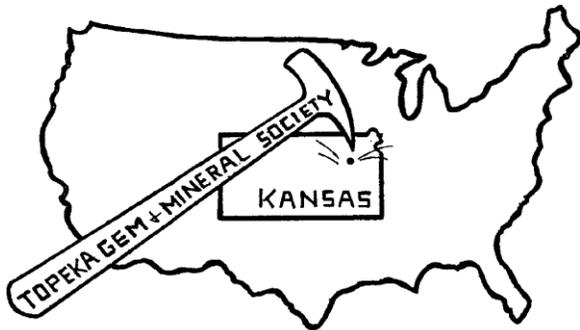


The Topeka Gem and Mineral Society, Inc.
 1934 SW 30th St. Topeka, KS 66611
 Rock2Plate@aol.com

THE GLACIAL DRIFTER



www.topekagemandmineral.org
 Facebook: Topeka Gem and Mineral Society Field Trip

The 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. 58, No. 04, Apr. 2015

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.**

2015 OFFICERS AND CHAIRS

President	Mike Cote	220-3272	Cab of the Month	Debra Frantz/Fred Zeferjohn	862-8876
1 st Vice Pres.	Dave Dillon	272-7804	Field Trip Coord.	Larry Henderson	-----
2 nd Vice Pres.	Carolyn Brady	233-8305	Publicity	Donna Stockton	913-645-7677
Secretary	Cinda Kunkler	286-1790	Welcome/Registration	Jason Schulz	379-5538
Treasurer	Millie Mowry	267-2849	Property	M. Cote/D. Dillon	379-5538
Directors	Harold Merrifield	286-3548	AFMS Scholarship	Cinda Kunkler	286-1790
	Chuck Curtis	286-1790	Editor/Exchange Editor	Millie Mowry	267-2849
	George Reed	836-9277	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	-----
Librarian	open	-----	Show Case Coordinator	Francis Stockton	913-645-7677
Web Master	Jason Schulz	379-5538			

Area Code for all numbers is (785).

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.



We still need Best Choice UPS Labels before Cinda can turn them in. Bring them in at the next meeting



Members, Well, if the temperature keeps stable it might be time to open the barn. I know everyone is anxious to begin lapidary classes again. SO, I am looking at May 5th as the first class at the barn. Millie will send out an e-mail at the first of the month with the directions to my house. I'm glad to see everyone at the meeting. I hope to see just as many next meeting as Ken Stalder will present the program.

Mike and his Rock Stash!



Words from our V. P.

I have nothing new to report at this time. Nothing going on at the moment. Have to ask Mike when class is going to start. He is supposed to let us know when in April or first of May.

Dave!



<http://www.toolboxinitiative.org>

This a site where they collect new or gently used tools and silver and donate them to the jewelers in West Africa at no cost. On the web site you can read the stories of these jewelers who make a living using very primitive tools to make their jewelry and when given these new or gently used ones they are very appreciative. This organization is helping educate the jewelers with classes as well. I first heard of this organization through a post on Facebook and enjoyed reading a day by day account of their travels giving away and holding classes that I thought everyone should know of what good they are doing for the hobby we all enjoy.

Editor of the Drifter.

Kids are Wonderful

One Sunday morning, the pastor noticed little Alex standing in the foyer of the church staring up at a large plaque.

It was covered with names and small American flags mounted on either side of it.

The six-year old had been staring at the plaque for some time, so the pastor walked up, stood beside the little boy, and said quietly, 'Good morning Alex'.

'Good morning Pastor,' he replied, still focused on the plaque. 'Pastor, what is this? '

The pastor said, 'Well son, it's a memorial to all the young men and women who died in the service.'

Soberly, they just stood together, staring at the large plaque.

Finally, little Alex's voice, barely audible and trembling with fear asked,

'Which service, the 8:30 or the 10:30?'

(Internet Humor)

Household Products That Can Be Used As Rock Cleaners

by Betsy Martin

Safety:

Always use plastic containers, rubber or nitrile gloves, eye protection, good ventilation, and great care when handling these products.

