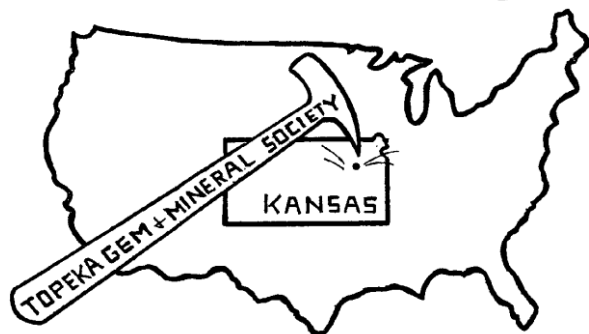


The Topeka Gem and Mineral Society, Inc.
 1934 SW 30th St. Topeka, KS 66611
 Rock2Plate@aol.com

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. 66, No. 10
 October 2023



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, 7:15 pm, First Congregational Church, 1701 SW Collins Ave, 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

2023 OFFICERS AND CHAIRS

President	Brad Davenport	379-8700	Cab of the Month	Donna & Russell Hedge	620-660-1651
1 st Vice Pres.	David Dillon	221-4315	Field Trip Coord.	Chuck Curtis	286-1790
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	Chuck Curtis	286-1790
Directors	Doria Skinner	231-9347	AFMS Scholarship	Cinda Kunkler	286-1790
	Jim Baer	785-256-2432	Editor/Exchange Editor	Millie Mowry	267-2849
	Shirley Schulz	n/a	Show Chairman	Millie Mowry	267-2849
Historian	Cinda Kunkler	286-1790	Show Dealer Chairman	Dave Dillon	221-4315
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	Amy Fluke	862-8876	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. Oct./2023



Howdy to one and all.

Well, this year's show is now history. I once again want to thank all of our members and other volunteers that showed up to make this a great show. Everything went very smoothly. The bumps we encountered were minor and few. I talked with all of our vendors at least twice over the weekend. They were all pleased and it looks like they will rejoin us next year. Apparently, they all made some money.

It appears that we had around 800 people through the doors. This is between 15% & 20% more than last year. WOW!

I just placed eleven new members on our rolls as a result of show attendees. COOL BEANS!

We are already thinking about next year. No, it is not too soon. Please start thinking about a Theme we can use next October and any other ideas you might have. Place the Dates of October 11, 12 & 13 on your calendars.

Our next general meeting will be Oct.27th. 7:30 at the church at 17th & Collins. I believe our program will be presented by a Geology Professor from Washburn University. The next day we will be going on a field trip up south of Wamego. This will be an educational trip where there will be no collecting of materials. It should only last a couple of hours. Then, we may go hunt some sandbars on the Kansas River. If the creek don't rise. Check our website for further details.

Christmas isn't too far away and maybe you should be planning on some shop time to make some gifts. We have been having some machines sit idle so you should be able to get some work done. Remember that if you are wanting silversmithing lessons or bench time, you need to let Jim know in advance. The same goes with Millie and wire wrapping.

I have always thought that every year should have two Octobers. A glorious time of year. Fall is easily my favorite season. Events abound, sweaters feel welcome, the chiggers have mostly died off, the leaves speak their glory & mowing is done for a few months. I live in the country so I never rake the leaves up. I just watch them blow across the fields. I enjoy watching the migration of the many types of birds, soon to be replaced by the winter birds at my feeder. Even soup seems more appealing.

So get out there and enjoy. Be seeing ya.

Brad

Field Trip

Andy Connolly, Science Communications Specialist, Kansas Geological Survey, has volunteered to lead a TGMS club member field trip at the Mount Mitchell Heritage Prairie Park on Hwy 99 between I-70 and Wamego. We will meet at the Park at 10:00 am Saturday, October 28. He will educate us on the history and geology of the site and the Flint Hills. This will not be a collecting field trip but should be very interesting and educational. We don't expect that this will be more than an hour or so.

