

Cache Rock & Gem Club

August 2021

Volume 10 Issue 8

Editor Jessica Vahsholtz

53 East 400 North, Mendon, Utah 84325



**Meetings are the
2nd Thursday of the
month 7pm @
Cache County
Fairgrounds Events
Center; 490 S 500
W, Logan UT 84321**

Visitors are welcome.

Annual Club Membership

Individual \$15.00

Family \$20.00

Calendar of Events

**Club Meeting is the
annual picnic on August
12th @ 7pm at
Blacksmith Fork Canyon.**

Content is by the editor
with the exception of
where it is denoted
otherwise.



From the Top of the Rock Pile

Bret Fonnesbeck – Club President

Hey Everyone,

It has been quite the summer so far with some unexpected changes and some great opportunities. We have been able to do some new things like the Gardener's Market and going to Bob and Maria's to buy rocks. The Gardener's Market has been a great opportunity to get the club out to the public. It has also presented some of our members the opportunity to sell some of their stuff that they make, and it has been very successful. The trip to Bob and Maria's gave us the opportunity to buy rough rock from Mexico. Stuff most of us will never get the opportunity to collect on our own. We would like to thank those that made these opportunities possible.

We have been forced to re-evaluate our trips for the year, so see the trip section for details. Unfortunately, as rockhounds sometimes we lose the ability to collect in areas that have been open to us before. Whether it is from changes in land use by the government, new restrictions, or bad behavior by fellow rockhounds. Stay tuned for more details.

The monthly meeting for August is our yearly picnic. We are meeting up **Blacksmith Fork Canyon above Hyrum**. The date is **August 12th at 7 PM**. Check out the VP section for details. For those that have been coming to the meetings this year you know how great Patrick's programs are. Come out and join us for a great potluck picnic, some fun, and get to know some new people.

This year we are having elections for the Presidency positions. If you are interested in running for any of them please let me know before October 1st so I can put you on the ballot. The election happens at the November meeting so come on out.

In October we are having the annual club auction. This is a lot of fun and a great way to pick up some material you don't have. For anyone that wishes to donate rock for the auction please bring it to one of the next few meetings.

Watch for emails with new trip info and details about new things the club is planning. Take care of yourselves while you are out there and be safe. See you all at the meeting or on a trip.

**Bret Fonnesbeck
President
Cache Rock & Gem Club**

<http://cacherockgemclub.weebly.com>



First President's Message

Hello Everyone, Recently the club has been doing some exciting things in the community. If you didn't already know we have a booth at the Saturday Farmer's Market and the last few weeks we have been there talking to it's attendees. It is so much fun to hear about people's rock experiences and we have met everyone from local families with excited kids to experienced rock hounds visiting from other states. We have laid out specimens from our field trips and are educating those that stop about what we do. We hear time and time again how excited people are to find out about us and how they didn't realize we had a local club, so the event is very useful. We also have club members showing and selling their works, get on the schedule if you would like to do that. The Farmers Market will go through the fall harvest so there is time to come check it out. It is on Saturday's from 9-1 behind the DMV office building, 2nd North and Main. Thank you Luann for setting this up, great value for the club!

This Month's meeting will be our annual club picnic. Pulled beef sandwiches and drinks are provided, please bring your favorite potluck salad or desert to share. We will meet at the "AJ Peterson park" located up Blacksmith Fork canyon and across the street from the larger Hyrum City park, 7:00 PM. This is the one we went to a couple of year 's back for those of you who attended then. Door prize raffle items will be given away so it will be fun! Also the kid's club will have their own prize giveaway so bring the family! See you there!

**Patrick Carroll
1st Vice President
Cache Rock and Gem Club**



2nd VP/Trip Manager Message

Well, July has come and gone, hope everyone had a safe 4th and 24th.

The trips for August may be changed up a little. The trip to bitch creek has been cancelled due to a number factors, the first being after researching the area the site has been in the books for many years, it is well known and well picked over forcing us to hike much further up the creek bed than anticipated, the jade that is there is mostly black nephrite, not a true jade and very small pieces (tumbler material). The second is a lack of someone to lead the trip due to other commitments. You are more than welcome to go up on your own if you wish but no club trip.

The second trip to the McDermitt area may need to be changed as well, we have just found out that a large corporation has claimed most of the area to mine lithium so we are working on finding out what our access options are, hopefully we will have answers by the meeting, either way we will have a trip one way or the other, we are getting the trip committee together to discuss options, stay tuned.

**Dave Nielson
2nd Vice President
Trip Manager
Cache Rock and Gem Club**

Upcoming 2021 Cache Rock & Gem Club Trips

August 14th Bitch creek - CANCELLED

August 27-28th Milford area

September 10-11th Yellowcat

September 24-26th McDermott

October 15-16 Topaz/Dugway





PERIDOT & SARDONIX

Though peridot is widely recognized by its brilliant lime green glow, the origin of this gemstone's name is unclear. Most scholars agree that the word "peridot" is derived from the Arabic *faridat*, which means "gem;" however, some believe it's rooted in the Greek word *peridona*, meaning "giving plenty." Perhaps that's why peridot was, according to lore, associated with prosperity and good fortune.

