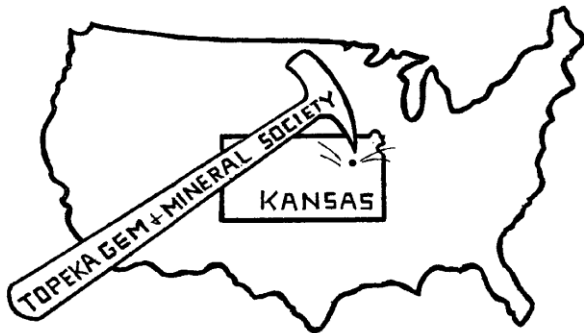


The Topeka Gem and Mineral Society, Inc.
 1934 SW 30th St. Topeka, KS 66611
 Rock2Plate@aol.com

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. 61, No. 8, Aug., 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: 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

2018 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.	Will Gilliland	286-0905
2 nd Vice Pres.	Cinda Kunkler	286-1790	Publicity	TGMS Board	
Secretary	Lettie Thomas	409-7026	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 .
Permission is granted to reprint articles only if proper credit is given to the author, Glacial Drifter and the date.

Words from Our Top Rock!

No word from Mike as to when the Barn will open. Watch for email.
Enjoy their summer and we look forward to seeing everyone at the picnics!
Don't be late as we eat at 6:30 p.m. Stay cool and safe.



HAVE YOU ADOPTED



YOUR FOR THE DUCK RACE?

Go to: www.topekaduckrace.org to adopt your ducks
Our team name is: "TOPEKA GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY"



Be sure to order under our team so we
get credit for it.

The race is September 15, 2018

LAST PICNIC -- AUGUST

at Millie's house: 1934 SW 30th St, Topeka

6:30 P.M.

Bring your favorite picnic food to share & your
plates, silverware & a cup or glass to drink out of.
Ice Tea and Coffee will be furnished.

We eat inside where it is cool or you can eat out on the patio.

Directions: From the east, 29th Street is under construction- so continue to 29th & Boswell, turn left for 2
blocks, turn right for 4 houses. From the west, pass Brookwood Shopping Center to MacVicar, turn right 2
blocks to 30th St, turn left and find my house. From I-470 take exit #5 Burlingame Rd. north. Follow it to 30th
St, turn left about 4 blocks to my house.



FOOD FELLOWSHIP FUN



TGMS Event Calendar

Aug 2018

1W	
2T	
3F	
4S	
5S	
6M	
7T	
8W	
9T	
10F	
11S	
12S	
13M	Wire Wrap Class @ Millie 6-9 P.M.
14T	
15W	
16T	Wire Wrap Class @ Millie 1-3 p.m.
17F	
18S	
19S	
20M	
21T	Wire Wrap Class @ Millie 6-9 P.M.
22W	
23T	Wire Wrap Class @ Millie 1-3 p.m. Show Committee Meeting 7 p.m. @Millie's
24F	Club Picnic 6:30 pm @ Millie's
25S	
26S	
27M	
28T	Wire Wrap Class @ Millie 6-9 P.M.
29W	
30T	Wire Wrap Class @ Millie 1-3 p.m.
31F	

Sept 2018

1S	
2S	
3M	
4T	Wire Wrap Class @ Millie 6-9 P.M.
5W	
6T	TGMS Jr RHD's, 101A Marvin Auditorium 6-8-45p Wire Wrap Class @ Millie 1-3 p.m.
7F	
8S	
9S	
10M	
11T	
12W	
13T	Wire Wrap Class @ Millie 1-3 p.m.
14F	BOARD MEETING 7 P.M. @ MILLIE'S
15S	
16S	
17M	
18T	
19W	
20T	Wire Wrap Class @ Millie 1-3 p.m.
21F	
22S	
23S	.
24M	
25T	
26W	
27T	Wire Wrap Class @ Millie 1-3 p.m.
28F	Tgms General Mtg. Washburn Stauffer Hall, rm. 138, 7 p.m.
29S	
30S	

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

WATCH FOR EMAIL ABOUT THE BARN LESSONS RESTARTING.

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

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



https://www.facebook.com/TopekaGMSJuniorRockhounds
To register for the Junior Rockhounds or any of the classes, email:
Jason Schulz at: Fleetcommander@att.net



JR ROCKHOUND Classes & Reminders

Here are reminders of the next few 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.**

- September 6th Will Gilliland, Gold Panning & Prospecting, Marvin Auditorium 101A. There will be a field trip planned for later on.
- October 4th Class Orientation—all Instructors Marvin Auditorium 101A
- November 1, Gemstone Lore & Legend, Pat & Will Gilliland, 101A Marvin Auditorium

Some of the Rockhounds were given notebooks for the Communication Patch. If you have written your story for the article in the Drifter, bring it in so that it can be counted, then published in the next Drifter. For those who do not have the note books, see Millie and she will give you one.

