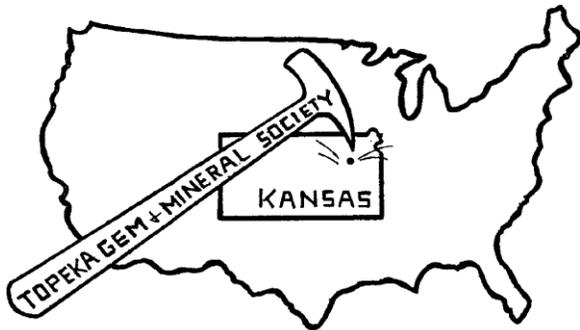


The Topeka Gem and Mineral Society, Inc.  
 1934 SW 30<sup>th</sup> St. Topeka, KS 66611  
 Rock2Plate@aol.com

# THE GLACIAL DRIFTER



[www.topekagemandmineral.org](http://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. 59, No. 01, JAN. 2016

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: 4<sup>th</sup> 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 30<sup>th</sup> St, Topeka, KS 66611.**

## 2015 OFFICERS AND CHAIRS

President	Mike Cote	220-3272	Cab of the Month	Debra Frantz/Fred Zeferjohn	862-8876
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice Pres.	Dave Dillon	272-7804	Field Trip Coord.	Larry Henderson	-----
2 <sup>nd</sup> 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
	May Springer	231-4321	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			

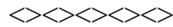
Area Code for all numbers is (785).

## EXCHANGE BULLETINS WELCOME

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



Meeting of the Topeka Gem and Mineral Society  
No meeting minutes for the month of December Cinda Kunkler, Secretary



### Words From Mike

**YOUR 2016 MEMBERSHIP DUES ARE DUE!** Is the word from Millie if you joined before October 2015. If in doubt, contact her at 267-2849 or [rock2plate@aol.com](mailto:rock2plate@aol.com). This month's program is the Silent Auction and will be filled with lots of interesting rocks to cut and polish. We are asking your help for your ideas for the coming year on programs that you would like to have. Let one of the Officers know what you would like. Bill Smith our RMFMS State Director, is planning to attend our general meeting on January 22, 2016, please make him feel welcome.

President Mike and his Rock Stash!



## We still need Best Choice UPS Labels!

### Word from our V. P.

Welcome to the New Year!!! Look forward to seeing everyone at our meetings. No classes until spring sometime in April. Silent auction is this month program, so everyone bring whatever you don't want so we can sell it and add to the club funds. Remember this year show will be our "60th" so we need new ideas for our show this year. Let your officers know what you have in mine so we can address these at our meetings! Dave-



**YOUR 2016 MEMBERSHIP DUES ARE DUE!** If you joined the last of September or in October you are paid up for 2016. If you have any question about it, contact me. Millie [rock2plate@aol.com](mailto:rock2plate@aol.com)

### ON THE MEND!

**Francis Stockton**, had an operation on his heart in KC on the 11<sup>th</sup>, and we wish him well.

**Deborah Scanland**, fell and broke her foot.

**Harold Merrifield**, got his foot caught in his easy chair, fell and broke his foot.

**Rick Knight**, had a terrible accident at the zoo, falling out of a tree sustaining several severe injuries. He is now home to rest.

## Publicity News

The first meeting of TGMS Publicity meeting was on Dec. 29, 2015 at 6:30 pm at St. Peters United Methodist Church, at 35th and hwy. 75 in Topeka.

Francis, Donna, May, Annie, Cinda, Chuck, Millie and Annie's son Rodnell attended. The discussion included coming up with a comprehensive publicity plan and a brainstorming list of what we might want to do, how we might get there and where the money might come from.

We spoke about: Sponsors/ Donors, T-shirts, Hats, Billboards, TV, Radio, Fliers, posters, wooden nickels, bags, cookbook, calendars, mugs and use of e-mail. We discussed briefly that we need to include all of these things to have a comprehensive publicity plan. How do we increase the budget for these items?

A short list of places to approach for sponsorships includes: Jewelry shops, Hamm Quarries, Meier's concrete, Lardner Monuments, Kansas Sand and Concrete, Equity Bank-where we have our accounts, Benevolence from our own members, Bake and or jewelry sales at Fairlawn Plaza and farmers market or NOTO events.. The last two items could be done several times a year, giving us opportunities to handout TGMS info and start really branding our club.

