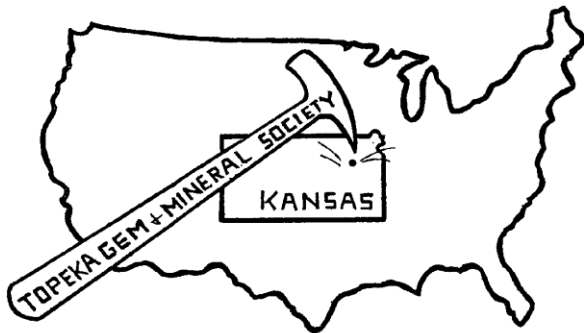


The Topeka Gem and Mineral Society, Inc.
 1934 SW 30th St. Topeka, KS 66611
 Rock2Plate@aol.com

THE GLACIAL DRIFTER



www.TopekaGMS or
 Facebook: Topeka Gem and Mineral Society Field Trips

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. 60, No. 11, Nov., 2017

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.**

www.TopekaGMS.org

2017 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	TGMS Board	-----
Secretary	Cinda Kunkler	286-1790	Welcome/Registration	Russ & Rhonda Miller	272-6408
Treasurer	Millie Mowry	267-2849	Property	M. Cote/D. Dillon	220-3272
Directors	Harold Merrifield	633-9745	AFMS Scholarship	Cinda Kunkler	286-1790
	Chuck Curtis	286-1790	Editor/Exchange Editor	Millie Mowry	267-2849
	Brad Davenport	379-8700	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	640-6617
Librarian	open	-----	Show Case Coordinator	Francis Stockton	913-645-1131
Web Master	Jason Schulz	640-6617			

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.

Words from Our President

The annual Christmas Dinner will be held at Paisano's Ristorante at 4043 SW 10th Ave., on December 1, 2017 at 6 p.m. Dinner will be at your expense, but we will have a good time and install the new/old officers at that time, play a few games and maybe have a few door prizes.

With this cold weather, the Barn has to close down early. We cannot afford to have the equipment freezing up. The program at the November general meeting will be presented by Thomas Schulz.

Mike and his Rock Stash



***New Member
Jessica Reedy***



Visitors are always WELCOME at our meetings!



The Nomination Committee has selected these candidates to run for the following offices:
Secretary - Colleen Lightwine

Director - Will Gilliland

2nd Vice President - Leslie Hartman

They will be voted on at the November meeting and take office January 1, 2018.

Volunteering is the heart  beat of YOUR club

Event Calendar

NOV. 2017

DEC. 2017

1W	
2T	
3F	
4S	
5S	
6M	
7T	
8W	
9T	Wire Wrap Class @ Millie's 1-3 p.m. 7-9 p.m.
10F	TGMS Board Meeting at Millie's 7 p.m.
11S	
12S	
13M	
14T	NO Classes at the Barn
15W	Show Committee Meeting 7 p.m. Millie's
16T	Wire Wrap Class @ Millie's 1-3 p.m. 7-9 p.m.
17F	TGMS General Meeting moved up because of Thanksgiving. Washburn Stauffer Hall Rm 138 7 p.m.
18S	
19S	
20M	
21T	NO Class at the Barn
22W	
23T	Thanksgiving Day -- NO Classes
24F	
25S	
26S	
27M	
28T	NO Classes at the Barn
29W	
30T	Wire Wrap Class @ Millie's 1-3 p.m. 7-9 p.m.

1F	Christmas Dinner & Installation of Officers @ Paisano's 6 p.m.
2S	
3S	
4M	
5T	
6W	
7T	Jr Rkhd's @ TSCPL rm 101C Wire Wrap Class @ Millie 1-3 pm only
8F	
9S	
10S	
11M	
12T	
13W	
14T	Wire Wrap Class @ Millie's 1-3 pm.
15F	
16S	
17S	
18M	
19T	
20W	
21T	No wire wrap classes
22F	
23S	
24S	Christmas Eve
25M	Christmas Day
26T	
27W	
28T	No wire wrap classes
29F	
30S	
31S	New Years Eve

Check out the new calendar on our web site
www.TopekaGMS.org

Any questions ask Millie at rock2plate@aol.com

Lessons at the barn are finished because it is too cold.

