

# HUI PŌHAKU 'Ō HAWAII

## Rock & Mineral Society of Hawai'i, Inc.



### Meeting Times

#### MEETING

Wednesday  
November 18, 2015

6:15-8:00 pm

Makiki District Park  
Admin Building

#### NEXT MONTH

Xmas Potluck

#### LAPIDARY

Every Thursday

6:30-8:30pm

Makiki District Park  
2nd floor Arts and  
Crafts Bldg

#### MEMBERSHIP

#### DUE COSTS 2015

Single: \$10.00

Family: \$15.00

© Rock & Mineral Society of Hawai'i, Inc.

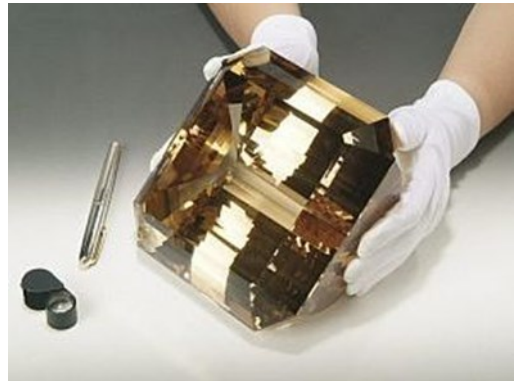
P.O. Box 23020

Honolulu, HI

96823-3020

### Topaz By Dean Sakabe

The last topic for 2015 will be Topaz. This Aluminum fluoro-hydroxyl-silicate mineral occurs in many colors, such as colorless, white, yellow, orange, brown, pink, light purple, gray, light blue, greenish blue, and green. Topaz also can be found multicolored. Additionally they can be found in very, very large crystals. Such as the 37 kg El-Dorado rough stone. There is an enormous topaz crystal in the AMNH in New York which weighs a 273 kg ( 600 lbs ).



The El Dorado Topaz, 13.67 pounds or 31,000 carats. Mined in 1984 from Minas Gerais, Brazil originally it weighted 37 kg

Brazil has many large deposits to Topaz's. Large crystals come from the pegmatites in Minas Gerais, especially at Itinga and Virgem da Lapa, in the Jequitinhonha valley. The Imperial Topaz, as well as pinkish colored Topaz come from occurrences in Minas Gerais at Ouero Prito. Brazilian occurrences at Mimoso do Sul, in

Espírito Santo has also produced very large crystals and Brumado, in Bahia, has also produced fine natural pink crystals.

The most classic locality of blue Topaz is Murzinka, Ekaterinburg, in the Ural Mountains of Russia. Multicolored yellow and blue Topaz comes from Nerchinsk, Transbaikalia, Russia. Colorless and often etched crystals come from Volodarsk-Volynskii, Zhytomyr, Ukraine.



Swiss Blue Topaz, Brazil, irradiated, 7,860 carats

## Topaz

The mines at Mogok, Myanmar have produced fine Colorless and sherry colored crystals, sometimes of very large in size. Gemmy crystals can also be found in the Gaoli-gong Mts, Nujiang, Yunnan Province, China and Goricho, Ghorkhi massiv, Mongolia. Large colorless crystals also Pink and Purple Crystals have been found in Pakistan.

In the U.S., the most well-known Topaz occurrence is the Thomas Range, Juab Co., Utah, especially Topaz Mountain and Maynard's Claim. Here sherry colored crystals with good terminations are associated with a rhyolite matrix. Green colored Topaz crystals are found at the Zapot Mine, near Hawthorne, Nevada. Topaz is found in the gem pegmatites of San Diego County. Pikes Peak Co has produced areas with colorless, Blue, and Sherry colored Topaz. Fine colorless and light blue tabular crystals come from Mason Co., Texas

Of note Topaz is the state gemstone of Texas and Utah.



Topaz, Juab County, Utah

Natural pink topaz can be found only in one location, which is Katalang in Pakistan. Presently most of the pink topaz is obtained by subjecting the brownish-yellow chrome-bearing crystals found at Ouro Petro in Minas Gerais, Brazil to careful heat treatment. The heat-induced pink color is permanent, as the pink color center produced is very stable.

Topaz also undergoes radiation treatment. Here colorless and greenish brown crystals can be irradiated to produce a variety of colors such as smoky-grey, cinnamon-brown, yellow-orange, and blue. The color depends on the time of exposure to the radiation. The most commonly used radiation process is gamma cobalt 60 radiation. Of note greenish-brown crystals can be irradiated to produce the popular and permanent blue colors, known as "London blue," "Swiss Blue" and "Sky blue." All irradiated topaz gems in the United States are processed in a special facility in Missouri to ensure that they conform to strict safety standards. All imported blue topaz are also subjected to this examination before they are released to the importers.



Topaz's, Topaz Mountain Gem Mine, Colorado

## Proposed Officers for 2016

President : Jon Bly

Administrative Vice-President : Matthew Martin

Lapidary Vice-President : Dean Sakabe

Corresponding Secretary : (vacant)

Recording Secretary : Blair Ishitani

Treasurer : Debbie Iijima

3 year Director : Roger Kwok

3 year Director : Tony Kor

2 year Director : Eric De Carlo

1 year Director : Marcus Faigle

WE HAVE A FACEBOOK PAGE! LET'S GO LIKE IT!

[HTTP://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/PAGES/ROCK-AND-MINERAL-SOCIETY-OF-HAWAII/103902329673700?V=WALL&REF=SGM](http://www.facebook.com/pages/Rock-AND-Mineral-Society-of-Hawaii/103902329673700?v=wall&ref=sgm)

MAHALO TO MARKUS FOR ESTABLISHING OUR *ROCK FACE!*

## Officers

### *President*

Faye Chambers

[cateyes@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:cateyes@hawaii.rr.com)

### *Vice President/ Admin.*

Brenda Reichel

### *Vice President/ Lapidary*

Dean Sakabe

[Dean.d.sakabe@verizon.com](mailto:Dean.d.sakabe@verizon.com)

(808) 282-6681

### *Treasurer*

Debbie Iijima

### *Secretary*

### *Newsletter Editor*

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, 6:15-8 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.

## 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.

## Christmas Potluck Dinner

**Dec. 4, 2015**

**Arts & Craft Building**

**6:00 pm — 8:00 pm**

On October 24th & 25th we held our annual Rock Show at the Waikiki Outrigger.

This was the 14th year it was held at the Outrigger.

Thank you very much Keith Kruger for making this annual event the success which it is.

---

**HUI PŌHAKU 'Ō HAWAII**   
Rock & Mineral Society of Hawai'i, Inc.

---

P.O. Box 23020

Honolulu, HI 96823-3020