

# Flatirons Facets

Flatirons Mineral Club of Boulder County, Colorado  
Volume 61, Number 3  
May-June, 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.



## The May Meeting and the Paperless Future of Field Trip Sign-Ups

At the **May 10<sup>th</sup>** meeting, which is our traditional "Field Trip Sign-Up" meeting, we will be doing things differently this year. We will have a short program about this summer's field trips and a paper list of the trips will be available. Then Craig Hazelton will give us a presentation about cleaning the rocks you bring home from the trips.

**We will NOT do sign-ups at the meeting!** There will no longer be sign-ups on paper. The day after the meeting the entire field trip guide for 2018 will be available on the club's website (<https://flatironsmineralclub.org/>) after you log-in. And the field trips web page will be active and ready for you to sign-up for the trips.

Come to Thursday's meeting and learn about all the field trips planned for this year. And, then be ready to sign up on Friday, May 11!

For more information about field trips, see pages 3 and 4.

## Learn about Geodes at our June 14<sup>th</sup> Meeting

Howard Gordon will be joining us at our June meeting to talk about geodes, those mysterious treasures lined with crystals. Having received a B.A. degree in Geology from Humboldt State University in Arcata, CA, after completing his Bachelor's thesis, *A Comparison Of Spherulitic Geodes From Dugway, Utah and Barren Mountain, California*, Howard started his geologic career in Houston, TX as a petroleum geologist. After working the offshore of Louisiana and Texas, he moved to Denver. In Denver, he became the Exploration Manager for Texas Oil & Gas, responsible for exploration and production activities within the Rocky Mountain District. In time, he became a Registered Geologist in the states of Utah, Tennessee, and Wyoming, and a Certified Geologist with AIPG. Through several career changes and his retirement, his passion for geology has never waned. His presentation on June 14th will address the three types of geodes, based on their method of formation, that typically are found in rock shops. His emphasis will be on geodes found in extrusive volcanic rocks."





## *President's Message*

Hello Members!

I hope you're ready for the summer field trip season because May is the month to sign-up for the trips! And this year, sign-ups will be done entirely online at our website. This will start the Friday morning after the club's general meeting on May 10.

It will be a great summer of rockhounding! I'll see you out there!

Gabi



Note: Gabi has been traveling to exotic locations around the world since she retired in March. As you can see in this picture, she is having fun with fellow travelers rafting through the Grand Canyon. Hopefully, she will have lots of stories to tell of her travels.

## **Meeting Time and Location**

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. Please note that there are no club meetings in July and August. Get out and enjoy rockhounding adventures this summer

## **Boulder Creek Festival**



The club will have a booth at the Boulder Creek Festival kids' area, Saturday through Monday, May 26-28. We have rock games and information about our club, as well as free polished rocks for everyone! Please sign up to spend an hour or two helping us supervise the games and give out rocks. It is great fun to educate the public about rocks, minerals, and fossils, and to let them know about our club. For more info, contact Anita at [anitacolin@hotmail.com](mailto:anitacolin@hotmail.com)

Jeanne Orr talks to a family at last year's Boulder Creek Festival

## It's Field Trip Time!

### A Sneak Peek at the Upcoming Field Trips

The club's field trip committee has done a great job lining up a number of field trips for club members this summer. As a teaser, here are some of the places we're heading off to:

- Anita Colin is taking us to Yellow Cat Flat in Utah for petrified wood and agate pseudomorphs after barite. 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.

Come to the May 10<sup>th</sup> meeting to learn about all of the fun field trip opportunities this year.

### Rock and Roll - Is Your Vehicle Ready?

by Cathy Gaber, reprinted from the Opal Express, Bulletin of the American Opal Society

You're ready for your field trip, you have your tools, safety equipment, water, etc. packed and you've made plans for what to do with the great minerals or rough you will find. Have you given any thought to getting your vehicle ready for the trip too?

Nothing replaces regular maintenance as one of the best safeguards to a car or truck's continued reliable service, but before a trip, there are a number of things that should be specifically checked. Tires should be examined for bald spots and appropriate air pressure. A simple gauge that can be kept in the glove compartment is an easy way to test the latter. Car fluids should also be checked. Be sure the oil, radiator fluid, battery water and window wash fluid are at the proper levels, and don't forget gas! It might also be a wise idea to carry extra containers of all of these fluids, especially if you will be any distance from "civilization". It doesn't hurt to clean the battery contacts, and if there is any doubt about the battery's condition, replace it.

