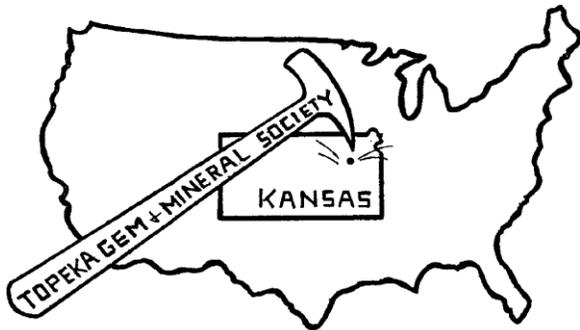


The Topeka Gem and Mineral Society, Inc
 1934 SW 30th St. Topeka, KS 66611
 Rock2Plate@aol.com

THE GLACIAL DRIFTER



www.topekagemandmineral.org

Facebook: Topeka Gem and Mineral Society Field Trip

The Glacial Drifter, Vol. 56, No. 6, June 2013
 The Topeka Gem & Mineral Society, Inc
 Organized December 3, 1948

Member of Rocky Mountain Federation of
 Mineralogical Societies American Federation of
 Mineralogical Societies



The Glacial Drifter, Vol. 56, No. 7, July 2013

The Purpose of the Topeka Gem & Mineral Society shall be exclusively educational and scientific: (1) to promote interest in geology and the lapidary arts; (2) to encourage the collection and display of rocks, gems, and minerals; (3) to encourage field trips and excursions of a geological, or lapidary nature; and (4) to encourage greater public interest and education in gems and minerals, cooperating with the established institutions in such matters.

Meetings: 4th Friday of each month, September to May, 7:30 pm, Stoffer Science Hall, Room 138, Washburn University. No meeting in December unless notified of a change. Picnic meetings are held June, July and August.

Dues: Individual, \$15.00; Couple, \$20.00; Junior (under 18 years of age), \$5.00. Dues are collected in December for the following year. Send dues to Millie Mowry, Treasurer, 1934 SW 30th St, Topeka, KS 66611.

2013 OFFICERS AND CHAIRS

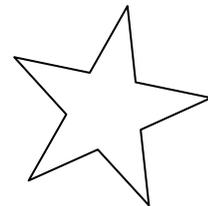
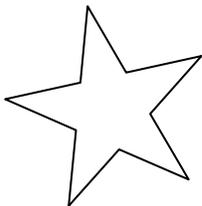
President	Mike Cote	220-3272	Cab of the Month	Debra Fran/Fred Zeferjohn	862-8876
1 st Vice Pres.	Dave Dillon	272-7804	Field Trip Coord.	Larry Henderson	272-8444
2 nd Vice Pres.	Carolyn Brady	233-8305	Publicity	Christy Bien	608-1890
Secretary	Cinda Kunkler	286-1790	Welcome/Registration	Jason Schulz	379-5538
Treasurer	Millie Mowry	267-2849	Property	M. Cote/D. Dillon	379-5538
Directors	Clyde Burton	478-4778	AFMS Scholarship	Louellen Montgomery	220-3272
	George Reed	836-9277	Editor/Exchange Editor	Millie Mowry	267-2849
	Harold Merrifield	286-3548	Show Chairman	Harold Merrifield	286-3548
Historian	Deborah Scanland	273-3034	Show Dealer Chairman	Dave Dillon	272-7804
Federation Rep	Harold Merrifield	286-3548	Show Secretary	Cinda Kunkler	286-1790
Corporation Agent	Millie Mowry	267-2849	Jr. Rockhound Leader	Larry Henderson	272-8444
Librarian	Lucy Hrenchir	267-3325			
Web Master	Jason Schulz	379-5538			

Area Code for all numbers is (785).



As a Reminder

For the remaining months of July & August, we do not have a General Meeting. Instead, we have picnics on the 4th Friday of the month, 6:30 p.m., at Millie's house, 1934 SW 30th St. Bring your favorite picnic food enough to feed your family, to share pot-luck style, and your own table service. Coffee and ice tea will be furnished. We will eat where it is cool or you can eat out on the patio. At the August picnic we will be filling the grab bags for the show. We hope to see you all there!



