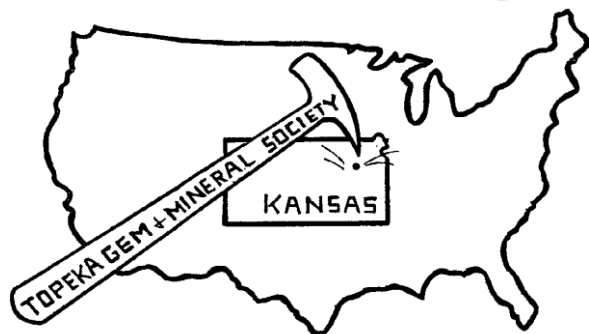


The Topeka Gem and Mineral Society, Inc.
 1934 SW 30th St. Topeka, KS 66611
 Rock2Plate@aol.com

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. 65, No. 7
 August 2022



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

2022 OFFICERS AND CHAIRS

President	Brad Davenport	379-8700	Cab of the Month	Donna & Russell Hedge	620-660-1651
1 st Vice Pres.	Will Gilliland	286-0905	Field Trip Coord.	Cole Collins	220-4027
2 nd Vice Pres.	Cinda Kunkler	286-1790	Publicity	Donna Stockton	913-645-7677
Secretary	Stacy Haug	1-857-3350	Welcome/Registration	Harold Merrifield	633-9745
Treasurer	Millie Mowry	267-2849	Property	D. Dillon	272-7804
Directors	Chuck Curtis	286-1790	AFMS Scholarship	Cinda Kunkler	286-1790
	Jim Baer	785-256-2432	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.

Fodder from the president. August/22

Greeting to you all.

Summer is quickly sliding away. Have you gotten all those tasks on your Honey Do list completed? I know I haven't. A couple I haven't even started. I am guessing it is probably too late to plant tomatoes.

With the last of August creeping up on us, don't forget our third covered dish dinner of the summer. Friday Aug. 26th at the church. Set up starts at 6:00 and we start eating at 6:30.

I would like to announce that Cole Collins has accepted the position of Field Trip Coordinator. Will Gilliland has served us well for many years and deserves a rest. Thank you Will.

If you have any ideas for trips, please talk to Cole. If you would like to help in this, talk to Cole. If you need some info, talk to Cole.

As far as shop time goes, these facilities are being underutilized. Especially the Silversmithing shop. Dave and Jim have been showing up weekly with nobody to teach or assist.

I have added an additional saw to the lineup here. It is a 14" masonry saw that will allow folks to cut softer rocks using water as opposed to oil that might absorb into softer rocks such as Marble, Variscite, Limestone or sandstones. It is not a highly technical piece of equipment so don't think that you can slab rocks with it. But if you want to open a nodule or create a base on a specimen, it's perfect. It needs to be set up outside for operation (It's messy as hell!) so if you want to use it, I need to know ahead of time so I can get it out and set up.

I would like to welcome Lane Schroder as our newest member.

Rocking in the heartland. Brad

This August 26th is our final "Picnic" Meeting for the summer - 6:00 gather, 6:30 EAT. Please bring a dish or two to share, table service and something to drink. (Dessert will be provided.) We will have a brief meeting after we have eaten, sign-up sheets for the show will be available. We will also have a 'show & tell', wear any items you want to show off, have you had a special 'find' this summer, found a good spot to hunt rocks (?), tell us all about it. The club has several books, DVD & VHS tapes for sale and will be available at the meeting as well. Hope to see you there! Our September meeting will be our Silent Auction, start hunting for anything you want to contribute.
Cinda K.

We need your **BEST CHOICE** UPC Labels --

Bring them to the monthly meeting, and give them to Cinda Kunkler.



TGMS Event Calendar

AUG 2022			SEP. 2022		
1	M		1	T	Jr Rockhounds, UUMC 6 p.m. sign in
2	T		2	F	
3	W		3	S	
4	T		4	S	
5	F		5	M	
6	S		6	T	Brad's Shop Open 6-9:30pm
7	S		7	W	
8	M		8	T	
9	T		9	F	BOARD MEETING AT MILLIE'S
10	W		10	S	
11	T		11	S	
12	F		12	M	
13	S		13	T	Brad's Shop Open 6-9:30pm
14	S		14	W	
15	M		15	T	
16	T		16	F	
17	W		17	S	
18	T		18	S	
19	F		19	M	
20	S		20	T	Brad's Shop Open 6-9:30pm
21	S		21	W	
22	M		22	T	
23	T	Brad's Shop Open 6-9:30pm	23	F	General Meeting UUMC 7:30 p.m. Silent Auction
24	W	Publicity Meeting Elmont Church 7 pm	24	S	
25	T		25	S	
26	F	General Meeting Picnic UUMC 6:00 p.m.	26	M	
27	S		27	T	Brad's Shop Open 6-9:30pm
28	S		28	W	
29	M		29	T	
30	T	Brad's Shop Open 6-9:30pm	30	F	
31	W		31	S	

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

ALL MEMBERS.....SAVE THE DATES.....