If there are interested parties, we may then venture over to a Kaw River sand bar and see if we can find some special treasures.

TTGMS Event Calendar

OCT. 2023			NOV. 2023		
1	S		1	W	
2	M		2	T	Jr RHDS 6 p.m. at FC Church 1701 SW Collins
3	T		3	F	
4	W		4	S	
5	T		5	S	
6	F		6	M	
7	S		7	T	Brad's Shop Open 6-10 pm
8	S		8	W	
9	M		9	T	
10	T		10	F	Board Mtg at Millie's 7 p.m.
11	W		11	S	
12	T		12	S	
13	F		13	M	
14	S		14	T	Brad's Shop Open 6-10 pm
15	S		15	W	
16	M		16	T	
17	T		17	F	General Mtg First Congregational Church 1701 SW Collins Ave. 7:15 p.m. gather
18	W		18	S	
19	T		19	S	
20	F		20	M	
21	S		21	T	Brad's Shop Open 6-10 pm
22	S		22	W	
23	M		23	T	Thanksgiving Day
24	T	Brad's Shop Open 6-10 pm	24	F	
25	W		25	S	
26	T		26	S	
27	F	General Mtg, First Congregational Church 7:15 p.m. gather 1701 SW Collins Ave, Silent Auction	27	M	
28	S	Field Trip see page 2	28	T	Brad's Shop Open 6-10 pm
29	S		29	W	
30	M		30	T	
31	T	Brad's Shop Open 6-10 pm			

As A Reminder!

If you are wanting to take a class in Silversmithing or wire wrapping you are to call either Jim Baer at 785-256-2432 or email him at jimbaer73@gmail.com, for wire wrapping contact Millie Mowry at 785-267-2849 or email rock2plate@aol.com the Monday before class to let them know you will be there.

JR ROCKHOUND Classes & Reminders

Here are reminders of the next months of classes: **First Congregational Church, 1701 SW Collins Ave., Topeka, KS.** Sign in starting at 6:00 pm and classes starting at 6:30 pm. 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: Nov 2, Gem Stones & Lore—Pat Gilliland

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

Dillons Community Reward Program

The Topeka Gem & Mineral Society has enrolled with the Community Rewards with Dillon's Store. You can enroll your shopper's card at: www.dillons.com/communityrewards once you sign up it will take about 7 to 10 days to be activated and our Club to start earning the rewards. At the bottom of your Kroger receipt you will notice "At your request, Kroger is donating to 'your organization name'".

1. You will have to re-register each year.

If you have any other questions email DCR@dillonstores.com



Kroger Reports

To June 2023.....5 Households signed up..... Rebate of \$49.70

July to Sept 2023.....7 Households signed up..... Rebate of \$29.68



Book Review From Our Librarian!

In the TTGMS Library there are well over 100 books to choose from That cover a vast array of subjects of lapidary art and geology.

Well worth the read, and can be checked out thru the TTGMS Library by sending an email to Amy at Jayhawk1072@gmail.com

Our speaker for this month, will be Tandra L. Eifert of Washburn University, speaking on Minerals. Bring any minerals you might have questions about. Big welcome to our new members! Looking forward to seeing everyone, don't forget the Cab of the Month (cabs, jewelry (both experienced member & class members & specimens)! Thank you - Cinda

