracked down the source of the building stone known as Absolute Black. Be sure to mark your calendar for our March 8 meeting.



Winter meeting speakers Beth Simmons (left) and Damon Hauschulz (right)

## Fossils in the News

Dennis Gertenbach

### Extinct burrowing bat discovered in New Zealand

A team of international researchers led by University of New South Wales scientists announced the discovery of fossils of a giant bat from New Zealand's South Island near the town of St. Bathans. The teeth and bones of this ancient bat were 16-19 million years old. Even more unusual, this bat burrowed in the ground. It has been named *Vulcanops jennyworthya*, as reported in the journal *Scientific Reports*.



An artist's impression of an extinct New Zealand burrowing bat.  
Credit: Gavin Mouldey

Burrowing bats still live in New Zealand. They not only fly, but also scurry along the forest floor in the leaf litter, foraging for insects and plant food. The specialized teeth and large size of *Vulcanops* suggest it had a different diet, capable of eating even more plant food as well as small vertebrates. Interestingly, burrowing bats are more closely related to bats living in South America than to others in the southwest Pacific.

Information from

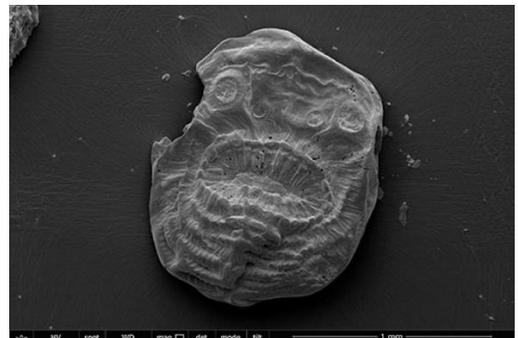
<http://newsroom.unsw.edu.au/news/science-tech/giant-extinct-burrowing-bat-discovered-new-zealand>



Reconstruction of three views of *Saccorhytus coronarius*, Credit: Jian Han et al.

### Our earliest known ancestor

The discovery in the Shaanxi Province in central China of the most primitive example of a deuterostome was announced in the journal *Nature*. The ancient animal has been named *Saccorhytus coronarius*. Deuterostomes were early animals that evolved into fish and other vertebrates, and eventually into us. All deuterostomes had a common ancestor and the researchers believed that was *Saccorhytus coronarius*, a marine creature that lived approximately 540 million years ago at the beginning of the Cambrian period. The animal was about a millimeter in size, and probably lived between grains of sand on the seabed. *Saccorhytus coronarius* had a large mouth, relative to the rest of its body, and probably ate by engulfing food particles, and perhaps even other creatures. The small conical structures on its body may



Electron microscope photograph of a tiny *Saccorhytus coronarius* showing the detailed preservation of the fossils.

have allowed the water that it swallowed to escape and may have evolved into the gills we now see in fish. As quoted by Professor Conway Morris, one of the researchers, "If that was the case, then any

waste material would simply have been taken out back through the mouth, which from our perspective sounds rather unappealing,”

Information from <http://www.sci-news.com/paleontology/saccorhytus-coronarius-humans-earliest-known-ancestor-04578.html>

### Dinosaur with iridescent feathers like a hummingbird

Scientists recently reported a newly discovered dinosaur from China in *Nature Communications* that lived 161 million years ago. Named *Caihong juji* (rainbow with the big crest), the dinosaur was tiny, about the size of a duck, with a bony crest on its head and long, ribbon-like feathers. By comparing the shapes of those feather structures on the animal’s head, wings, and tail with the structures in modern bird feathers, the researchers were able to infer that *Caihong juji* had iridescent rainbow feathers like a hummingbird. The colors would have shimmered and shifted with the light. The feather structure showed that the dinosaur could not fly, so the colorful plumage may have been used to attract mates, like modern birds.



A reconstruction of the dinosaur *Caihong juji* with iridescent feathers. Credit: Velizar Simeonovski

Information from <https://www.fieldmuseum.org/about/press/rainbow-dinosaur-had-iridescent-feathers-hummingbird>

### Young tourist discovers new ancient fish species

A young tourist visiting the the Monastery of La Candelaria, near the town of Ráquira Boyacá, Colombia made a remarkable discovery – a new species of 90-million-year-old fish. He discovered the fossils in flagstones along a walkway, took pictures of the fossils, and showed them to staff at the Centro de Investigaciones Paleontologicas, a local museum. A team of scientists found that the fossils were from the very first lizard fish from the Cretaceous period ever found in Colombia and tropical South America. The fossil fish was named *Candelarhynchus padillai* and has no modern relatives.