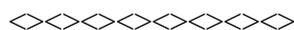
We need to first have our Theme in Place. Francis suggested, "Diamond Jubilee has many facets." We are opened to any suggestions. Bring suggestions to General Meeting.

We need to come up with an agreement to take to donors/sponsors that would be on letterhead that would give our name, contact person(s), space for their contact information, what we are prepared to offer them for their sponsorship and what we expect from them. May is searching a boiler plate to help us. To me, a donor would simply give a monetary or in-kind donation where as a Sponsor would chose something to specifically help with like billboards or brochure, tables or chairs, if that were somethings we needed help paying for. For their sponsorship/donor-ship, we would put their company name on the bottom of the billboards, in our brochure, perhaps a sign posted somewhere on the walls of venue during the show. Our first year maybe less than what we ultimately want to strive for, but we are getting into the game a little late this year to hit companies building and passing budgets. 2016 budgets are already in place for most businesses but we can sign up some of those people for 2017.

We have received lots of help and suggestions from Shelly Ramos from Topeka Civic Theatre. She suggests we have several levels of giving; we could have those who give \$10-\$50, for instance, Silver level and those giving \$100 - \$500 as a Gold level, \$500-\$1000 as a Diamond level. This needs to be decided before we print the agreement.

We can plan some fun events that supplement the Silent Auctions we already do. All TGMS members are invited to join the committee at the next meeting on Wednesday, January 13, 2016 at 6:30 pm., at St. Peters UMC at 35<sup>th</sup> St. and Hwy. 75, or get those ideas written down and given to a committee member.

Thanks, Donna Stockton



Answers to last month's quiz IS IT REALLY JADE?

Match the correct names or meanings:

Green jasper is: Jasper Jade

A dark green jasper: Oregon Jade

Malachite is: Silver Peak Jade

A microcline: Colorado Jade

Chrysophase is: Australian Jade

Adverturine is: Amazon Jade

A green-dyed marble or calcite: Mexican Jade

A mixture of idocrase & grossular: American Jade

Flukien, Manchurian, Honan jades are all soapstone.

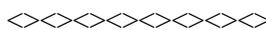
A massive variety of green grossular garnet: Transvaal Jade

A bowenite, a hard variety of serpentine: Korean Jade

(Hint, all were listed in the November 2002 Drifter)

(from Carmel Valley Prospector, Via Breccia 5/98, Via Golden Spike News 3/01)

OK, how many did you get right?



## Field Trip Calendar

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>

- **January 23, TBA**
- **February 27, Kansas Children's Discovery Center**

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](mailto:LHenderson85@gmail.com)

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### Additional Show Dates:

- ✓ March 11-13, 2016 KCI Expo Center 11730 NW Ambassador Dr, Exit 112ST off I-29 or KCI Exit (Cookingham Dr.) off I-435, Fri 10-8, Sat 10-7, Sun 10-5. [www.kcgemshow.org](http://www.kcgemshow.org)
- ✓ April 22-24, 2016 Wichita, KS, RMFMS Convention & Show Cessna Activity Center 2744 George Washington Blvd., Fri 9-6, Sat 10-6, Sun 10-5.

For additional listings of gem shows see [www.rockngem.com](http://www.rockngem.com)

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### Fossil Special Interest Group

The first and third Tuesday night at 7:00 p.m. at Baker's Dozen, 4310 SW 21st St, Topeka, KS. We will discuss fossils and other collections.

**Jan. 19**                      **Feb. 2**

Come join us with show and tell.

**Junior Rockhounds can get help on their collections.**

### 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](mailto:sschulz@kdheks.gov).

Classes start at 6:30 pm 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.

We have a Junior Rockhounds Activities Center that is open at the general meetings. It begins at 7:00 pm and run through the meeting preceding the program. Door prizes and patch/badge presentations will be given out at that time.

Youth must be accompanied by a parent or guardian to all events.

#### Junior Rockhound - New Class Schedule 2016

February 4      Rocking on the Computer-Jason Schulz  
March 3         Earth Resources- Ken Stalder

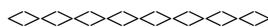
#### Junior Rockhound Activity Center

General Meeting      Stoffer Science Hall      Washburn University  
7:00 PM January 22, 2016 / 7:00 PM February 26, 2016





Jr Rockhound Awards



## Alunite by Hale Sweeny

Alunite is a potassium aluminum sulfate,  $K-Al_3-(SO_4)_2-(OH)_6$ . Also called alumstone. They use it mostly to produce alum. There are some (now not active) mines near Marysvale, UT that I have visited a time or two. The ore can be processed to recover both potassium and alum, and they started to develop the Marysvale mines during WWII; more to get the potash for gunpowder than for the aluminum, as I remember.

