



ROCK SOLID

FEBRUARY 2022 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.org

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 2021 – 2022:

President: Norman Onnen (816)645-1333

Vice President: Vacant

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: Vacant

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: Larry Wells

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE:

OGMS Meeting - February

Our speaker/program for the Feb. 3 club meeting will be Johan Knoff (an Associate/student of Prof. Dave Burnham in the KU Paleo Lab). Johan has been involved in the T rex digs in Montana and the preparation work back in Lawrence. His presentation will be an overview of the T rex discovery, the 2021 summer results at that site, and new information concerning KU's involvement in a North Dakota K/T boundary site.

Side bar/Show-n-Tell. Subsequent to our Jan. meeting (where members brought in finds from the Bonner Springs sand bars), for the Feb. meeting we'll see additional Bonner Springs information, a recent Chaetetid find (from east of Butler, MO), a potential meteorite found west of Baldwin City, KS, amber, and a yellow sapphire/zoisite flower arrangement piece obtained in the 1970's from the Tri State (North Carolina) Gem and Mineral Club.

Association Notes

The March 11-13, 2022 Kansas City Gem and Mineral Show will feature several special exhibits.

- Gary Staab. Staab Studios, Kearney, MO. Mr. Staab, an acclaimed paleo sculpture, will be demonstrating and explaining his modeling expertise as well as castings of some of his extinct animal models. He has produced subjects for the Smithsonian Institute, numerous museums, Disney, etc.
- Victoria Stone. Specimens of the much sought, man-developed, Victoria Stone will be on display courtesy of Bill Smith of Handtner, KS. This complex chatoyant material was developed in a Japanese lab by a scientist in the 1980's. This individual passed away and the formula is lost, and has never been duplicated, even though many continue to attempt to replicate the process.
- Kansas Moss Opal. Also displayed by Bill Smith, are cabs of Kansas Moss Opal. This rather rare material was collected two years ago by Mr. Smith when a county road grader, by chance, passed by while he was on one of his field trips. Collecting the newly exposed opal, he cabbled the material over the winter and entered the display at the joint American and Rocky Mountain Federation Congress meeting in Big Piney, WY, where he garnered a first place award.
- Mozarkite. The OGMS has collected mozarkite for several years from the Harms property near Cole Camp, MO. Bob Harms (our host) exhibits his well-crafted select pieces from that site.
- Oregon Thundereggs. From a private Oregon location, OGMS member Ed Hartl exhibits very large thundereggs/geodes he collected a year ago.

- Flint Knapping. Always a popular working exhibit, this year sharing the space will be OGMS member Bear Carpenter who has gained renown for his elaborate knives.
- Gerald Dumond; Santa Fe, NM Stone Furniture and Water Fountains.

Gem Show Coupons. Here is a link to the Association Website for any who may need additional coupons to print. [KC Gem Show Coupon](#)

Swap tables. The Association has decided to suspend the traditional Swap tables concept for the 2022 show. Instead, for this show, club(s) participants wishing to display and sell their wares may rent a table (\$25/day or \$60/three days), and sell for cash (instead of swap coupons that had to be redeemed). This eliminates the requirement to trade for swap coupons that then had to be redeemed at the end of the show with the vendors. (Those wishing to participate need to sign up with me ASAP for reservations as space will be limited and shared with the other Association clubs).

Annual Picnic

OGMS June Picnic — Sat., June 4, 2022 at Kill Creek Park, Olathe, KS; Shelter #3. Thanks to Dan McDaniel (picnic master) for arranging this once more.

OGMS Directory

Remember the club directory? Good News! The OGMS members directory will be resurrected thanks to Ann Thompson and Jeannie Feimster who have volunteered to bring it to life once more. As such the existing contents will be updated and new members will be added representing our current club listing. Recognizing the cost, individual notebooks will no longer be distributed to each member, and instead the information has been placed in the members only portion of the club website. Individuals are asked to treat the material as proprietary and not share it outside of the membership. Dan McDaniel, the club webmaster, will provide each member with the access code to that section of our website. Thanks Ann and Jeannie for bringing us up to date.

FIELD TRIPS:

Field trip lists so far for this year of 2022 depending on weather and permission.

Barite in Bavaria, KS

HAMM in Louisburg, KS

HAMM in Olathe, KS

Kansas Opal Dendrites in Western Kansas

Haunted Ridge Rocks Cadet, MO

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

WEB SITE CHANGE:

We have added a new function to our website to allow anyone wanting to know more about our club to send a request to us for more information via a "Contact Us" page. We have also added an email address membership@olathegemclub.org as an additional vehicle to allow others to know about us.

Dan McDaniel

NEWS, VIEWS AND REVIEWS

The Life Search (and Debate) Continues

Has there been life other than on Earth?

