



JANUARY 2021 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:

OGMS Meetings

Note; Due to Covid-19 normal monthly club meetings are temporarily suspended. Please periodically check our webpage for changes to this status.

March 12-14, 2021 Gem and Mineral Show

We, in conjunction with the Association, continue to plan and organize for the 60th gem and mineral show. Most vendors have already registered and confirmed they will attend. In lieu of our monthly meetings, calls will be made to members to solicit volunteers and determine if each will be entering a display case. Some of these calls have already occurred.

Gem and Mineral Show Display Cases

Our OGMS club members annually place display cases at the March show which exhibit the gem, mineral, fossil, etc. interest of the individuals. Normally we place about 20 cases each year and the Association pays clubs for the number of cases entered. This is a significant income source for our club and all are urged to participate both for the benefit of our club, but also to display the interest and capabilities of our members. A call will be made to members to determine intent to place display cases. For those wishing to display, but do not have cases, there will be some cases that can be borrowed for the show.

Tucson Gem and Mineral Show

While notice has been issued that the main Tucson Gem and mineral show for Feb. 2021 has been cancelled, some venues indicated they will still open in a modified form. Now we also learn that some will also push their venues into an April timeframe. Interested parties are urged to check the websites for schedules.

Library Notes:

Winter has arrived

Time to kick back and thrive

To that end, the club library needs attention

It's been inactive all year without mention

Information hidden galore

Who could ask for more

The holdings are easy to pursue

Just check the website to ID and use

Requestors names will be recorded

And with quarterly drawing(s) will be rewarded

The prize(s) will be unique and a treasure

Surely equal to gained knowledge pleasure

Library Request

I have had a request for "The Agates of Northern Mexico" by Brad Cross. If anyone has this out-of-print book, please consider lending it to our library for a limited time. (N. Onnen)

OGMS 2021 Picnic

Trying to be optimistic, we are tentatively scheduling our 2021 picnic for Saturday, June 5, 2021 at Kill Creek Park, Olathe, KS. This early announcement is because we need to get the reservation in at the earliest moment the county will accept them. More information will be issued as we get closer, and naturally subject to virus concerns.

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 Lesliee at hartman.12345@hotmail.com or text me at 785-380-6016.

NEWS, VIEWS AND REVIEWS

DidJuNo: The "most highly praised agate in the world" is the Laguna agate. This is a nodular banded agate known for its tight banding and bright colors (per Gene Moeller of The Gem Shop, Inc. who has mined these agates). They come from a very remote mountain range in the state of Chihuahua, Mexico (just 150 miles south of El Paso, TX). So, the rest of the story (per Walter Cronkite, for those senior enough to recall those newscasts), all agates found along this mountain range are known as Laguna's. That is true to the extent that agates found, and identified from specific mines in this range are named per the site (i.e., San Marco agates, Nuevo Casa Grandes, Coconut geodes, Redskin Geodes, Trancas

Geodes, Palomas Geodes and Ocotillo Geodes), but still are all called Laguna. That being said, there are those (including Gene Moeller and Brad Cross) who can, upon sight, identify which specific mine they come from. For the most part the most highly prized Laguna agates are highly banded (fortification bands of up to 100 bands per inch and multiple contrasting colors). While still called Laguna, Apache agates (also technically Laguna's) are dark reds in floating white quartz. Some Laguna's (palm sized and face polished) can bring \$3,000 at today's shows. (N. Onnen)



Laguna Agate Poster – Natural History Museum, London

The Before and More:

Larry Wells, this fall gifted me an agate (approximately 1" x 1-1/2") from an unknown location, showing three tubes/eyes. Note that this is not a Lake Superior agate, but may be termed a honey agate.

Below is a picture of that agate, followed by magnified picture (x75) of the edge of one of the tubes/eyes. Miniature beauty! Thanks Larry. (N. Onnen)



Humor - or Semblance Thereof

Well it pains me that we did not receive enough articles from our members this month to insert into the bulletin, so you have to put up with these groaners:

“It was his fault the conversation eroded. He assumed I was saying I had too much on my plate, but that wasn’t what I sediment.”

Matt Damon has confirmed that he will play the role of an amnesiac prospector, who is also a trained assassin. He ends up dueling with a rogue government agency over control of a fantastically valuable copper deposit. Due to his amnesia, he is only occasionally able to recognize the tell-tale mineralogy of the ore.

Damon is hinting that the movie will be called "The [Bornite](#) Identity."

(credit <http://outsidetheinterzone.blogspot.com/2009/03/non-geology-people-will-not-get-this.html>)

I warned you. Please submit articles to Dan McDaniel for the upcoming bulletin.

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 (See note above regarding potential changes to cancellation).

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