



Flatirons Facets

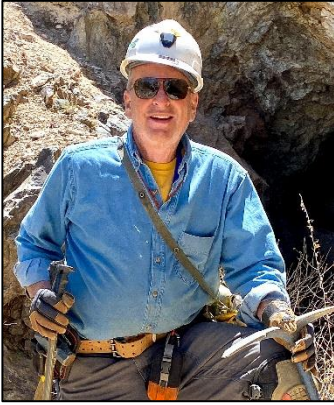
Flatirons Mineral Club of Boulder County, Colorado
Volume 67, Number 5
September-October 2024



Shellie Luallin shows the fabulous specimen of amazonite and smoky quartz she found on the Joe Dorris Smoky Hawk Claim field trip this summer. Read about this and other summer club field trips starting on page 9. Credit: Shellie Luallin

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President's Message: I've been "Drafted"

I've been "drafted" by the Denver Museum of Nature & Science (DMNS) to replace a 2 x 2 ft fluorescent mineral display with an entire room of world-class fluorescent minerals. This project is part of the larger upgrade of the DMNS Coors Hall of Gems & Minerals being organized by James Hagadorn, Ph.D., DMNS Curator of Geology.

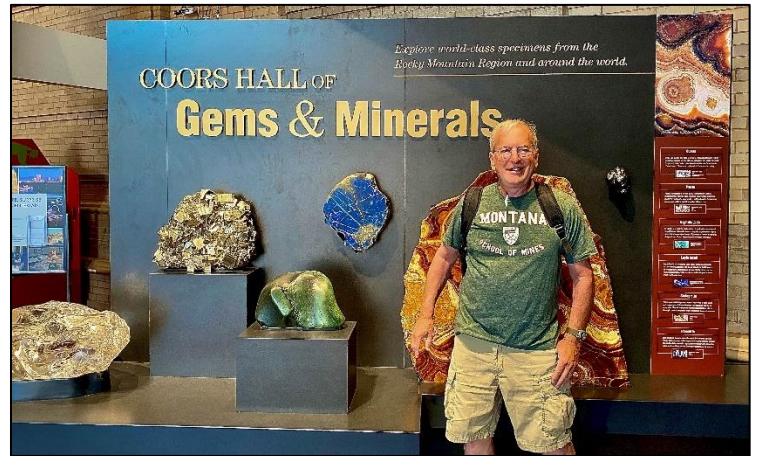
A small group of fluorescent mineral experts were brought in to review the architect's floor plans. After this, we needed to see what minerals fluoresced in DMNS' storage room. Underneath the museum are several levels of artifact storage. We were issued researcher badges that

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.

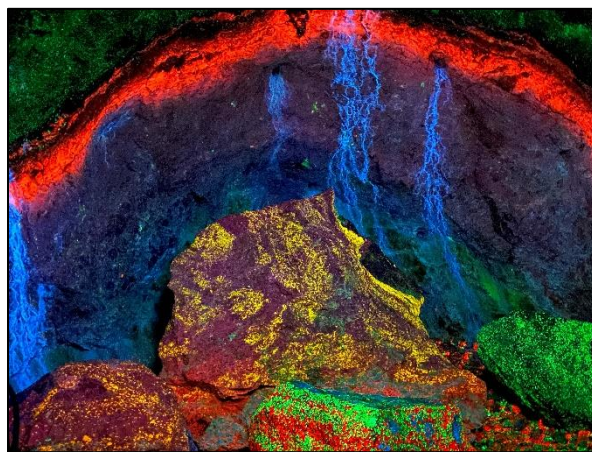
The Flatirons Mineral Club is affiliated with the Rocky Mountain Federation of Mineralogical Societies, the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies, and the Greater Denver Area Council of Gem and Mineral Societies.



allowed access to the mineral storage level. For Colorado, minerals are stored in drawers sorted by county. I immediately opened Boulder County's drawer. Only a few specimens fluoresced and were logged by catalog number, size, ultraviolet wavelength, and brightness. Before closing the drawer, I carefully examined the amazing collection of high-quality telluride minerals. Then I proceeded to the next county's drawer.



DMNS stores its radioactive minerals with the USGS in the Denver Federal Center in a special room. A lot of radioactive minerals fluoresce. With the guidance of the USGS radiation safety officer, we donned safety gear and examined the drawers of minerals for fluorescence. If a mineral fluoresced, the safety officer would remove it from the room and check the radiation level. If the specimen was too "hot" it was returned to the drawer. Otherwise, it was placed on a table to judge its color for possible inclusion into the display.



One area we considered was illuminating the specimens without harming viewers with stray ultraviolet light. The Sterling Hill Mine and Museum in Ogdensburg, NJ, does this in their underground tour. Fortunately, I was heading to the New Jersey shore for a boating vacation. The Fluorescent Mineral Society (FMS) put me in contact with the mine and museum. I drove up for a day to discuss lamps and lighting techniques. The director

allowed me to go underground to view their setup. It turns out the tour guide, Bruce, was an FMS friend from Arizona who escapes the Arizona summer heat and gives

Sterling Hill mine tours in a cool 56-degree environment. Bruce worked in the mine during college to build up strength for college football. He allowed me access behind the ropes to photograph their lighting setup. When I returned to Boulder, I wrote a report for the DMNS fluorescent team which will help design display cases and order UV lamps.

The fluorescent team's next steps are to lay out all the prospective minerals on the floor and select the best. We will identify the gaps and ask FMS members and mineral dealers to donate specific minerals. The project is expected to take 12 to 18 months.

Brian Walko
FMC President

Club Rockhounds of the Year

At the club picnic in August, we honored two club members as our Rockhounds of the Year



Rockhound of the Year: Howard Gordon

Howard J. Gordon has had a passion for geology since his teenage years, and his professional career and hobbies reflect that passion. Graduating with a B.A. in geology, his early career was as an exploration geologist in the oil and gas industry, where he later served as the Rocky Mtn. Region's Exploration/Production Manager for a large independent oil and gas company.

