

Beehive Buzzer

March 2015 Volume 43 Issue 3



Issue Highlights...

Topaz Mtn Field Trip Info	1-4
Calendar	2
February Meeting Photos	5-7
Our Humor Page	8
What is Pegmatite?	9-10
Officers & Club Info	11

Welcome New Members...

Samuel & McKinzie Stout, Ogden
 Ken & Donna Bloom, Hunsville
 Ron & Amyjo Proctor, Farr West
 Brenda Watkins & Buck Frost,
 Pleasant View

Club Notes:

- Bring items to donate (jewelry, slabs, & rough, too) to our auction and money for bidding. Always lots of fun!
- 2015 Field Trip Season Opens on April 18! (See pages 1-4). If interested, contact Dave Offret.
- New meeting location: Golden Hours Senior Center, 650 East 25th St., Ogden, UT
- Lapidary shop available to Beehive members. (See page 6)

Beehive Rock & Gem Club Meeting Program

Golden Hours Senior Center
 March 24th 2015 @ 7.00 PM
 Everyone invited



• The Annual Rock &, Gem Auction

- -- + rock crafts, jewelry, lapidary equipment, etc.
- Donated Items.. Auction/... Auction.../ Auction

Rock buckets with items like: Chalcopyrite, Picture Stone (incl Bruneau), Chrysocolla, Azurite/ Malachite, Turretella (Elinia Tenera), Carnelian Agate, Obsidians, Wonderstones, ****Large Cycad piece**, Coprolites (incl slabs), **Palm Wood**, other petrified woods, Thundereggs & Geodes, Agates, Jaspers, Flor Spar, Septarian nodules, Varascite, sm Montana agates, Jade, Travertine, **Bacon Opal**, Polished wood & geode pieces, Brazilain Agate, various slabs, Leopard Skin Jasper, etc.
 + + + + **Other individual Donated items from members**

Equipment: Water grinder/polisher; Engine Arbor with both ends for polishers; Tailgate Field Sun Shield, Dutch Oven briquette stand, etc

- Also enjoy our annual "Club Birthdate" refreshments
- "Rocky" Ray Rutledge, Program Chairman

Get Ready for Our 1st Field Trip of the Season... Topaz Mountain — April 18th

Greetings Everyone!

It's almost time! The Big Spring Rock Trip is almost here! The date is Saturday, April 18. It'll be a long day, but worth it....

The plan now is to meet at 7 am at the Park & Ride in Roy, just off the Roy exit east of the freeway.

Head to Nephi. You're looking at a good 2 hour drive. Take the SECOND Nephi Exit (#225). We will "Regroup" in Nephi, at about 9:30. Remember this is the LAST GAS STOP for the day!! Top off your tank, and take a potty break!

Head out of Nephi going West Go west on UT 132 to Lynndyl, UT about 33 miles. Turn Left (South) on US 6, for about 5 miles, then take the RIGHT turn that heads out past the Power Plant on the Bush Wellman Road. Drive West on this road until the Pavement ENDS! (about 45 miles.) We will regroup here at around 11:00. Plan for a fun day!!



Calendar

March

17

St. Patrick's Day

24

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

April

1

April Fool's Day

2

**Board Meeting
Golden Hours Center
7 pm**

3

Good Friday

5

Easter

18

**Topaz Mt Field Trip
(See Pages 1-3)**

22

Earth Day

21

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

May

7

**Board Meeting
Golden Hours Center
7 pm**

26

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

First, we'll stop by an area that is known for Apache Tears. These are pieces of Obsidian that have been exposed to the sun long enough to make them almost semi-transparent. They are small black rocks, from 1/4 inch up to about an inch, and if you hold them up to the sun, you can see light coming through the stone, especially on the edges. If you have a rock tumbler, these polish up nice, and look a little like smoked glass.

Our next stop will be one of the best places in Utah to find Agates and Jaspers. Out of all the years that I've been going out to this area, (and they are many...) we've only known about this place within the past couple years. There are all kinds of different colors in this area, and again, if you have a rock tumbler, these are perfect for them.

After the Apache Tears, Agates, and Jaspers, there's one more stop to make: Topaz Mountain. Topaz Mountain is famous for the Utah State Rock, the Topaz Crystal. The Weather will determine how long we stay in each area, especially at Topaz Mountain. If it's cloudy, like our last time, we'll stay longer at some of the first areas. If it's sunny, (hopefully), we'll be moving through places fairly quickly, just to give everyone some good samples. Because most Topaz crystals are as clear as glass, unless we have a good amount of sunlight, you won't be able to see them even when you're walking on them. You actually find them by finding their reflection in the sun. Even though they're small, they're fun to collect, and nice to display.

