



# The Tidewater Prospector



Newsletter for the Tidewater Gem and Mineral Society March 2022 Virginia Beach, VA

## **PRESIDENT**

Robin Stoughton  
(757) 822-9631

## **1st VICE PRESIDENT (Membership)**

Kelley Finch  
(757) -630-6607

## **2nd VICE PRESIDENT (Program/Entertainment)**

Jessica Bates  
(757) 354-9622

## **TREASURER (Finance)**

Lloyd Schiffler  
(757) 495-7946

## **SECRETARY (History/Library)**

Jennifer Spitz  
(757) 650-2788

## **WORKSHOPS**

Bill Stoughton  
(757) 340-5391

## **SHOWS**

Kelley Finch  
(757) 630-6607

## **NEWSLETTER**

Judy Hyszcak  
(757) 533-1512

## **FIELD TRIPS**

Kelley Finch  
(757) 630-6607

## **WAYS & MEANS**

Position Open

## **LIBRARIAN**

Jennifer Spitz  
(757) 650-2788

## **HOSPITALITY**

Robin Stoughton  
(757) 822-9631

## **WEBSITE**

Brooks Britt  
(757) 745-7104

## **Notes from the President**

by Robin Stoughton



Thanks to everyone who helped make the kids grab bags last month at our meeting. We will probably make the adult grab bags in June.

Our annual club auction has been moved to April due to the show this month being too close to our meeting. If you have items you would like to donate to the auction, bring them to the meeting this month or in April. Label them and if you want a minimum bid on it, please put that on the item also.

Hospitality: Anyone is welcome to bring snacks to our meetings.

Workshops: None scheduled at this time. Workshop will be moving to a new location soon.

Reminder: All newsletter info needs to be to Judy by the 3rd of the month



## **TREASURER'S REPORT**



## **TREASURER'S TWO CENTS**

February was a busy month for the club's treasury since no meeting was held in January.

Attendance was very good at the meet-ing. The paid raffle raised \$68 and one T-shirt was sold for \$10. 28 adults and 3 children (including two new members) paid their 2022 club dues for a total of **\$382.50**.

**Please welcome** our newest members: **Destri TOUPS** and her son **Zia** to the club! That brings total membership for 2022 to 54 adults and 16 children.

The club had more expenses than nor-mal for February. These included EFMLS annual club insurance for \$384.54 and EFMLS annual club dues for \$178.50, as well as other routine expenses. The treasury balance is about \$5,423.

## **2022 Club DUES are Now DUE**

Club Dues for 2022 will be **\$15 for Adults**, **\$7.50 for Children under 16**, and **Free for children 5 years and younger**.



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

# Hear Ye, Hear Ye!

## New Year....New Board...New Documents

We are still in the process of reviewing and revising the Society's Constitution and Bylaws. The current document that is on our website is inaccurate and needs to be updated.

The IRS non-profit rules and regulations are complex and we must meet various requirements to maintain our private non-profit status. In addition to filing various forms, we must submit a copy of our constitution and bylaws; hence the need to revise and update them.

So, keep your eyes open for the revised document, as required we will send the revised constitution and bylaws out to our members to review. All members will be able to ask questions at several monthly meetings, at the third meeting all voting members will vote on the revised constitution and bylaws.

We will have a team of non-profit professionals review the package prior to submitting it for the Society. And of course, once voted on/approved, the new constitution and bylaws will be placed up on the Society website. If you want to check out the current ones, the website address is <http://tgms.weebly.com/>

## T.O.T.E. Gem, Mineral & Jewelry

### March 11<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup>



The upcoming Treasures of the Earth (T.O.T.E.) Show is a great opportunity to get together and catch up with other TGMS members while helping the club. Please consider volunteering...even just an hour will be a great help. Only members who volunteer will be entered into a raffle drawing for a one year subscription to the Rock and Gem magazine or a \$25.00 gift card if they already receive the magazine.

If you cannot make it to the show, we need help setting up on the 10<sup>th</sup> starting at 12:30. Point of Contact is Kelley Finch (757-630-6607). We will be in Hall A - that is not the USUAL hall; it is over on the far right of the building.



### CORNY JOKE

You want to hear the best rock puns?



Answer on last page

# TGMS MEETING Minutes

Minutes taken by Jennifer Spitz

## TGMS Meeting Minutes – 02/18/22

Robin S. called the meeting to order at 7:35 PM & welcomed New Members & Guests and recognized members with February Birthdays.

