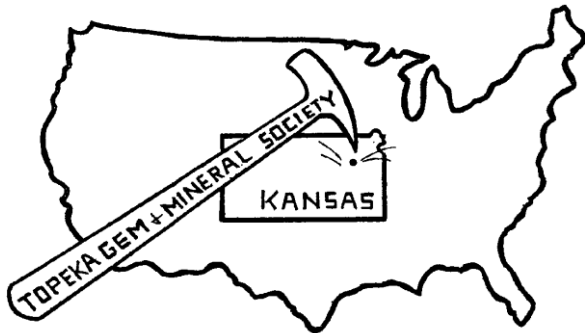


The Topeka Gem and Mineral Society, Inc.
 1934 SW 30th St. Topeka, KS 66611
 Rock2Plate@aol.com

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. 63, No. 11,
 Nov. 2020



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, University United Methodist Church, 1621 SW College, Topeka, KS 66604. 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

2020 OFFICERS AND CHAIRS

President	Brad Davenport	379-8700	Cab of the Month	Debra Frantz/Fred Zeferjohn	862-8876
1 st Vice Pres.	Will Gilliland	286-0905	Field Trip Coord.	Will Gilliland	286-0905
2 nd Vice Pres.	Cinda Kunkler	286-1790	Publicity	TGMS Board	
Secretary	Stacy Haug	1-857-3350	Welcome/Registration	Harold Merrifield	633-9745
Treasurer	Millie Mowry	267-2849	Property	M. Cote/D. Dillon	220-3272
Directors	Chuck Curtis	286-1790	AFMS Scholarship	Cinda Kunkler	286-1790
	Francis Stockton	913-645-7677	Editor/Exchange Editor	Millie Mowry	267-2849
	George Reed	836-9277	Show Chairman	Millie Mowry	267-2849
Historian	Open		Show Dealer Chairman	Millie Mowry	267-2849
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 President

Great day in the morning. I hope everyone is enjoying this beautiful fall weather we are having.

I'm sure everyone's battle with leaves continues to get you outside for a while. I imagine your gardens are all cleaned up and laid down for a winters rest. Yeah, me too neither.

One thing you may not have considered yet is winterizing your shops and garages. Look over all your shelves and boxes for items that might freeze in unconditioned spaces. Sprayers and spray bottles don't like ice in them. Latex paints, glues, caulking and other items need to spend the winter in warm spaces. Did you run the last of the gasoline out of your mowers, tillers and other small engines? Is your snowblower ready to go? How about that back up generator? How about spraying your snow shovels with a coating of PAM or spray silicone? This also works on satellite dishes to prevent build up of snow and ice. Ice melt or rock salt maybe needs to go onto your shopping list.

How about your birds and squirrels if you feed them? Get that bird seed and corn now as opposed to having the little buggers stare forlorn at you through the windows.

Is the fireplace or stove clean and ready to burn? Is your firewood of great quality and well seasoned? How about kindling? Got enough split for the season?

How about the storm windows? Are they all down and sashes locked? Weatherstripping to keep the cold north wind from howling under the door isn't something you want to do in February.

Do you have mulch ready for those tender trees once the mice have found their winters nest?

Well. You know what they say about an ounce of prevention. I guess I better get busy. Have a wonderful November.

Brad

It is that time of year that your Dues is Due for 2021.

December 31, 2020, is the deadline for paying your dues.
See Millie for details.





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

November's Programs
Election of Officers: Dave Dillon to replace George Reed
as Director. Other Officer remaining in positions.
Cinda will announce what else she has planned.

Save this date for:

The Annual TGMS Christmas Dinner, December 4, 2020, 6:30 P.M.

Where: Vikings Grille, 4731 NW Hunters Ridge Circle, Suite G.

Topeka, KS 66618

Their menu can be seen at www.ordervikingsgrille.com/#1

Everyone is welcome and bring your spouse, or significant other, you will be responsible for your own meal. Join us in the party room which is on the west side of the Vikings Grille.



