

Volume 42 Number 08

August 2024

# LEAVERITE NEWS

Grand Junction Gem and Mineral Club  
2328 Monument Road P.O. Box 953  
Grand Junction, CO 81502

## **President's Message** Hello to the GJGMC!

On July 11<sup>th</sup>, we saw the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of the story of the Sweet Alma mine. I loved seeing how their diamond-tipped chainsaw sliced through the granite so they could extract the rhodochrosite.

On July 12-15, ten of us went to the Lake George area to look for Eocene fossils, amazonite, Hartsel barite, and topaz. We'll show the club what we found at the Aug 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting.

Then, July 16-20 many of us set up an info booth at the Mesa County Fair and told people about our club. You would be impressed and amazed at what a good job our volunteers did there. I was.

Sadly, one of our club members and instructors, **Cindy Teare**, passed away on July 13th. She has been a member since 2015. Cindy will be missed.

On **Aug 3<sup>rd</sup>** from 9 am-12 am or so, come to the clubhouse, and practice your mineral identification skills. We will help Austin McChesney get organized for the Silent Auction at our fall rock show.

On **Aug 8<sup>th</sup>**, Hunter Voss will visit us. He is a founding member of our Junior Science Rock Club. You will be interested to learn what he has accomplished, and how the JSRC made a difference to him. Depending on the time available, we might do more too, and we are ready for anything.

The board is concerned about the number of bodies in the shop at any one time. We want to update our official policy that the maximum number of bodies in the shop will be 10, including both people and service dogs. Depending on the people and activities involved, the shop steward might have to set a lower limit for a short period of time, but 10 would be the upper limit.

We ask for the club to approve a policy change in the GJGMC Blue Book (Section 2, page 39) to say: [The maximum number of people working in the shop, including service dogs, is limited to 10 bodies. The Shop Leader or Instructor has the discretion to decrease this number for the safety of all. A dog is defined as one body.](#) We will vote about that policy change at the **Aug 22<sup>nd</sup>** Summer Potluck/Cookout Club meeting.

The Fall Rock Show will be **Sept 21-22**, with set up on **Sept 20<sup>th</sup>**. This is the Big Event for our club every year. We hope everyone will help, even if only for a few hours one of the days. And if you would like to set up a display case at the Fall Rock Show, let Alan Emmendorfer know, [aemmendorfer.geo@outlook.com](mailto:aemmendorfer.geo@outlook.com)

Steve Cable  GJGMC President 2024

Club Contacts					
Officers			Directors		
<b>President</b>	Steve Cable	970-312-1005	<b>1 Year</b>	Sylvester Spaeth	970-846-2973
<b>Vice President</b>	Open Position		<b>2 Year</b>	Scott Warren	303-668-5743
<b>Secretary</b>	Kimber Johnson	970-589-4091	<b>3 Year</b>	Bruce Johnson	970-589-4091
<b>Treasurer</b>	June Steely	801-540-0488	<b>Finance</b>	Ken Kloska	303-915-9318
			<b>Past President</b>	Jeff Southern	243-0953
Committee Chairpersons					
<b>Audit</b>	Bev O'Neal	623-2522	<b>Leaverite Editor</b>	Susan McChesney	970-589-9358
<b>Building Maint</b>	Dave McColbough	549-7352	<b>Librarian</b>	Open Position	
<b>Compliance</b>	Bev O'Neal	261-5890	<b>Meet-Up</b>	Steve Cable	970-312-1005
<b>Correspondence</b>	Kathy Ericson	623-2522	<b>Membership/ Badges</b>	Melissa Moroni	303-807-9864
<b>Decorating</b>	Linda Dunham	623-3610	<b>Nominating</b>	JoAnn Piburn	970-778-5333
<b>Display Cases</b>	Dave McColbough	549-7352	<b>Publicity</b>	Raechel Kolb	970-257-7831
<b>Education</b>	JoAnn Piburn	778-5333	<b>Scholarships</b>	Dave McColbough	549-7352
<b>Web Based Media</b>	Grete Raymond	970-433-0016	<b>Shop Foremen</b>	JoAnn & Ed	970-778-5333
<b>Field Trips</b>	Melissa Moroni	303-807-9864	<b>Show Co-Chair</b>	Deidre O'Callaghan	303-324-5559
<b>Hospitality</b>	Jan McCollum	245-9749	<b>Supplies</b>	Kathy Ericson	623-2522
<b>Inventory</b>	Pat Martinez	434-9270	<b>Grab Bags</b>	Open Position	
<b>Vests</b>	Linda Sims	314-2970	<b>GJ Facetors Club</b>	Casey Trump	970-250-9890

