

Volume 43 Number 05

May 2025

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!

April was a good month for the rock club, as usual! On April 10th, JoAnn and most of our instructors talked to us about the many different lapidary and silversmithing classes they teach. On April 12th, we had our annual Spring Craft Fair, which was so well attended that the BBQ food truck ran out of food. Many thanks to Kimber and Grete for organizing such a good Craft Fair. On April 24th, Pete Hetherington gave a special presentation on Fossil Fuels and the Creation of the Modern World. If you missed it, you could read his book, *The Power Matrix*, which I noticed is available from the Mesa County library. On April 25th, Cathy and Andrew Maddox led a large group on a field trip to Buckhorn Mesa. Hopefully, some of those who went will bring things they found to show the rest of us at a future club meeting. And our great instructors taught classes on Advanced Silversmithing, Basic and Advanced Lapidary, Wire Weaving, and Prong Setting, thanks to Theresa, Dave, Grete, JoAnn, and Andrea. If you want to belong to a club that does things, we are the right club for you!

Of course, we have big plans for May coming up. On **May 1st**, the Fall Show Committee would like to meet especially with the team leaders and everyone interested to make sure that planning for that event is on track. On **May 8th**, we look forward to hearing from Steve Cumella about using a drone around Ouray. On **May 12th**, we plan to take a hiking field trip to the Mica Mine. On **May 17th**, we will bag and tag rock donations for the Silent Auction – always a good opportunity to practice your Mineral Identification skills. On **May 22nd**, we will have our Spring Potluck. Food! Yay! On **May 31st**, we will have a field trip to the Blue Crystal Mine by La Sal, which is just south of Moab, where people look for azurite. Plus, our instructors have scheduled 4 classes. Look for more details about those events on Meetup.

Don't miss our **Member Rock Show** on **June 14th**, at the clubhouse, 9 am – 3 pm, where club members will sell rocks, minerals, slabs, geodes, and fossils from their personal collections. Display space is available for members both indoors and outdoors. We ask for a 25% commission, up to a limit of no more than \$140/8' table indoors and \$100/8' table outdoors. That is good for small vendors, so it doesn't cost you anything if you don't sell anything. And the limit makes sure that we don't ask for more space than it would cost a commercial vendor at the Fall Rock Show. For an information flyer and to reserve space, please contact Andrew Wenner, 775-962-2912, andrew.wenner@yahoo.com.

Best wishes to keep up with it all! :-) Steve Cable



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 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 come in the main door of the clubhouse. Please make sure your notices contain your name and contact information as well as 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 Denise via email: Talldoll@gmail.com no later than the 15th of the month, please.



Junior Science Rock Club News

No information was submitted this month.

MEMBERSHIP

Please welcome these new or returning members to our club in March and April!

Linda Barrows, Dave Berry, Cindy Hoaglund, Janet and Jerry McKissen, Sherryl McQueen,
Grace Misak, Denise Murphy, Kelly and Kristen Turner, Donna Wallace, Bailey Ward,
Jo and Christopher Watson, Kai and Ava Wray



