



ROCK SOLID

May 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 - May

As our final regular club meeting prior to summer recess (and family countrywide rock collecting), our May 5, 2022 meeting is scheduled to feature gold panning (in our normal meeting space). Concentrate has been obtained in an attempt to maximize finds by all participants - and to provide a warm up to families heading into the great outdoors this summer in search of the new gold source. Reminding all that we meet at Hope Chapel, 12480 Black Bob Road, Olathe, KS from 6:45 PM - 8:45 PM. We must exit the building by 9 PM when the alarm system is activated.

REMEMBER - There will be no club meeting the first Thursday evening of June, July or August (summer recess), but we will have our annual picnic Saturday, June 4th 3:30pm at Kill Creek Park Shelter #3. There will be field trips, Bulletins, email communications, etc. over the summer. Please watch for emails and the Bulletin notices. Normal club meetings will resume in September.

Apologies

We offer our sincere apologies to Dr. Rolfe Mandel, Director of the Kansas Geological Survey, and our OGMS members, for the problems experienced attempting to accomplish our meeting program on April 7, 2022. Equipment problems resulted in us not being able to engage the PowerPoint program, and thus the presentation was canceled. We appreciate the understanding of Dr. Mandel and the club members who had assembled for the much-anticipated presentation. Dr. Mandel has graciously volunteered to return this fall and present his "Searching for Evidence of the First People in the Americas: Geo-archaeological Perspective" presentation. To that end, the OGMS Board has reviewed our aged equipment status and has undertaken steps to upgrade items such that future short comings are eliminated.

Time Sensitive —Spinosaurus is coming - Again

Following cancellation during the virus concerns, "Spinosaurus - Lost Giant of the Cretaceous" has been re-scheduled for Tuesday, May 3, 2022 at the Kauffman Center. Tickets remain available.



Welcome New Members

We are pleased to welcome new members to our club. The following individuals joined at our April 7 meeting.

Logan Bonney and son Samuel Bonney of Olathe (Samuel is listed as 7 years old, however he will be 8 years old by our May meeting).

Sherri McLaughlin of Olathe.

Joe and Janice Russell of Spring Hill, KS.

OGMS Library Addition

Through the most gracious contribution of the Frank Miller family (of the now closed "Mineral Source" shop in Lawrence, Kansas), our club library has grown with the addition of an almost complete set of "The Mineralogical Record" magazine issues (from inception in 1970 through 2002). This time frame (1970 -2002) would have consisted of 194 issues (four issues in the 1970 first year of publication, and six issues per year since then), and the contributed collection, as is, totals 173 issues — leaving only 21 issues missing. Also included in the set was an index (published by the Friends of Mineralogy) listing the contents of all issues between 1970 and 1983. (Since the mid-2000's The Mineralogical Record has been printed by Allen Press in Lawrence, KS).

About Frank Miller, etc.

Mr. Miller, along with owning a gem and mineral shop, was an adventurer and multi-interested in most things. Not only did he maintain a collection of The Mineralogical Record magazines, he also contributed correspondence to the publication and was cited in 1987 corresponding to William Henderson (namesake of "willhendersonite" and author of the "Microminerals" feature of the magazine). In this instance Mr. Miller apparently provided Mr. Henderson with "exceptionally nice and limpidly clear calcites" from a "roadcut on Highway 10, East Johnson County, Kansas". (There is no indication where in East Johnson County this was, but apparently would have been in Lenexa or Overland Park - prior to much of the development of the late 1980's).

He, once the President of the now defunct Lawrence Gem and Mineral Club, was also an avid international traveler often going to Africa (buying trips for tanzanite and gold nuggets) and was always wanting to go to Antarctica (however this continent escaped his visits, but not his association with those who were able to go there). Enter husband and wife team of Doctors Edward Jacob Zeller and Gisela Dreschoff who collectively spent over three years in Antarctica, Arctic and Greenland doing considerable research (associated with KU) in solar research and understanding cosmic radiation impinging on the Earth. Living in Lawrence and having positions at KU, they were friends (and assumed were gem and mineral club members) of Mr. Miller. The Zeller/Dreschoff team invented/perfected a "process of identification markings for gemstones" for which they received a patent in 1997. The abstract for the patent states "A method of providing permanent identification markings to gemstones such as diamond crystals by irradiating the gemstones with protons in the desired pattern. The proton bombardment results in a reaction converting the bombarded area into a different crystal lattice than of the pre-irradiated stone." The stated object of the patent stressed "a permanent method of internally marking

gemstones for positive identification, the method undetectable to the naked eye, to provide a unique crystal lattice identification, is stable, and permanent.” For some unexplained purpose they gave/assigned this patent to Mr. Miller as a friend.

The Zellers/Dreschoffs spent over 30 years in the Arctic, Greenland and Antarctic research. — to the extent that there has been named the Zeller Glacier, (flowing into the Byrd Glacier) and the Dreschoff (mountain) peak in Victoria Land, Antarctica. [As a side note: Ms. Dreschoff provided a specimen of basalt for which research was accomplished resulting in Terrestrial Arthropods, Marie Byrd Land, Antarctica”. I have been given the companion control specimen by the Millers].

Association News

The Association had its monthly Board meeting on Thursday, April 14 at which time figures for the March 11-13, 2022 KC gem and mineral show were shared. In spite of bad weather on Friday and Saturday (March 11 and 12), the show did quite well in terms of attendance (hosting 13,737 which included paid admissions, comp passes, home school students, etc.). The financial report was also impressive with substantial gains over previous years in all categories (admissions, SWAP tables, Association booth, auction, and retail dealers). Our best year/show yet!!!!

