



OLATHE GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY

JANUARY 2018 MONTHLY BULLETIN

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

Founded March 1956

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, 6:30 to 7 PM is not structured, as members 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 approximately 7 PM followed by the guest speaker.

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 Sept. meeting.)

OFFICERS 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 Editor:	Dan McDaniel	(913) 963-5357
Membership Chairman	M John Robinson	

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: The next club meeting will be Tuesday January 2, 2018.

As of Nov. 2017 our past president Norm Onnen is on staff as a volunteer fossil preparer in the Dino Laboratory at Science City located in Union Station Kansas City, Missouri. Science City is a fun and educational experience for all ages! I visited Science City 2 weeks ago and had a wonderful time! Make time to bring your family, you'll be glad you did.

Also, Bev and I have several beautiful rescued cats that are looking for a good home with lots of love!!! I'll be happy to text or email you pictures.

VICE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: The January Club presentations will be from several club members who will display items collected during 2017 field trips. Also, a presentation by Larry demonstrating Gem Identification by utilizing Short and Long Wave Ultraviolet light.

DECEMBER HOLIDAY PARTY PICTURES: The O.G.M.S. Christmas event was



on Saturday Dec. 2, 2017 at HyVee, Olathe, KS 66061. Everyone had a nice time. The gift exchange was a lot of fun, I think the povitica bread was the most sought after item. Thanks to the Hartmans for taking some pictures! More are on our Facebook page.

SKILLS & INTEREST DIRECTORY: If we don't have your picture already, please text your picture to Julie Robinson's cell phone (816) 797-4602, and be sure to include your name in the text, or, you can email your picture to Julie at: jukay11@gmail.com

You can list your talents and skills to offer other members. And, we are adding another topic "Interested in Learning", which will be very helpful in setting up the programs for future meetings. If you have a personal request or need help call Julie directly and she will be happy to assist you.

SHOW & TELL: Club Members interested in doing a Show and 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, or her cell (816) 337-1527.

KEN ROSS MADE HONORARY CLUB MEMBER: Our club Board, in their November officers meeting, recognizing the significant contribution Ken Ross made to our club during the settling of his father's estate, has chosen to confer to him the status of honorary club member. He was this past week notified of this action and expressed his gratitude for this honor and thoughtfulness. He will be kept up to date on club events and hopefully can attend occasionally. In the past Ken worked in the family Lapidary business with his parents Sig and Marilyn Ross as a bench jeweler, and I believe he is an accomplished faceter.

Ken indicates that his mother **MARILYN ROSS** continues to do well in the care facility in Olathe, KS. Some club members may remember that Marilyn served the club as President and in other offices in the past, as well as being the gracious hostess to our meetings held in their home. We continue to wish her well.

CLUB WEBSITE: Join me in welcoming Dan McDaniel as our new web-master. He has an extensive professional computer background. Our website www.olathegemclub.com is much improved. Thanks Dan!

CLUB LIBRARY: Members are reminded that the club library is being maintained, and the holdings are listed on the club website. As requests for items are made they are brought to the next club event where an agreement is made as to expected length of time they are to be borrowed. End of year emails will be sent to members confirming/affirming the books they have currently checked out, and requesting any corrections needed. If members wish to suggest books/items we should add to the library, please contact the librarian. Also, if members wish to donate related items to the library, they will be gratefully accepted, and the item added to the listing when updated.

POSITION VACANT: FIELD TRIP & OUTINGS CHAIRPERSON: We are still in need of one or more individuals to plan and coordinate Club outings. This may involve attending some executive board meetings (only if necessary), writing announcements for the monthly bulletin, coordinating and emailing information to Club members.

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

*****NOW THROUGH April 1st - Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art:**

Two Exhibitions, One Price! Admission to *Dreams of the Kings: A Jade Suit for Eternity* will include an additional ticket to view *Through the Eyes of Picasso* good for one visit through April 1, 2018.

Treasures of the Han Dynasty from Xuzhou. Featured objects include exquisite vessels fashioned from solid jade, a full suit of iron armor, a spectacular solid gold belt buckle and a magnificent, 2,000-year-old, life-sized jade and gold burial suit that is the finest to have survived from ancient China. The objects were excavated from a group of monumental tombs of the Kings of Chu that were carved into rocky hillsides in an area midway between Beijing and Shanghai.

In adjacent galleries will be displayed a selection of 90 pieces from the museum's celebrated collection of early Chinese art from the Shang (16th century—ca. 1046 B.C.E.) to the Han (206 B.C.E.—220 C.E.) dynasties. The display will include the world-famous jade bi ritual disc and many other exceptional pieces.

Comment from our past President Norm Onnen: My wife and I viewed the "Dream of Kings" exhibit last week and were greatly impressed by the quality and comprehensive nature of this splendid collection of jade, bronze and pottery artifacts of the Chu kings (Han dynasty) from over 2,000 years ago. Of primary interest were the numerous jade items, all hand carved/sculpted and polished by court artisans. The precise design, and fabrication of the individual pieces had to have taken many years given the exceptional hardness of jade. The crown piece was a jade funeral suit for the King of Chu. This particular suit was fabricated of 4,248 individual sized and shaped jade tiles covering the king, and each stitched together with gold thread. Grave robbers ended up stealing the gold thread and left the jade tiles behind in the tomb, apparently not realizing the value of the gemstone, or possibly not having the means to transport or use the material. Other significant items in the exhibit include jade and gold jewelry, royal seals, terra cotta soldiers (protecting the king in the afterlife), bronze and iron vessels, etc. All of superior craftsmanship especially considering the age in which they were made. This exhibit opened in Washington, DC earlier this year, and will be at the Nelson-Atkins Gallery through April 1, 2018 and will then be disassembled and items returned to their respective venues. Please consider visiting this exceptional exhibit prior to closure. A book has been published specific to this show and is available in the gallery gift shop.

