



ROCK SOLID

OLATHE GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY

MAY 2026 · 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.

WHEN

First Thursday monthly
(except Jun, Jul, Aug, Dec)
6:00 – 8:45 PM

WHERE

Hope Chapel, Room 018
12480 Black Bob Road
Olathe, Kansas

DUES

\$15 / year (adults)
\$5 / year (minors)
Free under age 12

ONLINE

olathegemclub.org

MEETINGS

The meetings are the first Thursday of each month except June, July, August and December. The Club's annual holiday party is in mid-November 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. 6:00 to 7:00 is not structured, as members fellowship and have a raffle. The meeting starts at 7 PM with announcements, introductions of new members, followed by the guest speaker.

Information is available at our website: olathegemclub.org

OFFICERS & CHAIRPERSONS · 2025 – 2026

President	Norman Onnen	(816) 645-1333
Vice President	Vacant	
Secretary	Alison Betts	(913) 962-9584
Treasurer	Barbara Crompton	(913) 492-6783
Website & Editor	Dan McDaniel	(913) 963-5357
Membership Chair	Leslie Hartman	(785) 380-6016
Field Trip Coordinator	Leslie Hartman	(785) 380-6016
Field Trip Assistant	Larry Wells	(913) 787-5138
Programs	Norman Onnen	
Librarian & Historian	Norman Onnen	(816) 645-1333
Gem Show Chairman	Norman Onnen	
Raffle	Leslie Hartman	
Association Delegates	Chet McLaughlin & Mandy Lorenz	
Alternate Assoc. Delegate	Larry Wells	

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

New computer/new challenges (and to that, a tribute to my newest hero, Jack Halpern (1920-2025) recognized as one of the "world's finest mineral collectors and the last true gentleman", who at 105, passed away on Nov. 4th 2025 with recognition that he never owned a computer or a cell phone.)

Only a few notes this month (while I try to master the new computer).

The May 7th club meeting will be a dual session composed of 1) a program by OGMS member Scott Crompton regarding anything and everything involved in tumbling (equipment, abrasive grits, polishing compounds, etc.), and 2) an invitation for members to bring in their mystery stones, fossils, specimens, etc. to be identified.

A reminder that we do not have scheduled club meetings during June, July or August, but do have the summer picnics (OGMS picnic June 27 at Kill Creek Park and the Association picnic August (date TBD)) as well as field trips, etc. Watch for email announcements and Rock Solid Bulletin notices.

May is upon us. As our functioning year is May-to-May, it's dues renewal time. Those who renew during May will be eligible for a drawing (the winner to be notified at the June picnic). Our club Treasurer, Barbara Crompton will be prepared to accept dues during the May club meeting.

Our host (Hope Chapel) has asked for all to respect the handicapped parking spaces as they have multiple evening functions being scheduled through the remainder of the year.

Also, there has been a request to remind attendees to respect our program speaker and members by taking side conversations to the hallway during presentations. Thank you for that consideration. (We have looked into various audio systems in the past but have not settled on a system, and in some cases our presenters have not been comfortable using a mic).

New Members

Uriah Binegar - Lawrence, KS - Interested in "all"

Liz Chase - Olathe, KS - Interested in "all"

Matthew Chase - Olathe, KS - Interested in "all"

Stephen Chase - Olathe, KS - 12-year old son of Liz and Matthew

Jean Finch - Olathe, KS - Renewal

Amber Peterson - Gardner, KS - Interested in "all" & mining

Randy Hole - (Paperwork received since last Board meeting)

ANY GUESSES?



PRELIMINARY OGMS PICNIC INFORMATION

The OGMS Picnic is scheduled for June 27th. This year's picnic will start in the morning. The current agenda is as follows (subject to change):

9:30 AM	Setup begins
10:30 AM	Silent Auction begins
12:00 Noon	Lunch
1:30 PM	Pack up and depart

More information will be forthcoming.

FIELD TRIPS

Copper Valley Mine

On May 16th we will have a field trip to the Copper Valley Mine. Registration deadline was April 16th. For more information on this field trip, please see the [February 2026 Rock Solid Bulletin](#). If you have any ideas for a field trip, please email or text Lesliee at lhartman.12345@gmail.com or 785-380-6016.

UPCOMING EVENTS

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, visit rockngem.com.

May 7	OGMS Club Meeting (Scott Crompton; Tumbling & bring your mystery specimens to be identified)
May 8 – 10	<u>Central MO Rock, Gem, Mineral Show</u> ; 2525 N. Stadium Blvd. (Route E), Columbus, MO
May 19	Next Board Meeting
May 16	Field Trip: Copper Valley Mine
Jun 5 – 6	<u>Springfield Rock & Gem Fair</u> , Springfield, MO
Jun 26 – 28	<u>Osage Rock and Mineral Club Gem, Jewelry, Rock, Mineral, & Fossil Show</u> ; Eldon Community Center, 309 E. 2nd St., Eldon, MO
Jun 27	OGMS Picnic. Kill Creek Park
Jul 9 – 12	RMF Congress — Tulsa, OK
Jul 10 – 12	<u>Tulsa Rock and Mineral Society Rock, Gem, Mineral & Jewelry Show</u> . Tulsa, OK. Exchange Center at Expo Square, 4145 E. 21st St., Tulsa, OK 74114
Aug (TBD)	Association picnic (date/time TBD)
Sep 3	OGMS Club Meeting
Sep 26 – 27	<u>Omaha Gem and Mineral Show</u> — Papillion, NE
Sep (TBD)	<u>Mozarkite G&M Show</u> , Lincoln, MO 3rd weekend of September at The Lincoln City Park (Exact Date TBD)
Oct 1	OGMS Club Meeting
Oct 30 – Nov 1	<u>OK Mineral and Gem Society Annual Mineral and Gem Show</u> ; Modern Living Building, OKC State Fair Park, 608 Kiamichi Place, OKC, OK

Nov (TBD)	OGMS Holiday Party
Nov 5	<i><u>(No OGMS Club Meeting)</u></i>
Nov 6 – 8	47th Annual KC Shows of Integrity G&M Show — KCI Expo Center
Mar 12-14, 2027	65th Annual KC Gem & Mineral Show