From the Coordinator, for August, 2018

We are gearing up for an exciting next year for the Junior Rockhounds. With Orientation coming up on October 4th we are inviting all of the former Junior Rockhounds to bring their friends to the meeting in room 101A the Marvin Auditorium. Sign-in begins at 6pm, and class starts at 6:30 pm. Those who have completed their homework for previous classes don't forget to bring them in so you can get your patch for the class.

Jason Schulz



Adopt me!

www.topekaduckrace.org



Please!

Team: Topeka Gem & Mineral Society



We need your **BEST CHOICE UPC Labels** --- Bring them to the monthly meeting, and give them to Cinda Kunkler



Gemstones Corner with John by John Harvey, 17 September 2004 **Pearls**

With Christmas coming I feel this a good time to discuss Pearls; so when you go out shopping for them, you will know what's what.

Pearls are one of the oldest gemstones to be adorned by mankind. They date back to primitive people collecting and wearing them as a symbol of attraction or trade.

Natural pearls were the only pearls in use until the beginning of the 20th century. They have been gradually replaced by cultured pearls. In today's market you will pay more for natural pearls as opposed to cultured pearls of the same quality. Pearls are created by an oyster ingesting a fragment naturally or by being ingested artificially. This causes an irritation to the Oyster. The Oyster then coats the intrusion with nacre a protective **coating to smooth out the irritation.**

Pearl Details

Hardness: 2-1/2 to 4-1/2

Chemical formula: CaCO₃

Care of your Pearls

(probably the hardest part of owning good pearls)

- Clean using **only** warm mild soapy water: Rinse in clean water and dry on a soft towel.
- Steam clean: **Never.**
- Ultrasonic clean: **Never.**
- Heat: **Caution** heat can cause a burn or cracks.
- Light: **Caution** light can cause dyed Pearls to fade or discolor. Dyed pearls are not desirable and should be avoided. (Ask when purchasing)
- Acid: **Avoid all** acids more input to come.
- When wearing pearls be cautious in the use of cosmetics and perfumes before putting on your pearls. Avoid pearls from coming in contact with the following: alcohol, bleach, ammonia, and other chemicals. Never wear pearls around the pool (chlorine).
- The question of restringing pearl necklaces or bracelets - it depends on two things - first the amount of wear you give it and second the value you place on the necklace or bracelet.
- When worn frequently all year long, I would recommend they be examined every 12 months and restrung at not more than an 18 month time frame.
- With less than frequent use - say one time a week and you do not treat them roughly - restringing should be considered every 24 to 36 months.
- A qualified jeweler can advise you and show you the reason to restring your pearls. (You may want to get competitive prices and know the detail of the restring work to avoid disappointment - Work to be done should be in writing for the best terms of getting the job done).

Before You Buy

Before purchasing pearls consider the following:

- Fresh water or salt water (Price). (Extra fine fresh water pearls can be more expensive than normal cultured pearls)
- Knots between each pearl is a must to keep from losing pearls and to keep pearls from rubbing each other (WEAR).
- Look for luster in each pearl and the consistency of luster in necklaces or bracelets. The better the luster the better the pearls.
- Size and shape of pearls - there are many. A few of the more common are Baroque, peanut, teardrop, and the most desired Round. Size and strand make up is also a strong consideration. A strand of 9mm pearls matched in a 20 inch length is the most valuable with all considerations being the same. Next an 8mm to 9mm strand is

less valuable and last in value is a strand of graduated pearls say from 10mm down to 5mm. Reason being, it is very difficult to match pearls by size, color and luster.

- Evenness of size.
- Color of pearls (White --to-- Black). Pure white and black pearls are by far the most expensive to purchase. In other parts of the world pink is the most desired color.
- Inclusions on the surface of a pearl is common.

Treatment of Pearls

There are two treatments that pearls can go thru to make lesser quality pearls look better. The treatments are dyeing and irradiation.

- Pearl dyeing: Dyeing of pearls is difficult to determine even for experts.

Pearls can be darkened in a process using silver nitrate. Silver nitrate can be used to color both saltwater and fresh water pearls. Color can be altered by adding a dye during nucleation farm implants into the mollusk. (More to come.)

- Pearl Irradiation: It started back in the 50's using gamma rays and x-rays. It doesn't have a residual effect but sometimes the change does not last. Gamma ray effect's salt water and fresh water pearls differently. (More to come)

- Pearl Luster Treatment: To date not much can be done to improve the luster of pearls after harvest at least nothing I have read about. This does not mean that they are not trying to effect luster.

