



The Tidewater Prospector



Newsletter for the Tidewater Gem and Mineral Society August 2023 Virginia Beach, VA

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Jody Anderson
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WAYS & MEANS

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HOSPITALITY

Robin Stoughton
(757) 822-9631

WEBSITE

Brooks Britt
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Notes from the President

by Robin Stoughton



We had a great turnout at our last meeting. Thanks to all the members who helped make the grab bags. We should have plenty for the next show in October.

I would like to thank Mr. Joel Spencer for driving down from Richmond with all his specimens. Seems like our members really had fun getting some new treasures! Also, it was really nice of him to donate some items for our club raffles.

Happy Birthday to all celebrating one this month.

REMINDER: Get all your newsletter info to Judy by the 3rd of each month.

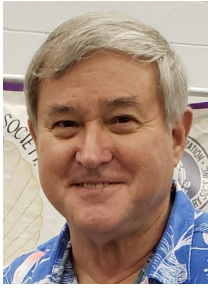
We are still looking for donations for our annual club auction in September. You can bring them to the meeting or wait until the auction.

Thanks to ALL club members who helped out with the show. Thanks to Kelley Finch for doing an awesome job organizing and running the show! Our last show of the year will be in October, so please consider doing a display or demonstrating your lapidary craft.

We will be playing Mineral Bingo this month. It is always a lot of fun! Hope to see everyone there.



Newsletter is best read
using Acrobat Reader
and on a computer.



TREASURER'S REPORT



July was a busy month for the club's treasury with the monthly club meeting followed the next weekend by the Treasures of the Earth Show (TOTE).

At the club meeting we raised \$86 from the paid raffle and \$63 when 5 adults joined the club. Please welcome the following new members: Paul Clifford, Bruce Gossett, and Nathaniel Marchessault. Club expenses were routine, except \$50 to reimburse Joel Spencer for his travel from Richmond and \$25 to purchase some of his specimens, \$46.11 for kid's grab bags, \$21.95 for newsletter paper and stamps, and \$19 for cups.

Club members once again provided excellent support for the TOTE Show led by Kelley Finch. Operations ran very smoothly and the club raised \$1,594.26 which is almost the same amount from the October 2022 show. This included \$890 from the sale of 89 adult grab bags, \$210 from the sale of 30 fossil bags, \$110 from the sale of 55 kid's grab bags, \$203 from the paid amethyst raffle, \$30 from the sale of 3 T-shirts, and \$77.26 in donations. 7 adults and 1 child paid \$74 for membership dues. Please welcome the following new members: Karen Calloway, Kaia Drori (child), Alicia Ebersole, Noelle Rhoads, Renee Tavares, and Chloe & Jenny Winchell.

Total club membership now stands at 141 adults and 20 children.



CORNY JOKE



What happens when you keep reading geology jokes in your free time?

Answer on last page

Hear Ye, Hear Ye!

2023 Important Dates (Dates can be changed or cancelled)

August 11 - 13	Fossil Hunt - Camp Pipsico
August 18	TGMS Meeting
September 15	TGMS Meeting / Auction
September 22 - 24	Treasures of the Earth Show - Richmond
September 22 - 24	SVGMS Club Show (Shenandoah Valley) - Dayton, VA
September 23	Field Trip - TBD
October 6 - 8	Treasures of the Earth Show - Virginia Beach
October 6 - 8	Fossil Hunt - Camp Pipsico
October 20	TGMS Meeting
November 11	Richmond Gem & Mineral Society Rock Sale & Swap
November 17	TGMS Meeting & Annual Audit Report

PROGRAM PREVIEW:

MINERAL BINGO TIME!

This annual game is back during the month of August. It is where you hear the mineral and then get to find it on your bingo sheet. Along with it being a fun time and popular with the membership, you can't help but learn the names of minerals!



Meeting Highlights



Joel Spencer telling us about when he collected as a young boy.



Joel's was selling his collection and offered us first picking. What great pieces he had!



Filling the bags - stone by stone!



End of the line - weighing the bags to ensure at least 8 oz of stones are in each bag and then stapling them closed.



TOTE SHOW HIGHLIGHTS



Kelley - our fearless Show Coordinator



Overview of the center of the booth



Diana doing her demos.



Gem Miner Bag Specimens



Our Small Small World Microscope in action



Jody and Barbara near the kid's corner.

TOTE SHOW HIGHLIGHTS (continued)



Mr. Stuart - our Raffle Prize Winner!