NASA-led scientists studying a 4-pound, 4-billion-year-old meteorite from Mars, in 1996 indicated that organic compounds in the rock appeared to have been left by living creatures. The meteorite was found in Antarctica in 1984. Now, a team led by Andrew Steele of Carnegie Institute for Science, in continuing studies, indicate the carbon-rich compounds are actually a result of salty, or briny, water that flowed over the rock millions of years ago. Theory is that during Mars early wet life, this rock was subject to at least two impacts nearby, heating the planet's surface before a third impact bounced it into space. Two scientists of the 1996 study dispute the recent report calling it unsupported speculation and indicate they stand by the original findings. Meanwhile Steele states that advances in technology has made the new findings possible, and that they were not a study attempting to disprove the original premise. (KC Star; 1/16/22).

Same general topic/interesting view. One of the great naturalist authors and anthropologists of our time (Loren Eiseley) shortly before 1977, in the volume "The Star Thrower" wrote the piece entitled "The Fifth Planet" which describes the search for sedimentary meteorite material - which would provide proof of past life from other than our planet. The prime subject of the piece believed that a fifth (and now missing) planet once existed, and which if true would have relegated Jupiter as being the sixth planet in sequence. As such, it could have exploded and potentially spread sedimentary fragments on earth. An argument stressing the unlikely event of a sedimentary fragment, even if existing, being found is described as such.... ".... that meteorites of sedimentary rock have never been found. I learned that the surface layers of a planet form such a small proportion of its actual bulk, that dispersed in outer space, the number of such fragments coming in, if they came in at all, would be infinitesimal. The fossil-bearing rocks of a planet would be in about the same proportion as dirt on the surface of a suddenly exploded golf ball to the surface of the ball itself." (The Star Thrower book, The Fifth Planet theme, Loren Eiseley, 1977).

Still, until proven otherwise, the debate will continue with hope on both fronts.

(Post Script — and highly recommended reading.) "The Star Thrower" and "The Lost Notebooks of Loren Eiseley". as well as any of the other 12 +/- works by Mr. Eiseley if they can be found.

Mr. Eiseley was born near Lincoln, NE in 1907 into a highly dysfunctional immediate family. This atmosphere in itself molded him into self-motivated nature loving and wandering child who could read before entering school, and he wrote his first acknowledged piece when only six years old. The depression and ill health (which had him sent to the SW) for recovery were a part of his path. Riding the rails as a hobo, and later revealing his fortunate fork in the road that could have easily resulted in a life of crime, he focused on education, field paleontology, anthropology, etc. all the while writing. His advanced education started at the U. of NE and culminated with a doctorate at the U. of PA. He taught at KU (was married to a Lawrence girl), was hired to Oberlin College and finished his career at the U. of PA.)

Norm Onnen

And, Ancient Life on Earth

In 2018, a fossil discovered in England was recognized as setting the record for being the largest land-based invertebrate ever found. It is a species of Arthropleura, (a relative of today's millipedes) of the Carboniferous Period (about 326 million years ago), and would have been 8 feet long and weighed 110 pounds. Quite a spineless beast - but conjecture was that they disappeared, probably out competed by reptiles developing during the same time period. (KC Star; 1/28/22).

Etc., etc., etc...

When she found out she wasn't the only pebble on the beach, she got a little boulder.

Rock and Minerals; July 1968

Boycott clothing that doesn't have pockets. Every pocketless garment is an insult to a cool rock you haven't met yet.

The CryptoNaturalist (@CryptoNature)

I am not nearly so interested in what monkey man was derived from as I am in what kind of monkey he is to become.

Loren Eiseley; Oct. 12, 1957.

Norm Onnen

Important Historic dates:

Jan. 24 — 100th anniversary of Great Basin National Park

Feb. 2 — Ground Hog Day

Feb. 26 — 105th Anniversary of Denali National Park & Preserve

Mar. 1 — 150th Anniversary of Yellowstone National Park (The oldest National Park)

Mar. 3 — 145th Anniversary of Liberty National Monument

Norm Onnen

UPCOMING EVENTS

Upcoming Shows

While some 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.

Feb. through May - Topeka Dino Days - See [TopekaDinoDays](#) for exact dates and venues for three features.

Feb 2022 - Tucson Gem and Mineral Show, Early Feb - Feb. 13, 2022. Theme will be fluorescents.

Feb 3, 2022 – OGMS Club Meeting – 6:45 to 8:45

Feb 8, 2022 – OGMS Board Meeting – 7:00 to 8:00

Mar 3, 2022 – OGMS Club Meeting – 6:45 to 8:45

Mar 9 - 10 2022 - Assoc./OGMS Work/set up days; KC Gem and Mineral show; Wed., March 9 and Thursday, Mar. 10.

Mar 11 - 13, 2022 – 60th Anniversary KC Gem and mineral Show; KC Expo Center

Mar 15, 2022 – OGMS Board Meeting – 7:00 to 8:00

Apr 7, 2022 – OGMS Club Meeting – 6:45 to 8:45

Apr 22 - 24, 2022 – Wichita Gem and Mineral Show

May 5, 2022 – OGMS Club Meeting – 6:45 to 8:45

May 6 - 8, 2022 – McPherson Gem and Mineral Show