*****FEB. 8–11, 2018, 64th ANNUAL TUCSON GEM & MINERAL SHOW:**

Tucson Convention Center
260 S Church Ave
Tucson, AZ 85701



Phone: [\(520\) 322-5773](tel:5203225773)

Exhibits from private collections and museums from around the world. Lecture series based on the theme of the Show "Crystals and Crystal Forms." Jr. Ed. Area that provides children with a wealth of mineral and earth science information. Saturday Night Program includes a silent auction, voice auction, slide competition, awards ceremony, and buffet. This is an event that has something for everyone, from the serious collector to the novice; minerals, jewelry, fossils, equipment, books, and more! The non-profit Tucson Gem and Mineral Society uses the proceeds from the Show to further their mission; To encourage interest and study in geology, mineralogy, lapidary, and allied earth sciences.

*****March 9-11, 2018 KANSAS CITY GEM AND MINERAL SHOW:**

	<p>56th Annual Gem & Mineral Show Presented by: The Association of Earth Science Clubs of Greater Kansas City — March 10, 11, & 12, 2017</p>
<p>PARK FREE at the KCI EXPO CENTER 11730 NW Ambassador Dr. Exit 112th St off I-29 or KCI Exit (Cookingham Dr.) off I-435 One Coupon Good for the entire group!</p>	<p>\$1.00 OFF Coupon</p>
<p>Admission: Adults \$6, 2 Day Pass \$10, 3 Day Pass \$14, Children 5-12 yrs. \$3, and Children 4 and under Free. www.kcgemshow.org or www.gemshowkc.org</p>	<p>Show Hours: FRI 10:00 am to 8:00 pm SAT 10:00am to 7:00 pm Auction at 7:00 pm SUN 10:00 am to 5:00 pm</p>
	<p>Follow us: Kansas City Gem & Mineral Show \$1.00 OFF Coupon</p>

This show is sponsored by our local Kansas City Association. To view the website go to: <http://kcgemshow.org>. More information forthcoming regarding help to set up and take down tables, taking tickets at the door, and providing lunch for the vendors, etc. Helpers will get a badge permitting free access. Also, we will be displaying our Club cases for viewing. Larry Wells (913) 787-5138 is the point of contact for Club members interested in selling items at the show, and Norm Onnen (816) 645-1333 is the point of contact for all other questions.

From Norm Onnen, Past President. As the Olathe Gem and Mineral Society is a member of the Association of Earth Science Clubs of Greater Kansas City (the Association responsible for the annual March KC Gem and Mineral Show), we are pleased to announce the tentative agreement that a portion of the Bill Boltz spectacular

and extensive Lake Superior agate collection will be displayed at the March 9-11, 2018 show in Kansas City.

Now deceased, Bill Boltz was a Topeka contractor involved in construction of many homes in and around Topeka from which he found numerous (some quite large) Lake Superior agates, deposited in the terminus margin of the Pleistocene era Kansan glacier. Upon Mr. Boltz passing, approximately 1/3 of his collection was retained by the family, 1/3 went to the Moose Lake Agate and Geological Interpretation Center (in Moose Lake State Park, Moose Lake, MN), and 1/3 is maintained at Washburn University. This later collection is the source of the items to be displayed at our March 2018 show (and were exhibited at the recently completed Topeka Gem and Mineral show).

As a side note, the Moose Lake collection is on permanent display in the state park facility - this being on I-35 between Minneapolis and Duluth, MN. The community of Moose Lake hosts Lake Superior Agate Days one weekend each July. (This is a huge event with truckloads of glacial gravel containing agates, etc. spread along the main street for a kids scramble, and public access to numerous collecting sites normally not accessible). Also, presently an individual has been selected to cut and face polish a massive 16 pound agate from the Boltz collection. It will be of great interest to see the end result of this effort (hopefully in time for our March show?).

For those interested in glaciers, the Kansan glacier was the most recent of four and extended further south than the preceding Pleistocene glaciers (the Nebraskan, Illinoian and Wisconsin glaciers). In addition to the Lake Superior agates, the Kansan glacier carried and deposited metamorphosed volcanics (greenstone, from the Canadian Shield), Sioux quartzite (from SW MN/eastern SD), hematite iron ore (from the iron ranges of MN and the Keewanawan volcanics of MN, WI, and MI), and fossils.

*****APRIL 1, 2018, Sunday, Opening Day Selenite Dig/Collection; Salt Plains N.W.R., Jet, OK.**

*****APRIL 20-22, 2018, 65th Wichita Gem & Mineral Show; Theme Unbelievable Rocks, Minerals & Fossils; Cessna Activity Center.**

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

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS FOR 2017-2018:

Field Trips: Currently vacant

Gem Show Chairman: Currently vacant

Refreshments: January Mike Purduski and Deb Bryant, VP

Raffle: Keith Shaw and Brian Simmons

Association Delegates: Norman Onnen & Larry Wells

Alternate Association Delegates: Currently vacant

Librarian and Historian: Norman Onnen

Programs: Deborah Bryant, VP

Membership: M John Robinson

Bulletin Editor: M John Robinson

Webmaster: Dan McDaniel

MEMBERSHIP LIST: The current membership information will be sent at a later date.