From the President – Mike Cote'

Hey everyone, are ya burning up yet? I would like to thanks to everyone that showed up at Millie's to make grab bags for the show. It went very well and would you believe 360 bags in 4 hours!! Maybe when we fill the bags at the August picnic with rock and minerals, there will be more people to help. I will be looking for some help later to fix some of the wood show cases. That's it for now, don't forget the picnic's at Millie's. The more the merrier! Mike and his rock stash

EXCHANGE BULLETINS WELCOME

For exchange newsletters contact the club via mailing address listed above or email at rock2plate@aol.com . Permission is granted to reprint articles only if proper credit is given to the author, Glacial Drifter and the date.

TLC REPORT

Carolyn Brady is better, BUT, says she can't whip any wild cats yet! The latest is that she will have surgery again this week.



FIELD TRIPS AND DATES TO REMEMBER

Tuesday Night Coffee, first and third Tuesday night, meets at the Classic Bean (Fairlawn Plaza) 7:00 pm. Discussions include fossils and other collections. Come join us with your show and tell.

Aug 3, Field Trip Location TBA

Aug 8-11 Buena Vista, CO. Contain-Tail Lawrence County Fair Grounds www.lawrencecountyrockclub.org

Aug 24 Field Trip Location TBA

One of our Junior Rockhounds found a Lake Superior Agate at the Lake Perry, June, Field trip. Many horned coral and other marine fossils were found. It was a good day for a field trip.



Trip dates are tentative and subject to additions and/or changes.

Email Larry Henderson if you have an interest in any of these trips. (785) 272-8444 or lhenderson85@gmail.com .

Starting point for field trips is at McDonalds, 11th and Kansas Ave, Topeka.

Public facebook page: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Topeka-Gem-and-Mineral-Society-Field-Trips/92795058262>

July Birthstone

There's no better way to demonstrate your love than by giving a ruby in celebration of a July birthday. Rubies arouse the senses, stir the imagination, and are said to guarantee health, wisdom, wealth and success in love. Ruby is a variety of the gems species *corundum*. It is harder than any natural gemstone except diamond, which means a ruby is durable enough for everyday wear. Fine-quality ruby is extremely rare, and the color of the gem is most important to its value. The most prized color is a medium or medium dark vivid red or slightly purplish red. If the gem is too light or has too much purple or orange, it will be called a fancy-color sapphire.



A **ruby** is a pink to blood-red colored gemstone, a variety of the mineral corundum (aluminium oxide). The red color is caused mainly by the presence of the element chromium. Its name comes from *ruber*, Latin for red. Other varieties of gem-quality corundum are called sapphires. The ruby is considered one of the four precious stones, together with the sapphire, the emerald and the diamond.

Rubies have a hardness of 9.0 on the Mohs scale of mineral hardness. Among the natural gems only moissanite and diamond are harder, with diamond having a Mohs hardness of 10.0 and moissanite falling somewhere in between corundum (ruby) and diamond in hardness. Ruby is α -alumina (the most stable form of Al_2O_3) in which a small fraction of the aluminium³⁺ ions are replaced by chromium³⁺ ions. Each Cr^{3+} is surrounded octahedrally by six O^{2-} ions. This crystallographic arrangement strongly affects each Cr^{3+} , resulting in light absorption in the yellow-green region of the spectrum and thus in the red color of the gem. When yellow-green light is absorbed by Cr^{3+} , it is re-emitted as red luminescence. This red emission adds to the red color perceived by the subtraction of green and violet light from white light, and adds luster to the gem's appearance.

Reprinted with permission from the American Gem Society and Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia.

How to Cut Obsidian

Author unknown

GOLD SHEEN: To get the most out of mahogany gold sheen obsidian, saw with the bands, as if they were a stack of plates, and you wish to unstuck them. Watch for “fire spots” in gold sheen. It is not plentiful, but opal like colors do sometimes occur in mahogany gold sheen.

IRIDESCENT: There are two types of iridescent obsidian. In cutting both correctly, the orientation of the color is most important. One type of obsidian is banded and the color lies in the bands. On the unbanded types of obsidian the surface has to be chipped to find the color. The banded type will have several colors or shades, while the unbanded types will have only one color. Cut the banded material parallel to the bands to get effect. To get a rainbow effect, cut the stone at an approximately 15-degree angle across the bands.

MIDNIGHT LACE: Lace-patterned obsidian should be cut across the surface pattern that you desire to reproduce. Although obsidian is comparatively soft, it is still very important to sand away all scratches before going to polish. Some advise that wet sanding be done, since obsidian is heat sensitive and very brittle. For final polish, felt with cerium oxide is the choice. Should you be faceting some particularly gemmy obsidian try ceriumoxide on Lucite®, but keep it wet.