Lee's Tidbits

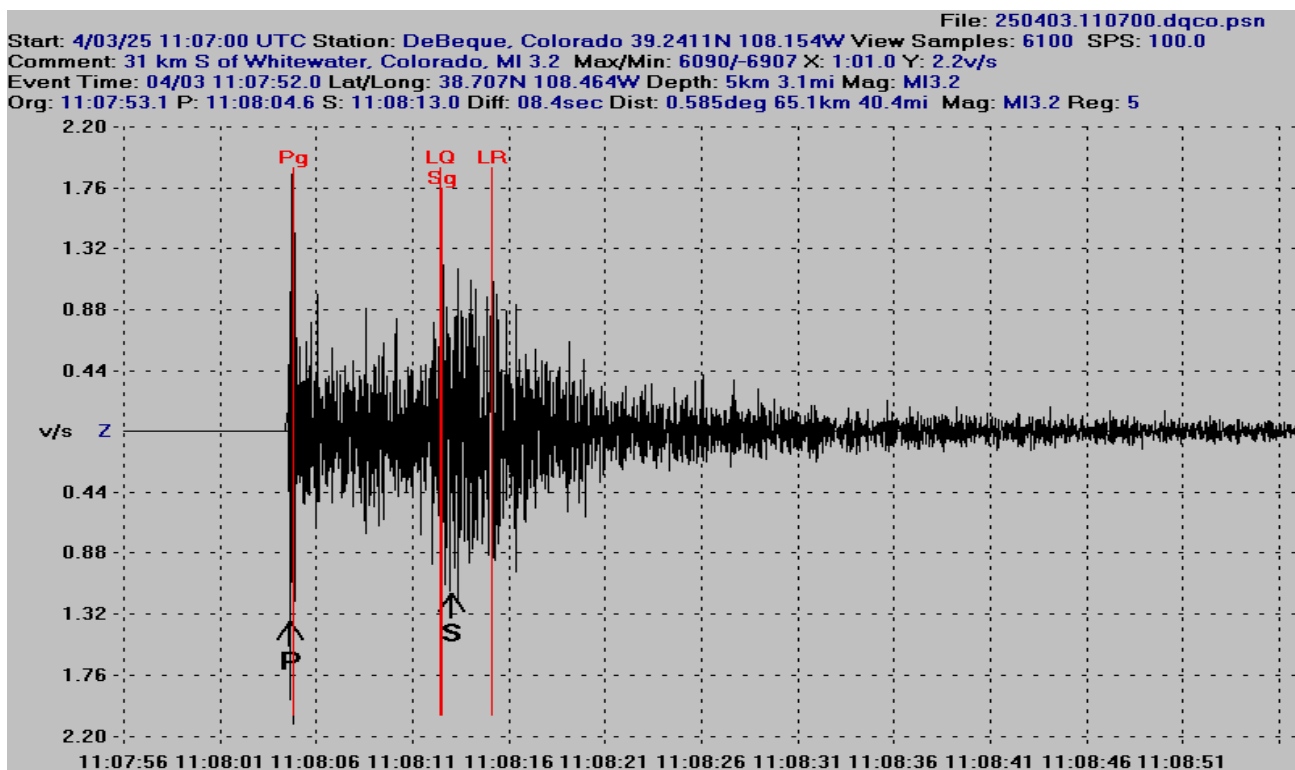
Why on Earth Would We Care About Earthquakes in Mesa County???