After receiving his M.S. in civil engineering from the Univ. of Colo in Boulder, he continued his work career as a registered geologist in Utah, Tennessee and Wyoming. Now retired, he loves sharing his geologic knowledge, by volunteering as a docent ranger last summer for the US Fish and Wildlife Service in Oregon and in various activities for the American Institute for Professional Geologists (AIPG).

He continues to share his love of geology with the club's Jr. Geologist program and enjoys every moment planning and providing various activities and presentations to the kids.

Junior Rockhound of the Year: Emilyn Bubb

Emilyn Bubb is this year's Junior Rockhound of the Year. Emilyn has been an active member of our Jr. Geologists program. Along with her father Tony, she participates in the monthly Jr. Geologists meetings, has gone on numerous field trips, led club field trips to her favorite spots with her dad, collected specimens for grab bags, and volunteered at both the Denver Gem & Mineral Show and our own Rocks & Rails Show. Emilyn has also amassed an impressive rock collection (with detailed knowledge to match) and has won awards at our annual Towel Show (show-and-tell). Emilyn is well on her way to earning all 20 badges in the AFMS Future Rockhounds of America badge program.





Connel Casson receiving his club scholarship from Gerry Naugle and Brian Walko at this summer's club picnic.
Credit: Jasper Seldin

Club Scholarship Recipient: Connel Casson

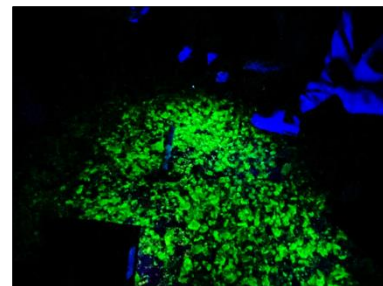
Also at our club picnic, our annual scholarship recipient was announced. This year's recipient is long-time Jr. Geologists Connel Casson. Connel has been a club member since he joined the Jr. Geologists when he was 7. He's now a senior in high school and will start college next year working towards a career in paleontology. We wish Connel the best as he pursues his life-long passion.

Editor's Note: Be sure to read Connel's article on page 7 about his recent fossil trip to England.

Coming Club Field Trips

We have more field trips planned through the fall. Here is a rundown of trips you can sign up for.

- **Crawford, Nebraska, Saturday and Sunday, September 28 and 29**, led by Brian Walko
We will be collecting agates and fluorescent minerals. On Saturday and Sunday, we will be searching for Fairburn, prairie, picture, and blue agates, plus chalcedony and petrified wood. On Saturday night we will use ultraviolet lamps to search for fluorescent agates and watermelon chalcedony.
- **North Table Mountain outside of Golden, October 26**, led by Dennis Gertenbach
North Table Mountain outside of Golden Colorado is a world-renowned site for collecting zeolite minerals. Thomsonite, analcime, chabazite, fluorapophyllite, and calcite are relatively common. Other minerals may also be found. This is a great trip to take kids, as everyone will find specimens to take home.



Fluorescent calcedony bed.
Credit: Brian Walko

You can find more details and sign up for these trips at the club website at <https://flatironsmineralclub.org/>. Click "Member Login" and sign in, then go to "Field Trips". From there, you can select any field trip for more information or to sign up for the trip.

Wanted: Field Trip Photos

During field trips this summer, consider taking photos during your trip and of your best finds to include in future newsletters. Please send your best ones to Dennis Gertenbach at gertenbach1@gmail.com.

Wanted: Specimens for Grab Bags

During field trips this summer, consider picking up extra small specimens for grab bags. Grab bag specimens can be brought to any club meeting.

Denver Gem & Mineral Show, September 12-15

This year's Denver Gem & Mineral Show is at a new location, Westin Hotel in Westminster, and is free with ample free parking! **Mineral Oddities** is the theme for this year's show, and you will see lots of beautiful, unusual specimens like this fossil snail replaced with rhodochrosite from Ukraine.



Vendors will have lots of great specimens to purchase for your collection. Exhibitors will show off the oddball specimens in their extensive collections. World class speakers will share their knowledge and regale you with tales of the mineral-world oddballs.

The daily show hours are Thursday through Saturday from 10:00 am to 6:00 pm, and Sunday from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm. For more details about the show, see <https://www.denvermineralshow.com/>.

Volunteer at the Show

The show is run by volunteers from Denver metro area fossil, mineral and gem clubs and societies, including the Western Interior Paleontological Society, Littleton Gem & Mineral Club, Flatirons Mineral Club, Colorado Mineral Society, Denver Gem & Mineral Guild, Mile Hi Rock & Mineral Society, and Friends of Mineralogy.

Volunteers are needed for the Flatirons Mineral Club table at the show. Our table will have club information, rock-matching games, and free rock samples. If you can help with our table, please sign up with Anita Colin at anitacolin@hotmail.com.

You can also help with set-up (Tuesday, September 10), selling grab bags (throughout the show), or tear-down (Sunday, 3-6). To volunteer, please sign up at the following link: https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090D45A5AD2EA2F94-49723318-2024#.

For more information about the show, see the Denver Show newsletter after page 20.

In Memoriam: Mel Bourg

Melvin Bourg
August 18, 1942 — August 9, 2024

How do I begin to tell you all how special Mel Bourg was? Not only was he the most caring, understanding, loving person I've ever known, he was also my husband, best friend, companion and conspirator. In our 51 years of marriage, he saw me through both the good times and the not so good times. But even in the not so good times, we were always there for each other.

Mel was a firefighter for the Omaha Fire Division. He served 25 yrs with the division before retiring. He first started riding on the back of the fire truck until Omaha got "riggs" with an enclosed cabin.



Much warmer, he said. Then on occasion, he would drive the rescue squad. He told me he loved the adrenaline rush of driving the squad.

