

# HUI PŌHAKU 'Ō HAWAII

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



### Meeting Times

#### MEETING

Wednesday  
September 23, 2015

6:15-8:00 pm

Makiki District Park  
Admin Building

#### NEXT MONTH

Marcus Faigle

#### LAPIDARY

Every Thursday

6:00-8:30pm

Makiki District Park  
2nd floor Arts and  
Crafts Bldg

#### MEMBERSHIP

DUE COSTS 2015

Single: \$10.00

Family: \$15.00

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P.O. Box 23020

Honolulu, HI

96823-3020

### Eric De Carlo

This month Eric will be talking to us and going over various places which he was able to visit with intentions of adding to his collection.

Here is some of the places which he went to. **Bourg d'Oisans area** in the French Alps. This is where the famous La Gardette mine is at. It is famous because of the La Gardette Law twin quartz, which most of us know as Japan Law Twins.

The Japan Law Twin is the only twinning law of quartz where the two twin crystals are visible as individuals. Here the c-axis of two crystals meet at an angle of 84°33', with two of the prism faces of both crystals being paral-



La Gardette Law Twin



La Gardette Law twin Quartz,  
La Gardette Gold Mine, Bourg d'Oisans,  
Isère, Rhône-Alpes, France

lel. The result is a V-shaped twin versus a slightly oblique cross. Japan Law twin quartzes were initially labeled as **La Gardette twins**. As this was the first locality in the French Alps where this type of twinning has been described. Some time after that a large number of localities in Japan were discovered to have this same twinning habit.

**Chessy-les-Mines**, in the Rhone department just north east of Lyons, France. This is an old copper mine from the

## Eric De Carlo



Malachite after Cuprite on Azurite, Blue Mine, Chessy, Rhone-Alpes, France

Middle Ages up until 1875. Minerals which were originally mined included Barite, Galena, Sphalertire, and Chalopyrite. Secondary deposits of Lead, Zinc and Copper led to Azurite, Cuprite, Malachite, Chrysocolla. The specimens of azurite (locally called "chessylite") are highly regarded. Around 1811, miners opened the famous "Blue Mine" which contained many vugs of azurite. At the time of operation, engineers distinguished four different parts in the deposit:

The "Yellow Mine": native ore (chalcopryite, pyrite) in speckles or nodules.  
 The "Black Mine": reduced ore (tenorite, native copper) in black nodules.  
 The "Red Mine": oxidized ore (cuprite, limonite) re-

leased into the red clay.

The "Blue Mine": highly oxidized ore (azurite, cuprite, malachite and smithonite) in clays and sandstones.

Today, the mine is closed but the dumps were bought by the Geological Club of l'Arbresle. They blocked all the underground access by back-filling them. However they still conduct regular searches throughout the dump area.



Pyromorphite, Asprieres Mine, Aveyron, France

**Asprières**, in the Aveyron department (Massif Central area). This is a lead mine primarily and the treasures here are the pyromorphites. They readily rival those from Bunker Hill in Idaho.



Bastnasite, Trimouns Talc Mine, Luzenac, Ariege, Midi-Pyrenees, France

**Trimouns**, in the Ariège department, Pyrenées mountains. This is the world's largest working talcum mine. The talc quarry is situated at 1800m altitude above the Ax valley. It was established in 1905 and produces 400,000 tons of talc per year. The working seam at Trimouns was formed 300 million years ago in a fault located between two masses of rock. One composed essentially of mica schist and the other of dolomite. In this fault, the surrounding rock grounded the two masses, which allowed the infiltration of water containing large amounts of magnesium to work its way into the seam. The magnesium attached itself to the dolomite to form magnesium silicate, i.e talc.

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

MAHALO TO MARKUS FOR ESTABLISHING OUR *ROCK FACE!*

**Officers**

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*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.



Talc quarry at Trimouns Ariège, France

**Rock & Mineral Show**



**FREE  
ADMISSION**

**Oct. 24 & 25, 2015 • 10am to 5 pm •**

**Outrigger on the Beach Hotel, Waikiki • Leahi Room**

Special displays and dealer sales



**Rocks \* Minerals \* Gems \* Jewelry  
Lapidary \* Fossils \* Meteorites & More!**



We can also help identify your mineral & fossil specimens.

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[http://pohakugalore.net/Hui\\_pohaku/Annual-Hawaii-Mineral-Show.html](http://pohakugalore.net/Hui_pohaku/Annual-Hawaii-Mineral-Show.html)

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