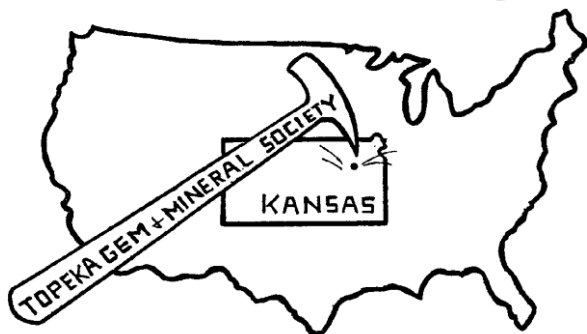


The Topeka Gem and Mineral Society, Inc.
 1934 SW 30th St. Topeka, KS 66611
 Rock2Plate@aol.com

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. 0
 September 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.

So, another page has been torn from our calendars. Summer is winding down; schools are back in session and the thermostat has eased away from those hundred-degree days. What does it all mean?

Well, it means that our show is less than a month away. You can be proud of your board and a few other members that have been working hard in preparation for it. Your help is still desperately needed for the three days of the show. If you haven't signed up for your hours to help, please do so soon. We need to know who, what, when and where we will have our positions filled. There are tons of spaces that we need to fill and schedule. Call any one of us, drop and email or post on either the Facebook sites or the web page.

Our next regular meeting is Sept 24th at the church. We have a dandy of a Silent Auction ready for you. There are some tremendous specimens available from a couple of collections we have been given. If you miss them here, you'll be sorry.

Our junior's program is quite stable but we sure would like to see some more youngsters involved in this dynamic opportunity. Promote, promote, promote. If you would like to teach a class or help otherwise, you're more than welcome.

There are still a couple of days to purchase ducks for the Sertoma race this weekend. If you have been meaning to sponsor, do so NOW!

With some cooler temperatures, Tuesday nights out here at the shops are becoming very pleasant. We are reaching the bottom of the hat we draw names from for those wanting to take Silversmithing classes. If you are interested, get out here and add your name.

Brad

So what's your job as a TGMS member?

- 1) To spread the word of the show. The show Coupon is attached to this newsletter; you can print it out and give it to interested folks. Printed posters will be available to post around town nearer the time of the show.**
- 2) To participate. At the club booth to sell grab bags, at the front table to greet visitors, or anywhere else needed.**
- 3) To Exhibit, and to display your own rocky things....**
- 4) To Demonstrate. Some of the club equipment will be at the show; you can learn to cab and facet from our experts. And show visitors how it's done.**
- 5) To Set up, tear down. EVERYONE NEEDS TO JOIN IN ON THIS!**

TGMS Event Calendar

SEPT 2021			OCT. 2021		
1	W		1	F	
2	T		2	S	
3	F		3	S	
4	S		4	M	
5	S		5	T	Brad's Shop OPEN 6 PM Wear Masks, have shots
6	M		6	W	
7	T		7	T	Junior Rock Hounds, UUMC 6 p.m.
8	W		8	F	SHOW SET-UP
9	T		9	S	SHOW
10	F		10	S	SHOW & take - down
11	S		11	M	Columbus Day
12	S		12	T	Brad's Shop OPEN 6 PM Wear Masks, have shots
13	M		13	W	
14	T	Brad's Shop OPEN 6 PM Wear Masks, have shots	14	T	
15	W		15	F	
16	T		16	S	
17	F		17	S	
18	S	Duck Race	18	M	
19	S		19	T	Brad's Shop OPEN 6 PM Wear Masks, have shots
20	M		20	W	
21	T	Brad's Shop OPEN 6 PM Wear Masks, have shots	21	T	
22	W		22	F	General Mtg. 6:30 p.m. UUMC
23	T		23	S	
24	F	General Mtg. 6:30 p.m. UUMC	24	S	
25	S		25	M	
26	S		26	T	Brad's Shop OPEN 6 PM Wear Masks, have shots
27	M		27	W	
28	T	Brad's Shop OPEN 6 PM Wear Masks, have shots	28	T	
29	W		29	F	
30	T		30	S	
			31	S	HALLOWEEN

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



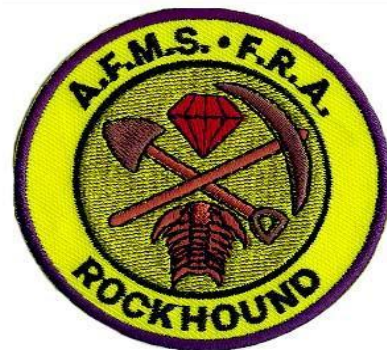
JR ROCKHOUND Classes & Reminders

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: Oct. 7, Earth In Space Instructor: Jason Schulz

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

The program for September will be a Silent Auction to benefit the Club. Bring anything you do not want to donate and bring lots of money too purchase other items that we have sorted out last weekend for our auction.

