

Littleton Gem and Mineral Club

February 2022 Newsletter



Time and Place: February 18th In-person Meeting

St. Philips Lutheran Church, 7531 S. Kendall Blvd., Littleton, CO 80128

February Program: Rock Tumbling 101

Speaker: Lynette and Nick Warren

Acting President's Message

February 2022

Hello All and Welcome to a New Year,

Now that the Covid risk has decreased, we are planning on resuming our monthly meetings (3rd Friday of the month) at St. Philips Lutheran Church, 7531 S. Kendall Blvd., Littleton, CO 80128 with the meetings starting at 7:30. We excited for our wonderful programs and events planned for this year, and coming up this Friday, please join us for **Rock Tumbling 101**. A program designed for the "Rock Tumblers" of all experience levels. This will be a great opportunity to learn about tumbling and gain tips and information about grits, equipment, and rock types. As an added bonus for you "Tumbler's", there should be some good rock material samples available for you to take home and experiment with in your tumbler.

As for the meeting refreshments, since this is our first meeting, we do not have people that have signed up to bring refreshments, so if enough of us bring a little something to share with everybody (desert, veg, or other) we should be fine for this meeting. We can work on a refreshment sign-up sheet for next month.

At our elections last fall, we did not have anyone step up to be President for the 2022 year. To resolve the absence of a President, the Board members have elected to fill-in by dividing up and taking on the presidential duties. In doing it this way, the responsibilities of the President can be maintained while being a manageable workload for the Board Members. You will be seeing us rotating through as President at meetings and Board Meetings. Please feel free to contact any of us if you have questions.

Speaking of Presidents, we feel very fortunate to have Nancy Kimber confirm her position as LGMC President for year 2023. Please welcome and give her a big thanks on taking this position. She will be a great asset to the Club with her talents, energy, along with her expertise as our new president.

We look forward to being able to socialize with everyone again during our coming Littleton Gem and Mineral Club events and regaining our new normal.

Lynette Warren
LGMC Acting President

The Denver Gem and Mineral Show – February 2022 Update



The Denver Gem and Mineral Show (DGMS) will be co-located with the Hardrock Summit at the Colorado Convention Center from **September 8-11, 2022**. All the Hardrock Summit's associated shows will be at the Colorado Convention Center in 2022, including Evolution, Sparkle & Joy, and AGTA. We are grateful for the opportunity to be part of the Hardrock Summit again in 2022. The theme for this year's DGMS show is **"Collecting Colorado"**.

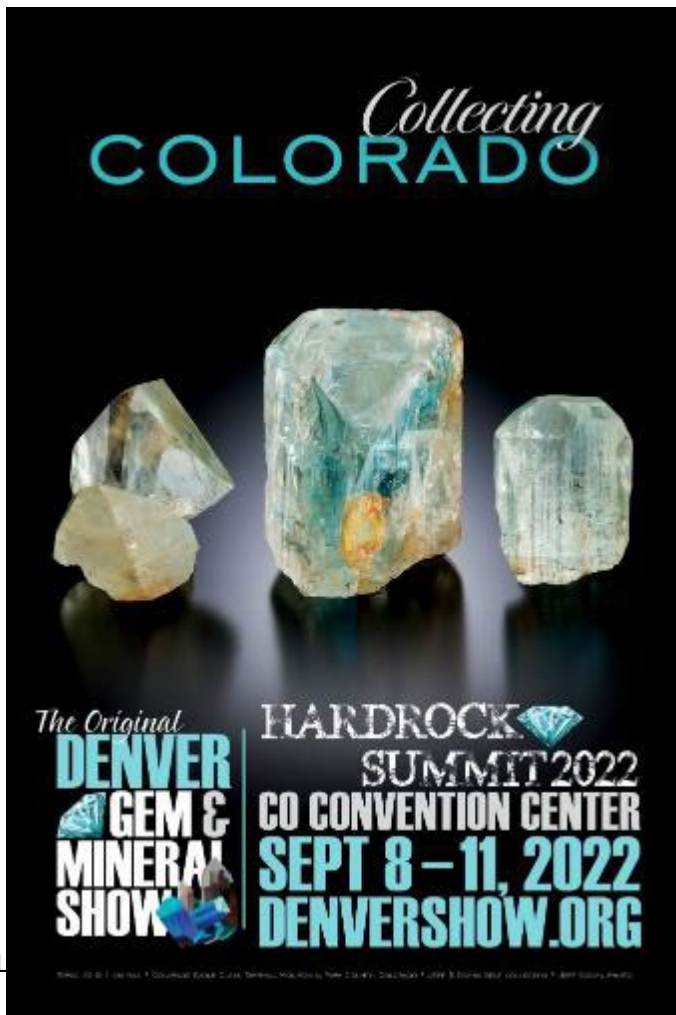
We will be in the same space as last year's show, on the main floor of the Convention Center. We are planning on having dealers, display cases, fluorescent room, speakers, educational booths, Mr. Bones, and club tables. We will need volunteers again this year to set up and tear down the display cases, staff the club tables, sell grab bags and posters, and help provide information and directions. More information will be coming out next month about requests for exhibits and volunteer signups.

