

CLUB MEETING – THURSDAY, OCTOBER 11

Rob Wesson is presenting a program titled Darwin's Footsteps at this month's meeting. Everybody knows—or thinks they know—Charles Darwin, the father of evolution and the man who altered the way we view our place in the world. But what most people do not know is that Darwin was on board the HMS Beagle as a geologist—on a mission to examine the land, not flora and fauna. Or about Darwin's seminal role in demonstrating and exploring the ups and down of the Earth's crust. This is the story told in Rob Wesson's book, Darwin's First Theory, and that he will share with us.

Club meetings begin at 7:00 pm at the Frasier Meadows North Community Room, 350 Ponca Place, Boulder, CO 80303. When you enter the building, ask the receptionist for directions to the meeting room.

TOWEL SHOW – THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 8

Did you find some great specimens on your field trips over the summer? Have you finished lapidary and jewelry projects this past year? If so, plan to share them with other club members by displaying them (on a towel you bring) at our annual club Towel Show. All ages should come and join the fun.

Prizes are awarded to both adults and juniors in the following categories: personal field trip, club field trip, lapidary/jewelry, best mineral, best fossil, best ugly rock, and even best towel. Everyone votes for their favorites and Amazon gift cards are presented to the first and second place winners in each category. So, pick out some of your best specimens in as many categories as you like, make labels for them, and bring them to display on your towel.

The Towel Show will start at 7:00 pm in the Left Hand Grange in Niwot (195 2nd Avenue, Niwot, 80544). If you are bringing items to show, plan to arrive 10 minutes early to set up your display. Also, bring snacks to share with everyone.

CLUB SHOW – FRIDAY-SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7-9

One of the club's highlights is the annual Rocks and Rails Show at the Boulder Fairgrounds in Longmont.

Volunteers Needed: The show is fast approaching and with it the need for volunteers in several areas...the kids area, set-up, take-down, security, and parking. Please be thinking of how you can help the club by volunteering for one, or more, of these areas. Contact Charlotte at rckhnd4252@gmail.com to let her know where you would like to help.

Club Artisan Table: One feature of our show is the Club Artisan Table. Bring your rocks, minerals, jewelry, or other rock-related items to sell at our Club Artisan Table, open only to club members. Contact Kevin at knotheis@gmail.com for more information.

ADDED FIELD TRIP TO CALHAN PAINT MINES PARK – SATURDAY, OCTOBER 27

We have added another field trip this month for club members. Join the Jr. Geologists for a hike through the colorful formations of the Calhan Paint Mines Interpretive Park. This park is a hidden geological gem, just over two hours from Boulder. The Paint Mines are named for their colorful clays that were collected by American Indians to make paint. Brightly colored bands, caused by oxidized iron compounds, are found in varying amounts throughout the many different layers of clay. The Paint Mines have evidence of human life as far back as 9,000 years ago. The hiking trails lead you through the hoodoos, spires, and other formations, where we will learn more about the geology of this area. This is

an educational hike and no collecting is allowed in the park. Sign up for the trip at the club's website at <https://flatironsmineralclub.org/>.

JR. GEOLOGISTS MEETINGS – WEDNESDAYS, OCTOBER 17 AND NOVEMBER 21

With school back in session, the Jr. Geologists are meeting on the third Wednesday of each month. Details of our meetings will be sent to the Jr. Geologists families the upcoming meetings.

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 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 at gertenbach1@gmail.com or 303-709-8218.

JOIN THE FLATIRONS MINERAL CLUB BOARD

We have one of the most active rock and mineral clubs in the Denver area, thanks to the leadership provided by our Board. Elections for Board members for the next year will be in November. If you would like to help with the club's activities as a Board member, please contact Gabi at accatino@colorado.edu.

DUES ARE DUE

A friendly reminder that the annual dues are due on October 1, 2018. Dues are still only \$18 for one or more immediate family members. You can pay in two ways: Send a check made to "Flatirons Mineral Club" to P.O. Box 3331, Boulder, CO 80307 or pay Gerry Naugle, Treasurer, at any FMC monthly meeting.

OFFICERS FOR THE GREATER DENVER AREA GEM AND MINERAL COUNCIL

The Greater Denver Area Gem and Mineral Council will be electing officers for 2019 at their November 28, 2018 meeting. Open offices include President, Vice President, and Secretary. Any club member who wishes to serve in one of these positions should contact Gabi at accatino@colorado.edu. The Council organizes the Denver Gem and Mineral Show each September. For more information about the duties of the Council, please see <https://www.denvermineralshow.com/council>.

OTHER ROCKHOUNDING EVENTS OF INTEREST - Thanks to Pete Modreski of the USGS for providing many of these.