1. Zud or Barkeeper's Friend cleansers (contains oxalic acid) - Warm or hot solutions will remove iron stains and are helpful with clay deposits. These cleaners can be used with a tooth-brush on sturdy surfaces.
2. Toilet Cleaner (the hydrochloric acid type) Dissolves calcite rapidly. *** after treating anything with an acid, rinse very carefully and soak in ample fresh or distilled water for a while to leach out any acid remaining in crystal seams and fractures. You can then follow up with a final soak in dilute Windex to neutralize remaining traces of acid.
3. Lime Away (dilute hydrochloric acid) dissolves calcite more slowly. Rinse as you would for other acid treatments (see above).
4. Calgon—Dissolve this powdered water softener in water. Use for clay removal.
5. Vinegar (Acetic acid), soda water, colas (carbonic and phos-phoric acids) - Will slowly etch out very delicate fossils in limestone. Rinse as you would for other acids (see above)
6. Iron Out (iron stain and clay remover) Mix with warm water and use with good ventilation. It will lose strength if stored. Rinse with plain water.
7. Bleach— Dilute solutions of bleach can remove organic deposits and disinfect minerals collected in areas used by livestock. Rinse with plain water.
8. Hydrogen peroxide— Use to remove manganese stains. Rinse with plain water.
9. Citric acid- Use to remove manganese stains. Rinse as above for acids.
10. Windex (with ammonia) A good clay deposit remover and final surface cleanup. Works well in ultrasonic cleaners. Rinse with plain water.
11. Distilled Water— Use to clean sensitive species and as a final soak after acid treatment.

Removing Thin Coatings:

On moderately hard minerals— use toothpaste (a feldspar abra-sive) and a toothbrush.

On hard minerals— use toothbrush with pumice powder and water.

On calcite (including bruised places)- quickly dip in vinegar or *Lime Away* and rinse thoroughly. Repeat. Soak in plain water af-terwards to leach any acid from cracks.

Cleaning Tools:

Toothpicks, seam ripper, bamboo sticks, sewing needles in a pin vise, old dental tools, old toothbrushes, periodontal brushes, canned air, Exacto knife, single edge razor blades, cheap small

(Source: Via the Franklin CO Rouckhounder 5/07; Via Gem Cutters News 4/07; Via the Collectime Bag 12/06; Via Breccia 6/07; Via The Rockhounder April 2015)

Bench Tips for Jewelry Making

DIVIDERS

A set of dividers is a tool I find very useful in laying out the geometry of a piece I'm making. It has two needle-like tips with an adjustment to set the spacing between them.

They can be used to transfer a measurement. Let's say you need a 7mm wide strip of sheet metal. Set the spacing between the divider tips to 7mm on the ruler. Then lay the sheet on the bench, put one tip against the edge, and run the dividers down the edge scribing a line parallel to the edge.

Dividers can be used to mark equal segments of a line or arc. For instance assume a line between A and B that might be straight or curved, and you want to divide it into 5 equal lengths. Set the dividers to an estimate of the distance. Starting at Point A, use the dividers to mark off five lengths along the line. If you end up short of Point B, lengthen the distance on the dividers. If you end up overshooting Point B, shorten the length of your dividers. After a few tries, the length on the dividers will be the exact distance you need to mark the 5 segments.

Dividers can let you quickly find the center of a circular disk. With one tip of the dividers at the edge of the disk, set the other tip to an estimate of where the center might be. Fix one tip of the dividers at the 3 o'clock position and scribe an arc with the other tip near the center. Do this again from the 6 o'clock, 9 o'clock, and 12 o'clock positions. The arcs at the center will form a small four-sided box. The center of the box is at the center of the disk.

- - - - -

PIECE OF LEATHER

Leather has a multitude of uses in the shop. I often use a scrap of it to avoid scratching the back of a piece of jewelry while setting stones. It's also great for times when you need to clamp one of your tools in a vise, for instance a drawplate.

Get all 101 of Brad's bench tips in "Bench Tips for Jewelry Making" on Amazon

Meeting of the Topeka Gem and Mineral Society – 3/27/15

Mike Cote' called the meeting to order.

Jason Schulz announced 27 members and 2 guests are present for the meeting, door prizes were awarded. (Still can use more door prizes – bring them to the next meeting!)

The minutes from the February meeting were printed in The Drifter. Chuck Curtis made a motion and Jason 2nd to accept as printed.

Cinda gave the treasurers report for Millie Mowry and she was taking dues. No bills were presented. Motion was made to accept the report, by Harold and Chuck 2nd, motion carried.

