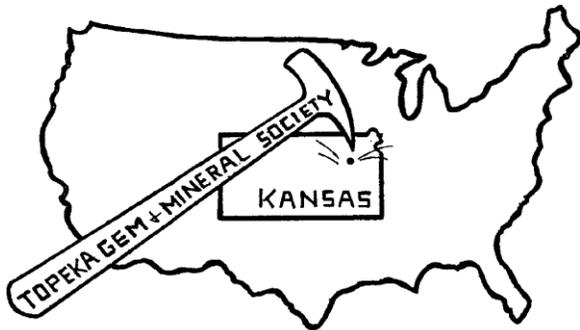


The Topeka Gem and Mineral Society, Inc
 1934 SW 30th St. Topeka, KS 66611
 Rock2Plate@aol.com

THE GLACIAL DRIFTER



www.topekagemandmineral.org

Facebook: Topeka Gem and Mineral Society Field Trip

The Glacial Drifter, Vol. 56, No. 6, June 2013
 The Topeka Gem & Mineral Society, Inc
 Organized December 3, 1948

Member of Rocky Mountain Federation of
 Mineralogical Societies American Federation of
 Mineralogical Societies



The Glacial Drifter, Vol. 56, No. 8, Aug. 2013

The Purpose of the Topeka Gem & Mineral Society shall be exclusively educational and scientific: (1) to promote interest in geology and the lapidary arts; (2) to encourage the collection and display of rocks, gems, and minerals; (3) to encourage field trips and excursions of a geological, or lapidary nature; and (4) to encourage greater public interest and education in gems and minerals, cooperating with the established institutions in such matters.

Meetings: 4th Friday of each month, September to May, 7:30 pm, Stoffer Science Hall, Room 138, Washburn University. No meeting in December unless notified of a change. Picnic meetings are held June, July and August.

Dues: Individual, \$15.00; Couple, \$20.00; Junior (under 18 years of age), \$5.00. Dues are collected in December for the following year. Send dues to Millie Mowry, Treasurer, 1934 SW 30th St, Topeka, KS 66611.

2013 OFFICERS AND CHAIRS

President	Mike Cote	220-3272	Cab of the Month	Debra Fran/Fred Zeferjohn	862-8876
1 st Vice Pres.	Dave Dillon	272-7804	Field Trip Coord.	Larry Henderson	272-8444
2 nd Vice Pres.	Carolyn Brady	233-8305	Publicity	Christy Bien	608-1890
Secretary	Cinda Kunkler	286-1790	Welcome/Registration	Jason Schulz	379-5538
Treasurer	Millie Mowry	267-2849	Property	M. Cote/D. Dillon	379-5538
Directors	Clyde Burton	478-4778	AFMS Scholarship	Louellen Montgomery	220-3272
	George Reed	836-9277	Editor/Exchange Editor	Millie Mowry	267-2849
	Harold Merrifield	286-3548	Show Chairman	Harold Merrifield	286-3548
Historian	Deborah Scanland	273-3034	Show Dealer Chairman	Dave Dillon	272-7804
Federation Rep	Harold Merrifield	286-3548	Show Secretary	Cinda Kunkler	286-1790
Corporation Agent	Millie Mowry	267-2849	Jr. Rockhound Leader	Larry Henderson	272-8444
Librarian	Lucy Hrenchir	267-3325			
Web Master	Jason Schulz	379-5538			

Area Code for all numbers is (785).



As a Reminder

August 23rd. will be the last picnic, at 6:30 p.m., at Millie's house, 1934 SW 30th St. Bring your favorite picnic food enough to feed your family, to share pot-luck style, and your own table service. Coffee and ice tea will be furnished. We will eat where it is cool or you can eat out on the patio.

We will be filling the grab bags for the show. We hope to see you all there!

From the President – Mike Cote'

The attendance at the picnics at Millie's house the past couple of months has been good and I hope that the August picnic will bring more of the members out. This is a reminder to all to bring anything you have for stuffing grab bags for the show in October to the picnic.

