

# *Flatirons Mineral Club Coming Attractions February and March 2024*

## **Club Meeting - Tuesday, February 13: Mining Rhodochrosite at the Sweet Home Mine**

Most of us have seen the beautiful rhodochrosite crystals from the Sweet Home Mine in Alma, Colorado. At our February meeting, **Brian Walko** will present photos and information about the renovated Detroit City Mine Portal, a new entrance that hopes to discover additional veins of Colorado's state mineral. We will also show a video about how these beautiful rhodochrosite crystals are recovered.

Club meetings start at 7:00 pm in Barker Hall at the Mountain View United Methodist Church, 355 Ponca Place in Boulder. Enter the building from the parking lot on the west side.



Rhodochrosite from the Sweet Home Mine in Colorado. Credit: Rob Lavinsky, licensed under the [Creative Commons Attribution-Share Alike 3.0 Unported](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/3.0/)

## **Club Meeting - Tuesday, March 12: Formation of the Grand Canyon**

Our March 12 meeting is a 1-hour **History Channel video production** with brief stops and discussions about the current thoughts about how the Grand Canyon was formed. (Hint: The immense Grand Canyon we see today is less than 6 million years old.) Mark your calendars to attend this interesting program.

## **Silent Auction – Wednesday, April 10**

This year's silent auction will start at 7:00 pm in Barker Hall in the basement of the north side of Mountain View United Methodist Church (where we hold our monthly club meetings).

Over the past several years, the club has received several outstanding collections. Many of these items will be available at the auction, including fabulous minerals, fossils, and lapidary material. There will also be rockhounding books and tools to bid on.

Come to the auction and find those special specimens, books, or tools that you have been looking for. We can accept cash, check, and credit cards. If you like, please bring finger food to share.



**Sellers:** We welcome your rockhounding items to sell at the auction. You can designate 20%, 50%, or 100% of the sale to go to the club. Now is the time to go through your rocks, minerals, fossils, rockhounding books, and other equipment and set aside items you no longer want and would like to sell at the auction. More details will be in the next newsletter.

## Jr. Geologists Activities

Jr. Geologists meetings are now on the third Tuesday of each month, starting at 6:30. By moving the meeting night, we will be able to meet in Room 215 with much more space for our activities. The next two meetings will be:

- Tuesday, February 20
- Tuesday, March 19

Details about the meetings will be emailed to the Jr. Geologists families.

The Jr. Geologists program is open to all Flatirons Mineral Club families. We meet monthly during the school year and have special field trips and other activities in the summer. For information about the Jr. Geologists program, please contact Dennis at [gertenbach1@gmail.com](mailto:gertenbach1@gmail.com) or 303-709-8218.

## Other Rockhounding Events and Activities in the Area

Here are other activities of interest in the area for rockhounds of all ages.

- **February 8-11 (Thursday-Sunday)** is the **Tucson Gem and Mineral Show** at the Tucson Convention Center. These are the dates of the original, "main" show, sponsored by the Tucson Gem and Mineral Society. Many other shows also take place in Tucson at multiple locations during the previous several weeks. For more information about the show, see <https://www.tgms.org/show>.

- **February 23-25 (Friday-Sunday)** is the **Denver Gem and Mineral Guild, Gem and Mineral Show** at the Jefferson County Fairgrounds, Exhibit Hall, 15200 W. 6th Avenue, Golden. Times are 10-5 on Friday and Saturday and 10-4 on Sunday. No admission charge. Dealers, club demonstrations, special exhibits, fluorescent display, door prizes, and more. See <https://denvergem.org/february-show/> for details.

- **March 22-24 (Friday-Sunday)** is the **Fort Collins Gem and Mineral Show**, 4-8 p.m. Fri., 9-6 Sat., 10-4 Sun., at The Ranch/Larimer County Fairgrounds, Thomas M. McKee 4-H Building; the Fort Collins Rockhounds Club 61<sup>st</sup> annual show. See the flyer for more information.

**JEWELRY, GEM, & MINERAL SHOW**

**Free Admission!**

**Celebrating DGMG's 60th Year!**

**Gems**  
**Books**  
**Displays**  
**Minerals**  
**Sculptures**  
**Demonstrations**

**Fossils**  
**Geodes**  
**Jewelry**  
**Crystals**  
**Kids' activities**  
**Over 25 Sellers**

**February 23 – February 25, 2024**  
**Hours: 10 - 6 Friday & Saturday 10 - 5 Sunday**  
**JEFFERSON COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS**

QR code

**61st Annual 2024 Fort Collins Rockhounds**

**Gem & Mineral Show**

**Featuring Agate & Colorado Minerals**

**Friday March 22 4pm-8pm**  
**Saturday March 23 9am-6pm**  
**Sunday March 24 10am-4pm**

Details at [www.fortcollinsrockhounds.org](http://www.fortcollinsrockhounds.org)  
[fcrockhounds@gmail.com](mailto:fcrockhounds@gmail.com) • (No dealer space available)

Thomas M. McKee 4-H, Youth & Community Building,  
Larimer County Fairgrounds

**The Ranch**