



August 2020 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 Hope Chapel (formerly Indian Creek Community Church), 12480 Black Bob Road in Olathe, Kansas. We meet on the lower level in room **018**. 6:30 to 7 PM is not structured, as member's fellowship and have 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 7 PM followed by the guest speaker. 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 2019 – 2020:

President: Norman Onnen (816)645-1333

Vice President: Lisa Hulbert (913)223-1028

Secretary: Vacant

Treasurer: Barbara Crompton (913)492-6783

Website and Editor: Dan McDaniel (913)963-5357

Membership Chairman: M John Robinson (913)669-8284

Field Trip Coordinator: Leslie Hartman (785)380-6016;

Field Trip Assistant: Larry Wells (913)787-5138

Programs: Lisa Hulbert, VP

Librarian and Historian: Norman Onnen (816)645-1333

Gem Show Chairman: Norman Onnen

Raffle: Lisa Hulbert

Association Delegates: Norman Onnen & Chet McLaughlin

Alternate Assoc. Delegates: Vicky Ritter & Mandy Lorenz

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE:

OGMS Members

Continuation of the summer virus pause. We hope OGMS members and their families are well and tolerating the unwelcome virus impact. Ideally, sooner than later, we can put this behind us so that normal activities may resume. To that end the following notes/messages of interest to our club activities and functions.

Membership Dues

The board has agreed to defer all member dues for the 2020-2021 club operating year. This is in recognition of us being unable to meet in April and May 2020 (May being the normal meeting to collect dues), the possibility that our fall schedule may continue to be interrupted, and most importantly the specific desire to keep our membership intact during this pause. (HANG IN THERE. WE'LL BE BACK). For those members who have already paid dues for 2020-2021, their membership will be extended for an additional year in recognition of this action.

Club Meetings

The club, like all other entities, is on hold as related to meetings and normal functions. This has essentially been in place since March when the virus concerns impacted all of us. As such, our meeting host, Hope Chapel (formerly Indian Creek Community Church), is currently progressing through structured re-opening efforts, and at the moment has determined they will pause permitting outside groups using their facilities (as they are not now staffed in the evening, and have specific cleaning protocols following functions, etc.). As this may impact our normal Sept. meeting, please watch for emails and Bulletin reports as to our status. In the interim we will continue to function as a club to the degree possible, anticipating normal operations in the near future.

Field Trips

The club will have a field trip Sat., July 25, 2020 at the Hamm Quarry at Louisburg, KS. Those intending to participate need to notify me (onnenne@kc.rr.com) no later than Wed. , July 23 so that our host can assemble safety items we will be required to wear. Participants must practice social distancing and safe practices (including masks in or near groups), and bring/provide their own water/snacks and collecting equipment. Those signing up will receive an instruction email the evening of 7/23. It is anticipated we will participate in 2-3 additional Hamm managed quarry field trips in the area later this summer/fall. Also, once the virus concerns are abated, we will visit the UMKC Mineral and Science Museum at the invitation of Dr. Gentile. Other trips may also be developed.

Nov. 2020 Gem and Mineral Show

At the Association board meeting on July 9, we learned that the scheduled Nov. 6-8, 2020 gem and mineral show while on the calendar, has yet to be formally engaged by the organizer Shows of Integrity pending virus considerations. While we expect the show will happen, we will monitor information and report ASAP. At this show we expect the club will be afforded sales tables as in the past.

March 2021 Gem and Mineral Show

The Association has determined to proceed with the planning and organization for the March 12-14, 2021 gem and mineral show. This will be the 60th anniversary of the event.

Association Picnic

The Association has decided to cancel their annual picnic this year in deference to the virus concerns. This picnic would have occurred in either Aug. or Sept.

OGMS Picnic

The OGMS August 29, 2020 picnic at Kill Creek Park in Olathe is still scheduled. The status will be monitored and reported ASAP.

OGMS Christmas/Holiday Party

The OGMS is presently planning/intending to schedule and hold our holiday party. In that Hy-Vee, where we have held this event for the past few years, is at present not scheduling that far ahead (and considering the virus impact), we will continue to monitor the situation and make reservations as soon as they are permitted.

Rocky Mountain Federation Congress

The Rocky Mountain Federation (of which OGMS is a member) annual Congress was held in Big Piney, WY in June in conjunction with the local club gem and mineral show. N. Onnen and D. McDaniel were confirmed to represent the OGMS as delegates to the Congress meetings. Due to the virus impact these delegates did not attend the meetings, and instead submitted, as necessary, the voting Proxy. Because

of the virus concerns it is reported that no Kansas clubs (including the KS coordinator) attended this year. We await the minutes of the Congress. (The Congress for 2021, if it occurs is expected to be in Utah).

