



**OLATHE
GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY
MONTHLY BULLETIN
June 3, 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 2017-2018

President: Larry Wells - (913) 787-5138
Vice President: Deborah Bryant – (816) 337-1527
Secretary: Spring Wittmeier – (913) 945-0878
Treasurer: Barbara Crompton – (913) 492-6783
Bulletin: M John Robinson – (913) 669-8284
Website Editor: M John Robinson – (913) 669-8284
& Spring Wittmeier – (913) 945-0878
Membership Chairman M John Robinson– (913) 669-8284

PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE:

May has been a conflict regarding club related collecting. Following the May 7 “reconnaissance” trip to Troy, KS (led by Larry Wells), the planned, organized follow-on trip on May 27 was cancelled due to wet conditions and bad weather. This will soon be re-scheduled (watch for Bulletin notices and email blasts). Also, the Strataca trip (underground Salt Museum at Hutchison) with the Topeka club had to be cancelled due to holiday weekend conflict and too few confirmations to take advantage of group rates. This will also be re-scheduled. Now, going forward, hopefully June will be more successful. M. John has worked to get the Mozarkite collecting trip in — and at present this is anticipated to occur Sunday, June 4. M. John will be communicating with the site owner and watching the weather — and will be issuing notification and instructions as these plans come together. Note that this is the day after our June 3 picnic — so it will be a club weekend if all comes together.

Coming up —

Club picnic; Lone Elm park; Olathe, KS; 3 PM +; June 3, 2017 (see directions below)

Mozarkite collecting; Hopefully Sunday, June 4, 2017.

**Troy, KS quarry re-schedule. (Date/time TBD).
S. Johnson County quarry (now to be a N. Miami County quarry — considered by operator APAC to be more likely and collector friendly). (Date/time TBD).
Night at the Museum, Museum at Prairiefire: Aug. 26, 2017. (A tax deductible benefit for youth and the museum).
Assoc. of Earth Science Clubs of KC annual picnic; Antioch Park; OPKS. (This is who we do the March show with, and we should participate).
Geode Fest — 13th annual; Sept. 22-24, 2017; Hamilton, IL (Google this for info).
Topeka Gem & Mineral Society 61st Annual Show; Ag Hall; Topeka, KS; Oct 14-15, 2017 (Theme/title “Of Quartz It Is”).**

Club picnic (June 3, 2017) directions — Lone Elm Park; Olathe, KS. starting at 3 PM Sat., June 3. (food served about 4 PM). The park address is 21151 W. 167th St.— and for whatever use it would be, the telephone number is [913 971 8563](tel:9139718563) (which I assume is only the Park Commission office which most likely is not even open on weekends). There are two entry points into the park on 167th St. — the one to the picnic site is to the West (the East one is to soccer fields). The picnic shelter is large with nine 8-foot newly refurbished picnic tables, a huge fireplace, two BBQ fixtures, lights, an electrical service, water fountain, three port-a-potties (one handicapped), and plenty of space for games, etc. In case of bad weather the shelter is plenty large enough to take care of our function. Also we will have a silent auction event (proceeds to the club) as part of this picnic if you have anything you wish to enter. If so please copy and fill out the attached form for the silent auction.

Remember, the club provides the meat items, cooking/BBQ/charcoal, plates, utensils, drinks (alcoholic drinks are not permitted in the park), ice, and paper service, etc. Participants are asked to contact M. John Robinson and indicate the number of anticipated attendees, and side dishes/items they wish to bring ASAP. Presently we recognize about 50 persons intending to attend.