Please be thinking about our show coming October (8 work day) 9th & 10th - we need everyone to sign up to help at the show. Sign-up sheets will be available to pick your times at the picnic. Times for both Saturday & Sunday are every two hours starting at 9:45-11:45 each day. Please let us know if you can help!

Thank you all - Cinda Kunkler cindakunkler@att.net

Welcome New Member:

Elizabeth Hixon

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





DO YOU NEED A NEW VEHICLE?



The Topeka Gem and Mineral Society again this year is participating in the annual Sertoma Duck Race at Lake Shawnee. It is our money maker of the year and we hope that you as members will adopt as many ducks as you can. We feel this is better than holding a garage sale! Just go to the web site below and find our team, Topeka Gem & Mineral and make your purchase. It is very simple to do. The race will be held on September 18th, 2021.

The 2021 Sertoma Duck Race is a "GO" - on September 18, 2021! The ducks are dropped into the water at 10:00 a.m. Winners will be determined within 30-60 minutes after that. As happened in 2020, the 2021 Race will not have all the activities pre-race - again - due to continued Covid concerns; but, we are happy the race itself can happen, prizes given, and funds distributed to non-profits. THANK YOU for sending in your Acknowledgement form - confirming your team will participate this year as a Duck Sales/Adoption Team to raise funds for your needs! The website: www.duckrace.com/topeka is "live" and ready to go. As a 2020 sales team - your team remains on the website from last year. Teams are starting to adopt - now is the time! A vehicle has been committed as the Grand Prize - from Laird Noller Hyundai - and other prizes as listed on the website! Online adoptions continue to make the most sense - NO face-to-face sales required. Plus you can reach a much larger audience online



<https://www.rockngem.com/what-to-cut-mexican-peanut-obsidian/>

Mexican Peanut Obsidian

Published by Toni Rahn, July 1, 2021, Rock & Gem online magazine

Article by Russ Kaniuth

Mexican Peanut obsidian was discovered in the 1960s near Alamos, Sonora, Mexico. In recent years it's become exceedingly scarce as it has been a lapidary favorite for years. Many people are attracted to orbicular stones or something that resembles flowery patterns, and Peanut Obsidian has all that and more.

Though it's not exactly obsidian, it is perlite with spherulites in it. The spherulites are radiating crystals of feldspar, tinted by hematite. They are quite chatoyant when cut and polished, which adds fascination to the already beautiful orbicular design in this material. The backing matrix is predominantly black but also comes in grey tones with some banding. The spherulites are generally reddish-orange and generally round; however, recently, I've seen batches where the orbs have split and grown in different directions or formed clumps of flowery clusters, which adds to the beauty of this stone.



Tips for Purchasing

When purchasing Peanut obsidian, it comes in various sizes, anything from the size of a baseball to large 20-pound chunks. I have always noticed that the lighter the grey matrix, the softer and less stable the material will be. The best choice, in my opinion, is an all-black matrix, as it tends to be far more solid and stable to cut. No

matter what, most of this material will have some fracturing to it, usually not a great deal, but there might be times that stabilizing is an optimal idea. The outer edges that have been exposed to the soil around it can soften the perlite and spherulites to a point where you can pop some out with your hands, but don't worry; this is typical of this material and only on the outer areas.

Once you slab this material, the inner portions are generally very stable and have minimal fracturing. You may see small spiderweb fractures, but they are not usually very deep.

However, you should do a bench test and either flex the slabs in your hand or lightly tap them on your workbench to see which parts fall off before beginning any work. Be cautious when doing these tests, as volcanic glass can easily cut, or worse, it can send small sharp shards in the air, which can cause severe eye injuries. Take extra precautions.

The fun begins after the slabs are cut as the orbs, or flowery clusters make for some great designs. If possible, consider adding a little extra black matrix in the back-ground utilizing negative space, it adds to the beauty of the stone, and accents the spherulite patterns. When cutting out your preforms, the thinner blades work much better on obsidians; they cut fast and clean without too much vibration that can cause additional fracturing.

Ready, Set, Cab!

Once you're ready to cab, be sure to wear adequate eye protection, because as I mentioned earlier, this and any

obsidian or glass can send small razor-sharp particles into the air when initially grinding out your shapes and domes. I start on the 80 grit steel diamond wheels and softly work out my shapes.

