

BEEHIVE ROCK & GEM CLUB
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BEEHIVE ROCK
AND GEM CLUB

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June 2011

**MEMBER OF UTAH FEDERATION OF MINERALOGICAL SOCIETIES
ROCKY MOUNTAIN FEDERATION OF MINERALOGICAL SOCIETIES
AMERICAN FEDERATION OF MINERALOGICAL SOCIETIES**

The Beehive Rock & Gem Club began in April of 1970.

The purpose of our club is: To collect, cut and polish rocks, to gather fossils, mineral specimens, to discuss and impart our knowledge of the different phases of collecting, polishing and displaying-

To promote, organize and hold meetings, outings, trips, and similar events. To enjoy and protect our natural resources.

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USUAL DATE FOR MEETING – FOURTH THURSDAY – 7 PM
OGDEN HINKLEY AIRPORT TERMINAL, 3900 S & AIRPORT ROAD
November, December have changes. Maybe others.
Call any Board member for current information.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE BEEHIVE ROCK & GEM CLUB FOR 2011

President & Board Chair	Joe Kent	801-771-8184
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Calling Committee Chairs		

FEDERATION REPRESENTATIVES

Rocky Mountain Federation Delegate -----President
 Utah Federation Delegate -----TBA
 Public Land Advisory Committee ----- Jim Alexander

DUES

Due: October 1
 Single - \$11
 Couple or
 Family - \$16
 Junior - \$5
 Overdue: January 1

Beehive Rock & Gem Program – June 23, 2011

“Field Trips taken by club members in 2011 and Future trips planned for 2011 by the Club.” – also a brief Mineral of the Month” presentation by one our energetic rock-hound Queens.

We invite you to bring your own special finds from your efforts so far this year where-ever you have gone. We will see some samples (classical) that are distinctively unique to particular areas that you may decide to check out yourself in the future. Also shown will be rocks, minerals, etc to be found in various club trips (i.e Wamsutter, WY; Buckhorn/Cedar Mesa, UT) and other areas this summer and fall.

SEE YA ALL – 23rd June (4th Thursday)

“Rocky “ Ray, Program Chairman



Presidents Message

June 7, 2011

In the Salt Lake Tribune newspaper on Thursday, June 2, 2011, there was an article titled “**Salazar flips on ‘wild lands’**.” If you are not sure what I’m talking about, you should be. This policy is a threat to many of the lands that we like to roam. Quoting Thomas Burr of the Trib, “Salazar said he would reverse his controversial policy issued in December, that allowed the Bureau of Land Management to inventory and set aside swaths of federal acres that have wilderness characteristics. Instead, Salazar said he would focus on locally supported plans.”

Ok, that sounds good. However, the article goes on to point out a number of things that we need to be aware of:

1. Congress didn’t have the funding to support Salazar’s proposal, and barred the use of any funds to enforce the policy.
2. The Utah Association of Counties lawsuit against the Department of Interior will continue.
3. Salazar maintains that he has the authority to set aside the noted areas, and has only informed the local BLM offices not to enforce proposed areas.
4. “Wilderness advocates will continue to work hard to make sure funding is restored.”
SUWA, UWA

It is extremely important for each of us to contact our County, State and National representatives and let them know specifically what and where we want access. Though I’ve attended a number of meetings and written many emails on your behalf I have been told that I only count as 1.

You need to act !

We need to fight for the reasonable development of natural resources, access for recreation, and appropriate environmental protection. We need to police ourselves, and others that we encounter who behave inappropriately.

Rock On

Joe Kent, President

April Meeting

April 28, 2011

Joe opened the meeting by introducing a visitor. Jacob Thompson, we welcome you. Joe has had no response about the pottery from the auction and asks that anyone who has information to contact him. He then turned the time over to Nancy.

Nancy took a few minutes to explain that she had an accident and is looking at having surgery. Because of this she is selling her equipment and her motor home. If anyone is interested please contact her.

Safety issues were discussed a little. When anyone goes rocking, we should not go alone. It is better to go in couples or in threes. You never know when an accident will happen.

Steve, our vice president, introduced a video on agates to us. We all watched. I was very pleased with the video. It showed so many different examples. I had no idea there were so many different patterns and colors. Agate is found all over the world and is a very interesting stone.