The picnic symbolically closes our club operating year (we function basically May to May — or with the summer recess Sept. to Sept.). This past year has seen significant activities including an up-tic on field trips/interest, membership growth, great relevant and diverse programs (including unusual in-door gold panning), cab classes (hosted by IGAMS), upgrading of our website, updating/posting club Bylaws, incorporation of liability documents, continued participation in the planning and execution of the annual March gem and mineral show, active membership/participation in the Greater Kansas City Association of Earth Science Clubs, and representation at the Rocky Mountain Federation of Mineralogical Societies (RMFMS) annual convention, among other items/events. Going forward, anticipation is that this level of interest and activity will maintain and increase. To that end, believing participation is the key to continued diverse involvement, growth and interest — and in furthering the theme of the RMFMS for member clubs (the theme for 2017-2018 is T. E. A. M. S. — Teach, Encourage, Accommodate, Mentor, Support), hopefully we have the diversity and impetus within our membership to engage individuals in the various committees of the club, ultimately further energizing our activities and growth. Please, please, please consider

lending your enthusiasm and energy to the club on a committee. It would be great to have each manned by a Chair, and a back-up (and/or co-chair) to encourage the vitality of the club. (Committees include, but may not be limited to, Website, Bulletin, Membership, Program, Show/events, Field trips, Bylaws, Financial/audit, Representatives, Historian, Library).

Following the June picnic (and whatever field trips you can participate in), all have a safe and great summer recess. We look forward to seeing all at the Tuesday, Sept. 5, 2017 club meeting — again at the church as we have an agreement to continue in this space for the next year. Bring lots of rocks and reports of successful gem and mineral adventures. Watch for monthly Bulletins as to plans and events in the interim.

At the picnic, those who have yet to renew their membership (typically due in May) may do so with our Treasurer Barbara Crompton at that time. Thanks.

One who values stones is surrounded by treasures wherever he goes (Par Lagerkvist, Dvargen)

AND

The fascinating facts about rocks and minerals are fair exchange for the ancient tales they replace (Paul E. Desautels).

Norm Onnen

**FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT AND PROGRAM
CHAIRMAN**

Programs for June Meeting and Following

Larry Wells has contacted Tom Tivols for input on programs for our September meeting and following. Tom sent the following as potential topics and Deborah Bryant, our new Vice President, as of the September meeting would like input to share with her and Tom Tivols as to your preference on the following subjects offered by Tom.

“It is always important to me to speak on subjects that will both interest the group and will teach the group something. As an example, if we could get the equipment, would the group be interested in a slide presentation showing the evolution of jewelry design from 10,000 BCE to the present? Or, would the group be interested in a presentation on how colored gemstones, diamonds and pearls are treated and what to watch out for? I suspect they know a lot about this subject already. Would the group be interested in money, how the values of the rarer diamonds and colored gemstones have evolved since World War II, along with the challenges of having the finest laboratories disagree as to both geographic origin and degree of treatment to gemstones? Tom Tivols”

Tom has since agreed to present the “evolution of jewelry design” at our October, 2017 club meeting.

The trip to the quarries in Troy has been rescheduled to June 24. See separate email on the details.

Details on the club picnic for June 3 contained above in the presidents section.

The mozarkite collecting trip has been scheduled for June 4 as contained in a separate email from M John Robinson. If you have any further questions about it please get in touch with him. If you have been there before and will not be part of the caravan, please do not enter the property until the owner has arrived. We would not want to lose our special status for collecting on this property.

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

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS FOR 2017-2018:

Refreshments: To be determined.

Raffle: Keith Shaw and Brian Simmons

Association Delegates: Tom Lorenz & Norman Onnen

Alternate Association Delegates: Larry Wells

Field Trips: Various

Librarian and Historian: Norman Onnen

Programs: Deborah Bryant

Membership: M John Robinson

Bulletin Editor: M John Robinson

Show Chairman: Tom Lorenz

Webmasters: M John Robinson and Spring Wittmeir

MEMBERSHIP LIST

The current membership information is contained on a separate attachment. We now have 46 members but only 24 paid members. If you are coming to the picnic please come prepared to pay your dues. If not coming please note your dues will be delinquent by the September meeting. Please provide the membership chairman with any updates or corrections. Please welcome Nate Brame who joined the club during our April meeting!