by Lee Cassin, May 2025

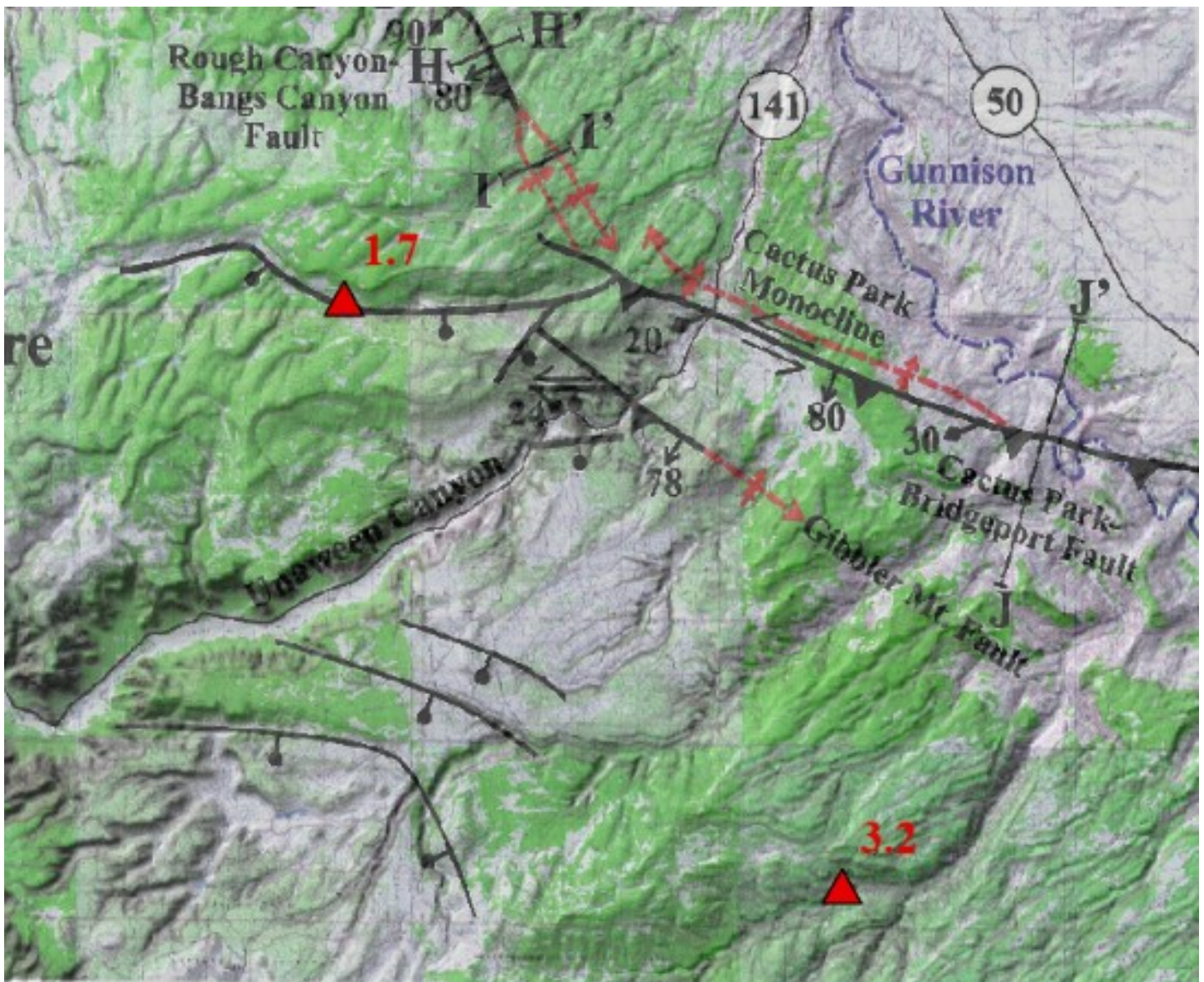
Well, for one thing, they tell us where to look for cool rocks like malachite, azurite, and fluorite crystals! They also tell us where to safely put fluids injection wells, hazardous waste disposal facilities, bridges, and oil and gas infrastructure.

We tend to think of California when we think of earthquakes in the US, but the biggest earthquake in America in historical times was a series in the middle of Missouri in 1811-1812. Magnitudes were huge - 7.5-8.0 and hundreds of people died – at a time when there were very few people even living there! And recently, Oklahoma and Texas especially, have realized that the amount of oil and gas well fluids being injected underground has triggered hundreds of earthquakes, some of which have damaged buildings and property.

So how do we detect small earthquakes, so we know where to be cautious about bigger ones? Geologists use seismometers, which show quakes like this one this April south of Delta, a magnitude 3.2 quake felt by quite a few people. Colorado Mesa University geologists are able to look at signals from several detectors to pinpoint the intensity and location of quakes. CMU retired adjunct professor Dave Wolny analyzes signals from stations like this one southeast of De Beque. (He has spoken to the rock club in the past!)



