



August 2016

Volume 44 Issue 8

Beehive Buzzer

The official Newsletter of the Beehive Rock and Gem Club, Ogden UT



Annual Club Potluck Dinner

Tuesday, Aug 23, 2016 — 6:30 PM
Golden Hours Senior Ctr, 650 East 25th St, Ogden

Bring your own utensils, plate, a potluck dish and your whole family. The club will supply the main course and drinks.

As usual, we will also have a rock sale as part of the night. Any donations to our rock sale are also requested.

Continuing on the subject of donations, the Alexander's are in need of more rocks to give out as raffle prizes at club meetings. Any donations will be appreciated.

Tom Larsen has volunteered to put together a slide presentation for our summer picnic. If you have photos of field trips or club meetings, contact Tom at 801 390-8270. Photos on a disk are preferred but can also email to: tomlarsen36@gmail.com. Please contribute any pictures you can, as this will be a nice touch for our annual picnic.

Hope to see you and the dinner. It is always great fun!

Welcome Our Newest Members

Venessa Nielsen & Trever Trease
Olena Sklipnik

Ogden
Ogden

Upcoming Field Trips

By Dennis Anderson

August 20, Providence Canyon (near Logan):

We will be collecting black coral and other fossils in limestone. We will meet at the Roy Park and Ride at 12:00 Noon. This will be a short half-day trip led by David Law. If you are going, please contact David at 801-644-4931 or dvlaw4931@gmail.com.



September 10th, Lyman, WY:

We will be collecting colorful agates, jaspers, fossils shells, and petrified wood. The trip will be led by David Offret. More details will be forthcoming. If you are interested in going, please contact David at 801-791-6081 or happyhunting4rocks@gmail.com.

October 7, 8, 9th, Floy Wash/Yellow Cat (near Green River, UT):

Nice red and yellow agates, pigeon blood agate with green olives, petrified wood and many more treasures can be found on this trip.

There will be a side trip to Fossil Point, which has impressive dino bone embedded in large boulders. This is really fun trip. Other clubs will be there to join in this adventure.

Beehive Rock and Gem Club



Order Club T-Shirts

If anyone would like to order a Club T-shirt, they are \$10.00 Each. Send your request and size to Dave Offret, at: happyhunting4rocks@gmail.com and use T-SHIRT in the subject line. It is a great addition to anyone's wardrobe.

Club Calendar

August

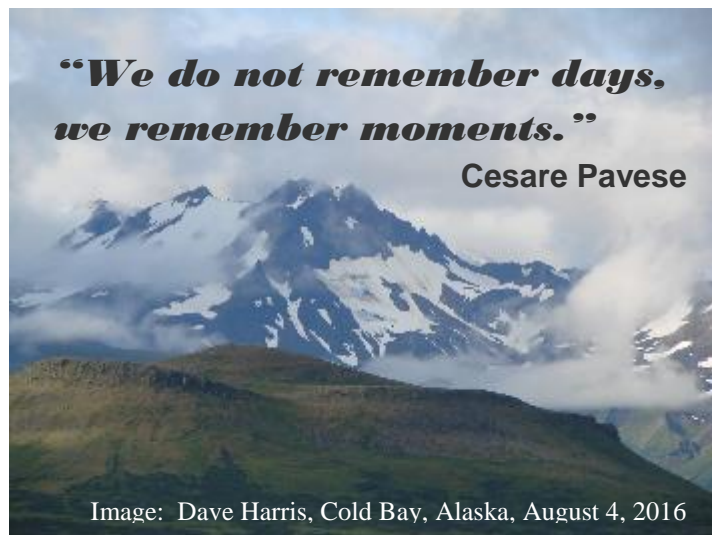
20 Sat Providence Canyon Field Trip
23 Tue Annual Club Potluck, 6:30 pm

September

1 Thu Board Meeting, 6:30 pm
5 Mon Labor Day
10 Sat Lyman, Wy Field Trip
11 Sun Patriot Day
27 Tue Monthly Club Meeting, 7 pm

October

6 Thu Board Meeting, 6:30 pm
7-9 Fri-Sun Floy Wash Field Trip
10 Mon Columbus Day
25 Tue Monthly Club Meeting, 7 pm
31 Oct Halloween



Two Club Members Win Awards in Rocky Mountain Federation Annual Newsletter Contest

By Dave Harris

Every year I submit the best member-submitted articles to the Rocky Mountain Federation Annual Newsletter Contest. This year we have two winners:

Dave Offret won first place in the Poetry Category with his poem "Rockhounds are a Curious Lot" (Feb 2015).



