



ROCK SOLID

APRIL 2024 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 November 16th 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 2023 – 2024:

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: Norm Onnen

Librarian and Historian: Norman Onnen (816)645-1333

Gem Show Chairman: Norman Onnen

Raffle: Leslie Hartman

Association Delegates: Chet McLaughlin & Mandy Lorenz

Alternate Assoc. Delegates: Larry Wells

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE:

Taking a deep breath (following the G&M Show) and looking forward to quieter times (vacations, filed trips, etc.). It almost seems there is very little to do hobby wise waiting for summer. But then we remember all of the things we promised ourselves to do over the winter i.e. sorting and labeling specimens, cabbing and slabbing items needing further attention, sifting concentrate for those sapphires, ridding our collections of "leaverite", etc. Are all rock hounds procrastinators? That depends upon who is asking or answering the question.

With that, we'll postpone that winter gotta-do list, and proceed with making new and more urgent plans which presently seem more appealing. and achievable. One of which is to excel in gold panning at our next (April 4) meeting. Concentrate has been stockpiled, gold pans are cleaned, flake (nugget) bottles are available, and we look forward to the gleam at the bottom of the pan.

For first timers, Larry Wells had an email message sent to our members which included an instruction link for gold panning and we look forward to proving adequate to the instruction. Welcome back from the winter doldrums!

The March 8-10, 2024 Gem and Mineral Show

By all appearances the recent G&M show was a significant success. The Association will have their next meeting on Thursday, April 11 at which time the results will be available to the individual clubs. Once again, the OGMS did their part in making the event a positive experience for the attendees and club members. Our club participated in all elements of the show from set ups on Wednesday and Thursday, to assisting in each of the three-day activities, and placing of individual displays - - of which our club had 20 cases (about what we normally have). Thank you to all that participated.

Geoscience Academy and OGMS

This past week the 73rd Greater Kansas City Science & Engineering Fair was held at Union Station in Kansas City. As it has become typical, the Geoscience Academy (of the Olathe Public Schools) played a major role in this event and were highly successful in placing 29 projects (out of 96 projects representing 63 schools entered at the Senior level) in the competition - - and most of these won upper-level awards. It is noted that the Geoscience Academy, (lead primarily by Marsha Skoczek), while listed in the fair directory as Olathe North High School, is in fact the combination of all of the Olathe High Schools participating in the Academy.

OGMS has been a supporter of the Academy, having donated to their program (as has the Association of Earth Science Clubs of Greater Kansas City), and we have been fortunate to have had graduates and current students of the Academy present programs to our club. To that end, at our May 2, 2024 club meeting, Quinton Mindrup (an OGMS member and former Olathe HS/Academy graduate) will be presenting on a topic related to copper. Quinton, a K-State student, spoke to our group once before about his work in the Baja Peninsula of Mexico and is the first recipient of the Tom Lorenz academic scholarship two years ago. (Tom was a long-time member of OGMS).

Conferences, Congress, Picnics, etc.

OGMS Annual summer picnic, Sat., June 1, 2024 Kill Creek Park, Olathe, KS. 3:30pm. Watch for sign-up email with additional information on silent auction, activities, etc.

Aug. or Sept. (TBD) Association of Earth Science Clubs of Greater Kansas City picnic. Note: While the 2023 picnic was cancelled due to heat/weather, it is anticipated this picnic will once more occur. Watch for details.

Rocky Mountain Federation of Mineralogical Societies Annual Congress - - in conjunction with the Oklahoma M&G Society annual show in Oklahoma City. A highlight of the annual Congress is the field trips (usually three) attendees try to participate in. This year scheduled are the following trips to collect barite roses, Alibates flint artifact, Boley agates, etc. These conference organized field trips are open to all (you don't need to be a Congress delegate to attend, and to that it is an advantage as the delegates are normally tied up in meetings when a couple of the field trips occur).

