



# The Tidewater Prospector



Newsletter for the Tidewater Gem and Mineral Society September 2021 Virginia Beach, VA

## **PRESIDENT**

Robin Stoughton  
(757) 822-9631

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

Mike Jackson  
(757) 855-1207

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

(position open)

## **TREASURER (Finance)**

Lloyd Schiffelbian  
(757) 495-7946

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

Cheri Jackson  
(757) 855-1207

## **WORKSHOPS**

Bill Stoughton  
(757) 340-5391

## **SHOWS**

Rosanne Hinshaw  
(757) 409-9794

## **NEWSLETTER**

Judy Hyszcak  
(757) 533-1512

## **FIELD TRIPS**

(position open)

## **WAYS & MEANS**

Roger Tiangco  
(757) 490-3768

## **LIBRARIAN**

Wesley Jacocks  
wesley18@cox.net  
(757) 466-8138

## **HOSPITALITY**

Robin Stoughton  
(757) 822-9631

## **WEBSITE**

Brooks Britt  
(757) 745-7104

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

## **Notes from the President**

by Robin Stoughton



Hello members!!!! We had an awesome turn out at our last meeting, lots of guests and a few new members. Thanks to everyone who brought their favorite rocks to share with everyone.

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY** to all members who are celebrating their birthday this month!

This month's program will be presented by Brooks Britt and if you want to buy beautiful Montana agates, be at the meeting! A notice went out that the crafter's night that was originally planned for the September meeting has been rescheduled for October.

If any of you have decided to be co-show chairs, please let me know at the meeting. Our next show, and last show for the year, will be October 8-10 with setup on Thursday Oct. 7th. Contact our show chair, Rosanne Hinshaw at 757-409-9794 to help setup and during the show.

We need members to demonstrate their lapidary crafts and we also need members to set up display cases. Judy will be setting up a large display at the show. We have small cases and large available. I have to know at the meeting if anyone else wants to do a display. **REMINDER:** You **MUST** be current on your dues and be trained before you can use the club machines at the next show. Non-members are not allowed to use the machines.

**REMINDER:** We will be having both last year's and this year's elections in November, so all members on the nominating committee need to get everything ready.

Hospitality: All members are welcome to bring snacks and drinks to share. I have not gotten an okay yet for our annual Christmas party in December. If we do get the okay, it will be on the 2nd Friday, instead of the usual 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday. We will have the meeting, just not sure on all the food yet.

Workshops: None are planned at this time.

**REMINDER:** All newsletter info to Judy by the 3<sup>rd</sup> of each month.

## **TREASURER'S REPORT**



August was an average month for the club's treasury.

We had many new and visiting members at the club's August meeting, which was nice! The club raised \$76 from the paid raffle, \$30 from the sale of 3 T-shirts, and \$30 when 4 new members joined the club.

**Please welcome** the following new members: **Arianna & Izzy ANDERSON** and **Amanda & Debra ARAB!** That brings total club membership for 2021 to 90 adults and 4 children.

Club expenses were routine, except for \$134 for the club's yearly Post Office box, \$29.95 for 1 year of **Rock & Gem** for July's show volunteer (**Roger Tiangco**), and \$25 to register the club with the State Corporation Commission. The treasury balance is now about \$5,266.



# Meeting Minutes

Minutes taken by Kelley Finch

Robin called the meeting to order at 7:40 PM

Welcomed All – especially many New Members & Guests

There weren't previous meeting minutes due to no July meeting because the TOTE show was the same weekend.

Treasurers Report was given by Lloyd

Balance on Hand June 30, 2021: \$2,982.51

## JULY INCOME:

July Show Total = \$3,084.19

Adult, Fossil & Child Grab Bags & Donations: \$2,577.19

Memberships (25 adults & 2 children): \$260.00

Raffle (quartz plate): \$227.00

T-shirt sales (2): \$20.00

## JULY EXPENSES

Printer: \$317.099

Jack Rabbit Self-storage: \$136

Total Expenses: \$453.99

Balance on Hand July 31: \$5612.71

Newsletter submissions need to be to Judy H. by the 3<sup>rd</sup> of each month.

Snacks and Drinks are now allowed by the church – feel free to donate.

## Communications / Announcements:

Happy Birthday to Members with a birthday this month.

### Chairpersons Reports:

Wesley – Library: unavailable

Bill – Workshop: None for the remainder of the year

Kelley – Field Trips: Willis Mt. Dig possible on 9/25 – more details will be shared as they are received. There is typically limited space so respond ASAP if interested. This dig is typically for 18 and up – requires a current hard hat (check the expiration date), pants and closed toed shoes.

## Reports from Special Committees:

Robin – TOTE Show:

Thanks to all volunteers who helped with the July show – was our best ever with regards to funds raised and new memberships. Roger T. won the volunteer raffle and chose a year subscription to Rock & Gem magazine.

Next TOTE show is October 8<sup>th</sup> thru 10<sup>th</sup> (set up starts at noon on 10/07).

Please volunteer even an hour if possible. If you would like to be a co-chair, please contact Robin.

Roxanne – Pebble Pub Program:

She will organize and activity – request parents contact her prior to meeting to give her an idea of the number of and ages of children who will be attending the next meeting.

## Old/Unfinished Business

Christmas Party – On for now – the 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday in December (10/10/21) and will be buffet/potluck style with a voluntary “Pollyanna” gift exchange/trade.

New Business – None

Raffles – conducted door prize raffle then the purchased raffle – many happy winners.

Program – open floor format for members to share their projects, finds and experiences.

Jay G. offered to give a presentation on his recent trip to Bryce Canyon, UT...currently scheduled for the November meeting.

