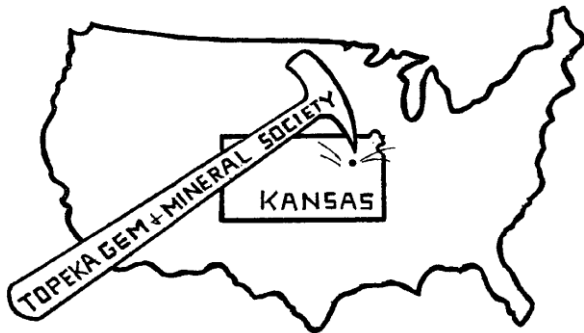


The Topeka Gem and Mineral Society, Inc.
 1934 SW 30th St. Topeka, KS 66611
 Rock2Plate@aol.com

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. 10, Oct. 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.



To members, I hope you all had a good time at the show. I know I had a real good time. I checked with a few dealers and they were happy with the show. I am real happy with the people who worked the show. The program at the October 23rd meeting will be a DVD on "Spinosaurus".
President Mike and his Rock Stash!



Word from our V. P.

I would like to take the time to thank everyone for their help with the show. The setting up on Friday and working during the show both Saturday and Sunday and the taking down of everything Sunday after our show. Everyone was working very hard and our dealers were happy with the outcome even with our attendance down a little on Saturday but they all had a good Sunday. Thanks to Brad Davenport for the loan of his building for rebuilding our big cases. Thanks to Mike Cote for painting the smaller cases at his place. I also would like to thank Chuck Curtis and Frances Stockton for the trailers to load and unload our storage bins. Also, a thanks to Larry and May Springer for helping with their truck to bring rocks and pebbles pile items and misc. to our storage shed. Thanks to Vicky Cote and Candace Felch for their vans/trucks picking up our case liners and signs from Millie's house. Thanks to May and Carolyn and members for running the pebble pile, and scholarship table for the club. Thanks to Millie, Deb, Cinda, Francis and Donna and the many other members for their help at the silent auction and membership table. Thanks to Francis for being the big voice we needed for the microphone and Millie and Cinda! Thanks to Donna for the great publicity for our show. A big thanks to our show committee for everything it took to put our show together. Thanks to Larry Henderson and Brad Davenport and Barbara Smith for manning the Junior Rockhounds table and the dinosaur table and field trips. If I missed anyone or anything it is not on purpose. I am getting older and can only remember so much!! Ha, ha, ha!! I know we had a bunch of members helping and I can't cover them all, but thanks to everyone from me!!! Remember next is our "60th" year! We need those cases filled and we need new ideas for our show "60th"! Please let your officers know of any ideas at the meetings and anywhere else you see us!!!
Dave

Publicity

WOW! Did you see all those bright yellow/green tee shirts running around at the show? Those people sure did an outstanding job working the booths and helping out where needed. Wearing the bright shirts brought attentions everywhere they were worn from Denver to Topeka. I want to thank everyone who helped wear them to advertise our show. We are planning more great ideas for our 60th year, so stay tuned.

Donna Stockton



Test Your Knowledge:

1. What are the two minerals that give jade its different colors?
2. True or False? All Tanzanite gemstones originate from the area where they were initially discovered in Tanzania and Kenya.
3. What mineral material was once used in the blue paint pigment ultramarine? A. Aquamarine, B. Azurite, C. Lapis Lazuli, D. Turquoise
4. Which of the following is not part of the Feldspar family? A. Spodumene, B. Moonstone, C. Sunstone, D. Labradorite

We still need Best Choice UPS Labels!

Bench Tip By Brad

'Get all 101 of Brad's bench tips in "Bench Tips for Jewelry Making" on Amazon'
www.amazon.com/dp/0988285800/



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>

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

October 24, Field Trip, Calhoun Bluffs-Junior Rockhounds. Meet at McDonald's 11th & Kansas to car pool. Leave at 9:00 A.M. Junior Rockhounds, contact Larry for worksheets.

November 14, Field Trip to Linda Hall Library, Kansas City MO. Kansas City Area Fossils Exhibit. Meet at McDonald's 11th & Kansas to car pool to Kansas City. Leave at 9:00 A.M. Junior Rockhounds, contact Larry for worksheets.