To be really prepared, there are a number of useful items to pack in your vehicle. Jumper cables, a tire patch kit, a flashlight, flares, matches, a shovel and kitty litter (to be used to increase traction) are all practical things to have. A real spare tire is definitely preferable to a "toy" temporary tire which will not hold up over long distances or rough terrain. None of these things will do you any good though if you do not know how to use them. Learn to change a tire or patch one, know how to use jumper cables and how to replace your vehicle fluids. A seldom needed item, a winch, could be a real life saver if you do any off road driving especially in wet, boggy terrain.

Another potential hazard to watch for especially in rough terrain is your vehicle's clearance capabilities. A low clearance family sedan, especially weighted down with a few hundred pounds of freshly collected rock, runs the danger of bottoming out, possibly damaging the suspension or puncturing the oil pan. When in doubt, don't put you or your vehicle at risk.

For your own comfort, food, water and a blanket are also sensible additions. For peace of mind, you should also have your insurance provider's and roadside service's phone numbers handy. Last but not least, use your seatbelt. There is nothing worse than a field trip gone unnecessarily bad by negligent vehicle preparation. It only takes a few minutes to give your car or truck the best possible chance to carry you safely and comfortably to and from your destination.

## Code of Ethics in the Field

A large measure of the enjoyment of our hobby consists of collecting in the field. For that reason, the American Federation of Mineralogical Society has established a Code of Ethics for members to follow. Keep these in mind during your summer field trips, both with the club and on your own.

- I will respect both private and public property and will do no collecting on privately owned land without permission from the owner.
- I will keep informed on all laws, regulations or rules governing collecting on public lands and will observe them.
- I will, to the best of my ability, ascertain the boundary lines of property on which I plan to collect.
- I will use no firearms or blasting material in collecting areas.
- I will cause no willful damage to property of any kind such as fences, signs, buildings, etc.
- I will leave all gates as found.
- I will build fires only in designated or safe places and will be certain they are completely extinguished before leaving the area.
- I will discard no burning material - matches, cigarettes, etc.
- I will fill all excavation holes which may be dangerous to livestock.
- I will not contaminate wells, creeks, or other water supplies.
- I will cause no willful damage to collecting material and will take home only what I can reasonably use.
- I will practice conservation and undertake to utilize fully and well the materials I have collected and will recycle my surplus for the pleasure and benefit of others.
- I will support the rockhound project H.E.L.P. (Help Eliminate Litter Please) and will leave all collecting areas devoid of litter, regardless of how found.
- I will cooperate with field-trip leaders and those in designated authority in all collecting areas.
- I will report to my club or federation officers, Bureau of Land Management or other authorities, any deposit of petrified wood or other materials on public lands which should be protected for the enjoyment of future generations for public educational and scientific purposes.
- I will appreciate and protect our heritage of natural resources.
- I will observe the "Golden Rule", will use Good Outdoor Manners and will at all times conduct myself in a manner which will add to the stature and Public Image of Rockhounds everywhere.

## Ideas for Personal Field Trips

Looking for places to rockhound on your own this summer? Perhaps you are traveling to another state and are looking for sites to visit? One good source of information is Bob Beste's *Location Guide for Rockhounds in the United States*, 4th. ed. It can be downloaded from the internet for free in four parts and has many sites in each state.

- [Part I--Alabama through Florida](#) (PDF, 156 p.)
- [Part II--Georgia through Montana](#) (PDF, 138 p.)
- [Part III--Nebraska through South Carolina](#) (PDF, 154 p.)
- [Part IV--South Dakota through Wyoming](#) (PDF, 191 p.)

## New Beginning Wire Wrapping Video

In March, the Jr. Geologist learned a simple technique for wire wrapping. Call the wiggle wrap. As part of the instruction, Craig Hazelton prepared a great video on this technique. You can view it at <https://youtu.be/pqOzlsFyXvI>. Craig will be glad to answer questions you have about the video. His email address is [paddlething@hotmail.com](mailto:paddlething@hotmail.com).

And check out the Jr. Geologists wire wrapping and other lapidary projects on page 7.

# Zeolites

Annika Jacobson, Age 9



Annika researching her article

There are over 40 types of zeolite rock. Zeolites are in a group of rocks called silicates and zeolites are the largest group of minerals in it. There is a type of zeolite called Thompsonite and it has two forms. One of the forms looks like a static fan. The other type is strands of Thompsonite woven together to make a fabric-like look.