The Show Committee is looking for a Treasurer, so if you are interested, please contact Amber at the email below.

At the 2021 DGMS, we sold 1,989 grab bags that provided a \$1,989 scholarship to a Colorado School of Mines 3rd or 4th year geology student. We appreciate member clubs providing grab bags for this important effort, so keep up the great work and I encourage you to volunteer for a club grab bag stuffing party when they occur.

If you have any questions, please contact Amber Brenzikofer, the 2022 DGMS Chairperson, at denvergemmineralshow@gmail.com. If you are interested in being a dealer at the DGMS, you can send an email to dealers.denvergemmineralshow@gmail.com.

Prepared by Amber Brenzikofer, DGMS Chair



In Memoriam

The DGMS and Show Committee have recently lost three long-time supporters, including Don Beamer (November 5, 2021), Bill Chirside (December 23, 2021), and Eldon Hunewell (January 5, 2022).

Don Beamer and his wife Gail have been involved for many years with the show, with Gail still involved as the Schools Assistant. Don Beamer served as the Show's Security Chair for several years.

Bill Chirside joined the Show Committee in 2002 (and stayed involved until 2018), helping to coordinate the institutional (museums, et al.) exhibits with Donna Hughston. His involvement with the Show led to his becoming the Vice President in 2006 and President for 2007- 2009 of the Greater Denver Gem and Mineral Council.

Eldon Hunewell had entered displays and competition specimens in the Show for many years up to 2019 and was a long-term supporter of the Show. He won many awards through the years. At the 2019 Show, Eldon won the coveted C. E. Withers Award for his exhibit "50 Years of roaming for rocks in Colorado and beyond".

Our condolences to the families and friends of these three gentlemen.

2021 Odiorne Award - History Correction

Correction on the history:

It was mistakenly written in the December 2021 issue of the Highlites Newsletter, that the Odiorne Award, established in recognition of former LGMC Member, Tom Odiorne, was instituted by the Odiorne family. The correct information is that the award was actually instituted by Tom's close friend, and fellow LGMC Member, John Ake. Because of John Ake's generosity and devotion to his dear friend, this Award has been presented for 11 of the past 12 years and will continue to be awarded annually. Please accept apologies for the inaccurate information initially posted.

Selected upcoming LGMC and Earth Science Events

January (no meeting) – Littleton Gem & Mineral Club January meeting has been canceled.

- Tues, Feb. 15** **Faceters and Cabbers** - When the pandemic situation changes, we will try to resume in-person meetings. Keep your fingers crossed for a resumption. Meanwhile, Zoom meetings have been suspended. I'll keep the group posted about an opportunity for an in-person Faceters and Cabbers meeting. If you would like to be added to our faceters and cabbers mail list, let me, John Kleber, know at jkleber@att.net.
- Friday, Feb. 18** **LGMC February Meeting**, 7:30pm, St Philip Lutheran Church, 7531 S. Kendall Blvd, Littleton, CO 80128. (COVID permitting) ***We need volunteers to bring snacks for upcoming meetings Thank you!***
- Fri-Sun, Feb. 25-27** **Denver Gem & Mineral Guild (DGMG) Show (returning to its old location), Jefferson County Fairgrounds, Exhibit Building** 15200 W. 6th Ave., Golden, CO. Free parking & free admission; hours 10-6 Fri. & Sat., 10-5 Sun. DGMG had earlier announced that it would be necessary for this show to move to the Wheat Ridge United Methodist Church gymnasium; but this will NOT be necessary, the show will take place at the Jeffco Fairgrounds after all, as in past pre-COVID years. For more info: <https://denvergem.org/february-show/>
- Friday, March 18th** **LGMC March Meeting**, 7:30 pm, St Philip Lutheran Church, 7531 S. Kendall Blvd, Littleton, CO 80128. (COVID permitting)



What are those fibers in my rose quartz?

