



OLATHE GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY

July 2018 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 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. The time from 6:30 to 7 PM is not structured, as member's fellowship and has 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. 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 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 and Editor:	Dan McDaniel	(913) 963-5357
Membership Chairman:	M John Robinson	(913) 669-8284
Field Trip Coordinator:	Mike Purduski	(913) 424-5458
Programs:	Deborah Bryant, VP	
Librarian and Historian:	Norman Onnen	(816) 645-1333
Gem Show Chairman:	Norman Onnen	
Raffle:	Keith Shaw and Brian Simmons	
Association Delegates:	Norman Onnen & Larry Wells	
Alternate Assoc. Delegate:	Mike Purduski	

PRESIDENT, LARRY'S MESSAGE:

Member Sandy Daum gave me a newspaper article about Casey Friend a fourth grader in Overland Park, KS who was instrumental in selecting the state rock, mineral and gemstone for Kansas, which had none. I have inserted this newspaper article at the end of this bulletin for your review. I plan to invite Casey to join our Club. Hopefully we will see him at our next meeting Tuesday September fourth

Our pot luck picnic at Lone Elm Park was on June 2nd, and it was lots of fun for all. No rain, but it was windy. We had a great turnout which resulted in a very large quantity and diverse selection of food. The food was sooooooo good! The auction brought in around \$420.00 and club expenses were around \$200.00. Thanks again to everyone that worked to make this happen. We were so busy I'm not sure if we took pictures of new members during the picnic so they can be added to the Skills and Interest Directory.

A few months ago Bear Carpenter demonstrated his knapping skills making beautiful hand fabricated knives and arrowheads, and he gave away several pounds of beautiful rock shards that were leftovers from his knapping. Bear recently said he has been busy and as a result he has lots more left over rock shards to share. Thank you Bear!!! For more of his artistic handy-work check out his face book page: *Bears slabs and stabs*.

On a different subject Bev and I have several beautiful rescued cats that are looking for a good home with lots of love. Please adopt one.

VICE PRESIDENT, DEB'S MESSAGE: September 4th we have paleontologist Dr David Burnham coming again to update us on all the new finds.

FIELD TRIP COORDINATOR, MIKE'S MESSAGE: The May 5th field trip to the Kaw River Bonner Springs, KS area was attended by 6 club members and everyone had a great time.

Six members attended the June 9, 2018 Mineral & Fossil Sale in Lee's Summit, MO. selling large collection of minerals, rough & polished rock, rock tumblers and grit. No one came home empty handed.

June 16, 2018. Lapidary Auction: Hosted by the Independence Gem & Mineral Society will be held at the Center Place Restoration School Cafeteria, 819 W. Waldo, Independence, MO. (Parking on the east side of the building, view items 9-10am; live auction 10am - 5 pm) Included are 6 tumbler, 3 grinding units, 10" Highland Park saw, wax injector, hundreds of

pounds of rough and slabs, hundreds of finished cabs, misc. items including tools, gold pans, crock pots, beading trays, gem trays, Riker mounts, and much more.

June 29 – July 1, 2018 Annual Wholesale Only Trade Show: KCI Expo Center 11730 NW Ambassador Dr. Kansas City, MO 64153. Most of the same wholesale dealers from the March and November Gem Shows.

The club returned to the Whetstine Quarry in Troy, KS on Sunday May 27, 2018 to hunt for more chalcopyrite, pyrite cubes, and fossils. The Troy, KS quarry is the only one - out of three quarries - our club has visited so far.

Next Quarry Field Trip: I am requesting a head count to see how many members are interested in going to one of the **other** Whetstine quarries? Please RSVP which one you want to go to ASAP. Majority vote will decide which quarry we will go to next. No one in the club has seen these two quarries yet, so no idea what we will find there. The OGMS members are the **only** ones allowed inside these quarries because Larry Wells is a friend of the Whetstine family so this is a great opportunity for our Club. Your choices are:

1. The Whetstine active quarry in Atchison, Kansas, which is very close to KC, closer than the Troy Kansas quarry. This would be a very convenient short trip in this heat.
2. The Whetstine quarry in Nebraska City, Nebraska, much further away, however possibly better glacial drift, etc. Larry said this quarry was just recently purchased by Mr. Whetstine. It is an old quarry that has not been worked for a long time. Mr. Whetstine told Larry it has several very large piles of existing rock sorted by various sizes and types. It is currently being made into a active working quarry.