Here are a couple of types: Thompsonite, Analcite, Chabazonite, Gismondine, Gonnardite, Cowlesite, Phillipsite, Natrolite, Mesolite, Edingtonite, Solectite, Paranatrolite, Garronite, Merlinonite, Gobbinsite, Levyne, Faujasite, and Laumonite. Places to find Thompsonite in the United States are Arizona, Arkansas, California, and Colorado. I found my specimens at North Table Mountain in Golden Colorado.

Zeolite crystals come in many different colors like white, pink, blue, and a green tint. Natural zeolites form where volcanic rocks and ash react with alkaline groundwater. Zeolite crystals can form inside of any volcanic rock.

Zeolite



Cavity lined with thompsonite and analcine crystals collected by Annika



Analcine crystals from North Table Mountain collected by Annika last year

Secondary thompsonite crystals collected by Annika





## Great Meeting in March

Richard Parsons joined us at our March 8 meeting for a great program on an **Introduction to Micromounting**. His presentation gave all of us a wonderful insight into micromounts, those small, often beautifully crystallized mineral specimens. We thank Richard for sharing his knowledge with club members.

Richard Parsons presenting his talk on micromounts

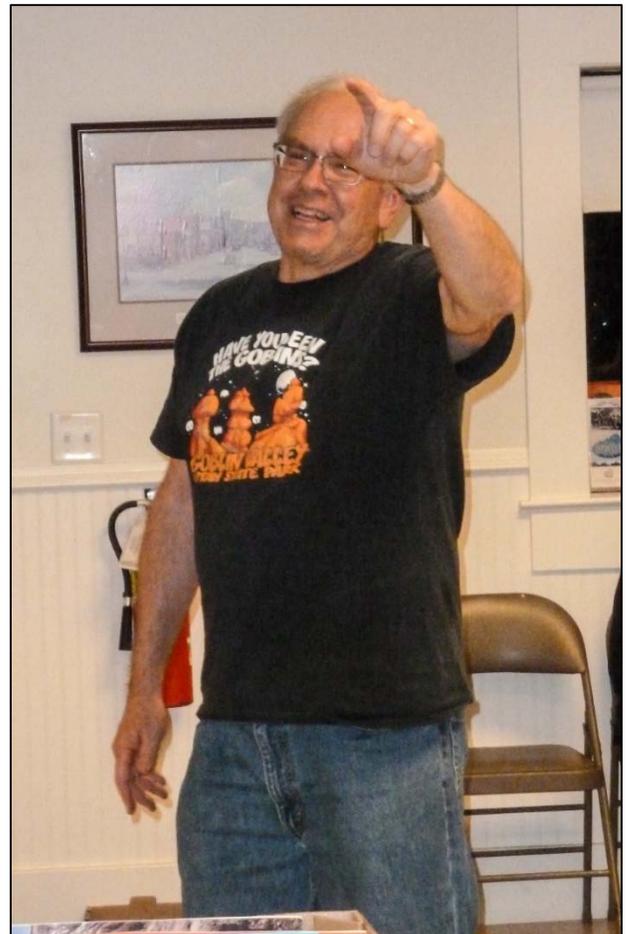
## Silent Auction

This year's Silent Auction on April 12<sup>th</sup> was a great success and a lot of fun. Gerry Naugle reported that the auction brought in \$756.50, with \$410.94 added to the club treasury. Any many people went home with some great specimens and other rockhounding supplies, happy with their winnings.

We especially want to thank all of the club volunteers who helped make this year's auction a success.



Club members at the club shed, gathering items for the Silent Auction. Photo by Gabi Accatino



Auctioneer Dennis Gertenbach. Photo by Brian



Bidding on some great specimens. Photo by Brian Walko



Two happy bidders at the Auction. Photo by Brian Walko

## Jr. Geologists Activities

The Jr. Geologists have had great fun learning lapidary techniques these past two months. We learned about rocks used for lapidary work, lapidary safety, and wire wrapping techniques. Using the rocks that the Jr. Geologists had polished the past few months in a rock tumbler, Craig Hazelton taught the kids a simple wire wrapping technique called the wiggle wrap. At the April meeting, the Jr. Geologists brought the jewelry they had made for a show-and-tell. Craig also taught some of the lapidary techniques and equipment he uses for polishing rocks and making agate jewelry.