Most of us are curious about the variety of colors in quartz. Rose quartz is one of the loveliest types, and many of us have specimens or jewelry of rose quartz. What accounts for its delicate pink color? Recent work has shed some light on its origin - apparently it is due to the presence of a close relative of the mineral dumortierite.

The breakthrough discovery was work done in 1987 by 2 geologists at the University of Missouri at Columbia, Ken Appin and Brian Hicks. They were doing studies on the etching of various types of quartz. They discovered in one of their samples, a rose quartz from the Ruby Range of Montana, masses of pink fibers on the sample's surfaces after etching in hydrofluoric acid. The color of the fibers was spectrally the same as the pink color of the quartz specimen. Testing by X-Ray diffraction convinced them that the fibers were a mineral called dumortierite, and that they were responsible for the pink color of that particular quartz.

Dumortierite is a complex boron-bearing silicate. It was named for a French paleontologist and has been known as a mineral since 1881. It is generally found in fibrous to columnar aggregates and is usually an attractive pink to blue to purple in color. The particular concentration of trace amounts of iron and titanium seems to control the color seen. Dumortierite often is found in granite pegmatites, high temperature hydrothermal veins, and in high-grade regional metamorphic rocks where boron was available during metamorphism. Sometimes interesting collector specimens occur from Maine, California, New Mexico and elsewhere. Lapidary quality dumortierite occurs in South Africa and other locations.

Appin and Hicks' work was followed by Julie Goreva, Chi Ma and George Rossman at Cal Tech. In a paper published in 2001, they looked for pink fibrous material in rose quartz from 29 localities from around the world. All of the samples they tested had such fibers. The fibers were very small, best described as "nano-fibers" 0.1 to 0.5 micro-meters wide (about 0.00002 inches). Their optical patterns again matched the pink color of rose quartz. X-Ray diffraction, Raman spectroscopy and other analytical tests showed that these fibers were from a mineral close to, but not exactly like, dumortierite. The scientists concluded the rose color of all massive rose quartz was due to this material.

Later work by this same team further characterized this material as a dumortierite relative. The only significant difference is the relatively large amount of iron replacing aluminum at a particular location in the mineral's structure. Whether or not this will constitute a new mineral remains to be seen. At this point then it is hard to tell someone exactly what this material is. Yes, it is like dumortierite, but really isn't technically, and doesn't have an official name. I could suggest it be called "that pink fibrous dumortierite-like stuff in the rose quartz." A bit unwieldy, but (to paraphrase the Bard), to a mineral collector, wouldn't the coloring agent of rose quartz by any other name, still look so sweet?

- Dr. Bill Cordua, University of Wisconsin-River Falls

References:

- Appin, Kenneth and Brian Hicks, 1987, "Fibers of dumortierite in quartz", *American Mineralogist*, v. 72, p. 170-172.
- Goreva, Julia, Chi Ma and George Rossman, 2001, "Fibrous nano-inclusions in massive rose quartz: The organ of rose coloration", *American Mineralogist*, v. 86, p. 466-472.
- Ma, Chi, Julia Goreva and George Rossman, 2002, "Fibrous nano-inclusions in massive rose quartz: HRTEM and AEM investigations", *American Mineralogist*, v. 87, p. 269-276.

Grab Bag News Update



February Grab Bag News

No new news this month. If you have any minerals or sewn grab bags to contribute, contact me, John Kleber, at jkleber@att.net or 303-570-8164, or Lynette Warren at flywithle123@comcast.net.

John Kleber and Lynette Warren
The Bag Begger and Bag Party Lady

Club Announcements



Moving? Change of Address, Email or Phone Number?

Please notify **Ian Duncanson** of any changes at idunc@q.com or 303-798-9174.

Club Vests: Show your club support at the meetings and other events! **Ian Duncanson** has club vests available for sale. Price includes vest, sewed on club patch (on back) and a club pin

\$18 for small and medium sizes

\$19 for large and X-large sizes

\$20 for XX-large and XXX-large

Sunshine Cards: *Do you know someone who could use some sunshine?* Nobody knows everybody. If you know of a club member or family who is having a health problem or other problem, and who could be encouraged by receiving a thinking-of-you card, please let us know so that we may encourage them. Send a note to our sunshine coordinator and let her know, **Lynette Warren**, flywithle123@comcast.net.



Like us on FaceBook

LIKE and FOLLOW us @LittletonGemAndMineralClub

See you on Facebook! Nicole Bolger

LGMC Website

Our website has been updated!