## SECRETARY'S CORNER

### This section is dedicated to our new members. Welcome aboard!!

Please join our club Meetup group for the most current announcements. Go to Meetup.com. Search for Grand Junction Gem and Mineral Club. There are two groups. The group with our logo (the blue pickax) is for paid members only. This is where Field Trip RSVPs are registered, classes are announced, and club speakers are scheduled with the details for how to connect remotely from Zoom (if preferred). For help joining Meetup, call Steve Cable, our current president. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact any board member or instructor. We are excited to have you in our club and look forward to seeing you at our events, classes, and trips. <https://www.meetup.com/Grand-Junction-Gem-and-Mineral-Club-Members/>

#### Recent Events:

Cookie Meeting – Next is August 8th

General Meeting – Next is August 22 with Pot-Luck

July 13, 2024, the GJGMC lost our valued member, [Cindy Teare](#), due to metastatic breast cancer. Please keep her husband Geoff, friends, and family in your prayers.

Check the posted calendars and MeetUp to see other coming attractions, classes, and events.

**Do you have items to buy, sell, or trade related to GJGMC?** You can post and read notices on the bulletin board to your left as you enter the clubhouse's main door. Please ensure your notices contain your name and contact information and the date posted. And make sure to pull the notice once your item is bought, sold, or traded. Thanks!

**If you would like to contribute a story of interest to the club via this newsletter, please have it to me via email: [smcchesney64@gmail.com](mailto:smcchesney64@gmail.com) no later than the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month, please.**



Classes	Instructors	Phone #	Open Shop
Adv. Lapidary	Thom Ericson	970-623-2522	Shop Chairmen: JoAnn Piburn & Greet Raymond  * Previous Instruction in use of equipment in is required before using any tools or machines in the shop. * Sign in each time you use the shop. * Help with the clean up before leaving. *Shop fee is \$5/session for EVERYONE. *Slab saw fee is \$.25 per square inch.
Beginning "Fast" Lapidary	Ed Raymond	250-2967	
	Grete Raymond	970-433-0016	
Bracelet Making	Theresa Pytell	303-229-9216	
Casting	Cindy Teare	970-462-6806	
Chain Making	JoAnn Piburn	970-778-5333	
Cuttlebone Cast	Judy Nason	250-9128	
Enameling	Karen Sayre	402-960-7370	
Faceting	Casey Trump	970-250-9890	
Faceted Stone Setting	Theresa Pytell	303-229-9216	
Filigree	Pam Bersch	970-242-3134	
Intarsia	Sue Smith & Val Medeiros	970-245-5602	
Opals and Turquoise	Thom Ericson	623-2522	
Wire Weaving	JoAnn Piburn	970-778-5333	
Wire Wrapping, basic & adv.	Joyce Trump	970-255-8045	
Silversmith, Basic & Adv.	JoAnn Piburn	970-778-5333	
	Theresa Pytell	303-229-9216	



## Junior Science Rock Club News

### JSRC June/July 2024 News

Hope everyone has been enjoying their summer. Hard to imagine school starting up again in just a few weeks. JSRC is getting back to the business of learning about rocks. **The next JSRC meeting will be held on August 6th at 5 pm. Geodes will be the focus of the presentation.**

Saturday, June 8th, Steve Cable led a field trip to Floy Wash. We had a good time in the desert with Steve collecting fossils and agate. JSRC did not meet in July. Bev was out of town and without a co-leader there wasn't coverage.

### GJGMC Annual Gem and Mineral Show

September features the GJGMC Annual Gem and Mineral Show. This will be the 78th year the club has held this event. It features 40 vendors, a Kids Korner, a Silent Auction, and exhibits of gems and minerals. **We will again be encouraging members and their parents to sign up to work (two-hour slots) in Kids Korner. By volunteering, families receive free entrance into the show for the day they work.** We will be sponsoring a Bingo game for kids, Spin the Wheel, and will be helping Whitney with Grab Bags. Hours for the show are 9 am - 5 pm on Saturday and 10 - 4 pm on Sunday. Many members have their volunteer sheets working towards 20 hours of volunteer time for earning the volunteer badge. (We will have additional forms for our new members.) We will begin the sign-up sheet for the 2-hour time slots at our August meeting.