During show (at the live auction event) there were 10 scholarships awarded to KU and KSU students who applied for awards. This included one scholarship graciously provided by OGMS past and present members Ann and Mandy Lorenz, (Tom Lorenz’s wife and daughter respectively) in his honor. Total grants were \$6,000 this year. The applicants this year were all from KU and KSU, however all area schools are invited and eligible to submit in the geology and earth science fields at the upper levels of study and interest. There was discussion to attempt to broaden interest and submissions to other area schools in the future. (UMKC and Emporia were specifically mentioned, however all area schools are eligible).

Of interest to the seven clubs participating in the show, there were a total of 77 cases displayed, of which OGMS placed 16. This total number (77) was down from previous years (80 in 2019 and 105 in 2020), and OGMS has placed over 20 cases in the past. Clubs were awarded a cash disbursement for each case displayed, as has been the situation in the past.

At the April meeting, officers for this next operating year were to be elected. The nominating committee recommended the present officers continue for another year. All were in agreement, and the new Board was elected by acclamation. Officers are Bruce Stinemetz, President; Norman Onnen, VP; Molly Stinemetz, Treasurer and Leslie Hartman, Secretary.

FIELD TRIPS:

As again, HAMM quarry is inviting us to either LaCygne or Olathe, depending on operations, for Saturday May 21, 2022, at 10am. Default will be to Louisburg. If you would like to go let me know by Wednesday May 18th.

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

RMFMS Newsletter

If you missed the email, the RMFMS Newsletter for **April** is available at the following link for your perusal. <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1bjUgKDg06hwRqNXfocz0miOFroHFt6t8/view?usp=sharing>

Artifacts and Mimetoliths?????

In an essay attempting to justify and/or encourage imagination, an author in the 1980's describing rocks, minerals and fossil adjectives, cites examples (with their bases given in parentheses) such as augen (eye), botryoidal (grapes), conchoidal (conch shell), dendritic (branching tree-like), fibrous (fiber), foliated (leaf), mammillary (breast), metallic (metal), resinous (resin), rose (flower), unctous (ointment), archimedes screw (a bryozoan), sea lilies (crinoids), and brain, chain, honeycomb and horn (corals). Additionally, such natural formations such as "Molar Rock" (in Canyonlands National Park, Utah); famous tourmaline specimens referred to as the "Candelabra", "Foguete" (the "Rocket"), and the "Steamboat"; "Hindenburg with earmuffs" (Bryce Canyon); and chrysanthemum rock are often referred to.

What has now become acceptable to describe man made items (artifacts - those that were manufactured intentionally) as opposed to natural items, almost became different. In 1989, R. V. Dietrich (Dept. of Geology at Central Michigan University) in an article describing natural items that to an inquisitive mind reminded one of something else, urged fellow geologist Thomas Ozro MacAdoo (with subsequent support from well-known Auburn geologist Dr. Robert Cook) to suggest a word for those particular rocks, minerals and fossils. The word selected at that time (and published in the 1989 March/April issue of Rocks & Minerals magazine) was "**Mimetolith**" — developed from the Greek "mimetes" (an imitator) plus lithos (stone). Apparently, the suggestion never gained popular adoption and somehow, sometime, the word "geofact" gained recognition and use — a seemingly wise choice in hindsight.

Norm Onnen

Bismuth

At the gem and mineral shows a popular purchase continues to be bismuth (often misspelled as bizmuth). The surprising realization is that most do not know that these colorful items are manmade, however when revealed as such it seems to only generate more interest and enthusiasm to obtain a

specimen. Most of the manmade specimens are identified as coming from Germany, however there are individuals in Kansas City who "grow" these, albeit on a smaller scale and size than the imports.

That being said, it becomes apparent in conversations that even many individuals involved in the rocks and gems hobby do not know, or recognize/realize, that there is a natural bismuth. Correctly identified, "Bismuth is a chemical element with the symbol **Bi** and atomic number 83. It is post-transition metal, radioactive, and one of the pnictogens with chemical properties resembling its lighter group 15 siblings' arsenic and antimony." The natural element is fairly rare in the US being found in Connecticut, and in Summit and Boulder Counties of Colorado.

Norm Onnen

UPCOMING EVENTS

Upcoming Shows

If you have interest in any of the shows listed here, please check the status of shows and promoter notices.

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

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

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

May 6 - 8, 2022 – Central Missouri Rock & Mineral Show
Columbia, MO

May 14 - 15, 2022 - Rocks Rule St Louis -Pacific, MO [RocksRuleStl](#)

June 4, 2022 – OGMS Summer Picnic

July 16-17, 2021 – TRMS Annual Gem Mineral and Jewelry Show Tulsa Country Fairgrounds-
Exchange Center 4145 E. 21st St.

Tulsa, OK tulsarockandmineralsociety.org/shows

June 24 - 26, 2022 - Kansas City, MO; Shows of Integrity Gem, Mineral, Jewelry & Bead Show;
KCI Expo Hall

June 24 -26, 2022 – Osage (Eldon, MO) rock and Mineral Show.

July 30, 2022 – Sioux (Canton, SD) 5th Annual Rock, Gem, Mineral, Jewelry & Fossil Show

Oct. 15 - 16, 2022 – Des Moines 2022 Gem, Jewelry, Mineral & Fossil Show; Iowa State Fairgrounds

Oct. 21 - 23, 2022 – National Fossil Exposition XLIII; Springfield, IL; Orr Building; IL State Fairgrounds

Oct. 29 - 30, 2022 – 2022 OK Mineral and Gem Society Show

Nov. 4 - 6, 2022 – KC G&M Show; KCI Expo Hall

Nov. 12 - 13, 2022 – Omaha G&M Show; UNO Scott Conference Center

Mar. 10 - 12, 2023; – KC G&M Show; KCI Expo Hall