

Flatirons Mineral Club Coming Attractions

June and July 2025

June 10 Club Meeting – Preparing Specimens for Grab Bags

Our club produces over 1,000 grab bags each year to sell to kids at the Denver Gem & Mineral Show and our club's Rocks & Rails Show. Each grab bag contains 10 specimens of rocks, minerals, and fossils. At our June 10 meeting, we will bag specimens in plastic bags with labels for the grab bags.

The meeting starts at 7:00 pm in Barker Hall at Mountain View United Methodist Church. If you like, bring food to share with others at the meeting.

June and July Field Trips

Field trip season is in full swing, with several field trips scheduled for the next two months. You can sign up for these trips on the club website, <https://flatironsmineralclub.org/>. Log in and go to Field Trips to learn about each trip and to sign up.

June 8 - Sugarloaf Mountain

Join Jasper Seldin along with new co-lead and Sugarloaf resident Bob Phillips for a collecting trip close to home. We'll collect ferberite, druzy quartz, and fluorite (and possibly more) from tailings piles of tungsten mines on Sugarloaf Mountain. This field trip is full, but if we get positive feedback from attendees, we will run it a second time later in the year.



June 27-29 - Kemmerer WY Fossil Expedition



This three-day trip begins with an afternoon at Fossil Butte National Monument outside of Kemmerer, Wyoming, for a fossil preparation demonstration, followed by a private talk by Arvid Aase about "Interpreting Climate from Fossil Leaves." On Saturday, we will be at the Fossil Lake Safari pay quarry to collect fossil fish. On the way home on Sunday, we will visit sites south of Wamsutter, Wyoming, to collect "Turritella agate" and stromatolites (fossil algae). There are two signups for the weekend, one for collecting fossil fish on Saturday and one for the Wamsutter stops on Sunday. If you plan to come both days, sign up for each trip. **If you signed up for the quarry dig on Saturday, please submit your \$37.50 fee to the club by cash or check before the trip.**

July 12 - Red Feather Lakes Quartz

Join us for a trip to Red Feather Lakes to collect quartz specimens in many rare shapes and colors, as well as hematite and malachite. There is a fee of \$20 for this trip. FMC will cover 50% of the trip's cost for the first two members from each family, lowering the cost for those members to \$10. The sign-up link will be posted in early June.

July 19 - (NEW) Colorado Springs Mineralogical Society Club Claim

The Colorado Springs Mineralogical Society kindly invited us to their club claim for a day of collecting. Huge thanks to Kyle Atkinson for making this happen! **We need an FMC member to help by leading this field trip** - it will be straightforward and easy to lead as far as trips go - a great opportunity for someone to lead their first! If you are interested in leading, please reach out to Jasper (jseldin@gmail.com).

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.

Jr. Geologists Activities

We are invited to a ranch outside of Elizabeth, Colorado, where there is petrified wood. At the ranch Sam Allen, a petrified wood expert, will teach us about different kinds of petrified wood and what plant fossils tell us about the environment in Colorado 55 million years ago. (Hint: Colorado was much different than today.) Then, you will have a chance to collect petrified wood to take home. Contact Dennis (gertenbach1@gmail.com) to sign up for the trip.

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.

Nominate a Club Member for Rockhound of the Year

Each year, the club honors an active member or husband-and-wife team who has contributed to the success of the Flatirons Mineral Club. Our first Rockhound of the Year was honored in 2002, and each year since, a club member or couple has been selected as our Rockhound of the Year by the club membership.

Recipients for this honor are first nominated by club members. Please consider nominating someone this year - perhaps someone who leads field trips, helps organize the club show, assists with club meetings, or helps with the Jr. Geologists. A nomination form can be found on page 4.

Please return your nomination to Gerry Naugle by July 15. It can be mailed to Flatirons Mineral Club, P.O. Box 3331 Boulder, CO 80307-3331, or emailed to Gerry at gnaugle@earthlink.net.

Club Picnic on August 23 – Save the Date

This year's annual picnic is at Harlow Platts Park, the same place as previous picnics. The main pavilion is located just south of the South Boulder Recreation Center at 1360 Gillespie Drive in Boulder. The picnic starts at 11:00 am. Folks with last names beginning with A-M are asked to bring a covered dish and folks with last names beginning with N-Z should bring a dessert. Roll-up sandwiches and beverages will be provided by the club.

At the picnic, we will fill grab bags for sale at the Denver Gem & Mineral Show and our club show this fall, plus honor our Rockhound of the Year and present other awards.

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.