No General Meeting in December.

No Board Meeting in December.

Lessons at the barn are finished because it is too cold.

Meeting of the Topeka Gem & Mineral Society October 27, 2017 was called to order by Mike Cote'.

- Russ & Rhonda Miller reported we had 26 members and 1 guest. Fred Zeferjohn reported we have 11 member jewelry and 2 member cabs to vote on for Cab of the Month.
- Minutes of the prior meeting taken by Shirley Schulz and were printed in The Drifter, a motion was made by George Reed and 2nd by Chuck Curtis to accept as printed.
- Millie reported our checking account balance and that she is accepting dues. We also have some trivets for sale. Dave Dillon made a motion to accept and Chuck 2nd.
- AFMS – Cinda Kunkler received correspondence thanking the club for our recent donation. The RMFMS Scholarship Chairman reported the club total donations are now at \$13,904.30, which is at the 14200% level of giving. The AFMS Scholarship Foundation also sent a thank you for our donation.
- Historian position is open as Deborah Scanland has resigned. We are looking for someone to take over.
- Publicity Leslie had some feedback from our surveys taken at the show. Everyone liked the show and thought the billboards were placed well around town.
- Show Committee Dave would like more to help at the show next year especially with set up and take down. He also would like more to show off their skills that they have learned in class. We had 819 attending the show, up from 738 the previous year. The R.O.T.C. helped a lot with security and filling in when needed at the ticket table and other booths. Next year we are hoping to have videos to show and we are looking for more tumbling material.
- Field Trip Leslie Hartman reports the next one will be at the Kansas Museum of History, where Jr Rockhounds will have the opportunity to do homework for the upcoming class.
- Junior Rockhounds Jason Schulz said the Orientation class was well attended. Each instructor talked about the classes. Leslie said we had 4 new kids join and another new one from the show. She gave photos of the Star Students to the students.
- Web Master Jason reported the web page took 7th out of 14 in the AFMS competition. We currently have 294 likes on Facebook and 110 likes on the Junior Rockhound Facebook.
- Door prize drawings were awarded by Russ & Rhonda.
- Chuck reported for the Nominating Committee that most of the Officers are willing to serve again, but we will have nominations to vote for at the next meeting. They are Will Gilliland for Director, Leslie Hartman for 2nd Vice President and Colleen Lightwine for Secretary.
- Our program tonight is Barbara Smith and her Research at Kansas Department of Transportation.
- Cab of the Month winners were announced. Member cab – Russ Miller, Montana Agate, Member jewelry – Millie Mowry, Wire Wrapped Labradorite.

Cinda Kunkler, Secretary



All club members and their families are invited to the annual Christmas Dinner at Paisano's Ristorante at 4043 SW 10th Ave., on December 1, 2017 at 6 p.m. Dinner will be at your expense. Come and join in on the fun.

TOPEKA JUNIOR ROCKHOUNDS

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

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



JR ROCKHOUND CLASSES

Here are reminders of the next 3 months of classes: Topeka Shawnee CO Public Library sign in starting at 6:00pm and classes starting at 6:30pm. 1st Thursday of each month... **PLEASE watch for a new email for the new updated classrooms, classes, and instructors schedule starting with December 2017 to November 2018.**

- Thursday, December 7, 2017 class Fossils: instructor Pat Gilliland: Marvin Auditorium Room 101C.
- Thursday, January 4, 2018 class Leadership: instructor Leslie Hartman: Marvin Auditorium Room 101A.
- Thursday, February 1, 2018 class Earth in Space: instructor Jason Schulz: Marvin Auditorium Room 101C.

Activity Center

During the general meeting at Washburn University 1700 SW College Ave., Topeka, KS in the Stoffer Science Hall Room 138 there is an Activity Center for Jr Rockhounds from 7:00pm-7:30ishpm. Barbara Smith will be doing an activity.

