

Four Corners Gem and Mineral Club

February 2025 Newsletter



Message from your President

Hello ROCKSTARS!

As we gear up for the anticipation of spring (and try to thaw from the freeze) – Don't forget to look down and at the rocks! But then look up, so you don't hurt yourself!

We've had several challenges of late to keep the shop's water system thawed, and the big saws operational. I'd like to send a very heart-felt thank you to Cyrus and Carl for their many hours dedicated to making it thru January. Your selfless efforts, Gentlemen, are one of the reasons I love this club so dearly. Please take time to say 'thanks' to both. Without their assistance – we'd still be frozen and saw-less! Truly – Thank you!

The Board is busy working on:

- More instructional classes for our members
- Creating/implementing an education outreach program for local schools/public
- Field Trips! (look for one soon)
- New Building pre-planning
- Gem Show in July!

We need more **volunteers** to help with all sorts of activities around the shop. If you would like to assist in any of the following areas, **please contact a Board member or feel free to text me at 505-716-3564!** We need more assistance in these areas:

- Maintenance help – possibly quarterly
- One time shop cleanup & reorganization (April or May – date TBD)
- Outreach Volunteers – we'll help with the curriculum!
- Instructor for classes – let's add new skills/learnings to our calendar!
- ***Gem Show – come be on the committee and be part of this great event!***

Now some fun facts from the internet!

Pass this along to anyone showing an interest in Geology!

Here are some fun facts about rocks and geology:

- *Types of rocks: There are three main types of rocks: igneous, sedimentary, and metamorphic.*
- *Igneous rocks: Formed from cooled magma, examples include granite and basalt.*
- *Sedimentary rocks: Formed from layers of sediment, examples include sandstone and limestone.*
- *Metamorphic rocks: Formed from other rocks that have been changed by heat and pressure, examples include marble and quartzite.*
- *Fossils: Can be found in sedimentary rocks, which are formed from layers of sediment that have been compacted and cemented together over time.*
- *Pumice: The lightest common rock on Earth, it's so light because it's full of air bubbles.*
- *Minerals: All nutrients require minerals for proper cellular function.*
- *Natural stone: Formed over hundreds of thousands of years through a process of heat and pressure deep within the earth's crust.*
- *Volcanoes: Known as the planet's architects, as they've created more than 80% of Earth's surface.*
- *Rocks and history: Geological formations around us keep a record of time.*
- *Rocks and humans: Rocks have been used by humans for millions of years, from early tools and weapons through to various construction materials.*

Thank you,

Angela

Dates to Remember: - check the calendar for other notables like Acetylene training & shop hours!

> **February 19th – Steward Meeting**

Steward Meeting – PLEASE TRY TO ATTEND IF POSSIBLE. New keys will be handed out. Club will provide pizza and drinks!

> **February 26th – Social Hour 6p.m. -7:30p.m.**

“Dave and tales about his favorite rocks!” – be there for all the rocky secrets!

> **March 26th – Social Hour 6p.m. -7:30p.m.**

Turquoise with ‘Mr. Turquoise’ himself – Eric!

Classes in February/March

Classes offered in December include:

- Mar 8-9th – Introduction Lost Was Casting
- Mar 28-29 – Introduction to Silversmithing & Statement Ring
- *Watch for more classes to be added to the calendar!*

Check out these classes here <http://www.durangorocks.org/events.html> for the times, cost, and other information.

Field Trips

As we head into the holidays, and not to mention it's very chilly burr outside, field trips will resume in the spring! There is soooooo very much to see, to dig and to collect in this part of the world, and I'm looking forward to trekking around the rocks will all you Rockstars! Anyone can lead a fieldtrip – you just need:

- A description of what/where for the field trip
- It can be posted online with the help of The Board – just reach out!
- Cost is usually \$20 per person.
- Limited availability is suggested to keep the groups manageable.
- Every participant will need to sign a waiver of liability to attend.

Open Shop & Events Around the Region

- A full schedule of Open Shop is listed at <http://www.durangorocks.org/events.html>.
- If you are interested in finding shows and other events in the area, you can find them at <http://www.rockandmineralshows.com/>

Reminder about Membership Dues

It is easy to forget to pay your membership dues, but they are particularly important to support the activities and events that we offer, as well as tools and equipment. You can renew with a Steward at the Club during Open Shop or online at <https://www.durangorocks.org/join-clubrenew.html>

Thank you, from the Board, for making this club an amazing place!

President: Angela Folk

Vice President: Carl Lindeman

Treasure: Cindy Pugsley

Secretary: Emelie Frojen

Directors: Heather Bates, Shauna Dooley, Denise Galley, Charlotte Jessen, Carlos Mañón, and Toby Mourning.

See you at the club!