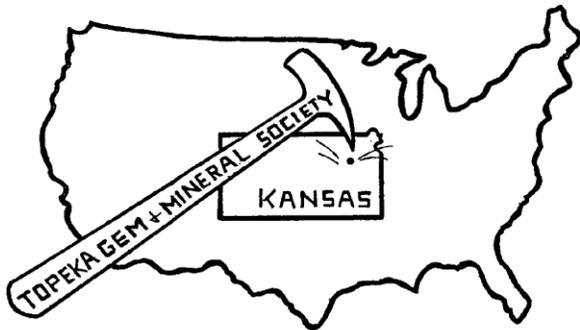


The Topeka Gem and Mineral Society, Inc.
 1934 SW 30th St. Topeka, KS 66611
 Rock2Plate@aol.com

THE GLACIAL DRIFTER



www.TopekaGMS or
 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. 07, Aug. 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: 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.**

2016 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.	Leslie Hartman	380-6016
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	633-9745	AFMS Scholarship	Cinda Kunkler	286-1790
	Chuck Curtis	286-1790	Editor/Exchange Editor	Millie Mowry	267-2849
	May Springer	286-0742	Show Chairman	Harold Merrifield	633-9745
Historian	Deborah Scanland	273-3034	Show Dealer Chairman	Dave Dillon	272-7804
Federation Rep	Harold Merrifield	633-9745	Show Secretary	Cinda Kunkler	286-1790
Corporation Agent	Millie Mowry	267-2849	Jr. Rockhound Leader	Jason Schulz	379-5538
Librarian	open	-----	Show Case Coordinator	Francis Stockton	913-645-1131
Web Master	Jason Schulz	379-5538			

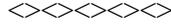
Area Code for all numbers is (785).

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.

Minutes of the Topeka Gem and Mineral Society

No meeting in the months of June, July and August



Words from Our President

This was the first year that our club has put on a garage sale to raise money to support our show and without everyone's help it could not of been pulled off as well as it was. I know a lot of you spent time cooking up all those cookies, pies and breads for the bake sale. We made more than was expected and we owe thanks to each and every one of you.

Sign up sheets will be at the picnic in August and at the September meeting. WE NEED LOTS OF HELP for the show. Please Volunteer.

President Mike and his Rock Stash!

COMMENTS From The V-P!

Summer is coming to an end and our classes are going strong. I will not miss the heat!!! I am looking forward to fall. We will start casting once it is cooler at the barn. Our last picnic will be at Millie's and we will be working on grab bags this time. Hope to see everyone there. Also we will have our show signup sheets there so come and filled them out for us. I really want some help unloading the storage on Friday and putting up cases and also on Sunday when we take everything down and back to storage. Look forward to seeing everyone at the last picnic! Dave-

Visitors are always WELCOME at our meetings!

Topeka Gem and Mineral Society has a new website:
www.TopekaGMS.org **Come and check us out!**

Lessons At The Barn

Lessons at the Barn will be every Tuesday from 6 – 9 p.m. unless there is bad weather. Watch your email for notice of cancellation if there is storm on the way.

Stone cutting, Polishing, Silversmithing, Casting (weather permitting) & wire wrapping
We have stones you can purchase to cut & polish, supplies for silversmithing, casting and wire wrap you will need to furnish or talk to Dave or Mike.

Again this year there will be a donation jar but the lessons are free to members.

Email for directions: rock2plate@aol.com davidd5124@aol.com mcote35@yahoo.com

If you are interested in putting in a case at our annual show in October,
call
Francis Stockton at 913-645-1131 with your request.

We are getting ready to order T-Shirts to help advertise our annual show. To place your order to help get the word out that our show is coming call Millie with your order, 268-2849 or email rock2plate@aol.com

Publicity

The TGMS Publicity Committee met at St. Peter's UMC on the 11th to discuss where we are concerning sponsors and donations, the garage sale and T-shirts.

We still have people working hard to get as many sponsors as possible before Sept. 1. Still waiting on the contract from the Cardwells. Donna Spoke to Tracie Cardwell on the 10th. She was in Texas because her family experienced the death of Craig's father, Thomas. The funeral was a day or two after I spoke with her. She said the contract was in Nathrop and that they were expecting to go back home by the end of this week. The contract will be sent as soon as she gets home. They are very excited to be a part of our show and looking forward to meeting all of us.

