

# Beehive Buzzer

July 2015 Volume 43 Issue 7



## Beehive Rock & Gem Club Meeting Program



of the guidebook "Rockhounding Utah" in which he visited all the sites in the older 1996 version. It should be interesting to know more about this important guidebook. (Hopefully I have noted things correctly).

"Rocky" Ray, Program Chairman

**Golden Hours Senior Center**  
**650 East 25th St., Ogden, UT**  
**July 28, 2015 — 7.00 PM**

The guest presenter for this month is the current President of the Cache County Rock & Gem Club. He and his wife were Beehive Club members in the past. He has been involved in revisions

## Club T-Shirts

These are cool. And you will be able to order your own soon.

Joe Kent has found a low-cost source for club t-shirts.

## **Show your club identity with your own Beehive Rock & Gem Club T-shirt!**

We are still working out the final details and haven't determined the final price yet, but they will be less than \$10. The club is going to place an order for club t-shirts soon.

Details on how to place your order will be presented at the next club meeting. Dennis Anderson volunteered to be in charge of the orders.



**Front**

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## *Calendar*

### July

**24**

**Pioneer Day**

**28**

**Monthly Club Meeting**  
**Golden Hours Center**  
**7 pm**

### August

**6**

**Board Meeting**  
**Golden Hours Center**  
**7 pm**

**8**

**Field Trip**  
**Location TBD**

**25**

**Annual Club Picnic**  
**Golden Hours Center**  
**7 pm**

### September

**3**

**Board Meeting**  
**Golden Hours Center**  
**7 pm**

## *Upcoming next month...*

***Our annual picnic***

**Golden Hours Center**  
**7 pm**

***Bring the whole family!***

***Details in August Buzzer***



## Questions & Answers

The recent member survey generated a number of questions from the participants. The club board, decided to answer the questions in this month's Buzzer. If you ever have a question about the club in the future, do not hesitate to ask a member of the board. Answers to your questions in no particular order:

### Where is the President?

Well to answer that question, I have been in Quartzsite Arizona. I have become a snow bird. I planned on being there from Oct to April. Instead my wife has become the treasurer of our HOA and water company. So we did not make it back until July 1<sup>st</sup>. I look forward to getting back involved with our club. For more information see our web site at [qmountainvista.net](http://qmountainvista.net).

Dan Siler, Club President

### Could we ever have Day-Long Trips?

And the Answer is...

We do! Actually, the way most of the trips are designed for the Club, we usually have our BIG trips - the overnights - over-weekers - once every Spring and once every Fall. And that's because our destinations are usually far away.

But - Most of the months of the year, we do Day Trips! Like the Topaz Mountain Spring Trip, and our trip coming up on the 11th of July - the Geode Beds!

We hope to squeeze in a trip each month until the snow flies. And then we'll go Rock Hunting in Mexico!

Happy Trails!

Dave Offret, Field Trip Leader

### How do I become a board member?

The club board comprises of:

- 1) Club Officers (President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer)
- 2) Volunteer Positions (Activity Committee and Chairpersons, such as, Program Chair, Newsletter Editor, Membership Chair, Safety Chair, etc. See the "Officers and Club Information" section on the last page of the Buzzer for a listing of all the positions.)

To become a club officer, express your interest to the club members. Have someone nominate you at the annual elections. All nominees will be put on the ballot and a vote will be taken by the club members for each officer position. You must be nominated for the officer position that you are interested in. Elections are held at the November monthly meeting.

If you are interested in a volunteer position, get in touch with the President and let your wishes be known or just come out to a board meeting. Any club member is invited to attend the monthly board meetings, which are held on the 1st Thursday of the month at the Golden Hours Center at 7:00 pm.

Nancy Anderson, Vice President

### I just joined, and want to learn how to cut and polish rocks? I don't know anything. What is the best way to learn?

The best way to learn is by doing and the hardest part is getting started. The best way to get started is to come to the Golden Hours Lapidary Shop on Tuesday nights. Bring in a rock that you would like to work with and I can show you how. We don't have formal classes at this time but I can answer all your questions and get you started on the right track.

Lynn Hayes, Lapidary Shop Chair

### What are some significant contributions made by members of the club, past and present?

I did not know how to answer this question at first, not because I could not think of members who have made significant contributions to the club, but because there are so many members throughout the years that have contributed.

