

April 2024



THE TIDEWATER PROSPECTOR

Newsletter for the Tidewater Gem and Mineral Society
Virginia Beach, VA

President's Notes

by Robin Stoughton

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I'm so happy Spring is here, I love the warmer weather, planting time for flowers and veggies and field trips! Hope everyone is doing good.

I would like to thank Bob Kinast for doing an outstanding program on Meg teeth and his diving adventures last month.

Happy Birthday to all celebrating one this month.

Thanks to Kelley for organizing our show and all members who helped at the show, all who demonstrated and did displays, awesome job!

I would also like to thank Kelley Finch for continuing to do our outreach programs and all members who help her with them.

Reminder: Get all newsletter info to Judy Hyszczak by the third of each month.

Hope to see everyone at this month's meeting.

APRIL 2024						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19 TGMS Meeting	20 Workshop 10-2
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

The newsletter can also be found online: <http://tgms.weebly.com/>

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TREASURER'S REPORT



March was a busy month for the club's treasury. The club meeting featured an excellent presentation by Bob Kinast about hunting for fossil sharks teeth in South Carolina rivers. At the meeting the club raised \$225.00 when 15 adults paid their annual dues, \$66 from the paid raffle, \$20 from the sale of 4 T-shirts, and \$9 from specimen sales. Club expenses were routine, except for the purchase of the Genie Wheel replacement set for \$687.49 and the Pixie Wheel replacement set for \$463.63 for the club's workshops.

The following weekend the club had excellent member participation in the Treasures of the Earth (TOTE) Show, which raised a nice total of \$1,895.54. Show sales included \$950 for 95 Adult grab bags, \$196 for 28 Fossil grab bags, \$160 for 80 Kid's grab bags, \$337.50 for memberships for 21 adults and 3 children, \$169 from the Calcite Raffle, \$73.04 from donations, and \$10 from the sale of 2 T-shirts. Please welcome the following new members to the club: Aubrey Ansell, Laurie Coyne, Gregory Creasy, Tom Cummings, Stephanie Edmonds, Victoria Haneline, Leann Hicks, Lori Morrison, Teresa Shifflett, Catherine Sivils and children Lucas, Page and Twyla, Charles Wickizer, Jenni Williams, and Clay Yokom. The treasury balance is now about \$7,874.

LOOK AT THIS!

Some highlights found at the March TOTE SHOW.



Hear Ye, Hear Ye!

2024 Important Dates

(Dates are subject to change or be cancelled)

April 19	TGMS Meeting
May 17	TGMS Meeting
May 31 - June 2	Pipsico Fossil Hunt
June 21	TGMS Meeting
July 19	TGMS Meeting
July 28 - August 4	Grassy Creek Mineral & Gem Show, Spruce Pine, NC
August 1	TOTE Show Setup
August 2 - 4	TOTE Show
August 9 - 12	Pipsico Fossil Hunt
August 16	TGMS Meeting
September 20	TGMS Meeting
October 18	TGMS Meeting
November 15	TGMS Meeting
December 13	TGMS Meeting / Holiday Party



PROGRAM FOR APRIL

AMBER FROM BURMA

Caroline Han will be giving a presentation on amber found in Burma. She will also be bringing cabs/specimens and strung beads we can purchase. It might be something to keep in mind for Mother's Day.



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MARCH PROGRAM FOCUS: SHARK TOOTH HUNTING IN SOUTH CAROLINA

Bob Kinast gave a great program on fossils and Meg teeth...Thanks Bob for a GREAT presentation!



Bob with a meg tooth he found.



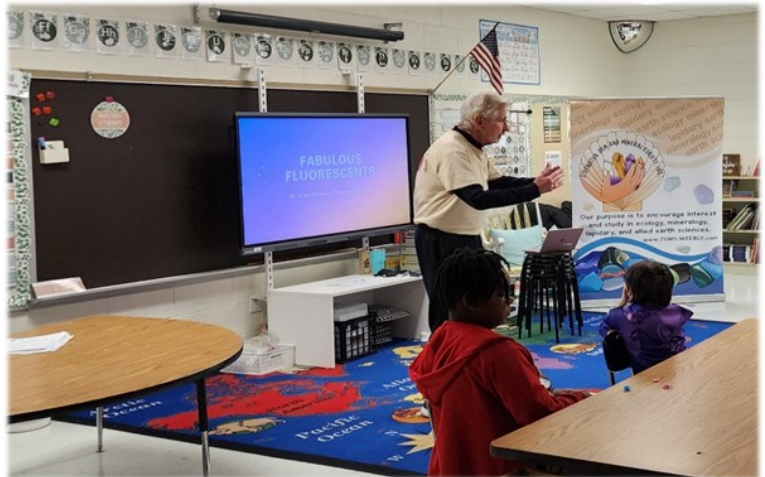
Bob brought items that could be purchased.

Community Outreach Programs

On February 21st Kelley Finch presented a program to Webelos Troop 700 that followed the requirements for the Geology Badge that included a mineral identification activity. As a special bonus, Roger Blackman shared his fluorescent minerals with the Troop and their parents who loved them as much as the scouts.

On February 23rd Kelley Finch & Roger Blackman attended the Western Branch STEAM event. We were set up by 8:00 AM and stayed until 2:00pm. We had approximately 30 minutes with 8 different 2nd grade classes (approximately 300 students). Kelley gave a presentation called "Earth Rocks" that focused on the geology of Virginia and the "out of this world deep impact crater" better known as Chesapeake Bay. Of course, Roger Blackman brought his "Fabulous Fluorescents" that was a big hit with the students, staff, and other presenters.

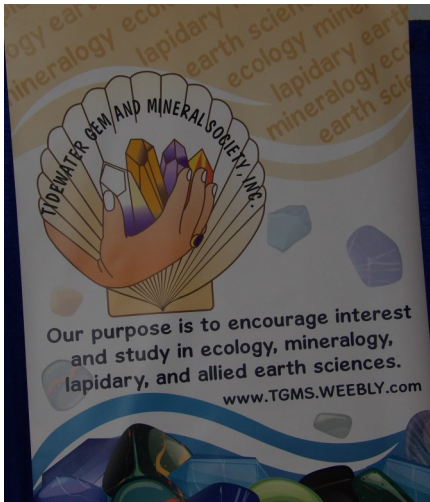
Roger Blackman at Western Branch Primary School explaining how & why minerals are fluorescent.



Left: Troop 700 in line to experience some amazing fluorescents. Right: Troop 700 performing mineral identification on various minerals

April Community Outreach programs will be lead by Judy Hysczak & Tom Leary.

2024 T.O.T.E. Gem, Mineral & Jewelry Show



TGMS Purpose



A moment at the show....



Left: sample of what can be found in the Miners's bags.



Right: Miners's bags
Below: Fossil bags



Brooks' Montana Agate display



Some of Kelley and Judy's Tucson Show Finds

More Highlights from the TOTE Show



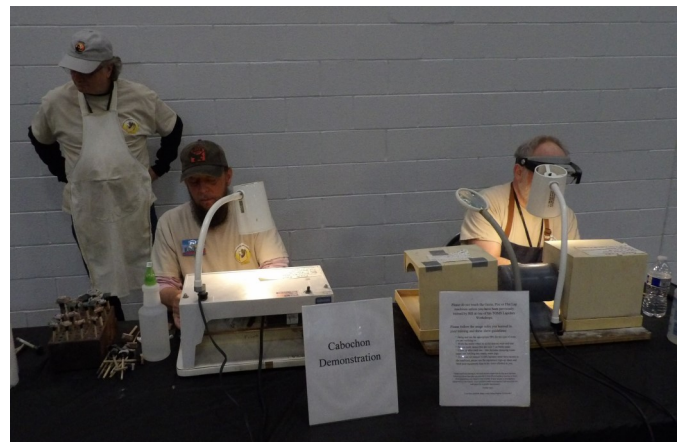
A New Pet Rock!



Rebecca & Rebekah manning the kid's corner.



Jeff demonstrating how to make chainmail.



The guys showing how to cut some cabs.



Raffle prize - straight from Tucson!



Tools of the trade and the finished product.

FIELD TRIP HIGHLIGHTS

Bob Simon opened his workshop to us and shared his techniques and stories from when he discovered the fossils out west.



Bob Simon with some bones.



Spine on display in the workshop.



Surprise! More bones!



Pieces of fossils in the workshop.



Inside the crate - this is how they are shipped to Bob to be cleaned up.



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About This Publication

The Tidewater Prospector is the monthly newsletter of the Tidewater Gem and Mineral Society, Virginia Beach, Virginia, associated with the Eastern Federation of Mineralogical Societies, Inc. and the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies. Permission to copy freely granted when proper credit given to both the publication and the author.

The Tidewater Gem and Mineral Society is a non-profit organization devoted to the collecting and study of minerals, gemstones, geology, paleontology and the lapidary arts as well as the love and deep appreciation of the great outdoors.

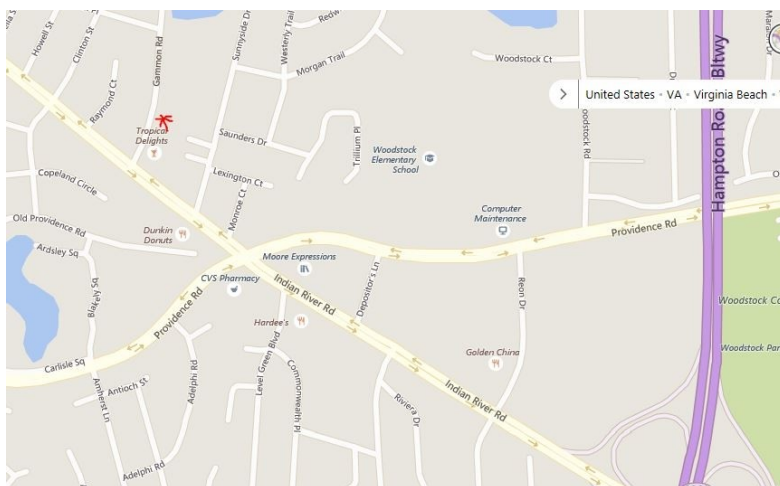
Meetings are the third Friday of each month at 7:30 PM at Memorial United Methodist Church located at 804 Gammon Road, Virginia Beach, VA. Our monthly meetings are open to everyone, no admission is charged.

Website: <http://tgms.weebly.com/>
Please contact Brooks Britt with any photos that you would like to add to our site. Email him at: bhbritt@verizon.net You can also view this newsletter on the site.

Email hyszczak@cox.net to submit articles to the newsletter editor. Deadline is third of the month for material for the newsletter - but the sooner, the better!

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com> Login to FB, then go to Groups and in the search box, type in "Tidewater Gem & Mineral Society", The page is open to view by anyone. Click "join" to join the group to add photos of your own and to post information. Brooks administers the site and will get back with you.

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Our meeting in will be on
April 19th at 7:30 pm at
Memorial United Methodist Church,
804 Gammon Road, Virginia Beach, VA.
(Gammon Road is off of Indian River Road, in
between Military Highway and Providence Road)