Highlights of the 66th Annual TTGMS Show



Silent Auction Table

Etched gold flaked pendant by Shirley Dee Gooch Schulz

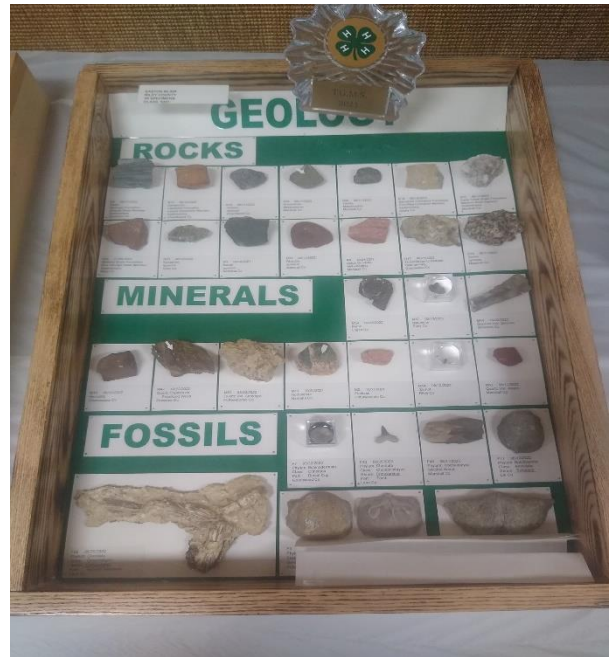


Panning for pretty rocks



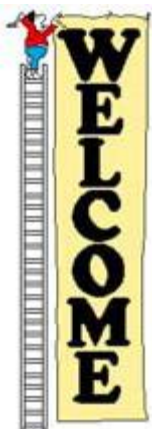


4-H Display Zoey Haug



4-H Display Easton Blair

Next Year's Show Dates: October 12-13, 2024



Our New Members are:

- Sergio Xavier DeLeon Jr.
- Stewart & Michele Cole
- Keely Addington & Randy Page
- Tambra L. Eifert
- James & Carman Allen
- Teo Wolf
- Thibby Wolfe
- Elodie D'Arey

The Topeka Gem & Mineral Society
General Meeting - September 22, 2023 at 7:30 p.m.

Call to Order: President Brad Davenport calls the meeting to order at 7:32 p.m. Harold Merrifield reports there are 37 members present. Five door prizes are given out.

Treasurer's Report: Millie Mowry reports the club account balance. All bills have been paid. Millie picked up the signs for the show, but will need to purchase one more sign for a new dealer she has just signed on. No bills are presented at this time.

Junior Rockhounds: No report given; Jason is not present tonight.

Webmaster: No report given; Jason is not present tonight.

Show Committee: We currently have 20 dealers signed up for the show. Millie will be ready to turn in the floor plan as soon as she gets the new vendor added to it. Brad requests help from everyone to work at the show. Cinda has the sign-up sheets available tonight. Much help is needed for set-up and take-down.

Field Trip Committee: A new Field Trip Committee was created at the last Board Meeting. Chuck was appointed the Chair of the committee as the Field Trip Coordinator. If anyone knows of any places that might work for field trips that are accessible, please contact Chuck.

Publicity: There are no upcoming meetings scheduled at this time since we are so close to the show. Donna Stockton has texted Melissa Bruner in regards to times for the Red Couch, but has not gotten a response yet. We also need to do something with KSNT Channel 27. She will try to go to WIBW & KSNT and talk to someone at the stations to get things set up. Several committee members have made efforts to hand out flyers and coupons at various events and locations. There are coupons and flyers available tonight for members to take and hand out. Donna would like any ideas for themes for next year's show ASAP so that they can be voted on in the near future.


New Business: None.

Old Business: None

Cinda reports Officer nominations will be next month, the election will be held in November, and Installation of Officers will be in December at the Christmas party.

With nothing further to discuss, Sammy moves to adjourn, Chuck seconds. Motion carries. Meeting is adjourned at 7:55 p.m. to the silent auction.

Submitted by: Stacy Haug, TTGMS Secretary



Election of Club Officers will be voted on in November. At present all Officers have agreed to retain their positions for the next year. If you wish to be on the ballot contact Chuck Curtis at 785-286-1790.

Coral

In ancient times, black coral was only allowed to be worn by kings and was thought to bring good luck. Black coral is usually taken from a depth of 75 to 100 feet below the surface of the sea. It is very hard and takes polishing and cutting well.