Information from <https://www.ualberta.ca/science/science-news/2018/january/young-tourist-finds-fossil-fish>



Illustration of *Candelarhynchus padillai*, the first Cretaceous fossil lizard fish ever found in tropical South America. Credit: Oksana Vernygora via University of Alberta

## Other Rockhounding Events and Activities in the Area

Here is a list of rockhounding-related activities in the area for both adults and juniors that you might be interested in. Thanks to Pete Modreski of the USGS for providing many of these notices.

- **Now through June 9 - “Gold Mining in Colorado” WMMI Exhibit** In September 2017, the Western Museum of Mining & Industry showcased an 11-case exhibit at the annual Denver Gem & Mineral Show. The “Gold Mining in Colorado” exhibit won two major awards. The exhibit is now on display at WMMI! The contents of the 11 themed cases take the visitor through the story of gold mining in Colorado. From the origins of gold to the story of contemporary gold mining, visitors will learn about how prospectors legally could stake their claims, how mining companies were organized, how the assay process works, learn the difference between placer and hard rock mining, and examine the differences between the four major types of gold processing - amalgamation, chlorination, cyanidation, and flotation. All of the artifacts are from the museum’s extensive collection; many of them have not been exhibited for years, if at all.
- **Thursday, March 8** at 7:30 p.m. - Friends of Mineralogy, Colorado Chapter, bimonthly meeting, at Lakewood Event Center, 7864 W. Jewell Ave. **“Mineral Species and Occurrences of the Swiss Alpine Clefts”**, by Brent Lockhart, of Houston, TX. Alpine-cleft minerals occur in open fissures within tectonically deformed igneous or metamorphic host rocks, in the Alps as well as many other mountain belts worldwide. They are noted for quartz (smoky and “rock crystal”), adularia, fluorite, titanite, anatase, hematite, magnetite, chlorite, axinite, and many other minerals.
- **Monday, March 12** at 7:00 p.m. - **From Past Life to “Petrified Trees” to PRPA: Preserving the past for the future in America’s National Parks** will be the talk by Jason Kenworthy of the National Park Service at the Western Interior Paleontological Society’s monthly meeting. You can experience your America and find your park at 417 areas administered by the National Park Service (NPS). Of those, at least 267 preserve evidence of past life—fossils. In national parks, fossils are found in situ, in museum collections, or in cultural contexts. This presentation will provide a guided tour of the scope and significance of NPS fossils using the context of the Prehistoric Journey exhibit at the Denver Museum of Nature & Science. From Precambrian stromatolites that overlook Glacier National Park to ice age mammoths at Waco Mammoth National Monument, fossils from every geologic time period are represented in the rocks of the National Park Service. These cover the “petrified trees” recounted by mountain man Jim Bridger to fossils in stones of historic structures. For more on Jason’s presentation, visit: <http://www.westernpaleo.org>. Please use the west entrance to the Museum to access the Planetarium.
- **Tuesday, March 13**, 7:00 p.m. is a talk at the Western Museum of Mining & Industry in Colorado Springs on **“Cripple Creek High Grading: The Untold Stories”**, by Steve Veatch, Geoscientist and Geoscience Educator, and Ben Elick, WMMI and Middle School student, Douglas County School District. Doors open at 6:00 p.m., lecture 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.; \$5 admission, WMMI museum members admitted free. Please RSVP by calling 719-488-0880 or emailing [rsvp@wmmi.org](mailto:rsvp@wmmi.org).
- **Thursday, March 15** at 7:00 p.m. is the Colorado Scientific Society meeting featuring **Earthquakes and the public** by David Wald of the USGS, plus a second speaker and talk to be announced. The Shepherd of the Hills Presbyterian Church, 11500 W. 20th Ave., Lakewood CO
- **Friday-Sunday, March 23-25** is the **Fort Collins Rockhound Club Gem & Mineral Show** at The Ranch/Larimer County Fairgrounds, Thomas M. McKee 4-H Building, 5280 Arena Circle, Loveland, CO (I-25 exit 259, Crossroads Blvd) 4-8 p.m. Fri, 9-6 Sat., and 10-5 Sun. See <http://www.fortcollinsrockhounds.org/gemAndMineralShow.shtml> for more details.

- **Tuesday, March 27** at 3:00 p.m. is the Denver Museum of Nature & Science Earth Sciences Colloquium, **“Origins of life: Why did only Earth succeed?”** by Ramon Brassler, Tokyo Tech., & Steve Mojzsis, CU Boulder. VIP Room, DMNS.