An indoor Garage Sale was held at Lowman UMC and Lesilee put it on Craig's List. We earned well over \$500. to help with our publicity expenses for the show. We had great participation from club members. Those who couldn't be there helped in other ways by baking their little hearts out and by donating items to be sold. We had a rock table and many rock, mineral, fossil and other books donated by Ken. Thanks to everyone for a successful event.

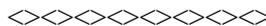
We made a trip to MOJO to see about shirts. We decided on a dark blue, though not as dark as navy blue. Still working on the design. This year we are putting the design on the front and the sponsors/donors on the back.

Deborah Scanland got Mainline Printing to donate 1,000 stickers to be placed on the bags from Menards. The stickers are in her possession and are being applied as I type. The background is neon yellow and our round TGMS and crossed hammers logo, is in black.

A short meeting will take place with a few of us to critique the good and less good parts of the garage sale before our next board meeting.

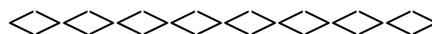
Thank you to all who participated and made this a great event. Thank you also goes to Lowman United Methodist Church for their willingness to have us in their building.

Donna Stockton, your still smiling publicist



We need lots of volunteers for the annual show in October.....sign up now and get your choice of when you want to work the two hour shift.

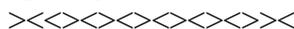
Contact Millie to sign up.



Show Dates:

- Sep 10-18 Denver, CO, <http://ColiseumShow.com> or www.Eons-Expos.com
- Sep 14-17 Golden, CO, email: info@finemineralshow.com
- Sep 16-18 Denver, CO, www.denvermineralshow.com
- Sep 16-18 Lincoln, MO email Mozarkiterocks@gmail.com or web site: Mozarkite.com
- Sep 23-25 Tri-State Gem & Mineral, Free Admission, joplinmuseum.org@sbcglobal.net or 417-623-1180

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



Brad's Bench Tips

QUICK CLOSE-UPS

Often when trying to get a close-up photo with your iPhone or Android, you end up with a fuzzy, out-of-focus image. Next time try using your loupe over the camera lens. It works quickly and easily

"Bench Tips for Jewelry Making" and "Broom Casting for Creative Jewelry" are available on Amazon



Event Calendar

Aug. 2016

1M	
2T	Lessons at the Barn- 6-9 p.m.
3W	
4T	Wire Wrap Class at Millie's 1-3 p.m.
5F	
6S	
7S	
8M	
9T	Lessons at the Barn- 6-9 p.m.
10W	
11T	Wire Wrap Class at Millie's 1-3 p.m.
12F	
13S	
14S	
15M	
16T	Lessons at the Barn- 6-9 p.m.
17W	
18T	Wire Wrap Class at Millie's 1-3 p.m.
19F	
20S	
21S	
22M	
23T	Lessons at the Barn- 6-9 p.m.
24W	
25T	Wire Wrap Class at Millie's 1-3 p.m. Jr Rockhound Advisory Mtg 6:30 pm Millie's
26F	Club Picnic at Millie's. 1934 SW 30 th St Potluck, 6:30 p.m.
27S	Field Trip-KU Campus Scavenger Hunt see Jr Rockhounds for more info
28S	
29M	
30T	Lessons at the Barn- 6-9 p.m.
31W	

Sept. 2016

1T	Jr Rockhound meeting 6 p.m. TSCPL room 101A Wire Wrap Class at Millie's 1-3 p.m.
2F	
3S	
4S	
5M	Labor Day
6T	Lessons at the Barn- 6-9 p.m.
7W	
8T	Publicity/Show Mtg @ St Peter Church 7pm Wire Wrap Class at Millie's 1-3 p.m.
9F	Board Meeting @ Millie's
10S	
11S	
12M	
13T	Lessons at the Barn- 6-9 p.m.
14W	
15T	Wire Wrap Class at Millie's 1-3 p.m.
16F	
17S	
18S	
19M	
20T	Lessons at the Barn- 6-9 p.m.
21W	
22T	Wire Wrap Class at Millie's 1-3 p.m.
23F	
24S	
25S	
26S	
27M	NO LESSONS AT THE BARN –Mike's gone on vacation!
28T	.
29W	Wire Wrap Class at Millie's 1-3 p.m.
30T	
31F	

Any questions, contact Millie at rock2plate@aol.com or 785-267-2849

Volunteering is the heart



beat of YOUR club

TOPEKA JUNIOR ROCKHOUNDS

The Facebook page for the Topeka Junior Rockhounds also has a new website page.

Take a look and place a 'LIKE' on it.