Then scientists like Dr. Verner Johnson of CMU can place it on a map that also shows all the faults in the area. (Unpublished structure map prepared by Dr. Richard Livaccari):



There is a huge network of faults in the area. They are very interesting to rockhounds! At the top of the map is the area of the Mica Mine, where people find nice tourmaline crystals, as well as nice feldspar and quartz. This area is also full of old copper mines and fluorite, and amethyst outcrops. Faults provide channels for fluids full of minerals to accumulate, so they are places to be on the lookout for azurite, malachite, amethyst, and all kinds of other nice minerals. Thanks to CMU geology professors Verner Johnson, Rick Livaccari, and Dave Wolny!

May 2025



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27	28	29	30 Open Shop 12-3	1 Rock Show meeting 7 pm	2	3 Open Shop 9-12
4 Recycling Silver Scrap 10-4	5 Basic Lapidary 9-4 Chains 6-9 Wire Wrap 6-9	6 Basic Lapidary 9-4 Chains 6-9 Wire Wrap 6-9	7 Open Shop 12-3 Board Meeting 6pm	8 Cookie Meeting 7pm	9	10 Open Shop 9-12
11	12 Chains 6-9 Mica Mines Trail Hike, 8:30 - 11:30 Wire Wrap 6-9	13 Chains 6-9 Wire Wrap 6-9	14 Open Shop 12-3	15	16	17 Open Shop 9-12 Silent Auction Bag and Tag 9 - 12
18 Recycling Silver Scrap 10-4	19	20	21 Open Shop 12-3	22 General Meeting 7pm Spring Potluck	23	24 Open Shop 9-12
25	26	27	28 Open Shop 12-3	29	30	31 Field Trip Blue Crystal Mine LaSalle, UT
1	2	Notes				

FYI:

The Friends of Mineralogy Colorado Chapter is pleased to announce that they will be hosting a symposium **June 13th – 16th, 2024**, at the Mines Museum of Earth Science at Colorado School of Mines in Golden, Colorado. The symposium theme will be "**Mineral Oddities: Twinning, Inclusions, Pseudomorphs, and More.**" All who are interested in minerals and mineralogy are welcome to attend. For more info, see: <https://friendsofmineralogycolorado.org/symposium/>

June 2025



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 Member Rock Show 9-3
15	16	17	18 Open Shop 12-3	19	20 5-day Field Trip Kemmerer, WY Fish, Fossils, Blue Forest wood.	21 Open Shop 9-12
22	23	24	25 Open Shop 12-3	26 No Meeting today	27	28 Open Shop 9-12
29 Bracelet Making Class 10-4	30	1	2 Open Shop 12-3	3	4	5
6	7	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)***

Board Meeting Minutes, April 9, 2025

Meeting called to order at 6:12 pm

Board members present: President-Steve, Past president Jeff, Vice President-JoAnn, Board members Scott, Bruce, Bill, Treasurer- June, Secretary-Kimberly

Members present: Pam, Mark

Previous Board meeting, March 12, 2025, meeting notes discussed: Review of Mike Daniels' addition to the minutes. Notes, with additions, were displayed on the screen and read out loud. The Board agreed that the names of members should not be listed in the notes as to who voted as an absentee member.

Bill made a motion not to accept the changes that Michael added to the Board meeting on March 12, 2025. Scott seconded the motion. Board approved

The only addition approved by the board members to be added is the line: "The 2024 Compliance Report has been completed and will be distributed to the members and interested parties."

Revisions to the Blue Book/GJGMC operations manual and guide. Michael Daniels had suggestions for Blue Book changes (see additions at the end of the notes). Discussion ensued, and board members agreed that the Blue Book needed updating. Bill would like to table the discussion and asked that instead of only making three changes as Mike requested, we go through the entire book and make changes as needed. JoAnn suggested forming a committee of two or three members to go through the bylaws, line by line, and make suggestions. Those suggestions will be presented to the club, which can then vote for which they like.

Michael asked that Steve present the changes and make a motion to vote on the changes at the general meeting on April 10th, 2025. The board agreed to respect the motion that Michael requested and tell members about the changes at the meeting. All three policy changes will be discussed, with two changes open to being voted on.

