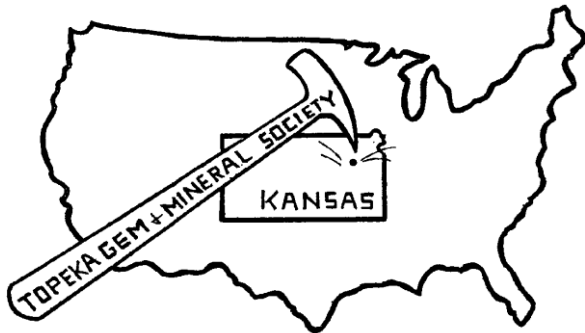


The Topeka Gem and Mineral Society, Inc.
 1934 SW 30th St. Topeka, KS 66611
 Rock2Plate@aol.com

THE GLACIAL DRIFTER



www.TopekaGMS.org 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. 64, No. 2,
 February 2021



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

2021 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
	Dave Dillon	272-7804	Show Chairman	Dave Dillon	272-7804
Historian	Open		Show Dealer Chairman	Dave Dillon	272-7804
Federation Rep	Chuck Curtis	286-1790	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.

Ramblings from your President.

Howdy all'

The calendar shows that Spring is just a month away. As Kansans, we know better. The record shattering low temps the last few days teaches us humility and patience. At least I hope so. I have had to make more trips to town in the last few weeks than I made most of last year. Conversations mean so much more to me now than I ever realized before. I find myself forcing myself on all kinds of strangers. Of course, Rocks inevitably enter the conversations. Most people are polite. Of course those that make the most money (doctors) have the least interest or patience. Oh well, I find them amongst the most boring people I know. Good ole common folks have the best stories and are the best listeners.

If you read my Email last week you are aware that we are proceeding with plans to hold our Gem & Mineral show come October. We are keeping the theme "Green With Envy" So start digging out your greens for some displays. If you feel like you don't have enough for a case no problem share a case with some like minded members. Start planning.

We intend to hold a general meeting next month on the 26th of March. We are also planning on starting up Juniors classes April 1st. Are you guys ready?

Brad



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

Save this date for:
The Annual TGMS Christmas Dinner, December 3, 2021, 6:30 P.M.
Where: Vikings Grille, 4731 NW Hunters Ridge Circle, Suite G.
Topeka, KS 66618

TGMS Event Calendar

FEB 2021			MAR 2021		
1	M		1	M	
2	T		2	T	
3	W		3	W	
4	T		4	T	Jr RHDs pending @ UUMC 6 p.m. sign in Class 6:30 p.m.
5	F		5	F	
6	S		6	S	
7	S		7	S	
8	M		8	M	
9	T		9	T	
10	W		10	W	
11	T		11	T	
12	F		12	F	
13	S		13	S	
14	S		14	S	
15	M		15	M	
16	T		16	T	
17	W		17	W	
18	T		18	T	
19	F		19	F	
20	S		20	S	
21	S		21	S	
22	M		22	M	
23	T		23	T	
24	W		24	W	
25	T		25	T	
26	F		26	F	General Meeting 7:30 P.M. UUMC Program-Silent Auction
27	S		27	S	
28	S		28	S	
			29	M	
			30	T	
			31	W	

All Lapidary Classes are cancelled until Brad lets us know when the shop is safe to open.

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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

For those who have not paid their due for 2021, this will be your last issue. The new 2021 Directory will be printed on March 1, 2021 and sent out. Will your name be on it? Contact Millie to me sure, rock2plate@aol.com or 267-2849.

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: This will be pending.....

April 1, Brad Davenport, Instructor

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

March 26 TGMS meeting program will be our Silent Auction. Please bring your extra rocks, jewelry, books, and any rock and gem related items for the silent auction. Proceeds will go to TGMS general fund. Please be thinking about what you might like to have for programs in the future, I look forward to hearing your thoughts! Hope to see you in March.

Cinda Kunkler

2021 Summer Swap

LGMC is hosting its first public summer swap on June 26 & 27 at the Beer Family Farm near Ashland, Nebraska. Provided COVID doesn't alter the plans, here is what we know so far:

- Vendors will include dealers and swappers.
- Anyone wishing to swap or sell geology or hobby-related items are welcome to rent booth space.
- As with our usual Mid-Winter Swap, members of the public are welcome.
- Twelve booths of various sizes and rental rates are available inside a rustic barn; electricity available. These booths will be assigned on a first-come, first-served basis. Advanced reservations are encouraged. Rentals range from \$40 to \$160.
- Nearly unlimited spaces available outside, rented at \$25 per 10'x10' increments. Tables are available at \$10 per 8-foot table, advanced reservations only.
- Reservations are preferred, however, booth spaces will be available to those not having advanced reservations. Without an advanced reservation, barn spaces and table availability are not guaranteed.
- Outside vendors to provide their own awnings or pop-ups.
- Friday setup noon to 8 p.m.; Saturday setup 7 a.m.
- Saturday hours 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday hours 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- Silent Auction both days.
- Grill-out supper at 6 p.m. Saturday. Voluntary donations for meal will be accepted.