TGMS Event Calendar

NOV 2020			DEC 2020		
1	S		1	T	Lapidary Class @ Brad's, 6 p.m. wire wrap class
2	M		2	W	
3	T		3	T	Jr Rockhounds, UUM Church 6 p.m. Wire wrap class at Millie's 1 p.m.
4	W		4	F	TGMS Christmas Dinner at the Vikings Grille 6:30 p.m. See page 3
5	T	Jr Rockhounds, UUM Church 6 p.m.	5	S	
6	F		6	S	
7	S		7	M	
8	S		8	T	Lapidary Silversmith & Wire Wrap Class @ Brad's, 6 p.m.
9	M		9	W	
10	T	Lapidary & Wire Wrap Class @ Brad's, 6 p.m.	10	T	Wire wrap class at Millie's 1 p.m.
11	W		11	F	
12	T	Wire wrap class at Millie's 1 p.m.	12	S	
13	F		13	S	
14	S		14	M	
15	S		15	T	Lapidary Silversmith & Wire Wrap Class @ Brad's, 6 p.m.
16	M		16	W	
17	T	Lapidary & Wire Wrap Class @ Brad's, 6 p.m.	17	T	wire wrap class at Millie's 1 p.m.
18	W		18	F	
19	T	Wire wrap class at Millie's 1 p.m.	19	S	
20	F	General Meeting @ U.U.M. Church 1621 SW College Ave 7:30 p.m.	20	S	
21	S		21	M	
22	S		22	T	Lapidary & Silversmith Class @ Brad's, 6 p.m. No wire wrap class
23	M		23	W	
24	T	Lapidary Class @ Brad's, 6 p.m. NO Wire Wrap Class	24	T	No wire wrap class at Millie's
25	W		25	F	CHRISTMAS DAY
26	T	THANKSGIVING	26	S	
27	F		27	S	
28	S		28	M	
29	S		29	T	Lapidary Silversmith & Wire Wrap Class @ Brad's, 6 p.m.
30	M		30	W	
			31	T	NEW YEARS EVE/ no class

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

Check out the calendar on our web site

www.TopekaGMS.org

JR ROCKHOUND Classes & Reminders

Here are reminders of the next few months of classes: **University United Methodist Church, 1621 SW College Ave., Topeka, KS.** Sign in starting at 6:00 pm and classes starting at 6:30pm. 1st Thursday of each month.

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



---**Everyone must wear masks!**

Next Class: Nov 5, 2020, Fluorescent Minerals, Will Gilliland
Dec 3, 2020, Minerals, Brad Davenport
Jan 7, 2021, Rocks, Brad Davenport

Reminder: If you want to earn the patches from the classes that you have attended you need to turn in your homework assignments.



Starting November 5th, our classes will be at the University United Methodist Church. The dates and times won't change, just the place. The address is noted above.

Our next class is Fluorescent Minerals with Will Gilliland. Sign in starts at 6:00, and class will begin at 6:30. We're still going to need our masks (at least for now), so don't forget them!

In December, Brad Davenport covers Minerals, and also talks about Rocks in January.

See you then! Jason S.

Cab of the Month Contest

October 2020
Class Cab Winner
Agate
by
Pam Mortensen



October 2020
Class Jewelry Winner
Jasper
by
Cinda Kunkler



October 2020
Member Cab Winner
Josephine's Crown
by
Brad Davenport



October 2020
Member Jewelry Winner
Montana Agate
by
Millie Mowry



Topeka Gem & Mineral Society General Meeting
October 23, 2020 at 7:30 p.m.

Meeting called to order by President Brad Davenport at 7:30. There are 22 members present.

Minutes from last meeting are in the Drifter. Jason moves to accept minutes as they are, Cinda seconds. Motion passed.

Treasurer Report: Millie gave the Treasurer's report. Millie will begin accepting 2021 club member dues tonight.

Reminder - Christmas party is scheduled for December 4th at 6:30 at the Viking Restaurant in Hunter's Ridge. No need to RSVP; we have the party room reserved (separate from the bar area). Chuck moves to adopt Treasurer's Report as it stands, Cinda seconds. Motion passes.

Historian: We are in the process of getting interested persons started with this.

Show Committee: Nothing to report.