TGMS and Jr Rockhounds Activities

At this point the next upcoming event for TGMS and Jr Rockhounds will be February 2018 at the Topeka Discovery Center. Email Leslie Hartman Hartman.12345@hotmail.com for questions.

TGMS and Jr Rockhounds Field Trip

As the weather begins to get colder and several holidays are coming, we will not have any field trips for November and December 2017. Check for future field trip updates starting January 2018.



WORKING TOGETHER WORKS



Loupe 101 (Excerpted)

Loupes come in several varieties. Gemologists prefer the hand loupe. For gemologists, the 10X loupe (with ten-power magnification) is the standard for hand-held gem identification.

Although you'll find more powerful loupes, the depth of field (the area that's in focus) is so small above 10X that they're hard to use. With lower-powered magnification, you just can't see as much detail.

How to Use a 10X Loupe

Using a loupe gracefully takes some practice but soon becomes second nature. Before you focus on anything, consider the light around you.



To evaluate cutting and polishing, you need to see the gem surface. Shine your light down on the stone. This is simple in a room with overhead lighting. If your best source is a window, position yourself so the light comes over your shoulder. Most importantly, avoid casting your shadow on the stone. To see the inclusions in a gem, you need to see the interior. Place your light behind the stone and shining through it.

With minimal adjustments and a little thought, you can often see both the surface and interior of a gem. Having too little light to see well is usually the only limitations. When you open a loupe, the cover becomes a handle. To focus your loupe, slide your index finger through the opening, then rest your hand against your cheek to steady the loupe. Now, you only have one hand to move for focusing.

Keep both eyes open to reduce eye strain. Position the gem in front of the loupe. Next, move it slowly upwards and away from the loupe until it comes into focus. Practice adjusting the focus from the top surface to the far side. On a smaller gem, you can get the entire stone in focus at once. On a larger gem, you'll have to focus on one area at a time.

To judge the quality of a gem's lapidary work, you need to study its surface. A smooth, glass-like surface is the sign of a perfect polish. You may see pits or scratches. However, if they are few and invisible without magnification, they'll have little effect on the beauty of the gem.

Sometimes, you'll see a stone with small pits covering its entire surface. Although invisible to the naked eye, they do affect the gem's brilliance. If you compare the stone to non-pitted stones of the same species, you'll see the reduction in brilliance more readily.

Occasionally you'll have trouble distinguishing whether marks are on the surface or inside the gem. To resolve this, rotate the gem so the light reflects off the facets. When a facet acts as a mirror inclusions beneath it disappear. However scratches on the surface remain visible.

An unpolished girdle reveals the gem cutter was in a hurry (A custom gem cutter would finish this off). Diamonds are an exception. Gem cutters cut them differently than colored stones because of their extreme hardness. Rounded, unpolished girdles are common in diamonds.

To further evaluate cutting quality, look at the facet meets. On a well-cut gem, they form sharp corners. All the facets in a row will be the same size and shape. You'll frequently see facets vary in size and corners that don't meet or overlap. If the differences are small, they won't affect a gem's beauty significantly. However as the problems increase the brilliance of the gem suffers. Due to diamond's hardness they have the sharpest edges. This clue helps identify them. The edges of harder colored stones, such as rubies and sapphires and cubic zirconia come in a close second. Softer gems (below a nine in hardness) usually have slightly rounded facet edges. Once in a while you'll encounter a custom-cut gem with exceptionally sharp edges in a material of only 7 or 8 hardness. Although you may be unable to appreciate all the subtle decisions made cutting a gem like this you can spot the workmanship by the polish, meets and facet edges.

Loops- continued:

Next, turn the gem upside down and look at the culet. Sometimes gems carried together in paper wrappers suffer chips on the culet. This is called paper damage. Again, if invisible without magnification, this won't impact the gem's beauty significantly.