T-shirt Design Contest

The Association of Earth Science Clubs of Greater Kansas City, Inc. (whew!!!!!!). Let's just go with "the Association") announces a contest to design the next Association T-shirt. While a few of the old T-shirts remain for sale, there have been numerous requests for new shirts. To that end the Association would like submittals for the new shirts (by Jan. 14, 2021) to be judged, and the winning design incorporated onto the new shirts and made available for sale at the March 2021 KC Gem and Mineral Show. As this next show will be the Association's 60th anniversary the design should incorporate that fact. Also, since the virus situation might impact if the show actually occurs on schedule, the design should not include the March 2021 date. The individual submitting the winning design will be awarded \$50 and one of the new shirts. The contest is open to members of the various Association clubs. (Here's a chance for the artistic member(s) of our club to shine - and not being bashful, highlight our club as well).

FIELD TRIPS

Per Lesliee, our next field trip is this coming Saturday July 25th to the Louisburg, KS, Hamm's quarry.

HAMM has offered to our group other locations they have so each month we will continue with field trips with them if possible. If not, I do have other locations for our group to attend depending upon the state requirements with this virus. So please watch for updates and thank you for your patience.



NEWS, VIEWS AND REVIEWS

Sinistral (left-handed): Did you know that quartz crystals are either left or right-handed? - - the property is called "enantiomorphism in recognition of the tetrahedra structure twisting within the crystal. While somewhat rare, quartz crystals can be left-handed (and identified by observing the relationship of the s, r and z faces on the terminal points). Left handedness also occurs throughout nature but is little recognized. An exception are the Lightning Whelks (shells) that are found on Sanibel, Captiva and North

Captiva Islands, Florida. Otherwise, finding a sinistral shell is considered rare. On the human side, about 10% of the population is left-handed. (References: "Collecting Crystals, The Guide to Quartz in Arkansas" by Darcy and Mike Howard; "Quartz" by Harold L. Dibble; and "Florida's Fabulous Seashells and Other Seashore Life" by Winston Williams.)

Things to do during the "Pause": How about cataloging (card catalog) the specimens in your collection (and creating an accompanying ledger)? This all leads to assisting in proper labeling of specimens. The catalog card should (may, depending upon the collectors expertise and interests) include collection number, Dana number (option); name of the mineral/minerals constituting the specimen, chemical composition (optional again), location or event concerning the acquisition, and remarks such as description of the item, size, date obtained, previous owner (if applicable), history, purchase price, collected/obtained by whom, etc. The ledger may be more descriptive as to occurrence, GPS, condition, etc. While too late for many collectors, specimens should be entered ASAP following acquisition (as we all soon forget the details as collections grow). All of this leads up to being able to properly label specimens (to the degree, unlikely as it might be, that it could stand entry in a judged exhibit - such as an American Federation event.) (Reference: "Handbook of Crystal and Mineral Collecting" by William B. Sanborn.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Closing July 21 at The Museum at PrairieFire - - "Permian Monster - - The Life before the Dinosaurs".

And coming August 2020 at the Museum at PrairieFire - - "Kansas Revealed - - Like You've Never Seen It".

Now open at Union Station/Science City in Kansas City "Dinosaur Road Trip".

Shows: Note that many annual gem and mineral shows have cancelled. Rock & Gem magazine (the magazine officially recognized by the Rocky Mountain Federation) now has a header at its "Show Dates" column, directing readers to check the status of shows, but it does not indicate any cancellations. Presently the Topeka show is not listed. The Denver show is listed, and is assumed it will occur (and some Association persons have indicated they will attend).

August 29, 2020

OGMS Picnic – Kill Creek Park

September 26-27, 2020

Omaha, NE Omaha Gem and Mineral Show. Ramada Plaza. Sept. 26 and 27, 2020.

October 10-11, 2020

Topeka, KS. Topeka Gem & Mineral Society 64th Annual Show. "Green with Envy". Agricultural Center. Oct. 10 and 11, 2020.

October 17-18, 2020

Des Moines, Iowa. 2020 Gem, Jewelry, Mineral & Fossil Show. Iowa State Fairgrounds. Oct 17 and 18, 2020.

November 6-8, 2020

Kansas City Gem and Mineral Show. KC Expo Center. Nov. 6-8, 2020.