### Member Rock Collection Exhibits

Last year we had four members who created great rock displays for the show. They generated a lot of interest and were very popular with the public. Those members interested in participating this year need to contact Bev, at [oneilb2024@gmail.com](mailto:oneilb2024@gmail.com). As with last year, if you need a display case, the club has them available for you to borrow. There is a handout about creating rock collection displays available for those interested participating. Pam continues to offer her expertise in creating such displays for those interested. It would be great to have at least five members displaying from their collections. (This activity fulfills the requirements for the Showmanship Badge.)

**Call for a new co-leader** - We have put a call out to the GJGMC membership for someone to step into Pam's place for JSRC. This doesn't exclude parents or grandparents of members from filling that role. If you are interested in helping to keep this group active and have questions or want to volunteer please contact Bev at [oneilb2024@gmail.com](mailto:oneilb2024@gmail.com). or Steve Cable [restlesspeacefulness@protonmail.com](mailto:restlesspeacefulness@protonmail.com)



## Lee's Tidbits

Want to learn where to find wood, fossils, or agate in Utah? There's a great website with a different article every month, on some aspect of rocks, especially around Moab! There was a nice feature on petrified wood around Moab, but here is a link to all the past articles:

<https://www.moabhappenings.com/Archives/000archiveindex.htm#geology> – you can also pick up a hard copy of "Moab Happenings" around town.

In the story on petrified wood, we learn that knowing a little geology tells you where to look for petrified wood. The author notes that "Near Moab, petrified wood can be found in several rock layers (*formations*), with the Chinle and Morrison formations being most likely to contain petrified wood. Both these units were deposited in terrestrial environments, usually by rivers in their channels and on their floodplains. Many of these floodplains were forested, or at least dotted by trees." Of course, you would find more petrified wood if you looked in rocks that had been in swamps or streams or forests – not in sand dunes or the bottom of an ocean! So it's helpful to know how different rock layers formed.

So how do you know where to find "Chinle and Morrison" formations? Around here, we can recognize Chinle because it makes up the brick-red slopes below the Wingate cliffs in the Monument. It's mostly made of mudstones and siltstones from ancient rivers. It has some of the best-known petrified wood in Utah. We recognize the Morrison formation as the one that makes up Dinosaur Hill and has been the source of many dinosaur fossil finds. It has the "candy-stripe" hills of red, gray, and white layers. The author of these articles, Allyson Mathis, points out that the beautiful colors in some petrified wood come from dissolved iron oxides, manganese, sometimes uranium, and other minerals. Petrified wood forms when wood is buried in sediment, and then solutions containing dissolved minerals percolate through the wood. The wood is replaced by the minerals – mostly silica (agate, opal, quartz) but with colors depending on what else is dissolved in the fluids.

The author reminds us that "*All fossils on federal public lands are protected by the Paleontological Resources Protection Act because they provide important insights into past life. The Bureau of Land Management allows the collection of 25 pounds of petrified wood plus one piece per person per day for personal use with a maximum of 250 pounds per year, except in national monuments and other areas where collecting is prohibited.*"

*Check out Allyson's articles for everything related to geology and rocks, from earthquakes to the rocks that make hanging gardens, to rocks in all the different national parks in Utah!*

**BOARD MEETING – Second Wednesday of the month at 6:00 PM**

**COOKIE MEETING – Second Thursday of the month, cookies at 6:30, Meeting at 7:00 PM.**

**GENERAL MEETING – Fourth Thursday of the month at 7:00 PM  
B.Y.O.S. (bring your own snacks)**



# August 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28	29	30	31 Open Shop 12-3	1	2	3 Open Shop 9-12 Bag and Tag for the Silent Auction. 9 am -
4	5	6	7 Open Shop 12-3 Board Meeting 6pm	8 Cookie Meeting	9	10 Open Shop 9-12
11 Advanced Silversmithing 10-4	12	13	14 Open Shop 12-3	15	16	17 Open Shop 9-12
18 Advanced Silversmithing 10-4	19	20	21 Open Shop 12-3	22 General Meeting 7pm and Summer Pot-luck	23	24 Open Shop 9-12
25	26	27	28 Open Shop 12-3	29	30	31
1	2	Notes				