With all the people on the sick list, we are going to need **EVERYONE's** help this year to put on our annual show. There will be sign-up sheets at the August picnic for you to choose the times you want to work. The Calling Committee will be calling all the members that do not sign up to fill the slots left over. You can also call Millie at 267-2849 or email rock2plate@aol.com to sign up to help.

Also a reminder to bring any Best Choice UPC Labels that you may have as we are still collecting them.

Lessons on Tuesday nights at my house are producing some very nice jewelry and polished stones. Anyone interested in joining us, give me or David a shout.

The September general meeting will be held at Stoffer Science Hall room 138 at 7:30 p.m. The program will be the Silent Auction. Bring all your unwanted items, equipment, rocks, jewelry, magazines, etc., and donate them to the Club for the Silent Auction. Bring lots of quarters, so you can buy that most wanted treasure!

Mike and his rock stash

EXCHANGE BULLETINS WELCOME

For exchange newsletters contact the club via mailing address listed above or email at rock2plate@aol.com.
Permission is granted to reprint articles only if proper credit is given to the author, Glacial Drifter and the date.

TLC REPORT



Louellen Montgomery is still in the hospital, she may be released Tuesday, but she won't be going home. It has been a rough week, aside from pneumonia in her right lung, she suffered a 'slight' heart attack and Wednesday was in critical care and they wanted to insert a ventilator, by the end of the day, they said, she probably would be in a regular room on Thursday – which she was.

*****UP DATE*** Louellen, has been moved for rehab to Plaza West Regional Health Center, 1570 SW Westport Dr., Topeka, KS 66604, room 702. Russ and Louellen will be put into the same room soon. "Old Rockhounds Never Die, They Just Slowly Petrify."**

Larry Henderson has been back in the VA hospital with heart problems but is out now and on the mend.

Deborah Scanland had some eye surgery and her husband is going through cancer treatments.

Roger Wake also had some eye surgery recently and is doing great.

Let's keep them all in our prayers.

Carolyn Brady visited the ER with an allergic reaction to some medicine, but is OK.

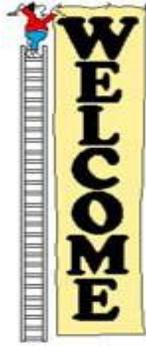
NEWS FROM RMFMS

The RMFMS held their first annual convention August 9, 1941 in Denver Colorado at the Argonaut Hotel. 'There were visitors and delegates from nearly every section of the country.' This is from the 'History Rocky Mountain Federation of Mineralogical Societies 1941-1963' by Muriel Colburn, Historian. There is a lot of interesting information in the notebook. I have several copies of the notebook if you would like one – let me know and I will get it sent to you.

This lists the original founding societies as: Canon City Geological Club, Canon City Co; Carbon County Mineral Society, Rawlins WY; Colorado Springs Mineralogical Society, Colorado Springs, CO; Colorado Mineral Society, Denver CO; Grand Junction Mineralogical Society, Grand Junction CO; Kansas Mineral Society, Minneapolis KS; Lander Geological Society, Lander WY; Mineralogical Society of Arizona, Phoenix AZ; Mineralogical Society of Utah, Salt Lake City UT; Nebraska Gem and Mineral Society, Kearney NE; New Mexico Mineral Society, Carlsbad NM; Oklahoma Society of Earth Sciences, Mangum OK; Provo Mineralogical Society, Provo UT; Reno Rock and Mineral Study Club, Reno NV; Riverton Geological Society, Riverton WY; Western Nevada Mineral Society, Reno NV.

Mr. Richard M. Pearl, Secretary of the Colorado Mineral Society of Denver sent out invitations to all earth sciences societies in the Rocky Mountain states to meet and the above 16 societies were in attendance.

