



JUNE 2021 MONTHLY BULLETIN

A non-profit 501(c)3 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 Thursday 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. Meeting times are from **6:45 to 8:45** and we must be out of the building by 9:00. We meet on the lower level in room **018**. 6:45 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: Leslie Hartman (785)380-6016

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: Chet McLaughlin & Mandy Lorenz

Alternate Assoc. Delegates: Vicky Ritter & Larry Wells

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE:

Member Update

As noted in a membership email last week, Julie Robinson suffered a fall, was hospitalized and underwent brain surgery. Her husband M. John, on Wed. indicted Julie had an aneurysm, currently cannot speak, and will be hospitalized for some time. We will issue new information as it becomes available. It is requested, by M. John, that the sending of cards, etc. be withheld for the time being. Please keep Julie and M. John in our prayers and thoughts.

OGMS Club Meetings

FINALLY. !!!!!!!!, !!!!!!!!, !!!!!!!! and HURRAY. We were able to have our first club meeting in 15 months (the pause being due to the virus) on Thursday, May 6. Twenty-seven members and visitors attended and were treated to an account of the 2020 Nevada opal collecting trip by Alison Betts, Barbara Crompton, Gary Monroe and Mike Purduski. The session also included the resumption of the raffle, and ample time for greeting and visiting.

Now, anticipating no further virus restrictions, we are set for club meetings the remainder of the year (reminder that we do not meet in June, July and August). Note that our meetings will now occur the first Thursday of each month (instead of the first Tuesday of each month as in the past), and are as follows -

Thursday, Sept. 2, 2021

Thursday, Oct. 7, 2021

Thursday, Nov. 4, 2021

All meetings are at the Hope Chapel, 12480 Black Bob Road, Olathe, KS. (Note that the church changed its name this past year from Indian Creek Community Church.) Each meeting will be from 6:45 pm - 8:45 pm, and we must be out of the building by 9 pm for the security alarms to be activated. While this May meeting did not include light refreshments, we will resume that practice starting with the Sept. 2021 meeting. WELCOME BACK ALL.

OGMS Picnic

We will once again have our mid-year picnic, this one on Sat., June 5, 2021 at Kill Creek Park, Olathe, KS (Shelter #3) from 3:30 pm - 8 pm. The club will furnish hamburgers, hot dogs, relishes, utensils and service. Attendees are asked to bring a pot luck side dish or dessert. We will plan to eat promptly at 4:30 pm. Some yard games for youth will be available, and the meal will be followed by our traditional silent auction. Club members are asked for donations of items to be auctioned, the proceeds going to the club to help offset operating expenses and upcoming events including the annual holiday party. Silent auction forms will be provided and are also available on our website. [Silent Auction Form](#)

OGMS Membership Dues

Membership dues were suspended during the virus pause, and are now resumed. Scheduled for collection at the May meeting each year, members may satisfy this at the June picnic or at the September meeting. Note that new members, gained during this past year, will not have their membership renewal due until May 2022.

Rocky Mountain Federation News

Just recently revealed and/or understood. The RMF was the only one of the seven federations to hold their annual Congress in 2020. Now it is understood that while the Congress went forward, because of a lack of quorum, no official business could be conducted. This year, now in conjunction with the parent American Federation (who rotates their participation every seven years), the 2021 Congress is expected to reach a quorum and act on a combined 2020 and 2021 agenda. This 2021 Congress is expected to be fully attended in Big Piney, WY. (The 2020 Congress was also in Big Piney and returns there after the scheduled 2021 Congress in Sandy, Utah has to be moved due to virus concerns).

The 2022 Congress is scheduled to occur (date TBD) in Las Vegas, NV (which is outside RMF boundary - but that's another interesting story which will be explained in a later Bulletin).

Traditionally at each Congress, memorials are offered by each club regarding members who have passed away during the past year. OGMS lost long time member Tom Lorenz just before the 2020 session was to occur. As such his memorial was not presented and entered into the record at that time (due to lack of a quorum), but will be presented and entered at the 2021 session, ironically on June 19th, the same day his memorial service will occur in Overland Park, KS.

Association News

The annual Association picnic has been set, and confirmed, for Sunday, August 29 at Antioch Park, Overland Park, KS. (Shelter #2). More details will be provided as the date nears, however as in the past this will include a swap and shop, followed by the meal, followed by an auction of donated items (the proceeds going to the Association scholarship fund).

OGMS delegates to the Association for April 2021 to April 2022 are Chet McLaughlin and Mandy Lorenz (delegates); and Vicky Ritter and Larry Wells (alternate delegates).

The new Association T-shirts are now available. (Small, Medium and Large are \$12, while X-Large and XX-Large are \$15). Some of these will be available at the OGMS meetings.



From the Library

The RMF directory indicates that copies of their By Laws, Operating Procedures and Articles of Incorporation should be in each club's library. While this used to be maintained, these documents are lengthy (with the exception of the Articles of Incorporation), and with each passing Congress, changes may occur making the maintenance locally cumbersome. And, given the fact that they are rarely requested, and are in fact accessible on the RMF website at all times, they are no longer copied and maintained in the OGMS library. Interested parties may locate them at the RMFMS.org website. If assistance is required, please contact the OGMS librarian.

Interesting recent reads (thanks to virus restriction time outs).

(Note: These following books are not a part of the original OGMS library, but are available on loan).

