

Volume 42 Number 09

September 2024

# LEAVERITE NEWS

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

## *President's Message*

The 2024 GJGMC Fall Rock Show will be this month! Yay! The show is at the Mesa County Fairgrounds, on Saturday, **Sept 21** from 9 am-5 pm, and Sunday, **Sept 22** from 10 am-4 pm. We will have 38 vendors, many from out of state, like CA, IA, NM, AZ, and UT. They bring rocks from all over the world, and handmade jewelry, and arrange them on tables for us to pick from. We will have activities for the kids, and a silent auction both days. We will have two food trucks (Los Compadres, and Kickass Burgers). Of course, we will have free parking, plus a couple of golf carts to help people go from there to the entrance. This event helps raise money for good causes, like scholarships for CMU students. There is NO NEED to drive 5 hours to a rock show in Denver when we have a good one right here! Nothing could be better. I hope to see you there!

At the same time, it takes a serious number of volunteers to help at different times during the Fall Rock Show. This is an "All Hands On Deck" event for us. We have been circulating a volunteer sign-up sheet at club meetings lately, and if you haven't picked something to help with yet, please call me at the number below. On **Sept 5<sup>th</sup>** at the clubhouse, we will have a meeting for all volunteers and their team leaders to make sure everyone has what they need to succeed. "A member who volunteers is a member indeed!" Volunteering is a good way to meet people. Many hands make light work. The club can't do it without you! If you would like to set up a display case at the Fall Rock Show, let Alan Emmendorfer know, at [aemmendorfer.geo@outlook.com](mailto:aemmendorfer.geo@outlook.com)

To recognize our volunteers, the Board will have a special drawing for the volunteers at our Christmas party on Dec 12<sup>th</sup>. The Board invites anyone who appreciates our volunteers to donate a nice item, like a collectible specimen or something handmade. Those items will be on display in the case in our hospitality room. Anyone who has volunteered for something throughout the year will get a ticket for the volunteer drawing at the Christmas Party.

Also in September, on **Sept 7<sup>th</sup>** we will have a field trip to the Crystal Geyser. On **Sept 12<sup>th</sup>**, we will have a special guest Liz Thomas from the RMFMS – Rocky Mountain Federation of Mineralogical Societies. On **Sept 26<sup>th</sup>**, we will see a presentation on Collecting Minerals and Crystals.

Before we leave August behind though, I remember the club recognized Hunter Voss on Aug 8<sup>th</sup>. We had an awesome cookout on Aug 22<sup>nd</sup>. Many thanks to Theresa Pytell, Grete Raymond, and Karen Sayre for teaching Silversmithing, Lapidary, and Enameling. Thanks also to Paul Strot for kindly installing 2 new electrical circuits in the Shop, and making an emergency repair to the evaporative cooler in the Shop. And thanks Pam and Bambi for cleaning our display cases! Please join me in welcoming these new members: **Billy and Deanna Johnson, JT Stone Quinn, Katie and Hunter Voss, Lon Boothe and Andrew Wenner.**

Club member Guin told me about an amazing 2,492-carat diamond that was recently found in Botswana, one of the biggest ever found anywhere. <https://www.kkco11news.com/2024/08/22/2492-carat-diamond-one-largest-world-has-been-unearthed/#m05xjxz7iz700qy1kfm> Keep your eyes open! There are still big things out there!

Steve Cable, 970-312-1005  
GJGMC President 2024



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

**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.**



## Junior Science Rock Club News

### **JSRC August 2024 News**

**The next JSRC meeting will be held on September 10th at 5 pm. Geodes will be the focus of the presentation.**

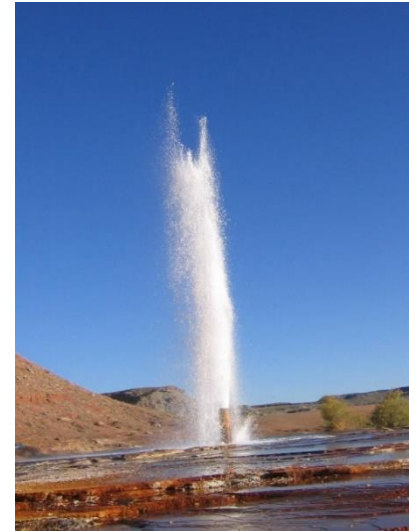
**It is with pleasure that we welcome two new volunteers, Melissa Moroni and Beth Kloska, to the JSRC team.** Melissa was our presenter back in March with fossils from Ohio. Beth and her husband Ken moved to Grand Junction from Englewood where they were active in a rock club there. We are looking forward to new voices and ideas as we plan programming that encourages kids to learn about the rocks they already love. This is a team effort and we encourage anyone interested to please join us.