And whatever else we might decide to go see...

Just before dusk, we'll head for home. From this point on we'll be back on pavement. We'll head to Nephi, and those that would like to stop for dinner usually stop at the Wendy's right by the freeway. If anyone wants to continue on, you have that option too.

Remember to pack a lunch, and whatever munchies you might like. And a lot to drink. Plan for the worst, and Hope for the Best! I've been Snowed on in May out here, but also sunburned in December.

Like I mentioned earlier, it does make for a long day. But these trips seem to be the things we talk about for MANY years...

List of Items to Bring: (Just recommendations...)

- A Finger Saver!! An Old flat-nosed screwdriver. These save wear and tear on your fingers when you're prying rocks out of the ground. VERY handy..
- Gloves - if you want.
- Safety Glasses - if you like busting up rocks.
- Raincoat.
- Hat
- Warm jacket. Just in case.
- Old Milk jugs. Cut a hole in the side for rocks, then label them with your name and the different kinds of rock you've picked up.
- Buckets. Now, let me explain. If you just want a couple pieces of each type of rock, those small ice-cream buckets are good and fun for the kids. You may want something bigger for bigger things. A 5-gallon bucket is easy to fill. Or 2 or 3... But for the smaller rocks, smaller buckets work well. Also the 1 gallon sized baggies. And a regular sized ziploc baggie will be plenty for the Topaz crystals. So, don't be afraid to bring too many. We brought extra last time, and between everyone, we filled them all! If anyone needs some 5-gallon buckets, I have a source for used ones. Just let me know.

Continued on next page →

Topaz Mountain Field Trip

April 18, 2015

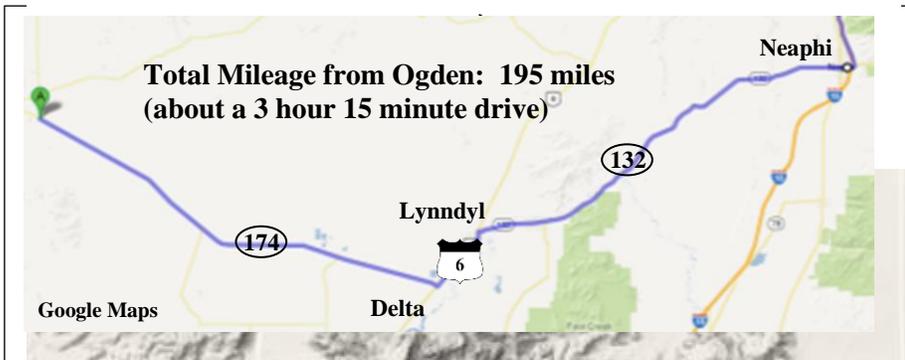


Directions to Topaz Mountain

We will meet at the Roy Park & Ride, just East of the Freeway at 7 am. We'll head out to Nephi. Take the SECOND exit (#225) and re-group at the Wendys/Phillips 66 gas station. Nephi is the last convenient gas station. We'll head out of Nephi at 9:30. Go West on UT 132 to Lyndyl, about 33 miles. Turn Left (South) on US 6, for about 5 miles, then take the RIGHT turn that heads out past the Power Plant on the Brush Wellman Road. Drive West on this road for about 45 miles (name changes to Brush Hwy along the way) until the Pavement ENDS! We will regroup here at around 11:00. Plan for a fun day!!

RSVP at 801-791-6081 or happyhunting4rocks@gmail.com

Thanks! Dave Offret, Field Trip Leader



February 2015 Monthly Meeting Golden Hours Senior Center

We love our new meeting location!



Large meeting hall...