Obsidian is relatively soft, so going slow with light pressure is usually best and avoids the additional chipping off the outer back edge.

At this point, I like to move directly to a soft resin wheel, either 140 or 220 grit and continue to smooth

and dome the cab. From here, it's fairly easy and routine; move onto your 280 grit wheel, and be sure to go no further until all the scratches are completely gone at this stage.

Having canned air handy is quite helpful, as a quick blast of air will immediately show white scratches if they still exist.

Next, move onto the rest of your wheels until you have reached your 14k grit, at which point you should have a wonderfully polished cabochon that is ready to set in jewelry. But, if you want to go further and gain that added extra mirror polish, you can use cerium oxide on a leather buffing wheel. Just be aware of any open areas, whether it's a hairline fracture or a small hairline gap on the edge of the spherulite and matrix, as these spaces will fill with compound and be difficult to clean after.

You should be able to find this material at the Tucson shows this spring, and you can always obtain the material from Tanner Singleton on Facebook, via the Slab Depot Group.

Source: Pick & Shovel Sept 2021



Don't forget to purchase your ducks for the race at Lake Shawnee!



PERIDOT

As I was packing up rocks to go to CMC, I came upon peridot bombs from Kilbourne Hole, NM. That reminded me to write something about how and where peridot occurs. Here in Colorado we have one site in southern South Park that yields peridot. I think it's on a CSMS club claim.

Peridot (or Chrysolite) is actually the gem-quality high-temperature mineral OLIVINE. Olivine, an iron/magnesium-bearing silicate ranging from Mg_2SiO_4 (forsterite) to Fe_2SiO_4 (fayalite), is the first to crystallize out of silica-poor lava as it cools. Usually it occurs in scoriaceous flows and is abundant, of course, in Hawaii. Because it forms at high-temperatures, it also breaks down quickly at low temperatures. In Hawaii, the olivine weathers quickly from the volcanic lava and entire beaches are covered with olivine sand.

Why does it occur at Kilbourne Hole? Kilbourne Hole is a "kimberlite pipe" which came bursting from the mantle of the earth through all the sedimentary layers on top of it about 1200 years ago; it blew out a crater about a mile across. As the kimberlite spurted up, the olivine of the upper mantle crystallized very quickly, solidifying into nodules coated with magma. The olivine-rich basalt is called peridotite.

The site in South Park resulted from more normal volcanic conditions when the 39-Mile volcanic field was active. Olivine can also occur in ultramafic igneous rocks called peridotites and metamorphic rocks made from impure dolomite. It occurs in rocks on the moon and on Mars. Pakistan's Kashmir region yields the most exquisite peridot crystals in today's world.

Green cubic zirconias colored to look like peridot are now artificially grown. Unlike natural peridot, CZs are flawless and are much harder (8.5 compared to Peridot's 6.5-7.9). CZs are also more dense than natural peridot. To test a green stone that might be glass or a CZ, look for inclusions. Real peridot will usually have brown or yellow inclusions and small chips in it. Another test is to put it under different lights and see if it changes color. Peridot won't. Artificial peridot often has a "misty" look, not present in real peridot.

Peridot Quartz is another "fake peridot," grown in a hydrothermal process and moderate temperature but very high pressure. The crystallization vessels are thick-walled steel autoclaves with a hermetic seal designed to withstand high temperatures and pressures for prolonged periods of time. The nutrient is placed in the lower part of the autoclave filled with a specific amount of solvent. The autoclave is heated in order to create two temperature zones. The nutrient dissolves in the hotter zone and the saturated aqueous solution in the lower part is transported to the upper part by convective motion of the solution. The cooler and denser solution in the upper part of the autoclave descends while the counter flow of solution ascends. The solution becomes supersaturated in the upper part as the result of the reduction in temperature and crystallization sets in. **Peridot quartz's** hardness is 7 (like quartz), with the same specific gravity and refractive index. Unlike other gems, because they crack easily, peridots are NOT heat treated to enhance their color.

Keep your eyes open when you are buying peridot for that August-born friend!

Source: Tips & Chips Sept 2021



Topeka Gem & Mineral Society

64th Annual Show

Green with Envy

October 9 – 10, 2021

Agricultural Hall, Stormont Vail Event Center
17th & Topeka, Topeka, Kansas

Admission

Adult \$5.00 Student (13-17) \$1.00	9th –
10 am - 6 pm	
Child under 13 with Adult – FREE	10th
– 10 am – 5 pm	

Hours

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

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