

## Four Corners Gem and Mineral Club

### May 2024 Newsletter



#### Message from the President Proxy

Howdy all. This is David Gonzales sending this newsletter. No, I am not the President, but am assisting Mearl this month in getting information to you.

I hope all of you are enjoying the “springish” weather and looking forward to great adventures in the coming summer. I certainly am. I know that a number of you have inquired about possible field trips this year, and we are working on that issue. But, if you would like to lead a trip to a favorite spot to explore any number of topics (rocks and minerals, geology, plants, bugs, creatures, human history, earth history) please let me know. You could even have a trip to explore wine and terroir. Imagine the possibilities.

#### 2024 Gem Show

There will be a Gem Show planning meeting on the Friday, May 17th at 6:30 pm at the Clubhouse. Please attend if you want to volunteer and assist with the many aspects involved in the show.

If you cannot attend the meeting, but still want to volunteer, then visit

<http://www.durangorocks.org/gemshowvolunteers.html>

#### Classes in May

The Club is pleased to announce an exciting lineup of classes in May including Introduction to Silversmithing and Statement Ring and Introduction and Practicing Lost Wax Casting. These classes are a great way to learn a new skill or just have fun being creative. If you are link to <http://www.durangorocks.org/events.html>.

### **Request for a New Class**

There is a request from one of our members for a course in silversmithing focused on “squash blossoms.” If any instructors are interested, please let us know.

### **Fort Lewis College Scholarship**

The Geosciences faculty recently met and awarded \$1750 to a major in our program. I will be working with the student in the future to have them create an essay for the newsletter. Stay tuned.

### **Open Shop**

A full schedule of Open Shop is listed at <http://www.durangorocks.org/events.html>.

### **Field Trips and Lectures**

I am planning a field trip to Ouray sometime in middle to late June. This trip will be 4-5 hours and is intended to explore some of the geology and beautiful natural landscape in the area. I will also plan on making a few stops where participants can collect rocks and minerals. The Board is working on finding other people to lead field trips. Stay tuned.

If you are interested in giving a lecture on a topic in a given evening the please let us know. The lecture can be on lapidary techniques, rock and minerals or some other interesting topic.

### **Events Around the Region (from Rock and Gem Magazine)**

**May 4-5, KINGMAN, ARIZONA:** Annual show; Mohave County Gemstoners; Mohave County Fairgrounds, 2600 Fairgrounds Blvd; Sat. 9-5, Sun. 9-4; Free Admission & Parking; Educational Displays & Exhibits: • Gemstones • Minerals • Fossils • Rocks • Jewelry • Woodwork • Clothing. Great Shopping: • Mineral Specimens • Petrified Wood • Fossils • Handmade Jewelry • Gems • Rock Art & Carvings. Also Featuring: • Kids Activities • Raffles • Door Prize Drawings • Food Vendors; contact Daina Sandhop, (425) 268-9983; Email: [MCgemstoners@outlook.com](mailto:MCgemstoners@outlook.com); Website: [www.gemstoners.org/](http://www.gemstoners.org/).

**May 26-29, LAS VEGAS, NEVADA:** Annual show; JOGS Las Vegas Gem & Jewelry Show; The Mirage Hotel and Casino, 3400 S Las Vegas Blvd; Sun. 10-5, Wed. 9-3; Registered Buyers:

FREE - General Admission: \$20 - Proof of Military: FREE - Children: No Children under 14 admitted; The JOGS Las Vegas Gem & Jewelry Show is the event of choice for thousands of industry professionals offering a superior experience for business and networking; contact Yelena Masenko, (213) 629-3030; Email: [advertising@jogsshow.com](mailto:advertising@jogsshow.com); Website: [www.jogsshow.com](http://www.jogsshow.com).

Other events in the United States posted on the Rock & Gem online site can be accessed at <https://www.rockngem.com/ShowDatesFiles/ShowDatesDisplayAll.php?ShowState=ALL>

### **Call for FCGMC Board Member and Steward Coordinator**

We need to replace a Board position that was vacated earlier this year. If you are interested in serving on the Board then please contact Mearl Webb at [MEARLWEBB@msn.com](mailto:MEARLWEBB@msn.com)

We are also in need of a Steward Coordinator to schedule the stewards for open shop, inventory supplies, help with repairs, and organize some training sessions. If you are interested then contact Mearl Webb or Cindy Pugsley ([cindypugsley@sbcglobal.net](mailto:cindypugsley@sbcglobal.net)).

### **Donations for a Good Cause**

Lonnie Shaw is collecting large tumbled rocks or polished rocks at the end of this month to be placed in gift bags for people fighting cancer. If you want to donate a “worry stone”, please drop them off at the office in the Shop.

### **Downtown Mural**

Cindy has informed me that one of our club members, Ben Rogers, is painting a mural in downtown Durango. Go check it out.

### **Reminder About Expectations in the Club**

The FCGMC is a wonderful organization composed of members with many different interests, and personalities. Sometimes interacting can lead to disagreements or conflicts. I would like to remind you to do your best to be professional and respectful while working in the Shop or attending FCGMC sponsored events. Article VII of our Bylaws states, “The Club expects all members and participants at Club functions to act in a professional, ethical, and lawful manner.” As members of our Club, I encourage all of you to take a few minutes to read this part of the Bylaws that are available in the Shop and posted at <http://www.durangorocks.org/about-gem-mineral-club-durango-colorado-868040.html>. It is important that we all are aware of the rules and guidelines that govern the Club.