OCT 7 thru 9th, 2022

That is when our club show happens and we need EVERYONE to HELP not just for an couple of hours. Tell your boss you're sick, play hooky from work, take vacation days but we need your help. Sign up sheets will be available soon.

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

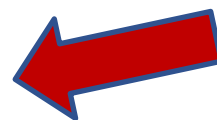


Next Class: Sep 1, 2022 Lapidary.....Dave Dillon

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



LAST CHANCE TO BUY A DUCK



The Sertoma Duck Race has started for 2022

<https://www.duckrace.com/topeka>

Purchase your Ducks under Topeka Gem & Mineral as it is our only fund raiser of the year. The Race is September 17, 2022 at Lake Shawnee.



From: m nelson <csrockguy@yahoo.com>

Subject: RMFMS State Directors; Fossil Collecting

The BLM has just released, on August 2nd, the "FINAL RULE" about collecting invertebrate fossils on BLM, NPS, Fish & Wildlife, and Bur Rec land. Comments are due by the end of the month. You may find information in the Federal Register at:

<https://www.federalregister.gov/public-inspection/2022-16405/paleontological-resources-preservation>.

A shorted version with Mike's comments, questions, and concerns is available from Mike Nelson at:

<http://www.csmgeologypost.blogspot.com>

Examine the August 7 Post.

This Final Rule is important to any member of the general public who wants to collect invertebrate and plant fossils on Federal Land managed by the BLM. This is the Rule that will finalize causal collecting, disturbance of land, what tools rockhounds may use, the permitting process, etc. Mike Nelson



Our last summer Picnic

August 26, 2022

At UUMC, 1621 SW College

Join us for our summer time fun.

Bring your favorite dish or two to share, table service, and something to drink.

Cole Collins has taken the position of Field Trip Coordinator. If you have a place that you would like to go, contact him at cole7collins@gmail.com or 785-220-4027.



Does anyone want name badges before the show? Now is the time to order them. They are less than \$8 each. See Millie to order them. 267-2849 or rock2plate@aol.com.

Cleaning Native Copper

Ingredients: one part sodium hydroxide, 30 parts salt, 20 parts dis-tilled water. Make all measurements by weight. Use a glass contain-er to hold this solution.

Suspend the copper specimen by copper wire in the cold solution and occasionally raise and lower it for inspection. Shortly, the solution be-comes bluish and the discoloration on the specimen begins to disappear revealing the natural red-brown of the copper. The cleaning may take several hours to complete. When clean, rinse thoroughly in running water then immerse in clean water for an hour or so. It is said this method gives excellent, safe results.

The solution attacks and dissolves cupric oxide, but leaves undamaged both cuprite and metallic copper.

Source: *Pineywoods Rooter* 3/13 via *Deming Rock Chips* 4/13; via *WGMS* May 2013



About The 'Needles' of Obsidian

The term 'needles of obsidian' refers to a naturally occurring fragment of obsidian that is basically rod like in shape. Needles can be anywhere from the size of a pencil lead to that of a three-foot section of four-by-four. As obsidian cools beyond the threshold of crystallization, it contracts and fractures.

Usually the pattern of shattering is pretty random, creating pieces of varying size and shape. In any large obsidian flow there may be a few long thin pieces just because of chance. In a few flows, however, the entire formation has an overall tendency to produce needles. No one has ever seen this occur, so theories as to the origin of needles are only that: theories. The one that I favor, which was developed by an actual geologist from Humboldt University some twenty-five years ago, is that the needles formed in an already existing obsidian flow when it was bisected by a fault line. The resulting earth movement flaked the rock along parallel axis at 90 degrees, the result being needles. At every site where I have found more than random needles, there seems to be a general matrix with needle sizes ranging from hair-like to honkers of up to thirty inches; but please, feel free to come up with a theory of your own. Perhaps they were left by aliens or are some kind of weird communist plot. At any rate the needles are the second key to the wonderful and



amazing tones that our chimes produce. The shapes allow the sympathetic vibrations to build up and emote. Needles of obsidian are relatively rare and little known. Over the years, we have found several places in Oregon and California where we are permitted to dig them, and we enjoy primitive camping, hiking and digging for six to eight weeks per year.

<http://www.obsidianwindchimes.com/>; via WGMS Jan 2013

Goldstone

Goldstone is a type of glass made with copper or copper salts in the presence of a reducing flame. Under normal oxidative conditions, copper ions meld to into the silica to produce transparent bluish-green glass; when the reduced Goldstone melt cools, the copper remains in atomic isolation and precipitates into small crystalline clusters.

The most common form of Goldstone gives the illusion of being reddish-brown, though in fact that color comes from the copper crystals and glass it-self is colorless. Some Goldstone variants have an intensely colored glass matrix...usually blue or violet, more rarely green.

The manufacturing process of Goldstone was discovered in the seventeenth century Venice by the Miotti family, which was granted an exclusive license by the Doge.