<https://www.facebook.com/TopekaGMSJuniorRockhounds>

To register for the Junior Rockhounds or any of the classes, email: Leslie Hartman at: Hartman.12345@hotmail.com



Junior Rockhound Activity Center

No General Meeting at Washburn– For the Months of June July & August. The next scheduled meeting is September 1, at the TSCPL room 101A.

Junior Rockhounds earning their Lapidary patches, cutting and polishing rocks. Note for the Junior Rockhounds: We will be having a field trip to the barn for the Lapidary Arts #4 badge.

Here is an update for the next 3 months of classes: Topeka Shawnee CO. Public Library sign in starting at 6:00 pm and classes starting at 6:30 pm.

1. September 1st, Badge #12 Gold Panning and Prospecting - instructor Will Gilliland, Room #101A Marvin Auditorium
2. October 6th, Badge #16 World in Miniature - instructor Cinda Kunkler, Room #202 Anton



August 25th at Millie's, 1934 SW 30th St. at 6:30, there will be a [Jr. Rockhound advisory meeting for all instructors](#) who are listed for each class and those who would like to teach a class to come schedule each class from November 2016 to August 2017.

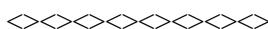


Field Trip –Leslie Hartman

August 27th:

This month we will take a field trip to the [KU Campus Lawrence, KS to have a Science Scavenger Hunt](#). We will visit the Natural History Museum and then have our outdoor scavenger hunt exploring science around the campus. This field trip will cover the indoor field trip #8.5 badge, outdoor field trip #8.3, badge #3.7 fossils, etc. Afterwards, we will have a special treat! All this at NO COST!! We will meet at KU Natural History Museum 1345 Jayhawk Blvd. Lawrence, KS 66045 on Saturday, August 27th 10AM. This field trip is for everyone so hope to see all of you there.

No August meeting at Washburn University instead TGMS is having a club [potluck picnic](#) at Millie's, 1934 SW 30th St. at 6:30 pm on August 26th.



COPROLITE FOSSILS

Coprolites form in much the same way as any other fossil - the original organic material is infused with water containing dissolved minerals, and as the minerals crystallize, the original material is slowly replaced by stone. Most people, when handed a coprolite for the first time, go and sniff it as their first impulse. But it smells of nothing but stone, because that's all it is now, technically speaking.

Coprolites are at a disadvantage from the start in the fossil-forming process. Generally speaking, the quicker to decay an object is, the less likely it is to successfully fossilize. Fossilization takes time, and if the whole thing rots before it can finished, well, no fossil [1]. That's why hard and durable objects, such as bones and teeth, are much more common fossils than soft tissues, or coprolites. Coprolites were first identified as what they actually are, by a woman named Mary Anning (21 May 1799 – 9 March 1847). Mary Anning was a fossil collector and paleontologist from southern England, and noticed these odd stones inside the abdominal areas of the ichthyosaur fossils she was collecting. When she broke them open, she noticed they had fragments of fossilized fish bones and scales. .

In 1829, Anning's observations led a geologist named William Buckland to propose that these stones were the digested remnants of the dinosaurs' last meals, and he gave them the name of coprolites.

Those fossil fragments inside coprolites contain a wealth of scientific information, for anyone who really wants to look closely. The kinds of fossils contained in the coprolite can tell us a lot about the environment the creature was living in, by what it found in the area to eat. It also reveals the creatures preferred food sources, such as whether it was an herbivore or a carnivore, and sometimes it will even reveal what parasites plagued its creator. And, yes, we learn a lot about its intestinal systems. That's pretty much a given. The challenge, of course, is in determining exactly *which* species of creature left a particular coprolite behind. In some cases, when there are a lot of fossilized remains of a particular animal around, it's easy to make a good guess. And in some cases, as with Mary Anning's fossils, the coprolites were petrified while still within the animal's body. But with a more isolated coprolite specimen, it can be very difficult.

Early human settlements left the occasional coprolite as well, so they have archaeological value as well as geological value. As it turns out, we can learn about our own history from them. A human coprolite found in a cave in Oregon revealed the existence of a long-lost 13,000-year-old society [2].

And a research team from the University of Colorado, studying an ancient Anansi settlement in Colorado known as Cowboy Wash, uncovered human remains showing what they believed to be evidence of cannibalism. They tested a coprolite found nearby, and discovered it contained a protein only found in human muscle tissue, confirming their theory [3].

Oddly enough, coprolites from dinosaurs and other prehistoric beasts are often used in jewelry. Due to the mineralization, many of them have bright and beautiful coloration. And, well, you get a great answer to give when someone says, "Ooh, what a pretty necklace! What stone is that?"