Board members agree that there is discourse in the meetings. One thing that everyone concurred, was that members should not be sent information from individuals, and an individual cannot post something in the clubhouse or send an email/text without notifying the board about the content.

JoAnn makes a motion that the three people, JoAnn, Bill, and Pam, review the blue book as a new committee. Scott seconds and board passes.

No changes can be made to the blue book unless the members vote on it.

Scholarships (Blue Book scholarships page 23), Steve asked if we could give the scholarship money for Geology and/or Earth Science students to the CMU foundation. The foundation would conduct the interviews and then choose 5 or more students for scholarships. This gives the foundation some flexibility in choosing candidates. Pam has been the scholarship chairperson for

much of its inception. Bruce makes a motion that for the year of 2025, the 2024 monies will be given to the foundation.

Scott seconds. Bill abstains from voting, but other board members agree.

Pam would still like to be involved with the interviewing of the students.

Lapidary shop and future jewelry studio. Bill sent out Site plan reviews/proposals for the two layouts of the jewelry studios.

While getting the building permit for the lapidary shop, it was confirmed that we do not need to have a bathroom in the jewelry studio, that the lapidary shop and clubhouse bathrooms will be enough.

Bill should have a site plan review available by next week. That process for reviewing the application will take three to four weeks and will include an internal agency review. The Building Department review can be concurrent with the Planning Department review. The entire Mesa County review process should take an estimated three to four months. Bill imagines it should be a simple progression, but he cannot make any promises to such.

Bill has shown that there should not be any water impact from the jewelry studio on residential neighbors

Bruce has a time-line spreadsheet: replacing the lapidary shop furnace; (one mini split will take care of the evaporative cooler and the heating); Skid steer rental to level the ground; seal the roof; cover insulation inside of the lapidary shop. The committee is hoping for a November opening date for the studio.

Moving the south shed, Volunteers are needed to empty the shed, move the building, and then reload everything. The sign-up sheet for volunteers will be passed around at the April 10th meeting. Bruce would prefer to have 4-5 volunteers.

Rentals, the Colorado Native Plant Society is enjoying the rental of the building. The rental agreement will be month-to-month. Motion made by Steve that the rental agreement goes month to month, Jeff seconded, and the board approved

Tech Soup is the renewal for Zoom. June will place the order for the GJGMC. Steve and JoAnn have previously set up the renewal.

Melissa is setting up gold membership cards for lifetime membership.

Craft Show April 12, 2025. Tables will be rearranged per Grete's specifications after the April 10 meeting for the April 12 Craft Show. Kimber will contact WKFM radio to tell them about the show. Dave Berry 12-1 radio show

September Rock Show: Flyers state that the GJGMC is hosting the RMFMS convention during the show's dates

Newsletter editor: May is the last newsletter that Susan will be putting out. She is requesting that someone take her place and will help them get started.

Finances: June will post the finance report on the board

Haining Home Services is billing the GJGMC for a quote on the plumbing for the lapidary shop. They came out, assessed the plumbing that was needed to update the shop for county compliance, and sent a bill for \$212.00 (187.00 looking at the plumbing and 25.00 for driving out). Bruce told them they were not getting paid for an estimate to do work. The company sent a bill to June at the PO Box. Board members agreed they should not be paid for an estimate.

Meeting room updates: We do not need to replace the panic bar if people do not lock it too tightly. JoAnn was able to get the meeting room doors and lapidary shop door rekeyed, in addition to 17 keys made for \$180. JoAnn will distribute the keys to the instructors. In the shop, there is a key for the clubhouse. Instructors may open the clubhouse if someone would like a soda or needs to use the additional bathroom

A new rolling mill is needed. The current machine is over 30 years old and is not embossing metal properly. A new one is over \$1,000. JoAnn has only used a few hundred dollars of her \$3,000 shop budget. She will do comparison shopping and show the board different mills.