There are just too many to mention names. I would not know where to start. Instead I decided to answer the question by pointing out that all the board members and other volunteers have made significant contributions.

Throughout the many years I have been a member of the club, I have been on many wonderful field trips, stimulated by many presentations at club meetings, absorbed many interesting newsletters, and entertained at club dinners and picnics. I consider all these things significant contributions.

Ray Law, Board Member

**A question that sometimes drives me hazy: Am I or are the others crazy?**

**Albert Einstein**

*Q & A continued on next page →*

## What are the future goals of the club?

The goals and objectives of the club are as stated in the club bylaws:

“The purpose of our club is to stimulate interest in the collection of rocks, minerals, gem materials, and legal fossils. To discuss and impart our knowledge of the different phases of collecting, cutting, polishing and displaying them. Also to organize educational meetings, field trips and similar events while enjoying and protecting our natural resources.”

## What is the history behind the founding of the club? How was the club started? Why is there more than one club in Ogden?

The Beehive Rock & Gem Club was founded in April, 1970 by a small group of members from the Golden Spike Gem & Mineral Society. At the time, the members wanted to display in competition in the different shows and you had to be a member of a club that belonged to each federation to show in that federation. The Golden Spike belonged in the Northwest Federation, so the Beehive Club was formed and joined the Rocky Mountain Federation. The Beehive Club has been successful ever since.

## Who designed the cool club logo?

The late former Club President Robert Grose designed the club logo in about 1971.

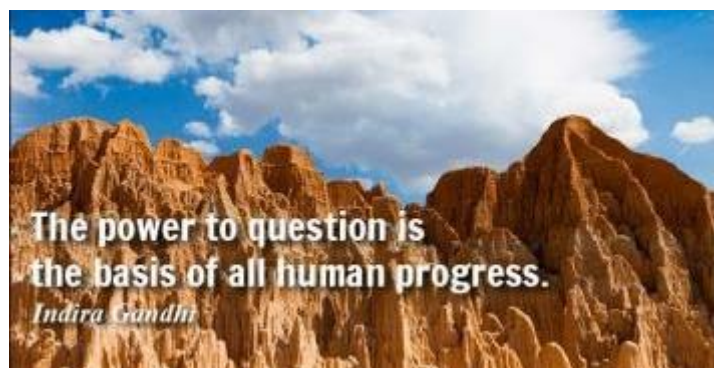
## Why are the dues so darn cheap?

A significant amount of revenue is generated for the club every year by the annual auction. Thanks to all the members who generously donate items and to all those who actively bid on the items, dues have not been raised in more than a decade.

## Why aren't there more auctions?

The club used to hold two auctions a year, but the one auction that we do now hold every year is very successful. The decision to add additional auctions is currently being discussed by the board.

Jim & Leora Alexander, Board Members



On Saturday, July 11, we left Roy shortly after 6 am. We had a nice drive to Tooele. The construction in Tooele caused very little delay. We meet a few more club members in Tooele.

On the way to the geode beds, we stopped a few places and Dave Offret gave an interesting historical background to the area. The road we take to the geode beds is the same route the pony express used. Dave shared some interesting stories and history about the locations of old pony express stations we stopped at. I like it that Dave takes the time to find interesting anecdotes about the areas we are exploring. He did the same thing on the last trip he led, which was to Topaz Mountain. His trips are always a learning experience.

We also saw a couple herds of mustang on the way.

We got to the geode beds by late morning. The weather was beautiful and relatively mild for a day in July. The temperature was only in the high 80's. Very comfortable!

Digging was easy on the sides of the pits. The full buckets of geodes indicate that it was productive for everyone!

We left the Geode beds about 2 pm. Since I am so absentminded, I left a bucket with a few geodes and some tools and gloves. If anyone happened to pick them up, let me know.

It was a very fun, informative, and productive trip. Thanks to Dave Offret for leading us on a wonderful trip! Hew deserves are thanks! He does such a wonderful job as Field Trip Leader!

Thanks for letting me take your pictures. I like to record the trip for the newsletter. Pictures on following three pages.















S





## In Honor of Pioneer Day (July 24th)....

"I always wanted to be a cowboy, and Jedi Knights are basically cowboys in space, right?"