## Lee's Tidbits

Get Ready for Crystal Geysir Field Trip!

Crystal Geysir is something fun and different to see and comes with some beautiful travertine rocks as well! The Utah Geological Survey (UGS) points out that when most people think of geysers, they think of hot steam geysers like in Yellowstone. But Crystal Geysir is a cold carbon-dioxide geysir, powered by gas under pressure, like the carbonation in a soda bottle if you shake it and take off the cap. There are several of these CO<sub>2</sub> geysers in Utah, but this is the biggest. It's partly human-made, due to a well drilled in 1936 that tapped into a zone with water and CO<sub>2</sub> under pressure. (Though they were noted by John Wesley Powell when he came through in 1869, and for thousands of years by native people in the area.) The well was abandoned right away but a large pipe was left where the water comes out today.



The gas that drives the eruptions comes from the same formations responsible for the oil and gas in the Paradox Basin – very old. 250 million-year-old rocks are thought to have produced the gas, which was then trapped in the Navajo and Entrada sandstones just above it. There is a big fault that runs just next to the geysir, which helps keep the gas trapped but also lets some mineralized water seep up, creating the beautiful travertine formations.

Sadly, recently, the height and frequency of eruptions have been going down, partly at least due to people dropping rocks down the pipe and plugging it. The UGS says that now, "Major eruptions attained heights of 40 to 80 feet and occurred on a schedule ranging from 17 to 27 hours apart. Eruption durations ranged from 3 to 49 minutes." Minor eruptions are much more frequent. In two trips to the site, I've seen eruptions both times, including a major one that was very impressive! And the travertine on the hill above the geysir contains beautiful specimens that polish very nicely! This is a not-to-miss site!



### 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
<b>Committee Chairpersons</b>					
<b>Audit</b>	Bev O'Neal	623-2522	<b>Leaverite Editor</b>	Susan McChesney	970-589-9358
<b>Building Maint</b>	Dave McCollough	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 McCollough	549-7352	<b>Publicity</b>	Raechel Kolb	970-257-7831
<b>Education</b>	JoAnn Piburn	778-5333	<b>Scholarships</b>	Dave McCollough	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

Classes	Instructors	Phone #	Open Shop
Adv. Lapidary	Thom Ericson	623-2522	Shop Chairmen: JoAnn Piburn & Ed Raymond
Beginning Lapidary	Ed Raymond	250-2967	Shop Supervisors: JoAnn Piburn & Ed Raymond
	Grete Raymond	433-0016	* Previous Instruction in use of equipment in
Bracelet Making	Theresa Pytell	639-2903	is required before using any tools or machines
Casting	Cindy Teare	462-6806	in the shop.
Chain Making	JoAnn Piburn	778-5333	* Sign in each time you use the shop.
Cuttlebone Cast	Judy Nason	250-9128	* Help with the clean up before leaving.
Enameling	Karen Sayre	402-960-7370	*Shop fee is \$5/session for EVERYONE.
Faceting	Casey Trump	250-9890	*Slab saw fee is \$.25 per square inch.
Faceted Stone Setting	Theresa Pytell	639-2903	
Filigree	Pam Bersch	242-3134	
Intarsia	Sue Smith & Val Medeiro	245-5602	
Opals and Turquoise	Thom Ericson	623-2522	
Wire Weaving	JoAnn Piburn	778-5333	
Wire Wrapping, basic & adv.	Instructor needed		
Silversmith, Basic & Adv.	JoAnn Piburn	778-5333	
	Theresa Pytell	639-2903	

**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 come in the main door of the clubhouse. 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!

# September 2024



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5 Rock Show Planning Meeting 7 pm	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				

***The GJGMC thanks these generous supporters of our club!***



# October 2024



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29	30	1	2 Open Shop 12-3	3	4	5 Open Shop 9-12
6 Bracelet Making 10-4	7	8	9 Open Shop 12-3 Board Meeting 6pm	10 Cookie Meeting 7pm	11	12 Open Shop 9-12
13	14	15	16 Open Shop 12-3	17	18	19 Open Shop 9-12
20	21	22	23 Open Shop 12-3	24 General Meeting 7pm	25	26 Open Shop 9-12
27	28	29	30	31	1	2
3	4	Notes				

***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)***

## **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.

