



About our 'Club Claim'

The driving force for The Lake George Gem & Mineral Club (LGGMC) to obtain a Club Mining Claim was so we could have 'our own space' to help expand on the notions that our club is based upon. This included: getting out in Nature, networking with other Rock Hounds with similar interests, teaching new members, Learning more about the Earth Sciences, having Fun like Digging, or finding cool Specimens that we could clean-up & display or even pieces that we could work on in our Lapidary WorkShop. We wanted a place that was easy-access (gentle sloping terrain), not too far to walk to, and that had some goodies! We wished for it to be a great location for aging members, as well as for families with small children, and a spot that new members (or those with a new interest to dig) could pack a picnic & get Outdoors! With the help of The Denver Gem & Mineral Guild (DGMG), we found a great Spot! The two clubs joined forces to locate, stake out, and file two 'Lode' Club Claims. They also formed an agreement to Allow members of 'either' Club permission to utilize 'either' Claim! The club claims are The Patience Lode & The Piety Lode.

Guidelines

We are strictly 'On The Honor System'. We follow the Golden Rule and abide by the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies (AFMS) Code of Ethics!

1. **You MUST be a 'Current' Member!**
(Remember, it is okay to be member of *either* the LGGMC or the DGMG.
For 'Club-Sponsored' Field Trips, it is okay to join The Day Of our planned visit!
We try to have *at least* two trips each digging season w/ alternate dates for weather).
2. You are **REQUIRED to Report** the Following **EVERY** time: **Who** visited, The **DATE & Approximate HOURS** by email AlfreyDan@aol.com, VoiceMail or Text 719.440.6234 (Please include additional Comments if anything seems Odd).
3. Any visit is at **YOUR OWN RISK!** Neither the LGGMC nor DGMG will be liable for injuries *or* loss of property. (Including **ALL** activities, digging or otherwise!)
4. **Hand Digging Only!** No Explosives & No Machinery of any kind can be used. All holes must be refilled or left protected before leaving. (If you camp overnight, Cover active holes as to Protect all public use & various wildlife in the National Forest)
5. All Parking and/or Camping is to be in **Designated Locations Only!**
6. Anyone who digs must also be available for reclamation.

7. Please **pick up all trash**, even if it is not yours.
8. **Minimize Consumption** (limit bucket loads!) and personal sales (few!) as to Preserve the well Intent of obtaining the claim. And think of our *future* New Members too!
9. If you see any damage to the claim posts please notify Dan or any Officer **ASAP**.
10. Follow all **US Forest Service** signage, rules and regulations.
11. Be polite and Act with the *Best Interest of our Clubs* when encountering others. This location is a very popular spot. It is at a trailhead in the National Forest. There are many folks using the area for a wide variety of activities. (Keep in mind that some, may Not prefer our Hobby). If they are interested, encourage membership.

Collectables

Amazonite, microcline, clear & smoky quartz crystals, green & purple fluorite, topaz. There are many historical digs in the area. 'Float' is abundant. It is not uncommon to discover nice finds on spoil piles. It has been reported that a 4-lb topaz was found in the area. In the private collection of Brian Lees (The Collector's Edge) is a pristine Twinned Amazonite specimen discovered in the general region.

Directions

Please contact a Club Officer for a Map & Directions.

Collecting Suggestions

- There are absolutely No Facilities at this Site.
- Make sure you have plenty of gas.
- Bring lots of Water.
- Weather can change quickly. Be prepared for sun, rain, snow, sleet, high winds, and extreme Lightning hazard! (Don't take Risks when there is Lightning present!)
- Bring a Snack, camera, sunscreen, gloves, jacket, first-aid kit, a hat & Water!
- Hand tools are recommended (pick, rake, shovel, ¼" screen, newspaper to wrap specimens with, pry bar, chisels, screwdrivers, & safety goggles)
- Crystal 'pockets' can be encountered. Use caution as to not cut yourself when reaching into them. You may wish to use a wooden skewer or plastic tent stake to remove crystals without damaging them. Many club members can recommend cleaning techniques. Keep an eye out for scheduled Club programs.
- Bring a cheerful attitude & **Enjoy!**



AFMS Code of Ethics

I will respect both private and public property and will do no collecting on privately owned land without the owner's prior permission.

I will keep informed on all laws, regulations, or rules governing collecting on public lands and will observe them.

I will, to the best of my ability, ascertain the boundary lines of property on which I plan to collect.

I will use no firearms or blasting material in collecting areas.

I will cause no willful damage to property of any kind -- fences, signs, buildings, etc.

I will leave all gates as found.

I will build fires in designated or safe places only and will be certain they are completely extinguished before leaving the area.

I will discard no burning material -- matches, cigarettes, etc.

I will fill all excavation holes, which may be dangerous to people, wildlife, or livestock.

I will not contaminate wells, creeks, or other water supplies.

I will cause no willful damage to collecting material and will take home only what I can reasonably use.

I will leave all collecting areas devoid of litter, regardless of how found.

I will practice conservation and undertake to utilize fully and well the materials I have collected and will recycle my surplus for the pleasure and benefit of others.

I will cooperate with field-trip leaders and those in designated authority in all collecting areas.

I will report to my club or federation officers, Bureau of Land Management or other authorities, any deposit of petrified wood or other materials on public lands which should be protected for the enjoyment of future generations for public educational and scientific purposes.

I will appreciate and protect our heritage of natural resources.

I will observe the "Golden Rule," will use "Good Outdoor Manners," and will at all times conduct myself in a manner which will add to the stature and public "image" of rockhounds everywhere.