*Liam Neeson*

### A Cowboy's Guide to Life

1. Never squat with yer spurs on.
2. There's two theories to arguin' with a woman; neither one works.
3. Don't worry about bitin' off more than you can chew, your mouth is probably a whole lot bigger'n you think.
4. If you get to thinkin' you're a person of some influence, try orderin' somebody else's dog around.
5. After eating an entire bull, a mountain lion felt so good he started roaring. He kept it up until a hunter came along...and shot him. The moral: When you're full of bull, keep your mouth shut.
6. If you find yourself in a hole, the first thing to do is stop diggin'.
7. Never smack a man who's chewin' tobacco.
8. It don't take a genius to spot a goat in a flock of sheep.
9. Never ask a barber if he thinks you need a haircut.
10. Never follow good whiskey with water, unless you're out of good whiskey.
11. Good judgment comes from



"You'd think that a brand new covered wagon would come with a full-size spare!"



experience, and a lot of that comes from bad judgment.

12. Always drink upstream from the herd.
13. Never drop your gun to hug a grizzly.



14. If you're ridin' ahead of the herd, take a look back every now and then to make sure it's still there.
15. When you give a lesson in meanness to a critter or a person, don't be surprised if they learn their lesson.
16. When you're throwin' your weight around, be ready to have it thrown around by somebody else.
17. Lettin' the cat outta the bag is a whole lot easier 'n puttin' it back in.
18. Always take a good look at what you're about to eat. It's not so important to know what it is, but it's critical to know what it was.
19. The quickest way to double your money is to fold it over and put it back in your pocket.



20. Never miss a good chance to shut up.

21. Finally, never kick a fresh cow chip on a hot day.

A mean lookin' cowboy was sitting by himself in a Saloon. He was a pretty intimidating sight, so no one bothered him as he downed a few whiskey and beers. After chugging his last drink he slammed some coins on the tabletop and got up to leave. Right after he left though he came storming back in and said, "Listen up you mangey bastards" and everyone, terrified, immediately fell silent. "Someone done took my horse. Now here's what's gunna happen. I'm gunna order me another drink, finish it, and when I walk back outside this time my horse BETTER be there or else I'm gunna do what I did in Texas... and believe me, I don't want to do what I did in Texas!" Like he said, after he finished his drink he walked outside and sure enough, someone had returned his horse. He was getting on it when one of the bar patrons ran up to him and sheepishly asked, "Sir I don't mean to bother you but I just have to know, what did you do in Texas?" The cowboy looked at him square in the eyes and replied, "I walked home".

Q: Why couldn't the pony speak?

A: Because, he was a little horse.





## Birthstone for July is Ruby

**July's birthstone**, the ruby, was regarded by ancient Hindus as the "king of gems." It was believed to protect its wearer from evil. Today, the ruby's deep-red color signifies love and passion.

RUBY IS RED CORUNDUM, AN ALUMINUM OXIDE MINERAL WITH CHROMIUM RESPONSIBLE FOR ITS RICH, RED COLOR. THE NAME COMES FROM THE LATIN WORD RUBEUS, MEANING "RED," AND UNTIL 1800 WHEN RUBY WAS RECOGNIZED AS A VARIETY OF CORUNDUM, RED SPINELS, TOURMALINES, AND GARNETS WERE ALSO BELIEVED TO BE RUBY.

### INTRODUCTION TO MEANING AND USES OF RUBY

Natural Ruby is one of four "precious" gemstones (including Diamond, Emerald and Sapphire) known its rarity, monetary value, and hardness (second only to Diamond). Ruby is red Corundum, an aluminum oxide mineral with chromium responsible for its rich, red color. The name comes from the Latin word *rubeus*, meaning "red," and until 1800 when Ruby was recognized as a variety of Corundum, red Spinel, Tourmaline, and Garnets were also believed to be Ruby. All other color varieties of Corundum are designated as Sapphire. (See the Sapphire page on this website.) [Megmont, 159][Simmons, 332][gemselect.com]