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New Members

Wayne Berry & Cynthia Turk
Hayden Berry (Jr. Member)

AUGUST BIRTHSTONE PERIDOT

Peridot is said to host magical powers and healing properties to protect against nightmares and to bring the wearer power, influence, and a wonderful year. As peridot is a gemstone that forms deep inside the Earth and brought to the surface by volcanoes, in Hawaii, peridot symbolizes the tears of Pele, the goddess of fire and volcanoes. Today, most of the peridot supply comes from Arizona; other sources are China, Myanmar, and Pakistan. This gemstone comes in several color variations ranging from yellowish green to brown, but most consumers are attracted to the bright lime greens and olive greens. Peridot, in smaller sizes, often is used in beaded necklaces and bracelets.



Peridot is one of the few gemstones that occur in only one color, an olive green. The intensity and tint of the green, however, depends on how much iron is contained in the crystal structure, so the color of individual peridot gems can vary from yellow- to olive- to brownish-green. The most valued color is a dark olive-green.

(Reprinted with permission from the American Gem Society and Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia.)

FIELD TRIPS AND DATES TO REMEMBER

Tuesday night coffee, first and third Tuesday night, has been renamed to the Fossil Special Interest Group, We will be meeting at 7:00 p.m. at Baker's Dozen, 4310 SW 21st St, Topeka, KS. We will discuss fossils and other collections. Come join us with show and tell.

Aug 20, 7:00 p.m. Fossil Special Interest Group, Show & Tell, at Baker's Dozen, 4310 SW 21st St, Topeka, KS

Aug 24, Field Trip TBA, Meet at McDonalds, 11th and Kansas, 8:30 a.m.

Sept 3, 7:00 p.m. Fossil Special Interest Group, Show & Tell, at Baker's Dozen, 4310 SW 21st St, Topeka, KS.

Sept 17, 7:00 p.m. Fossil Special Interest Group, Show & Tell, Baker's Dozen, 4310 SW 21st St, Topeka, KS.

Oct 12-13 TGMS Show, Kansas Expocentre AG Hall Topeka, Kansas

Public Facebook Page:

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Topeka-Gem-and-Mineral-Society-Field-Trips/92795058262>

Topeka Gem and Mineral Society Calendar:

<http://topekagemandmineral.org/calendar.html>

Trips dates are tentative and subject to additions and change.

Call or e-mail Larry if you have an interest in any of these trips 272-8444 or LHenderson85@gmail.com

Larry Henderson

Field Trip Chairman

Other Regional Show Opportunities

Aug. 24-25: Mountain Home, AR. Ozark Earth Science Gem Mineral & Fossil Club's annual Show & Sale, Van Matre Senior Citizens center, 1101 Spring Street; Sat 9-5, Sun 9-4; www.ozarkearthscience.org

Aug. 24-25: Peoria, IL. PAS Geology's Annual Rock & Mineral Show; Grand Hotel, 4400 N. Brandywine Dr.; Sat. 9-5, Sun. 10-5; boatnick@aol.com

Aug. 30- Sept. 2: Crawford City Park Rock Swap, Crawford, NE. Hosted by Northwest Nebraska Rock Club. Daily trips to Agate Gravel Beds 8 a.m. Sat. 2 p.m. Agate Collectors Meeting with Roger Clark & John Hurst. For more information contact Valerie@bbc.net (308)430-4404 or wade_beins@cameco.com (308)430-1399.

Sept. 13-15: Denver CO. Gem & Mineral Show with the Colorado Fossil Expo, Denver Mart Expo Hall, 451 East 58th Ave (I-25 at Exit 215) www.mzexpos.com or www.denvermineralshow.com

Sept. 20-22: Lincoln Swap: Lincoln, NE., Field Trip for Mozarkite



Shawnee County Fair Results – Our TGMS Junior Rockhound Members

A BIG CONGRATULATIONS, goes out to the Schulz boy's, Thomas, Robert, & Ian and of course to their parents for all their support in accomplishing these goals in the Shawnee County 4-H Fair. They are outstanding and I hope that when you see them that you get acquainted with them. I have only listed a few of the categories that they won in.