Dan Siler won third place in the Humor Category with his article "The Moral of the Story...Bring Cash" (April 2015)



In honor of their great work, I have republished both articles in this issue on the following two pages respectively.

Rockhounds are a Curious Lot

By Dave Offret, 2014

Those Rockhounds - They,
Are a curious Lot,
To go the mall?
They'd rather not,
To go to a beach
On a bright sunny day
And just Relax?
They shout, NO WAY!
There's Canyons a'callin!
Places to explore!
Dirt roads to travel!
We need to find more!
With buckets and bags,
They scour the plains,
They search every cranny
For whatever remains...
With grins on their faces
And the sun's Burnin' ray,
It takes more than that
To keep them away!
With bugs that are bitin',
And thorns on the ground,
There's rocks that need pickin'!
Cries every Rock Hound!
And so off they go
Up into the hills,
With glazed looks in their eyes,
And occasional squeals..
And shouts when they've found
The treasure they seek,
Yes, rockhounds are strange!



They're really unique!
Now, Rockhounds love nature,
We all know it's true,
So when they take a rock,
Here's what they do..
They bring little marbles
To put in the place
Of the rock they've removed,
And so, no disgrace!
Now the moral to this story,
Tis' easily found,
When you've LOST all your marbles,
You're a GOOD ROCK HOUND!!

Reprinted from Beehive Buzzer, February 2016

The Moral of the Story...Bring Cash

By Dan Siler

Once upon a time on a hot August day, we headed for that perfect rock hunting location. (All stories with morals start that way!) After all the discussion of what we would find on the long ride out, I could hardly wait.

We arrived at our destination and I just knew that a diamond in the rough, that gold nugget, that perfect-banded agate, was just waiting to be scooped up. I jumped from the truck, grabbed my rock hammer and with bucket in hand rushed up the hill. In all that excitement I forgot my basic Boy Scout training: "Be prepared".



As I wandered through the sagebrush, now fifty miles from the truck, Mother Nature called, and called, and called. She can be rather insistent at times. I looked around for a private

place and to see if anyone was around. There was nothing but sagebrush.

At the top of the ridge, I saw a lone cedar tree and no fellow rockhounds. So trying to look like I had spied that perfect stone, I headed *(I ran!*

She was pretty insistent now!) for that poor looking tree. I looked around to make sure no one had followed me and tried to look like I was just checking out the tree.

I settled down and finished my business and that is when I realized I had ignored my basic Boy Scout training. Oh no! No paper!



I frantically checked all my pockets. Nothing! I looked around. No leaves. *(It was a cedar tree!)*. There was nothing but sagebrush, sand, and rocks. I checked the rocks I had collected but

everything had a lot of dirt, very sharp edges, and little points everywhere.

What to do?

Then I thought, "What about my wallet?". I pulled it out looking for any old receipt, a scrap of paper... anything. Again, nothing!

I then looked to see what money I had. *(Now don't get ahead of me!)*. No, I had no intention of using the money to some way buy some toilet paper since the nearest store was 200 miles away!

I looked in, let the moths fly out, and spied two one-dollar bills.



And that ends the story, except for the morals.

Moral 1: Remember your Boy Scout training. Always "Be prepared"!

Moral 2: It pays to be poor. They could have been twenties.

Moral 3: If you see two one-dollar bills under a cedar tree, you haven't found the mother lode and would be advised to leave them there.