### Communications / Announcement / Committees:

#### Treasurers Report – Lloyd S.: December 31, 2021

Balance on Hand November 30, 2021:	\$6,236.57
<u>December Income</u>	
Memberships (10 Adults, 2 Children)	\$157.50
T-Shirt Sale (1)	\$10.00
Total December Income	\$167.50

<u>December Expenses</u>	
Church Donation	\$200.00
Jack Rabbit Self-Storage (January)	\$136.00
Church Meeting (December)	\$40.00
Holiday Party Food-extra (Robin S.)	\$20.00
Total December Expenses	\$396.00

Balance on Hand December 31, 2021 \$6,008.07

#### Treasurers Report – Lloyd S.: January 21, 2021

Balance on Hand December 31, 2021:	\$6,008.07
<u>January Income</u>	
Memberships (5 Adults)	\$75.00
Total January Income	\$75.00

<u>January Expenses</u>	
Holiday Party Prizes (Judy H.)	\$202.50
Jack Rabbit Self-Storage (February)	\$136.00
Total January Expenses	\$338.50

Balance on Hand January 31, 2022 \$5,744.57

President-Robin S.: Present

1<sup>st</sup> VP (Membership) – Kelley F.: Present

2<sup>nd</sup> VP-Jessica B.: Not Present

Treasurer-Lloyd S.: Present

Newsletter Editor-Judy H.: Present

Secretary – Jennifer S.: Present

Librarian – Wesley J.: Not Present, Jennifer S. until further notice



# TGMS MEETING Minutes (continued)

**Workshops – Bill S.:** Present but No workshops for the remainder of the year.

**Two Long Time Members Lost:** Cheri Jackson (former TGMS Secretary) and Roger Tango.

Roger Tango was a member with TGMS for over 20 years. He organized the free and paid raffle at every meeting. Most of the raffle items were from his own collection. He always wrote articles for the TGMS newsletter. Organized the TGMS elections making the ballots and running the election. Volunteered at the tote shows at the Virginia Beach Convention Center.

Mike (Cheri Jackson's Son) stated Cheri served as the TGMS secretary for over 20 years. Reflected back on the memories he had with her and the TGMS club members, memories he will treasure his entire life. He and his mother thought of TGMS as a family. He appreciates the kind words from the group members to his family.

**Newsletter – Judy H.:** Articles for the newsletter are encouraged. Submit potential articles by the third of each month for the monthly newsletter.

**New Workshop Location-Bill S. and Kelley F.:** The location of the workshop will be changed soon. Bill has run the workshop for 15 years. Bill was thanked for allowing the workshop to operate out of his home for many years. Kelley announced that there is a new location in mind and the board is working on a couple different options. There is one club member that is willing to set the workshop up at their house. Kelley asked the TGMS members if anyone was interested to please talk to her.

**TGMS Library:** The references will be inventoried and available to check out soon.

**Field trip-Kelley F.:** Would appreciate feedback and suggestions from the club members on where to go for field trips. Her contact information is in the newsletter. At this time, she has not heard back from Pipsico for the bi-annual fossil dig. JMU may recently within the past 6 months opened up a rock and mineral museum, which would be a good opportunity. One trip she suggested was to take a group to Graves Mountain to do a private dig if enough people attend.

**TOTE Show –Kelley F.:** Next TOTE Show is March 11<sup>th</sup> through the 13<sup>th</sup>, 2022. Last TOTE Show October 2021 there were 26 volunteers. There is 90 hours of time to fill, even if people can only volunteer for one hour. If members are interested in doing a display, there are four big cases available. Demonstrations are needed. Tom Leary will be doing a display for TGMS at the show. Thursday March 10<sup>th</sup> at 12:30, volunteers will show up at the TGMS storage unit to gather supplies and to set up the displays. TGMS needs trucks and vans to haul supplies. Volunteers will set up on Thursday, assist at the tables on Friday, Saturday, Sunday and tear down on Sunday. Jack Rabbit access code can be provided if anyone would like to meet at the storage unit to assist with loading supplies. Volunteers are needed to set up, tear down, work the tables, and if anyone is interested in doing a display or demonstration. Contact Kelley to sign-up and volunteer for the show. For the July 2022 TOTE show the club board is proposing to sell \$10 grab bags.

**Updating TGMS Documents -Kelley F:** The TGMS board members are in the process of updating the private non-profit status documents. Kelley is hoping to see if a benefactor would provide the club with a location. In order to move forward with this proposal, the official documents need to be updated. TGMS board members are in the process of reworking the by-laws and will send them to the club members via email. According to the by-laws, a period of 2 months is required for these terms to be

reviewed by the TGMS members. The by-laws will be voted in on the third meeting after the by-laws are officially sent to all club members for review. Norfolk public library would like us to do presentations. Potential educational activity for TGMS to keep their organization status.