Fourteen Jr. Geologists earned their Lapidary Arts badge: Liam Ange, Elias Christol, Mason Hofmeister, Brecket Hofmeister, Hobie Lawson, Karina Minson, Francesco Monti, Jack O'Day, Henry Poe, Indira Rees, Bryce Stirling, Brooklyn Wilsdorf, Koji Yamaguchi, and Seiji Yamaguchi. Several others are well on their way to completing this badge.

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.



Karen Simmons helping teach wire wrapping to the Jr. Geologists. Photo by Dennis Gertenbach



Koji and Seiji show off their wire wrapping projects. Photo by Dennis Gertenbach



Craig Hazelton demonstrates lapidary techniques. Photo by Karen Simmons

### **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.

### **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.

## Free Colorado Gold and Silver Field Trip Guidebook Available

The Field Trip Guidebook from the Gold and Silver Deposits in Colorado Symposium held at the Colorado School of Mines in July, 2017 is now available. It can be downloaded for free at <https://dspace.library.colostate.edu/handle/11124/172170>.

## History and Geology in Your Neighborhood – Purington Pavers

Dennis Gertenbach

Strolling through my neighborhood, I frequently passed by a house with these interesting bricks lining the sidewalk. A closer examination showed that each brick was stamped, “Purington Paver,” as seen in the photo. They were obviously old, but I knew nothing about Purington Pavers. It was time to do some research to learn the history of these bricks.



The Purington Brick Company in East Galesburg, Illinois, was the source of Purington Pavers, which were famed for more than 100 years as premium quality paving material. The company was once the largest producer of brick pavers in the world, where up to 800 workers transformed the local blue shale and yellow soil into more than 150,000 bricks per day.

The site of what would later become Purington Paver Brick Company was first used in 1849 by Henry Grosscup, a German stone mason. He purchased 90 acres of land from Knox College to start a brick making operation. His first

order was for bricks to construct Whiting Hall and Old Main on the college campus and was able to pay for the land with this first brick order.

Brothers D. V. and W. S. Purington purchased the land around 1890. Other brick companies had established themselves in the area, manufacturing “soft” bricks that were used for building construction. The Puringtons set themselves apart by manufacturing heavy, solid bricks that were in increasing demand for paving streets. Their kilns produced the company’s signature 4” x 4” x 8” paving brick until 1949. They began with 14 kilns, and later added another 22 kilns. The Chicago, Burlington, and Quincy Railroad provided access to the market by building a switch track extension to the yards. The railroad was critical for the success of this business to transport the finished bricks.



The Purington Brick Company factory in East Galesburg, Illinois. Credit: Knox County Historical Sites

Demand for the paving bricks rapidly increased with the increasing popularity of the automobile. The installation of brick streets in urban areas eliminated muddy streets in the fall, winter, and spring, and dusty streets in the summer. Cities, towns, and homes became cleaner and healthier places as a direct result of paved streets.

Purington products were used to pave streets in their hometown of Galesburg, in other cities and towns

across Illinois and surrounding states, and throughout the world from the bazaar in Bombay, India to streets in Paris, France. More than 60 miles of streets in their hometown were paved with Purington Pavers. At the turn of the last century, the United States government selected Purington Pavers for the streets of Panama City, Panama, during construction of the Panama Canal. The largest order ever filled came at the start of World War II when E. I. du Pont de Nemours and Company needed 22,000,000 building bricks for a munitions plant in southern Indiana. Purington worked at full production capacity for 146 days to complete the order, filling seven or eight freight cars each day. The daily shipment traveled through night and arrived next morning at the building site, still warm from the kiln.

In those days, making bricks was a labor-intensive process. Nearby pits owned by the company provided the shale for the bricks. The shale was crushed, blended with other ingredients, and the right amount of water added to mold raw brick. The bricks were then loaded on to movable platforms and placed into the kilns by hand. The Knox County Historical Sites relates that “Old timers recall the physical labor



Installing pavers on Main Street, Galesburg, Illinois. Credit: Galesburg Public Library

involved as a green brick pitcher tossed the clay bricks, sometimes two and three in each hand, to the catcher above, who stacked them in the kiln. The catcher often used old leather shoe soles, cut individually for each hand, to help curb the blisters." Teenage boys, known as "sand monkeys," threw sand on the bricks so they would not stick together in the kiln.

