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## About Us

**The El Dorado County Mineral and Gem Society** strives to offer a congenial and proactive environment in which to study and share interests in rocks and minerals, earth sciences and the lapidary arts. The society was founded in 1949 and is a nonprofit educational 501c3 organization.

### ***The Society Provides:***

- Monthly Meetings:** General Membership Meetings are held on the third Thursday of each month starting at 7:00 PM. Meetings include an educational presentation; a refreshment break, which allows time to relax and visit with other members; and a general business meeting. The public is welcome to attend.
- Lapidary:** Lapidary Workshops help participants develop skills in cutting and polishing their own rocks or material provided by the society.
- Field Trips:** We host rockhounding field trips providing an amazing way to learn more about rocks, minerals, petrified wood, fossils, geology, etc., and enjoy the camaraderie of fellow rockhounds!
- Junior Program:** Monthly Junior meetings cover a variety of topics and activities for young members, ages 5 - 17.
- Student Program:** Society members make educational presentations at K-12 schools throughout the area and assist scout troops in the study of rocks, minerals and geology. We invite inquiries from teachers.
- Scholarship:** The Society awards Annual Scholarships to students who have graduated from an El Dorado County school and are majoring in earth sciences or lapidary arts.
- Annual Show:** The club sponsors an annual Rock and Gem Show, which includes displays and commercial dealers featuring minerals, rough and faceted gems, jewelry, beads, fossils, petrified wood, lapidary material and equipment.
- County Fair:** Members host the Mining and Minerals display building at the annual County Fair. There are over 30 displays cases and it's a great opportunity to learn more about the hobby.
- Newsletter:** The Society's monthly newsletter includes a club calendar, event notices, committee reports, fun photos and articles about the hobby.
- Library:** The Society maintains a library containing reference material and periodicals helpful in exploring many topics.
- Web Site:** The club's web site is a handy reference to help members stay current, and it provides the public with information about our club. Please visit [www.eldoradomineralandgem.org](http://www.eldoradomineralandgem.org)
- Membership:** We have 3 levels of Membership: Household, Individual and Junior (ages 5-17). Children who are part of a Household membership may also participate in the Junior Program