

## Lake George Gem & Mineral Club

# Club News, August, 2024



**Hi!** Betty Bowles is traveling in Europe for the next couple of months, and she asked me to substitute for her as Newsletter Editor—hence the different format. Thanks for reading. Bob Carnein

There will be **no regular meeting in August**. Instead, please join Show Chair **Carol Kinate** and other members at 9AM Saturday at the field next to the Post Office in Lake George to help with the show set-up. Here's a note from Carol:

**SAVE THE DATE – AUGUST 16-18, 2024 (LGGMC Annual Show)**

The sign-up sheets for this year's Annual Show will be available at the field on Aug. 10, or you can sign up by contacting Carol Kinate at 719-648-9015 (call/text).

Each sign-up slot is for a two-hour shift (9-11, 11-1, 1-3, 3-5). You can choose Parking Attendant, Club Tent Host, Kids Table, or After-show Teardown on Monday morning. Also, we need people to help with the Field Layout on August 10.

Thank you for your time and consideration. Please contact me with any questions whatsoever. Looking forward to a GREAT show!

Carol Kinate, Show Chair

kinatec@aol.com or 719-648-9015 (call/text)

**Come to the show Aug. 16-18!**

👇👇 **John Rakowski** sent this report on the "Rough to Gem" event, held at the Pikes Peak Historical Society Museum on July 27:

As President of the Pikes Peak Historical Society and of course a long time LGGMC Member I want to compliment the group of volunteers who did the Rough to Gem event at the PPHS Museum in Florissant on July 27.

Katie Sleboda did an excellent job of coordinating the event, and there was a group of super enthusiastic Club members out there who impressed and educated the visiting public about the lapidary aspects of our hobby. There were diamond-blade rock saws cutting geodes or other material. There was a demonstration of cabochon cutting and polishing showing how the cut

slices could be converted to beautiful rounded top gems. A club member showed how a faceting machine works and how transparent specimens can be turned into sparkling, facet-cut jewels. Then an exhibit showed how the cut gems could be wire wrapped or otherwise converted into wearable jewelry. Good job all!

John Rakowski

Here are some photos of the event, thanks to **Dave Alexander**:



👇 Dave also sent these photos of the Wigwam field trip on July 22:



👇👇 ...and, finally, Dave sent this schedule for remaining field trips for this summer:

Here is a list for the newsletter and for someone to have available for sign-ups at the showgrounds on Saturday, August 10.

- Sept 14. Wilkerson Pass Tourmalines (leave after meeting).
- Sept 14. Gold City Claim (leave after meeting)
- Sept 14. Gold City Claim Nighttime event.
- Sept 28. Wigwam Claims Reclamation with DGMG.
- Oct 12. Badger Flats Magnetite (leave after meeting).

Thanks everyone! --Dave

👇👇 **ADDITIONAL COMING EVENTS OUTSIDE THE LGGM CLUB:** (Nearby gem, mineral, fossil, and geology events that you may enjoy.) Go to each club's website for more information.

- **Cañon City Geology Club** meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of the month at 6PM in the United Methodist Church, Cañon City

- **Columbine Gem & Mineral Society**, meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month, 6:30PM in the meeting room, Mt. Shavano Manor, 525 W. 16<sup>th</sup> (at J St.), Salida
- **Colorado Springs Mineralogical Society**, meets on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month at 7PM in the Mt. Carmel Veteran's Service Center, 530 Communication Circle, Colorado Springs;
- **Pueblo Rockhounds**, meets on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month at 6:30PM in the Westminster Presbyterian Church, 10 University Circle, Pueblo.



Show season is in full swing:



August 30-Sept. 1, Colorado Springs Convention Ctr.



**Marriott Airport Gateway**  
16455 E 40th Circle  
Aurora Colorado 80011

Discounted room rates- mention  
the Just Minerals and Crystals  
Event

**Saturday Sept 7 10am-6pm**  
**Sunday Sept 8 10am-6pm**  
**Monday Sept 9 10am-4pm**

**Mountain Minerals**  
**Dave Bunk**  
**Enchanted Minerals**  
**MinCollect**  
**Crystal Cellar**  
**Cornerstone**  
**Persson Rare Minerals**  
**Stonetrust**  
**Geokrazy Minerals**  
**Graeber and Himes**  
**Dan Z**  
**Arkfeld**  
**Well Arranged Molecules**  
**Earthe Treasures**  
**Unique Minerals**  
**Kristalle**