Want Ads (Help wanted)

Needed - - Volunteer(s) to submit articles, information, etc. for inclusion in our monthly Rock Solid Bulletins. Our membership is large, and hidden within are many experiences, information, etc. that would be of interest to our members. In addition, if we get significantly interesting articles, etc., we can submit them to the Rocky Mountain Federation to be judged at the annual conference/Congress (some of which might also be then forwarded upward to be judged at the American Federation annual conference.

Needed - - Ideas to re-purpose black onyx. Our club has been donated items, some of which are numerous pieces of black onyx jewelry (mostly earrings). As large black onyx items seem to be currently not a fashion item, what can we do with these pieces to benefit the club (sales, new jewelry, etc.)

Needed - - Club members who read. Our club library is in a stagnate mode with presently only 11 items on loan. You are urged to visit the listing of club library holdings on our home page and with vacations coming soon, consider borrowing - - and reading, copying, etc. information about filed locations, rock and minerals, etc. for places you intend to visit this summer.

Membership Dues/April Meeting Vote

The Olathe Gem and Mineral Society operating year is from May to May, and as such, membership dues will be collected once more in the next couple of months. (Reminder that new members who have joined since the first of 2024 are covered until May of 2025).

Related to membership dues, the OGMS Board in a recent meeting, decided to review the dues structure for the club - - this based upon the clear recognition of elevating costs for such as meeting room rental, refreshments, web site fees, T shirts, postage, Rocky Mountain Federation insurance coverage, Diamond Dan subscription, etc. While the financial status of the club is positive, elevating

costs play a role and to that end the Board has determined to propose raising the adult dues from \$10 per year to \$15 per year (dues for children are to remain at \$5 per year). In accordance with club Bylaws this dues change must be presented to members at a club meeting for discussion and voting. With this, it is intended to present this action to the membership at our April 4, 2024 club meeting, and if approved, the change would be effective with our May 2024 dues collections. Thank you for your consideration of this matter. - *OGMS Board*.

New Members (Since Feb 2024)

Cayce Grote	Leawood, KS	Youth member. Interested in Jewelry making, crystals, minerals and fossils
Maklin Grote	Leawood, KS	Interested in Jewelry making, crystals, minerals and fossils.
Denice Jennens	Lee's Summit, MO	Interested in learning about gems & minerals
Ronney Williams	Lawson, MO	Interested in jewelry making and spoons

Misc.

In a recent inventory of a specimen collection, there was found a packet labeled "African Turquoise". Using Google, it was found that this material, marketed in the 1970's, was actually not treated turquoise but was ground and dyed jasper, a type of chalcedony similar to agate. Buyer beware. In the same collection numerous cabs and carvings of "jade" were found. Some were clearly labeled Burmese Jadeite while others were labeled only jade, "New" jade and/or Korean jade. Those identified as Burmese jadeite it was felt should be considered as being truly jadeite, while the others should be considered nephrite, unless tested and otherwise confirmed as jadeite.

Bob Harms (we have collected Mozarkite from his property near Lincoln, MO) recently sent information that he has purchased a small concrete mixer from Harbor Freight and is using the devise for the early stages of tumbling Mozarkite and is pleased with the results - - with the understanding that a final finish/polish will require more traditional equipment. In the concrete mixer he is able to tumble larger loads faster than had been previously possible. Mr. Harms exhibited his skill in working Mozarkite as a special exhibit at the 2022 KC Gem and Mineral show.



FIELD TRIPS:

No field trips are scheduled at this time, but depending on the weather, a determination may be made to schedule one. If so, an email will be sent out to all members.