From The Tektite 3/97
via Beehive Buzzer 3/00



Lynn Hayes gave a tour of the Golden Hours Lapidary Shop

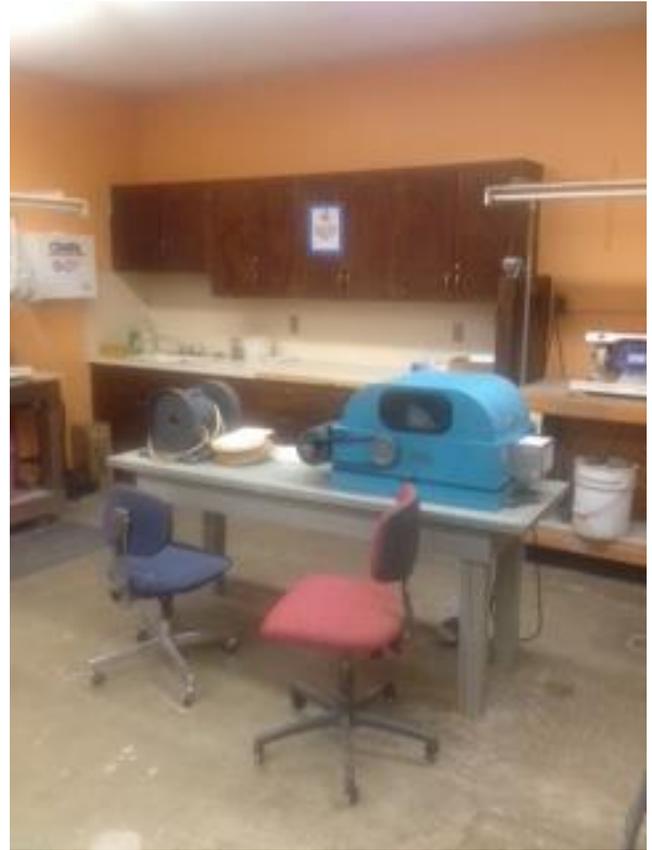


Golden Hours Lapidary Shop

Available to Beehive Rock & Gem Club members:

Tuesday Nights: 5:30 - 9:00.

- Bring your own supplies.
- Eye and ear protective equipment required.
- \$2.00 lab fee.
- Be sure to check in at the front desk. There is no fee for the Center.



Photos by Jim & Leora Alexander and Dave Harris

In Honor of St. Patrick's Day (March 17)....

It's not that the Irish are cynical. It's rather that they have a wonderful lack of respect for everything and everybody.

Brendan Behan

Never iron a four leaf clover. You don't want to press your luck.

The Irish gave the bagpipes to the Scots as a joke, but the Scots haven't got the joke yet.

Irish Saying: There are only three kinds of men who don't understand women: young men, old men, and middled aged men.

Irish Blessing: As you slide down the banister of life, may the splinters never point the wrong way.

Old Irish Curse: May those that love us love us, and those that don't love us, may God turn their hearts. If He can't turn their hearts, may He turn their ankles, so we'll know them by their limping!

Irish Diplomacy: The art of telling someone to go to hell in such a way they'll look forward to the trip.

Paddy was driving down the street in a sweat because he had an important meeting and couldn't find a parking place. Looking up to heaven he said, 'Lord take pity on me. If you find me a parking place I will go to Mass every Sunday for the rest of me life and give up me Irish Whiskey!' Miraculously, a parking place appeared. Paddy looked up again and said, 'Never mind, I found one.'

Father Murphy walks into a pub in Donegal, and asks the first man he meets, 'Do you want to go to heaven?' The man said, 'I do, Father.' The priest said, 'Then stand over there against the wall.' Then the priest asked the second man, 'Do you want to go to heaven?' 'Certainly, Father,' the man replied. 'Then stand over there against the wall,' said the priest. Then Father Murphy walked up to O'Toole and asked, 'Do

you want to go to heaven?' O'Toole said, 'No, I don't Father.' 'The priest said, 'I don't believe this. You mean to tell me that when you die you don't want to go to heaven?' O'Toole said, 'Oh, when I die, yes. I thought you were getting a group together to go right now.'

Gallagher opened the morning newspaper and was dumbfounded to read in the obituary column that he had died. He quickly phoned his best friend, Finney. 'Did you see the paper?' asked Gallagher. 'They say I died!!' 'Yes, I saw it!' replied Finney. 'Where are ye callin' from?'



Photo: Garry Knight

Our Humor Page

An Irish priest is driving down to New York and gets stopped for speeding in Connecticut. The state trooper smells alcohol on the priest's breath and then sees an empty wine bottle on the floor of the car. He says, 'Sir, have you been drinking?' 'Just water,' says the priest. The trooper says, 'Then why do I smell wine?' The priest looks at the bottle and says, 'Good Lord! He's done it again!'

Walking into the bar, Mike said to Charlie the bartender, 'Pour me a stiff one - just had another fight with the

little woman.' 'Oh yeah?' said Charlie, 'And how did this one end?' 'When it was over,' Mike replied, 'She came to me on her hands and knees.' 'Really,' said Charles, 'Now that's a switch! What did she say?' She said, 'Come out from under the bed, you little chicken.'