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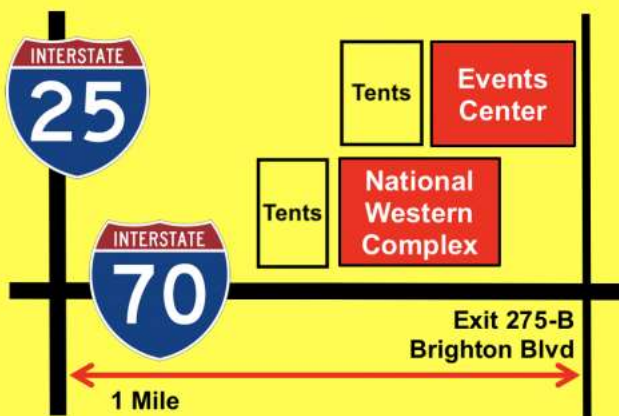
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# Denver Show

September 6-15, 2024  
9am - 6pm Daily



Gigantic  
10 Day Event



## Denver Gem & Mineral Show

September 12-15, 2024, at The Westin Westminster in Denver, Colorado.

### When?

Thursday through Saturday: 10:00 am to 6:00 pm

Sunday: 10:00 am to 3:00 pm

Theme: Mineral Oddities

Admission and parking **FREE**



Person pointing to displayed minerals.

### About

Since 1960, the Denver Gem & Mineral Show has been fascinating people with their collection of minerals across Colorado. The show not only displays stunning gems and minerals, but also offers a chance to explore many of the geology and paleontology organizations of the Southwest. Looking for something specific? Booths selling their collections can also be found there.

This year's theme is "Mineral Oddities." This includes minerals that have undergone *Pseudomorphosis*, a mineral compound that has undergone a chemical transformation without a physical change.



Come visit the many organizations hosted here!

They sell fossils as well as minerals!



Speaking of events, **Pete Modreski** ([pmodreski@aol.com](mailto:pmodreski@aol.com)) sent this list of geology-related talks and other events that are coming up this summer:

**Fri. Aug. 2, 5-9 p.m., Colorado School of Mines Museum "First Friday Night at the Museum"**. Free admission and visitors of all ages are welcome! "Join us for our "Night at the Museum" event series happening every 1<sup>st</sup> Friday of every month [there was none in July due to Independence Day holiday]. Enjoy the museum after-hours, with all its wonders illuminated and ready for exploration! Take in live music, grab a drink from the bar, and partake in special activities run by our favorite local museums. It promises to be a night of fun and discovery! All proceeds go towards supporting the Mines Museum's

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mission to foster an appreciation of the Earth, energy, and the environment through exploration, engagement, and enlightenment. For more information, see the Mines Museum's website or facebook page. The next First Friday Night after this will be Sept. 6.

**Fri.-Sat.-Sun., Aug. 9-11, Colorado School of Mines Museum, summer rocks-minerals-fossils sale!** Friday afternoon the 9th is a "VIP" advance preview sale, 1-4 p.m., for members and museum volunteers only [if not a current Friends of the Mines Museum member, you can join online ahead of time; the regular sale is 9-4 Saturday, 1-4 Sunday]. See the Mines Museum website or facebook page.

**Thurs.-Sun., Aug. 8-11, Buena Vista Contin-Tail Gem, Mineral, and Fossil Show,** Buena Vista Rodeo Grounds; free admission and parking.

**Thurs.-Sun., Aug. 15-18, Woodland Park Gem & Mineral Show;** located outdoors off US-24; free admission and parking.

**Thurs.-Sun., Aug. 16-18, Lake George Gem & Mineral Show;** located outdoors off US-24; free admission and parking. Sponsored by the Lake George Gem & Mineral Club.

**Thurs.-Sun., Sept. 12-15, Denver Gem and Mineral Show,** part of the Hardrock Summit Show, and cosponsored by the nonprofit Greater Denver Area Gem and Mineral Council, an association of 7 Front Range area gem, mineral, and fossil clubs. In 2024 this will be held at the **Westin Westminster Hotel**, 10600 Westminster Blvd., Westminster CO. The show includes museum displays, club booths and demonstrations including free mineral and gem identification, and sale of grab bags for kids that goes toward a scholarship fund at Colorado School of Mines. Free admission and parking.

**Fri., Sept. 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 the Mines Museum website or facebook page for more information.

Several other gem, mineral, and jewelry shows will take place in Denver during the week preceding the "Denver Show." These include:

**Fri.-Mon., Sept. 5-8, Just Minerals and Crystals Event Denver,** Denver Airport Marriott at Gateway Park, 16455 E. 40<sup>th</sup> Circle, Aurora CO. Free parking & admission.

**Sept. 6-14, Colorado Mineral and Fossil Fall Show,** Crowne Plaza DIA, 15500 E 40<sup>th</sup> Ave., Denver CO 80239. Free admission & parking.