Norine Ramos, Secretary

Subject: TWO MINUTES to STOP LOCKING UP Public Lands with Presidential Proclamations

Stop Locking Up Millions of Acres of Public Lands

Dear Sandra,

As you may recall documents were exposed last year regarding the Obama administration's apparent intention to misuse the Monument Proclamation to designate millions of acres. **With the stroke of his pen Obama could lock up millions of acres of your public lands, or YOU CAN TAKE TWO MINUTES TO STOP HIM**

You may recall President Clinton misused the Monument Proclamation to designate numerous large Monument areas against the wishes of local residents and even Governors. **DO YOU WANT THAT TO HAPPEN AGAIN?**

Congressman Nunes (CA) has reintroducing his National Monument

Transparency and Accountability Act (HR758). This much needed reform legislation will address a number of abuses possible in the current legislation, so President's will no longer be able to use the stroke of their pen to lock up millions of acres of your public lands. **BUT WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT TO URGE CONGRESS TO PASS HR758.**

This legislation would PREVENT THESE ABUSES FOREVER by reducing the amount of land that the President can designate as a National Monument, and require Congressional approval within 2 years of any Executive Order pursuant to the Antiquities Act

Continued on page 7, LOCKING UP

Show Dates

- Jun 24-26 — RMFMS Convention
Two Simultaneous Shows:
Rock Fair
Western Museum of Mining & Industry,
Colorado Springs, CO
48th Annual Rock Show
Colorado Springs Mineralogical Society
Best Western Academy Hotel
Colorado Springs, CO
Ron Yamiolkoski: 719-488-5526
info@csms.us (Both Shows)
Ask about field trips
- Jul 2-4 — San Jose County Gem & Mineral
Farmington Civic Center
Farmington, NM
Mickie Calvert: 505-632-8288
Mickie2@earthlink.net
A week to explore 4-corners area
- Jul 7-10 — Am Fed (AFMS) Show
Syracuse, NY
www.amfed.org/show2011.htm
- Jul 9-11 — Four Corners Gem & Mineral
La Plata County Fairgrounds
Durango, CO
Bill Birzal: 970-385-6850
webirzzz@durangoolive.net
- Jul 14-16 — Thunderegg Days Festival
Nyssa Chamber of Commerce,
Nyssa Elementary School Grounds
Nyssa, Oregon
Susan Barton: 541-372-3091
www.nyssachamber.com
Daily Rock Trips
- Jul 29-31 — Northwest Fed MS Show
Southwest Washington Fairgrounds
Chehalis, WA
csonner2011@2011@gmail.com

July Birthdays & Anniversaries

BIRTHSTONE — Ruby for Freedom or a Contented Mind. Aluminum oxide/corundum. 9 on Moh's scale of hardness.

ANNIVERSARIES — Ruby, 40th. Star Ruby, 52nd.

Rubellite – Red or pink tourmaline – a complex silicate of boron and aluminum. Hardness of 7-7.5 on Moh's scale.

Red spinel – Magnesium aluminum oxide. 8 on Moh's scale.

FLOWERS — Larkspur for Ardent Attachment.
Water Lily – a newer choice.

Giant Red Spinel Crystal Discovered in East Africa Oct 2007

By David Weinbery

They dug it out of a farmer's field in Mahenge. An enormous red spinel crystal weighing over 52 kgs. It may be the largest red spinel ever unearthed!

Mined at depth of 10 meters, the pyramid shaped rough was discovered by a group of miners in the alluvial deposit. Mining in the area is normally conducted by loosely organized syndicates of small miners funded by local entrepreneurs.

The discovery almost sparked a riot as hundred of other diggers moved in for a piece of the action. Besides being lucky, the finders of the really special stones also need to be strong and fast – everybody wants stones like that and they are willing to fight for them too! After escaping into the bush on a motorcycle, the miner and the motorcycle driver were forced to lay low without food and water for several days before making their way on to Morogoro. From there, they traveled on to Arusha to show their rock. The buyer who wishes to remain anonymous said “when the stone finally arrived, the miner's legs were bloodied from holding the heavy sharp-edged rock on the motorcycle.



