

July 2021 Volume 49 Issue 7

The Official Newsletter of the Beehive Rock and Gem Club
PO Box 1011 Ogden, UT 84402

Beehive Buzzer

In this issue!

The Beautiful World of Colorful Rocks!

Deadly Deception? Page 4

Page 2 Message from the President

Field Trip Calendar Page 2

What is Limb Cast and where can I get it? By Debbie Leonard Page 7

THE RIGHT NIGHT - THE RIGHT TIME - THE RIGHT PLACE

THE WRIGHT PROGRAM!! Page 6

September 27th Meeting - Big Auction

Get ready for our Big Auction! This is where the club members donate all kinds of things pertaining to rockhounding, our field trips, camping, etc. Then we auction them off (Not a Silent Auction) to raise money for the club.

Ideas of what to donate: Rocks and fossils of all sorts, tools, buckets, saws, lapidary equipment, tumblers, coolers, hats, walking sticks, fold out stools and chairs, umbrellas, easy ups for shade, crafts made out of rocks, jewelry, etc. So, start looking through your stuff and bring it to the monthly club meeting, or give it to one of the board members!

Malachite





2021 BEEHIVE FIELD TRIPS

Hi Fellow Rockhounds!

We are off and running with some great meetings and fieldtrips this year! Tony's Rock Pile up in Gooding, Idaho turned out to be amazing! We all found beautiful and unique rocks looking through his piles and piles of rocks. Turquoise, Montana moss agate, Blue Mountain agate, petrified wood, already finished cabochons (seriously!) Chrysocolla, Gem Silica, Patchwork Jasper and many more. Tony and his wife had a real nice BBQ for us also. Super great people. We will head back there next year for sure! At the monthly meeting for June we had a crazy fun family feud like ice breaker and a very informative program about petrified wood. This year looks like it will be a challenging one with the heat already setting in but, push through and do whatever it takes to keep cool to participate in all of our activities. You won't want to miss out. Our club has a great group of people! Take time to make some new friends that love the same thing you do. Rocks!!

See you soon, Debbie

More specific details for July on Page 3

JULY

Date: 17th

Place: Randolph, Gastropods, Clam shells, and the famous Snail Mummies!

Leader:

AUGUST

Date: 21st

Place: Spiral Jetty, Selenite, Box Elder county..

Leader: Robyn Bunz

SEPTEMBER

Date: 18th

Place: Wendover – Amethyst crystals, Smoky Quartz Crystals, Plume Agate,

Leader: Dawn Culley

OCTOBER

Date: TBD Wednesday –

Saturday, Depending on the Moab Rock show weekend.

Place: Floy Wash area – about 17 DIFFERENT kinds of rock!

This will go for several days.

Leader: Dave Offret

Beehive Rock Club!

Our July Field Trip is Saturday, July 17th. We will meet in the Wild West town of Woodruff, Utah, at the convenience store (There's only one..) at 9:00 AM. We are going after Gastropod and Clam fossils. This is always one of the funnest trips of the year.

Here's some directions and times:

From Ogden, Over Monte Cristo, 1 hr 23 min (62.9 mi) via UT-39 E

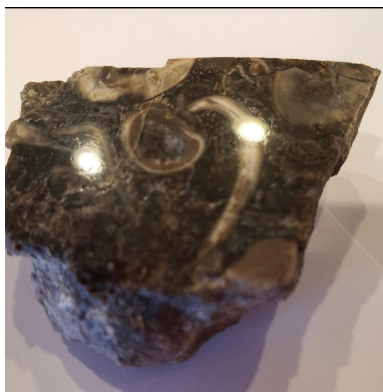
From Ogden, through Evanston, Wyoming, 1 Hr 37 Min (100 miles) via I-84 E and I-80 E

We are going after: (see pictures)

1: Gastropod and Clam Fossils. - just need baggies.

2: Clam fossils in dark brown rock (Polishes REALLY Well), and selenite Crystals. - may need small bucket..

3: The famous Snail Mummies! - small bucket, digging tool, found mostly on the mountainside.



Could be a hot trip, so plan accordingly..

If you plan to attend, please TEXT Dave Offret with your name, and how many in your vehicle, at 801-791-6081.

Let me know if anyone has any questions - Thanks!

*Our club has named #3 Snail Mummies since the center was the body of a snail and the shape of the shell is sort of like a coffin. There are many snails that have fossilized over time and in general they are called **Concretions**.

Beautiful but Toxic Deadly Rocks. Don't lick these!

The Earth produces a dazzling variety of inorganic chemical compounds. The International Mineralogical Association (IMA) is the generally recognized standard body for the definition and nomenclature of mineral species. As of July 2021, the IMA recognizes 5,721 official mineral species. 68 of these minerals are highly toxic. Go here to see the complete table of minerals with high, medium and low toxicity-

<https://www.gemsociety.org/article/gemstone-toxicity-table/>

Cinnabar (mercuric sulfide). This red is absolutely beautiful. If you own a piece of it handle it with gloves on. It's so toxic. Cinnabar presents itself in an entire range of orangey reds to red purples depending on the micron it's ground to. At one time Cinnabar was like lapis Lazule, and equaled the price of Gold.



