



# OLATHE GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY

## September 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 in June which includes a silent auction. 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. Information is available at our website: [olathegemclub.com](http://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:	Vacant	
Programs:	Deborah Bryant, VP	
Librarian and Historian:	Norman Onnen	(816) 645-1333
Gem Show Chairman:	Norman Onnen	
Raffle:	Keith Shaw	(816) 674-1368
Association Delegates:	Norman Onnen & Larry Wells	
Alternate Assoc. Delegate:	Deb Bryant, Mike Purduski	

**PRESIDENT, LARRY'S MESSAGE:** Our Club will be sending a "reconnaissance team" on October 6<sup>th</sup> to Lathrop, MO to collect gold panning concentrate samples. If the team finds gold another trip will be scheduled inviting all club members to pan at this private location. Interested members - who have panning experience - should contact Tammy Shaw.

Member Sandy Daum gave me a newspaper article about Casey Friend a fourth grader in Overland Park, KS who was instrumental in selecting the state rock, mineral and gemstone for Kansas, which had none. I have inserted a picture from this newspaper article at the end of this bulletin for your review. I plan to invite Casey to join our Club. Hopefully we will see him at our next meeting on Tuesday September 4, 2018.

On September 4<sup>th</sup> the Executive Officers nominating Chairperson Barbara Crompton will swear in the new President and V.P. We are currently in need of filling the Field Trip Coordinator position so Barb will be asking for a volunteer at this time also. If interested call Deb Bryant at (816) 337-1527. The Olathe Public Library, Teen Services Supervisor inquired about someone from our Club giving a presentation during their "**Libraries Rock**" festival. In response Rebecca Francis gave a 2 hour presentation to a group of 4-H teens. Rebecca explained the rock cycle time line and also displayed different types of fossil traces from dinosaurs, especially teeth. The teens were shown actual bone and teeth fossils, and assorted jewelry made from dino bone and amber. Rebecca said the girls were very excited to see the fossil jewelry; with the amber jewelry being their favorite.

Because the Club is growing in membership we will be having 3 people, instead of two, bringing snacks in the future to make it more affordable. A sign-up sheet will be passed around at the next meeting. Everyone is encouraged to please pick at least one night to help out. Also, our Holiday party will be a Saturday the first or second week of December (Dec. 1<sup>st</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup>). We will be passing around a sign-up sheet to start getting a feel for how many will attend so we can book the appropriate site ASAP.

On July 20-22, 2018 the Rocky Mountain Federation Gem and Mineral Societies (RMFGMS) annual convention was held in Rapid City, SD. The RMFGMS is a member of the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies (AFMS). Our Treasurer Barbara Crompton entered into a strictly judged contest and won first place! Barb entered her display which shows U.S. postage stamps of minerals with the actual mineral specimen next to the stamp. She was judged 96 points out of one hundred by two judges, the highest score given by AFMS. I am very proud of Barb's accomplishment! Also, our past President Norm Onnen attended and voted on important business issues. Norm said next year's annual convention will be held at Boulder City, Nevada, home of the Hoover Dam. It is approximately 26 miles southeast of Las Vegas. For fun attractions review <https://trip101.com/article/best-things-to-do-boulder-city-nevada>. The community took its name from Boulder Canyon. The pictures are fantastic.

The Rocky Mountain Federation of Mineralogical Society is in search of a new webmaster and assistant webmaster. They do not need to be from the same club. They are looking for someone with extensive knowledge of design, maintaining and

working a website. They also want an assistant in case the webmaster needs help or can't take care of a need.

Go see the Dino Exhibit at Union station, or even volunteer.... They contacted me personally and asked OGMS club members to volunteer.

FYI: Mr. Floyd May contacted our Treasurer Barb Crompton requesting to purchase some Angel wing alunite crystal. If anyone knows about, or has some for sale, contact Barb Crompton at (913) 492-6783 to contact Mr. May.

A reminder to pay your \$10.00 annual dues at the Sept. meeting or you will be delinquent.

FYI: Recently I read that Rio Grande Inc. is sponsoring a free service that brings students, instructors and schools together. In this directory, jewelry design, technique and jewelry making institutions and instructors can list their contact information, and students looking to learn can search for opportunities by category, location, certificate/degree programs and more. The site also features a calendar of industry events such as seminars and tradeshow.

On a different subject Bev and I have several beautiful rescued cats that are looking for a good home with lots of love. These cats are free, no charges! We will even give you some free cat food and a litter box. If interested call Bev at (913) 722-3123. We can send photos upon request.

**VICE PRESIDENT, DEB'S MESSAGE:** On September 4<sup>th</sup> we have paleontologist Dr. David Burnham coming again to update us on the T-Rex and all the new finds. **I ask that everyone get name tags and be in their seats at 7 PM because we are going to let Dr. Burnham go first because he lives out of town.** Dr. Burnham works at KU and we plan to visit the museum in Lawrence, KS to see his specimens on display. Our November 6<sup>th</sup> presentation will be given by Mark Ellis and is also about paleontology.

Please tell us what you dug up this summer! Bring specimens and tell us about your trip. I can put photos up on the projector if you bring them on a thumb drive or email them to me. Call me to get scheduled for a show & tell.