I was the one who infected him with the rockhound bug. Both my father and I were rockhounds from a long time ago. Most of our family vacations comprised of mostly rock hunting and a little sightseeing on the side. So, it was natural that when Mel married me and we came out to visit my father, Dad took us out into the mountains to look for rocks. It was then that Mel became a rockhound. He couldn't believe what beauty there was in the rocks he'd just overlooked before.

After Mel's retirement, we moved to the Salida area, where we spent many hours hiking the hills and bringing home rocks. After several moves, we ended up in Loveland, Colorado.

About 2 years ago, Mel contracted a rare disease called Cachexia. It's a wasting disease that causes the body to destroy the adipose deposits in the body. When it's done with all the adipose, it moves onto the muscles. Mel became weaker and weaker. Then he contracted pneumonia and because of his weakened physical state, his body couldn't fight the pneumonia off and even with substantial amounts of antibiotics, it finally took him away from me on August 9th at 81 years old.

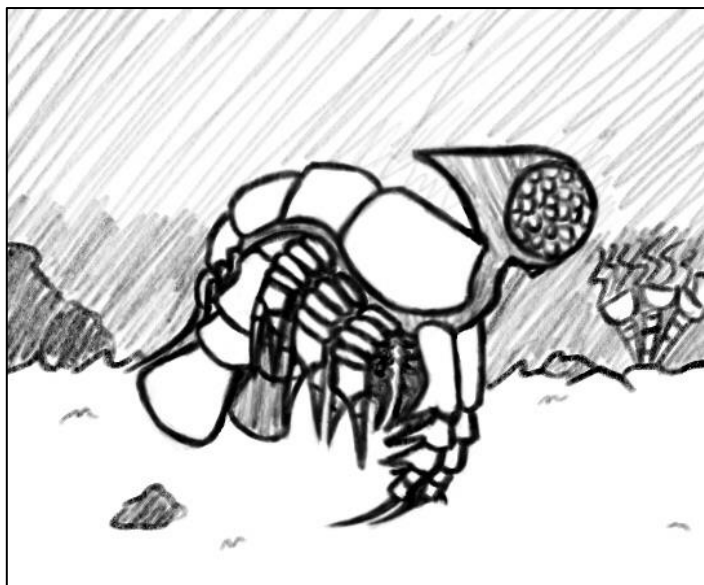
We've belonged to several rock clubs where we've lived, but it wasn't until we joined the Flatirons Mineral Club that we knew we'd found our club.

Charlotte Bourg

Editor's note: Because of Mel's long service to the Flatirons Mineral Club, the Board of Directors has donated \$150 to the club's scholarship fund in Mel's name.

Fossil of the Month: *Cambropachycope*

Charlotte Small, age 16



This month I drew *Cambropachycope*, an aquatic arthropod from the Cambrian lagerstätten of Sweden. Despite being less than a centimeter long, these animals possessed a complex compound eye, suggesting predatorial behavior. Further research is still to be conducted, as not much is known about these. Here are a couple links with more information. [Link 1](#)
[Link 2](#)

Each newsletter, Charlotte provides information about an ancient creature. Her comic series, *Grey's Prehistoric World* at https://www.webtoons.com/en/canvas/greys-prehistoric-world/list?title_no=847316&webtoon-platform-redirect=true&page=1, has much more about Earth's ancient history.

Fossiling in England

Connel Casson, age 17

Last spring break, my parents and I headed to the UK to tour the University of Bristol. While in England, we decided to hit a few tourist spots and some lesser-known areas. After spending a day in London, we began to make our way down to the seaside town of Lyme Regis. Lyme Regis is a part of the Jurassic Coast and has many formations that make up its coastline. One of the most notable, and the one we spent the most time in, was the Blue Lias Formation. The Blue Lias Formation is 195-200 million years old and consists of several layers of shale and limestone. There, we met up with Richard Edmonds, who was recommended by Cindy Smith. We spent a day with Richard combing the Jurassic coast, as he taught us what to look for. Overall, I found numerous ammonites and belemnites. My dad even found a fossilized sponge. With the help of Richard, we also found an ichthyosaur rib and tooth.



Richard Edmonds showing me a large ammonite.

After leaving Lyme Regis, we went up to Bristol, where we stayed for another few days. While there, I toured the University of Bristol. We also went to the Bristol Museum. There was a fantastic exhibit centering around Mary Anning, one of the most famous and revolutionary paleontologists of all time. The exhibit featured many of her findings, including a variety of her most notable ichthyosaurs.

Thanks to a tip from Dr. Dean Lomax, I learned of another nearby fossil-collecting site known as Aust Cliff. Aust Cliff is known for its highly fossiliferous Triassic bone blocks. These blocks are highly coveted by fossil vendors, thus finding them is becoming more difficult. The main fossil formation of the cliff is called the Penarth Group. The Penarth Group ranges from 251 to 200 million years ago. Finding the cliff took us more time than we spent collecting, and even though we found nothing notable, it was still a fun adventure. After our time in Bristol, we packed our bags and headed home with a bag full of fossils.



Ammonites and other fossils I found in the Lyme Regis area.

Great Time at the Club Picnic

Once again, the food was great, and the weather was beautiful at this year's club picnic. The 36 attendees filled 820 grab bags for the Denver Gem & Mineral Show in September and our club's Rocks & Rails Show in December. Special thanks to Don Mock and Anita Colin for getting all the specimens lined up.

The highlight of each picnic is the awards we present to club members. This year, we honored our Rockhounds of the Year, Howard Gordon and Emilyn Bubb (see page 3), and our annual scholarship to Connel Casson (see page 4).

Many thanks to all the picnic volunteers and members who brought food and assisted with the hauling.

And here are scenes from the picnic, taken by Brian Walko, Jasper Seldin, and Dennis Gertenbach.