Display Cases



Our Mr. Fluorescent!



TOTE SHOW HIGHLIGHTS (continued)

The TOTE Show has many benefits – meeting new people, recognizing people who have stopped by the club booth before, seeing friends you haven't seen in a while, getting specimens and rough for yourself to use, the interesting/odd sculptures that may make an appearance at a vendor booth. However, one of the best things at the show is having the time to learn about your fellow members. In talking with Joe Byrd, I learned that he made butterfly pictures using slabs he shaped and polished. He used polymer clay for the butterfly bodies but used the polished slabs as the colorful wings. I asked him to send me photos of the pictures and am sharing them here.



Finished Picture



Polished Pieces for a Butterfly



A special gift

This is a fossil specimen of a mosasaur tooth. Dylan Boger bought it from a vendor as a gift for his brother because he plays a video game that has mosasaurs in it.

Treasures of the Earth Show

The show was a success! Success that is only possible with the help of the thirty (30) wonderful TGMS members (listed below) who took time out of their busy schedules to volunteer at least one hour. Please, the next time you see these volunteers, let them know how much we appreciate their dedication.

Barbara Drori	Jamie Simpson	Lloyd Schiffelbian
Brooks Britt	Jay Graber	Margaret Dell
Debbie Arab	Jeff Sandmeier	PJ Pratt
Dianna Hinshaw	Jessica Bates	Rebecca McCurdy
Dylan Boger	Jim Arab	Rebekah Blanchard
Ellianna Pearsall	Jody Anderson	Ricky Bryant
Eric Dell	Joe Byrd	Roger Blackman
Evan Stallings	Judy Hyszczak	Rosanne Hinshaw
Hank Finch	Kelley Finch	Sara Pearsall
Jacob White	Larry McCoy	Sue Ann White



A special thank you to the following club members for the extra time and effort to provide:

Large Display Case: Judy Hyszczak

Small Display Cases: Ricky Bryant, Judy Hyszczak, Joe Byrd, Kelley Finch and Dianne Hinshaw

Fluorescent Demonstration: Roger Blackman

Demonstrations: Jessica Bryant, Dianna Hinshaw, Judy Hyszczak, Kelley Finch, Ricky Bryant and PJ Pratt

All volunteers are entered into a drawing that will be held at the August TGMS meeting for either a 1-year subscription to the Rock & Gem Magazine or \$25.00 gift card.

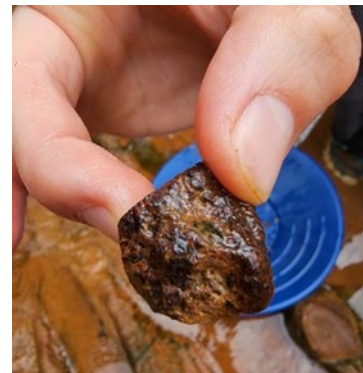
The last Treasures Of The Earth Show of 2023 is
October 6th - 8th
We need volunteers for the booth, displays and demonstrations.

Contrary Creek Field Trip Report July 22, 2023

It was a beautiful day due to the elevation it was much cooler than the Hampton Roads area. The Southern Maryland Rock club was there as well. Below are a few photos from the trip.



Jamie Simpson (top left); Hank Finch with a piece of chert (center); Jeff Sandmeier (top right) looking under the bridge; Bridget Coburn showing Dave Coburn her find (bottom right); a large garnet found by Kenny & Laura both members of the Southern Maryland club (middle right) and a pyrite chunk (bottom right) found by John of the Southern Maryland club.



Contrary Creek Field Trip Report (continued)



Martin Boo (top left) panning in the creek with others down river; Larry McCoy (top right) taking his pan to the river. Several specimens found by Jeff Sandmeier (below).



TGMS MEETING Minutes 7/21/22

Minutes taken by Kelley Finch

Call to Order: by Robin Stoughton at 7:46 PM

Welcome: Recognized New Members & Guests. Happy Birthday to all who have a June birthday.

Minutes: In the newsletter – contact an officer if you ever have any questions or need clarification.

Secretary: Britt Brooks (Not Present) – These minutes by Kelley Finch

Treasurers Report – Lloyd S.

