



DECEMBER 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 2020 – 2021:

President: Norman Onnen (816)645-1333

Vice President: Lisa Hulbert (913)223-1028

Secretary: Alison Betts (913)962-9584

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:

Season's Greetings

We wish our OGMS members and their families warm "Season's Greetings", and hope all are well and safe. We look forward to resuming normal club functions in the near future so that we can re-kindle friendships, share rock and gem stories, and meet/greet the new members we have gained over this past nine months.

OGMS Meetings

While we anticipate the opportunity to meet again sooner than later, the fluctuating rise in area virus impact has limited our present ability to set a specific date. We will continue to monitor the conditions and communicate with our church host as to ability to meet soon. Please watch for our announcements. We are eager to see each of you, but want us all to remain safe and well.

Kansas City March 2021 Gem and Mineral Show

The Association continues to plan and organize for the March 12-14, 2021 Kansas City gem and mineral show. Anticipating the show will go on, this is a good time for OGMS members to be putting together their display cases. In the past, our club has placed around 20 cases per year, and these generate participation income for our club.

Tucson 2021 Gem and Mineral Show

The 2021 Tucson Gem & Mineral Show, the premier annual venue in Tucson, has been officially cancelled due to COVID-19 considerations. (See www.tgms.org/show). Looking forward, the show is expected to resume Feb. 10-13, 2022 under the heading "The Show That Glows" and will feature the "Apatite Supergroup" and a special exhibit by the Fluorescent Mineral Society.

While this primary show for 2020 will not occur, there are several related venues around Tucson that intend to attempt to open in a reduced manner. One such venue is the JOGS International Exhibits at

the Tucson Expo Center from Jan. 27 - Feb. 8, 2020. This is posted in the Dec. 2020 Rock & Gem magazine, and the JOGS website indicates they still intend to open, however those anticipating attending should continue to check the announcements.

Quartzite, AZ.

Currently the Quartzite, AZ rock show organizers indicate they will function during Jan. 2021, however stress that many vendors have cancelled and/or modified their intent to participate. Several OGMS members attend this event annually, and should carefully monitor announcements prior to traveling to that area. (It should be recognized the motels in some small towns have limited the number of rooms they will allow to be used each night - per community restrictions, and therefore accommodations may be limited).

Rocky Mountain Federation and American Federation Notes

The American Federation of Gem and Mineral Societies recently held their 2020 convention via Zoom. Installed as the new AFM President was Judy Beck (of the McPherson, KS club, and past President of the Rocky Mountain Federation). The Rocky Mountain Federation (of which the OGMS belongs) held their 2020 convention at Big Piney, WY this summer. The Rocky Mountain Federation was the only one of the seven American Federation societies to be able to hold their 2020 convention, and sadly no Kansas clubs were able to attend. Included in that absence was Bill Smith (the RMF Kansas Director). Bill (who presented his fabrication of gemstone butterflies to our OGMS club in the past year) has had to resign his RMF position due to health concerns. Because of the virus, several other RMF Board positions will be changing this next year, and the Federation is seeking interest from member clubs to fill positions.

FIELD TRIPS

For the next few months, we will be taking a break for the holidays and the cool/cold weather. In the meantime, I will be working on the next set of field trips for next year when the weather permits. If anyone has any location to visit, let me know and I will check it out for a field trip possibility. Contact me at hartman.12345@hotmail.com or text me at 785-380-6016.

NEWS, VIEWS AND REVIEWS

AFMS Valuable Information

As our club is a member of AFMS <http://amfed.org/> , do you know what is available with this membership?

As we have mentioned before, the Rock & Gem magazine is the official magazine of AFMS. You can receive a discount for this magazine by using the code RG24 to receive 12 issues for \$24. Here is a link to the website. <https://www.rockngem.com/>

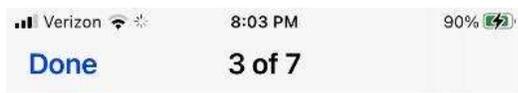
The AFMS has current and past issues of their newsletter available on the AFMS website. In the November 2020 newsletter beginning on page eight are some "SHOP SUGGESTIONS" that you may find useful. As this list of suggestions was initially published in 1975, there may be some that are not suitable for 2020, but you may find one that is invaluable for your situation. The link to this newsletter is http://amfed.org/news/n2020_11.pdf . Thanks to Larry Wells for this information.

Art Rocks

This article from the Washington Post shows there are things you can do in this time of quarantines and lockdowns.

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/lifestyle/2020/11/17/people-started-sending-art-rocks-texas-trail-pandemic-now-its-wonderland-tiny-paintings/>

Larry Wells found this article and has supplied one of his own creations. Is any one interested in a rock painting contest?



Diamonds, Gold, Fashion and the Virus

An unnamed Los Angeles businessperson/art dealer, indicating he/she is finding "a way to help the company navigate the downturn caused by the pandemic economy", has commissioned Yvel (the Israeli

luxury jewelry maker) to design and fabricate a COVID-19 pandemic gold protective mask to be studded with diamonds. At a cost of \$1.5 million, the mask will contain 250 grams of 18k gold and 3,608 natural black and white diamonds weighing about 210 carats. The mask will provide a slot to insert a disposable N-99 mask to filter out airborne particulates. Not identified is if the masks will be used as a virus barrier. Initially, when completed by the end of December, it will be displayed in a new Yvel Palm Beach, CA store currently under construction. – Norm Onnen

Growing Gold (or things you learn while looking for something else)

When gold is precipitated from groundwater onto the surface of bacterial filaments, sizable gold nuggets can build up over time. This has been realized from Bolivar State, Venezuela. (Source: Rock and Minerals: A Visual Guide, Robert R. Coenraads; Firefly Books; p. 237). – Norm Onnen

UPCOMING EVENTS

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.

February, 2021 – Cancelled Tucson Gem & Mineral Show

March 12-14, 2021 – KC Gem and Mineral Show