The bricks were heated in coal-fired kilns to the point where the surface began to vitrify (form glass), making the bricks extremely hard and durable. The kiln was then cooled and the finished bricks removed.

By 1948 paving bricks were no longer in demand, due to the popularity of asphalt for streets. So the company switched to producing facing bricks for exterior walls. Equipment updates and firing with natural gas were some of the improvements made to the plant to improve production, lower costs, and reduce air pollution. However, by 1974, the operation became unprofitable and the plant was closed.



Workers inside the brick factory. Credit: Knox County Historical Sites



The kilns and brickyard today. Credit: Knox County Historical Sites

The old brickyards, located just north of Interstate 74, remain. Overgrown with weeds and brush, the crumbling buildings and kilns can still be seen from the road. Today, birds and wildlife have taken over the old brickyards.

Today, Gavin Historical Bricks reclaims Purington Pavers from streets throughout the Midwest. These reclaimed pavers are now popular for construction and home pavement projects, such as the one in my neighborhood. They come in a variety of colors from orange to red to purple to black.

So, keep your eyes open as you walk through your neighborhood. You never know what geologic treasures you may find.

Information for this article was obtained from

<https://www.historicalbricks.com/resources/brick-history>

<https://www.historicalbricks.com/blog/2016/11/21/purington-pavers-made/>

<https://www.antiquebrickwarehouse.com/pages/history-of-purington-pavers>

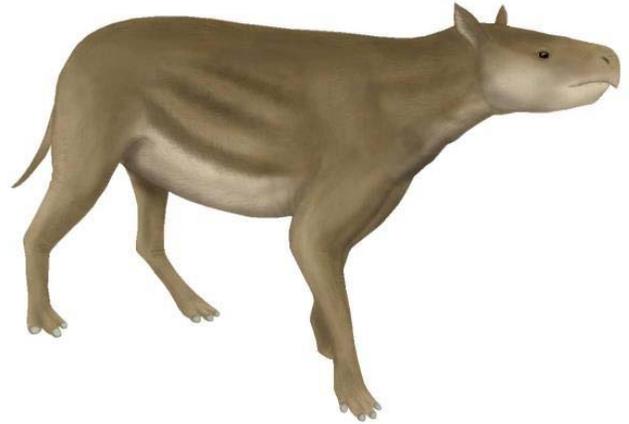
<http://www.kville.org/kchistory/Pure.html>

## Fossils in the News

Dennis Gertenbach

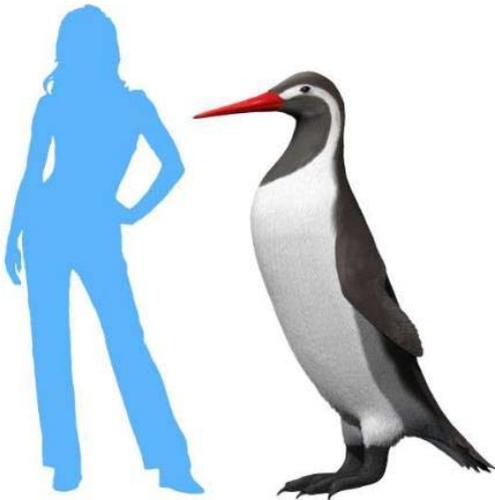
### Rare Mammal Fossil Discovered in Wyoming

The Wyoming State Geological Survey announced a fossil discovered near Kemmerer, Wyoming, that may be the first of its kind and is the largest mammal found to date in the 50-million-year-old Green River Formation. This ancient relative of modern tapirs was found in the Warfield Fossil Quarries (where our club will collect fossil fish in July). The specimen was found in several pieces and was damaged by weathering and roots. The majority of the animal's teeth are missing, and its skull is damaged. The fossil has been tentatively identified as *Heptodon calciculus*, but several characteristics deviate from other fossils of this animal, so further study may conclude that this is a different species. Prior to starting the preparation process to extract the fossil bones from the rock, the rock slabs were CT scanned and X-rayed at Iverson Memorial Hospital in Laramie, Wyoming, so that geologists could view and identify fossilized material encased in the rock. Although the specimen was found on a state-leased quarry, it is now at the University of Wyoming because of its rarity. The public can learn more about the fossil and follow progress of its preparation on the WSGS [website](#). Also, weekly updates are on the agency's [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#) pages.



Life restoration of *Heptodon* Credit: Smokeybjb through Wikimedia.org

Information from <http://wsgs.wyo.gov/wyoming-geology/tapiromorph-fossil>.



