

February 2025

corc.rocks@gmail.com

CENTRAL OREGON ROCK COLLECTORS



Happy New Year! I hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season.

This year is going to be great one for Central Oregon Rock Collectors!

Your Executive Board is already hard at work. The Bylaws have been reviewed, all the club and board meetings have been scheduled, classes are being planned, and the Annual Picnic has been scheduled. The Field Trip Committee has been busy with dates and places to go this year. They are planning two field trips per month this year! We are very excited about this. The Program Committee is lining up speakers for our meetings. Although the Claims Committee hasn't reached the claim area due to weather, the dues are paid and it will be ready for this summer.

I want to give you an update on a proposed shop for the club. We have met with the owners, Andy and Marcie of Petersen Rock Garden. They have a couple of potential buildings we could use as a shop. It will be a couple years before they are ready for use. We still have a long way to go, but this is a great possibility.

Since my husband and I have joined CORC it has become family to us. I love this club because of you, the members. I've missed you all and can't wait to catch up and give you a hug. To our new members, I look forward to meeting you at our first meeting in March and getting to know you.

Let's make this a fantastic year for CORC by working together to be the best rock club in Oregon! If you want to volunteer, please let us know.

Tonia Smith
CORC President



Tonia Smith
President



Nancy Johnston
Vice President



Lupe Severson Chenowa "Snow" Hartley
Treasurer



Secretary



Ken Lawson
Field Trip
Committee Co-Chair



Eric Smith
Field Trip
Committee Co-Chair -



Barb Thompson
Claims
Committee Chair



Scott "Plaid" Peterson
Program
Committee Chair



Patricia Moreland
Past President

Safety Reminder

Please remember that although the temperatures may be warmer than usual in town, they are often much colder at the rock hounding places. In past years, there was still snow at Hampton in March. People have gotten stuck, and search and rescue has had to pull them out. In most of the rock hounding areas there is no cell service.

Please be safe!

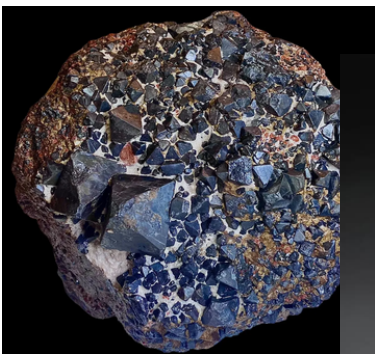
Always let someone know where you're going
and take someone with you.

STATE BY STATE ROCKS, GEMS, MINERALS

New Jersey



State Mineral: Franklinite



Franklinite is a black, opaque, zinc-iron-manganese oxide mineral that's found in Franklin, New Jersey. It's mined as an ore for zinc and manganese. Franklinite is the official state mineral for New Jersey. The neighboring boroughs of Franklin and Ogdensburg in Sussex County comprise the Franklin mining district and are home to two of the world's most famous zinc mines, the Franklin Mine and the Sterling Hill Mine. These two former mines contained the largest concentration of franklinite in the world where it is found in the zinc ore body of the Franklin Marble. Today, both mines are used as educational facilities and offer tours, exhibits and gift shops.

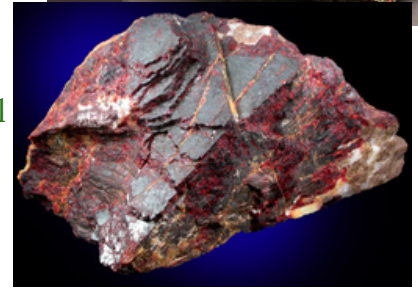
Franklinite is found with a wide array of minerals, many of which are fluorescent including willemite and calcite, and may also occur with orange zincite. Twentysix countries and seven states in the US have reported a minor occurrence of franklinite. However, none of which compared to the quantity as found in the Franklin mining district of New Jersey.

Franklinite, a metamorphic mineral, has a striking black color. Specimens of franklinite showing both iridescence and opacity are common and have a metallic to dull luster. Franklinite is paramagnetic, meaning that it is weakly magnetic. At one time franklinite was used to produce many different products. Large crystals of previous mining eras are no longer found. Today, franklinite has a worldwide reputation and is a mineral much sought-after by collectors.

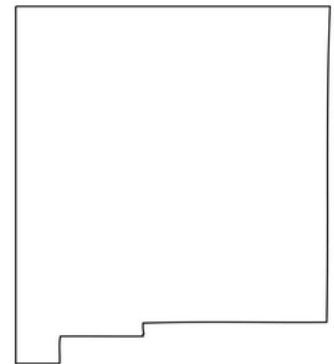
One of the earliest uses of franklinite was as an ingredient in brown paint (Jackson, 1850). Brown paint made from franklinite was even used in the House and Senate wings of the United States Capitol in Washington, D.C. during construction in the 1850s.

The main use of franklinite would be as an additive in iron and steel making. Strong, durable iron made with manganese-bearing franklinite was used in many products including steamboat shafts, railroad cars, axles for train engines, and horseshoes.

Franklinite was also notably used to strengthen safes. Herring & Company, a major safe manufacturing company in the US during the mid 1800's, began manufacturing its safes with franklinite.



New Mexico



State Gemstone: Turquoise

Turquoise occurs in spots where acidic water comes into contact with copper, forming veins or nuggets of stone. This solidified hydrated copper aluminum phosphate has been found in Russia, China, and Iran as well as across the Southwest United States in Arizona, Colorado, Nevada, southern California, and New Mexico. (It takes its name from the French turquoise or "Turkish stone," though there is little of the mineral found in that country today.)