Field Trip: Will reports 21 people were present at field trip (4 families were TGMS-related, 4 families strictly 4-H, some were both). Most everyone did well with findings on the sandbar – many found Jasper, various bones & several fossils (mostly more recent specimens). Nothing new yet planned for the near future, but do have some locations lined up for next spring.

Jr. Rockhounds – Jason reports last session went very well. We will meet at the church from now on. Next class (two weeks from now) is "Fluorescent Minerals" presented by Will.

Web Master - AFMS Conference was held over the weekend - our website earned "Honorable Mention" nationwide. Jason is working on new stuff to "blow us out of the water" next year.

Correspondence - Email from RMFMS in regards to AMFS Meeting that was held via Zoom - Judy Beck will be the new President. Some clubs were not having meetings & then not collecting dues from members. Some clubs are really suffering; we are happy we are doing well.

Old Business: None.

New Business:

Dave is good friends with the Calhoun brothers who own a jewelry shop; they would probably be willing to do a program for us. Discussion on ideas for workshops followed. Some ideas were: Pricing of jewelry, selling techniques, how appraising is done on jewelry for insurance purposes; short history of how they got into the business, sourcing (where they get minerals/how they find them), what are the most striking stones that they've seen, and how things change.

Reminder that November meeting is a week early because of Thanksgiving; will be held Friday prior to the holiday.

We need to have 2 or 3 volunteers to form a Nominating Committee for Board Members next year. Committee formed - Chuck, Lewis, Debbie.

Reminder of classes at Brad's place on Tuesday nights – silversmithing, wire-wrapping & lapidary. If anyone is interested in silversmithing, get name on paper and put into the jar. Next drawing will be in 2 weeks.

Program for this evening has been cancelled, as Jason had to leave early for an emergency.

With nothing further to discuss, Chuck moves to adjourn the meeting, Harold seconds. Motion passes.

Submitted by: Stacy Haug, Secretary

Topeka Gem & Mineral Society General Meeting
September 25, 2020 at 7:30 p.m.

Meeting is called to order by President Brad Davenport at 7:30 p.m.

Brad is happy to see so many people here tonight. Everyone seems to like the church meeting area. There are 29 members present.

Minutes: Were in printed in The Drifter. Chuck moves to accept minutes as they stand, Cinda seconds. Motion passes.

Treasury Report: Storage has not been paid yet. Motion to approve report by Jason, Cinda seconds. Motion passes.

AFM Scholarship: Nothing to report at this time.

Publicity: Board is working together as a team on this. We met our goal plus some on the Topeka Duck Race. No exact total yet, but we get half of the money from the duck adoptions.

Historian: Nothing to report. Scanning, filing, recording – there is a lot to be done.

Show Committee: We received our full down payment of \$3750 back as a refund. We will stick with the "Green with Envy" theme for next year.

Field trip: Will wrote an article regarding the glacial excavation on 10th street; it was in the Drifter. One person reported finding some common glacial material at the site. This might be a good time to look into the river field trip as the flow in the past few weeks has cut way down.

Jr. Rockhounds: - Next class is this coming Thursday - "Rocking on the Computer" presented by Jason Schultz. This may be the last time we meet at the library. Due to COVID restrictions, the room is very limited. A meeting was held last week to set the classes all the way through 2021. Also, a list was comprised showing when classes were offered last; averages out to about 1 ½ years to repeat classes.

WebMaster: Nothing new to report.

Correspondence: Jason reports receiving an email from Herman Samano regarding "Discover the Fun of Backyard Geology." Jason would like input as to whether we should add this to our Links page to spread the info. Brad read an article about a huge piece of Jasper at KU - might be a future program for us

Old Business: None.

New business: Silversmithing has started at Brad's, as well as cutting, etc. Silversmithing classes are limited as to how many can be there at a time - limit of 2. If interested, get your name in the jar; you are committed to be there if your name is drawn. Making cabochons - need to have a stone if your name is drawn. There is about 20 lbs. of slabs available that can be cut from for use. If you're not able to produce a cabochon, Brad has put together a box of materials for \$15 - half of money goes to club. There are 7 pieces of equipment in the rock room for club members to use. Classes begin on Tuesday nights at 6:00. Don't have to leave at 8:00! Brad is willing to staying open much later. He would like to look into possibly setting up for Junior Rockhounds on Saturday afternoons (if there's enough need).