Let Jayne and Corey know if you can help out with any aspect of the Swap. Let's make this a mammoth event!
Jbeer60070@aol.com, 402-890-3307; Corey 402-466-4428.

THE STORY OF MONTANA AGATES



It has always been a mystery how the peculiar little scenes got inside a rock as hard as agate. It is the claim of geologists that the spots were caused by infinitely minute seams or fissures in the softer parts of the rock being filled with metallic oxides when the world was young. These oxides made four different colors that form various combinations of color

when blended together, or appear in single colors in each rock.

The red color is oxide from iron. The black is oxide of manganese. The green is oxide of copper. The blue is oxide of nickel. This theory has been elaborated by the help of high powered microscopes which show the tracings of little canals so close the naked eye could not detect it; but the oxides remained, staining the rocks in wonderful designs. The fernlike and branch effects of the trees, grass and shrubbery, come from the fact that the tiny canals branched out in various subdivisions forming smaller canals for a common center. In addition to these canals, the rock became flawed through shrinkage while passing through a period of evaporation which, according to scientists, has taken more than three million years to reduce the stone to the hardness of 7 on the Mohs scale.

These canals and flaws have been perfectly healed by soft silicate formations of which the stone is a part, and the evaporation has doused the oxides to take on such forms as seen on the window after a frosty night. Technically, Montana agate is known as “dendritic” agate, and the moss spots are called “dendrites”. It is the third hardest stone in the world, and is cut only with a diamond saw. There can never be two pieces alike even though cut from the same stone.

Via CMS Tumbler, 3/15; Gem & Mineral Journal, 9/14; Rock Writings, 9/14; from Petrified Digest, 2001; Glacial Drifter 3/15; Stoney Statements Apr 2015.

DID YOU KNOW?



The state of Kentucky lists coal (a rock) as its official state mineral, and Kentucky Agate (a mineral) as its official state rock. Nebraska names Prairie Agate (a mineral) as its state rock. Ohio names Ohio flint as its official state gemstone. These designations were all voted in by state politicians, none of whom were rockhounds -- we assume.

List of State Rocks, Minerals & Gemstones at www.netstate.com/states/tables/state_rocks_all.htm.

Also thanks to Livermore Lithogram 11/14 via The Rollin'Rock 2/15 via The Rock Collector 4/15

P.S. Kansas, wanting to avoid the whole thing, is the only state which has NO state rock, mineral, gemstone or fossil.

Source: Stoney Statements April 2015

PLUME IN JASPER

Submitted by Gene Gangle, Willamette Agate & Mineral Society



“There are more things in Heaven and Earth, Horatio, than are dreamt of in your philosophy.”
Shakespeare’s Hamlet to Horatio.

Fifty years ago, the conundrum posed in beginning philosophy classes was the following question: *If a tree falls in the forest, and there is no one around to hear it, does the tree falling make a sound?* Now the question in cosmology, a branch of philosophy, seems to be along the lines of whether the universe exists, if you are not there to apprehend it. The answer seems to be that it does not exist. We further muddy the metaphysical waters by positing, according to the astrophysicist Neil de Grasse Tyson, that there appear to be multiple universes beyond the one we see. The ostrich may have had the right idea. Bury your head in the sand and the world goes away. If you are still with me, I am impressed. I am going to get to rocks.

Our understanding and appreciation of rocks depends on our ability to see what we are looking at. Basically, that’s what the twelfth century philosopher Thomas Aquinas said when he said (in Latin) “What we see we see according to our manner of seeing.” Basically we see what we want to see, whether it is a rock or the universe.

If we do not have the lense or framework or filter to see that burst of plume in the agate, it doesn’t exist. At least for us. Hope you are still with me.

So. Agates. Plume in agates. Minerals that manifest themselves encased in silica, once a gel, now hardened into agate.

The process seems to pose a tautological question – now I’m just showing off using big words – does the plume form first with the silica gel “capturing it” or does the mineral express itself in the gel-like silica? Actually, it doesn’t seem to be an either-or question; it seems that both processes can happen. You may have seen manganese and other salt tubes lined up in a thunderegg cavity, before the silica gel migrated and captured these tubes. After that event of capture we can see the wonderful flowers, bushes, trees in an array of colors that make up the plume. That is one scenario. The other scenario – we always work from after-the fact – is when we see the plumes floating, as it were, in the agate independent of the walls of the cavity. Eagle Rock, Powell Butte, Woodward Ranch, Canadian River, and sometimes Carey Plume, are examples. Since Graveyard, Stinkingwater, Nydegger, and Teeter Ranch are seam agates, these plumes form themselves from the sides.