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

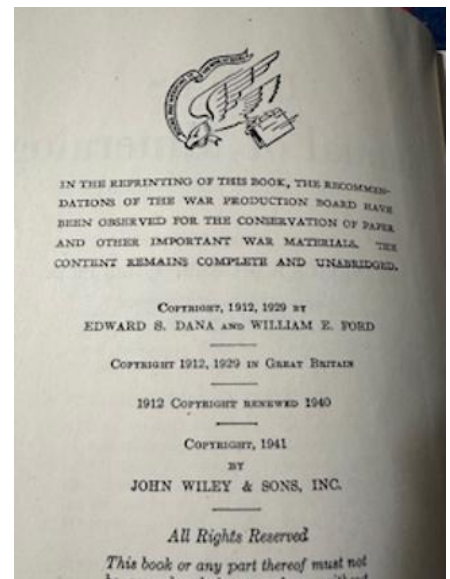
Book Rescue

You've no doubt heard of shelter rescue pets. How about rescue books from Half Priced Bookstore? An OGMS member recently found (and rescued for only \$2) Dana's Manual of Mineralogy, a 1944 publication which was in fact the 15th revision of the James Dwight Dana manuals begun in 1857. This particular book, obviously well used with numerous underlines and penciled margin notes throughout the volume, was of particular interest in that it was published near the end of WWII, and represented war effort restrictions (confirmed via the



statement from the frontispiece page in which the "conservation of paper and other important war materials" was of concern - - and the ribbon carried by the eagle on which the message "Books are weapons in the war of ideas" is apparent).

While this is a text primarily concerning minerals, there were some brief explanations to the formation of land masses, rock formations, etc. - - but no mention or suggestion of plate tectonics or continental drift, etc. These ideas developed in the first portion of the 20th century; however, the concept was not to be accepted and validated until the mid-t-late 1960s.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Upcoming Events and Shows

If you have interest in any of the shows listed here, please check the status of the shows and promoter notices. (For a more complete regional and national listing through Dec. 2024, visit ROCKNGEM.COM)

Apr 4 – OGMS monthly club meeting: 6:45 - 8:45 PM Gold Panning

Apr 6,7 – Lincoln Gem and Mineral Show <https://www.lincolngemmineralclub.org/happenings/annual-show>

Apr 13,14 – Northwest Arkansas Gem & Mineral Society Annual Show in Siloam Springs, AR.
<https://www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=832310735576400&set=a.481003897373754>

Apr 26-28 – Wichita Gem and Mineral Show, Cessna Activity Center
<https://wichitagemandmineralsociety.org/show/>

May 2 – OGMS monthly club meeting: 6:45 - 8:45 PM Quinton Mindrup Presentation on Copper

May 3 5 – McPherson Gem & Mineral Club 30th Annual Sale; 4_H Fairgrounds; 710 W. Woodside, McPherson, KS 67460. Free admission. Auction evening of May 4. Larryrocks538@gmail.com

May 10 – 12, 2024 – Central Missouri Rock and Lapidary Club Show in Columbia MO.
<https://cmrlc.org/rock-%26-mineral-show>

May 18,19 – Olathe Gem and Mineral Society “Giant” rock and jewelry sale. 10am-4pm each day. 6912 Reeder St., Shawnee, KS (Barbara Crompton’s home). MORE INFO TO COME.

May 19 – Topeka Treasure Hunters Open National Hunt; Hoyt, KS City Park (402 890 3307 or 402 429 3323). Hunt fees apply.

Jun 1 –OGMS Annual Picnic 3:30pm, Shelter #3, Kill Creek Park, Olathe, KS

Jun 22,23 – Lincoln (NE) Gem and Mineral Club Summer Gem Festival, Beer Family Farm, 18701 Ashland Road, Ashland, NE. russellbroxterman@yahoo.com 785-256-2925, Admission Fee \$3 adults.

Jun 28 – 30 – Osage Gem Jewelry, Rock, Mineral, & Fossil Show, Eldon MO, Community Center, Eldon, MO ormc2024show@gmail.com Free Admission, Calcite theme.

Jul 27,28 – Western Dakota Gem & Mineral Society 41st Annual Show; Central States Fairgrounds, Rapid City, SD WestDakota.Rocks@gmail.com

Oct 5,6 – Omaha Gem & Mineral Show, Liberty First Credit Union Arena, Ralston, NE Admission \$6 adult, seniors & 12-18 \$4, under 12 free. <http://nerockgem.org/>

Oct 25 – 27 – Oklahoma Mineral & Gem Society 2024 Annual Show; OKC Fairgrounds, Admission fee \$8/day adults <http://orgs-minerals.org/> NOTE: This event combines the Rocky Mountain Federation of Mineralogical Societies Convention this year