**FIELD TRIPS:** Deb Bryant, VP stated, "On Saturday August 25<sup>th</sup> I went on our Club field trip to Calhoun Bluffs north of Topeka with four other members. The weather was good and we found shell plates with various fossils, and some loose fossils. I think I found some petrified wood too, once I clean it I will know for sure."

On October 6<sup>th</sup> our Club will be sending a "reconnaissance team" to Lathrop, MO to collect gold panning concentrate samples. If the team finds gold, henceforth another trip will be scheduled inviting club members to pan at this private location. Interested members who have panning experience and would like to be on the reconnaissance team should contact Tammy Shaw at (816) 729-2663. The gold concentrate that was provided by member Vince Martini was from Lathrop, MO.

Larry Wells, President is currently planning an outing to two more Whetstine quarries. First, an active Whetstine quarry in Atchison, Kansas, which is very close to KC, closer than the Troy Kansas quarry. This would be a very convenient short trip. And, secondly the Whetstine quarry in Nebraska City, Nebraska, much further away, however possibly better glacial drift, etc. Larry said this quarry was just recently purchased by Mr. Whetstine. It is an old quarry that has not been worked for a long time. Mr. Whetstine told Larry it has several very large piles of old crushed rock sorted by various sizes and types that would be easy to explore. It is currently being made into an active working limestone quarry.

**CLUB LIBRARIAN, NORM'S MESSAGE:** 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. As requests for items are made they are brought to the next club event. Club members who have materials checked out are requested to return these items and/or re-new their interest in keeping them for an extended time. For more information call Norm at (816) 645-1333. 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.

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.

**SKILLS & INTEREST DIRECTORY:** To keep your directories current you can plan on receiving future updates via email. For changes, and directory updates contact Julie Robinson at (816) 797-4602, or [jukay11@gmail.com](mailto:jukay11@gmail.com).

**SHOW & TELL:** Members interested in doing a Show & Tell should contact Deborah Bryant, VP to get scheduled. Deborah's contact info is [MotoChef1@outlook.com](mailto:MotoChef1@outlook.com), cell (816) 337-1527.

**FIELD TRIP COORDINATOR NEEDED:** If interested call Deb Bryant at (816) 337-1527.

## **\*\*\*\*UPCOMING EVENTS\*\*\*\***

**August 26, 2018 The annual Association of Earth Science Clubs of Greater Kansas City, Inc. picnic:** We are a member of: The Association of Earth Science Clubs of Greater Kansas City. We are encouraged to attend the ASSOCIATION'S PICNIC. The date of this picnic was incorrect in the last bulletin, the correct date is August 26, 2018.

\* 9 AM Swap and Shop

\* Noon lunch - Bring a veggie/salad/desert/or side dish, just like our Club's picnic.

\* After lunch Auction - bring a donation - proceeds go to the Scholarship Fund.

#3 SHELTER; Enter NORTH entrance and go all the way back, it's near the north lake. Antioch Park 6501 Antioch Rd. Mission, KS 66202. Come have some fun, food, and "sunshine"! Walk around the lake on a beautiful day, winter will be here before you know it!

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

**October 6:** Our Club will be sending a "reconnaissance team" to Lathrop, MO to collect gold panning concentrate samples. If the team finds gold another trip will be scheduled inviting all club members to pan at this private location. Interested members who have panning experience should contact Tammy Shaw.

**October 6-7<sup>th</sup>. Omaha Gem & Mineral Show:** Adults \$5.00, seniors and years 12-18 cost \$3.00.

**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](http://kcgemshow.org))

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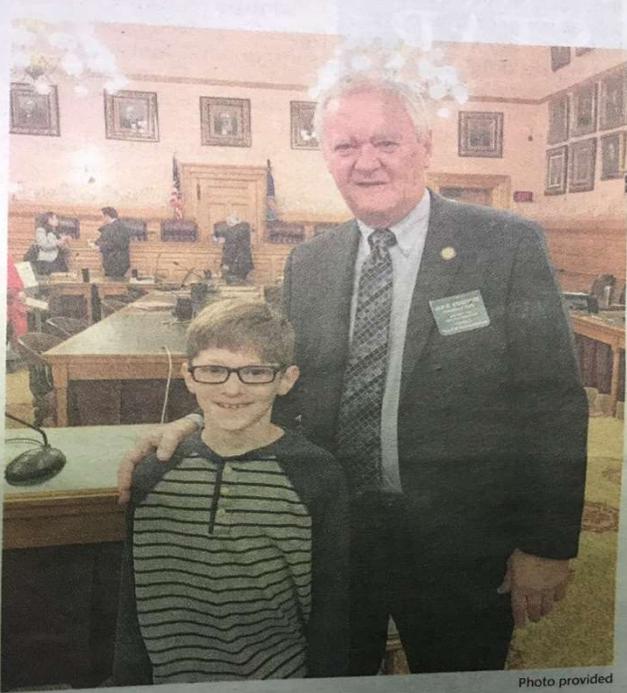


Photo provided

Rep. Jan Kessinger helped Casey bring his proposal to the legislature.

Note: The Membership List is separate.

**The End**

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