



OLATHE GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY

May 2018 MONTHLY BULLETIN

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

MEETINGS: The meetings are the first Tuesday of each month except June, July, August and December. The Clubs annual holiday party is in December and the annual picnic is during the summer. Visitors are always welcome.

The meetings are at the Indian Creek Community Church, 12480 Black Bob Road in Olathe, Kansas. We meet downstairs in room 018 which is located at the bottom of the staircase. The time from 6:30 to 7 PM is not structured, as member's fellowship and has a raffle. At the end of the raffle anyone who purchased tickets - and did not win anything - can go take one item from the table. The meeting starts at approximately 7 PM followed by the guest speaker. More information is available at our website: olathegemclub.com.

DUES: \$10.00 per year for individuals / \$5.00 per year for minors / children under the age of 12 are free. (Due by May meeting, and delinquent by September meeting)

OFFICERS and CHAIRPERSONS 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 and Editor:	Dan McDaniel	(913) 963-5357
Membership Chairman:	M John Robinson	(913) 669-8284
Field Trip Coordinator:	Mike Purduski	(913) 424-5458

Programs:	Deborah Bryant, VP
Librarian and Historian:	Norman Onnen (816) 645-1333
Gem Show Chairman:	Norman Onnen
Raffle:	Keith Shaw and Brian Simmons
Association Delegates:	Norman Onnen & Larry Wells
Alternate Assoc. Delegate:	Currently vacant

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

During our April 3rd Club meeting a committee was made to identify Executive Officer candidates for the VP and Secretary positions to be elected during the May meeting. The nominated members will be contacted to determine interest in the named positions. We will vote on the nominated members during our next meeting on May 1, 2018.

At the March Gem Show our Association presented \$7,000.00 in scholarships to college students majoring in the earth science fields. Just imagine what a blessing this scholarship was. I have attached the scholarship criteria at the end of this bulletin for everyone to keep in mind. For more information go to: kcgemshow.org

On a different subject Bev and I have several beautiful rescued cats that are looking for a good home with lots of love.

VICE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: At our May 1st meeting Larry Wells will present a class on gem identification, "How to make and use a polariscope for less than \$5.00. Jennifer Finley will give us pointers on how to not hurt ourselves during our digs with posture, lifting and stretching to prevent injuries. Additional speakers possible still.

FIELD TRIP COORDINATOR'S MESSAGE:

- The club will return to Whetstine Quarry in Troy, KS on May 27, 2018. Anyone interested is going should call Mike Purduski at (913) 424-5458 for details. The Quarry is located west of St. Joseph MO. 10 club members signed up for this trip.
- A trip to the Kaw river has rescheduled to Saturday 5/5 weather permitting. 4 club members are signed up for this trip.
- A trip to dig for fossils at the Caulhoon bluffs on the north side of Topeka is scheduled for Saturday 5/19. This is where Deb and Norm have found trilobites. 6 club members are signed up for this trip.



Club Librarian's Message: Are club members aware that the official magazine of the Rocky Mountain Federation of Gem and Mineral Societies (of which the Olathe club is a member) is **Rock & Gem** magazine? Pertinent to that is that in the May 2018 issue of the magazine is an article about fluorescence entitled "Rainbow Rocks" by Senior Editor Bob Jones. This will be of interest related to the recent club presentations by Larry Wells on Gemstone Identification using Short and Long-wave Ultraviolet Light.

Thanks to the combined efforts of Mike Purdusky and Larry Wells, a photocopy of "**See Kansas First; Crystals, Fossils, Agates**" has been added to our club library. It should be noted that this *handmade* document is old, having been hand-written with hand-sketched maps by Ottawa, KS rock hound C. A. Carpenter for a Rock Club in probably the 1950s or 1960s.

As such, while this is of historic significance, many of the referenced sites have changed status and some are in fact now inaccessible. Also, contrary to the title, information is included for MO and NE as well as KS. Those using this document for potential field collecting trips should investigate any and all information prior to embarking on collecting trips. (Note: This document will be added to our web site library inventory later this year so as to preclude single changes on one-by-one basis).

SKILLS & INTEREST DIRECTORY: Julie Robinson distributed the new Skills and Interest Directory in a 3 ring binder at our March meeting. You can plan on receiving future directory updates via email to keep your directories current. Julie can be reached at (816) 797-4602, or jukay11@gmail.com for comments, questions, and directory updates.

SHOW & TELL: Members interested in doing a Show & Tell should contact Deborah Bryant, VP to get scheduled. Please include how much time you will need for your presentation. Deborah's contact info is MotoChef1@outlook.com, cell (816) 337-1527.

CLUB LIBRARY: Mike Purduski has donated 1970s and 1980s **Lapidary Journals** to our library. We are missing some months and would like to fill them if anyone can help. Members are reminded that the club library is being maintained, and the holdings are listed on the club website. Donated items to the library are gratefully accepted. Thank you Mike! As requests for items are made they are brought to the next club event. For more information contact Norm Onnen.

Sandy Daum recently donated Gem Trails of Texas, and an "author autographed" copy of Roadside Geology of Missouri. Thanks Sandy!

******UPCOMING EVENTS******

April 20-22. Wichita Gem & Min. Show: "Unbelievable Rocks, Minerals & Fossils". Auctions Sat & Sun. Cessna Activity Center 2744 George Washington Blvd. Wichita, KS. Adults \$5, 13-17 \$1, 0-12 free. A discount coupon is posted on our web site.