Correspondence: Cinda has information for the RMFMS Convention to be held in Cody WY July 16-18, 2015. We received a letter from Lois Bartley-Spencer, she will no longer be a helping to judge the 4-H exhibits at our show. Thank you Lois for all your help in past years!

Committee reports: Show – Harold – nothing, Dave – went to the KC show and gave out a contract to one dealers with gem trees. Talked with Ameritool, they are possibly considering being a dealer at our show. The tokens are ordered.

AFMS-Cinda, still collecting Best Choice labels, nothing else to report. Publicity-Donna; nothing to report. Historian-Deborah; nothing to report.

Field Trip-Larry no field trip tomorrow, as they went to The Crater of Diamonds last weekend. The Children's Discovery Center was March 16-20th we had tables and several sign up for Junior Rockhounds. The Jr's had fossils class last month. We have been invited to the Ft Leavenworth event. Jr Rockhound Andrew Newman was presented his badges.

With no further business, Chuck moved and Jason 2nd to adjourn to our program – Larry Henderson – The Crater of Diamonds Trip.

Fred announced the Cab of the Month Winners are:

Member Cab: Dave Dillon – Dryhead Agate, Member Jewelry: Dave Dillon – Fire Agate Ring.

Respectfully submitted by Cinda Kunkler, Secretary

Field Trip Calendar

The first and third Tuesday night the Fossil Special Interest Group will meet 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.

An up-to-date Calendar can be found on the Topeka Gem and Mineral Society Website:

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

Public Facebook Page:

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

Trips dates are tentative and subject to additions and change. E-mail Larry if you have an interest in any of these trips LHenderson85@gmail.com Larry Henderson, Field Trip Chairman

- April 7, 7:00 p.m. Fossil Special Interest Group, Show & Tell, at Baker's Dozen,
- April 21, 7:00 p.m. Fossil Special Interest Group, Show & Tell, at Baker's Dozen,
- April 25, **Due to Wichita Show on April 25, we will not have a field trip on this Saturday.**
- May 1-3, McPherson Sale & Swap, with possible field trip to Equus Beds and area museums. Contact Larry if interested.
- May 5, 7:00 p.m. Fossil Special Interest Group, Show & Tell, at Baker's Dozen,
- May 16, The Museum at Prairiefire "Dinosaurs: Ancient Fossils, New Discoveries" (This is a change of date.)

Additional Show Dates:

- April 4-5, 2015 57th Annual Lincoln Gem & Mineral Club Show, Lancaster Event Center, 84th & Havelock, Lincoln, NE. Sat. 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sun. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
www.lincolngemmineralclub.org
- April 24-26, 2015 Wichita Gem & Mineral Show, Cessna Activity Center, 2744 George Washington Blvd, Wichita, KS 316-260-4591 www.wgmsks.org F-9-6, S-10-6 S-10-5p.m.
- May 1-3 McPherson, KS swap at erh 4-H Fairgrounds, hosted by McPherson Gem & Minersl Club. Free vendor space available, call to reserve a swap space Kim Vasper 620-241-7732 or Brett Whitenack 620-241-7600 Free admission Fri/Sat 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Sun 10:30 to 3p.m.
- June 6-7 Springfield, MO Ozark Mountain Gem & Mineral Society show at the Missouri Institute of Natural Science museum grounds, 2327 W. Farm Road, Springfield, MO . Free admission. Public rock auction at 5:30 p.m. Saturday.

For additional listings of gem shows see www.rockngem.com

Corrections to the 2015 Directory

Larry & May Springer—email larrmay1025@gmail.com

Debbi Ritz—phone number 785-231-7821

Tammy & Gary Vagts—phone number 785-409-0788 no email

If you change your phone number or email address, please let me know so I can make the change.
Millie Mowry, Treasurer

TOPEKA JUNIOR ROCKHOUNDS

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/TopekaJuniorRockhounds>
To register for the Junior Rockhounds or any of the classes, email Shirley Schulz, Program Secretary sschulz@kdheks.gov.



Classes start at 6:30pm at the Town & Country Christian Church, 4925 SW 29th Street. The Topeka Junior Rockhound Advisors will meet at 6:30 pm. Junior Rockhounds are encouraged to attend the club meetings to receive Patches and Badges.

