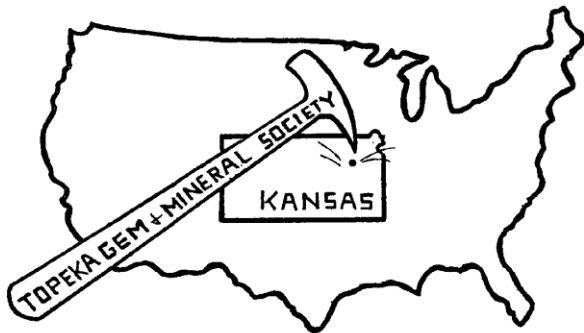


The Topeka Gem and Mineral Society, Inc.  
 1934 SW 30<sup>th</sup> St. Topeka, KS 66611  
 Rock2Plate@aol.com

# 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. 61, No. 1, Jan., 2018

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.**

**www.TopekaGMS.org**

## 2018 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.	Open- TGMS Board	
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice Pres.	Cinda Kunkler	286-1790	Publicity	TGMS Board	
Secretary	Colleen Lightwine	350-2958	Welcome/Registration	Russ & Rhonda Miller	272-6408
Treasurer	Millie Mowry	267-2849	Property	M. Cote/D. Dillon	220-3272
Directors	Chuck Curtis	286-1790	AFMS Scholarship	Cinda Kunkler	286-1790
	Brad Davenport	379-8700	Editor/Exchange Editor	Millie Mowry	267-2849
	Will Gilliland	286-0905	Show Chairman	Dave Dillon	272-7804
Historian	Jessica Reedy	230-3445	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	Millie Mowry	267-2849	Show Case Coordinator	Cinda Kunkler	286-1790
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](mailto: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

Much to our regret, Leslie Hartman has resigned from our Club. We wish her the best in her endeavors. For the remaining term of 2VP, Cinda Kunkler will fill that position and the Board will handle the Publicity again this year. Field Trip Chairman will be filled later.

The program for the January meeting will be Rock and Fossil identification along with show and tell. We are not going to have an auction at this time.

At the February meeting Mark and Kathy Ellis will present the program again, and if you have never sat in on one of his programs you defiantly don't want to miss this meeting about "Bones from dinosaurs in Colorado."

Mike and his Rock Stash

No Meeting for December 2017 for Minutes

**Visitors are always WELCOME at our meetings!**

### Stones Of Nebraska - Celestite

Submitted by Cynthia Casselman

Celestite has a somewhat restricted geographic occurrence in Nebraska but is usually rather abundant when found. The Permian Fort Riley and Florence Limestones, exposed near Wymore, have yielded considerable amounts of blue celestite, popularly referred to as "blues". The celestite occurs in vugs in massive limestone and reasonably heavy tools are needed to collect it. Acicular crystals are found along Squaw Creek, near Wymore, Gage County.

Large, tabular, blue and colorless celestite crystals have been collected from the Cretaceous Carlile Shale near Hay Springs, Nebraska. They occur in septarians; heavy tools are needed to remove them. Small septarians (containing minute, colorless, acicular celestite crystals) have been reported from Loup River gravels at Fullerton, Nance County.

Copied from *Minerals and Gemstones of Nebraska: A*

*Handbook for Students and Collectors* by Roger K. Pabian and Allen Cook.



A sample found near Wymore, Gage County, Nebraska

Celestite is also known as Celestine. It is a white, blue, or red mineral form of strontium sulfate with a hardness of 3 to 3.5 on the Mohs scale. The crystals are orthorhombic and generally appear in limestone nodules. Celestite is found in areas with halite and gypsum.

For those who believe in the healing power of stones, celestite is thought to be soothing, offering uplifting energy that expands one's awareness. Some use celestite to reduce stress and aid in sleep.

[www.HealingCrystals.com](http://www.HealingCrystals.com)



*Event Calendar*

# Jan. 2018

# Feb. 2018

1M	
2T	
3W	
4T	
5F	
6S	
7S	
8M	
9T	
10W	
11T	
12F	
13S	
14S	
15M	
16T	
17W	
18T	Wire Wrap Class @ Millie 1-3, 7-9p.m.
19F	
20S	
21S	
22M	
23T	Wire Wrap Class @ Millie 6:30-9p.m.
24W	
25T	Wire Wrap Class @ Millie 1-3, 7-9p.m.
26F	General Mtg. 7:30 pm Stauffer Hall rm 138 Washburn
27S	
28S	
29M	
30T	Wire Wrap Class @ Millie 6:30-9p.m.
31W	Jr Rhd Advisory Mtg-Millie's 7 p.m.