Thomas Schulz: Won a total of 8 Purple Ribbons, 5 Blue Ribbons and 4 Red Ribbons in 17 different categories

Reserve Champion,	State Fair,	Geology,	60 Specimens,	Purple Ribbon
Reserve Champion,		Construction Zone,	Satellite Telescope (Legos)	Purple Ribbon
	State Fair,	Photography –	Alcatraz Hallway	Purple Ribbon

Robert Schulz: Won a total of 11 Purple Ribbons, 7 Blue Ribbons, 6 Red Ribbons & 2 White Ribbons in 26 different categories.

	State Fair,	Foods- Buttercup Cake	Chocolate Coffee Frosting,	Purple Ribbon
Reserve Champion,	State Fair,	4-H Banner		Purple Ribbon
	State Fair,	Dog Show,	Showmanship with Jinx,	Purple Ribbon
Reserve Champion,		Fine Art,	NOTO Art Walk Selection – Handi Hand	Purple Ribbon
Grand Champion,		Fashion Review,	Casual (Western Wear)	Purple Ribbon
Reserve Champion,		Fashion Review,	Dressy (Suit)	Purple Ribbon

Ian Schulz: Won a total of 7 Purple Ribbons, 11 Blue Ribbons, 3 Red Ribbons & 3 White Ribbons in 24 different categories.

	State Fair,	Photography,	Dominos in Action	Purple Ribbon
Reserve Champion,		Fashion Review,	Casual (Shorts & Dog Shirt)	Purple Ribbon
Reserve Champion,	State Fair,	Project Educational Display,	Marine Biology, Tidepools	Purple Ribbon
	State Fair,	2 nd Place in the Pedal Tractor Pull		

ASTORITE

Swirling pinks, clear and little fibers of gold and silver make up Astorite. The color ranges from pink, red, clear, white, dark with translucent to opaque areas, showing little flecks of gold and silver. This stone, its contradictions, colors, copper, lead and chalcopyrite). This combination is what gives it a special look - as far as we know, Astorite is only found at a very remote area of Colorado in a mine located 12,000 feet above sea level in an avalanche chute. The mineral and mine are named after the previous mine owner JOHN JACOB ASTOR IV, once considered the wealthiest man in America. Colonel John Jacob Astor IV was born in Rhinebeck, New York on July 13th, 1864 the son of William Astor and greatgrandson of John Jacob Astor the fur trader. His estimated worth in today's dollars would be approximately \$1.3 Billion. He left a fortune that has continued to make the family name prominent. Colonel Astor was a well-traveled man and knew

minerals and metallics, from composition to formation, is one of a kind. Astorite is basically rhodonite, but in addition also contains - pardon us if we get rock-geeky here! - Rhodochrosite, quartz (in the form of pseudomorphs, and chalcedony, after quartz), and ore gangue silicified (complex sulfide ore with native metallics of gold, silver, quality and value. So it's not surprising that he found and purchased the Astor Mine in the San Juan Mountains of southwestern Colorado. The mine was closed when John Jacob Astor IV went down in 1912 with the Titanic in the Atlantic. The portal was sealed upon John's death not to be reopened until 2001. Today this mine produces the finest unique ore body in the world, now known as "Astorite."

*Excerpted from and used with the permission of Trash City Beads:
<http://www.trashcity.com/historyofastorite.htm>
www.trashcity.com for beads & supplies
via Las Cruces Gemcrafters & Explorers Club El Gambrino Apr 2013, Via, The Voice, May 2013.*

Junior Rockhound Page



Classes

On August 1st the Rockhounds met and Pat Gilliland went over Collections activities with our Junior Rockhound members.

Sept 5th– Continue with Showmanship (Pat Gilliland) / Introduction of Leadership (Jason Schulz) 6:30 p.m., Town & Country Christian Church, 4925 S.W. 29th Street, Topeka, KS.

Junior Rockhounds Advisors Meeting

Sept 5th - The Topeka Gem & Mineral Society Advisors will be planning the class calendar for the new year. We will meet at 6:30 pm at the Town & Country Christian Church, Overcomers Room.

Junior Rockhound Roundup September 21st 10 A.M. -5 P.M.

