

# *Flatirons Mineral Club Coming Attractions*

## *April and May 2024*

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

This year's silent auction will start at 6:45 pm in Barker Hall at Mountain View United Methodist Church (355 Ponca Place in Boulder). This is the same room where last year's Auction was held. **Please note that the day and time are different than 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. Also, plan to bring something to put your purchases in and something to wrap and protect your purchases.



Last year's Silent Auction. Credit: Brian Walko

To help promote our Silent Auction, please print and distribute the flyer at the end of this email blast.

**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. You can e-mail Gerry Naugle at [gnaugle@earthlink.net](mailto:gnaugle@earthlink.net) for a seller's number ahead of time, so you can fill out your bid slips before the meeting. Bid slips are at the end of this newsletter. Tables for Silent Auction items will be available for set up starting at 6:00 p.m.

Questions about selling items at the auction? Contact Gerry at [gnaugle@earthlink.net](mailto:gnaugle@earthlink.net).

### **Club Meeting - Tuesday, May 14: 2024 Field Trips**

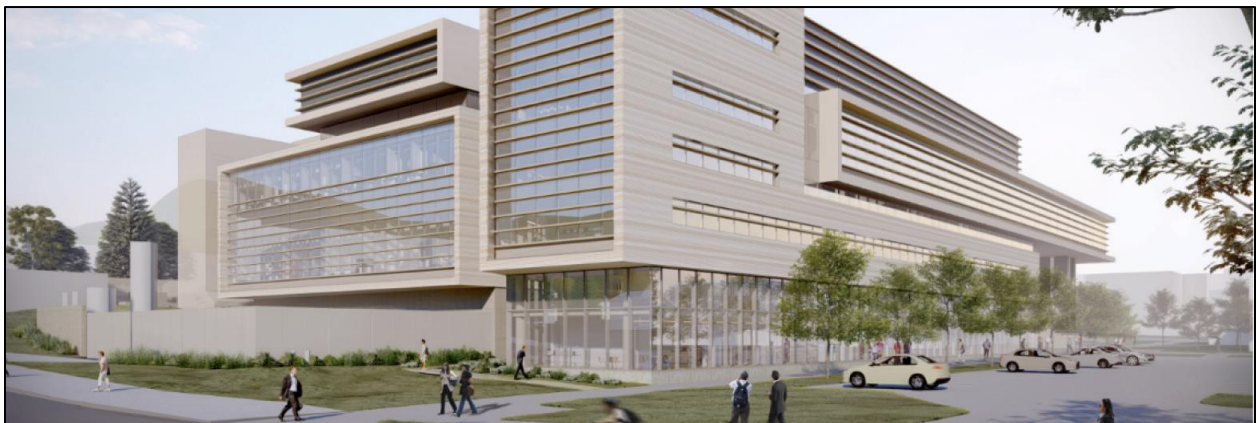
It's exciting to think about the adventures we'll have together during FMC's 2024 season. The field trip team has been working hard to develop a portfolio of trips that span traditional favorites, new discoveries, and ones that families and kids will love.

To kick things off, during our May 14th meeting, we'll officially release the 2024 FMC Field Trip Catalog. During this meeting we'll share more information about each of ten trips we have scheduled so far (more may be coming). Many of our 2024 trip leaders will be at the May 14th meeting, to pitch their trips, answer questions, and impress you with their knowledge and dedication to the club. Please mark the date on your calendar!



## Field trip to the USGS Library in Golden, Friday, April 19

Even before the release of our 2024 field trip catalog, we have a super-interesting trip to the USGS Library in Golden. On Friday, April 19th, we'll be joined by our colleagues at the Colorado Mineral Society (CMS) to learn about USGS maps, aerial images, bore log databases, research resources, and more. We've also asked for a briefing on new USGS initiatives (strategic minerals, exploration, mapping geological hydrogen exploration, and so on).



Rendering of the USGS Building on the Colorado School of Mines Campus (Copyright Mines)

As a bonus, an FMC colleague will present an overview of about \$1B worth of new buildings planned for Golden, at the Mines campus, NREL, the old Hale camp, etc. Big things of global importance are happening in Golden.

The USGS trip bookends last year's trip to the Map Library at CU Boulder, but the USGS trip is special in another way. All USGS libraries will soon be consolidated into one at an East Coast location, so our trip will mark *the last time we can physically visit USGS library resources in Colorado*.

## Jr. Geologists Meeting – Tuesday, April 16: Maps

At this month's Jr. Geologists meeting, we'll learn about different kinds of maps and how to use them when you are looking for places to collect rocks, minerals, and fossils. Led by Karen Simmons (elementary school age) and Howard Gordon (GeoExplorers), we will complete requirements for the Maps Badge.



Jr. Geologists meetings are now on the third Tuesday of each month, starting at 6:30 in Frasier Parlor at the south end of the church.

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.