Ruby forms in prismatic tabular, bipyramidal or rhombohedral crystals, as well as granular or massive habits, and has a vitreous luster. The most valuable and desired Rubies are those of a shade called "pigeon's blood," defined by William Fernie as "a pure deep, rich red, without any admixture of blue or yellow," though others define it as "a pure red with a hint of blue." The shade of red varies depending on where it is mined, and may be a deep pink-red, a reddish-orange, red with a violet cast, or even a deep wine color. The paler pink Corundum, debated as Ruby by some, is usually referred to in gemological terms as Pink Sapphire rather than Ruby. [Simmons, 332][Fernie, 139-141][Eason, 71][gemselect.com][Mindat.org]

All natural Rubies have imperfections within them, including color impurities and inclusions of Rutile needles known as "silk." These inclusions help distinguish natural Ruby from synthetics and when structurally oriented so the light shines off the "silk" in certain ways, the inclusions actually increase the rarity and value of the stone. If cut en cabochon, these special stones may display a chatoyancy, or rare "cat's eye" effect, or in the case of a Star Ruby may display a six-rayed star effect called asterism, that causes the light rays to appear to glide magically across the stone as it is moved. [wikipedia.org][gemstone.org][gemselect.com]

Rubies both naturally formed and lab-created, are highly prized crystals for technological use in areas such as watchmaking, medical instruments, and lasers for microscopic surgery. [Mella, 103][Raphaell, 10]

(Parts of this article are from <http://www.crystalvaults.com>) Reprinted without permission – Article is not copyrighted

### Necessity Is the Mother Of Invention by Dai

This is a redneck version of a porta-potti. What every rock hound and camper needs, portable and self contained.

This pic shows the roll of TP on the Home Depot 5 gallon bucket, liner is a tall kitchen garbage bag. Oh !, the seat is made from a pool weenie obtained at the dollar store.

via The Clackamette Gem, 6/15; from Boulder Buster, 4/15

Via Tumbler, Jun 2015

"Who says you have to give up modern conveniences when you go on a field trip!"





## **The Elements Of A Dazzling Fourth of July**

The minerals that produce the brilliant colors in fireworks also bring water and electricity to your home, help to produce the vehicles and fuel needed for travel, and have many other every day uses.

**Red Fireworks and Strontium**—Strontium gives a brilliant red hue to fireworks and to the flares you might be toting in your car in case of roadside emergencies. Strontium is produced most notably from the mineral celestite. Strontium is used in drilling fluids to produce oil and gas; it also strengthens metal castings in airplanes and cars, and makes paints that resist corrosion.

Although strontium is common in the Earth's crust and strontium mineral deposits occur widely in our nation, strontium minerals have not been mined in the United States since 1959. Imports of celestite have increased every year since 2010 and increased dramatically in 2013, with virtually all of the material coming from Mexico.

**Blue Fireworks and Copper** — Copper turns fireworks a dazzling blue. Copper occurs naturally in the Earth's crust in a variety of forms, most commonly it is found with sulfur as the mineral chalcopyrite. Azurite and malachite are common copper minerals known for their blue and green colors. Copper can also be found as pure "native" copper.

Copper was one of the first metals ever extracted and used by humans; in fact copper tools helped civilization emerge from the Stone Age.

The demand for copper remains strong in the developed world where copper wiring and plumbing bring water and electricity into nearly every home and building. It takes more than 40 pounds of copper to produce a small car, and nearly 100 pounds for luxury and hybrid vehicles. Copper is also essential in modern electronics.

The developing world now accounts for most of global copper consumption growth. China accounts for about 40% of global consumption, up from only about 20% in 2005.

The USGS recently estimated that the Earth still contains enough copper to support the projected growth in demand beyond 2050, given current technology and economics. Recycling will be an important source of future copper supplies.

**Green Fireworks and Barium**—Barium nitrate and chlorate produce bright green fireworks.

Barium is a metallic element that is not found in nature in its native form. It occurs principally as the mineral barite (barium sulfate), and its dominant use is in oil well drilling fluids. Barite is also used in making paints, plastic, and rubber. Your car's brakes, paint primer, and rubber mudflaps might contain barite. Ultrapure barite is used as a contrast medium in medical x-rays.

The United States imports about 75 percent of the barite it uses, and more than 85 percent of those imports come from China. The world is estimated to contain 2 billion metric tons of barite; of that total, the United States has an estimated 300 million metric tons.

Barium is geologically abundant, but future supplies may be disrupted in the short term by social, environmental, political and economic factors resulting from heavy reliance on limited sources.