NOW THROUGH MAY 28th "MODERN DINOSAURS?" Prairiefire Museum 5801 W. 135th St. OPKS 66223 (913) 333-3500. Modern Dinosaurs? Explores how mysterious beasts became familiar icons. Encounter full-size dinosaur skeletons, scientific instruments, original letters and works that fueled a scientific revolution. Discover natural selection in the age of the dinosaurs as you consider the evidence indicating birds descended from dinosaurs and as a result should be considered modern dinosaurs. Several interactive stations are also a part of the exhibit. (While Prairiefire is affiliated with the American Museum of Natural History in New York, this is the first exhibit that is an outside collaboration with Triebold Paleontology.)

May 4-6, 2018. McPherson Gem & Mineral Club: 24th Annual Sale. 4-H Fairgrounds, 710 W. Woodside; McPherson, KS. Free admission.

May 11-13. Central Missouri Rock & Lapidary Club: Knights of Columbus Hall, Columbia Mo. \$6 Adults, seniors and youth \$3, under 12 are free.

May 22, 2018. Kansas City Science on Tap: Program is "A Quest for T. Rex" by KU paleontologist Dr. David Burnham. Location is Bier Station, 120 E. Gregory, KCMO at 7:30 pm. This is a free event. Note: Dr. David Burnham is scheduled to be our club speaker at our Sept. 4, 2018 regular meeting, and among other related topics will be discussing the summer MT fossil dig.

May 18-20, 2018. Tri-State Gem & Mineral Society: Twelfth Annual Spring Rock Show, Schifferdecker Park; Joplin, MO. Free admission.

JUNE 2, 2018 SATURDAY - OUR CLUB'S PICNIC AT LONE ELM PARK: From 3 to 9 PM, at the same location as last year. Members are to bring a side dish and donations of rocks, fossils, minerals, and whatever to sell at the picnic auction. The Club will provide meat (hamburgers & hotdogs), condiments, bread, drinks, ice, plastic ware, and charcoal. No alcohol is allowed in the park.

June 9, 2018. Mineral & Fossil Sale: 603 SE Green St., Lees Summit, MO. 9am-4pm. Email questions to lsdandj@att.net

June 21, 2018. 7 P.M. (free) Lecture: "The Plate Tectonics History of the World, as Seen in Northern Scotland", by geologist Bill Shefchik. Linda Hall Library, 5109 Cherry St., KCMO.

June 29 – July 1, 2018 Annual Wholesale Only Trade Show: KCI Expo Center 11730 NW Ambassador Dr. Kansas City, MO 64153. Most of the same wholesale dealers from the March and November Gem Shows. For more info: www.showsofintegrity.com

July 20-22, 2018. Rocky Mountain Federation Gem and Mineral Societies Annual Convention; Rapid City, SD.

September 14-16, 2018. The Mozarkite Society Gem Show: Lincoln City Park, 205 Timberline Drive, Lincoln, MO 65338.

Oct. 13-14, 2018. Topeka Gem & Mineral Society: 62nd Annual Show. Opal It Is. Kansas ExpoCenter Agriculture Hall, 17th & Topeka, Topeka, KS. \$5 adult, student \$1, under 13 free.

Linda Hall Library, 5109 Cherry Street, Kansas City, MO 64110:

<http://www.lindahall.org/online-exhibitions/>

One of the **"Online Exhibitions":**

Blade and Bone: The Discovery of Human Antiquity

In 1800, it was generally believed that humans were a relatively recent addition to the earth, dating back some 6000 years. By 1920, it was commonly understood that humans had been on earth for a very long time, had lived in rock shelters and used tools fashioned from flint, and had expressed themselves artistically in bone carvings and cave paintings. This exhibition documents the discovery of human antiquity as presented in the original books and journals.



"The Tazza": "The Tazza", one of the largest pieces of malachite in North America. Czar Nicholas II presented the gift of a great malachite tazza to the American Ambassador to Russia, August Heckscher, in 1910. The tazza became part of the Heckscher Museum of Art collection, where it resided for many years. The

tazza was rediscovered in the art and antiques marketplace and purchased for the Linda Hall Library near the UMKC campus by Mrs. Kenneth Spencer in 1972.

Malachite, a mineral often found in oxidized zones of copper ore deposits, was found abundantly in the Ural Mountains of Russia. Other significant deposits have been found in France, Israel, Mexico, and Arizona. It often occurs with azurite. The Linda Hall tazza is considered to be one of the four most important pieces of green malachite in the world, according to art historians, and the largest in the U.S. The remarkable piece measures 6 feet, 6 inches from its base to its rim.

Scholarship Application

AWARDS: The Association shall provide several scholarships annually. These awards ranging from \$250.00 to \$1,000.00 each can be applied toward tuition or loans at an accredited college or university in Kansas or Missouri.

PROCEDURES: The Scholarship Committee will select finalists from applications received by **the end of February each year**. Applicants are asked to provide the following:

1. Fully complete [attached application](#) (including the six requirements listed on the application)
2. Recommendation from a Professor
3. Submission of all college transcripts

Finalists will be notified by and will be requested to attend the Saturday Night auction at 7:15 P.M. to receive their scholarship.

ELIGIBILITY: College students who have completed at least their sophomore year and are legal residents of the United States and studying for a degree in Earth Science related fields may compete. Finalists will be eligible to compete in the following year's program.

RETURN VIA MAIL TO:
Molly Stinemetz
Scholarship Chairman
2706 S. Cherokee St
Independence, MO 64057

(For more information go to: kcgemshow.org)

Note: The Membership List is separate.

End

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