- **Additional Show Dates:**

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

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. Come join us with show and tell.

***October 20**

***November 3**

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.

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, September through May. 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.



Congratulations to the lapidary class for generating an excellent article that was run in the CJ Extra. The article can be accessed at cjonline.com if you didn't see it. It will definitely help promote the club. We had 7 Students at the last class, "Minerals" by Brad Davenport, including 4 new Many three ring notebooks have been given out to new Junior Rockhounds and those renewing for 2016.

Saturday, October 24th, we will be going to Calhoun Bluffs for a fossil hunting trip. Lake Superior agates have been found there too. Meet at McDonald's 11th and Kansas to car pool to the site northeast of town. Leave at 9:00 A.M. Junior Rockhounds, contact Larry for fossil identification worksheets.

Saturday, November 14th, The Junior Rockhounds will have field trip to Linda Hall KC, Kansas City MO. Kansas City Area Fossils Exhibit. Meet at McDonald's 11th and Kansas to car pool to Kansas City. Leave at 9:00 A.M. Junior Rockhounds, contact Larry for local fossil identification and display analysis worksheets.

Isaac Hartman has joined us as an intern for the Junior Rockhounds. As an intern he will help the instructors with the classes, give presentations and demonstrations, and help students complete the qualifications for badges among other assignments. He will be earning badges along with the other Junior Rockhounds.

Brad gave a presentation to the art class of the Topeka Shawnee County Library Gallery,

Junior Rockhounds. Junior Rockhound Report-Signed in: 39 adults, 20 Youth. One new Junior Rockhound signed up at roundup. Plus one signed up at prior class. The fourth annual Junior Rockhound Roundup was held, September 29, at the Topeka Shawnee County Public Library. September 20th. His subject was "Where does marble come from?"

Barbara is working on a presentation for a home schoolers group. We are also putting together a rock and mineral kit for home schoolers and schools to check out.

Student worksheet development is continuing.

Junior Rockhound - New Class Schedule

2015

- November 5 Rocks-The Basics
- December 3 Fossils

2016

- January 7 Dinosaurs
- February 4 Rocking on the Computer
- March 3 Earth Resources
- April 7 Stone Age Tools & Art
- May 5 Maps
- June 2 Leadership
- July 7 Fluorescent Minerals
- August 4 Special Effects
- September 1 Earth in Space

Answers to Test Your Knowledge

1. Nephrite & Jadeite
2. True
3. Lapis Lazuli
4. Spodumene

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

- Janice Bays
- Steve Mumert
- Emery Compton
- Colleen Lightwine

- Cheryl Tucker
- Leroy & Shirley Beals
- Michael Corrigan
- Amy Johnston & Lili* Johnston
- Leslie Hartman, Isaac* & Kaitlynn* Hartman
- Bunny Dickson
- Shaun O'Keeffe * Kameron* O'Keeffe
- Liz Schodde
- Adele Aldrich
- Renay Trosten
- Mike & Pat Murphy & Madison* Stout

Make them all welcome when you see them!

Club Activities & Show Pictures



We spent the day at school with the kids explaining the different fossils & rocks to them. They enjoyed passing the coprolite around until they found out what it was!!



Dave is hard at work repairing the show cases. May is helping the kids in the pebble pile along with Donna's display at the show.





Nebraska Blue Beads



Ellensburg Blue, Ore.



Colorado Blue



New Mexico Blue



Luna Blue agate, NM

BLUE AGATE and BLACK AGATE WITH BLUE INTERIOR

by Jan Baumeister

Chalcedony is a catch all term that includes many well known varieties of cryptocrystalline quartz gemstones. They are found in all 50 States, in many colors and color combinations, and in sedimentary, igneous, and metamorphic rocks. Chalcedony includes carnelian, sard, plasma, bloodstone, onyx, sardonyx, chrysoprase, thundereggs, and agate, just to name a few of the better known varieties. Because of its abundance, durability, and beauty, the earliest recorded use of chalcedony, in which agate is a variety, was many thousands of years ago used for projectile points, knives, tools, and containers such as cups and bowls. Now days, it is hunted, treasured as show pieces and put in jewelry.