Malachite and chrysocolla dust is quite toxic (45% to 70% CuO), and should not be breathed, ingested, or left on skin surfaces. Among the worst offenders are minerals containing copper (II) oxide (CuO), the higher oxide of copper, which can cause damage to the endocrine and central nervous systems.



Beautiful but Toxic Deadly Rocks. Don't lick these!

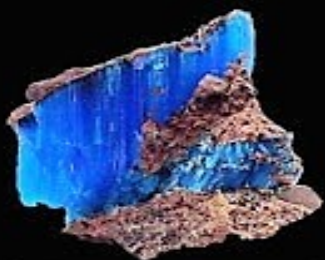
Bumblebee jasper is indeed on the "toxic" list because it contains sulfur and arsenic. Tumbled bumblebee jasper is safer to handle than raw, but it's best to always limit your exposure to "toxic" crystals and to always wash your hands after handling them.



Most Deadly Minerals By GeologyIn.com



Asbestos



Chalcantite



Cinnabar



Stibnite



Galena



Torbernite



Hutchinsonite



Orpiment

JULY CLUB MEETING

WHEN: TUESDAY JULY 27th 2021 6:30 Meet and greet / Silent Auction /Door Prize

7:00 Meeting Begins

WHERE: Golden Hours Senior Center

650 25th St, Ogden, UT 84401

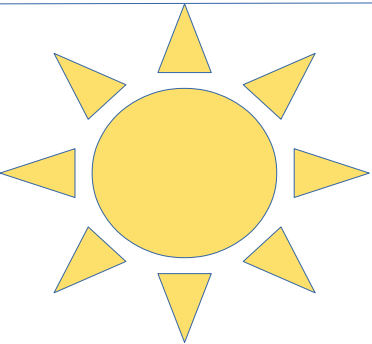


BTW isn't she cute!



THE WRIGHT PROGRAM!!

We're so excited to have James and Sarah Wright (and family) teach us about Opals; what they are, where they can be found, how to work with them, and show us a few of their treasures and works of art. So "Choose the wRight" and come and join us at our July Beehive Rock and Gem Club meeting.



Golden Hours Senior Center is now open for us to use for our club meetings but, we have so enjoyed meeting in Lester Park right next to it we thought we still meet there for awhile unless the weather prohibits it! Bring a chair and a blanket if you want.

The Golden Hours Lapidary will not open till about the end of July. We will send out an email to the club when we get an exact date.

Click below to get to our Facebook page or web site

[Official Beehive Rock and Gem Club](#)

www.BeehiveRockandGemClub.com



Texas Spring Limb Cast By Debbie Leonard

A limb cast is a pseudomorph where the original wood has been replaced by chalcedony. These pieces form when a tree was buried by ash. The wood is burned away by the hot ash and a "cast" is left. Limb casts are also created when agate is deposited in cavities formed by tree branches covered by volcanic ash. Under the right conditions, agate fills the empty space. The result is a piece of agate that has the form of a tree limb, hence the name limb cast. Some casts show the bark and wood textures. The pink blush is from iron tinting the silicates.

Different than just petrified wood, a limb cast can be a blending of the wood's permineralized cells and agate or jasper filling in voids like puddles.

Some limb casts are completely without cellular material of the tree and are just the shape and texture of the limb replicated.

Generally the limb cast size can range from very small to as big as 3-5 inches in diameter.

One article I located was written by the Tri-Federation Rockhounds stated that just due east about one-half mile of the classic pink area, they found fair size logs and they call it "RICH'S HILL"

It is estimated that the Texas Springs Limb Casts were created approximately 26 million years ago. Limb casts can be found in Oregon and Nevada and Utah. The colors range from Pink, Green, Red, Yellow, Brown and White. Pink and green limb casts are highly prized by collectors.

The pieces shown are from the Texas Springs area which is located about 25 miles south of Jackpot, NV.

The book [Gem Trails of Nevada](#) shows a map that is pretty close (it got us there, lol). But the roads have been altered slightly since the last printing in 2002. The small dainty little limbs can be found on top of the ground and in the dirt, so it is wise to bring a sifter to find them. Digging in a hole that someone else has started will save you a lot of work. The limb casts are generally about 18 or more inches below the surface. It can be pretty hot in the summer, and I was told there are a lot of ticks then too. Best to search this area in the early spring or late fall.



Club Officers

President - Debbie Larsen 385-319-2808

Vice President - Babette Nelson 801-395-4102

Secretary - Dave Offret 801-791-6081

Treasurer - Tom Larsen 801-390-8270

Activity Committee and Chairpersons

Field Trip Leader - Dave Offret 801-791-6081

Program Chair - Babette Nelson 801-395-4102

Door Prizes - Linda Pilcher 801-668-8084

Hospitality - Linda Pilcher 801-668-8084

Communications - Steve Smith 801-781-0233

Membership - Dave Offret 801-791-6081

Safety

Publicity 801-867-5309

Buzzer Editor - Ron Yeoman Associate Editor - Debbie Larsen

Calling Coordinator - Linda Pilcher 801-668-8084

Club Photographers

Club Historian

Facebook Administrators - Ron Yeoman, Dave Offret and Debbie Larsen

Beehive Web Page Administrator - Steve Smith 801-781-0233

For questions or comments about the Beehive Buzzer email

BeehiveBuzzer2021@gmail.com Call 801-675-1901