June 6-8 (Friday-Sunday) is the 61st annual **Pikes Peak Gem and Mineral Show** at the Norris Penrose Event Center, 1045 Lower Gold Camp Road, Colorado Springs, sponsored by the Colorado Springs Mineralogical Society. Times are 10-6 on Friday and Saturday and 10-4 on Sunday. Admission is \$5. <https://pikespeakgemshow.com/>.



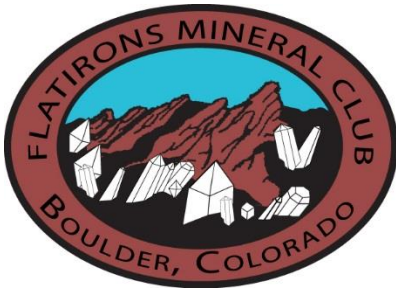
June 7 (Saturday) The **Mines Museum of Earth Science** is holding a **free Mineral Identification Day** from 1 to 4 pm, 1310 Maple Street in Golden. Bring your most mysterious rocks, minerals, fossils, and gems to the museum to be identified by our panel of experts. Limit three samples per person. See https://www.mines.edu/museumofearthscience/event/mineral_id_day/2025-06-07/ for details.

June 12-16 (Thursday-Monday) The **Friends of Mineralogy Colorado Chapter** is pleased to announce their symposium featuring **Specimen Mines of the United States**. The symposium will be held at the Mines Museum of Earth Science & Berthoud Hall at Colorado School of Mines in Golden, Colorado. For more information, see <https://friendsofmineralogycolorado.org/symposium/>.



June 20-22 (Friday-Sunday) The annual **Victor Gem & Mineral Show** will be held in downtown historic Victor and is open and free to the public. The show will include vendors from across the state selling Colorado minerals. Items for sale will include polished gems, hand-crafted jewelry, rough slabs, specimens, cabochons, geodes, and more. There will also be gold and gem panning at the Victor Lowell Thomas Museum. Show hours are from 9 to 5 Friday and Saturday and 9 to 4 on Sunday. <https://stcfg.com/gem-and-mineral-show/>

June 21-22 (Saturday and Sunday) is **Faceting Seminary** at the Mines Museum of Earth Science in Golden. See https://www.facebook.com/cari.fifielf/photos/usfg-is-proud-to-support-this-meet-point-meet-up-in-golden-colorado-near-denver-/24608007608789618/?_rdr for more information.



Flatirons Mineral Club

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2025 Ballot for FMC / RMFMS / AFMS 'Rockhound of the Year'

The club membership each year honors an active member, or a husband and wife team who have made substantial accomplishment during the past year in promoting and furthering the FMC goals, as per the club's "Mission Statement" which is outlined in the Club By-laws.

Since the inception of new version of this program in 2002, the annual FMC recipients have been: Charlotte Morrison (2002), Paul & Martha Ralston (2003), Ray & Dorothy Horton (2004), John & Jeanne Hurst (2005), Ray & Joyce Gilbert (2006), Chuck & Jan Buda (2007), Cory Olin co-tie with Hallie & Dot Cook (2008), Shaula Lee (2009), Anita Colin co-tie with Gabi Accatino (2010), Mel & Charlotte Bourg (2011), Deborah Knox (2012), Ed Raines & Silvia Pettem (2013), Mike Smith (2014), Tally O'Donnell (2015), Dennis Gertenbach (2016), Trick Runions (2017), Jean Orr (2018), Craig Hazelton (2019), Brian Walko 2020, Suzanne Peach 2021, Will Rehm 2022, Tony Bubb 2023 and Howard Gordon in 2024.

Please list your 2025 nominee below. You can also vote by several electronic means. All voting information is confidential and will be tallied and is then erased /or/ paper is shredded by Gerry Naugle. The FMC annual winners' names are sent to the RMFMS and AFMS offices for publication in their res-pective newsletters. Note: The annual FMC winner(s) are also inducted into, and their names are engraved onto the FMC Hall of Fame (*HOF*) Plaque.

Your 2025 nomination is: _____

The person (or) persons should be honored because of (brief summary):

Submitted by, please print _____

Please return this paper ballot to Gerry Naugle (use the above letterhead address) by July 15th or by (the easiest means possible) by sending an e-mail to: gnaugle@earthlink.net

Voting results will be announced and the HOF Plaque will be at the **2025 annual club picnic** at the **Harlow Platts Park - Pavillion**, 1496 Gillespie Drive in 80305, on **Sat, Aug 23rd**
More info on the picnic in subsequent club newsletter, and the picnic starts at 11:00am of that day.

Thanks for participating !