

Flatirons Mineral Club Coming Attractions

April and May 2025

Annual Silent Auction – Tuesday, April 8

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). Over the past few 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 carry your purchases and something to wrap and protect your purchases.

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. You can e-mail Gerry Naugle at 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 email blast. Tables for Silent Auction items will be available for set up starting at 6:00 p.m.



Field Trip Season Has Begun

With the warmer spring weather, our field trips have begun. You can sign up for the May trips on the club's website (i <https://flatironsmineralclub.org/>) n a few weeks. Just login and click "Field Trips" for more information about the trips and to sign up.

Mines Museum of Earth Science Tour (April 19) Join the club for a guided tour of the Mines Museum of Earth Science on the Colorado School of Mines campus on Saturday, April 19, at 10 am. The Mines Museum of Earth Science has over 15,000 square feet of rocks, minerals, fossils, and Colorado mining history. Student guides will highlight many of the 2,000 outstanding specimens on display at the Museum. The cost for the tour is \$13 for adults, \$7 for seniors, and \$5 for children. The club will pay half the costs of two members from each family. The tour is full, but you can be added to the wait list by contacting Dennis Gertenbach at gertenbach1@gmail.com.

Front Range Geothermal Tour and Argo Mine (May 3) This is a two-part trip, delving into the heart of the Colorado Front Range. The first half of the day will be five stops exploring the Lyons Formation and Precambrian basement outcrops in the foothills. The stops will discuss the potential for geothermal energy extraction in the Colorado Mineral Belt and western-most side of the Denver Basin, as well as examine past geothermal altering and future geothermal possibilities of these two regions. After lunch or exploring the town of Idaho Springs on your own, we will reconvene at the [Argo Gold Mill and Tunnel](#). This historic site, once a powerhouse of gold production, offers an immersive experience into Colorado's rich mining heritage.

Flatirons Geological History Hike (May 17) Hike the **Wood's Quarry Loop** as we learn about the geology and history of the Flatirons and enjoy great views across the plains. The hike is at a casual pace on the less busy 3.5-mile loop hike, with more than 50% in the shade. Duration 3 to 3.5 hours, total elevation gain of 678 feet, 8 maximum group due to narrow trails and weekend timing.

Club Meeting Featuring Field Trips – Tuesday, May 13

Our May club meeting is all about field trips. **Howard Gordon** will lead the first half with a "**Rockhounding 101**" talk, sharing tips and tricks for success out in the field. After that, **Jasper Seldin** will present the lineup of field trips for the 2025 season. Trip leaders will be there to talk about their trip and answer questions. We'll have nice pictures and specimens from the localities to give you a taste of what you may find.

Join us at 7:00 pm in Barker Hall at Mountain View United Methodist Church (355 Ponca Place in Boulder) for a great program.

Jr. Geologists Activities

Our meeting this month will feature space geology, as we learn about the geology of some of the planets and moons in our solar system and see different meteorites. At the meeting, the Jr. Geologists will work on requirements for the Earth in Space Badge. The meeting starts at 6:30 on Tuesday, April 15, in Frasier Parlor at the south end of Mountain View United Methodist Church, 355 Ponca Place in Boulder.



The Jr. Geologists program is open to all Flatirons Mineral Club families with children 6 years and older. For more information about the Jr. Geologists, please contact Dennis Gertenbach at gertenbach1@gmail.com.

Needed: Your Input for 2025 Field Trips

We have an exciting 2025 field trip season coming up and still would like to find a few more people to lead a trip. Leading a trip is a fun and rewarding experience, and we are here to help you make it a success. Even if you don't have a destination in mind, we can work with you and suggest some of our tried-and-true locations. Please reach out to Jasper Seldin (jseldin@gmail.com) if you are interested or have any questions!

And be sure to attend our May club meeting to learn about all the trips we have planned for this year.

Did You Know That April Is

**national
poetry month**

Poetry about rocks, minerals, fossils, and geology is always enjoyed by club members in our newsletter. So, celebrate National Poetry Month by sending one or more poems for our newsletter. Members – both adults and juniors – can send their “rockin’” poem to Dennis Gertenbach at gertenbach1@gmail.com for the newsletter.

Contribute to Our Club Newsletter

Our club's award-winning newsletter is known for the adult and junior members' articles, photos, artwork, and poetry in each issue. Consider writing an article or contributing photos, artwork, or poetry for our newsletter. It can be about a favorite collecting place, one or more interesting specimens in your collection, a piece about Colorado's mining history, lapidary and jewelry projects, a personal or club field trip, or anything related to rockhounding.

You can send your contributions to Dennis Gertenbach at gertenbach1@gmail.com. If you have questions about contributing to our newsletter, please contact Dennis.

And, who knows? Your contribution might place in the Rocky Mountain Federation newsletter contest next year.

Other Rockhounding Events and Activities in the Area

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

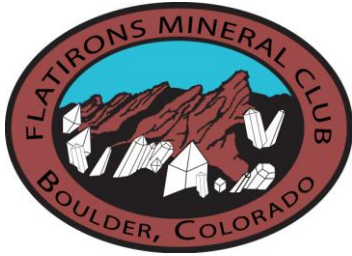
April 18-20 (Friday-Sunday) is the **Colorado Mineral and Fossil Spring Show**, at the National Western Complex, 4655 Humboldt St., Denver; 10-6 Friday & Saturday, 10-4 Sunday Retail/wholesale; free admission.

<https://xpopress.com/show/profile/796/colorado-mineral-fossil-spring-show>

April 25 (Friday) Friends of Dinosaur Ridge presents **behind-the-scenes tours of three museums**, Dinosaur Ridge, Morrison Natural History Museum, and Denver Museum of Natural History. Cost is \$130/person, which includes entrance fees to all museums and van transportation. See <https://dinoridge.org/event/explore-behind-the-scenes-colorado-museum-collections/> for more information.

May 3 (Saturday) is the **Colorado Mineral Society Silent Auction**, at Wheat Ridge United Methodist Church, 7530 W. 38th Avenue; approximately noon to 4 pm, all welcome. See their website at www.coloradomineralsociety.org for details.

May 10 (Saturday) Come to the Mines Museum of Earth Science in Golden for a presentation and book launch party with geologist, archaeologist, and historian **Mark S. Hanson** for his new book **Tarryall Gold: From Rush to Hush**, 5 – 7:30 pm. Free. <https://www.mines.edu/museumofearthscience/event/tarryall-gold/>



Flatirons Mineral Club

**2025 Annual Silent Auction, starts at 6:45pm on
Tuesday, April 8th**

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

**Mountain View Methodist 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)***

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 or 303-591-2830

See us on our website, at:

<https://flatironsmineralclub.org>