PS: I told this story on one of our next trips out and we all laughed. The next day, we walked from camp to a new location. My fellow rock hound had done some research and written several pages of notes on what to look for in this location which he carried with him. He also ignored his Boy Scout training, so when he had the same call from nature, he found himself in the same predicament. I can just imagine his dilemma, "do I use the notes or the money?". To make a short story long, we completed the rest of the trip without the notes.



Also, when you see me carrying a backpack when collecting, you now know that it is not just to carry my treasures back. So if you feel the need, let me know. I am now always prepared!



Reprinted from Beehive Buzzer, April 2016

July Club Meeting

July 26, 2016

By Dave Harris



Hairy Gems

We think of rocks as hard, strong and boring. Then, all of a sudden, we are faced with something unearthly, al-most unnatural. How could anything like this exist in the harsh, natural world? Unfortunately, many of these crystal oddities are extremely delicate. They are seldom displayed because of the great possibility of destroying their frag-ile beauty. So, I have taken the idea of introducing you to some wonder-ful hairy gems.

Natrolite is a com-mon and popular zeolite mineral. Its radiating sprays of ice clear acicu-lar crystals are a hall-mark of this mineral and makes a fine specimen.



Cyanotrichite is a wonderfully colored mineral. Its bright azure to sky blue color is very impressive. Cya-notrichite typically forms acicular or hair like crystals ag-gregated into radial clusters, tufts and sprays. The color is very impressive for such tiny crystals. It is an aptly named mineral since cyano and trich are derived from the Greek for blue and hair, respectively. It is

formed from the oxidation of copper ore minerals along with other oxidation zone minerals.

Millerite is one of a few sulfide minerals that form fine acicular crystals that appear as hair-like fibers ag-gregated into sprays. It is a real bonus to quartz geode collectors from Indiana to Kansas to open up a geode and find a spray of brassy milerite crystals tucked inside. Millerite is also called "Capillary Pyrite" since it has a brassy yellow col-or that is close to the color of py-rite. When found as brassy sprays inside of spar-klng clear quartz geodes, millerite can make a wonderfully attractive and interesting mineral.



Tremolite is a relatively common mineral in some metamorphic rocks. One variety is composed of micro-scopically fibrous crystals called asbestos. Other minerals also form asbestos such as serpentine. Another variety of tremolite is called “mountain leather” or “mountain cork” and is an oddity in the mineral world. The tremolite fibers form a felted mass that has all the appearances and feel of a piece of cloth.



Rutile is an interesting, varied and important mineral. Rutile is a major ore of titanium, a metal used for high tech alloys because of its light weight, high strength and resistance to corrosion. Rutile is also unwittingly of major importance to the gemstone markets. It forms its own interesting and beautiful mineral specimens. Micro-scopic inclusions of rutile in quartz, tourmaline, ruby, sapphire and other gemstones, produces light effects such as cat's eye and asterisms (stars). A beautiful stone produced by large inclusions of golden rutile needles in clear quartz is called rutilated quartz.

Fragile, ethereal crystals, nature always surprises us with something new and delightful. Keep your eyes open, you never know what nature will show you next.

[Ed. Note: There are of course others including this 1 mm crystal of Mullite.



How to collect a micrometeorite

Ever wanted to collect a meteorite?

How about a micrometeorite? It's easy. The best times to collect micrometeorites are after meteor showers.