Bruce and Kimber will bring a donation box for the new jewelry studio.

Meeting adjourned 7:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Kimberly

Officers			Directors		
President	Steve Cable	970-312-1005	1 Year	Scott Warren	303-668-5743
Vice President	JoAnn Piburn	970-778-5333	2 Year	Bruce Johnson	970-589-4091
Secretary	Kimber Johnson	970-589-4091	3 Year	Bill Balaz	970-260-1655
Treasurer	June Steely	801-540-0488	Finance	Michael Daniels	970-730-8439
			Past President	Jeff Southern	970-243-0953
Committee Chairpersons					
Audit	Bev O'Neal	970-623-2522	Leaverite Editor	Susan McChesney	970-589-9358
Building Maint	Paul Strot	720-439-0303	Librarian	Open Position	
Compliance	Bev O'Neal	970-261-5890	Meet-Up	JoAnn Piburn	970-778-5333
Correspondence	Kathy Ericson	970-623-2522	Membership	Melissa Moroni	303-807-9864
Decorating	Linda Dunham	970-623-3610	Nominating	JoAnn Piburn	970-778-5333
Display Cases	Dave McCollough	970-549-7352	Publicity	Steve Cable	970-312-1005
Education	JoAnn Piburn	970-778-5333	Scholarships	Dave McCollough	970-549-7352
Web Based Media	Grete Raymond	970-433-0016	Shop Foremen	JoAnn & Ed	970-778-5333
Field Trips	Mark Feil	970-270-7440	Show Co-Chair	Dave McCollough	970-549-7352
Hospitality	open		Supplies	Kathy Ericson	970-623-2522
Inventory	Pat Martinez	970-434-9270	Grab Bags	Open Position	
Facetors group	Casey Trump	970-250-9890	GJ Facetors Club	Casey Trump	970-250-9890

Classes	Instructors	Phone #	Open Shop
Bracelet Making	Theresa Pytell	303-229-9216	Shop Chairmen: JoAnn Piburn & Greet Raymond
Casting	Theresa Pytell	303-229-9216	Shop Supervisors: JoAnn Piburn & Ed Raymond
Chain Making	JoAnn Piburn	970-778-5333	* Previous Instruction in use of equipment in
Cuttlebone Cast	Judy Nason	250-9128	is required before using any tools or machines
Enameling	Karen Sayre	402-960-7370	in the shop.
Faceting	Casey Trump	970-250-9890	* Sign in each time you use the shop.
Faceted Stone Setting	Theresa Pytell	303-229-9216	* Help with the clean up before leaving.
Filigree	Pam Bersch	970-242-3134	*Shop fee is \$5/session for EVERYONE.
Intarsia	Sue Smith & Val Medeiros	970-245-5602	*Slab saw fee is \$.25 per square inch.
Lapidary, Beginning	Dave McCollough	970-549-7352	
Lapidary, Advanced	Grete Raymond	970-433-0016	
Opals and Turquoise			
Silversmith, Basic	JoAnn Piburn	970-778-5333	
	Andrea Gromeaux-Schnaith	317-407-5603	
Silversmith, Advanced	JoAnn Piburn	970-778-5333	
	Theresa Pytell	303-229-9216	
Wire Weaving	JoAnn Piburn	778-5333	
Wire Wrapping	Grete Raymond	970-433-0016	

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 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 at 9:30 am on the 3rd Saturday of each month except in May, June, and July. They have a Project of the Month and a People's Choice. They also have teachers available for one-on-one classes. Faceting classes continue throughout the summer. Please contact Casey Trump. acegems@yahoo.com, 970-250-9890 for information about the group or classes.

Dues

Dues are paid by calendar year and are due by January 1st. 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. *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.*

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Grand Junction Gem and Mineral Website and Meetup

Our website, 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.

The GJGMC thanks these generous supporters of our club!