1T	Jr Rkhd's @ TSCPL rm 101C Wire Wrap Class @ Millie 1-3 pm only	
2F		
3S		
4S		
5M		
6T	Wire Wrap Class @ Millie's 6:30 p.m. 9 p.m.	
7W		
8T	Wire Wrap Class @ Millie 1-3, 7-9p.m.	
9F	Board Meeting 7 p.m. @ Millie's	
10S		
11S		
12M		
13T	Wire Wrap Class @ Millie's 6:30 p.m. 9 p.m.	
14W		
15T	Wire Wrap Class @ Millie 1-3, 7-9p.m.	
16F		
17S		
18S		
19M		
20T	Wire Wrap Class @ Millie's 6:30 p.m. 9 p.m.	
21W	Show Committee Mtg- Millie's 7 p.m.	
22T	Wire Wrap Class @ Millie 6:30-9p.m.	
23F		
24S	Discovery Center 9 a.m.-5 p.m.	
25S		
26M	General Mtg. 7:30 pm Stauffer rm 138 Hall Washburn	
27T	Wire Wrap Class @ Millie's 6:30 p.m. 9 p.m.	
28W		

Any questions ask Millie at rock2plate@aol.com

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

If you are interested in Wire Wrap Classes, contact Millie, 267-2849 or rock2plate@aol.com

Check out the new calendar on our web site [www.TopekaGMS.org](http://www.TopekaGMS.org)

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

# TOPEKA JUNIOR ROCKHOUNDS

<https://www.facebook.com/TopekaGMSJuniorRockhounds>  
To register for the Junior Rockhounds or any of the classes, email:  
Jason Schulz at: [Fleetcommander@att.net](mailto:Fleetcommander@att.net)



## 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, February 1, 2018 class Earth in Space: instructor Jason Schulz: Marvin Auditorium Room 101C.
- Thursday, March 1, 2018 class Field Trip: Hughes Room 205. (As a reminder to all Jr Rockhounds, at the March general meeting each Jr Rockhound will be giving a presentation. Any questions please ask.)

## 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 24, 2018 at the Topeka Discovery Center from 10am to 5pm. Set up time starts at 9am and clean up starts at 4:45pm Email Jason Schulz [fleetcommander@att.net](mailto:fleetcommander@att.net) for questions and if you can help.

**\*\*Any help with the following list would be greatly appreciated:\*\***

- We NEED your help at the Discovery Center. There will be plenty of jobs and we will find that will fit your talent.
- Different size smooth mostly flat rocks.
- Small kid friendly stickers. Fuzzy or regular stickers. Kids can design the rock how they want...like a pet rock. No painting this time. Below are some examples of the activity we will be doing.



## The Many Hobbies of Jim Blakely

TGMS Member

For the past several years I have made most of my Christmas gifts. Here are a few of them from this year.

One of my hobbies is photography and for many years now I have used my photos to make my own calendars. For what it is worth, they are a total home production from taking and editing the pictures, to printing and collating the pages, and finally punching and binding them together.

Also I wrote a story that accompanies the calendars. The title of the calendars and the title of the story was "Songs of the Prairie" and the photos were mostly taken in or near the Blue Hills of North Central, Kansas. The story was about what can occur on a camping trip there.

This year I made 6 basic calendars all with different photos. In addition to that I made 10 custom calendars. Mostly these were made for the wonderful folks that allow me to recreate on their land as well as for the family and friends I hunt, fish, rockhound or camp with. The custom calendars used images from the 6 basic calendars plus pictures taken on the rancher's land or photos of my hunting buddies. In total I printed 50 calendars,

Jeananne and I have been rockhounding for a long time. Maybe 15 years ago I invested in a rock saw and set of grinding wheels and started making cabochons. This last year I learned how to wire wrap. These are a few of the pendants I gave to my female cousins and my nieces.

I also do a lot of baking at Christmas. I know this is a time of year that that most folks overindulge on sugar and white flour. But due to dietary and health concerns for Jeananne and myself, as well as for some of my relatives, I've learned to cook another way. With the exception of the bread rings, everything else is both gluten and sugar free-still tasty and delicious though.



Jasper from Trout Creek Pass in CO



Petrified Wood from the Painted Desert in AZ



Calcite from the eastern CO Prairie



My 6 basic calendars



Oatmeal/cranberry Cookies-dough is gluten and sugar free



My own recipe-Sugar free chocolate chip, oatmeal, coconut, cookies with 3 kinds of nuts.



Sugar and gluten free Brownies with pecan/coconut frosting



Sugar and gluten free candied nuts



Sugar and gluten free snickerdoodles



Mascarpone cookies, sugar and gluten free



**TGMS and Jr Rockhounds Field Trip**  
FIELD TRIPS ARE ON HOLD FOR THIS MONTH  
HOPEFULLY THE WEATHER WILL BE BETTER

**Volunteering is the heart**  **beat of YOUR club**

## Mineral Fun Facts – Stromatolites

At our October meeting Patrick Bell gave a talk on Stromatolites, and how what we think is Tulle Root may actually be a Stromatolite specimen. Since our field trips are going strong and the upcoming trip to Cobble Canyon has many findings of what we thought was Tulle Root, I thought I would go over the subject for those that missed the meeting.