Ian Schultz has presentation he would like to make. In spirit of teaching & being taught - through 4-H, he has put together a kit to loan out to other counties that don't have as many Geology resources available. The kit teaches people who are brand new to Geology how to identify different minerals, rocks, etc. He hopes it will be a great aid for teaching. Contains many specimens from all across Kansas, many collected from field trips. He has also designed a board game that accompanies the kit. Ian was designated as the Kansas 4-H State Geology Winner this year.

Cinda offers congratulations to Frances & Donna on their 50th wedding anniversary.

With nothing further to discuss, Chuck moves to adjourn, Jason seconds. Motion passes & meeting adjourns to silent auction.

Submitted by: Stacy Haug, Secretary

SHOP SUGGESTIONS Compiled by Bernice D. Schilling - San Fernando Valley Mineral and Gem Society, 1975

"SLAB and TRIM SAWS"

For a LUBRICANT in SLAB AND TRIM SAWS, radiator antifreeze can be used as a COOLING AGENT. It has no odor, and will not rust your saw or evaporate. In addition, it lubricates well and being very soluble in water, is easier to clean from the rocks and your hands.....*AFMS Newsletter*

When CLEANING OIL FROM YOUR SLAB SAW, put a shopping bag inside another one and put them into a five gallon can. DRAIN THE OIL into the sacks. After a day or two, the oil will filter through the bags and will be clean and ready to re-use..... *Chips and Facets*

Add a couple of tablespoons of liquid detergent to your CUTTING OIL, — if your saw has a plastic lid, this will be the first time you have been able to sea through the top after cutting your slab.....*The Tumble Rumble*

After slabbing or trimming, all OIL should be removed from material by soaking in a strong solution of DISH-WASHING DETERGENT. Laundry detergents should never be used, since they all contain bleaches that will affect the color of many gemstones. Dishwashing detergents do NOT CONTAIN BLEACHES which can cause film and dullness, but rather they are made to break down oils, fats, and greases..... *Strata Gems*

When working with soft stones such as marble, onyx or Howlite, SOAK IT IN WATER a day or two before cutting it in oil. THE OIL WILL NOT SOAK IN and this will result in a much better finish when the polishing is done..... *Breccia CUTTING FOR "SHEEN" ON OBSIDIAN!* Cut at an angle of about 50 degrees to degrees to the stripe of flow lines to insure a good sheen in the finished product.....*Rockhound's Rag*

Because JADE does not have the abrasive quality of some material, it DOES NOT WEAR AWAY THE METAL BOND ON DIAMOND SAW BLADES. Consequently the BLADES GLAZE when you cut jade, and it becomes necessary to clean and dress the saw blade by cutting through a building brick or a piece of discarded 200 grit wheel..... *Chip 'N Tumble*

There are three ways to CUT PALM ROOT and each one will give a different effect. All palm root seems to have a ring of agate around the eye and a colored center. First, you can cut it right down the center. This gives the palm root a wood-grain effect that is striking but it does not show the eye. Second, you can cut squarely across the grain and bring out the round eyes. Lastly, you can cut it diagonally and get an elliptical eye effect. All will give patterns that make showy cabs.....*The Polished Slab*

Save wear and tear on your expensive diamond TRIM SAW BLADE, and cut your agate or jasper slab with a glass cutter. Use one with a carbide wheel, not tungsten, and put a, good handle on it so you can bear down hard. Use pliers to break the slab along the scored lines..... *The Agatizer*

TRIM SAWING: Instead of pushing the slab into the blade and letting the oil spatter all over you — turn the whole unit around so that the saw blade rotates AWAY FROM YOU. Then stand to the back side of it and PULL THE SLAB INTO THE BLADE. You can see what you are doing better and your goggles do not get all oil splattered..... *The Agatizer*
When your wheel has worn down quite a bit, INCREASE the R.P.M. of THE MACHINE. In doing this you will compensate for wheel wear, there by maintaining grinding efficiency... . *The Tumble Rumble*