Filling grab bags



Enjoying the food





Club awards



Joe Dorris' Smoky Hawk Claim Field Trip

Brian Walko



This was a special field trip to Joe Dorris' world-famous Smoky Hawk claim, made famous by the beautiful amazonite and smoky quartz crystals and a regular on the television series, *The Prospectors*. Our club was fortunate to be allowed to collect there.

Twenty-eight FMC members received a safety briefing and claim boundaries from Joe and were turned loose to collect amazonite and smoky quartz crystals. The claim consists of three areas, the open pit that was being excavated (due to the cut walls, this area was off-limits), the dump piles from the excavation (which were the size of small houses), and the piles consisting of loose decomposed granite (tough to climb

Joe Dorris teaching about pegmatite deposits.

Credit: Brian Walko

up, but easy to dig in). Adventurous people could follow the strike of the pegmatite vein and surface collect within the claim boundaries.



A panorama of the mine. Credit: Shellie Luallin



Collecting in the piles. Credit: Brian Walko

Our lucky specimen prospectors were Shellie Luallin and Sharon Dooley. They each found very nice pieces in the dump piles. Other people found small individual crystals.

Next season, we'll try to arrange a trip to Joe's topaz claim.



The finds of the day. Left: Sharon Dooley with her prized specimen (credit: Brian Walko). Right: Shellie Luallin's amazonite and smoky quartz specimen (credit: Shellie Luallin)



Gold Placer Mining Field Trip Report

Brian Walko

Fifteen FMC members tried gold placer mining in upper Lefthand Creek near Ward. The water temperature was perfect for working in the creek. Everyone was equipped with gold pans and two people had a sluice box.

Gold has a specific gravity of 19.3, making it one of the heaviest minerals. In this creek, the second heaviest mineral is magnetite (black sand) with a specific gravity of 5.2, while granite's specific gravity is 2.6. The panning uses gravity separation. Creek gravel and sand are scooped into a classifier screen to remove the larger gravel. Then the panning process begins, with the agitation of the pan to allow the heavier minerals to sink to the bottom. The lighter minerals remain on top, to be washed out of the pan. Repeating this process until the pan is almost empty will result in black sand and possibly some gold.

Eian with the sluice box he made

Sluice boxes speed up the separation process. The more gravel that is processed, the greater the chance of finding gold. Eian Link made his own sluice box!

Only a few flecks of gold were found, but everybody had a great time.

Happy gold panners (but they didn't strike it rich)



Member Name Tags



Example of a club name tag

Would you like a Flatirons Mineral Club name tag to wear at club events and field trips? The club places orders for name tags several times a year for members.

If you would like a name tag, please log onto our website and choose the "Request a Name Tag" link in the Members Area. Add your name to the list as you want it to appear on your name tag, and it will be ordered for you. Your first name tag is free!

Jr. Geologists Activities

One of the highlights for the Jr. Geologists this summer was a behind-the-scenes tour of the Denver Museum of Nature and Science, learning what paleontologists do at the Museum. Our tour guide was Dr. Gussie Maccracken, Assistant Curator of Paleobotany, at the Museum. She took us into the paleontology collection rooms, where we saw mammal fossils from Snowmass, exciting dinosaur fossils up close, and learned about some of the work Dr. Maccracken and her team are doing with leaves from Corral Bluffs.



Jr. Geologists, along with PaleoZone members from the Western Interior Paleontological Society beginning their museum tour.



We thank Dr. Maccracken for taking the time to guide us on this fabulous tour.

Dr. Maccracken talks about mastodon teeth, bones, and tusks.



A life model of *Simosuchus*, a Cretaceous plant-eating crocodile from Madagascar.

Come to the Denver Gem & Mineral Show

For September, Jr. Geologists' families are encouraged to attend the Denver Gem & Mineral Show, September 12-15. This year's Denver Gem & Mineral Show is at a new location, the Westin Hotel in Westminster, and the show is free with ample free parking! **Mineral Oddities** is the theme for this year's show, and you will see lots of beautiful and unusual minerals and fossils.

Vendors will have lots of great specimens to purchase for your collection. Exhibitors will show off the oddball specimens in their extensive collections. World class speakers will share their knowledge of mineral-world oddballs.

The daily show hours are Thursday through Saturday from 10:00 am to 6:00 pm, and Sunday from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm. For more details about the show, see <https://www.denvermineralshow.com/>.

Volunteer at the Show

While you are at the show, your family can help at the club table. Our table will have club information, rock and mineral matching games, and free specimens. If you can help with our table, please sign up with Anita Colin at anitacolin@hotmail.com. All Jr. Geologists who help at the show will receive a nice fossil.

Monthly Jr. Geologists Meeting

Our monthly meetings will resume in October on the third Tuesday of each month. Watch your emails for information about these meetings.

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 or 303-709-8218.

Safety When Mineral Collecting Near Old Mines

In Colorado, old mines provide a wonderful place to search and collect a wide variety of minerals. But these old mines can also be a dangerous place to be, if you are not careful.

As reported by the Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) on <https://www.msha.gov/sosa>, there are approximately 14,000 active mines and 500,000 abandoned mines throughout the nation. Active and abandoned mine sites pose serious risks to people untrained and unfamiliar with the site. Each year, explorers, hikers, and off-roaders are injured or killed while exploring, swimming, or playing on a mine property.

Stay Out, Stay Alive is a nationwide public awareness campaign by MSHA to educate children and adults about the hazards of exploring and playing at active and abandoned mine sites. Furthermore, the safety initiative's primary mission is to remind people of the one and only key safety practice when encountering an active or abandoned mine site. That is: STAY OUT - STAY ALIVE.

The MSHA website has these examples of hazards at active and abandoned mines:

Explosives and Chemicals

Active and abandoned mines may be housing explosives. These materials can become unstable overtime and explode spontaneously. Explosive housing containers can also leak toxic chemicals.



Underground Tunnels

Many mines contain miles of underground tunnel. Without proper lighting, people can easily become lost and disoriented while inside. Publicly available maps are oftentimes outdated.