[The Lost City of the Monkey God](#). (#1 New York Times Bestseller). Douglas Preston, 2017. A search (and locating) of a lost city in the Honduran interior. While the exploration itself is spellbinding, for the rockhound, the explanation of an unknown (but now spreading) parasitic tropical disease known as leishmaniasis (leish for short) is of concern and should be watched for. Turns out while this disease is

not new to the tropics, global warming is helping it's spread by sand flies and animals and is seen expanding throughout Texas and Oklahoma as warm temperatures escalate annually. The symptoms are non-healing lesions, stiffness in legs and joints, some fevers — and should not be ignored. (As a side note, rock hounds should take precautions sorting through old collections of rocks, etc. Many such collections contain rodent droppings which could be the source of various types of fevers).

Dry Storeroom No. 1. The Secret Life of the Natural History Museum. Richard Fortey, 2008. An inside account of the Natural History Museum in London. This exceptional museum stretches back to before Darwin and gives a close look as to the very unique figures who make up such a scientific enterprise. And, it reveals that such an establishment is very much more than collections, but is on the cutting edge of science - and very much a victim of budgets. Cited are efforts/relationships with “that most distinguished of United States conservation bodies, the Missouri Botanic Garden”, the U. of Tennessee Department of Anthropology, and the U. of Kansas Treatise on Invertebrate Paleontology.

Gem Hunter's Guide. Russell P. Macfall, 1963. (This book was obtained at the recent Stilwell, KS estate). An interesting book including many of the old sites in the U.S, Canada and Mexico, many of which are depleted, but also many that are forgotten.

In Cass County, MO mention is made of petrified wood being found in a quarry at Cornett. In Wyandotte County, KS mention is made of geodes in the Lone Star quarry at Bonner Springs. (This closed quarry is believed to now be owned by Hamm Quarries, and attempts to access it will be made).

The Geology of Jackson County (MO). Missouri Bureau of Geology and Mines, 1917. (This book was discovered at an antique shop). While specific to Jackson County, MO, this book is a good look at the fossil to be found in quarries in adjacent counties on both sides of the state line. It also specifically identifies sites in KC, which due to development, are difficult to recognize, but in some cases are still relevant to collecting if access can be realized.

FIELD TRIPS

June Field Trip--Please watch for emails as numerous sites are being considered. Thank you all for your patience on the places and timing of the trips as they are mostly out of our hands. If you have any ideas for a field trip, please let me know by email or text hartman.12345@hotmail.com or 785-380-6016.

Lesliee

NEWS, VIEWS AND REVIEWS

OGMS Classified Ads

At the last board meeting a decision was made to allow classified ads to be included in the Monthly Bulletin. A single ad cost will be \$5.00 a month for a business card or short description (up to 50 words) of items for sale. The classified section will be at the end of the bulletin.

Moh's Trivia

The steps on the Moh's scale are far from being equal. The diamond (10 on the Moh's scale) is 42.4 times as hard as talc (1 on the Moh's scale), and is more than twice as hard as corundum (9 on the scale). (Gem Hunter's Guide; Russell P. MacFall) - N Onnen

Unique Slab

Larry Wells found the following agate slab at an estate sale. Notice the tornado in the middle of the slab. After some investigation, Josh Foster believes it is a "flame" seam agate. Pretty cool oddity.



DNA Jewelry; Cabochon made with Breast Milk

Vinca jewelry store on the plaza contacted OGMS member Vince Martini and indicated one of their best clients had recently viewed a website that makes DNA jewelry using breast milk and asked if he could make a 6mm cabochon gemstone with their client's breastmilk in it. Vince told them no, but to call me because I am a registered nurse and a lapidarist. I reviewed the "JoBri Breast Milk Charms" website and thought of a possible way to do this using 330 epoxy. Vinca gave me a bottle of breast milk from their

refrigerator which I dehydrated into a powder and mixed it into the 330 epoxy with a tiny amount of white pigment because the client had requested that the cabochon not be yellow. The epoxy was heated to lower its viscosity and release any air bubbles. It was then poured into a plastic tube with a 6 mm inside diameter. After it hardened, I removed it from the mold and placed it under a heat lamp for two hours.

I polished the end of the tube with a cerium oxide paste - but was unable to achieve a good polish - so I taped the sides and put Paleo Bond PB002 penetrant stabilizer on the end and then gently wiped it off with a soft 100% cotton cloth. The next day I polished the end again with a CO paste and successfully achieved a good polish. I told Vinca to give their client a good jewelry polishing cloth to use whenever the gemstone became dull. I read on the "JoBri" website they were sending a polishing cloth with their jewelry.

While I was fabricating the breastmilk gemstone Vince Martini was making the ring. Vince set the cabochon in the ring and delivered it with the leftover breastmilk and the 6mm breastmilk tube which could be used to make matching earrings, pendant, or a bracelet in the future. - Larry Wells



UPCOMING EVENTS

Upcoming Shows

While many shows are being cancelled across the country due to the virus, there are a few still being tentatively scheduled. Interested individuals are cautioned to periodically check the status of shows and promoter notices.

June 5, 2021

OGMS Picnic – Kill Creek Park – Shelter #3

July 17-18, 2021 –TRMS Annual Gem Mineral and Jewelry Show

Tulsa Country Fairgrounds-Exchange Center

4145 E. 21st St.-Tulsa, OK tulsarockandmineralsociety

CLASSIFIED

For Sale: Lortone QT-NR Tumbler 12-pound capacity. New belt, new bearings, and new drive and idler axles. OGMS member price \$95. Contact Dan McDaniel – 913-963-5357.

For Sale: Mexican Minerals

<p>J H Kalmore Company Dealer in Fine Mexican Minerals</p>  <p>Joseph H. Diamond Owner 6823 Granero El Paso, Texas 79912 info@jhkalmore.com</p>	<p>JHKALMORE.COM See us on Facebook at J H KALMORE COMPANY For More Great Deals</p>
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