**Sept. 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.

*More upcoming events:*

**Thurs., Sep. 19, 7 p.m., Colorado Scientific Society Past Presidents Dinner, "What do two geologists know about pandemics? Economic cascades, tipping points, and the costs of a business-as-usual approach to COVID-19".** David Goodwin, Denison University, and Peter Roopnarine, California Academy of Sciences. At the Mount Vernon Canyon Club or join us on Zoom. For full information see the CSS website, [www.coloscisoc.org](http://www.coloscisoc.org)

**Fri., Oct. 25, Colorado Science Conference,** a conference and workshop for all science educators. Held at the CSU-Spur Education Center at the stock show complex, Denver. For full registration, program, and other information see <https://coloradoscienceconference.org/> .

**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> . **[Note,**

***this is a recently announced date change to Nov. 1-3, from the earlier anticipated date of the weekend of Dec. 8-10.]***

**Nov. 15-17 (anticipated date), Denver Area Mineral Dealers (D.A.M.D.) Gem and Mineral Show, at the Jefferson County Fairgrounds, Golden.**

**Dec. 13-15, Flatirons Gem and Mineral Show, at the Boulder County Fairgrounds, Longmont; sponsored by the Flatirons Gem & Mineral Club [Boulder].**

↘↘ **Brad Smith** is still sending out his “Bench Tips”, and here’s the one for this month:

#### NEW MELTING DISH



A new melting dish or crucible must be given a protective coating of borax before its first use. Borax extends the life of the ceramic material. Once done, it generally does not have to be repeated.

The procedure is straightforward. Heat the new melting dish to red with a large torch. You'll need plenty of heat. I use an acetylene/air Prest-O-Lite torch with a large #5 nozzle.



When the dish is hot, sprinkle in a half teaspoon of borax, let it melt, and spread it with a carbon rod over all of the interior surface of the dish. Add more borax if needed.

Sometimes you will have to hold the dish at an angle to coat the sides up to the rim. And don't forget to coat the pouring spout itself.

↘↘ **Rock Seeker** sends out a lot of interesting articles and links. Here are a few I received this month:

- Ultimate guide to Keokuk geodes: [https://rockseeker.com/keokuk-geodes/?lctg=wlzd0g9p&ck\\_subscriber\\_id=1874913717&utm\\_source=convertkit&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=%E2%9B%8F%EF%B8%8F+Check+Out+This+Stunning+Keokuk+Geode%21+-+14569258&sh\\_kit=e2b062220d0b1c2e891629473e52e5ed4a95477ef4d878cd8f92ad4139c6d65d](https://rockseeker.com/keokuk-geodes/?lctg=wlzd0g9p&ck_subscriber_id=1874913717&utm_source=convertkit&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=%E2%9B%8F%EF%B8%8F+Check+Out+This+Stunning+Keokuk+Geode%21+-+14569258&sh_kit=e2b062220d0b1c2e891629473e52e5ed4a95477ef4d878cd8f92ad4139c6d65d)
- Uncovering the truth about “Andara crystals”: <https://rockseeker.com/truth-behind-andara-crystals/>

- Glass Butte: the best place to find obsidian in Oregon: [https://rockseeker.com/glass-butte-oregon-obsidian/?lctg=wlzd0g9p&ck\\_subscriber\\_id=1874913717&utm\\_source=convertkit&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=%E2%9B%8F%EF%B8%8F+Mountains+of+obsidian+and+accidental+crystal+cave+discovery+-+14559110&sh\\_kit=e2b062220d0b1c2e891629473e52e5ed4a95477ef4d878cd8f92ad4139c6d65d](https://rockseeker.com/glass-butte-oregon-obsidian/?lctg=wlzd0g9p&ck_subscriber_id=1874913717&utm_source=convertkit&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=%E2%9B%8F%EF%B8%8F+Mountains+of+obsidian+and+accidental+crystal+cave+discovery+-+14559110&sh_kit=e2b062220d0b1c2e891629473e52e5ed4a95477ef4d878cd8f92ad4139c6d65d)
- Rocks and minerals with everyday uses: [https://rockseeker.com/rocks-and-minerals-with-everyday-uses/?lctg=wlzd0g9p&ck\\_subscriber\\_id=1874913717&utm\\_source=convertkit&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=%E2%9B%8F%EF%B8%8FHow+much+do+you+know+about+these+rocks+with+Everyday+Uses%3F+-+14557710&sh\\_kit=e2b062220d0b1c2e891629473e52e5ed4a95477ef4d878cd8f92ad4139c6d65d](https://rockseeker.com/rocks-and-minerals-with-everyday-uses/?lctg=wlzd0g9p&ck_subscriber_id=1874913717&utm_source=convertkit&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=%E2%9B%8F%EF%B8%8FHow+much+do+you+know+about+these+rocks+with+Everyday+Uses%3F+-+14557710&sh_kit=e2b062220d0b1c2e891629473e52e5ed4a95477ef4d878cd8f92ad4139c6d65d)
- Some stinky rocks (actually minerals): [https://rockseeker.com/minerals-that-smell/?lctg=wlzd0g9p&ck\\_subscriber\\_id=1874913717&utm\\_source=convertkit&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=%E2%9B%8F%EF%B8%8F+What%27s+that+smell%3F+And+what%27s+this+rock+used+for%3F+-+14538372&sh\\_kit=e2b062220d0b1c2e891629473e52e5ed4a95477ef4d878cd8f92ad4139c6d65d](https://rockseeker.com/minerals-that-smell/?lctg=wlzd0g9p&ck_subscriber_id=1874913717&utm_source=convertkit&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=%E2%9B%8F%EF%B8%8F+What%27s+that+smell%3F+And+what%27s+this+rock+used+for%3F+-+14538372&sh_kit=e2b062220d0b1c2e891629473e52e5ed4a95477ef4d878cd8f92ad4139c6d65d)