- Friday, April 13 is the **North Jeffco Gem, Jewelry, Mineral Silent Auction** at the APEX Community Recreation Center, 6842 Wadsworth Blvd, Arvada, CO 80003. Jewelry, gemstones, mineral & fossil specimens, cabochons, craftwork, and rock-craft equipment may be available for sale. Part of the proceeds goes to scholarships at the Colorado School of Mines and the CSM Geology Museum in Golden. Seller limits on number of items to sell: Club Members – No limit; Non-members – Maximum of 30 items. Setup starts at 5:30 pm, sale begins at 6:45 pm, checkout starts about 9:15 pm. No early checkout. Free admission, free parking, and free refreshments will be served. Visitors welcome. Cash or check only. For more information, call Bill Jones at 303-503-6288 or email at [sidewindermin@comcast.net](mailto:sidewindermin@comcast.net). See the flyer to the right for more information.

- **Friday-Sunday, April 13-15** is the **Colorado Mineral & Fossil Spring Show**, Crowne Plaza Hotel DIA, 15500 E 40th Ave., Denver CO. Free admission; hours 9-6 Fri. & Sat., 10-5 Sun. See the flyer to the left for more information

- **Saturday, April 14** is the **Denver 2018 March for Science**; see <http://marchforsciencedenver.org/>. Take to the streets to support science.

- **Thursday, May 3** at 7:00 p.m. is the First Thursday lecture series of the Friends of the Colorado School of Mines Geology Museum, **The Colorado-Wyoming State Line Kimberlite District**, by Philip Persson.

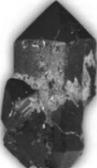
**North Jeffco Gem & Mineral Club  
Silent Auction**

Friday, April 13<sup>th</sup>, 2018  
APEX Community Recreation Center  
6842 Wadsworth Blvd, Arvada, CO 80003

**Setup at 5:30 PM**  
Seller limits on number of items to sell:  
Club Members – No limit  
Non-members – Maximum of 30 items

**Auction Begins 6:45 PM**  
Checkout Begins Immediately After Auction  
No Early Checkout  
Free Parking, Free Admission

♦ jewelry ♦      gems      ♦      minerals      ♦  
♦      bake sale      ♦      crafts      ♦



♦ free refreshments ♦  
♦ public invited ♦

If you need a finished piece of jewelry,  
rough material to fashion yourself,  
a specimen for your collection,  
or an interesting and fun evening,  
this is the place.



**Sellers & Buyers Welcome**

For more info call Bill Jones 303-503-6288  
Or email [sidewindermin@comcast.net](mailto:sidewindermin@comcast.net)

*RMGM PROMOTIONS PRESENTS*

# COLORADO MINERAL & FOSSIL SHOW

**APRIL 13-15, 2018**

**LOCATION:**  
CROWNE PLAZA DIA  
15500 E 40TH AVE  
DENVER, CO 80239

**FINE MINERALS  
FOSSILS  
GEMSTONES  
JEWELRY  
WHOLESALE  
RETAIL**

Free Gold Panning Lessons  
Wire Wrapping Classes  
\$5.00 Kid Dinosaur Dig  
Free Rock Dig For Kids  
Hourly Giveaways

Hours: Friday-Saturday 10AM-6PM  
Sunday 10AM-5PM

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## Greater Denver Area Gem and Mineral Council 2017 Approved Grant Requests



The Greater Denver Area Gem and Mineral Council receives, evaluates and approves grant requests each year in the months of March and September. This report is a summary of the grants awarded in 2017 and is being sent to all eight, member clubs of the GDAGMC. Newsletter editors are asked to publish this report in your next newsletter.

1. Friends of Dinosaur Ridge requested \$6,098.37 and received \$3000.00. \$1000.00 was awarded to offset expenses of Dinosaur Days. \$2000.00 is to be used to fund stabilization of sandstone above Quarry #5 to protect numerous fossils that are a major stop for bus and walking tours. The \$3,098.37 request was to update and reprint copies of the Dinosaur Ridge Field Guide. The committee felt that since this Guide is sold, sale proceeds should offset the cost of publication. Total approved for 2017 - \$3000.00
2. Western Interior Paleontological Society requested and received \$1000.00 in support of the WIPS Museum Assist Program at USU Eastern Prehistoric Museum in Price, Utah.
3. Colorado School of Mines Mineral Museum requested funding for XRD software for mineral identification. Because they had yet to identify the specific software program and its actual cost in the March grant submission, the Council requested a resubmission with firm costs. This request was resubmitted asking for \$7050.00 for the software and \$259.98 for an Ultrawide Monitor. At the June meeting, the Council approved the grant to Mines for \$7,309.98.
4. The Fremont County Historical Society requested and received \$3,900.00 to fund the hauling and installation of geologically descriptive boulders along the Geology Time Trail of the Crossroads through Time – Heritage Park Project.
5. The Cripple Creek District Museum requested and received \$4000.00 to fund the installation of LED lighting in 6 mineral display cases, the funds to be used for the hardware and professional, electrical services.