Nebraska designated blue chalcedony (commonly called blue agate) as the official state gemstone in 1967. Blue chalcedony is a pale stone which sometimes has a dark internal form with bands of blue and white and often has a colorless streak. Blue agate is found in northwestern Nebraska, where it formed in wind-blown silt and clay stone deposited in the Chadron Formation of the Oligocene Age. **New Mexico** is famous for its Luna blue agate, mainly a light to medium blue color with some having both blue with black in them. The Apache –Sitgrave National Forest hosts different kinds of blue as well as black and white agates, most with bandings. Golden Luna agate has been found, also gold with some with red and white stripes. Several people from Rapid City, including myself have happily hunted these beautiful agates as well as hunks of crystals, and enjoying free parking in two area campgrounds.

Wyoming has a couple areas of black agate with different shades of blue with white in the center found by the author. The locations are not yet published. One area has beautiful material that has the beautiful "iris" prisms in it when cut thin and the agate looks so much like the Balmorhia Blue found in Western Texas.

South Dakota - One area has of exposed black agate, some having nodules have limited blue and white bands inside. The white will fluorescence lime green. The highly prized black agate is exposed in a very small area in the lower layers that make up the Badland buttes.



Balmorhia Blue, TX



Blue agate jewelry



Mojave Blue, OR

California -- California's "Mojave Blue" agate has gained a great deal of attention in the past several years. This pastel blue or blue-gray agate cuts into attractive cabochons for jewelry and, in the hands of an expert carver, makes outstanding carvings.

Florida--The famous silicified coral, first found in the Tampa Bay area around 1825 is the only gemstone of note from the State. The coral is replaced by a waxy, translucent, botryoidal, or varicolored chalcedony. The material can be blue, red, brown, amber, white, black, or a combination of these colors. The author has a very large flat piece of blue Florida agatized coral.

Oregon: The blue agate from Kittitas County, known as "Ellensburg Blue", is highly prized by local lapidaries. This incredible blue to purple seam agate is one of the most popular agates in the western Oregon area. There are also a few known and probably more undiscovered deposits of Holley Blue on the Calapooia River. The Holley Mt. area is the main area for this famous lapidary material. It is located on leased timberland. Bulldozed over and replanted, it was closed to digging as of spring 1997. There are other agate fields in the nearby area.

References:

1. *Colorado Agates Found, Cut and Polished* by Colorado Prospector. Photo by Denise <http://BobbyDenise-http://www.coloradopro prospector.com /Gems&Minerals/agate.html>)
2. http://agategrrrl.com/new_mexico.html--
3. <http://minerals.usgs.gov/minerals/pubs/commodity/gemstones/sp14-95/chalcedony.html>---
4. <http://minerals-n-more.com/ Holly Blue info.html>- ----
5. *Colorado agate found, cut and polished* by Colorado Prospector-

(Photo by Denise <http://www.colorado prospector.com/Gems & Minerals/Agate.htm>.)

7. www. prospector.com/Gems & Minerals/Agate.htm.

8. <http://www.statesymbolsusa.org/symbol-official-item/nebraska/state-gem-gemstone/blue-chalcedony->

Photos: Bing.com)

Meeting of the Topeka Gem and Mineral Society – 9/25/15

Mike Cote' called the meeting to order. Jason Schulz announced 33 members and 3 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 May meeting were printed in The Drifter in June. Dave Dillon made a motion and Chuck Curtis 2nd to accept as printed.

Treasurer's report was given by Millie Mowry, she said the rent on storage is outstanding and would be paid tomorrow. Motion was made to accept the report, by Harold Merrifield and Carolyn Brady 2nd, motion carried.

Correspondence: none.

Committee reports: Publicity – Donna "Wear your shirts." we are doing radio spots on 99.3, 30 a week for two weeks. We have flyers available to be posted. She looked into billboards; they were too expensive for this year. We will be looking for 'donors' to help sponsor next year's show. We will be on the 'red couch' with Ralph Hipp (Channel 13) on Saturday the 10th. It will be recorded on October 7th. Friday October 2, we will be doing a program at Williams Magnet School for kindergarten through the 5th grade on rocks to promote the show. We will distribute flyers for all the kids to take home. The Topeka Capital Journal will be doing a feature article on the club before the show. Coupons will be available on our website and Facebook, she is also sending them to television & radio stations. She went to Haskell trying to get them to possibly have an exhibit.

