

# *Flatirons Mineral Club Coming Attractions February and March 2026*

## **February Club Meeting: Oil and Gas Exploration and Production 101**

How did a significant oil field form? What's involved in finding and producing oil and gas? On Tuesday, **February 10**, we will show a video of a 2.5-billion-barrel field in the Permian Basin from the Horseshoe field near Midland, Texas. **Howard Gordon** will present the video by Myron Cook (see below) from his YouTube channel that explains how this huge former reef atoll of Pennsylvanian-Permian age was created. Howard will provide additional insight into what's involved in finding oil and gas, using examples from his past work as a petroleum geologist.

The YouTube video was made by Myron Cook, a retired geologist with over 35 years experience. He worked for decades as an exploration geologist within the oil and gas industry. His career took him all over the world, including a final assignment in Saudi Arabia, before retiring in Wyoming. A graduate from Northern Arizona University, he now is a YouTube educator producing geology videos for the general public, often utilizing seismic data and core samples to explain complex geological features. He has many videos on his channel that can be accessed at <https://www.youtube.com/@myroncook>.

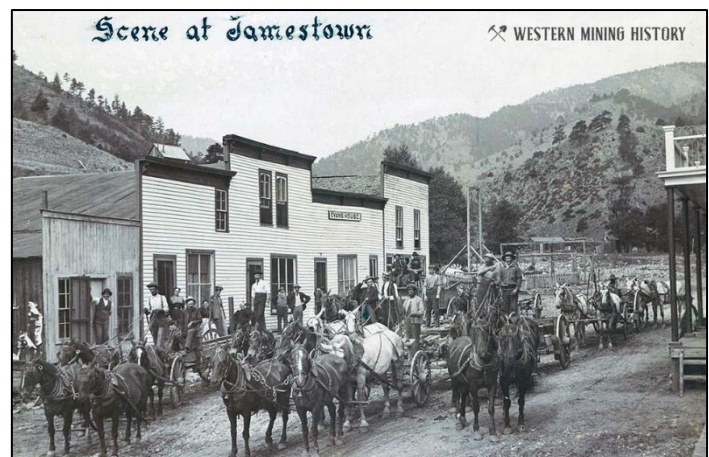


Club meetings start at 7:00 pm in Frasier Parlor at Mountain View United Methodist Church in Boulder. Come through the south entrance of the church and the meeting room is on your left.

## **March Club Meeting: History of Jamestown, Colorado**

For our **March 10** meeting, we will learn about the history of Jamestown from **Brian Walko**. Jamestown, Colorado, was founded in 1861 after gold discoveries in the mineral-rich foothills west of Boulder. Mining focused on gold and silver within metamorphic and igneous rocks that are cut by quartz veins, making Jamestown part of the broader Front Range mineral belt. The town expanded as a local mining and milling hub during periodic booms, then declined as ore production slowed. Fluorspar (fluorite) mining replaced the metallic ores.

Today, Jamestown is remembered for its classic hard-rock mining history and the geology that drew prospectors into the canyon more than 160 years ago to work in the famous Argo, Blue Jay, Bueno, Burlington, Emmett, Golden Age, Lady Bug, Smuggler, and other mines. Currently, the area is



Main Street, Jamestown, CO, 1878

being prospected for rare earth minerals and uranium, with a resurgence of prospecting old mine dumps for gold tellurides.

Brian Walko has over 45 years of experience prospecting and mining in the Jamestown area.

## Jr. Geologists Activities

Everybody loves seeing colorful fluorescent mineral displays shining under ultraviolet light. But what minerals fluoresce? And how do fluorescent minerals make these colors? Come to our February 17 meeting to learn more and earn the Fluorescent Minerals Badge.

At our March 17 meeting, we will continue to learn more about minerals.

Meetings start at 6:30 at Mountain View United Methodist Church (355 Ponca Place in Boulder). If you have children ages 6 and above who would like to join the Jr. Geologists, please contact Dennis at [gertenbach1@gmail.com](mailto:gertenbach1@gmail.com).



## 2026 Dues are Due!

Dues are still only \$18 for individual and family membership.