Upcoming Junior Rockhound's class:

May 7th, *Collecting*, Badge #5, with Pat Gilliland

We had a good team working with the Junior Rockhounds, Thursday, April 2nd. Jason and Shirley working registration, Brad helping me with setup, and Barbara handling the activities. Carolyn was there for moral support. I appreciate them. It turned out to be quite a dinosaur party. Larry Henderson



Barbara with Junior Rockhounds at the Dinosaur class. Their activity is assembling dinosaur models.

TODAY'S CHUCKLE: Food For Thought:

A dietitian was once addressing a large audience in Chicago. "The material we put into our stomachs is enough to have killed most of us sitting here, years ago. Soft drinks erode your stomach lining. Chinese food is loaded with MSG. Vegetables can be coated with pesticides, and no one really knows the long-term consequences of the germs found in drinking water." But there is one thing that is the most dangerous of all and we all have, or will eat it". *Can anyone here tell me - what is the food that causes the most grief and suffering for years after eating it?*" A 75 year old man in the front row stood up and said, "Wedding Cake!?"

(Source: *Gems of the Rogue* -5/2008-*Deming Rock Chips* 2-2011) The Ammonite April 2015

Pneumonoultramicroscopicsilicovolcanoconiosis

This is the longest word in the dictionary. It is an ailment caused by inhaling very fine silicate or quartz dust.

Rockhounds, take warning and precautions when you are dry sanding; always wear a face mask.

The word may be long, but the cure is longer. And you'd have a hard time telling your doctor what you have.

(From Roadrunner News and seen in ROAMIN' RAMS 12/01, via The Post Rock 12/07; News and Views 3/15; THE CLACKAMETTE GEM" APRIL 2015)

Carlsonite: New Mineral Species Discovered in Northern Ohio

by Daniel Blake Reprinted with permission from Ohio Geological Survey.

February 18, 2015—Ohio is now the birthplace of one of the world's new mineral species. The new mineral, *carlsonite*, has been discovered by Dr. Anthony Kampf of the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County and Dr. Peter Richards of Heidelberg University, who spent time investigating a shale fire along the Huron River in 2009.

"It is always exciting when a new mineral is discovered—one that has never been seen before anywhere," said Richards. "Carlsonite is the first new mineral to be described from a location in Ohio, other than two that were discovered in a meteorite that just happened to fall here."



Thin tablets of carlsonite $(\text{NH}_4)_5\text{Fe}_3+3\text{O}(\text{SO}_4)_6 \cdot 7\text{H}_2\text{O}$ from a shale fire site along the West Branch Huron River near River Road, in Huron County, Ohio. Field of view is 2.0 mm. Anthony Kampf specimen and photo.

The mineral is named after the late Dr. Ernest Carlson (1933–2010), a Kent State University professor, for his outstanding contributions to mineralogy. Dr. Carlson passed away in November 2010 in Cleveland at the age of seventy-six. At the time of his death, he had completed and submitted a revision of his popular *Minerals of Ohio*, originally published in 1991 by the Ohio Geological Survey, and was engaged in a study of the Huron River shale fire.

The shale fire occurred in a rock outcrop of the Late Devonian Huron Shale Member of the Ohio Shale along River Road, northeast of the town of Monroeville in Ridgefield Township, Huron County. At the time of inspection, geologists were uncertain of the cause. The current hypothesis suggests the fire started in September 2009 as the result of spontaneous combustion. The shale fire burned until March 2011 and created a variety of exotic mineral species, such as boussinggaulite and lonecreekite, as well as the never-before-observed carlsonite.

"The natural shale fire in which [carlsonite] formed is a rare mineral-forming environment, especially in an otherwise tame geological state like Ohio," said Richards.

Carlsonite was produced by the condensation of gases in the oil-shale fire. It occurs in crystal form as thin to thick tablets up to about 0.5 mm but often much smaller. At this scale, the yellow to orange-brown crystals are best viewed through a high-powered microscope. As defined by Carlson, a mineral is a naturally formed solid substance generally having a definite chemical composition and specific physical properties. Carlsonite's physical properties include perfect cleavage, irregular fracture pattern, tan streak, and a glassy, transparent luster. Density could not be measured because the mineral is soluble in liquids used to measure density. In addition to carlsonite, another new mineral species has been discovered from the Huron River shale fire site and has yet to be named pending further study.