CLUB LIBRARIAN, NORM ONNEN'S MESSAGE: Members are reminded that the club library is being maintained, and the holdings are listed on the club website. Donated items to the library are gratefully accepted. As requests for items are made they are brought to the next club event. Club members who have materials checked out are requested to return these items and/or re-new their interest in keeping them for an extended time. For more information call Norm at (816) 645-1333. Are club members aware that the official magazine of the Rocky Mountain Federation of Gem and Mineral Societies (of which the Olathe club is a member) is **Rock & Gem** magazine? Pertinent to that is that in the May 2018 issue of the magazine is an article about fluorescence entitled

"Rainbow Rocks" by Senior Editor Bob Jones. This will be of interest related to the recent club presentations by Larry Wells on Gemstone Identification using Short and Long-wave Ultraviolet Light.

Thanks to the combined efforts of Mike Purduski and Larry Wells, a photocopy of "**See Kansas First; Crystals, Fossils, Agates**" has been added to our club library. It should be noted that this *handmade* document is old, having been hand-written with hand-sketched maps by Ottawa, KS rock hound C. A. Carpenter for a Rock Club in probably the 1950s or 1960s.

As such, while this is of historic significance, many of the referenced sites have changed status and some are in fact now inaccessible. Also, contrary to the title, information is included for MO and NE as well as KS. Those using this document for potential field collecting trips should investigate any and all information prior to embarking on collecting trips. (Note: This document will be added to our web site library inventory later this year so as to preclude single changes on one-by-one basis).

SKILLS & INTEREST DIRECTORY: To keep your directories current you can plan on receiving future updates via email. For changes, and directory updates contact Julie Robinson at (816) 797-4602, or jukay11@gmail.com.

SHOW & TELL: Members interested in doing a Show & Tell should contact Deborah Bryant, VP to get scheduled. Deborah's contact info is MotoChef1@outlook.com, cell (816) 337-1527.

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

July 20-22, 2018. Rocky Mountain Federation Gem and Mineral Societies Annual Convention: Rapid City, SD. Attached you will find the field trips for the Show/Convention in Rapid City, South Dakota coming in July.

August 29, 2018 The annual Association of Earth Science Clubs of Greater Kansas City, Inc. picnic: Antioch Park 6501 Antioch Rd. Merriam, KS 66202 on Sunday, starting at 9 am and will include an auction. Our Club "OGMS" is a member of this Association, and as such members are encouraged to attend and support this function.

September 14-16, 2018. The Mozarkite Society Gem Show:

Lincoln City Park, 205 Timberline Drive, Lincoln, MO 65338.

October 6-7th, Omaha Gem & Mineral Show: Adults \$5.00, seniors and years 12-18 cost \$3.00.

Oct. 13-14, 2018. Topeka Gem & Mineral Society: 62nd Annual Show. Opal It Is. Kansas Expocenter Agriculture Hall, 17th & Topeka, Topeka, KS. \$5 adult, student \$1, under 13 free.

Linda Hall Library, 5109 Cherry Street, Kansas City, MO 64110:

<http://www.lindahall.org/online-exhibitions/>

One of the **"Online Exhibitions":**

Blade and Bone: The Discovery of Human Antiquity

In 1800, it was generally believed that humans were a relatively recent addition to the earth, dating back some 6000 years. By 1920, it was commonly understood that humans had been on earth for a very long time, had lived in rock shelters and used tools fashioned from flint, and had expressed themselves artistically in bone carvings and cave paintings. This exhibition documents the discovery of human antiquity as presented in the original books and journals.