**Golden Sparks and Iron**—Iron filings produce the golden sparks that shower out of a main fireworks explosion. Iron is one of the most abundant elements on Earth, but it does not occur naturally in the Earth's crust in native form (Fe). It is found only in ores, principally hematite (Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>) and magnetite (Fe<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>). By definition, steel is iron with a small amount of carbon. Heat and carbon are used to remove oxygen from iron ore to produce metallic iron required to make steel.

Thousands of products are made of steel. In some applications no other materials are suitable, such as steel framing for large buildings, because of strength requirements. Iron and steel are central to supporting industrial economies worldwide.

U.S. resources are estimated to be about 27 billion tons of iron contained within 110 billion tons of iron ore. World resources are estimated to exceed 230 billion tons of iron contained within greater than 800 billion tons of crude ore.

**Bright Flashes and Aluminum**—Bright flashes and loud bangs in fireworks come from aluminum powder. Aluminum is the second most abundant metallic element in the Earth's crust after silicon, yet it is a comparatively new industrial metal that has been produced in commercial quantities for just over 100 years.

Measured either in quantity or value, aluminum's use exceeds that of any other metal except iron, and it is important in virtually all segments of the world economy.

Some of the many uses for aluminum are in transportation (automobiles, airplanes, trucks, railcars, marine vessels, etc.), packaging (cans, foil, etc.), construction (windows, doors, siding, etc.), consumer durables (appliances, cooking utensils, etc.), electrical transmission lines, machinery, and many other applications.

Aluminum recovery from scrap (recycling) has become an important component of the aluminum industry.

**Other firework facts**—Yellow fireworks result when sodium nitrate burns. The largest deposits of natural sodium nitrate are found in sedimentary rocks in the Atacama Desert of South America. Sodium nitrate is also used to produce fertilizer.

Other firework colors can be made by mixing elements; strontium and sodium produce brilliant orange; titanium, zirconium, and magnesium alloys make silvery white; copper and strontium make lavender.

Minerals that add color to fireworks and make the July 4 festive also benefit us in our everyday lives.

from USGS website, 7/3/14

Tumbler, Jul 2015



## West Nile Virus

By Mark Nelson, Safety Chairman  
via CFMS Newsletter, November 2014

West Nile Virus (WNV) is a concern for rock collectors during field trips and afterwards—as we store our specimens. Knowledge of the causes and prevention of this illness can help us all enjoy our hobby more fully! WNV is a mosquito-borne disease that was originally found in Africa. In 1999, it was detected in the eastern United States. Since then the virus has spread throughout the United States and is well established in most states. WNV is spread by the bite of mosquito that becomes a carrier ("vector") when it feeds on infected birds or squirrels. Infected mosquitoes can then spread WNV to humans and other animals when they bite.

California is experiencing an increase in the cases of this serious disease. In 2007 there were 380 cases in 51 counties, 445 in 2008 and 379 in 2013. For the first 8 months of 2014 there were already 375 reported cases in 38 counties and 15 deaths. In just the second week of September there were 65 cases reported! This is a statewide concern and so far this year cases of human illness have been reported in Butte, Fresno, Glenn, Kern, Los Angeles, Madera, Orange, Riverside, Sacramento, San Bernardino, San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Tehama, Tulare, Yolo, and Yuba. This is truly something to be taken seriously. In my local newspaper an article reported the discovery of two Australian mosquitoes in Southern California.

Rock collectors are cautioned to take precautions now to avoid mosquito bites and eliminate standing water sources to break the mosquito life cycle. The CDC and the California Department of Public Health recommend the "4 D's":

- **DEET**—Apply insect repellent containing DEET, picaradin, oil of lemon, eucalyptus, or IR3535 (according to label instructions) on exposed skin when you go outdoors. Repellants keep the mosquitoes from biting you. DEET can be used safely on infants and children 2 months of age and older.
- **DRESS**—Wear clothing that reduces the risk of skin exposure to mosquito bites. Wear long

sleeves, long pants and socks when outdoors. Mosquitoes may bite through this clothing, so spraying clothes with repellent will give extra protection. Don't apply repellents containing permethrin directly to skin. Do not spray repellent on the skin under your clothing.