Source: *Hill and Gully Paydirt 12/15*; via WGMS January 2016

A Little Iron Goes a Long Way

People are always searching for ways to counteract the effects of the rusting of iron and of iron rust stains. However, it was not always that way. Ancient peoples often used iron rust, or ocher, in their decorations. Iron rust is very common in nature and the iron oxide (of which rusts consists) or sometimes iron atoms themselves, are often responsible for the coloration of some of our most important gemstones. Some minerals that are used for jewelry have iron as a principle constituent. Hematite is 70% iron, and pyrite (marcasite) is 40% iron. Most of the agate and jasper that contains yellow, brown, and red colored zones are colored by the iron that is included in them.

In some gemstones, however, very small traces of iron within the crystal structure of the mineral can produce dramatic changes in color. A few tenths of a percent of iron within the crystal can turn an ordinary looking mineral into a beautiful gem that has both esthetic and monetary value.

A few tenths of a percent of iron in the lattice structure of quartz produces both the citrine and amethyst. If citrine is irradiated, it becomes amethyst, and if amethyst is heated it is altered to citrine. This process is reversible.

Beryl is another gemstone in which traces of iron can influence the color. In aquamarine, a few percent of iron causes both the green and the blue color that can be found in the gemstone, depending upon where the iron atoms are located within the crystal lattice. The green color can be removed by heat, leaving only the blue color. This is more pleasing by present day standards. The green color can be replaced by irradiation if desired. The color of golden beryl also is caused by a small percentage of iron atoms, in fact, the same atoms that sometimes make aquamarine look green. It can be bleached to a colorless beryl (goshenite) by heat and then returned to its golden hue by irradiation. When on tenth to three tenths of a percent of the mineral corundum is iron atoms, it produces a yellow gemstone known as yellow sapphire. If a like amount of the metal titanium is also present, we have the more desirable and better known blue sapphire.

There are many other gemstones and minerals that owe their color to traces of iron, sometimes by itself and sometimes in combinations with other elements. Source: reprint from The Drifter 3/96.

Agatized Red Coral From Utah



An agatized red horn coral, *Caninia contorta*, from Woodland, east of Salt Lake City, Utah. The coral is 345 million years old and has once been buried under a layer of volcanic ash that provided the silica for the little agates that fill out the voids in the coral skeleton. Meanwhile the central part of the former calcareous skeleton has been entirely replaced by chalcedony, while the colorless outer parts are made of calcite

WGMS May 2020

PRETTY IN PINK

by Sue Medina

One of the most attractive ore minerals for jewelry is rhodochrosite, a manganese carbonate ($MnCO_3$). It is an ore of manganese and occurs most commonly in vast sedimentary deposits. In one location, rhodochrosite occurs as stalactites in old silver mines abandoned in the 13th century. These tunnels in the Capilitas Mine in Argentina have furnished some of the finest ornamental rhodochrosite ever found and continue to produce fine specimens. The owners of this mine currently only mine the rhodochrosite for jewelry and collecting specimens. Cavers oppose removing any materials from caves; but these are man-made tunnels in which stalactites have formed over the 700 year period since the mines were abandoned by the Inca Indians. For jewelry, desirable rhodochrosite rough is a warm pink color. Its name comes from the Greek and means "rose-colored". A fancy name for rhodochrosite is "Inca Rose". The rough often features concentric bands of pink and white rhodochrosite (not white calcite). More commonly, the material is reddish-brown, brown, or gray. It is a very soft mineral, rating only 4 on the Mohs scale. It should be handled very carefully, as it is also brittle. Rhodochrosite crystals are in the trigonal system, forming rhombohedral crystals. Fine crystals have begun to be found again in the Home Sweet Home Mine, a historic silver mine in Alma, Colorado. The largest gem on record is a 59.65 carat oval faceted gem from Kuruman, South Africa.

Working rhodochrosite rough into jewelry can be difficult. It may tend to separate along its bands. Further, it has three directions of easy cleavage, making it brittle and weak. It is

somewhat heat sensitive. Consequently, rough must be handled carefully to avoid shocks that might break it and excessive heat that might harm it. The bands have different degrees of hardness, so sanding will deform the stone; use only the finest wheels and grit to smooth and polish stones. Grinding results in pits that seldom disappear during sanding. Finished rhodochrosite will oxidize, causing the surface to turn brown with age. If you have rhodochrosite jewelry, treat it gently. Be sure to protect it from bumping against harder stones or being jumbled with other jewelry that may scratch or nick it.

From The Golden Nugget 4/96, via The Mountain Gem 6/97, via Pegmatite 11/98: via WGMS 1/2019



Exhibit in [La Plata Muse-um, La Plata,](#)

End of the Newsletter Jokes

- I like dad jokes but I don't have any kids. I guess that makes me a faux pa.
- How does a mathematician lecture their child? "If I told you n times, I've told you n+1 times....."
- A sign at a music shop: "Gone Chopin. Bach in a minuet."
- A couple years ago my therapist told me I had problems letting go of the past.
- I used to think the brain was the most important organ. Then I thought, look what's telling me that.

Via Boulder Buster, 3/20; via WGMS May 2020