But they got into a big hassle with the State government vs private parties etc. about just where to build the plant where it was going to be processed, and very little came of it before the end of the war. It is mostly massive or disseminated, but the stuff I have from the "good" mine is somewhat crystalline and rather attractive. It is rather soft, about 4.



Alunite is sulfate of potassium and aluminum. Hardness: 3.5 - 4.0. Sp G: 2.6 I have the chemical composition if anyone wants it. Alunite, also known as Alumstone, is found in Nevada, Utah and Colorado. It is a reddish pink with gray areas and has a waxy feel. The material I have used would not need to be stabilized. I do not think it would absorb stabilizer easily. The suggestion about using a stocking in polishing gypsum sounds interesting and viable. My alunite is in a sphere form and polishing was not easy due to its softness. - Mike Eggleton

*(Source: via Stoney Statements 2/11; WGMS Rockhounder Jan 2016)*

**YOUR 2016 MEMBERSHIP DUES ARE DUE!** If you joined the last of September or in October you are paid up for 2016. If you have any question about it, contact me. Millie rock2plate@aol.com

Bench Tips- By Brad Smith

DEPTH GAUGE FOR DRILLING

Sometimes you need to drill a number of holes all to the same depth. One quick and easy way to do this is to wind some tape around the drill bit so that the tape just touches the part surface when the hole is deep enough.

You can set the depth either by measuring from the tip of the drill to the tape or by drilling to the correct depth, leaving the bit in the hole, and wrapping tape around the bit at the surface level.

Note that a little extra tape left free on the end will blow away debris from the drilling.



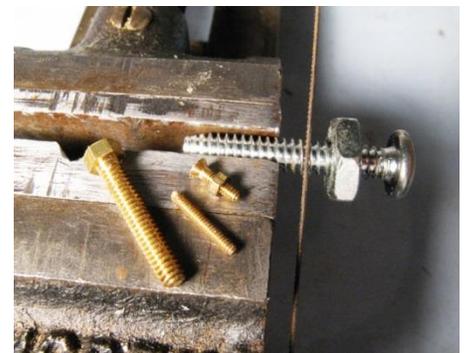
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CUTTING A BOLT

Whenever you have to cut a threaded bolt shorter, it's often difficult to get the nut to thread back onto it. And the smaller the bolt, the more difficult it is to restore any distorted threads. The problem is easily solved with the use of a nut. Here's how I do it.

First, screw a nut onto the bolt before cutting it. Grip the bolt by the threaded section that is to be sawed off. Then saw the bolt to the desired length, taper the end with sandpaper or file, and unscrew the nut from the bolt.

Unscrewing the nut over the freshly cut end of the bolt will straighten out any damage that sawing and filing did to the threads. Gripping the bolt by the piece to be sawed off localizes any crushing damage to the piece that will be thrown away.



Please include the following attribution with each publication "Bench Tips for Jewelry Making" and "Broom Casting for Creative Jewelry" are available on Amazon

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**Got Rust?! By Dennis Schneider**

I use Super Iron Out (available at Walmart for \$2.47) to clean quartz crystals, and I must say this product is great! I used to boil them in Oxalic acid. But that process has MANY flaws. (Even slow heating and cooling causes fractures, fumes, and it eats through the cooker.) Now all I do is pour 1 bottle of Super Iron Out into a 2 gallon gas can (NOTE I said pour acid into the water), seal and shake. The crystals are in large flat Tupperware containers, and I simply pour in enough of the mixture to cover the crystals by at least an inch. Then snap the lid and put in a dark place for 2 days. (Not sure if the darkness is needed, but I have a shed with racks that I use.) After 2 days there is little sign of rust/oxidation. I rinse the crystals and then soak them for 24 hours in a baking soda bath, neutralizing any remaining acid. I have seen this remove rust from some of the nastiest looking crystals with just 1 or 2 soakings. Including some ugly clusters I got from the Spruce Claim. It even left the un-oxidized pyrites alone! Super Iron Out contains sodium hydrosulfate and sodium bisulfite. They have a website at <http://ironout.com>.