Gases and Lack of Oxygen

Thousands of gas wells penetrate coal seams at active and abandoned mines. An inadvertent intersection with one of these wells could inundate the mining section with methane, carbon dioxide, and other deadly gases. These gases can displace oxygen with no visible sign, causing suffocation.



Decayed Support and Unstable Rock

In a mine tunnel, roof and rib frameworks can decay over time, creating fractures. This weakens the support from unstable rocks and can cause the tunnel to collapse.

hundreds of feet deep and completely unprotected or hidden by vegetation, mine debris, dirt, rock, and water.

Open Shafts

Many vertical shafts can be



Rocky Mountain Federation News: 2025 RMFMS/OMGS Show Teasers

Jamilee Poor, Oklahoma Mineral and Gem Society

Editor's note: Our club is part of the Rocky Mountain Federation of Mineralogical Societies. Each year, the Rocky Mountain Federation holds its annual meeting within our area. This year's meeting will be in Oklahoma City on October 25-27. This article appeared in the Rocky Mountain Federation News, July 2024. For more information about the show and to register, see https://www.rmfmts.org/files/uqd/da64e5_3679fa884b08418c9dbf3a3f95c66b30.pdf.

The Oklahoma Mineral and Gem Society (OMGS) and Oklahoma City extend a warm welcome to the members of the Rocky Mountain Federation of Mineralogical Societies. Oklahoma City is named one of the best places to visit by Frommer Travel, as it offers culture, cuisine, attractions, and amenities you expect in a modern metropolis. Known as the Horse Show Capital of the World, we are rich in cowboy culture and outdoor adventures. We have plenty of hustle without the hassle of big cities, and the airport is very easy to fly in and out of. We invite our guests to not only attend the Conference and our annual Mineral and Gem Show, but also to extend your time here. Oklahoma City Travel provides maps and entertainment ideas such as the Oklahoma City Zoo, Botanical Gardens, the Oklahoma



Bricktown Canal Rides



Oklahoma City National Memorial and Museum

2024 Annual Mineral and Gem Show
Oklahoma Mineral and Gem Society
Hosts the
Rocky Mountain Federation of Mineralogical Societies Convention

Modern Living Building
OKC State Fair Park
608 Kiamichi Place
Oklahoma City, OK 73107

October 25th, 9-6
October 26th, 9-6
October 27th, 10-5

Daily Admission \$8
Children under 12 free

Show Features:
Exhibits, Gem Stones, Fossils,
Earth Science Education,
Tools, Rough Rock, Crystals,
Fluorescent Room, Artisan Jewelry
and Children's Activities

Oklahoma Mineral and
Gem Society
omgs-minerals.org
See us on Facebook



Barite Rose Rock
Oklahoma State Rock



City National Memorial Museum, the Cowboy & the Western Heritage Museum, and the First Americans Museum, to name a few. Our host hotel, the Wyndham Grand, is located downtown and is within walking distance, or you can take the trolley to Bricktown, Scissortail Park, the Art District, and Automobile Alley. Enjoy the local foods, craft beers and wines, and distilled bourbons. Attend an Oklahoma City Thunder basketball game which starts in October. There is lots to offer!

And here are the field trips planned for the RMFMS/OKC Show in October!



**Oklahoma Mineral and Gem Society
& Rocky Mountain Federation Conference
Oklahoma Barite Rose Rock Hunt**

Presently Scheduled:

October 25, 2024

9:00 am – 1:00 pm

Lake Stanly Draper

Oklahoma City, OK

Potentially a 2 mile round trip walk. Bring a rock hammer, collecting bucket, comfortable shoes and drinking water. Keep in mind that barite gets heavy the more you collect! If the lake level is low, another site near the road may be available.

**Oklahoma Mineral and Gem Society &
Rocky Mountain Federation Conference
Sam Noble Museum in Norman, OK.
Private Behind -The -Scenes -Tour of the
Vertebrate Paleontology Museum.**



Presently Scheduled:
October 26th, 2024
10 am to 12:00 pm

Curator Dr. Jacqueline Lungmus will lead the group through the research and storage rooms above the museum.



**Oklahoma City Geological Society &
Rocky Mountain Federation Conference**

**General Material Gravel Pit
Oklahoma City, OK**

Presently Scheduled:

October 27, 2024

9:00 am to 12:00 pm



Find bison bones, Alibates Flint, aragonite, petrified wood and sometimes you will get lucky and find a mastodon tooth!

Microscope for Sale

I am a fellow rockhound and gemologist, selling my GemOro gem-grade microscope. I have had this for two years, but do not use it any more. I used it for teaching classes on identifying gemstones to our rock club (CMS) and used it for work (appraising). The microscope comes with a protective heavy-duty case. It is the same microscope as in this ad below, very good condition other than a small crack on the overhead gooseneck light source cover.

<https://www.gesswein.com/lighting-magnification/microscopes/gemoro-dspro-1067-led-microscope/>

I hope you had a great summer collecting rocks!

Regards,

Star Edwards, G.G.

303-815-6704

Sells new for \$3,400, asking \$2,800

Contact 303-815-6704



Labor Day Weekend Sale at Dinosaur Ridge

The Gift Shops are stocked up with a wide selection of items including fossils and minerals, collectibles, clothing, books, jewelry, and much more! Great opportunity to do some early holiday shopping and to treat yourself! Every item is 15% off all four days in both gift shops (main Visitor Center and Martin G. Lockley Discovery Center) from 9 am to 5 pm.

The Gift Shops are stocked up with a wide selection of items including fossils and minerals, collectibles, clothing, books, jewelry, and much more! Great opportunity to do some early holiday shopping and to treat yourself!

Indulge in Some Retail Therapy & Help Support the Fossil Protection & Education Missions at Dinosaur Ridge!

Other Rockhounding Events and Activities in the Area

Here are other events and activities in the area that may be of interest. Thanks to Pete Modreski for providing information about many of these events.

In conjunction with the Denver Gem & Mineral Show on September 12-15, you can participate in these shows and events.

- **Friday, September 13** (6-9 p.m.), **Colorado School of Mines Museum's annual Open House**, held during the week of the Denver Gem and Mineral Show. All are welcome! See <https://www.mines.edu/museumofearthscience/> for more information.
- **September 7-9, Just Minerals and Crystals Event Denver**, Denver Airport Marriott at Gateway Park, 16455 E. 40th Circle, Aurora CO. Free parking & admission. <https://xpopress.com/show/profile/1186/just-minerals-crystals-event-denver>
- **September 5-9, Colorado Mineral and Fossil Fall Show**, Denver Marriott Tech Center, 4900 S. Syracuse Street, Denver. Free admission & parking. <https://www.coloradomineralandfossilshows.com>.

One of the featured speakers at this show is our own **Craig Hazelton**, talking about **Wyoming Jade: New Information about Our Regional Treasure** on Saturday, September 7, from 3 to 4 pm.



- **September 6-15, Denver Mineral, Fossil, Gem & Jewelry Show; Denver Expo Gem Show; and Miner's Co-op Show**; all at the National Western Complex, 4655 Humboldt St., Denver. Free parking & admission. <https://denver.show/>
- **October 14-16, the Friends of Dinosaur Ridge** is celebrating the 35th anniversary of Dinosaur Ridge with **Let's Explore the Dinosaur Diamond**. This 3-night, 4-day dinosaur fossil extravaganza includes guided visits to the Dinosaur Journey Museum (Fruita, Colorado), Mygatt-Moore Quarry (outside of Fruita, Colorado), Moab Giants (Moab, Utah) Cleveland Lloyd Dinosaur Quarry (Price, Utah), Dinosaur National Monument (Vernal, Utah), and Museum of the West (Grand Junction, Colorado). For more information, see <https://dinoridge.org/event/dinosaur-diamond/>.
- **Nov. 1-3, New Mexico Mineral Symposium**, Socorro, NM, sponsored by the New Mexico Bureau of Geology & Mineral Resources, Mineral Museum, and held at the Macey Center, New Mexico Institute of Mining & Technology. For information see <https://geoinfo.nmt.edu/museum/nmms/home.cfm>

A promotional graphic for the 'Let's Explore the Dinosaur Diamond' event. The text reads 'LET'S EXPLORE THE DINOSAUR DIAMOND' in large, bold letters. Below this, it says 'October 11 - 14' and 'Road Trip with Amy Atwater & Erin LaCount'. The graphic includes a map of the region with a red route, a QR code labeled 'Scan for Details', and two circular photos of the speakers, Amy Atwater and Erin LaCount. The 'Dinosaur Ridge 35 Years' logo is also present.

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Denver Show Club Table

open

A friendly reminder to pay your 2024 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 2024 dues must be received by January 20th, 2024, 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 2024 FMC membership card.



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

First Class Mail

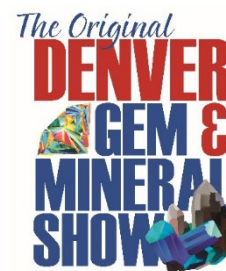
Upcoming Events

Date	Event	Location
Thursday-Sunday, September 12-15	Denver Gem & Mineral Show, page 5	Westin Hotel in Westminster
Saturday-Sunday, September 28 & 29	Crawford field trip to collect agates and fluorescent minerals, page 4	Crawford, Nebraska
Tuesday, October 8	Monthly club meeting, program to be announced	Mountain View United Methodist Church, 355 Ponca Place in Boulder
Tuesday, October 15	Monthly Jr. Geologists meeting	Mountain View United Methodist Church, 355 Ponca Place in Boulder
Saturday, October 26	North Table Mountain field trip to collect zeolite minerals, page 4	North Table Mountain, near Golden

Note: There is no monthly club meeting in September. Everyone is encouraged to come to the Denver Gem & Mineral Show. Better yet, volunteer to help with the Show or volunteer at our club's table, or both.

Denver Gem & Mineral Show Newsletter - August 2024

The 2024 Denver Gem & Mineral Show™ (DGMS) in conjunction with the Hardrock Summit will be held at a new location this year at the Westin Westminster Hotel. The address is 10600 Westminster Blvd, Westminster, CO 80020.



DGMS Show Dates: September 12-15, 2024

Hours for the Show are Thursday through Saturday 10:00am to 6:00 pm and Sunday 10:00am to 3:00pm.

DGMS's mission is to support exhibition, exploration, experimentation, and education in the earth sciences. The DGMS show includes a fluorescent room, special exhibits, education displays, lectures, dealers, gold panning, and grab bags. More information is located at <https://www.denvermineralshow.com/>.

Admission and parking for Hardrock Summit and DGMS is FREE. If you are just attending the show and not volunteering, you will need to register to access the venue. You can preregister at <https://hardrocksummit.com/shop/tickets> and print your own badge that is good for all 4 days of the show, that way you can skip the registration desk and just get a lanyard for your badge. Electronic tickets are not accepted at the scanning stations, a printed badge on a lanyard is required to enter. **DGMS Volunteers will get a special badge emailed to them about a week before the show to print out and bring with them. Once at the show, they will get special ribbons to attach to their badges.** If you forget your badge or do not have a printer, you can go to the registration desk and have them print out another paper badge for you.