- **Dawn and Dusk**—Mosquitoes bite in the early morning and evening so it is important to wear repellent at this time. Make sure that your doors and windows have tight-fitting screens to keep out mosquitoes. Repair or replace screens with tears or holes.
- **DRAIN**—Mosquitoes lay their eggs on standing water. Eliminate all sources of standing water on your property, including flower pots, old car tires, rain gutters and pet bowls. If you have a pond, use mosquito fish (available from your local mosquito and vector control agency) or commercially available products to eliminate mosquito larvae.

The first three apply to us both at home and while on field trips. The fourth is of concern when storing rock specimens. A common way to store collected specimens prior to slabbing, carving, or preparing them for display is in 5 gallon buckets or metal bins or tubs. When water is introduced into the containers by rain or irrigation it becomes a perfect breeding site for mosquitoes. After reading this, check your own storage containers. Look for mosquito larvae darting around in the darkened water. Veteran collector Carolyn Duncan of the Pasadena Lapidary Society has a unique solution. Drill several 1/2" holes in the sides of the bucket, or container, near the bottom. In a plastic container this can be done with a 1/2" spade drill bit. By drilling into the sides you can set the container upright and not block the holes. Carolyn further advises a teaspoon of laundry bleach for those containers that are not suitable for drilling.

You can help track down the West Nile Virus by reporting all dead birds and squirrels, which often die as a result of the WNV infection. To find the WNV reporting agency for your state call the U.S. Center for Disease control, which was the source of the information contained in this article, at (800) CDC-INFO (232-4636) or go online to [www.cdc.gov/westnile](http://www.cdc.gov/westnile).



## Officers & Club Information

### 2015 Board of Directors

#### Officers

President	Dan Siler	801-737-3013
Vice President	Nancy Anderson	801-425-7470
Secretary	Dave Offret	801-791-6081
Treasurer	David Law	801-644-4931

#### Activity Committee and Chairpersons

Field Trip Leader	Dave Offret	801-791-6081
Program	Ray Rutledge	801-732-8331
Door Prize	Jim Alexander	801-399-0785
Hospitality	Linda Pilcher	801-392-7620

Communications		
Membership	David Law	801-644-4931
Mini-show	Alice Crittenden	801-547-7781
Safety	Dennis Anderson	801-425-7470
Publicity	Mark Acker	801-475-4705
Buzzer Editor	Dave Harris	385-205-0304
Associate	Linda Pilcher	801-392-7620
Associate	Leora Alexander	801-399-0785
Calling Committee	Sherm & Ricky Thompson	435-760-1362

### Federation Representatives

Rocky Mountain Federation Delegate	Dan Siler
Utah Federation Delegate	Open
Public Land Advisory Committee	Jim Alexander

### Club Affiliations

The Beehive Rock & Gem Club began in April of 1970 and is a member of the following:

Utah Federation of Mineralogical Societies

Rocky Mountain Federation of Mineralogical Societies

American Federation of Mineralogical Societies

Scribe

### Advertising Rates:

For sale ads are permitted for members at no charge. Business advertisements will be charged at the rate of \$5.00 for ¼ page or 15 cents per word for less than ¼ page.

### Objectives of the Club

The purpose of our club is to stimulate interest in the collection of rocks, minerals, gem materials, and legal fossils. To discuss and impart our knowledge of the different phases of collecting, cutting, polishing and displaying them. Also to organize

educational meetings, field trips and similar events while enjoying and protecting our natural resources.

### Membership Dues

Yearly membership dues are for adult members are

Single \$11

Couple or Family \$16

Junior (Under 18 not part of family membership) \$5

Dues are due October 1 of each year.

### Meetings

General club meetings are held at 7 pm on the fourth Tuesday of each month at the Golden Hours Senior Center located at 650 E 25<sup>th</sup> St, Ogden, Utah.

All visitors are welcome!

Board Meetings are held at 7 pm on the first Thursday of each month at the Golden Hours Senior Center located at 650 E 25<sup>th</sup> St, Ogden, Utah.

### Newsletter

The Beehive Buzzer is the official newsletter of Ogden Beehive Rock and Gem Club and is published eleven times per year. Please send submissions and exchange bulletins to [beehivebuzzer@gmail.com](mailto:beehivebuzzer@gmail.com).

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