Some people may think coprolites are disgusting, but like any other fossil, they're also windows into a lost and wondrous past on this planet.

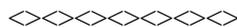
Sources:

[1] <http://discovermagazine.com/1996/jun/whattthedinosaurs786>

[2] <http://www.foxnews.com/scitech/2012/07/12/fossilized-human-feces-hints-at-long-lost-13500-year-old-west-coast-culture/>

[3] <http://www.smithsonianmag.com/people-places/anasazi.html?c=y&story=fullstory>

via *Rockhound Times* article at <http://www.rockhoundtimes.com/coprolites.html>; via *The Rockhounder Aug. 2016*



Coprolite from Madagascar, presumed to have been left by a giant turtle.

Can that really be TRUE???

Do you know what gives tofu its firmness?

The answer... GYPSUM! Calcium sulfate (gypsum) is the traditional and most widely used coagulant to produce Chinese-style tofu. Some manufacturers even use this to advertise tofu as a good source of calcium! So... does that mean I can use an extra chunk of drywall to firm up my too soft tofu? Better that than a prized Gypsum Rose!

Source: Arkansas Rockhound News, 9/14 Via the Rockhounder Aug. 2016

Hazards of Rock Dust and the Lapidary Artist

By: Jim Bosley, 1st Vice-President, NWMS

The purpose of this article is to make new lapidary artists aware of the potential hazards of rock dust and to allow experienced lapidary artists to evaluate the safety of their practices. Lapidary includes the cutting, carving, grinding, sanding, and polishing stones into useable and pleasing articles. These processes generate dust that needs to be managed and controlled to prevent the artist from breathing in the dust. The majority of stones favored by lapidary artists contain compounds that can be dangerous when inhaled.

Silicates are the most common stones used by lapidary artists. Silicosis has long been a hazard of hard rock miners (miner's consumption), ma-sons and lapidary artists (grinder's consumption), as well as those with jobs in sandblasting and road construction. The symptoms as a result of inhaling crystalline silica (SiO) dust include shortness of breath, cough, fever, emphysema, pulmonary fibrosis, and lung scarring. Exposure to low doses of dust takes many years for silicosis to develop, but once established it is irreversible.

Silica Dust

Gemstones such as quartz, chalcedony, agate, amethyst, bloodstone, carnelian, chrysoprase, petrified wood, lapis lazuli, lepidolite, obsidian, flint, chert, aventurine, onyx, tiger eye, jasper, and sandstone is highly toxic because they contain 50% or more of silica.

Other materials that may have high silica contents are: clays, feldspars, garnet, beryl, granite, greenstone, quartz (silica flour), opal, pumice, rouge (if silica-containing, iron), slate, silica-containing African wonder stone, talc, and Tripoli. Minerals with small amounts of silica are: alabaster, amber, bone ash, calcite, carborundum, diamond, dolomite, gypsum, hematite, jade, marble, putty (tin), travertine, whiting, and wollastonite.

Asbestos Dust: Tigereye contains fine fibrous amphibole asbestos, serpentine contains chrysotile asbestos and some soapstone contains asbestos.

Copper Oxide Dust: Toxic if inhaled, ingested, or from prolonged contact with the skin, and can cause damage to the endocrine and central nervous systems. Caution needs to be used when working malachite and azurite (70 % CuO), Chrysocolla (45% CuO), and turquoise (9% CuO). You should not lick high copper rocks to bring out the color.

Minerals With Toxic Constituents are: asbestos, carbon black (if contaminated with polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons), cerium oxide, cerrusite (lead), coal, corundum (aluminum oxide), cryolite, erionite (zeolite), fluorspar, lapis lazuli (ingestion may create hydrogen sulfide), litharge (lead), malachite (copper), serpentine (may contain asbestos), soapstone (talc), talc (can have asbestos-type materials), vermiculite (asbestos), witherite (barium), zirconia (allergen).

Dust From Polishing Your Stones Can Come From A Variety Of Materials Polishing can use a variety of materials, depending on the hardness of the stone being polished. Polishing materials include carborundum (silicon carbide), corundum (alumina), diamond dust, pumice, putty powder (tin oxide), rouge (iron oxide), tripoli (silica), and cerium oxide. Stones can be finished by grinding, sanding, and polishing, by either hand or with machines.

Precautions Rock Sawing Operations: Saw the rock using adequate water or oil. Water is a good dust suppressant, but the dust can be released when the rock dust dries. Oil particles can be atomized and be in the air around your saw. Use an oil mist respirator if needed.