The Ohio Geological Survey is grateful to Dr. Anthony Kampf and Dr. Peter Richards for their dedicated research in the field of mineralogy and contributions to the State of Ohio.

Further Reading

- Larsen, Glenn, 2010, Survey inspects a rare Ohio geohazard: *Ohio Geology*, 2010, no. 1, p. 7 . [pdf]

(Source: Rocky Reader March 2015)

Ancient Hermits

How long have hermit crabs walked the seafloors? While the origins of modern-day hermit crabs may be obscure, paleontologists have found early Holocene (about 10,000 years ago) trace fossil trackways of hermit crabs preserved in the Bahamas.

But “hermit” behavior pre-dates the hermit crab. Hermit crabs find the hollow shell of a dead snail or bivalve, and carry it around. When danger threatens, they withdraw backward into the shell.

As it grows, the hermit crab will discard its borrowed seashell for another, larger shell.

Apparently, throughout the fossil record, there were other arthropods, before the hermit crab, that carried around brachiopod or gastropod shells for protection. Researchers recently identified the trackways of hermit arthropods in Late Cambrian (about 500 million years old) rocks in Wisconsin. Trackways occur in sandstone that once was sand laid down between the high- and low-tide marks along an ancient ocean shore. Even though they have not yet found any fossils of the track-making arthropod, scientists deduced that these arthropods behaved like hermit crabs because their tracks were asymmetrical – as might be expected from an animal partially inside a shell. During the Cambrian, very few animals lived on land.

Paleontologists speculate that hermit behavior may have helped ocean-dwelling arthropods safely make excursions up onto the beach.

Ref: Hagadorn, J. W., and Seilacher, A., 2009, “Hermit arthropods 500 million years ago?” *Geology*, v. 37, no. 4, p 295-298. (©2010, Andrew A. Sicree, Ph.D. via; RockyReader July 2011)

Ye Olde Englishe Rocke

The English language is replete with obsolete words and terms. Here are some that once applied to rocks and minerals:

Bonksman: The man who works at the mouth of a coal mine.

Comet-wine: Grapes growing during a year in which a comet appeared were thought to be better in flavor than those of other years, thus wine made during those years is thought to be superior in quality. Why? It was thought that comets could influence the weather, yielding a warmer growing season and better grapes.

Eagle-stone: Generally, an eagle-stone was a piece of iron ore. Eagles were believed to carry these stones up to their nests because the stones would prevent their eggs from rotting. Alternatively, an eagle-stone was a fossil that rattled when shaken because of a small loose fragment inside it. The eagle-stone was necessary for the eagle to raise healthy young. Eagle-stones also found use by pregnant women who wore them as a charm to prevent miscarriages.

Old-man: If underground miners broke into older, forgotten mine workings, they’d say that “the oldman has been here” or that they “got into an oldman.”

Puttingstone: It was the custom among great houses in Scotland to keep a huge stone by their gates. Thrown from the shoulder, the stone was used for trials of strength. It was perhaps an ancestor to the shot put.

Sand-knocker: Sandstone was ground into grit, and the sand-knocker made it and sold it door-to-door for use in sanding down floors.

Sea-dog: Sailors viewed the sea-dog, a meteor seen on the horizon shortly before or after sunset, as a sign or portent of bad weather to come.

Slocking-stone: To promote a mining scheme, investors might be shown a slocking-stone, which was a very rich specimen of ore from the mine, as an inducement to buy.

Surface-coal: Another term for cow “chips” or cattle dung, which was widely used for burning.

Thunderstone: The thunderstone was a rock supposedly created by thunder. The belief in thunderstones might have its origin in the fulgerite, which is a fused rock created when lightning strikes sand or soil. Fulgerites may have a forked or branching structure; thus they were thought to be thunderbolts, or thunderstones.

Verter-water: Rainwater that collected in small hollows in rocks and tombstones was thought to work as a cure for warts.

Warming-stone: Warming-stones were pebbles used by bakers to indicate that their ovens were hot enough for baking. When the stone turned white, the oven was ready.

(**Ref:** Kacirk, J., 2000, *The Word Museum*, Touchstone, Simon & Shuster, New York, NY. Via RockyReader July 2011)