Comparison between the giant penguin *Kumimanu biceae* and a human. Credit: Nobu Tamura

### Giant Penguin Fossils found in New Zealand

Imagine penguins weighing more than 220 pounds and as tall as a human. This is what newly found fossils, named *Kumimanu biceae*, suggest. Compare this to today's largest living penguin, the emperor penguin, which is half as massive and only 4 feet tall. The bird lived 55 million to 60 million years ago, just after the mass extinction that took out the dinosaurs. Why did these birds become so large? Once penguins no longer flew, aerodynamics did not constrain their body size. Large marine reptiles disappeared with the dinosaurs, which opened the sea to large marine predators. So why are there no giant penguins today? Scientists have found that penguin size diminished as seals and toothed whales evolved, suggesting that giant penguins may have been outcompeted for food and safe places to rear their young. By becoming smaller, safer hunting and breeding grounds were used.

Information from <http://www.sciencemag.org/news/2017/12/ancient-penguins-may-have-weighed-more-100-kilograms-been-tall-human>.

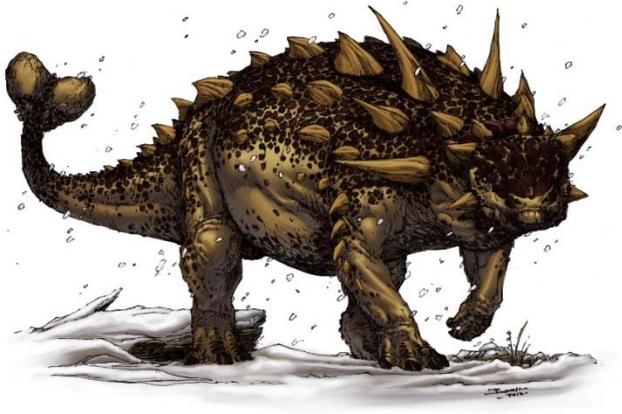


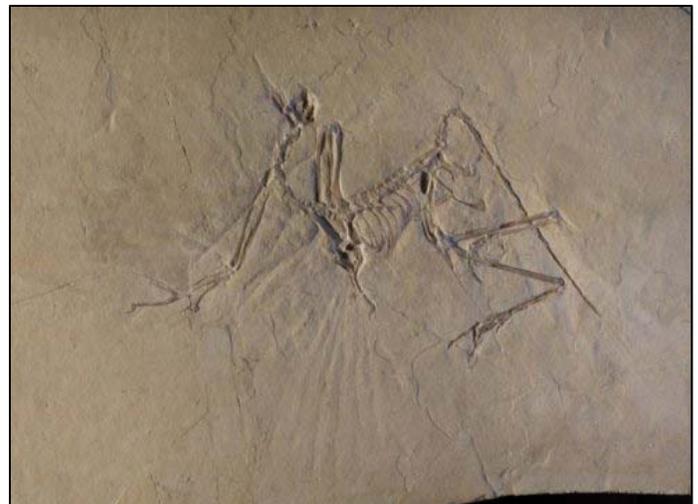
Illustration of Euoplocephalus, an ankylosaur, known as the “armored tanks of the Cretaceous” Credit: Brett Booth

down. However, ankylosaurs existed for about 100 million years and could not have lived that long if they were clumsy animals. Another theory was that ankylosaurs were prey for carnivores, such as hungry tyrannosaurids, which would flip the armored dinosaurs onto their backs to get at the soft underbelly. However, the fossils of only one examined ankylosaur showed bite marks, eliminating this possibility. The third idea, called the armadillo roadkill theory, proposed that the carcass rots and bloats, splaying out the limbs. This would roll the animal on its back. However, a study of bloating armadillos (another armored animal) did not show that bloating causes the dead armadillos to roll over. (This must have been a fun set of experiments to run.) Only bloat-and-float fits the observations of ankylosaur discoveries.