One excellent method used to SHARPEN SAW BLADES is to mix cement — No Sand — and water in a milk carton. Let harden and cut three or four slices to clean and sharpen the blade. . . . *The Diggers Digest*
When CUTTING PETRIFIED WOOD, cut across the grain for beauty. Sanding should always go with the grain to avoid tearing. If the grain is badly mixed, it is necessary to hand rub to polish. You can produce an excellent finish with dry crocus cloth and about an hour of hard rubbing before polishing.*Strata Gems*
In SAWING GEODES or AGATE-FILLED NODULES, first look for the largest dome on the specimen. This dome was in the upright position when the specimen was forming. Saw through this largest dome, and it is likely you will expose the best "picture" or surface. If the specimen is elongated or eggshaped, saw length wise in order to obtain the best exposure. . . . *Rocks and Gems*
Keep your DIAMOND SAW BLADE ROTATING in the SAME DIRECTION and occasionally to SHARPEN it make a couple of cuts through a piece of Obsidian.....*AFMS Newsletter Source: AFMS Newsletter Nov 2020*

Charoite

Charoite is the name of a purple to violet silicate mineral with a striking appearance. Its vibrant purple color grabs a person's attention. Then, upon closer examination, the viewer discovers interesting banding, swirls, scales, or radial and parallel habits.

Many rocks that contain abundant charoite will accept a beautiful polish. As a result, high-quality pieces of charoite can be cut into spectacular purple cabochons, or used as an ornamental stone to veneer a delightful jewelry box. A pearly luster or chatoyance often increases the beauty of this gem.

Charoite is a rare mineral, found in commercial quantities only in a few small and closely spaced deposits in the Sakha Republic of eastern Russia. It received its name from the Chara River, which drains that geographic area.

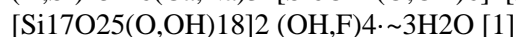
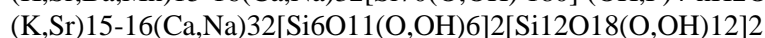
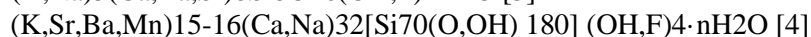
Geologic Occurrence

The charoite of the Sirenevsky Kamen ("purple stone") deposit of eastern Siberia is thought to have formed when an alkali syenite intrusion encountered a dolomite containing a significant amount of terrigenous clastic sediment. The result was a complex geochemical environment of hydrothermal metasomatism.

Mineral-rich fluids permeated the dolomite and surrounding rocks, forming charoite and a variety of other rare minerals with complex chemical compositions. The charoite in these rocks is impure and intimately mixed with microscopic particles of other rare minerals.



Charoite's Chemical Composition Charoite is a complex silicate mineral. Published chemical compositions are in disagreement. We checked numerous references, and each one presented a different composition. The compositions reported below are from the Glossary of Geology [3], the International Mineralogical Association [4], and Mindat.org [1].



Determining a composition for this mineral might be difficult for two reasons: 1) well-formed crystals and specimens of pure charoite have not been found; and, 2) charoite is always intimately associated with and intergrown with numerous other minerals.

Charoite is only known from rocks that are either charoite-rich or charoite-dominated. The name used for these rocks is "charoite". Most people in the gem and lapidary trades simply refer to them as "charoite" and may not suspect that they are a rock which contains a variety of rare minerals.

Charoite is a contact metamorphic rock that usually contains a variety of alkaline calcium silicate accessory minerals. These can include miserite, benstonite, canasite, tinaksite, pectolite, and fedorite. These are often associated with textural varieties of charoite and include: massive (miserite), parallel fibers (benstonite), and radially fibrous (canasite and tinaksite).

Uses of Charoite

Rocks containing abundant charoite with a pleasing color and interesting pattern are often cut into gems or used as an ornamental stone. Charoite cabochons, beads, tumbled stones and other items made of high-quality material can sell for high prices. Charoite is also used to make small sculptures and small utilitarian items that include vases, spheres, goblets, desk sets, small boxes, and decorative tiles. High-quality charoite rough and items made from charoite are not abundant in the marketplace because the material is rare, costly, not regularly mined, and much of what is produced is consumed in Russia.
<https://geology.com/minerals/>; via WGMS Nov 2020