Stromatolites are one of the longest living forms of life on this planet. They can be traced back 3.5 billion years. Stromatolites are sedimentary structures produced by the sediment trapping, binding, and precipitating activity of phototrophic microbes. Stromatolites are layered mounds, columns, and sheet-like sedimentary rocks. They were originally formed by the growth of layer upon layer of cyanobacteria, a single-celled photosynthesizing microbe that lives today in a wide range of environments ranging from the shallow shelf to lakes, rivers, and even soils. Cyanobacteria are prokaryotic cells (the simplest form of modern carbon-based life) in that they lack a DNA-packaging nucleus. Bacteria, including the photosynthetic cyanobacteria, were the only form of life on Earth for the first 2 billion years that life existed on Earth.

Scientists revealed there are at least two ways stromatolites form. During the first method each cyanobacteria cell produces and secretes a sticky film of mucus that traps the sediment. The sediment is then bound together with mucus, and the cyanobacteria grows over the grains, towards the sun. The bacteria are photosynthetic and mobile and therefore are able to move towards light. This mobility allows them to keep up with the accumulating sediment. Finally, calcium carbonate, precipitated from the water, cements the grains to the structure. Without this final stage of precipitation and cementation, the structure would not have been preserved in the fossil record, and there would be no record of them existing. The second method of stromatolite construction occurs through its own precipitation of calcium carbonate framework, with little incorporation of sediment into the structure (McNamara and Awaramik, 1992). Marine stromatolites form primarily from the first method. Nonmarine stromatolites, in places such as lakes, form mainly from the second method.

□ <http://jrscience.wcp.muohio.edu/fieldcourses01/PapersMarineEcologyArticles/Stromatolites-TheLongestl.html>

□ [http://www.indiana.edu/~geol1105b/images/gaia\\_chapter\\_10/stromatolites.htm](http://www.indiana.edu/~geol1105b/images/gaia_chapter_10/stromatolites.htm)

*Via Rocky Tales, 11/17; via The Rockhounder 1-18*

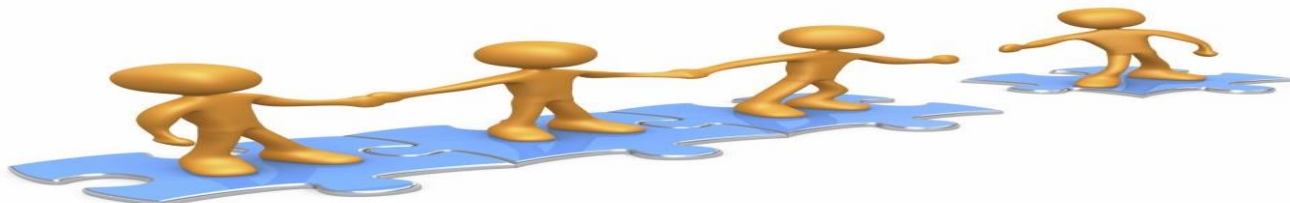


Stromatolites in the Hoyt Limestone ([Cambrian](#)) exposed at Lester Park, near Saratoga Springs, New York.



(Pictures from Wikipedia)

Stromatolites in the Soeginina Beds (Paadla Formation, Ludlow, [Silurian](#)) near [Kübassaare](#), [Saaremaa](#), [Estonia](#)



**WORKING TOGETHER WORKS**

## CIMS November Meeting Show and Tell, and Whatzit?



A **cephalopod** (/ˈsɛfələpɒd, ˈkɛf-/) is any member of the molluscan class Cephalopoda (Greek plural κεφαλόποδα, kephalópoda; "head-feet") such as a squid, octopus or nautilus. These exclusively marine animals are characterized by bilateral body symmetry, a prominent head, and a set of arms or tentacles (muscular hydrostats) modified from the primitive molluscan foot. Fishermen sometimes call them inkfish, referring to their common ability to squirt ink. The study of cephalopods is a branch of malacology known as teuthology.

Cephalopods became dominant during the Ordovician period, represented by primitive nautiloids. The class now contains two, only distantly related, extant subclasses: Coleoidea, which includes octopuses, squid, and cuttlefish; and Nautiloidea, represented by Nautilus and Allonautilus. In the Coleoidea, the molluscan shell has been internalized or is absent, whereas in the Nautiloidea, the external shell remains. About 800 living species of cephalopods have been identified. Two important extinct taxa are the Ammonoidea (ammonites) and Belemnnoidea (belemnites).

Wikipedia (Source: Central Iowa Mineral Society)



*Your Dues are now overdue! The Directory will be out soon, will your name be on it?*