"The Tazza": "The [Tazza](#)", one of the largest pieces of [malachite](#) in North America. Czar Nicholas II presented the gift of a great malachite tazza to the American Ambassador to Russia, August Heckscher, in 1910. The tazza became part of the Heckscher Museum of Art collection, where it resided for many years. The tazza was rediscovered in the art and antiques marketplace and purchased for the Linda Hall Library near the UMKC campus by Mrs. Kenneth Spencer in 1972.

Malachite, a mineral often found in oxidized zones of copper ore deposits, was found abundantly in the Ural Mountains of Russia. Other significant deposits have been found in France, Israel, Mexico, and Arizona. It often occurs with azurite. The Linda Hall tazza is considered to be one of the four most important pieces of green malachite in the world, according to art historians, and the largest in the U.S. The remarkable piece measures 6 feet, 6 inches from its base to its rim.

Scholarship Application

AWARDS: The Association shall provide several scholarships annually. These awards ranging from \$250.00 to \$1,000.00 each can be applied toward tuition or loans at an accredited college or university in Kansas or Missouri.

PROCEDURES: The Scholarship Committee will select finalists from applications received by **the end of February each year**. Applicants are asked to provide the following:

1. Fully complete [attached application](#) (including the six requirements listed on the application)
2. Recommendation from a Professor
3. Submission of all college transcripts

Finalists will be notified by and will be requested to attend the Saturday Night auction at 7:15 P.M. to receive their scholarship.

ELIGIBILITY: College students who have completed at least their sophomore year and are legal residents of the United States and studying for a degree in Earth Science related fields may compete. Finalists will be eligible to compete in the following year's program.

RETURN VIA MAIL TO:
Molly Stinemetz
Scholarship Chairman
2706 S. Cherokee St
Independence, MO 64057

(For more information go to: kcgemshow.org)

Fourth-grader helps Kansas select state rock, mineral and gemstone

BY BETH LIPOFF
Special to The Star

Not too many kids grew up requesting the National Audubon Society's field guide to rocks and minerals as a bedtime story, but that's what makes 10-year-old Casey Friend of Overland Park unique.

It was also the beginning of fascination that led him to lobby the Kansas legislature to establish an official rock, mineral and gemstone for the state.

"I like to research, and it showed a bunch of state rocks in some books, and I found out that Kansas didn't have one," Casey said.

Casey, a fourth-grader at Trailwood Elementary School in Overland Park, presented his case to

Committee on Federal and State Affairs.

"For limestone, it was really popular, and I was familiar with it, and I knew Kansas had a lot of it ... and since I was going for one, I might as well go for all of them," he said.

Both of Casey's other selections have specific Kansas ties as well. The town of Galena, Kan., takes its name from the mineral mined there in the 1800s, and no one has found jelinite amber (originally called kansasite) anywhere but in Ellsworth County, in an area now covered by reservoir.

Gov. Jeff Colyer signed the legislation, which breezed through the Kansas House and Senate, approving Casey's suggestions on April 4. He in-

in front of so many legislators was "cool and scary, but exciting," Casey said.

Kansas isn't the only state without these official designations. New Jersey, North Dakota and Pennsylvania don't have an official rock, mineral or gemstone. Other states have one or two of these categories, and some have all three.

Casey originally wrote up his suggestions two years ago in second grade, but didn't send it to legislators until this year.

Rep. Jan Kessinger showed an interest in Casey's idea and helped bring it to the attention of the legislature.

The House initially passed the bill March 13. Legislators then amended

to un-veto it anyway."

He's not wrong — 95 percent of the Senate and 91 percent of the House voted for the final version of the bill.

"It was pretty neat to see him there doing his thing," Crystal Friend said of watching her son speak to the Senate committee in Topeka.

Diana Seamon, Casey's first- and second-grade teacher at Trailwood, had her second-grade class watch the livestream as Casey presented his case to legislators.

"The kids were chanting, 'Casey, Casey,' and crossing their fingers and waiting," she said. "... It did motivate them to think kids can actually make a change."

rocks in some found out that Kansas didn't have one," Casey said.