Peridot is the rare gem-quality variety of the common mineral olivine, which forms deep inside the Earth's mantle and is brought to the surface by volcanoes. In Hawaii, peridot once symbolized the tears of Pele, the volcano goddess of fire who controls the flow of lava. Rarely, peridot is also found inside meteorites.

Peridot's signature green color comes from the composition of the mineral itself—rather than from trace impurities, as with many gemstones. That's why this is one of few gemstones that only comes in one color, though shades may vary from yellowish-green to olive to brownish-green, depending on how much iron is present.

Sardonyx combines alternating layers of sard and onyx—two types of the layered mineral chalcedony—to create a reddish zebra-striped gemstone with white bands.

Its name, similarly, combines *sard* (referencing the ancient Persian city, Sardis—in present-day Turkey—where the red stone was found) with *onyx* (from the Greek word of the same spelling, which meant "nail or claw.") Sard ranges in color from yellowish-red to reddish-brown, depending on how much iron oxide is present. Sard is easily confused with carnelian, another type of chalcedony that is slightly softer and lighter in color.

Sardonyx, like onyx, shows layers of parallel bands—instead of the chaotic, curved bands that compose agate, another type of chalcedony.

The finest examples of sardonyx, which display sharp contrasts between layers, are found in India. Other sources include Brazil, Germany, Czech Republic, Slovakia, Madagascar, Uruguay, and the United States.

Hi from the Kids Club & Welcome to August!

Hard to believe that we are in the month of August. I'm hoping that this month we might see the temperature starting to go down. But it's always 'COOL' at the Rock Kids Cub meetings.

Last month we talked about minerals and made some amazing crystals! The crystals needed a good amount of drying time, so I still have them. I will be giving them back to the kids at the next meeting. Thank you to the parents and grandparents that helped out. Hands on experiences are wonderful for the kids, but often times require additional hands. Thank You!

The August activity will be the picnic on August 12th. **There will be a raffle for the Kids Club members to participate in!** Excited to see you there!

If you have questions any questions, feel free to contact me – 435-757-3878.

*See you at the picnic!
Maria Gates*

AMMONITES

Ammonites are a group of organisms that belongs to the Phylum Mollusca. Other mollusks that you might know are bivalves like clams and gastropods like snails. Ammonites are actually a part of the class of organisms called *cephalopods* which means *head-foot*. They are extremely common and are one of the best-known groups of fossils. Ammonites are *extinct*, but they are similar to the modern octopus and chambered nautilus.

Ammonite fossils look like rams' horns. The ancient Roman writer, Pliny the Elder, called these fossils "Horns of Ammon." Ammon was an Egyptian god that was often pictured with rams' horns on his head. The modern scientific name (*Ammonoidea*) comes from this history.

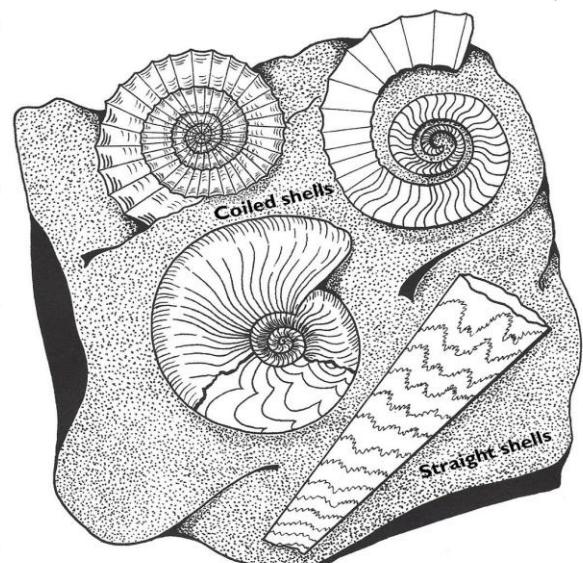
Ammonites first appear in rocks that are 400 million years old, a geologic time that geologists call the *Permian Period*. They became *extinct* and disappear from the fossil record in the *Cretaceous Period*, about 65 million years ago. This is the same time of the great dinosaur extinction (at the Cretaceous-Tertiary Boundary).

As an ammonite grew larger, it would create a larger shell for itself by adding a larger chamber in which it would live. The walls of these chambers are very complicated and form what are described as peaks and valleys. You can see that well in the straight ammonite pictured below.

These chambers have a very important use for ammonites. They could fill them up with ocean water. This would make them heavier and they would sink to lower portions of the ocean, perhaps to find food or perhaps to escape danger. Then, when they wanted to rise up in the ocean, they could pump out the water and become lighter to float upward.