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## Write a Poem for the Next Club Newsletter

Did you know that April is National Poetry Month? In celebration, consider writing a poem about rockhounding. It could be about a favorite, rock, mineral, fossil, or perhaps a place you enjoy collecting. It could even be about what you enjoy about our hobby. Poems can be serious or humorous and written by all ages – adults and juniors.

We would like to include your poem in the next club newsletter. You could even send a picture or two to go along with your poem. Send your contributions to Dennis Gertenbach at [gertenbach1@gmail.com](mailto:gertenbach1@gmail.com).

## Other Rockhounding Events and Activities in the Area

Here are other activities of interest in the area for rockhounds of all ages. Thanks to Pete Modreski for providing information about many of these.

**April 12-14 (Friday-Sunday)** is the **Colorado Mineral and Fossil Spring Show**, Crowne Plaza DIA, 15500 E 40th Ave., Denver CO 80239. No admission charge. See <https://xpopress.com/show/profile/796/colorado-mineral-fossil-spring-show> for more information.

**April 18 (Thursday)** at 7:00 p.m., CSS meeting and Emmons Lecture, **Tales from the Field: Using Modern Earth to Assess Life on Ancient Mars**, by Brian Hynek, University of Colorado. In-person Meeting at Calvary Church Golden or Join us on Zoom. More details at <https://coloscisoc.org/meetings/>.

**May 3-5 (Friday-Sunday)** is the **Southern Colorado ("SOCO") Rock and Mineral Show**, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily, at Colorado Springs Convention Center, 3960 Palmer Park Blvd., Colorado Springs, Colorado. For more info see [www.socorockandmineralshow.com](http://www.socorockandmineralshow.com) or contact SOCO Rock & Mineral Show, (719) 280-7091. This is a new commercial gem and mineral show venture. The website promises: demonstrations, indoor and outdoor vendors, presentations, rock auction, live music, craft beer garden and wine bar, food trucks, kids activities, games, supply sales, geology clubs, door prizes, gold mining tips and more. Admission \$5 or \$10 multi-day pass, kids 12 and under free. <https://socorockandmineralshow.com/>

**May 4 (Saturday)** 12:00-3:00 p.m., **Colorado Mineral Society Silent Auction**, held at Wheat Ridge United Methodist Church, Exhibition Hall, 7530 W. 38th Ave. (just east of Wadsworth). All are welcome to attend and to bring specimens to sell in the auction (minimum donation of 20% of selling price to the club). Setup begins at 11 a.m.; there will be a vocal auction as well as silent auction tables.

**May 18 (Saturday)** 12:00-3:00 p.m., **Friends of Mineralogy, Colorado Chapter, Silent Auction**, held at Wheat Ridge United Methodist Church, Exhibition Hall, 7530 W. 38th Ave. (just east of Wadsworth). All are welcome to attend and to bring specimens to sell in the auction (minimum donation of 20% of selling price to the club). Setup begins at 11 a.m.; there will be a vocal auction as well as silent auction tables.

## **2024 Denver Museum of Nature and Science Earth Sciences Colloquium**

Talks are in-person-only, from 2-3 pm in Ricketson Auditorium (not the VIP Room). Museum admission is not required to attend. Enter through Staff/Volunteer entrance, east of main visitor entrance, and let Security know you're attending the talk. They will direct you to walk through the Space Odyssey exhibit until you see the park and then turn right toward Ricketson Auditorium.

- **April 9 (Tuesday) *Revisiting the mechanisms and thresholds of mass extinction.*** (Cori Myers, U. of New Mexico)

## **Everything Dinosaurs on the Rocks with Erin LaCount**

Thursday mornings from 10 - 11:30 a.m. **Dinosaur Ridge** Education Programs Director Erin LaCount presents a talk on a species of dinosaur from the Discovery Center. Attend in-person or join by Zoom. Every talk includes time for Q&A. So much knowledge for the low, low price of \$5 per session! <https://dinoridge.org/events/>

- **April 4:** Pachycephalosaurs
- **April 11:** Ceratopsians
- **April 18:** Non-Dinosaur Archosaurs
- **April 25:** Mammals
- **May 2:** Geology 101
- **May 9:** Local Colorado Geology





## Flatirons Mineral Club

2024 Annual Silent Auction, starts at 6:45pm on  
Wednesday, April 10th

**Seller's set-up starts at 5:45pm**

**Mountain View Church, 355 Ponca Place** in east Boulder (80303) in the downstairs Barker Hall Room (*it is the huge A-Frame looking church with south facing solar-panels, and is located just west of Frasier Healthcare Facility on Ponca*)

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## **Minerals, Crystals, Fossils and Lapidary**

Bring items to sell.....or just come to browse!

**Sellers: Suggest to e-mail or call Gerry Naugle ahead of time to get a seller-buyer number, then you can pre-fill your seller slips.**

Gerry Naugle [gnaugle@earthlink.net](mailto:gnaugle@earthlink.net) or 303-591-2830

See us on our website, at:

<https://flatironsmineralclub.org>