

HUI PŌHAKU 'O HAWAII

Rock & Mineral Society of Hawai'i, Inc.



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YOUR FAVORITE GEMSTONE

BY DEAN SAKABE

The topic for February is "Your Favorite Gemstone (and why). The objective is for the members to bring their favorite Gemstone and explain what makes it their favorite. A friend of mine happens to like Diamonds. Why, because it is sparkly. If pressed for more info, she likes them bigger and more sparkly.

Why does one prefer one gemstone over another? Why does one like something? Who knows ??? The reasons are virtually endless. Worse yet, the reason(s) are only known to each individual.

The gemstone could be their birthstone.

The gemstone could be their favorite color.

The gemstone could be part of the first jewelry they were given.

The gemstone could also be, because we are from Hawaii and that is what we do. Jade bangles are just usually part of girls wrists, just as Hawaiian bracelets are often worn just accepted as being part of their attire. It is just natural to see people wearing one or more of them at a time. In fact one of the largest bracelet happened to be worn by a very good dress maker (I just can't call him a seamstress, and I do not know the correct name for him), friend of mine. Of course he is kind of big so no one will say anything

about what he does or what he wears.

In fact you could say people for Hawaii will usually do or like something unique. Take for instance Saimin, you can not go any where else and order it. To the reset of the world it is Ramen. The same could be said about Meat Jun, in this case you cannot find it anywhere, only in Hawaii will you find this. No do not try Seoul. They will look at you like you do not know what you are talking about. It is only found here.



Pietersite ,
Namibia

MEETING

Wednesday

February 24

6:30—8:00 pm

Makiki District

Park

Administration

Building

NEXT MONTH

LAPIDARY

Every Thursday

7pm-9pm

Second-floor Arts

and Crafts Bldg

Makiki District

Park

MEMBERSHIP

COSTS

2008

Single: \$10.00

Family: \$15.00

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Your Favorite Gemstone, page 2

So what does this have to do about favorite Gemstones. Well nothing, really. I just needed to fill up space on the column. The main point is that you are the only one who knows what makes a gemstone your favorite gemstone. No one else. So bring yours to show and tell, so that you can show us your rocks and let us know what makes it your favorite.

As for mine, well you folks know that I like unusual mineral specimens. I like unusual rocks for lapidary classes (or

at least an affinity to stones what will always be unique, like Opal or Maw-sit-sit.

So what would make my favorite gemstone any different. I could say it is star stones, they are different and I do have several of them Star Rose Quartz, Star Sapphires, Star Ruby, and Star Diopside. No it is not those, it is one of the lesser gemstones Cordierite, otherwise known as Iolite. This is a blueish-purpleish stone in the C-axis and clear in the A or B axis. In other words it is Dichroic, i.e. it is different.

(Specialness is in the eye of the beholder .. by Faye Chambers

It never ceases to amaze me how some of my most beautiful, unique, or special specimens are found by accident.

It is very disenchanting to spent hours upon hours searching for something that only looks (and is not) what you set out to find. The mind, like a computer, it will overload from looking and searching so hard. Like the hard disk, you burn out. And it's usually just about when you start to hang your head low in defeat, that you see something.

Maybe it's the angle in the tilt of your head. Or, maybe it's the mind and eyes resetting itself. Whatever it is, it is that very moment when you catch that glimpse of color in the shadows or a glimmer right next to your big toe. That is when you find that one specimen to add to your collection

It might be ugly as h___, but it got your attention. It might be worthless as sh___, but you toiled for hours before finding it. It might be "leaverite" to others, but it is special to you. The best part of a find like this is that each one has a story. You know, the I-climbed-asteeep- cliff-in-110-degree-weather-and-walked-over-2 -miles kind of story. Ah, but it is indeed a story that no ordinary store-bought piece can possess (*unless you crossed an ocean and continent, and fought off hundreds of natives to purchase it*).

The moral of this story? You don't have to be a scientist or a specialist to be at the whim of mother nature or fate. Specimens can be accidental finds. And, beauty, uniqueness, or "specialness" will always be in the eye of the beholder and in your collection.



Pyritized Dinosaur Bone



Biggs Jasper



(The Guinness Emerald

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DOOR PRIZES

Please note that we have instituted door prize drawings at our monthly meetings. Because of Hawaii's gambling laws, these drawings cannot be conducted in the common "raffle" format where tickets are sold. Rather, each *paid* member attending the meeting will receive a drawing ticket upon request. A voluntary donation of \$1.00 is requested and encouraged. Drawings will be conducted at the end of the meeting with available prizes awarded in random order. You must be present to win. Please remember: if you win a prize, please bring one to the next meeting. This helps to keep our drawings going. Thank you.

WE HAVE A WEBSITE!

http://pohakugalore.net/Hui_pohaku/Hiu_pohaku_1.html

Meeting is starting earlier

**Administration Building
January 27th
6:30 pm — 8 pm**

The change has incurred due to the Parks change in operating hours. The park closes on Monday—Thursday at 8 pm.

Rock & Mineral Society of Hawai'i, Inc.

2008 Officers

President

Faye Chambers
621-6710
cateyes@hawaii.rr.com

Vice President/ Admin.

Ed Sawada

Vice President/Lapidary

Dean Sakabe
535-5012 (day)
625-2671 (eve.)
dsakabe@verizonngni.com

Treasurer

Debbie Iijima
539-4552 (day)

Newsletter Editor

Elise Thomasson
elise.thomasson@gmail.com

The Rock & Mineral Society meets on the 4th Wednesday of each month (except for adjusted dates in November and December) at the Makiki District Park, 7:00 - 9:00 pm. Enter from Keeaumoku Street. Parking is free but limited.

The Newsletter is published monthly, some days prior to the meetings and is distributed in electronic format by email (Adobe Acrobat PDF file attachment). Printed copies are "snail" mailed to those who do not have email. The electronic format usually contains full-color images; the print version may be limited to B&W due to reproduction costs.

Any newsletter comments are appreciated, and can be sent to elise.thomasson@gmail.com

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Hawai'i, Inc.
P.O. Box 23020
Honolulu, HI 96823-3020

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