Show Committee - Harold "We will have a fix it party." To repair the show cases tomorrow at 8 a.m. Dave reported Mike has painted the smaller Wichita Cases already. Brad has the big cases that we will work on tomorrow, need to replace and paint the pieces. We have sign-up sheets for set up Friday 10/9 from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Also for Saturday 10-6 and Sunday 10-5, and for take down. We have 16 regular and 2 demo dealers. Francis is in charge of cases for display and Junior Rockhounds. We will also have 4-H geology exhibits. Cinda will be getting fluorescent minerals from Washburn for the 'Let it Glow' exhibit. If you have any that you want to let us display, please let her know. Web Master – Jason, changes to the website should be up after midnight. If you have pictures he can post, email them to him. Make sure to share our page and like on Facebook. There will be a link to the news article.

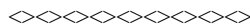
New Business: Jason reported that the Schultz boys Robert, Thomas & Ian all had geology exhibits at the Shawnee County Fair – one of them got Champion, and at the State Fair where they got purple ribbons. Ian Schultz was presented a badge that he earned in Junior Rockhounds. The next session is on minerals 1st Thursday at 6:30.

Junior Rockhound 'Round-up' was good, several helped and there was a good attendance.

With no further business, Dave moved and Chuck 2nd to adjourn to our program – Silent Auction.

Fred announced the Cab of the Month Winners are: OOPS! I was looking at the minerals Washburn was letting us use for the show and missed getting the winners from Fred! Sorry!

Respectfully submitted by Cinda Kunkler, Secretary



Fishing License

A couple of young boys were fishing at their special pond off the beaten track. All of a sudden, the game warden jumped out of the bushes. Immediately, one of the boys threw his rod down and started running through the woods like a bat out of a cave. The game warden was hot on his heels.

After about a half mile, the young man stopped and stooped over with his hands on his thighs to catch his breath, so the game warden finally caught up to him.

"Let's see yer fishin' license, boy!" the warden gasped. With that, the boy pulled out his wallet and gave the game warden a valid fishing license.

"Well, son," said the game warden, "you must be about as dumb as a box of rocks! You don't have to run from me if you have a valid license!"

"Yes, sir," replied the young guy, "but my friend back there, well, he don't have one."

Internet Humor

Up Coming Events

Election of Officers for the 2016 year is coming up. The Nominating Committee will be calling on you to fill the vacant offices or if you wish to fill one, let them know. Elections will be at the November meeting and you will take over the office at the Christmas Dinner.

The General Meeting in November will be on November 20th due to the Thanksgiving Holiday.

December 7th is TGMS Annual Christmas Dinner at McFarland's Restaurant at Gage Center. They have an elevator located on the south end of the building that the handicap people can use. Installation of Club Officers will be held at that time also for the 2016 year. You will be able to choose your own meal from the menu and you are responsible to pay for it. We encourage you to bring your spouse or significant other to make it an enjoyable night.

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BENCH TIPS FOR JEWELRY MAKING

BY: Brad smith

SMOOTHING EARWIRES

Any time you make your own earwires, the hardest part for me is to sand and polish the end that's inserted into the ear. Any sharp edge there is no fun. I've tried using sanding sticks, cup burs, and silicone polishing wheels.

I've tried buffing on a Zam wheel, and I've tried spinning the wire in the Freedom to polish the tip. While all of these techniques do the job, none are very easy, and none are as fast as I'd like.

Then it occurred to me - I could melt the wire smooth. One quick touch in the flame of the propane/oxygen Little Torch does the trick - not enough to form a bead on the wire but just enough to round off the tip. I find it's worth practicing the maneuver a couple times on some scrap wire before trying it on completed earrings.

BALL BURS

I use ball burs quite a bit for carving and for cleaning up bits of solder that need to be removed. The ball shape seems to be more controllable than other cutting burs. They're less apt to grab and walk over your piece.

As to sizes I've found that 8 mm is a very useful size for carving while a half mm or smaller at high speed works great for signing your name on the back of your work.

More Bench Tips by Brad Smith are at [facebook.com/BenchTips/](https://www.facebook.com/BenchTips/)
or see the book "Bench Tips for Jewelry Making" on Amazon