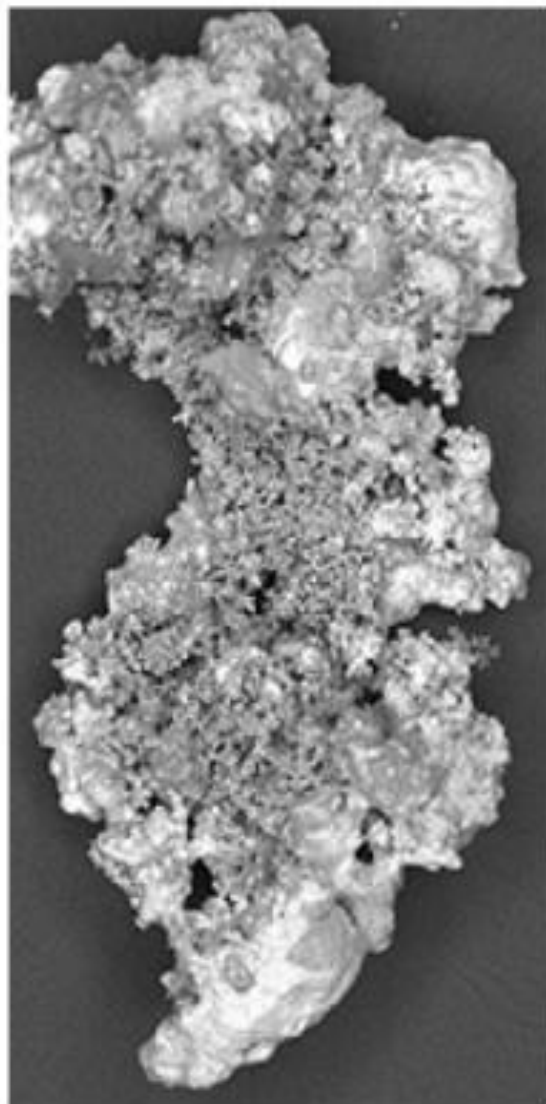
Stuff you need:

- Two glasses or Pyrex dishes or pans
- a magnet
- hot plate
- microscope and slides
- distilled water
- needle or pin
- small plastic or cellophane bag

Use a small glass dish, such as a glass pie pan, to collect rainwater. The dish needs to be very clean. Let it sit outdoors long enough to fill. If you don't live where it rains very much, fill the pan with distilled water and let it sit outside for a few days.

Metallic micrometeorites are usually iron or iron and nickel and can be collected with a magnet. Use a small but strong magnet and cover it with a small plastic or cellophane bag. The idea is to provide a barrier around the magnet that can be immersed in water. Sweep the covered magnet slowly through the water along the sides and bottoms of the dish. Remove the covered magnet, and place it into a second clean dish filled with distilled water. Remove the magnet from its cover, and shake the cover in the water to loosen the particles that have (hopefully) gathered there.

Then evaporate the water by placing the dish on a hotplate or in a warm oven (making certain that the dish is oven safe!) Once evaporated, magnetize a straight pin or sewing needle by rubbing it one way across a magnet for a minute or so. Drag the needle across the sides and bottom of the dish. Tap the needle on to a clean microscope slide. Check the slide with the microscope to determine if a large number of particles have been gathered. If so, glue down a cover glass over the particles and examine the particles more carefully. Not everything on your slide will be a micrometeorite. In fact, it is possible that there won't be any at all. Any jagged shaped particles are likely not micrometeorites. Any rounded metallic particles may very well be.



A micrometeorite collected from the Antarctic snow.

You can also separate out non-metallic particles, though not as easily. Evaporate the original dish of water and scrape it out with a needle. Tap the needle on to a microscope slide, cover, and examine it with the microscope. Most, if not all, of the particles you see will not be micrometeorites. There may be pollen, ash, and other "dust" of terrestrial origin. If you are fortunate, you will come across a rounded stony object, which is likely to be a micrometeorite.

Officers & Club Information

2016 Board of Directors

Officers

President	Nancy Anderson	801-425-7470
Vice President	Jason Meyer	801-690-6479
Secretary	Dave Offret	801-791-6081
Treasurer	David Law	801-644-4931

Activity Committee and Chairpersons

Field Trip Leader	Roger Bush	801-388-8605
Field Trip Coordinator	Dennis Anderson	801-425-7470
Program	Tom & Debbie Larsen	

385-319-2808

Door Prize	Jim Alexander	801-399-0785
Hospitality	Linda Pilcher	801-392-7620
Communications	Steve Smith	801-731-4216
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	Linda Pilcher	801-392-7620

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

Annual membership dues for adult members are:

\$11	Adult Single
\$16	Couple or Family
\$5	Junior Single (Under 18 and not part of a family membership)

Dues are due October 1st 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 25th 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 25th St, Ogden, Utah.

Mailing Address

Beehive Rock & Gem Club
P.O. Box 1011, Ogden, UT 84402

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.

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