# September 2024



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7 Open Shop 9-12
8	9	10	11 Open Shop 12-3 Board Meeting 6pm	12 Cookie Meeting 7pm	13	14 Open Shop 9-12
15 Bracelet Making 10-4	16	17	18 Open Shop 12-3	19 Fair Prep	20 Fair Prep	21 Fall Show @ Fairgrounds 9-5
22 Fall Show @ Fairgrounds	23	24	25 Open Shop 12-3	26 General Meeting 7pm	27	28
29 Bracelet Making 10-4	30	1	2 Open Shop 12-3	3	4	5 Open Shop 9-12
6	7	Notes				

## **Club Information**

The Grand Junction Gem & Mineral Club, Inc. is affiliated with the Rocky Mountain Federation of Mineralogical Societies. The clubhouse is at 2328 Monument Road, Grand Junction, CO. Our mailing address is P. O. Box 953, Grand Junction, CO 81502. We are a nonprofit, 501(c3) tax-exempt, educational organization. Our purpose is exclusively educational and social: To increase and disseminate knowledge of the earth sciences, specifically minerals, gems, rocks, artifacts, fossils, and similar subjects; To promote and perpetuate knowledge of the lapidary arts; To encourage field trips; To encourage greater public interest and education in gems, fossils, and minerals, cooperating with established institutions in such matters. The Grand Junction Gem and Mineral Club meets on the second and fourth Thursday of each month in our club building. November and December meetings will be on the second Thursday only. Our Annual Rock Show is held on at the Mesa County Fairgrounds in September. Classes and workshops are offered throughout the year. Upcoming events are listed on MeetUp and posted in the newsletter.

## **The Facetors' Group**

The Facetors' Group meets on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of each month at 9:30 am. They have a Project of the Month and a People's Choice. They also have teachers available for one-on-one classes. Contact Thom Ericson at 623-2522 for information about the group or classes.

## **Dues**

**Dues are paid by calendar year and are due by Jan 1<sup>st</sup>.** Please pay your dues at the meeting or send a check made out to Grand Junction Gem and Mineral Club, P. O. Box 953 Grand Junction, CO 81502. Prospective members should attend one general meeting to obtain a membership application. New members joining after July 1 will pay half for the remainder of the year.

Adult Member - \$40.00 (18+), 2nd Adult, same household - \$10.00 Children under 18 years, same household - No Cost

The Leaverite News is your newsletter. Articles, ideas, and news should come from club members. If you are an officer, teacher, director, or committee chairperson, plan to **submit monthly updates by the 15th of each month** to [smcchesney64@gmail.com](mailto:smcchesney64@gmail.com). *Leaverite News is published by the Grand Junction Gem and Mineral Club, Inc. Articles printed in this newsletter are the experiences and/or opinions of the individuals submitting them. They do not necessarily reflect the views or opinions of the Grand Junction Gem and Mineral Club, or the editors. We are not responsible for the authenticity, safety, or reliability of publications. All articles/photos are included in accordance with fair use for research and education. Caution and safety should always be practiced when trying out any new idea, venture, or exploration in the field. We request corrections and/or additions to articles.*

## **Grand Junction Gem and Mineral Website and Meetup**

Our website, [www.grandjunctionrockclub.org](http://www.grandjunctionrockclub.org), contains our meeting information, the Leaverite Newsletter, Classes, Field Trips, and Photo Gallery. The Club is also registered as the Grand Junction Gem and Mineral Club on **Meetup**. Meetup is an online application that brings people of common interests together. Our meetings and field trips are posted on MeetUp at: <https://www.meetup.com/Grand-Junction-Gem-and-Mineral-Club-Members/> Paid Members should click "Join this group" in red and answer the questions that pop up. Once your status is confirmed as a paid member, you will be given access to our other private Meetup which includes specific field trip information, and other information needed by paid members. If you have any problems call Steve Cable at 970-312-1005.