- **Wed., Oct. 3**, 4:00 p.m., CU Geological Sciences Colloquium, **"Rifts basins, volcanoes and hominin diversity in Pliocene Ethiopia"**, by Naomi Levin, University of Michigan. Benson Earth Sciences Building, Room 180; refreshments follow meeting; all welcome.
- **Thurs., Oct. 4**, 7:00 p.m., Colorado School of Mines Geology Museum, "First Thursday" lecture series, **Huge explosive eruptions: Their nature and effects**, by Tom Casadevall, USGS Scientist Emeritus. CSM Geology Museum, 1310 Maple St., Golden, Room GRL 201 (the large conference room across the hall from the Museum). Socializing at 6:30 p.m., program at 7:00. All are welcome.
- **Fri., Oct. 12, Denver Gem and Mineral Guild's Annual Auction**. There will be a lot to offer at the silent auction, including flats at low prices, high-end jewelry, and even a table just for kids.. Dave Sanchez and other members have been working hard to organize the materials we need to peddle. So your task is to bring lots of money! The auction starts at 7:30 pm at the Geology

Building, Berthoud Hall, Room 109 (lower level), 1516 Illinois Street, Colorado School of Mines, Golden.

- **Sat., Oct. 13**, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m., **Dinosaur Discovery Day** at Dinosaur Ridge, featuring “**Girl Scout Day**”. Public tour day at Dinosaur Ridge, 16831 W. Alameda Parkway, Morrison. Walk up and down the Ridge to see interpretive guides explain the various fossil and geology stations, or ride a guided shuttle up and/or back for \$4. There will be special activities and earth science badges to complete for Girl Scouts, who may register in advance [\$6 for Scouts to register]. See www.dinoridge.org for more info.
- **Sat., Oct. 13**, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m., “**Dan’s Used Rocks, 20th Anniversary Open House & Mineral Sale**”. 12296 W. Mississippi Ave., Lakewood CO; email dansrocks@comcast.net . All are welcome. “Celebrating 20 years in business with hundred of specimens at 50% or more off, dozens of inexpensive flat lots, some one-time only deals, and of course plenty of food and drink.”
- **Tues., Oct. 16, and Wed., Oct. 17**, two short after-work **Geology Hikes** for the public will be held for the occasion of Earth Science Week, which runs Oct. 14-20. Meet at 5 p.m.; on Oct. 16, at the “Sleeping Elk Trailhead” at 18th St. & Belvedere St., Golden, for a hike up to the top of “Castle Rock” on South Table Mountain. Meet at 5 p.m. on Oct. 17 at the Rooney Road Trailhead on S. Rooney Road (Lakewood/Morrison/Golden), south of W. Colfax and I-70 and north of Alameda Parkway, for a short hike along the Green Mountain Trail. Back by dusk. For more information or if weather is questionable, contact USGS geologist Pete Modreski, pmodreski@usgs.gov, office 303-202-4766, cell 720-205-2553.
- **Sat., Oct. 20**, 12 noon, **Littleton Gem & Mineral Club, silent and verbal auction**. Columbine Hills Church, 9700 Old Coal Mine Avenue, Littleton, CO. Seller setups (club retains 20% commission) at 11, silent auction begins at noon, verbal auction at 1 p.m., checkout starts at 3:30 p.m. All are welcome.
- **Sat. and Sun., Nov. 10-11**, **39th annual New Mexico Mineral Symposium**, at New Mexico Institute of Mining & Technology, Socorro, NM; see <https://geoinfo.nmt.edu/museum/minsymp/home.cfml> .
- **Wed., Nov. 14**, 7:30 p.m., **Friends of Mineralogy, Colorado Chapter** bimonthly meeting; “**Still Crazy (about Franklin) after all these years: The minerals of Franklin and Sterling Hill, New Jersey**”, by Carl (Bob) Carnein. Lakeview Event Center, 7864 W. Jewell Ave., Lakewood CO; all welcome.
- **Thurs. Nov. 15**, 7:00 p.m., Colorado Scientific Society November meeting, “**Geothermal Energy**”, by Jeff Winick, DOE, plus a possible 2nd speaker. Shepherd of the Hills Church, 11500 W. 20th Ave., Lakewood.
- **Thurs., Nov. 15**, 3:00 p.m., Denver Museum of Nature & Science, Earth Science Colloquium: **Mammals Inherit the Earth: How the K/Pg Mass Extinction Killed off Dinosaurs and Opened the Way for Mammals**, by Greg Wilson, University of Washington. VIP Room, museum admission not required.
- **Nov. 16-18**, **Denver Area Mineral Dealers Show**, Jefferson County Fairgrounds, 15200 W. 6th Ave., Golden, CO. Hours: Fri. & Sat. 10 AM - 5 PM, Sun. 11 AM - 4 PM. Free admission, public welcome. Information: 303-993-6685, 303-986-3647, 303-660-9564.