Rock Sanding, Grinding, or Polishing Operations: These operations should be done wet with adequate water to suppress the dust. The work area should be kept clean to minimize the amount of dust that could be released when the water dries.

Lapidary Hygiene: Work spaces should be wiped down with a wet cloth or mop. Work areas should not be swept but vacuumed using a machine with a HEPA filter to remove dirt and dust. Sweeping will cause the dust to be suspended in the air to be breathed or settle out on flat surfaces. Your work space should be well ventilated. Many lapidary artists are installing exhaust systems, similar to wood workers to remove dust that might not be trapped by the water suppression systems. If you are at all concerned about dust use a NIOSH approved dust mask to protect your lungs. These can be found at Home Depot or Lowe's but are most effective if you do not have a beard. You should wash your hands and clothes after sawing, grinding, sanding, and polishing to reduce the spread of the dust in to your home environment (second hand dust).

Working Dry: Rock sawing, grinding, sanding, and polishing dry are not recommended, but if done then they should be done outdoors and the lapidary artist should wear a NIOSH approved dust respirator and outer clothing that can be removed.

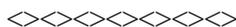
Hearing Protection: Gem cutting machines can create very high noise levels and the lapidary artist should wear hearing protection to prevent hearing loss.

Have fun but work safely!

The ROCKHOUND'S TEN COMMANDMENT'S

1. Thou shalt not touch thy neighbor's minerals unless he places them in thy hand.
2. Thou shalt not test the strength of crystals by pinching, squeezing, or biting.
3. Thou shalt not drop thy neighbor's fossil, for many do not bounce properly.
4. Thou shalt not place thy neighbor's specimen in thine own pocket.
5. Thou shalt not argue the name of that mineral too violently. Sometimes thou can be wrong.
6. Thou shalt not test thy neighbor's agates for hardness by rubbing them together.
7. Thou shalt not climb above thou neighbor's head when on a fieldtrip, lest thou art willing to spent the rest of the day digging him out.
8. Thou shalt protect thine eyes, hands, and feet so that thou can enjoy many more fieldtrips.
9. Thou shalt not encroach upon thy neighbor's digging, lest his hammer be dropped upon thy toe.
10. Thou shalt not complain about, or denounce, the club officers under penalty of being elected one thyself.

Submitted by Keep on Rocking, Sandra Sullivan, Editor of the Rockhound Roundup, Alabama Mineral & Lapidary Society, Via MGMS Rocky Echoes Vol.42 #5 2/02 pg.15 Via: S.C.R.I.B.E. July 2016



Meaning of the Mediterranean Evil Eye Myth

At almost every stages of human history, man has looked for the assistance of magic objects called talismans to defy evil forces. Talismans with letters, numbers or abstract signs have survived to this day. Even the modern religions with a single god have their own symbols. One of these symbols we find in almost every culture and faith for thousands of years... It's the figure of eye. Belief in the evil eye is strongest in the Middle East, East and West Africa, South Asia, Central Asia, and Europe, especially the Mediterranean region.

Evil eye beads go back thousands of years. Blue glass evil eye bead amulets are the most common talisman in Anatolia to stop the evil eye. Turkish Evil Eye Bead. With its warm blue, the shine it has derived from the fire and the smiling face that's a typical feature of the Anatolian people, evil eye bead gives happiness to the friends and the beloved ones. Protection from the evil eyes, covetous friends and strangers.



Ancient Greek Evil Eye

It's believed that there are three types of evil eyes The first are unconscious evil eyes. These harm people and things, without intending to. The second type intends to harm. The third one is unseen, hidden evil which is the most scared one. It was believed that, this eye saw all the wickedness in the world and removed poverty and ignorance. When Horus opened its eyes the world was enlightened, when he closed, it became dark. From Egypt, the eye talisman had spread to the Mediterranean, Middle East and Europe. The bead reflects the evil intent back to the onlooker. It somewhat resembles an eye and it is said the typical blue color is a factor in protecting the user.

The Agatizer 6/16 via; WGMS June 2016

Lets Get Evil

Need an evil eye for your jewelry piece? Many lapidary materials will do such as: Chatoyant Quartz, Sillimanite, Moonstone, Scheelite, Oligoclase, Gypsum, and Shell but it's much easier to buy man made glass eyes.



Now that is some beautiful Evil. [Note: A real prosthetic eye typically costs from about \$2,000-\$8,000] 20mm Reptile Glass Eye Beads go for \$2, 30mm \$5
Source: South Bay Lapidary & Mineral Society the Agatizer 6/16