Casey, a fourth-grader at Trailwood Elementary School in Overland Park, presented his case to make limestone the state rock, galena the state mineral and jelinite amber the state gemstone March 6 to the Kansas House's

Gov. Jeff Colyer signed the legislation, which breezed through the Kansas House and Senate, approving Casey's suggestions on April 4. He invited Casey and his parents, Tim and Crystal Friend, to a ceremonial signing April 12 at the Kansas State Capitol.

The experience of talking

the legislature.

The House initially passed the bill March 13. Legislators then amended the bill to specify the state rock as greenhorn limestone and to add a provision to make the channel catfish the state fish. That version passed the Senate on March 20 and also passed easily in the House, which sent HB2650 to Gov. Colyer's desk March 26.

The whole process has been a big civics lesson for Casey. Last week, he was anxiously awaiting the governor's signature, but if for some reason Colyer had decided to veto it, Casey said, "I have enough votes

did motivate them to think kids can actually make a change."

When Casey came back to school later that day, he returned to "lots of cheering and high-fives," he said.

Getting the bill passed isn't the end of Casey's rock and mineral fascination. Last spring, he displayed part of his rock collection at the Johnson County Library's Corinth branch. He's already read through all the rock and mineral books at Trailwood's library and started on the collection at the Johnson County Library.



Photo provided

Casey displayed part of his rock collection last spring at Corinth Library.

“

IT WAS PRETTY NEAT TO SEE HIM THERE DOING HIS THING.

Crystal Friend, on her son Casey's address to the Senate committee

Rep. legis

ect ne

yway.”
ng — 95
Senate and
the House
al version

neat to
ing his
riend said
son speak
nmittee

, Casey’s
-grade
ood, had
class
am as
his case

chant-
, and
ers and
“... It



Photo provided

Casey Friend presented his case for limestone, galena and jelinite amber to Kansas legislators as his parents watched.

can actually make a
ge.”
hen Casey came back
hool later that day, he
ned to “lots of cheer-
nd high-fives,” he

tting the bill passed
the end of Casey’s
and mineral fascina-
Last spring, he dis-
d part of his rock
tion at the Johnson
ty Library’s Corinth
h. He’s already read
gh all the rock and
al books at Trail-
s library and started
collection at the
on County Library.

SEE HIM

address to the

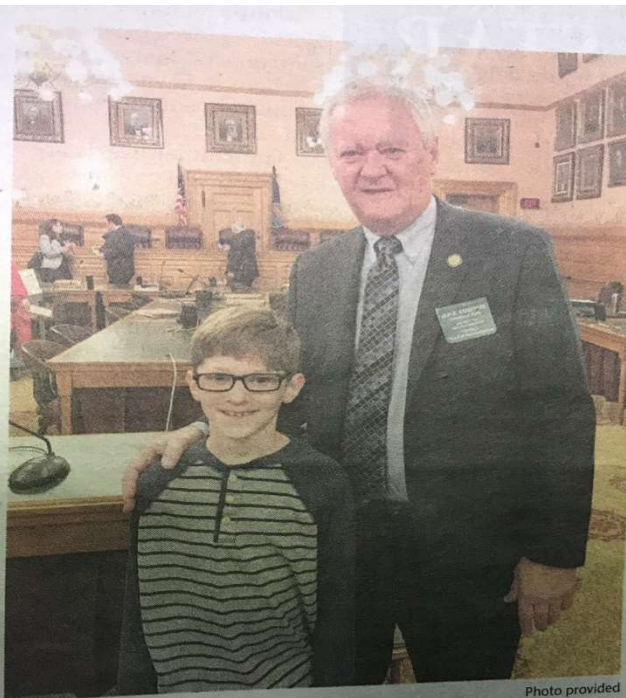


Photo provided

Rep. Jan Kessinger helped Casey bring his proposal to the legislature.

Note: The Membership List is separate.

The End

(Verdana font)