The not-for-profit Greater Denver Area Gem & Mineral Council puts on the DGMS each year. The Council is made up of seven metro-area gem, mineral, and fossil clubs including:

- Colorado Mineral Society
- Denver Gem and Mineral Guild
- Flatirons Mineral Club
- Friends of Minerology-Colorado Chapter
- Littleton Gem and Mineral Club
- Mile Hi Rock & Mineral Society
- Western Interior Paleontological Society



Club volunteers are needed to staff the club tables, fossil dig, fluorescent room, grab bag table, and set-up and tear down. Volunteers can sign up at link below or QR Code above. Click on the calendar to sign up for each day. You do not need to create a log in unless you want to be able to go in and edit your selections.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090D45A5AD2EA2F94-49723318-2024>

The 2024 DGMS theme is “**Mineral Oddities**”. Mineral oddities are those specimens that have characteristics that are different – that sets a particular mineral specimen apart from those that are just beautiful, although oddities can be beautiful. Oddities though, have a strength of personality. This strength can result in a mineral display that is truly memorable.

Special Exhibits

Exhibits are at the heart of the DGMS, providing local community members, groups, and institutions a rare opportunity to showcase their collections and share their stories. On the other side of the coin, exhibits provide visitors with perspectives and points of reference — touchstones for starting, advancing, or curating their own collections. The competitive and

noncompetitive exhibits feature world-class specimens reflecting the show theme. Collectors and museum curators can frequently be found on the show floor to discuss their exhibits and answer visitors' questions. This year's special exhibits include:

Museums

- A.E. Seaman Mineral Museum
- Denver Museum of Nature and Science – Mineral Oddities from the DMNS Vault
- Mines Museum of Earth Science
- Sherman Dugan Museum – The Rusticle, A Minotheme
- Tellus Museum – “Tell Us“ Bout It – Mineral Oddities from the Collections at Tellus Science Museum
- University of Arizona – Mineral Oddities from University of Arizona Museum

Individuals/Organizations

- Adam Brucker – Mineral Oddities from Las Minas Pyrite Mine, Veracruz, Mexico
- Bruce Carter – Specimens from the Carter Collection
- Sequoia Carpenter – The Many Forms of Pyrite
- Colorado Mineral Society – “Future Fieldtrip to Mars”
- David and Karen DeBruin – Layered Intarsias of Gene Mueller
- Erin Delventhal – What is a Pseudomorph?
- Ann Frazier – Pseudomorphs from her Collection
- Phil Gregory – Mixed Small Cabinets
- Phil Gregory – Mixed Size Collectibles
- Tom Hughes – Specimens from an Old Collection Recently Acquired
- Nancy Kimber – Odd Crystal Shapes
- Bob Landgraf – Curiosities of the Earth
- Sherman Marsh – Mineral Oddities, Stranger than Truth
- Matt Metzler – Minerals of the Minnesota Iron Range
- Kollin Olsen – Tungsten Minerals
- Phil Persson – Mineral Oddities as Described in 400 Years of Mineralogical Literature and Ephemera
- Ron Snelling – Faceted Stones
- Western Interior Paleontological Society (WIPS) – Fossil Oddballs
- Young Mineral Collectors
- Marty Zinn – Epimorphs
- Marty Zinn – Japanese Law Twins
- Marty Zinn – Quartz on Aragonite



Lecture Schedule and Speakers

This year's lectures will be by leading experts on minerals, gems, mineral localities, and fossils. The lectures will be located in the library near the hotel's check-in desk. This year's speakers and schedule includes:

DAY	TIME	SPEAKER	TITLE
Thursday	11:00	Jeff Scoval	A Photo Album of Mineral Oddities
	1:00	Ed Raines	There Are No Mineral Oddities
	2:00	Carl Francis	Quartz Twinning, Inclusions, and More
	3:00	Erin Delventhal	What is a Pseudomorph? (A History)
Friday	11:00	Dr. Tyler Lyson	Corral Bluffs - Extinction of the Dinosaurs and Rise of the Mammals
	1:00	Terry Huizing	Peculiar Calcite
	2:00	Charles Evans	The History of Diamond Mining in Kimberly, South Africa
	3:00	Michael Gobla	Color Variation in minerals and gems: zoning, Phantoms, and other oscillations
Saturday	11:00	John Jaszczak	Criminal Minerals- Minerals that Break the Laws of Crystallography
	1:00	Phil Persson	The Unique Mineral Fluorescence of the Franklin-Sterling Hill Mining District, New Jersey
	2:00	Erin LaCount	Salacious in the Cretaceous: The How of Dinosaur Sex
	3:00	John Rakovan	Mosaic, Macromosaic and Split Crystals
Sunday	11:00	Mark Jacobson	Mineral Oddities in the Denver Museum of Nature and Science
	1:00	Caleb Chapell	A Common Thread: On the Nature of the Faden Habit
	2:00	Brian Walko	Overview of Tucson 2024 - Fluorescent Prospecting and More



World-Class Fluorescent Mineral Room

A fluorescent mineral room with the best short and long wave glow-in-the-dark minerals from private collections. This year, Way Too Cool (<https://www.fluorecents.com/>) will be located in the fluorescent room that will be demonstrating and selling short-wave and long-wave fluorescent lights, flashlights (*including their new shortwave flashlights*), and cabinet lights. This will be the only fluorescent light dealer in the Denver area during the two week Denver show, so check them out.



Kids Activities

We are a family-friendly show with educational organizations and member clubs providing hands-on learning experiences and information for kids and adults, gold panning demonstrations, fossil dig, and “Mr. Bones” various dinosaurs roaming the patio area. The DGMS club tables and educational area will be located in a large tent on the patio adjacent to the hotel.

Educational organizations participating this year so far include Dinosaur Ridge, Foothills Prospectors, and Minerals Education Coalition.