**Lifetime Membership Award- Lloyd S.:** President Robin S. surprised Lloyd S., the club Treasurer, with a lifetime membership as a thank you for his services as Treasurer since 1993. Congratulations Lloyd! Thank you for your continued hard work and dedication to this organization.

**Old/Unfinished Business:** None

**New Business:** None

**Raffles & Silent Auction:** Kelley F. conducted door prize raffle, the purchased raffle and the silent auction – always many happy winners!

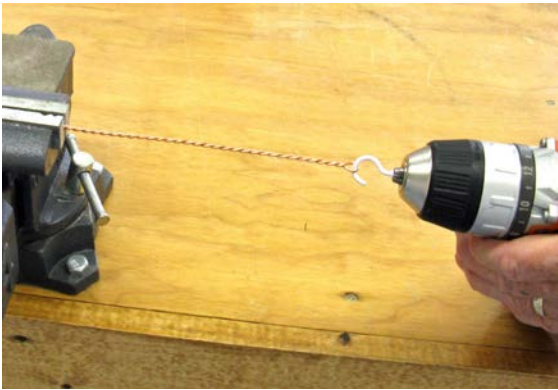
**Program:** TGMS Members made \$1 grab bags for the March 2022 TOTE show this evening.

Meeting ended at 8:45 PM

## Brad's Bench Tips

by Brad Smith

### TWISTING WIRE



Twisting wire can be done with an old hand drill but goes much faster with a power tool. My preference is to use a screw gun, although a Foredom should do well.

Just make a little hook out of coat hanger wire (or use a screw-in cup hook) and chuck it up in your screw gun. Grip the free ends of the wire in a vice and slip the looped end onto your hook. Keep a little tension on the wires as you twist.

Note that a power drill is too fast a tool for this unless you have one with variable speed.



### MAGNETIC TOOL BAR

An easy way to keep all your files organized at the bench is to use a magnetic tool strip. They're not expensive and help keep a lot of small tools from cluttering the bench top. I got a couple of them from Harbor Freight for about \$5 each.

See <http://www.harborfreight.com> and search on-"magnetic-holder"

My only regret was putting some of my small drills on the magnets. The drills got a little magnetized and now stick together when I carry them in a bottle in my tool box.

### SOLDERING PRONGS



I often use prongs to hold an irregular cab or other object on rings and pendants. But prongs can be a little tricky to solder. You have to find some way to hold them all upright while soldering, and the simple butt joint that looks strong sometimes breaks when you start to bend the prong over the stone. There's nothing worse than having a prong break off when you're setting the stone \*#~\*!

I solved both problems with one little trick. It keeps the prongs in position for soldering, and it gives you a stronger joint at the same time.

Locate and center punch the position for each prong. Then drill holes a little smaller than your prong wire. Sand a small taper on the ends of your prong wires and stand them up in the holes. The wires support themselves, soldering is easy, and the joint is stronger because of the increased soldering area.



Smart Solutions for Your Jewelry Making Problems  
[Amazon.com/author/bradfordsmith](https://www.amazon.com/author/bradfordsmith)





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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](mailto:bhbritt@verizon.net) You can also view this newsletter on the site.

Email [hyszczak@cox.net](mailto: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!

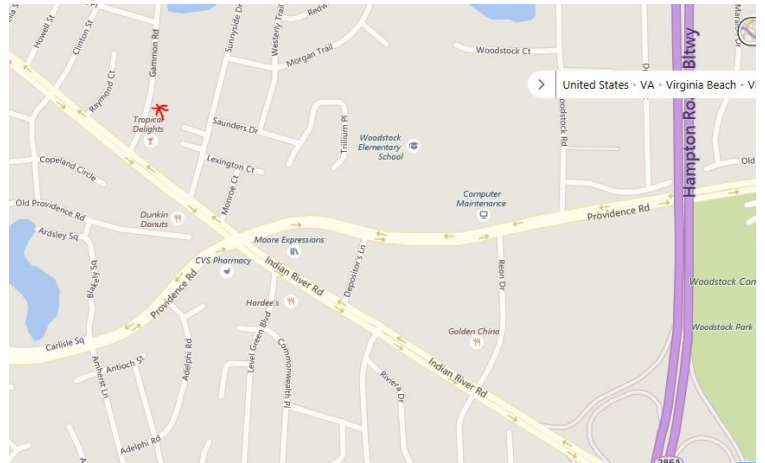
**Facebook:** <http://www.facebook.com> Login to FB, then go to Groups and in the search box, type in "Tidewater Gem & Mineral Society", The page is open to view by anyone. Click "join" to join the group to add photos of your own and to post information. Brooks administrates the site and will get back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



**Corny Joke Answer:**

Give me a moment and I'll dig something up.

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Our meeting in March will be on  
 March the 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)