Each of the eight clubs of the GDAGMC may receive \$250.00 each year to help defray the cost of its newsletter. Each club must have a representative present at all four Council meetings in the year to earn the full amount of the grant. A partial award is given should a club not be represented at all the meetings. The Newsletter Grant money paid to clubs for 2016 attendance in 2017 was \$2000.00.

Total grant money awarded in 2017 was **\$21,209.98**. All grants were funded by proceeds from the 2016 Denver Gem & Mineral Show put on by the 8 clubs. The entire show is put on by volunteers! Please step up and be one of your club's volunteers in 2018.

### Council Officers for 2018

President pro-tem: Dale Gann    Vice-president: vacant  
Secretary: Larry Havens        Treasurer: Maxine Sheel

Respectfully submitted, Larry Havens, Secretary

## Denver Gem & Mineral Show Mini Report March 2018

The 51st Denver Gem & Mineral Show will be held on September 14 - 16, 2018 at the Denver Mart, 451 E. 58th Avenue (intersection of I-25 and 58th Avenue). The theme this year is "Minerals of Mexico". Lesley Sebol is the Show Chair and can be reached at [lesleysebol@gmail.com](mailto:lesleysebol@gmail.com) or 720-999-1372 if you have any ideas for the show. Planning is underway and we would like your ideas to make this a fantastic show.

Minerals of Mexico will be an exciting theme for the show! Everyone knows that Mexico has a wide variety of exceptional minerals. In fact, the first issue of Mineralogical Record for 2018 was devoted to the minerals of Mexico. The theme is important for the species competitions at the show. A specimen entered into the species competition must adhere to the show theme, i.e., for this year the specimen would have to be from Mexico. The categories are Thumbnail, Toenail, Miniature, Cabinet, Large Cabinet, Self-Collected, and Lapidary/Jewelry. So maybe you have an exceptional Mexican specimen and you would like to find out how outstanding it really is. Enter it in the species competition. You may win a trophy or not, but you will find out how it stacks up against other Mexican specimens. Have you seen the beautiful poster with the vibrant green brochantite from the Milpillas Mine, Cuitaca, Cananea District, Sonora, Mexico?

You know that the Denver Show is a unique show in the U.S. There is no other city in the country that has a group of gem, mineral, and fossil clubs that puts on a world-class show with all volunteers and has done so for 50 years. We should all be very proud of our accomplishments over the last 50 years. The 50 year Retrospective book documents our achievements. I hope you all have had a chance to read it.

The Show Committee is the group that plans and operates the show. The committee is a group of 50 plus dedicated persons. Some are old-timers and some are newbies. Most likely you know one or more persons on the committee. The committee is in need of a few more newbies at this time. After writing the beautiful 50 year Retrospective, Mark Jacobson is stepping down as the Historian. A new Historian is needed and Mark recommends that this is a two-person position. One of the responsibilities is photographing all the exhibits, which takes the time of more than one person.

There is also a need for a Set Up Chair. This person is responsible for set up of the show on the preceding Wednesday. Set up entails covering the dealer tables in the aisles and east area with plastic and assembling the wood display cases. Of course, the Chair has a group of experienced people from prior years to help but needs to confirm the setup volunteer list. This is not as difficult of a job as it sounds. The main floor is the responsibility of the contract decorator.

So, if you enjoy the show, please consider becoming more involved and join the committee. It is a rewarding venture, you will meet new people from other clubs, and you will feel great knowing that you have helped to put on the show. Where else is there such a magnificent event to fully indulge in our hobby?

The Show Committee meets at the Denver Museum of Nature & Science at 7:30 p.m. the first Tuesday of each month except February, July and December. So, think it over and come to a meeting. Tag along with your club representative (each club has one) or just show up. You may serve as an At Large member until you find the position that matches your talents. I cannot emphasize enough the need for newbies.