Notice the center ammonite in the picture above. What you see is the outer shell material (with simple, wavy lines). If the outer shell is removed, you can see the peaks and valleys of the chamber walls underneath.

As you can see in this picture, ammonites could be straight, loosely curved or tightly curved.



From Fossils: Traces of Ancient Life from the Sea & the Land; Darryl Powell, 2019
(www.diamondandanpublications.net)

Courtesy Stetson University



Advertising Manager Message

The Rock Club has been given a booth in the Cache Valley Gardeners Market. Anyone that would like to sell rock related items that they have made can sign-up. The cost is \$35/week. If you do not feel you have enough merchandise to sell by yourself you can team up with someone and split the booth and the cost. I am hearing reports that those who have used the booth have had great success.

These are the dates that the CV Gardeners Market are open and I have listed the dates that are already reserved for members and those that are open: August 7th Bret Fonnesbeck, August 14th open, August 21st Roger Bradford, August 28th open, Sept 4th Gary Allred, Sept 11th open, Sept 18th open, Sept 25th open, Oct 2nd open, Oct 9th open.

There might be one more week, but I am not certain about that.

If you would like to reserve a date please contact either Bret Fonnesbeck at crgc.president@gmail.com or LuAnn Willmore at momouse@gmail.com. Also, The Gardeners Market will be holding a market on Wednesday's from 11-3 at USU starting on Sept 1st through Oct 13th. If anyone would like to do that please contact me and I will connect you with The Gardeners Market.

**LuAnn Wilmore
Advertising Manager
Cache Rock and Gem Club**



CR&GC Members Rock Shed & Show Advertisements

Shed Crew:

Larry Christopherson 435-723-6476

400 West 60 South
Hyrum, UT

Bret Fonnesbeck 435-757-4927

Gary Warren 435-720-1775

Slab saw cost 0.20 per inch of rough

Only trained shed crew are authorized to set up and run the saws.

Cost is ; Adults Jr. members
Wheels \$2.00 \$1.00



Rock Buckets

The club has 3 gallon buckets of rough rock for sale. The rough is a varied collection from club trips and includes petrified wood, palm, agate, etc. The cost is \$10.00 to club members. If interested contact one of the club officers.



Shed Rules

*Three people in the shed to maintain space & social distancing.

*The shed is open on Wednesday Evenings 5-8pm Thursday Evenings 5-8pm (except meeting nights) Saturday Mornings 9am-1pm

*By appointment only!

*Please contact Larry Christophersen @ (435)723-6476 for Wednesday and Saturday meetings. You may text, but start the text out with CRGC. If Larry does not answer please leave a voicemail and he will get back with you. You can also email Larry at larry-0021@comcast.net

Please contact Lance Gates at (435)881-4371, text is best.

Masks can be worn, but are not required.



GEM FAIRE
September 24th-26th 2021
@ Sandy South Towne
Expo Center, Sandy Utah
24th 12pm-6pm
25th 10am-6pm
26th 10am-5pm



J L Gray Rock Shop

Custom cutting & polishing
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www.brightstargemstones.com

Bright Star Gemstones
970.349.9327

Bob & Maria Stewart

(435)258-0025
(435)764-5741

Please call for an appointment.

bobhstewart@q.com
mexicanroseagates@gmail.com

We have been assembling a large collection of silicates, mainly agate, jasper and quartz from Mexico for over 10 years. We are now offering our collection for sale online and at various rock and gem shows. Our mission is to find, collect and sell the finest agate, jasper, geodes and other forms of chalcedony, mainly from family-owned property in Mexico, to offer to you at affordable prices.

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Artistry in Gems

Annual Tooele Gem and Mineral Society
GEM, MINERAL, FOSSIL & JEWELRY SHOW



September 24—September 26, 2021

Friday & Saturday 10 AM—7 PM Sunday 10 AM—4 pm

Dow James Building
400 North 400 West
Tooele, Utah

For information call:
Robert Vigil 801-205-0385

- DOOR PRIZES
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Club Officers

Title	Name	E-Mail
President	Bret Fonnesbeck	crgc.president@gmail.com
1 st Vice President	Patrick Carroll	trkcarroll@yahoo.com
2 nd Vice President	Dave Nielsen	dsnielsen@live.com
Secretary	Tasia Palmer	
Treasurer	Anita McCollum	anitamccollum@comcast.net

Board Members

Title	Name	E-mail
Chairman	Gary Warren	rock_hunter1@hotmail.com
Shed Manager	Larry Christophersen	Larry-0021@comcast.net
Trip Manager	Dave Nielsen	dsnielsen@live.com
Jr Club Manager	Maria Gates	
Graphic Design Manager		
Rock Show Manager	Larry Christophersen	crgc.showmanager@gmail.com
Assistant Rock Show Manager	Bret Fonnesbeck	crgc.president@gmail.com
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