Via Petroglyphs 11-12/ 2015;The Tumbler, 11/15; Washington Agate & Mineral Society Newsletter, 11/15; Wonders of the Mine 2010; Clackamette Gem Dec 2015

# Minerals Named After Women

Almost 100 minerals have been named after women. Some were mineral collectors. Others were scientists. Others were wives of scientists. Listed below are a number of minerals that were named after women.

Use this website (<http://www.webmineral.com/help/NameOrigin.shtml>) and discover more about the women behind these mineral names. Match these names on the left with the accurate fact about the woman after whom the mineral was named on the right.

Rosemaryite	Russian Mineralogist
Lindbergite	The discoverer of the element radium
Sklodowskite	A distinguished mineral collector. Her husband was Eugene.
Caresite	Wife of Professor Peter Wyllie
Sophiite	A French chemist
Carnotite	A Russian volcanologist and mineralogist
Marialite	A United States Geological Survey Scientist
Mcnearite	A mineral collector and dealer from Sudbury, Mass.
Rondorfite	Her full name was Maria Rosa von Rath
Olgite	A mineralogist and crystallographer from Switzerland



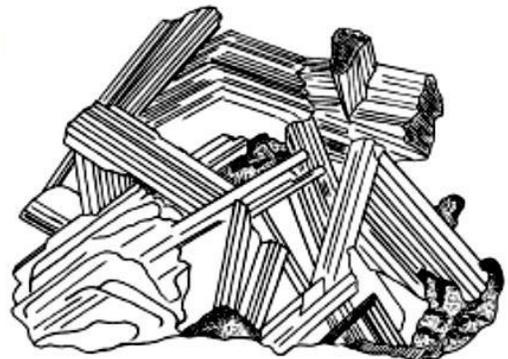
Two minerals were named after Marie Curie-Sklodowska (1867-1934), sklodowskite and curite (named after Marie and her husband, Pierre). The mineral cuprosklodowskite was originally thought to be a copper-bearing version of sklodowskite and so its name bears Marie's name.

Pierre and Marie Curie discovered the element *radium*.

*Left: A Polish stamp with a portrait of Marie Curie-Sklodowska*

The deep green mineral called *szenicsite* was discovered in Chile by Terry and Marissa Szenics. This mineral named was officially approved in 1994. The Szenics are American mineral collectors and mineral dealers. *Szenicsite* contains the elements copper and molybdenum. Marissa Szenics was born in 1950.

*Right: A specimen of Szenicsite.*



## TANZANITE FOUND ONLY IN ONE PLACE ON THE PLANET

Tanzanite is mined in only one place on planet Earth--in the African country of Tanzania. For whatever the reason this dark blue and purplish gemstone is found only there, having been discovered as recently as 1967. It is highly sought today due to its deep intense color and rarity. Tanzanite is a blue variety of the gemstone zoisite. It consists of calcium aluminum silicate and is not particularly hard, having a value of 6.5 to 7 on the Mohs scale. The gem should always be worn carefully and never placed in an ultrasonic bath for cleaning or brought into contact with acids.

Scientists think this is how the gem was formed. Millions of years ago, metamorphic schists, gneisses and quartzite's formed impressive, flat-topped inselbergs on a vast plain in the shadow of Kilimanjaro. The precious crystals grew in deposits on the inside of these unusual elevations. For a long, long time they were hidden until one day passing Masai shepherds noticed some sparkling crystals lying in the sun and took them along with them. In Merelani today, the search is carried on for the coveted crystals in several, smallish mines, in some cases using modern methods. As a rule, only small grains are found, but now and again the mineworkers succeed in securing a larger crystal.

When the first tanzanites were offered to the jewelry company Tiffany's, a short time after their discovery, they sparked an enthusiastic reaction. Tiffany did make a recommendation to give the stone another name, since the gemologically correct name--blue zoisite--was felt to be too close to the words "blue suicide."

So Tiffany's proposed the name "tanzanite" after the place where the stone had been found ---a name which quickly came into general use in the trade. And it was Tiffany's who, two years after its discovery, presented the exclusive gemstone to the general public with a broad-based advertising campaign: 'You can only find Tanzanite in two places, Tanzania and Tiffany's.' "

(From Gemstne.com and other sources, via CEDAR VALLEY GEMS, Oct. 2014 via: The Rear Trunk Dec 2015)



A rough sample of tanzanite.



Hologram of a Trichroic Tanzanite Specimen



Multicoloured Tanzanite Crystal

(Pictures from Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia)