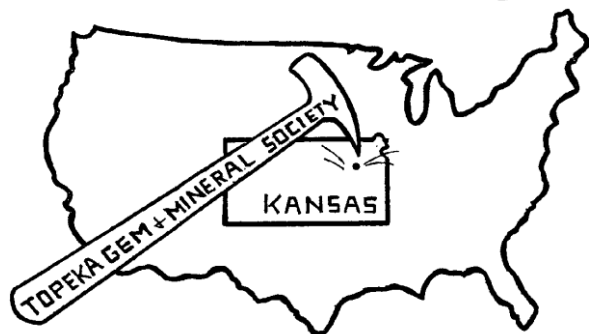


The Topeka Gem and Mineral Society, Inc.  
 1934 SW 30<sup>th</sup> St. Topeka, KS 66611  
 Rock2Plate@aol.com

# THE GLACIAL DRIFTER



[www.TopekaGMS.org](http://www.TopekaGMS.org) or  
 Facebook: Topeka Gem and Mineral Society Field Trips

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. 67, No. 8  
 August 2024



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: 4<sup>th</sup> Friday of each month, September to May, 7:15 pm, First Congregational Church, 1701 SW Collins Ave, Topeka, KS 66604. 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 30<sup>th</sup> St, Topeka, KS 66611.**

[www.TopekaGMS.org](http://www.TopekaGMS.org)

## 2024 OFFICERS AND CHAIRS

President	Brad Davenport	379-8700	Cab of the Month	Donna & Russell Hedge	620-660-1651
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice Pres.	David Dillon	221-4315	Field Trip Coord.	Chuck Curtis	286-1790
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice Pres.	Cinda Kunkler	286-1790	Publicity	Donna Hedge	620-660-1651
Secretary	Stacy Haug	1-857-3350	Welcome/Registration	Harold Merrifield	633-9745
Treasurer	Millie Mowry	267-2849	Property	Chuck Curtis	286-1790
Directors	Doria Skinner	231-9347	AFMS Scholarship	Cinda Kunkler	286-1790
	Jim Baer	785-256-2432	Editor/Exchange Editor	Millie Mowry	267-2849
	Shirley Schulz	n/a	Show Chairman	Millie Mowry	267-2849
Historian	Cinda Kunkler	286-1790	Show Dealer Chairman	Dave Dillon	221-4315
Federation Rep	Chuck Curtis	286-1790	Show Secretary	Cinda Kunkler	286-1790
Corporation Agent	Millie Mowry	267-2849	Jr. Rockhound Leader	Dennis Hippe	230-6729
Librarian	Cinda Kunkler	286-1790	Show Case Coordinator	Cinda Kunkler	286-1790
Web Master	Chad Skinner	640-6617			

Area Code for all numbers is (785).

## EXCHANGE BULLETINS WELCOME

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

### Fodder from the President. August/2024

*Howdy all.*

*Summer is blazing towards its inevitable end. Soon long sleeves will be pulled out of the far end of the closet. The tiki torches and mower get pushed a little further back in the garage. So, for now, relish the still abundant local produce. Can up more cucumbers if ya got them. Dried tomatoes are a wonderful treat when the snow flies.*

*Autumn preparations can be a soothing activity for our souls. Or, a hectic race. With that, we are starting our downhill preparations for our show in October. Oct 12 & 13 to be precise. Please plan and adjust your schedule so you will have lots of hours to be there to help us. Of course, Friday the 11th is our set up and the need for the most help. We will start before 9:00 and not leave till well after 6:00.*

*Our collective group has gotten another year older and more worn down. We need all of you folks out there helping. With that said, Proper preparations can ease all of these issues. So, Next Wednesday evening, 7:00 at Millies we will have a combined Show? Publicity meeting. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to come out. Your input may be just the thing we are needing.*

*Also, next week, we will have our final covered dish dinner for the summer at the church.*

*Just a reminder, the shops are open every Tuesday evening for your use. The last few evenings out here have been cool and inviting. There have not been many folks taking advantage of our facilities. Every night there have been open machines to use and our fine teachers twiddling their thumbs. The holidays are fast approaching and here is an excellent opportunity to make unique gifts for your friends and family.*

*Also coming up is the Rocky Mountain Federation Congress and the Oklahoma City Gem and Mineral Show. There will be a big show and 3 field trips you can participate in. If you are considering going, now might be the time to get your room reservations made at reduced rates. All information is on our facebook and website. I believe we already have all of our delegate positions filled. But you have every right to attend any of the meetings. Come and see what our parent organization does to keep your federation functioning. Your thoughts and input are more than welcome.*

*As you should know by now, I will be stepping down as your president come the election later this fall. Here is an opportunity for any of you to step up and take a leadership role in YOUR club. We need new blood in our leadership. It is not a matter of having weak leaders. Every one of your officers does a hell of a fine job. It is a matter of needing younger folks to start to lead. The health of any organization requires new people finding their voices and time to carry on the principles and practices to walk us into a prosperous future. None of us are leaving. We will always be around to nurture and mentor new leaders. In fact, our bylaws require this.*

*There are other positions that can become open if you just step up and express an interest. Come on "It will be fun"! If interested, contact Chuck Curtis who is the head of your nominating committee. There are many committees that you could lead or volunteer for. If you haven't noticed, there are many hats being worn by the same heads year in and year out. Pull your head out of your shell and grab a hat.*

*None of these jobs are hard or need specific experience to accomplish. It only takes a willingness to help and a little time. There's tons of experience here and help is never more than a question away.*

*Hope to see all of you real soon.*

*Brad*



#### UP Coming General Meeting Picnic

Summer is almost over - the last picnic is Friday August 23, please bring a dish to share. If you don't have time to make anything, just show up, we always have plenty of food. We will have a short meeting before we eat and after dinner, we will stuff grab bags to sell in the Scholarship Booth at our show in October. Sign up sheets to work at the show will be there too! We need everybody's help to have a great show. September meeting will be our silent auction to raise money for the club, please bring any donations you may have - it doesn't have to be just rocks! October meeting will be early (Oct 18th) due to the RMFMS Convention in Oklahoma City Oct 25th-27th. Will Gilliland has agreed to talk with us about Kansas Volcano's - other geological sites. Hope to see you all there!  
Cinda Kunkler, 2nd Vice President

# TTGMS Event Calendar

August 2024			SEP 2024		
1	T		1	S	
2	F		2	M	
3	S		3	T	Brad's Shop Open 6-10 pm
4	S		4	W	
5	M		5	T	Jr RHDS 6 p.m. at FC Church 1701 SW Collins
6	T		6	F	
7	W		7	W	
8	T		8	S	
9	F		9	M	
10	S		10	T	Brad's Shop Open 6-10 pm
11	S		11	W	
12	M		12	T	
13	T		13	F	
14	W		14	S	
15	T		15	S	
16	F		16	M	
17	S		17	T	Brad's Shop Open 6-10 pm
18	S		18	W	
19	M		19	T	
20	T	Brad's Shop Open 6-10 pm	20	F	
21	W		21	S	
22	T		22	S	
23	F	PICNIC TIME - Mtg. Gather 6:15 p.m. eat at 6:30 pm FC Church 1701 SW Collins	23	M	
24	S		24	T	Brad's Shop Open 6-10 pm
25	S		25	W	
26	M		26	T	
27	T	Brad's Shop Open 6-10 pm	27	F	Regular Mtg - Mtg. Gather 6:15 p.m. Mtg at 6:30 pm FC Church 1701 SW Collins
28	W		28	S	
29	T		29	S	
30	F		30	M	
31	S				

After the picnic dinner in August, we will be stuffing grab bag for the show. It won't take long under Cinda and Millie's guidance to stuff 600 + bags. If you have never done it, come and see how it is done.

**As A Reminder!**

If you are wanting to take a class in Silversmithing or wire wrapping you are to call either Jim Baer at 785-256-2432 or email him at [jimbaer73@gmail.com](mailto:jimbaer73@gmail.com), for wire wrapping contact Millie Mowry at 785-267-2849 or email [rock2plate@aol.com](mailto:rock2plate@aol.com) the Monday before class to let them know you will be there.

## JR ROCKHOUND Classes & Reminders

Here are reminders of the next months of classes: **First Congregational Church, 1701 SW Collins Ave., Topeka, KS.** Sign in starting at 6:00 pm and classes starting at 6:30 pm. 1st Thursday of each month.



<https://www.facebook.com/TopekaGMSJuniorRockhounds>

To register for the Junior Rockhounds or any of the classes, email:

Dennis Hippe at: [go.purple@hotmail.com](mailto:go.purple@hotmail.com)

Next Class: Sept 5, 2024 Showmanship – Doria Skinner

Reminder: If you want to earn the patches from the classes that you have attended you need to turn in your homework assignments.

### Rocks for Juniors

Reminder to bring any extra rocks you might have that you would like to donate to the Junior Rockhound Club. We are trying to let the kids go on a "field trip" after class. Some of them really don't have much of a chance to add to their collection. We will have a table set up at the back of the room that they can come to and let them each pick out four rocks that you have graciously donated. This way they can add to their collection. Thank you so much for your contributions. This wouldn't be possible without you.

Dennis Hippe

### Dillons Community Reward Program

The Topeka Gem & Mineral Society has enrolled with the Community Rewards with Dillon's Store. You can enroll your shopper's card at: [www.dillons.com/communityrewards](http://www.dillons.com/communityrewards) once you sign up it will take about 7 to 10 days to be activated and our Club to start earning the rewards. At the bottom of your Kroger receipt you will notice "At your request, Kroger is donating to 'your organization name'".

1. You will have to re-register each year.

If you have any other questions email [DCR@dillonstores.com](mailto:DCR@dillonstores.com)

[1st quarter's rebate amounted to \\$50.64.](#)

[2<sup>nd</sup> quarter's rebate amounted to \\$57.98 Thank you 12 people](#)

[3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter's rebate amounted to \\$53.06](#)



## ***The Library has moved.***

In the TTGMS Library there are well over 100 books to choose from That cover a vast array of subjects of lapidary art and geology.

The library has currently moved to the church storage area, contact Cinda if interested in checking out a book.

We are still in need of a lot of UPC labels  
From Best Choice products. Bring them in to Cinda  
So, we can get our rebate.



Greetings Fellow Field Trippers:

This month's Field Trip will be a little different. Instead of collecting specimens - we will be giving a specimen!

Our Trip will be the Saturday following our regular monthly meeting. The regular monthly meeting for August is our last Potluck Dinner for the summer. If you haven't been coming to the "Picnics" you are missing out on good food and good company! That Saturday the Club has been invited to attend a housewarming party at Cole and Ashley's new home. Come help celebrate and bring a rock, fossil, ..... to present to the Collins Family. No other gifts are expected other than the Potluck and bring your own lawn chair. See Brad's email.

Chuck Curtis

### **RECIPE FOR A GOOD ROCK CLUB**

**Assemble a group of Rockhounds in assorted sizes and personalities.**

**MEASURE ACCURATELY:**

1 cup friendly words

1 cup courtesy

1 cup understanding

1 cup patience

**SIFT CAREFULLY** to remove all malice and ego.

**ADD** a dash of wit and humor, a heart full of cooperation and praise, where needed.

**MIX WELL** until blended into a smooth-running organization.

**SPRINKLE** with Good Times and Fun. Garnish with New Members. Serve with Warm Greetings. Plenty for all.

Source: Gems of the Rogue—March 2012 via  
**Deming Gem & Mineral Society**

### **Club T-shirts**

Several of the club member have not picked up the t-shirts that were ordered. Please pick them up at the August picnic.

I have extra t-shirts if anyone wants one, see me for sizes at the august picnic.

Millie

### Topeka Junior Rockhound Class on Gold Panning

Thursday evening's (August 1) Junior Rockhounds class about Gold Panning and Prospecting - I found out we will not get rich in Kansas prospecting for gold . Will Gilliland ([Pat Gilliland](#)), who taught the class, was rich with information though, and it was fun to see the students "pan for gold" outside - they found pyrite (fool's gold) and galena- cool stuff!

The next class will be about Showmanship, September 5th, I guess I should get to work on that since I'll be presenting. We will be learning about proper ways to make a good display for specimens.



## Notes From the Combined Show & Publicity Meeting

*This will be a brief synopsis of my input and, take away of the more seasoned publicity members input of things we can/need to be doing to get ready for the Show.*

*1- It has come to my attention that there are attorneys who have been donating \$500.00 amounts to entities who requested help. So, we will be looking into that. We definitely could use some help like that.*

*Also, we need to start showing up at the Woodshed Flea Market Sundays, as Sky suggested, and hand out flyers and coupons. Hopefully we can have some more of that cooler weather we've had the last few weeks. Anyone interested please call me or Cinda. We appreciate all the help you can give to help promote TTGMS. (Also, you can try to get rid of those things sitting around your house you don't want anymore.)*

*We need volunteers (hint, hint) to help visit Topeka Merchants for possible door prizes, give aways of items the club can use, hand out coupons, and post flyers.*

*Wear your t-shirts where and whenever you can. It gives grocery shopping an added purpose.*

*There is a newsletter, Topeka Patch, where we can post our upcoming Rock and Mineral Show and also submit articles about our club. I am looking into that. If anyone really loves to write I'd love to hear from you!*

*2 - Millie reports that we have 15 Vendors and still may have late entries. We also need a couple more Demonstrators. She and Dave have been working on the floor plan layout and will have copies for those who need them.*

*3- Brad reports that in the not-too-distant future some of the cases need to be checked for needed repairs. Really, he had a lot more to say.*

*4- Chuck really had a lot to say also.*

*That's all for now folks. Donna Hedge 620 660 1651*



To Our New Members

Stewart Hazard  
Rickey & Donna Beardsley  
Rachel & Cooper\* Harshbarger

### Club Elections

They are coming up soon, and if you are interested in any of the following positions, get with Chuck, or the person who now holds the position for more information.

Here are the Elected Positions:

1. President
2. Vice President
3. 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President (Is also the program chairman)
4. Secretary
5. Treasurer (this you will have to be an under study for a time frame)
6. And 1 Director (On for 3 years)

Nominations are held in October, voted on at the club meeting in November, installed at the Christmas Dinner, and takes over in January.

## Septarian Dragon Stone

**T**his stone has a few different names, Dragon stone, Septarian Geode, Septarian Concretion, to name a few. It is an interesting stone as it is a combination of different minerals. The name Septarian is derived from the Latin name, Septem, meaning seven. This relates to the fact that the mud balls cracked with 7 points in every direction, thereby creating the beautiful design.

Septarians are composed of Calcite (The Yellow Centres), Aragonite (The Brown Lines) and the Outer Grey Rock is Limestone.

Occasionally the fossil or some of the fossils which started the formation of the rock is noticeable in the rock.



Septarians were formed during the Cretaceous period, 50 to 70 million years ago when the Gulf of Mexico reached what is now Southern Utah. Decomposing sea life killed by volcanic eruptions, had a chemical attraction for the sediment around them, forming mud balls and as the ocean receded, the balls were left to dry and crack. Because of their bentonite content they also shrank at the same time trapping the cracks inside. As decomposed calcite from the shells was carried down into the cracks in the mud balls, calcite crystals formed. A thin wall of calcite was transformed into aragonite separating the bentonite heavy clay exteriors from the calcite centres. Because of this, the nodules are called Septarians.

## Concretions

Septarian concretions are a special type of concretion. Concretions are masses of mineral matter formed when minerals in water are deposited about a nucleus (such as a leaf or shell or other particle) forming a rounded mass whose composition or cement is usually different from the surrounding rock. This can occur at the time of deposition, shortly thereafter, or after the sediment has hardened.

Generally, concretions are harder than the rocks around them; therefore, over time the concretions can weather out of the surrounding rocks. Concretions in Kansas are formed from any of a number of minerals, including calcite, limonite, barite, pyrite, or silica. They vary widely in shape and size, with the huge spherical concretions at Rock City in Ottawa County and Mushroom Rock State Park in Ellsworth County measuring up to 27 feet in diameter.

Septarian stone also makes very good cabochons. Here is a geode I cut in half and then polished. I will eventually turn them into pendants, setting them in silver.

*Excerpted from Rockgrinders Gazette, 6/17 via WGMS Rockhounder 8/2017*