The Advisors met August 1st, and discussed the upcoming Junior Rockhound Roundup to be held on September 21st at the Town & Country Christian Church from 10am to 5pm. This is an opportunity for all Topeka Gem & Mineral Society members and the Public to come and see what activities are available through the Junior Rockhound Program. Instructors will be present to describe what junior members will learn. Current junior members will show some of what they have learned.

Special Class Session September 27th

Junior members are to come a half hour early to the September Meeting of the Topeka Gem & Mineral Society on September 27th in order to evaluate the Washburn Collection.

Junior Rockhound Notebook Contest September 27th

Submitted Junior Rockhounds member notebooks will be judged at the September meeting. Notebooks will be judged on appearance, class handouts included, arranged by class/topic, and informative outside articles. Junior Rockhounds are encouraged to attend the club meetings to receive Patches and Badges.

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/TopekaJuniorRockhounds>



BRAD SMITH'S BENCH TIPS

groups.yahoo.com/group/BenchTips/
or facebook.com/BenchTips

PICKLE PROBLEMS

Dropping a hot item into the pickle after soldering causes a hiss that sends small droplets of the acid pickle into the air. This will rust your nearby tools and can't be all that good to breathe either. My solution is to use a coffee cup of water next to my solder block to quench the piece and then decide if I want to drop it in the pickle.

Also, a hot pickle pot gives off fumes that bother me in my home workshop. I get around that by using my pickle cold. I mix it a little stronger than with a hot pot so that it works just as quickly. I keep it in a large-mouth peanut butter bottle and cap it off whenever I'm done using it.

PROTECTING FINISHED SURFACES

I figure that any accidental scratch I make on a piece means about 15 minutes of extra sanding and polishing. So after finishing major surfaces, I typically cover them with some masking tape to avoid any scratches when doing final work like cleanups and setting of stones. The blue masking tape used by painters is best because it doesn't leave a sticky residue when removed.

BURNISHING BEZELS

A dapping ball can sometimes be used to burnish a bezel. I noticed this when setting some 8 x 10 cabs on a piece of filigree. It was difficult to get enough pressure with a regular burnisher, so I tried a dapping ball and found it much easier. Make sure the ball is well polished (hit it with the Zam wheel) and let it ride along the base of your piece. Select a ball big enough to hit the top of the bezel at the right angle to burnish it down onto the stone.

SUPER PICKLE

We've all made the mistake of putting some steel in the pickle pot. This can cause all your pieces to be coated with copper. Easiest way I've found to clean it off is to fill half a coffee cup with the pickle and put in an ounce or two of hydrogen peroxide from the drug store. Throw your pieces in and the coating is gone in about 10 minutes. When finished, pour the solution back into your pickle pot.

DRILL PRESS VICE

A drill press vice is a versatile tool to hold a workpiece securely and in precise alignment. It reduces the risks of working with high power motors, use of larger drill bits, and higher heat generated in the operation. The vice can be clamped to the drill press table if needed and is quite handy for bench use to hold things for sawing or riveting.

You can find them at stores that carry machine tool supplies. My feeling is that the best ones are made from steel. And I like the ones with V grooves cut into the jaw plates to help hold a punch straight up or to hold a rod horizontal. To find a supplier, search on "vice" or "drill press vice" at micromark.com, use-enco.com, smallparts.com, grizzly.com, or sears.com



DENTAL GOLD

You might think that a couple pieces of dental gold would be valuable, but if you only have a small amount, it can be a problem. You might think you could melt it and roll out your own sheet. However, the trace metals that dental gold contains to make it a good material in your mouth cause it to crack if you try to forge it or roll it out as a sheet.

Sending it to a refiner is expensive for small amounts of metal, so a reasonable alternative is to try incorporating it into your jewelry. If you have enough material to do a casting, that's probably the best use for dental gold. If not, try melting it on a solder pad and while molten, divide it into small pieces with your solder pick and then flow the metal again to make little gold balls for use as accents on your designs.