TREASURERS REPORT 07/19/2023

Balance on Hand (05/31/23) **\$7,878.15**

June Income

Membership (3 adults) \$33.00

Paid Raffle \$49.00

Total June Income **\$88.00**

June Expenses

Jack Rabbit Self-Storage (JUN) \$136.00

Church Meeting Room \$40.00

Mixed Brazilian Minerals (800lbs) – Kids Bags \$1,483.65

Portable Microphone & Speaker System 511.41

Rubber Stamp Ink Refill \$16.95

Bank Fee – Bounced Check \$12.00

Microphone to PC Cord for Sound System \$8.05

Total June Expenses **\$2,208.06**

Balance on Hand (06/30/2023) **\$5,758.09**

Communications / Announcements:

Chairpersons Reports:

Newsletter – Judy H.: Input is due to Judy by the 3rd of each month. Check spam folders if not received, goes out the Friday before the meeting.

Library – Open Position:

Workshop - Madison H. (not present)/Jody A.: Per Kelley Finch – there will be no workshop this month.

Ways & Means – Amanda Arab: nothing to report

Field Trips - Kelley: The next field trip will be on July 22nd to Contrary Creek. Please sign up and review the article and link in the last newsletter for the recommended personal protective equipment and river condition report. The August field trip will be at the Pipsico Boy Scout Reservation on August 12th. Campers can arrive as early as noon on August 11th. All persons must be off the property by noon on Sunday.

TGMS MEETING Minutes (continued)

Reports from Special Committees:

Pebble Pups – Rosanne (Not Present): - If you have pebble pups (aka: kids between the ages of 7- 13) notify Rosanne via email no later than the Wednesday before each meeting. Pebble pups program is before each monthly meeting from 7 PM to 7:30 PM.

Tote Show - Kelley F.: The July 28th to 30th show sign-up sheets are on the back table...we need volunteers for the tables, displays and demonstrations.

VP of Presentations - Jessica Bates:

August: No Presentation, we will play Mineral Bingo

September: TGMS Auction, if you have any donations, contact Robin.

If you are interested in doing a presentation, please contact Jessica.

New Business:

Community Outreach: Per Kelley F. the Virginia Aquarium has requested TGMS and specifically Roger Blackman “Mr. Fluorescence” to demonstrate at their Family Night in June.

Old/Unfinished Business:

Bylaws – Kelley F.: In Progress – the board met and approved the changes – they should be going out to the general membership soon. So be on the lookout for them in the same manner that you currently receive the monthly newsletter. Please review then and bring any questions you have at the following monthly meeting.

Committee chairs – Appointed by the President - please consider helping, most positions take less than 1 hour per month, many take less time if shared duties. If we do not have a volunteer, that service may be suspended. Call Robin if you are interested in one of these chairs:

Librarian	Nomination
Pebble Pubs (co-chair)	Field Trip (co-chair)

Raffle – Amanda & Lloyd: As always, the door prize and raffle produced many satisfied winners.

Program – Jessica: We made the children’s bags for the TOTE show. Then Joel Spencer talked about where he found some of his calcite clams in Virginia Beach as well as other specimens. Many members took advantage of Joel’s specimen sale and they will now have new homes with our TGMS members. Thank You Joel!

End Meeting Time: 8:03 PM





Tidewater Gem & Mineral Society
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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.

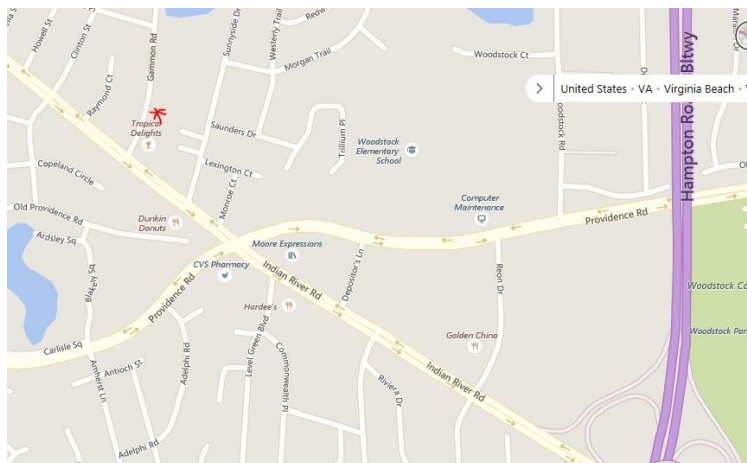
Meetings are the third Friday of each month at 7:30 PM at Memorial United Methodist Church located at 804 Gammon Road, Virginia Beach, VA. Our monthly meetings are open to everyone, no admission is charged.

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
August 18th 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)



Corny Joke Answer:

You know that you have really
hit rock bottom.