Patton staggered home very late after another evening drinking. He took off his shoes to avoid waking his wife, Kathleen. He tiptoed as quietly as he could toward the stairs leading to their upstairs bedroom, but misjudged the bottom step. As he caught himself by grabbing the banister, his body swung around and he landed heavily on his rump. A whiskey bottle in each back pocket broke and made the landing especially painful. Managing not to yell, Patton sprung up, pulled down his pants, and looked in the hall mirror to see that his butt cheeks were cut and bleeding. He managed to quietly find a full box of Band-Aids and began putting a Band-Aid as best he could on each place he saw blood. He then hid the now almost empty Band-Aid box and shuffled and stumbled his way to bed. In the morning, Patton woke up with searing pain in both his head and butt and Kathleen staring at him from across the room. She said, 'You were drunk again last night weren't you?' Patton said, 'Why you say such a mean thing?' 'Well,' Kathleen said, 'it could be the open front door, it could be the broken glass at the bottom of the stairs, it could be the drops of blood trailing through the house, it could be your bloodshot eyes, but mostly it's all those Band-Aids stuck on the hall mirror.'

Billy stops Paddy in Dublin and asks for the quickest way to Cork. Paddy says, "Are you on foot or in the car?" Billy says, "In the car." Paddy says, "That's the quickest way."

Pegmatite Review

Pegmatite is a coarse-grained vein or dike rock with crystals that range from a inch or so to many feet in length. Pegmatites are mined for their mica and feldspar, or for gems and other accessory minerals. They often contain cavities or vugs lined with crystals.

Pegmatites are limited to areas of crystalline rocks, especially ancient metamorphic rocks. Most of the pegmatites of Idaho and Montana lie within mica schist or gneiss, but some are enclosed in hornblende gneiss, granodiorite, or crystalline limestone. Both the pegmatites and the crystalline rocks in which they occur were formed at great depths in the crust of the earth. They are exposed at the surface only because erosion has removed many thousands of feet of rock that lay over them when they were formed. Pegmatites have been intruded, injected, or otherwise emplaced in the rocks that enclose them.

Most pegmatites are composed of quartz, feldspar and mica, having a similar basic composition as granite. Pegmatites are important because they often contain rare earth minerals and gemstones, such as aquamarine, garnet, topaz, fluorite, apatite and corundum, often along with tin and tungsten minerals, among others.

Within the metamorphic belts, pegmatite tends to concentrate around granitic bodies within zones of low mean strain and within zones of extension, for example within the strain shadow of a large rigid granite body (batholith). Similarly, pegmatite is often found within the contact zone of granite. Some skarns associated with granites also tend to host pegmatites.

Miarolitic Cavities

The term "miarolitic" originates from an Italian word, *miarole*, which originally referred to small crystalline cavities in granite from the famous mineral-collecting regions of northern Italy. Miarolitic pegmatites are those that possess a proportionately large number of crystalline cavities, and from which most of the world's great pegmatitic gem & mineral specimens are mined.

The miarolitic cavities or vugs are where the heated mineral enriched, liquid cavities formed within the pegmatites. As the pegmatites and cavities cooled over 1 billion years ago the crystals formed in the liquid pockets. The crystals form from the outside walls toward the center of the pocket or vug. Due to tectonic plate/volcanic action, weathering and other erosion processes many of these now collapsed crystal pockets are near the earth's surface and ready for harvesting.

The difficulty in finding the old collapsed pockets stems from hundreds of people digging through the pegmatites and finding the easy to get crystals. Sometimes a portion of the pegmatite is exposed to the surface and creates "float" crystals. The crystals are called float because they are on the surface and detached from their source. Inexperienced rock hounds often pick up these float crystals or keys to the location of the crystal pocket without realizing they've not only missed the mother lode, but also erased evidence for others to find the crystal pocket.

It is not unusual to find broken crystals in a cavity. The crystal breakage can be a result of either the original pocket rupturing under pressure during crystal formation, earth movement, or the grinding of crystals against each other over millions of years of frost thaw cycles and other erosion processes.

- For a more detailed explanation of how these form, follow this link: <http://www.omgs-minerals.org/London/Pegmatite2>
- Link to Idaho Batholiths-- <http://imnh.isu.edu/digitalatlas/geo/batholith/bathdex.htm>
- Good Link with pictures on miarolitic cavities and Idaho gems: <http://www.mindat.org/article.php/568/The+Sawtooth+Mountains+of+Idaho>
- More on Idaho gems & minerals(end of article): <http://imnh.isu.edu/digitalatlas/geog/mining/deposits.htm>
- Another link on Devils Den area: http://www.asterism-services.com/FIELD_NOTES.html
- Idaho dept of Lands, Gemstone Guide: <http://www.idl.idaho.gov/mining/rockhounding/gemstones.html>

Boulder Buster 1/15

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
Editor- in-Training	Linda Pilcher	801-392-7620
Associate	Associate	Leora Alexander
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.

General 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.
801-399-0785

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.

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.

Any material in this bulletin may be copied, unless marked as copyrighted, as long as credit is given.

