



**OLATHE  
GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY  
MONTHLY BULLETIN  
February 7, 2017**

**A non-profit group, organized to educate the  
general public and members' knowledge of  
Mineralogy, Gems, Jewelry Making, Fossils and  
related earth sciences.  
Founded March 1956**

**MEETINGS:**

**The meetings are the first Tuesday of each  
month (except June, July, August and  
December).**

**The meetings will be at the Indian Creek  
Community Church, 12480 Blackbob Road in  
Olathe.**

**We will have a meeting room from 6:30 to 9  
pm. We will be meeting downstairs in room  
018.**

**VISITORS ALWAYS WELCOME**

**DUES: \$10.00 per year for individuals / \$5.00 per year for minors.**

**(Due by May meeting, and delinquent by Sept. meeting.)**

**Officers for 2016-2017**

**President: Norman Onnen – (816) 331-4862**

**President Elect:**

**Vice President: Larry Wells - (913) 787-5138**

**Vice President Elect:**

**Secretary: Spring Wittmeir – (913) 945-0878**

**Secretary Elect:**

**Treasurer: Barbara Crompton – (913) 492-6783**

**Treasurer Elect:**

**Bulletin and Website Editor: M John Robinson – (913) 669-8284**

**Membership Chairman: M John Robinson**

**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:**

**Welcome Olathe G&M Society to 2017. Our Jan. 3 meeting was a captivating and significant success with Larry Wells and Tom Tivol describing the procedure and methods used in their recent design and fabrication of multiple custom jewelry pieces.**

**These pieces were truly unique and beautiful. Thanks to Larry and Tom for this insightful presentation. At this meeting we also welcomed new member Mike Behm.**

**Our Feb. 7, 2017 program will be a presentation by Mark Sherwood entitled "Earth Science Fakes, Frauds and Scams". This was presented by Mark at the Dec. 2016 Independence Gems and Minerals Society meeting — and is an outgrowth of Mark's experience, along with observations/findings at the Nov. 2016 gem show. I will also briefly discuss KS Geological Survey/William C. Johnson documented Pleistocene and Holocene finds at the Bonner Springs Kansas River gravel bars for those interested and who have collected at this site.**

**Our club, as a member of the Association of Earth Science Clubs of Greater Kansas City, will participate in the March 10-12, 2017 Kansas City Gem & Mineral Show (our annual show). We will again position individual member display cases (to which our club receives a financial contribution for each case). M. John Robinson is making a list of those individuals wishing to display. Please contact him with your intent, and we will discuss this at our Feb. meeting. Also, Tom Lorenz will be passing a sign-up sheet soliciting members who will help set up/take down the show, take tickets, etc. (As our part of the 8 club Association, we need to help with a minimum of 1/8 of the effort).**

**I have posted a display card for the March show, as well as our club calling card/information, at the**

**High Plains (metal detecting & prospecting supply) shop located at 2111 E. 151st St., Olathe, KS 66062. This shop has some rock and gem & mineral items as well as gold prospecting supplies. Owner Travis Bauer will give our club members a 10% discount on purchases by just presenting your club membership card. I will have his card at our next meeting(s).**

**Our raffle box is somewhat depleted and needs a monthly influx of new and interesting items for selection. Please remember to bring one or more items each month to contribute. Also we are seeking someone to adopt the raffle exercise for each meeting. Please contact any of our club officers if you are interested in taking on this popular exercise (which also benefits our club treasury).**

**Tentatively, looking forward —**

**At least five of our members have indicated intent to attend the Feb Tucson Gem and Mineral show (multiple running events/venues which ends Sun., Feb. 12 and is projected to attract in excess of 20,000 attendees).**

**March 10-12, 2017 our Kansas City Gem and Mineral Show.**

**March 17-19, 2017 Larry Wells and I will attend as delegates to the Rocky Mountain Federation of Gem & Mineral Society annual convention (held in conjunction with the local G&M club) in Albuquerque, NM.**

**In April several are interested in selenite crystal collecting on the Salt Plains N.W.R. near Jet, OK. Tentatively suggesting the weekend of April 8 for this as the site does not open until April 1. More on this later.**

**M. John Robinson is working on arrangements to go to the Mozarkite site this spring. More on this later.**

**We are planning the club annual picnic about Sat. June 3 or 10. Tom Lorenz will make arrangements for Lone Elm — and more on this later.**

**And, finally, the Topeka Gem & Mineral club has invited us to participate in their field trips (about 7-9/year). More on this later as trips are planned.**

**We hope all had a great and safe holiday season, and look forward to seeing you in Feb. and thru the year.**

**Norm Onnen**

**FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT AND PROGRAM CHAIRMAN**

## **Program for February Meeting**

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**Larry Wells**

**CLUB WEBSITE**

**The website is in the process of being updated. It is still in creation mode, but a rudimentary version is available and will be continually updated as we go forward using a new web site software package.**

**[www.olathegemclub.com](http://www.olathegemclub.com)**

**COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS FOR 2016-2017:**

**Refreshments: To be determined.**

**Raffle: To be determined.**

**Association Delegates: Tom Lorenz & Norman Onnen**

**Alternate Association Delegates: Jane McLaughlin**

**Field Trips: Earl Newland**

**Librarian and Historian: Norman Onnen**

**Programs: Larry Wells**

**Membership: M John Robinson**

**Bulletin Editor: M John Robinson**

**Show Chairman: Tom Lorenz**

**Webmaster: M John Robinson**

## **MEMBERSHIP LIST**

**The current membership information is contained on a separate attachment. We now have 42 members. Please provide the membership chairman with any updates or corrections.**