Italian red coral comes from the Mediterranean. Italy has been famous worldwide for being the capital of the finest red coral. The first factory making coral beads was established in 1805. By 1837 there were eight factories; around 1850, an authentic explosion took place in the industry. They produced luxury objects to sell to rich European customers. The rarest and most prized of all the coral is the beautiful pink-orange variety from off the coast of Sicily which today is completely extinct.

Coral comes in a variety of forms: Branch coral, sponge coral, tiger coral, coral chips, black coral, and gold coral are a few. It ran ranges in price from \$12.00 a strand to \$500.00 a strand.

Source: A repeat from The Drifter November 2009

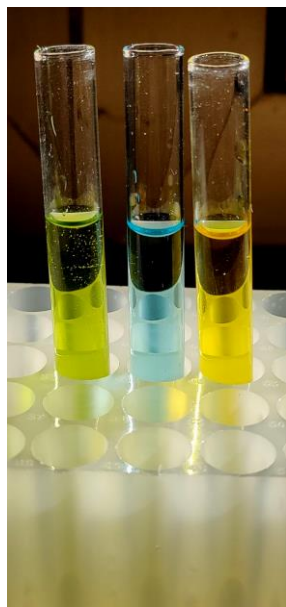
Ken's Chemistry Corner: All about vanadium

-Vanadium (V) was first discovered in Mexico in 1801. The discoverer thought he had obtained a new element from a lead ore called 'brown lead'. He found that the salts of this new element were all strongly colored, so he named it 'panchromium'. Other chemists at the time determined that the new element was actually impure chromium and the claim was retracted. It wasn't until 1831 that the new element was independently discovered in some iron ores in Scandinavia. It was quickly determined that it was the same element previously discovered in Mexico, validating the early work. It was named vanadium after the Old Norse goddess of beauty, Vanadis (also known as Freyja), because of its many colors. The 'brown lead' ore was then called vanadinite (see picture below for the colors of three oxidation states of vanadium).

-In the universe vanadium has an abundance of 0.0001%, similar to copper or zinc. Vanadium is the 20th most abundant element in the Earth's crust. It is difficult to produce the pure metal, however, as it wasn't successfully made until 1867, and not in a way that could be used industrially until 1927. Vanadium occurs in over 60 different minerals. Some common ones include vanadinite (lead vanadate chloride), patronite (vanadium sulfide), cavansite (calcium vanadium silicate), and tangeite (calcium copper vanadite).

Vanadinite and patronite have been important ores. Curiously, there is an ore of uranium that contains vanadium called carnotite (potassium uranium vanadate) and industrial vanadium was produced as a by-product of uranium production in the early 1900's.

-In the early 1900's, it was discovered that vanadium greatly increased the strength of steel while decreasing its weight. It was used in one of the first industrial uses for a new alloy in the frame of the Ford Model-T.



-Even today, 85% of industrial vanadium produced is used in various alloys. It can be added to steel in small percentages or vanadium oxide, iron oxide, and iron can be heated in an electric furnace to produce ferrovanadium consisting of 25% vanadium. These alloys are ideal for axles, bicycle frames, gears, and other critical components. High carbon steels containing small percentages of vanadium (<5%) are used for surgical instruments, tools, and knives.

-Vanadium also improves the properties of titanium alloys. Titanium containing 2.5% vanadium (and sometimes aluminum) is used in the aerospace, defense, and bicycle industries, incorporated into products such as jet engines, high-speed airframes, and even dental implants.

-Vanadium compounds are slightly toxic and vanadium has no biological role in mammals. It is very important in algae and fungi, however. Several species of marine algae use enzymes containing vanadium. Some nitrogen-fixing bacteria use vanadium-containing enzymes as well. Certain species of mushrooms can enrich their fruit bodies with vanadium. The purpose of this is unknown, but could help prevent the mushrooms from being eaten because of its toxicity.

Solutions of vanadium +3 (green), +4 (blue), and +5 (orange).

Picture by Ken Smith & Eleanor Shore

Source: OMGS Sept 2023