Source: www.multicolour.com/spinel/,

Via Rockhound Rambling Aug 2008, Via Quarry Quips July 2009



July's Birthstone

Ruby



Like a perfect red rose, the Ruby's rich color speaks of love and passion. Called the "Rajnapura" or King of Gems by ancient Hindus, July's birthstone is among the most highly prized of gems throughout history. The Ruby was considered to have magical powers, and was worn by royalty as a talisman against evil. It was thought to grow darker when peril was imminent, and to return to its original color once danger was past—provided it was in the hands of its rightful owner!

Rubies were thought to represent heat and power. Ancient tribes used the gem as bullets for blowguns, and it was said that a pot of water would boil instantly if a Ruby was tossed into it. Ground to powder and placed on the tongue, this crystal was used as a cure for indigestion.

The word Ruby comes from the Latin "ruber," meaning red. It is a variety of the mineral Corundum, and is found as crystals within metamorphic rock. Corundum is the second hardest mineral, after Diamond. It comes in a variety of colors, and is considered a Sapphire in any color except red, which is designated as a Ruby. Rubies range in hue from an orangey red to a purplish red, but the most prized gems are a true red in color. Large sized Rubies are very rare and valuable.

The history of Ruby mining dates back more than 2,500 years ago. The most beautiful crystals are thought to be from Burma, but quality Rubies are also found in India, Sri Lanka, Australia, Kenya, Tanzania, Afghanistan, Pakistan, and the United States.

It has been said that the Ruby's red glow comes from an internal flame that cannot be extinguished, making a gift of this stone symbolic of everlasting love. With its hardness and durability, it is a perfect engagement gem. And if worn on the left hand, ancient lore has it that the Ruby will bring good fortune to its wearer, too!

Article from:

<http://www.about-birthstones.com/julybirthstone.html>

Pictures from wikipedia.com

Via Quarry Quips July 2009



News Article Pictures Rockhounding Back When....

By Lyle Koerper

Recently Peggy and Gene Maggard found in some materials secured recently from an older rock hounding family a newspaper clipping from the *Wichita Eagle and Beacon Magazine* dated May 19, 1963. Because the article concerned rockhounding in South Dakota and because of the ties June and I have to South Dakota, the Maggards passed on the article. The article gives an interested insight into people who were collecting rocks about 50 years ago.

The writer points out that the unique museums and rock and mineral collecting locations in South Dakota attract both professionals and amateurs. And, this is still true today.

The writer was probably not a rockhound, but was certainly interested in the hobby. Following are some revealing paragraphs relating to those who pursue this hobby.



"Enthusiasm of the rock collectors varies. Some casually stroll over a short distance from the highways; others walk, climb and crawl for miles in search of the solid formations.

"To make room in the car for some of the larger chunks, visitors to the state have been known to dispose of food, camping equipment, extra clothing, and spare tires. One wife was sent home by bus in order to make room in the family auto for 200 pounds of rose quartz.



"As the rock collectors drive their spring-broken autos back home, rears sagging, and radiators steaming, the project has only begun. Neighbors are subjected to harrowing details of finding the "gray piece with the sparkles", why a slab that looks like abused putty is so rare and how they found the chunk that resembles a disreputable glob of gumbo.

"And what to do with the stuff once its home? Sometimes, if all else fails, the big ones are broken into smaller ones or the sparkling pieces may be dropped into a gold fish bowl for decorative purposes, much to the distraction of the occupants."



Maybe the writer lived next door to a rockhound. He concludes: "It's a grueling game, except for those truly smitten. To them it's a disgrace to return from vacation without a few hundred pounds of these rare treasures."

Have times changed over the four score and eight years?

Article from Quarry Quips, June 2011.

Beehive Associate Editor Leora Alexander says:

"Not a whole lot! Many of us drive trucks and pull trailers now. We are also a lot more "picky" now and take less home. Jim and I like to go with newer rock hounds and give the good stuff to them."

Writing Letters by Dick Pankey, President ALAA

I have been asked :What good does it do for me to write my congressman/senator about a Wilderness Act (or other legislation) that is for another state,: Well, Tom Noe, an ALAA member from South Bend, IN sent me an article he wrote that is a good answer to the question.