Rockin' Around, 10/04 via WGMS Rockhounder July 2018

Pearl Grading

Pearls can vary over these four considerations:

- 1) Shape.
- 2) Size. (In mm) not by Ct. Wt.
- 3) Color.
- 4) Condition - surface imperfections.

You may come across two different grading systems. First most common in U.S.A. is "AAA" - "AA" - "A" and second "A" - "B" - "C" - "D". Some jewelers will put a twist on these grading systems and call a necklace AAA+ or even AAAA, but this is only salesmanship and only means the necklace is AAA grade. Ask the sales person to put it in writing - you should have it noted on the sales slip anyway

The AAA to A system, the more commonly used system in USA, is described as follows.

- AAA. The highest quality with virtually no flaws over 95% of the surface. A nacre depth of at least 0.75 mm or more and with very high luster.

- AA. At least 75% of the pearls surface will be free of imperfections and have very high luster with nacre depth of 0.5 mm or more.

- A. The lowest grade with low luster and 25% of the surface will show

imperfections. Nacre is typically 0.25 mm or less. These are low grade pearls and when set beside high luster will stand out when viewed.

Pearls out side this grading system (below Minimum) are sold off to beading shops or sold to cosmetic companies.

A - D System or The Tahitian System - a common term used for the system enforced by the French Polynesian government as their standard and under their control.

- 'A'. The very best luster and quality with little to no imperfections on less than 10% of the surface.

- 'B'. High or medium luster - the surface can have some visible imperfections on less than 30% of the surface area.
- 'C'. Medium luster - the surface can have imperfections on less than 60% of the surface area.
- 'D'. Can have many slight defects without any deep ones up to 60 % of the surface area. Within this grade, luster is irrelevant.

After category D pearls are not used in jewelry but will be sold off for beading or to cosmetic companies. There is a minimum nacre thickness of 0.8 mm required on each pearl by the French Polynesian Government that is used in jewelry.

Rockin' Around, 11/04 via WGMS Rockhounder July 2018

Pearls Misc. Facts:

When pearls are first removed from the mollusk the pearls are tumbled and cleaned to remove residue and odor.

Treatment of pearls is now a common routine within the pearl industry. After the original cleaning, bleaching is frequently used to lighten and even out the pearl's color. The majority of all white pearls have been bleached. Polishing is also common practice. It is done by gently tumbling in natural material; an oil medium such as beeswax can be used to smooth out small im-perfections. This will enhance the luster but will wear off with time.

Pearl Colors:

Favorite colors by country or continent:

Germany White

France Cream

South America Cream

America White or slightly pink

Asia Pink

Arabian Cream

World wide Black

Dyed pearls are typically priced lower than untreated cultured pearls. Since Tahitian pearls are harvested at 8 mm or larger, it is fair to be suspicious of black pearls under 8 mm as they most likely are dyed - meaning they have no value in the real world of pearls. So, if it is real pearls you want, these are not for you.

Irradiation of pearls using Gamma Rays will darken pearls to a green or blue iridescence.

To my knowledge there is very little of this process done.

The federal trade commission guidelines require full disclosure of pearl treatment to the consumer. This is generally ignored and not even considered by jewelry sales people.

Advise from the pros:

The expert's advice - novice buyers look at as many pearls as feasible, ask questions you feel will help determine your best purchase at the proper price. It's also a good idea to ask for a lab certificate that tells the nacre thickness and any treatments before making that investment in a fine pearl necklace or bracelet.

Keep in mind - if the pearls are smooth, too perfect, too evenly matched, and priced with a low value, it is too good to be true, just walk away.

Rockin' Around, 12/04 via WGMS Rockhounder July 2018



Aren't we cute.

www.topekaduckrace.org



Adopt us.

Team: Topeka Gem & Mineral Society



Shawnee County Fair pictures. There was a lot of interest and excitement in what people saw at our booth. Thanks to all that came to help out for the event, Brad Davenport, Andrew & Ed Newman, Sammy Wall and his son Sammy, Fran Varella, Janet Degenhardt, Stephanie Simpson, Ashton Row, Pam Mortensen, & Millie Mowry. I hope I did not leave anyone out.



GO



TEAM



www.topekaduckrace.org

Team: Topeka Gem & Mineral Society

Topeka Gem & Mineral Society
62nd Annual Show

Opal It Is

October 13 – 14, 2018

Kansas Expocentre Agricultural Hall
17th & Topeka, Topeka, Kansas

Admission

Adult \$5.00 Student (13-17) \$1.00
Child under 13 with Adult – FREE

Hours

13th – 10 am - 6 pm
14th – 10 am – 5 pm

\$1.00 OFF COUPON

One Coupon Good For All Adults In Group
Email: rock2plate@aol.com