RAINBOW OBSIDIAN: Cut parallel to flow layers. These can be seen by examining fractured surfaces using an overhead single lamp bulb. As [the layers] are not always straight, it may be necessary to turn the stone slightly in the saw. Examine each slab set with either water or saw oil to see if the correct angle has been obtained.

SAFETY TIP: After obsidian is sawed, be sure to bevel the edges all around on your fine grinding wheel to keep them from flaking and chipping. Wear goggles or glasses at all times. If a small chip of glass (obsidian) got into your eye, it would be hard to remove as it is transparent and hard to see even with a powerful magnifying glass, and the edges may cut your eye to a great extent before it could be removed.

GRINDING OBSIDIAN CABS: Approach your grinding wheel with the material at a slight horizontal angle. If brought straight in, it may be a “shattering” experience, as obsidian fractures conchoidally and this is a sure way to do it.

POLISH ON OBSIDIAN: Keep the polishing wheel wet. A dry polishing will result in blisters and scratches. Obsidian is relatively inexpensive, easy to obtain and soft. With proper understanding of its glassy properties you can obtain some beautiful results. --from Golden Frog, February 2005; via The Shawnee Slate June 2013



Conglomerate Fudge

Conglomerate rocks are sedimentary rocks that contain sharp or rounded fragments of older rocks. Finer sediments deposited on top cement the coarse grains together. With adult help, you can make an edible version of conglomerate rock.

Ingredients:

- 3 cups (18 oz) chocolate chips
- 1 can (14 oz) sweetened, condensed milk
- 1 tsp vanilla
- 1 cup each peanuts, hazelnuts, marshmallows, dried fruit, etc. (your choice)

Instructions: Line an 8 inch-square pan with wax paper to prevent the fudge from sticking to the sides.

Combine the chocolate chips, vanilla, and condensed milk in a bowl. Microwave on high for 1 minute, then mix well. Stir in the nuts, marshmallows, or other coarse ingredients into your “sediment”. Pour the mixture into the foil-lined pan and refrigerate for two hours or until firm. Makes 64 1 inch pieces.

(Source: Lynn Varon, Rock & Gem May 2013)

Junior Rockhound Page



We will have a table at the Shawnee County 4H Fair July 25th through July 28th. We will need people to help “man” the table. Contact Shirley Schulz or Larry Henderson to help set up July 24th, or help “man” the table during the Fair.

The Fair is open to the Public Thursday 1pm until 8pm, Friday from 9am until 8pm, Saturday from 7am until 8pm, and Sunday 8am until 5pm. If you have some time and you would like to help promote Topeka Gem & Mineral Society and the Topeka Junior Rockhounds please let us know or stop by and help out. Lots of things to see at the Fair! Saturday morning there is an all you can eat Pancake Breakfast with tickets \$5 at the door in Landon Arena.

Monthly classes are being held on the 1st Thursday of the Month starting at 6:30pm at the Town & Country Christian Church, Refiners Room. The Topeka Gem & Mineral Society Advisors currently meet at the same time in the Overcomers Room.

Upcoming months will have the following classes at Town & Country Christian Church:

Aug 1st–Collecting (Pat Gilliland) / Introduction of Showmanship (Pat Gilliland)

Sept 5th– Continue with Showmanship (Pat Gilliland) / Introduction of Leadership (Jason Schulz)

September will kick off the new year for the Junior Rockhounds. Watch for the kickoff event

Other classes are being planned at separate times.

To register for Junior Rockhounds or any of the classes, email Shirley Schulz, Program Secretary sschulz@kdheks.gov

Upcoming months will have the following classes:

Aug – Continue with Collecting (Pat Gilliland) / Introduction of Showmanship (Pat Gilliland)

Sept – Continue with Showmanship (Pat Gilliland) / Introduction of Leadership (Jason Schulz)

Subject: Dinosaurs from the Morrison Formation and the Fossils from the Western Inland Sea (Western Kansas). Upon successful completion, the student will qualify for Activity 3.7.

The Junior **Rockhound** members just keep on achieving. Thomas, Robert, and Ian Schulz have earned their Lapidary Arts and Fossils Badges.

Way to go guys!