The volunteer signup sheets should be available at your club meetings. Be sure to sign up for which ever area suites you. More than 400 volunteers are needed at the show!

Respectfully submitted, Judy Knoshaug, Show Secretary

# Officers, Directors, and Other Volunteers

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## President

Gabi Accatino, 303-809-4666  
[accatino@colorado.edu](mailto:accatino@colorado.edu)

## 1<sup>st</sup> Vice president: Program

Jean Orr  
[jporr@mindspring.com](mailto:jporr@mindspring.com)

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President: Field Trip Chair

Tally O'Donnell, 303-494-6061  
[phantom@indra.com](mailto:phantom@indra.com)

## 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President: Annual Show Chair

Ray Gilbert 303-774-8468  
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## Club Claims

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## Club Hospitality Chair

open

## Facebook Chair

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## Meeting Door Prize Chair

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## Club Show Committee Members

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### Volunteer Chair

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### Program Chair

open

### Dealer Chairs

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### Kid's Corner Chair

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### Other Show Committee Members

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## Denver Show Club Table

Dennis Gertenbach, 303-709-8218  
[gertenbach@comcast.net](mailto:gertenbach@comcast.net)

## Mineral Specimens Chair

Don Mock  
[donmock@hotmail.com](mailto:donmock@hotmail.com)

## A friendly reminder to pay your 2018 annual dues

Dues are still only \$18 per individual and their immediate family. You can pay in two ways:

**PAY** Gerry Naugle, Treasurer and Membership Chair, at any FMC monthly meeting. Gerry is at or near the sign-in table when you enter the room for the monthly meetings.

**SEND** a check made to "Flatirons Mineral Club" or "FMC" to P.O. Box 3331, Boulder, CO, 80307. Please do not send cash in the mail.



Your 2018 dues must be received by January 20th, 2018 in order to stay current with the member benefits, which include electronic club newsletters containing the information about club activities, club field trips, annual show opportunities, silent auction opportunities, the annual club summer picnic, and access to the club website. Your receipt is your new annual 2018 FMC membership card.



Flatirons Facets  
P.O. Box 3331  
Boulder, CO 80307-3331

## First Class Mail

### *Upcoming Events*

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Monday, March 8	Club meeting featuring Richard Parsons "Introduction to Micromounting". See page 1	Frasier Meadows North Community Room, 350 Ponca Place, Boulder
Wednesday, March 21	Jr. Geologists meeting featuring wire wrapping. See page 4	Meadows Branch Library, 4800 Baseline Road, Boulder
Monday, April 12	Club Silent Auction, see pages 1 and 2	Left Hand Grange, 195 2nd Avenue, Niwot
Wednesday, April 18	Jr. Geologists meeting	Meadows Branch Library, 4800 Baseline Road, Boulder
Saturday, May 5	First field trip of the year to collect zeolite minerals, see page 3	North Table Mountain outside of Golden



# ANNUAL SILENT AUCTION

**Thursday April 12**  
**7:00pm**

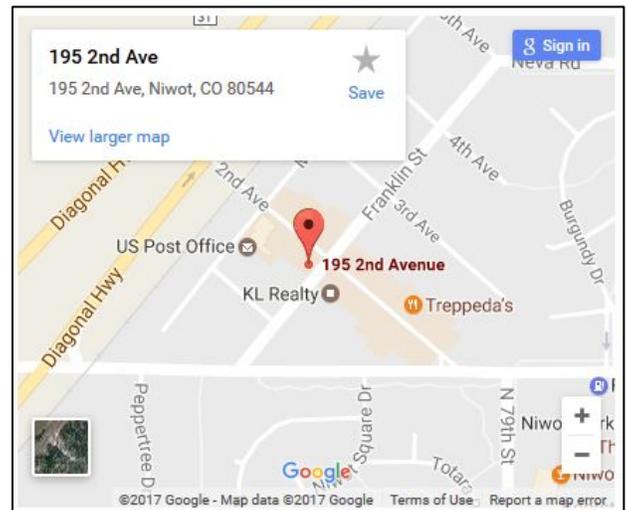
## Minerals Crystals Fossils Lapidary

Bring items to sell or just come to browse!

**New Location!**

**Left Hand Grange  
in Niwot**

**195 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave, Niwot CO 80544**



**Sellers:** Set-up starts at 6:00pm

To get a seller number before the event  
email Eileen at: [elfitz891@hotmail.com](mailto:elfitz891@hotmail.com)

**All sellers MUST use 2017 or newer bid slips**

[flatironsmineralclub.org](http://flatironsmineralclub.org)