DGMS Dealers

The DGMS is proud to host 24 mineral, gem, lapidary, and jewelry dealers from across Colorado, the United States, and around the world. The diversity of dealers offers buyers a unique opportunity to find a broad selection of anything related to minerals, gems, fossils, or meteorites. From museum- quality specimens, to rough and tumbled stones, to findings, our dealers bring the world of minerals, gems, and fossils to Denver's door. The DGMS dealers include:

- Alternate Minerality
- Alta Gema
- A.R.C. Fine Minerals LLC
- BKW Opals
- Brian Kosnar Mineral Classics
- Capetown Matrix Crystals
- Campo Vista LLC
- Dan Z Rock Shop Ltd
- Del Sur Agate
- Family Bear Fine Minerals
- Himalya Quartz
- JBL Minerals
- Lithos
- Loye & Lemon Minerals
- Mincollect
- Morgan Sonasthagen Jewelry Design
- Palm of Hope Jewelry Designs
- Persson Rare Minerals
- Prospector Gold and Gems
- Rock-n-Sphere
- Self-A-Ware Minerals
- The Cutters Bench
- Tucson Todd's Gems
- Way Too Cool, LLC



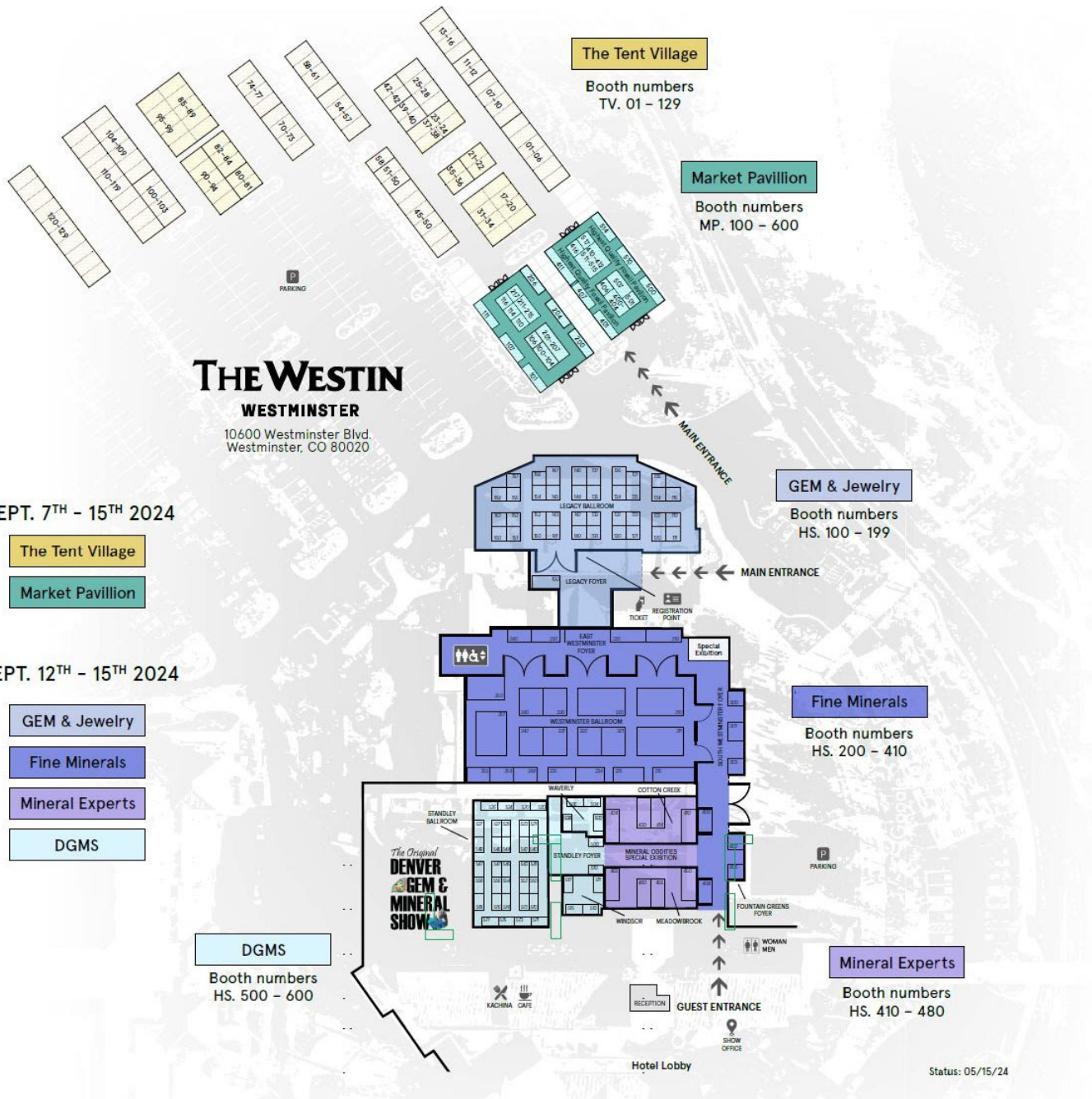
The Hardrock Summit also includes dealers from all over the world. An interactive map showing all the dealers at the Westin is located at <https://floorplan.hardrocksummit.com/>. A copy of the map is on the next page.

Extended Hardrock Summit Outside Show

Please note that Hardrock Summit is offering an outside show that starts a week earlier (September 7th) than the main show in the Tent Village and Market Pavilion located in the parking lot of the Westin Hotel. These national and international wholesale and retail dealers are offering gemstones, jewelry, minerals, and fossils for sale.

Hours for the Outside Show: Sept 7-14 10:00am-6:00pm and Sept 15 10:00am-3:00pm

If you have any questions or need additional information, please reach out to the 2024 Denver Show Committee Chair, Amber Brenzikofer, at amberbrenzikofer@gmail.com or 720-480-5234.



THE WESTIN

WESTMINSTER

10600 Westminster Blvd.
Westminister, CO 80020

SEPT. 7TH - 15TH 2024

The Tent Village

Market Pavillion

SEPT. 12TH - 15TH 2024

GEM & Jewelry

Fine Minerals

Mineral Experts

DGMS

DGMS
Booth numbers
HS. 500 - 600

GEM & Jewelry

Booth numbers
HS. 100 - 199

Fine Minerals

Booth numbers
HS. 200 - 410

Mineral Experts

Booth numbers
HS. 410 - 480

Status: 05/15/24