To read the entire article follow the link below:

<https://www.gemsociety.org/article/10x-loope-the-gemologists-best-friend/>

(Source: Agate Explorer 02/17; via WGMS the Rockhounder 09/17)



Bench Tips by Brad

MANDRELS

Straight rod mandrels have a multitude of uses in helping to bend sheet and wire, and frequently we need a round rod for winding jump rings. Common sources for different sized rods are knitting needles, wooden dowels and clothes hangers. Metal rods can also be found in hardware stores and hobby shops.



But to get the right "look" in chain maile designs, you must have exactly the right size mandrel, and often those are not easy to find. Jewelry catalogs sell selections of straight rod mandrels for \$50 or more, but my choice is a set of transfer punches used in woodworking. The set has 28 sizes, from 3/32 inch to 1/2 inch, and is only about \$12. In the US it is available from Harbor Freight as item number #3577, and in Europe, it's available from MZS in the Netherlands as item number 250575.



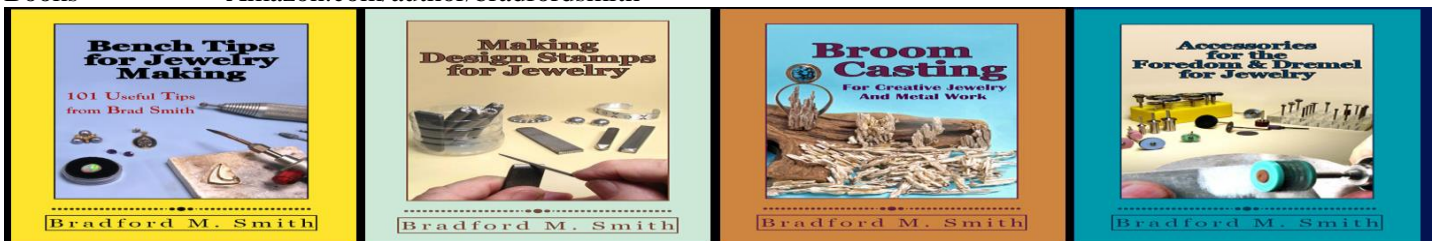
JUST SAY NO TO OPTIVISORS

I was having my annual vision-check and the light-bulb went on: why not have my reading glasses made with bifocals that would magnify the same as the Optivisors? So I asked the ophthalmologist if he could add around +2.00 diopters into bifocals.

He checked with his supervisor and came back all excited. They all agreed that was a great idea and even gave him a special device to measure how far I hold a jewelry piece from my eye, so they could get the focal distance exactly right. So if all goes well, no more sweaty bulky Optivisors! (Thanks to Gary Strickland)

Please include the following attribution with each publication:
Books Amazon.com/author/bradfordsmith

Learn New Jewelry Skills With Brad's How-To-Do-It



Junior Rockhounds, November 2017

This month's Rockhounds class covered Stone Age Tools and Art. Leslie Hartman presented a wonderful session that was well-attended and afforded our Rockhounds a chance to learn firsthand about some interesting rocks.

The kids started the class by going outside and striking flint to make sparks fly, and learning about the importance of flint knapping in ancient tools. After coming back inside and covering other materials, the class concluded by using clay to make various implements. Even the parents got involved in this! Our Rockhounds showed some extreme creativity with their works. Have a happy month!

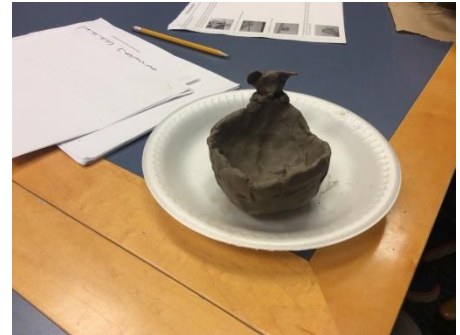
Jason Schulz



The class room was full.



Leslie & Jr Rockhounds striking flint



Primitive bowl with mouse



Even Dad was having fun



Club Dues are due by December 31, 2017.

If you joined the last of September 2017 thru December 2017 your dues are not due until 2018. If you are in doubt, contact me and I will look it up for you.

Millie Mowry
Rock2plate@aol.com