After you read the following article by Tom I hope you will be inspired to join wit other ALAA members and rock hounds to write a letter to your congressman no matter where you u live. A good place to start is with the "Wilderness and Roadless Area Release Act" (HR1581). The Bill provides for the release of over 6.72M acres of Wilderness Study Area the BLM deems are not suitable for a wilderness designation and should be returned to Multiple Use designation. ALAA supports this bill. To learn more about this Bill and get a sample letter to send to your congressman\an go to the ALAA web site—www.amlands.org. On the ALAA home page click on "'Active Legislation" in the left hand column, then check out the links under "Wilderness and Roadless Area Release Act. "You will find a summary and full text of the Bill, a list of supporters and status of the Bill (which is currently in committee.) This is a prime time for us, for you to have an affect on legislation. You will also find a link to where "Your Elected House Member ca be found" and the sample letter for you to send.

It doesn't get much easier than this to get involve with saving access to our public lands. Sending a letter, fax or e-mail to your congressman or senator is really an easy, important and affective way to be involved and to have an effect. Read Tom's article then follow these simple steps and start participating in our future.

..... go to Column 2 of this page

LOCKING UP (continued)

You can read the draft language as well as a section-by-section summary of the bill at:

SUMMARY OF BILL

<http://www.savethetrails.us/Docs/OnePager-NationalMonumentTransparency2011.pdf>

FINAL DRAFT OF BILL

<http://www.savethetrails.us/Docs/Legislation-112th-Final-MonumentTransparency2011.pdf>

BROCHURE OUTLINING BENEFITS OF THE BILL

<http://www.savethetrails.us/Docs/HR758-NationalMonumentTrifold.pdf>

Thanks for your help to keep the Proclamation of Monuments to what the law intended and not a loophole to allow public lands to be locked up without public support.

Many thanks to Congressman Devin Nunes for drafting and introducing this legislation.

Chris Horgan and your friends at Save the Trails

Received from Everett Headrick [elheadrick@live.com]

From Magic Valley News, June 2011

New Jersey Legislators Vote on Wyoming's Public Lands

That's right, they do. And so do legislators from Rhode Island, Florida, Arkansas, Wisconsin, Kansas, South Carolina and 43 other states. The all vote on Wyoming's public lands. Every Senator and every representative of each and every US state casts a vote on public lands legislation. That's the way Congress works. These are federal laws, not state laws. It doesn't matter that nearly all public lands are located our West. Every legislator in the US Congress votes on public land bills.



Now, let's ask ourselves: "Who gets more constituent letters about land-closing bills— NJ legislators or WY legislators?" Probably WY legislators. How many letters do the KY legislators get? Again, probably no as many as in WY, either pro or con. Public land issues are not as newsworthy in NJ and KY. But do those NJ and KY legislators vote? Yes, they do. And do their votes count just as much as the votes of the WY legislators? Yes, their votes count just as much, exactly. And the majority rules.

We know that legislators track the input they get from constituents. Let's say the WY legislators get an extra 23 letters about some bill, but they have already received 5,000 letters on that bill. Will those 25 letters make a whole lot of difference in those WY legislators' minds? Doubtful. But consider this: What if the NJ legislators (who have only received 15 letters about that same bill) receive an extra 25 letters? Those 25 letters can make a huge difference. Those 25 letters could be vote-changing letters. Those 25 letters could convince the NJ legislators that more NJ constituents want US public lands to stay open than want them to be closed off.

Your constituent letters and emails from AR and NJ and AL and MO and MI and KY *yes, even HI!) can have a lot more impact than the letters of our friends in WY do.

Think about it.

By Tom Noe

(See map on page 8)

Please Take TWO MINUTES To Send a Letter Supporting HR758

It has been pretty rare of late that Congress has produced reasonable bills-and this is one of those rare times. Sandra do not miss your opportunity to SUPPORT Legislation to STOP the ABUSE of this Presidential Proclamation loophole.

<http://www.savethetrails.us/Default.aspx?PetitionID=51>

Take Action NOW and support keeping your public lands open to all.

Please check the [List of Co Sponsors](#) to see if your Congressman is supporting this bill. If not then please contact them and urge their support



OBSERVATIONS ON OBSIDIAN

By Vickie Hathaway



© geology.com

Collectors of lithic artifacts, especially prize points and blades fashioned from obsidian, and for good reason: A properly flaked obsidian edge may be the sharpest known mineral material. Obsidian is not a mineral, but a mineraloid – a non crystalline mineral like material with an indefinite chemical composition.