Information from <http://www.nature.ca/en/about-us/museum-news/news/press-releases/flipside-dinosaur-mystery-bloat-float-explains-upside-down->

### Was *Archaeopteryx* an Active Flyer?

Since its discovery in the early 1860s, scientists have argued if the late Jurassic bird, *Archaeopteryx*, was an elaborately feathered ground dweller, a glider, or an active flyer. An international team of scientists from the European Synchrotron (Grenoble, France), Palacký University (Czech Republic), Le Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique and Sorbonne University (France), Uppsala University (Sweden), and Bürgermeister-Müller-Museum (Solnhofen, Germany), shed new light on this earliest of birds. Their study showed that wing bones of *Archaeopteryx* were shaped for incidental active flight, but not for the advanced style of flying mastered by today's birds. By scanning the wing bones of *Archaeopteryx*, rather than its shoulder girdle as has been previously done, similarities to modern birds were found. They noticed that the bone walls of *Archaeopteryx* were much thinner than those of earthbound dinosaurs but looked a lot like conventional bird bones. When comparing their data to modern birds, bones of *Archaeopteryx* were closest to those like pheasants that occasionally use active flight to cross barriers or dodge predators, but not like gliding and soaring birds. Their study demonstrated that *Archaeopteryx* was an active flyer.



The Munich *Archaeopteryx* specimen, showing both wings with imprints of wing feathers and tail plumage. Credit:

Information from <https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2018/03/180313130626.htm>

## Denver Gem & Mineral Show Mini Report May 2018

The Denver Gem & Mineral Show is only four short months away! How could you forget?! The Denver Show is the most exciting event for our hobby and it happens right here on our turf! Let's recap the facts. The Denver Gem & Mineral Show takes place September 14 - 16, 2018 at the Denver Mart, 451 E. 58th Avenue (intersection of I-25 and 58th Avenue). The theme of this year's show is "Minerals of Mexico". The Show Chair is Lesley Sebol, who can be reached at [lesleysebol@gmail.com](mailto:lesleysebol@gmail.com) or 720-999-1372. Lesley is always open to new ideas to better the show.

The Show Committee wishes to enhance the educational value of the show and to attract younger folks to the hobby. There will be more exposure to the lapidary arts at the show this year. In particular, there will be a wire wrapping class taught by Susan Gardner on both Saturday and Sunday of the show. The class will be limited to about 20 persons and run from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. with a break for lunch. If you have always wanted to learn wire wrapping, this may be your chance. More information about signing up and the cost will be forthcoming later, but don't wait to sign up because the class is limited.

The \$5,000 gold giveaway for children 12 years of age and younger will again happen at the show! This was a huge success last year. If you had an opportunity to watch the children pan for the tokens, it was amazing! Some of the children were very intense and determined to find one of the tokens. Then when they did, their faces lit up with smiles and delight as they took their token over to be exchanged for their treasure of gold. It will be a thrilling adventure for many children again this year.

I cannot write a mini report without reminding all of our clubs' members that the show needs your help to operate and to be successful. The show is an all-volunteer effort; no one is paid for their work for the show. The show depends on volunteers from the clubs. So if you enjoy the show, you need to step up, to throw your hat in the ring, to raise your hand and say "I will help". First of all, there are some open positions on the Show Committee, the 50 member group that plans the show all year long. These are a second Historian, who assists with photographing all the exhibits and creating a history for the show. Bill Hutchinson has volunteered to be a Historian so only one more is needed. There are several positions that need an assistant. These are Buildings and Grounds, Dealers, Door Prizes, Tear Down, Trophies, and Volunteers. So please think about joining the committee. The Show Committee meets at 7:30 p.m. on the first Tuesday of each month except February, July and December at the Colorado School of Mines Geology Museum conference room. Come to a meeting to find out what it is all about. You may serve as an At Large member until you decide where you fit in.

About 400 volunteers are also needed at show time to help run the show. Volunteers are needed for admissions, security, hospitality, volunteer check in, dealer check in, show set up, show take down, schools, judging clerks, exhibits assistants, and grab bag/ poster/pins sales. Plenty of opportunity for you to assist with the best show in town! Sign up multiple times and often!

Respectfully submitted, Judy Knoshaug, Show Secretary



## 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.

**Saturday, May 12, Dinosaur Discovery Day**, featuring **Boy Scout Day** at Dinosaur Ridge, Morrison, CO. See [www.dinoridge.org](http://www.dinoridge.org) for full information.

**Sunday, May 20**, from 12 noon to 4 pm is the **Friends of Mineralogy, Colorado Chapter, Silent Auction**, at Clements Community Center, 1580 Yarrow St., Lakewood. All are welcome. See the flyer on the next page for more information.

**Friday-Sunday, June 1-3**, is the **Pikes Peak Gem & Mineral Show**, sponsored by the Colorado Springs Mineralogical Society; at the Norris-Penrose Event Center [new location], 1045 Lower Gold Camp Road #3, Colorado Springs. See the flyer below for more information.