The resulting turquoise ranges in color from chalky white to uniform, robin's-egg blue (common at Arizona's Sleeping Beauty mine) to spider-webbed blue green (found at New Mexico's Los Cerrillos mine). The stone is ranked

between a 5 and 6 on the Gemstone Institute of America's (GIA) Mohs hardness scale, meaning turquoise can be easily carved but isn't as hard as, say, a diamond (a Mohs 10).



As early as the sixth century A.D., the Ancient Puebloan people of what's now the Southwest U.S. mined the mineral, extracting turquoise with simple tools and carving it into beads, pendants, and nose plugs. Since 1896, archaeologists have discovered more than 200,000 pieces of such turquoise at northern New Mexico's Chaco Canyon, including beads and small sculptures from the mysterious "Room 33," a tiny, treasure-laden tomb for 12 a dozen people tucked into one of the stone pueblos. Researchers have used isotope tracing to prove that some of those ancient Chaco stones came out of the earth at

Los Cerrillos, a tiny, picturesque mining village located about halfway between Albuquerque and Santa Fe on what's now known as the Turquoise Trail. "But it's more of a contemporary scenic byway that recognizes an ancient north to south trade route," says Swentzell. "You won't necessarily find much turquoise anymore."

Today, much of the turquoise in New Mexico—including the majority of deposits in Los Cerrillos—has been mined out. Some operations closed in the early 20th century when the gems were depleted, others simply converted to more profitable copper mining.

There are 23 Indigenous tribes in New Mexico, including members of 19 pueblos, three Apache tribes, and the Navajo Nation. Their artisans have been using turquoise in jewelry and objects for hundreds of years. Applications were myriad: Kewas carved the stone into disc-like heishi beads, Zunis inlaid it into shells. Adornments and objects were created to wear on feast days, use in ceremonies, or to trade with others.

Spanish colonists brought silversmithing to the Southwest in the 16th century. This meant Indigenous people merged new methods and materials with traditional ones. The results were dazzling: vine-like, sand cast silver Navajo bracelets set with blue nuggets, Zuni turquoise mosaics on silver earrings.



References:

statesymbolsusa.org sos.nm.gov
dep.nj.gov nationalgeographic.com
google.com

Upcoming Events

Rock shows you may want to visit

February 22-23—BOISE, IDAHO: Annual show; Idaho Gem Club;

March 1 – 2 East KingCo Rock and Gem Show. Issaquah, WA

**March 1st & 2nd, 2025 Owyhee Gem and Mineral Society
71st Annual Gem and Rock Show --“ Caldwell, ID**

**March 7th, 8th & 9th, 2025 Oregon Agate & Mineral Society 74th Annual
Show Rock A' Doodle Do OMSI (Oregon Museum of Science and Industry)**

**March 7th, 8th & 9th Tualatin Valley Gem Club, 66th Rock and Gem
Annual Show. Forest Grove National Guard Armory**

**March 21-23—EUGENE, OREGON: Wholesale and retail show;
Gem Faire Inc; Lane Events Center, .**

**March 22nd & 23rd, 2025
Southeast Idaho Gem & Mineral Society (SEIGMS) Annual Rock and Gem
Show Pocatello, ID 83201**

**March 29th & 30th 2025
Mount Baker Rock and Gem Club 63rd Annual Show Pioneer Pavilion
Community Center. Ferndale, Washington 98248**

Save the Date

Sites yet to be determined

CORC Field Trip Dates

April 12 & 13

September 13 and 14

May 10 & 11

October 11 and 12

June 14 & 15

July 19 Picnic

August: Maybe a volunteer day

Remember March 19 is our first club meeting!

2025 CORC Board Members

Tonia Smith
President

Nancy Johnston
Vice President

Snow Hartley
Secretary

Lupe Severson
Treasurer

Ken Lawson
Field Trip Committee_
Co-Chair

Eric Smith
Field Trip Committee_
Co-Chair

Barb Thompson
Claims Committee Chair

Scott "Plaid" Peterson
Program Committee Chair

Patricia Moreland
Past President

Non Board Members

Nancy Johnston
Newsletter Editor

Ashton Bowlin
Webmaster

Chenowa Hartley
James Shaman
Barb Thompson
Ed Taft
Social Media

Ed Taft
James Shaman
Bruce Vanderzanden
OCRMC Representatives

Membership

****2025 Renewals are due by
April 30th.**

**Renew ONLINE at the
CORC website.**

**(corockcollectors.com -
>Membership->Join Now)**

Renew by MAIL or IN PERSON.
Print the membership form from the CORC
website and mail it to:
Central Oregon Rock Collectors (CORC)
4817 SW Volcano Ave
Redmond, OR 97756
or bring it to the next meeting or field trip.

Annual membership dues are:

\$20 for individuals,
\$25 for household
and \$5 for juniors.

(Note: Junior memberships are for minors
who are accompanied by a club member
from a different household.
e.g. Grandparents, aunts, uncles)

.....

Contact Us:

Email: corc.rocks@gmail.com

Mailing Address: 4817 SW Volcano Ave
Redmond, OR 97756

Meeting Address: 3800 SE Airport Way
Bldg, 3 "The Annex", Redmond, OR 97756

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CigarBoxRock Lapidary
63291 Nels Anderson Rd
Bend, Or

Open Tuesday- Saturday
9:00am - 3:00 PM

CBR@Bendnet.com

541-389-9663 Or 541-280-5574

Follow us Facebook and Instagram

Cigarboxrock.com

Sanding/Polishing
Slabs/Thundereggs

.50/square inch

Dan Siroshon
(541)954-8234

Do you need a rock cut?

Check out the pinned post on our Facebook page to find someone that can help you out!

Would you like to contribute to our newsletter?

We would love to hear from our members!

Email corc.rocks@gmail.com with your ideas.

To post an announcement or ad in the
CORC newsletter please email
corc.rocks@gmail.com.

You must be a current member to do so.