Rainbow Obsidian

It is a natural volcanic glass that forms from the very rapid solidification of rhyolite (silica-rich) magma that consists primarily of silica, with lesser amounts of feldspar and ferromagnesian minerals. Obsidian is somewhat softer and less dense than quartz, and its typical dark color is caused by traces of the essential elements iron and magnesium. Like man-made glass, obsidian is amorphous (lacks crystalline structure) and has a pronounced conchoidal fracture.

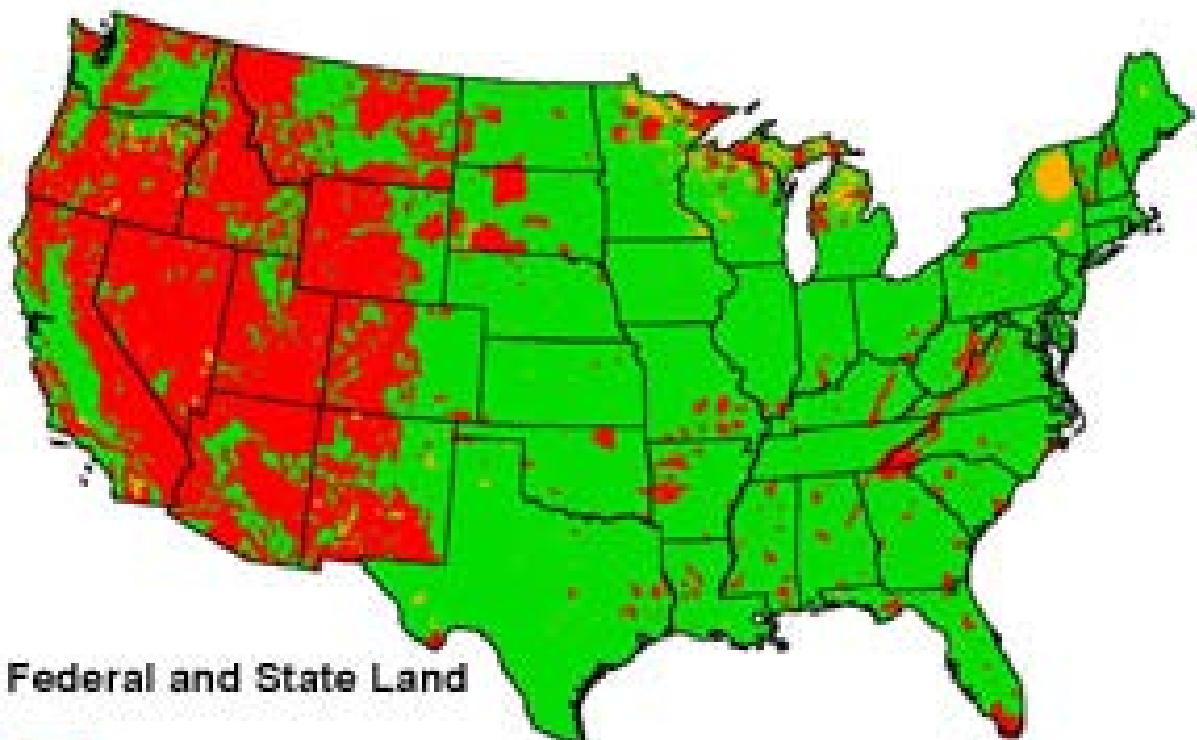
Snowflake Obsidian

Science only became aware of the remarkable sharpness of properly flaked obsidian edges in the early 1970's when Idaho resident Dr. Don E. Crabtree, one of the greatest of all modern flintknappers, recreated an ancient obsidian-flaking technique. He shaped a cylindrical "core" of obsidian, then knapped it in a manner that produced inch-long "microblades", or elongated, conchoidal flakes. The sharpness of these flakes so amazed Crabtree that he brought it to the attention of medical researchers.

Today clinical tests have shown that surgical incisions with obsidian scalpels produce less scar and granulation tissue and heal more quickly. Obsidian scalpels are now used in specialized procedures, mainly in eye surgery and neurosurgery.

Although mankind has used obsidian for at least 100,000 years, we are still learning its secrets.

From Rock Chips (Timpanogos Gem & Mineral Society), June 2011



Federal and State Land



Source: USGS