Please check out the new "Member" section of the website! We'll archive Newsletters, share photos, and get details of upcoming field trips.

To view the "Member" section, you must register as a member of the website:

<https://littletongemandmineralclub.com/register/>

As only LGMC members will have access to this material, we'll be checking your name against the current club roster, so if you haven't yet, reach out to Ian Duncanson to pay your 2022 dues!

Thanks,
Gus

Club Membership Dues REMINDER

2022 Membership Dues:

We've celebrated the end of 2021 and the arrival of 2022 with the hope for a return to more "normal" activities. Imagine....awesome field trips, general meetings, parties, picnics, incredible rock & mineral displays and even getting free rocks!! **dues are only \$20!!**

Don't delay!!! Send your 2022 dues to:

**LITTLETON GEM AND MINERAL CLUB
P.O. BOX 283
LITTLETON, COLORADO 80160**

Ian Duncanson

LGMC dues for 2022

Please bring the following form to the next meeting with your \$20 check:

Name(s) _____

Dues payment (\$20) _____ Renewal

Email address: _____

Thanks to everyone who contributed to the newsletter! As this is my second newsletter, please let me know if anything is in error. ~Lesley

2022 Board of Trustees

2022 Board of Trustees		
President	<i>Vacant</i>	
Vice President and Membership Chairman	<i>Ian Duncanson</i>	303-798-9174
Secretary	<i>Larry Havens</i>	303-757-6577
Treasurer	<i>Lynette Warren</i>	303-956-4634
President elect	<i>Nancy Kimber</i>	303-470-6491
Program Chairman	<i>open</i>	
Field Trip Chairman	<i>Jim Hooten</i>	303-770-7177
Highlites Newsletter Editor	<i>Lesley Sebol</i>	720-999-1372
Trustee (Year of 2022 as past President)	<i>Ron Wankner</i>	303-887-9787
Trustee (2-year term 2021 & 2022)	<i>Charlie Wall</i>	303-933-0368
Trustee (2-year term 2022 & 2023)	<i>Lesley Sebol</i>	720-999-1372
Chairpersons & Appointed Officers		
Sunshine Chairperson	<i>Lynette Warren</i>	303-956-4634
Refreshments	<i>Anne Jenkins</i>	303-730-7696
Librarian	<i>Mary Davis</i>	303-680-5112
Historian	<i>Vacant</i>	
Facebook Editor	<i>Brittany MacRostie</i>	630-699-2415
Hospitality	<i>Vacant</i>	
Grab Bags	<i>John Kleber</i>	720-851-8510
Web Administrator	<i>Gus Hansen</i>	480-489-3978
Show Committee Representative	<i>Lynette Warren</i>	303-956-4634
RMFMS & AFMS Representative	<i>Larry Havens</i>	303-757-6577
Denver Council Representative	<i>Lesley Sebol</i>	720-999-1372
Cabbers & Faceters Group	<i>John Kleber</i>	720-851-8510
Mineral Study Group	<i>Lesley Sebol/Richard Parsons</i>	720-999-1372

Meetings: The Littleton Gem & Mineral Club meets the third Friday of each month, September through May, at the St Philip Lutheran Church, 7531 S. Kendall Blvd, Littleton, CO 80128. Doors open at 7:00 p.m. and the meetings begin at 7:30 p.m. All meetings are open to the public. Club and section meetings may deviate from their regular schedules due to holidays, shows, inclement weather, pandemic, etc.

The Littleton Gem and Mineral Club is affiliated with the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies, The Rocky Mountain Federation of Mineralogical Societies, The Colorado Federation of Gem and Mineral Societies, and the Greater Denver Area Gem and Mineral Council.

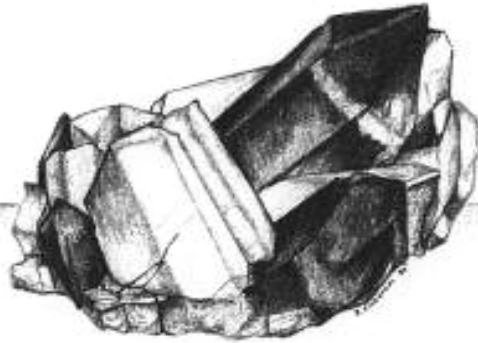
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HighLites

LITTLETON GEM & MINERAL CLUB



HARRIS PARK AMAZONITE & SMOKY QUARTZ

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FIRST CLASS MAIL