Nothing new here, really. This review of what many of us already know, sets the stage for what follows, i.e., plume in *jasper*.

Plume in jasper? Yes, it does occur. If we think about it, the same dynamic exists as in agate. Silica is involved in both. And, if we define jasper as more or less silica, it is in fact normal to find minerals other than the basic matrix of the jasper to be present also.

Plumb In Jasper Cont.:

So, if we define plume as portions of a stone that present trees, bushes, flowers, then we do in fact, though rarely, find plume in jasper.

It seems to me that areas in the jasper coalesce and gather themselves when the material is still plastic, then stabilize as the host material stabilizes (i.e. hardens to its final state) and this is how jasper presents plume.

Bear with me. Thank you. I'm making this up as I go along.

Rock and Gem, June 2011, page 50, refers to the "Big Five" porcelain jaspers as: (1) Willow Creek; (2) Bruneau (both from Idaho); (3) Imperial (from Mexico); (4) Blue Mountain; and (5) Morrisonite. I would add a sixth to that list – Hart Mountain. These last three are all from Oregon.

They say there are three kinds of people -- those who can count and those who can't count. Sorry. Too subtle. Our "Big Five" porcelain jaspers have become for me the "Big Six" porcelain jaspers.

So. What makes a porcelain jasper? To be a porcelain jasper, one needs jasper that will present a glossy luster resulting in dramatic depth.

I have one example of Willow Creek showing plume. Willow Creek, a thunderegg-like Bruneau, presents glorious pastels – yellow, mauve, fuchsia, puce plus other colors associated with the minerals making up the nodule. I know what mauve and fuchsia are; I wasn't sure about puce. My collegiate dictionary did not list it. My unabridged dictionary described it as deep brown to purplish brown and located it in the visible spectrum. Is that unabridged enough for you? I do have a 40 x 30 cab that shows these colors besides my plume cab.

I have three examples of Bruneau showing plume – one 40 x 30 and two freeform cabs. (See Fig. 1)

I have two examples of Imperial, one red and one green (leaning to puce!).

I have three examples of Blue Mountain, two calibrated and one freeform.

I have numerous examples of Morrisonite (actually fourteen, half freeform and half calibrated).

Remember, I can't always count well. (See Fig. 1)

I have one example of Hart Mountain, a freeform cab.

As a bonus, I have one freeform cab of Bloodstone showing plume and I have two examples of Owyhee jasper showing plume.

My purpose in writing this is to point out that there are more worlds out there than we admit in our cosmology. Shakespeare said something along that line some 450 years ago. He might have said it better than I. There might be wonderful plume in our jaspers, but they are only there if we see them. Perhaps we should ask how we can see more than we usually see. What sense indeed can give us a new vision? The eyes have it. **Clackamette Gem January 2015 Page 12**

SAGENITE IN JASPER

"To him who in the love of Nature holds communion with her visible forms, she speaks a various language." These are the first lines of William C. Bryant's Thanatopsis.

As a rockhound, I enjoy seeing these special visible forms showing in my rocks and, in the past several months, I found sagenite in Bruneau jasper and in Hart Mountain jasper.

Sagenite is a sometime thing in agate, but almost never shows in jasper. I have a nice scene showing in my Bruneau, a winter moon rising off the shoulder of Mt. Hood. But my cab had these annoying little needles radiating from the bottom. (See Fig. 2) I did not see at first what I did not expect. Sagenite! And my Hart Mountain slab showed a double sagenite spray, like a dandelion puff-ball, showing classic sagenite fans. Subsequently, my newly calibrated vision let me see that both a Morrisonite cab (See Fig. 2) and a Vistaitite cab displayed sagenite.

In my experience there are several kinds of sagenite. There is the mossy, straw-like display as found in McDermitt material and in some Mexican agate and Nipomo agate. There is the fan-like presentation often seen in Oregon beach agates, acicular in form. And finally, there is quartz pseudomorph after aragonite, resembling a cluster of radiating tubes. The term "totally tubular" comes to mind, a term that I first heard some forty years ago and which I don't know now nor did I know then what it means. Likely it is an expression of surprise and approval and delight.

Sagenite in Jasper Cont.:

Plume in jasper. Totally tubular.



Sagenite in jasper. Totally tubular



Clackamette Gem January 2015 Page 12



YES, Stormont Vail Event Center, has cleared us to have our show
October 9-10, 2021.

“Green With Envy” will be the theme for the 64th Annual Show.

Dealers are being contacted as we speak by Dave Dillon.

We will expect all member to help with the show this year, sign up sheets will be available soon at the meetings.

Safety will by a must, wearing a mask, hand sanitizer, etc.

More information to follow.