▼ Here's a contribution from our poet laureate, **Steve Veatch:**

## **One Thursday Afternoon**

*The Cripple Creek Mining District, Colorado, 1891*

The bustling gold camp roared  
as the sun began to rise  
and the clinking of picks  
striking rocks filled the air.

The prospector,  
fueled by determination,  
placed his entire fortune on the line  
as his days unfolded  
in an uncertain way.

Anticipation hung heavy,  
mingling with the scent  
of sweat and dust.  
He bet it all  
for a chance  
at gold.

Tomorrow would tell the tale,  
carrying with it the promise  
of either a hope fulfilled  
or a crushing disappointment  
of this prospector's dreams  
that floated in the air.



**A prospector at work. This AI image was created by the author with the assistance of MS Designer.**



👇👇 Rock and Gem magazine also sent an interesting link:

- Rockhounding on the Oregon coast: [https://www.rockngem.com/oregon-coast-rockhounding/?fref=9ef7f8c9-307b-48f5-ac2a-f7eb234da206&em=Y2Nhcm5laW5AZ21haWwuY29t&utm\\_campaign=RnG\\_Newsletter\\_Active+Data\\_July+11\\_2024#google\\_vignette](https://www.rockngem.com/oregon-coast-rockhounding/?fref=9ef7f8c9-307b-48f5-ac2a-f7eb234da206&em=Y2Nhcm5laW5AZ21haWwuY29t&utm_campaign=RnG_Newsletter_Active+Data_July+11_2024#google_vignette)

👇👇 Member **Connie Holcomb** sent this report on a recent trip to the Smoky Hawk claim:

“I don't know the girl's name that found that 50-lb Amazonite plate, but she carried it out of the forest on her back! She took it up to the tent on site and showed it to Joe Dorris.... he let her keep it! Beautiful specimen.

The day was perfect weather and everyone found something.

Joe also took small groups down into the active pit mining area and we watched as he extracted some gorgeous Amazonite. I got to keep a piece of pegmatite with some Amazonite in it.

We all had a tremendous time.”



👇👇 Here's the monthly mineral quiz for August. Good luck; let me know what you think it is!

## Monthly Mineral Quiz

**Monthly Mineral for August, 2024 (Carnein photos and collection, and TheCrystalCouncil.com (photo on right, below)**

Here's a mineral that's commonly synthesized, though the specimens shown are natural. The one in the left and middle photos was collected by Richard Kawamoto in Utah. It's generally a post-mining mineral that forms as water-saturated solutions evaporate from a porous substrate into open spaces such as mines. So, this is a secondary mineral. The color should tell you something about its composition. Don't taste this one—it's poisonous. It has a low H (2 ½)



and SG (about 2.3), and it changes color from blue to white as it dehydrates. The type locality is one of my favorite mineral deposits in Chile, but it has also been found in many Colorado localities. Can you identify this strange but common mineral?

**Last Month's Mineral: Goethite,  $\alpha$ -FeO(OH)**

Last month's mineral is almost ubiquitous but only rarely occurs as well defined crystals (as in the specimen to the left, from the Crystal Peak mining district). It forms wherever other iron minerals break down because of weathering (for example, where pyrite alters chemically); as pseudomorphs replacing other iron minerals (e.g., siderite, in the Pikes Peak Granite); and as bladed crystals and botryoidal or coliform masses in pegmatites. It may also occur as tiny crystals in geodes of sedimentary or volcanic origin. Goethite is a major constituent of "limonite" seen on Earth, and it has been identified near the landing sites of the Spirit and Opportunity rovers, on the Martian surface.

