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# HUI PŌHAKU 'O HAWAII

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

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[www.rockandmineralsocietyofhawaii.org](http://www.rockandmineralsocietyofhawaii.org)

### Zoom Meeting

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**Date : August 24, 2022**

**Start Time - 6:15 P.M.**

**Meeting will be held in person at the Makiki Admin Bldg.**

**Topic of the Month (August)**

**Peridot / Olivine**

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Peridot is a rare gemstone that occurs from the mineral Olivine. It is composed of silica, magnesium, and iron. Peridot ranges in color from yellowish - brownish green hues to deep olive green tones similar to emeralds. The trace amounts of iron in its chemical structure determines the gemstone color, clarity and value. As a birthstone for the month of August it symbolizes strength, power, honesty and loyalty.

Peridots form deep within Earth's mantle at 20 to 55 miles deep. It is brought to the surface from extreme volcanic activity and embedded in lava and basaltic pockets and veins.

Known as the "gem of the gods", ancient Egyptians first mined some of the most valuable specimens as far back as 1500 B.C. from Zabargad Island in the Red Sea. Used for religious purposes and cathedral decorating it was believed that the stone had magical properties warding off evil spirits.

Peridot gemstones can be found in Burma, Pakistan, Norway, Brazil and Australia however 80% of the world's production is at the San Carlos Indian Reservation in Arizona.

## Board of Directors

2021 - 2022

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### Business Notes from Zoom Meeting on July 27, 2022

1. Meeting Start 6:15 P.M.
2. Treasury reports as of 6/30/2022 \$3,770 checking, \$148 cash.
3. Total of 12 members attendance.
- 4. In person meeting will be held at the Makiki Admin Bldg for August.**
5. Meeting end - 7:05 P.M.

### 6. September Meeting Topic

To be selected at meeting



Papakolea Green Sand Beach

Papakolea Green Sand Beach on the Big Island of Hawaii is a world famous spot that has beach sand which are actually tiny olivine crystals that have weathered out of the basaltic rocks from ancient volcanic flows.

Papakolea Beach is a 50,000 year old volcanic cinder cone called Pu'u Mahana belonging to the Moana Loa volcanic eruptions.

Located on Hwy 11 ( South Point Road ) between mile markers 69 / 70 is a small gravel parking lot. There are no amenities, lifeguards or restrooms. There will be a 2.5 mile hike to the beach as well a small cliffside trail to get to the shoreline. Along this hike are ancient Hawaiian rock formations ( Heiau ).



Olivine crystals mixed with lava fragments and coral shells

There are only 3 other green sand beaches in the world.

1. Talofof Beach on Guam
2. Punta Cormorant on Floreana Island , Galapagos
3. Hornindalsvatnet in Norway



One of the most famous and valuable medieval artifacts is the Reliquary of the Magi. It is located in the Cologne Cathedral in western Germany. This artifact was created in the 18th century as a relic on the Three Magi, also known as the Three Wise Men's journey to Bethlehem.

This shrine is encrusted with more than a thousand gemstones as well as countless pearls. There are also **three of the worlds finest Peridot gemstones** weighing over 200 carats attached to the shrine.

### **Other Interesting facts on Peridot**

1. The largest Peridot crystal ever found came from Zabargad Island in the Red Sea. It is 192.75 carats and is on display in the Smithsonian Institute at Washington D.C. It is believed that Cleopatra's jewelry collection of Peridot was also mined from this same area.
2. Samples of rocks taken from the Moon and Mars expeditions reveals the presence of Peridot within the specimen.
3. Peridots can be found as a pallasite meteorite however this occurrence is very rare. The most notable meteorite is the Esquel meteorite which fell some 50 years ago in Argentina.



Bright yellow-green dots are Peridots