You can pay in three ways:

- **PAY online** by credit card at [FMC Renewal](#) or via this QR code. If you pay online, please send an email to Gerry Naugle at [gnaugle@earthlink.net](mailto:gnaugle@earthlink.net). [Issues with paying online? Email [fmc.boulder@gmail.com](mailto:fmc.boulder@gmail.com) to report the problem, and we will contact you.]
- **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 or money order** made to "Flatirons Mineral Club" or "FMC" to P.O. Box 3331, Boulder, CO, 80307. Please do not send cash in the mail.



## Wanted: Articles, Photos, and Other Items for the Next Newsletter.

Our club's award-winning newsletter is known for articles, photos, artwork, and poetry by our members. These can be on any rockhounding subject, including interesting mineral and fossil finds, neat collecting places, and technical and historical articles. Contributions from all ages - adult club members and Jr. Geologists - are welcome.

You can send your contributions to Dennis Gertenbach at [gertenbach1@gmail.com](mailto:gertenbach1@gmail.com). **Deadline for submitting contributions to the next newsletter is February 28.** If you have any questions about contributing to our newsletter, please contact Dennis

## Member Name Tags

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.



Example of a club name tag

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 family's first name tag is \$5. Other members can order name tags for \$8. You can pay for your name tag(s) by cash or check payable to FMC at any monthly meeting or other club event. If you have questions about ordering your name tag, please contact Gerry Naugle at [gnaugle@earthlink.net](mailto:gnaugle@earthlink.net) or 303-591-2830.

# MINES MUSEUM

of earth science

## THE ANNUAL SURVEY OF MUSEUM-GOERS

### Help us SERVE YOU BETTER!

If you have visited the museum in the last 3 years, please [click the link](#) and complete the survey!

Mines Museum, in conjunction with the American Alliance of Museums and Wilkening Consulting, is conducting a visitor survey to help us better understand and serve our guests.

We really appreciate your participation!

## Other Rockhounding Events and Activities in the Area

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

- **February 11 (Wednesday)**, 6:00 to 7:00 pm, explore the plans for the new exhibit at the **Dinosaur Ridge Discovery Center**. Register for a **free, live webinar** co-hosted by Dinosaur Ridge Director of Paleontology **Amy Atwater** and TRX Dinosaurs Artist/Owner **Keegan Kuhn** to learn about the innovative new exhibit opening at the Martin G. Lockley Discovery Center this Memorial Day Weekend. You can register for this free webinar at <https://dinoridge.org/event/take-a-deep-time-detour-into-prehistoric-colorado-live-webinar/>.



- **February 27-March 1 (Friday-Sunday)** is the **Denver Gem & Mineral Guild Show** at the Jefferson County Fairgrounds in Golden. Times are 10-6 Friday & Saturday, 10-5 Sunday. Free admission. More information at <https://denvergem.org/show/>.



- **March 5 (Thursday)** at Antoine Bercovici of the **Denver Museum of Nature and Science** will present a talk on **Ecosystems after the asteroid; new discoveries at the K/Pg boundary**. Talks are in-person-only, from 2–3 pm in Ricketson Auditorium. Museum admission is not required to attend. Enter through Staff/Volunteer entrance, 50 feet east of main visitor entrance, and let Security know you're attending the talk. They will direct you to the location.

- **March 6-8 (Friday-Sunday)** is the **Mines Museum of Earth Science's Rock, Mineral, and Fossil Sale**. Shop a large selection of discounted rocks, minerals, fossils, and other treasures! Located in GRL201 across the hall from the main Museum entrance. See <https://calendar.mines.edu/event/17078-mineral-fossil-sale> for more information.



- **March 7 (Saturday)** from 1-4 pm is **Mineral ID Day** at the **Mines Museum of Earth Science**. While you're at the sale (see above), bring your unknown rocks, minerals, fossils, and gems for identification. More information at <https://calendar.mines.edu/event/10982-mineral-id-day>.

- **March 20-22 (Friday-Sunday)** is the **Fort Collins Gem & Mineral Show** featuring fossils and geodes at the McKee Building, The Ranch/Larimer County Fairgrounds, 5280 Arena Cir., Loveland. Details at <https://www.fortcollinsrockhounds.org/gemAndMineralShow.shtml>.