**Sunday, June 17**, is the date for the once-yearly **Geology Train** on the Cumbres & Toltec Scenic Railroad, Antonito, CO. See their website, <http://cumbrestoltec.com/> for more information.

Saturday and Sunday, August 4-5, is a symposium in Golden, CO, **Minerals from the Metallic Ore Deposits of the American Southwest**, cosponsored by the Friends of Mineralogy, Colorado Chapter; the Colorado School of Mines Geology Museum; and the Friends of the CSM Geology Museum. More information about the symposium will be provided as it is available; a best source to check is <http://friendsofmineralogycolorado.org/>.

55th Annual  
**Pikes Peak  
Gem, Mineral, &  
Jewelry Show**  
*Featured Mineral: Fluorite*

Fri. & Sat., June 1-2, 2018, 10:00-5:00  
Sun., June 3, 2018, 10:00-4:00

Adults \$5.00 / 3-Day Pass \$8.00  
Kids 12 & Under FREE

**NORRIS-PENROSE EVENT CENTER**  
(Address & map on reverse side)



Fluorite on Quartz, Ana Mine, Berbes, Spain  
Photo by Frank Rosenberg, CSMS Member

Colorado Springs Mineralogical Society    [www.csms1936.com](http://www.csms1936.com)    [ppgmjshow@gmail.com](mailto:ppgmjshow@gmail.com)



## **Friends of Mineralogy, Colorado Chapter-*Silent* *Auction***

**Sunday, May 20, 2018**

**Setup begins 10:30 a.m., Auction begins at 12 noon  
Clements Community Center, 1580 Yarrow St., Lakewood CO**

**All are invited to come & bring material to sell, and to bid on items**

**Friends of Mineralogy, Colorado Chapter is having its silent auction** of mineral specimens, rocks, fossils, books, faceted stones, jewelry, lapidary pieces and mining memorabilia. Please bring your auction materials for setup beginning at 10.30 AM. All (members or not) are invited to bring specimens to sell, and to participate as bidders/buyers. Items brought to the auction may be designated as a 20%, 50%, or 100% donation to FMCC.

Time: Our auction will be on **SUNDAY, May 20** (new day & weekend from last year!); setup will begin at 10:30 a.m., auction to begin at 12 noon, a live auction of special items will begin at 1 p.m., all tables will be closed by 3:00 p.m., and checkout should be completed by 4:00 p.m.

Location: Clements Community Center, 1580 Yarrow St., Lakewood, located one block northwest of the intersection of West Colfax Ave. and Wadsworth Blvd. The entrance and parking lot are off Yarrow Street, on the south side of the building. Go north on Yarrow Street from Colfax.



Auction bid slips are attached on a separate page, and will also be available at the auction during setup. Sellers can also get copies of our bidding slips at our website:

[www.friendsofmineralogycolorado.org](http://www.friendsofmineralogycolorado.org) **Note to sellers, PLEASE use our current bidding slips, not old ones which may differ, from previous years. Thank you!**

Any questions about the auction should be directed to Jeff Self, 303-898-7539, selfawareminerals@gmail.com, or Pete Modreski, pmodreski@aol.com, 720-205-2553. To be assigned a seller / bidder number in advance, please contact Lou Conti, dlconti@aol.com, 303-797-3205.

# Officers, Directors, and Other Volunteers

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## President

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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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### Volunteer Chair

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### Program Chair

open

### Dealer Chairs

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### Show Advertising and Admissions

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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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|                              |  |  |
|------------------------------|--|--|
| Thursday, May 10             | Club meeting about our field trips this summer | Frasier Meadows North Community Room, 350 Ponca Place in Boulder |
| Wednesday, May 16            | Jr. Geologists meeting – volcano night         | Meadows Branch Library at 4800 Baseline Road in Boulder          |
| Saturday – Monday, May 26-28 | Club booth at the Boulder Creek Festival       | Broadway and Canyon in Boulder                                   |
| Thursday, June 14            | Club meeting featuring Geodes by Howard Gordon | Frasier Meadows North Community Room, 350 Ponca Place in Boulder |

And lots of field trips beginning this month. Come to the May 10<sup>th</sup> club meeting to learn about all of our field trips. The field trip guide and signups will be available on the club's website at <https://flatironsmineralclub.org/>