Meeting ended at 9:00 PM

# ROGER'S REFLECTIONS

By Roger Tiangco

EVERYTIME I SEE THE BREEZE, PLAYFULLY PASSING THRU THE TREES, I AM FILLED WITH MEMORIES OF OUR LATEST SUMMER MEET! YES, THE NIGHT WAS DARK - BUT WHAT A BLISS, I SAW THE AUGUST MOON THAT HAD SHONE ABOVE – AND TALK ABOUT OUR MEETING OF 20<sup>th</sup> AUGUST, 2021 – MEMBERS WITH THEIR HAULS OF ROCKS AND MINERALS ON THEIR TABLES SPREAD! THE ORIGIN OF WHICH BRINGS TO MIND: ROCK, BEING A LARGE MASS OF STONE FORMING A HILL, CLIFF, PROMONTORY OR THE LIKE, WHERE MINERAL MATTER OF VARIABLE COMPOSITIONS, CONSOLIDATED, ASSEMBLED “EN MASSE” OR OF CONSIDERABLE QUANTITIES. THESE ARE THE BRICKS OF WHICH OUR EARTH IS MADE. THEY ARE INORGANIC CHEMICAL ELEMENTS OR COMPOUNDS OCCURRING NATURALLY.

**GIANT CLAM SHELL:** Silver-plated ruffled Clam shell! This gem-of-the-seas is over 450 grams in weight and measured over 5”x 4” in size. How the divers were able to retrieve this rare-mollusk out of its abyssal marine world is beyond me! The winner was all-smiles upon hearing her ticket number being called. Best collecting areas: Indo-China seas and Philippines Seas.



**SODALITE:** One happy winner – will now provide a new home to this polished cabochon of over 10 grams. As we already know, Sodalite is a gemstone made of sodium-aluminum silicate with chlorine. This gemstone has bright Royal blue color – with a streak of white and somewhat greasy. Sodalite if properly heated, will fluoresce orange color, under the UV light. Most often, Sodalite does not contain any pyrite unlike Lazurite/Lapis Lazuli. Sodalite is used by artists for their choice of blue pigments in their art works. Best collecting areas: Arkansas and Maine.



**PETRIFIED WOOD:** A sawed-off rough specimen, had stirred some quizzical admiration at the Meeting, is it Jasperized, Opalized or Agatized? The very lucky winner knew that Petrified wood has undergone a process called “petrification” – that is, the tree got buried in the ground for millions of years. This may include burial in place by volcanic ash or it got enveloped in sediments during floods. Like most of us – we are aware how difficult it is to find a piece of this rock. We are not allowed to collect such specimen on Public Land – administered by Bureau of Land Management without their blessing and a NO! NO! - especially in National Parks. Best collecting areas: Arizona, California, North Dakota, Michigan and Washington.



**LABRADORITE:** This gemstone, belonging to the plagioclase feldspar family – is one of the most abundant minerals on our planet Earth. It is found to have a mixture of sodium and calcium aluminum silicate, often as a constituent of iron-magnesium rich rocks. The winner has taken home this specimen of over 30 grams – that has blue-green flashes, at times called “labradorescence”. Believed to have been first discovered in Labrador, Canada – and hence, called the name “Labradorite”. Mostly opaque, this gemstone, when showing light passing thru inner depth of the stone, are called “spectrolite”. Most gemmy Spectrolites are from either Finland or USSR. Locally best collecting areas: California, North Carolina & Amelia County of Virginia.



**PYRITE:** Most widespread of sulfide minerals, it occurs in rocks of many types and all types of hydrothermal veins, As true to most of us – the prize winner was very knowledgeable about this mineral. It has a sparkling gold sheen – in every angle! It is known to have iron disulfide, with substantial amount of nickel and cobalt. People of the medieval times believed Pyrite to calm uprisings and preserver bearer from all dangers – but also capable of burning the hand that clutches it. Pyrite on weathering, produces sulphuric acid and the hand from perspiration, is apt to react chemically – burning the palm. Best collecting areas: Colorado, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Utah and Virginia.



## DOOR PRIZES

Winners of the following rocks/minerals, will now provide a new home to the following:

Quartz (rhombohedral shape), Amazonite (polished stone), Rhodonite, & Quartzite (in matrix).



**NOTE! HEY GUYS!** - Let's give a heartfelt “Thank You” to the “anonymous” Lady that donated money for the Club!



## Brad's Bench Tips

by Brad Smith

### JUST A DROP

Hobby shops and model airplane stores carry small plastic dispenser bottles that are handy for putting a drop of flux, oil, or glue just where you want it. They have a length of small metal tubing coming out the top that lets you squeeze out very small drops.

I use one with a short length of tubing for oil when I'm sawing or when drilling harder metals like steel. Another bottle I found in a plastics store has a longer length of metal tubing on it. Plastics people use them for dispensing fast drying glues to join pieces of acrylic. The long metal tube let's you reach into tight places. Either of these is handy for flux at the soldering station.



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



### FOREDOM MAINTENANCE

If you have a Foredom flexshaft, it makes sense to check it over every so often to be sure it's running properly. But how to do that? You've probably lost the little booklet that came with the unit. Well, being the good company it is, Foredom has put together an extensive set of videos on how to everything.

The series covers set-up, lubrication, replacing a sheath, motor maintenance, and handpiece maintenance. Few if any special tools are needed. You can watch the videos at [www.foredom.net/flexibleshafthmachinemaintenance.aspx](http://www.foredom.net/flexibleshafthmachinemaintenance.aspx) particularly under "Foredom Basics" or the "Foredom Shafting..." categories.

Any repair parts needed are available on the Foredom site or from most jewelry supply catalogs. If you have any question about their products, a phone call or an email will get quick answers.



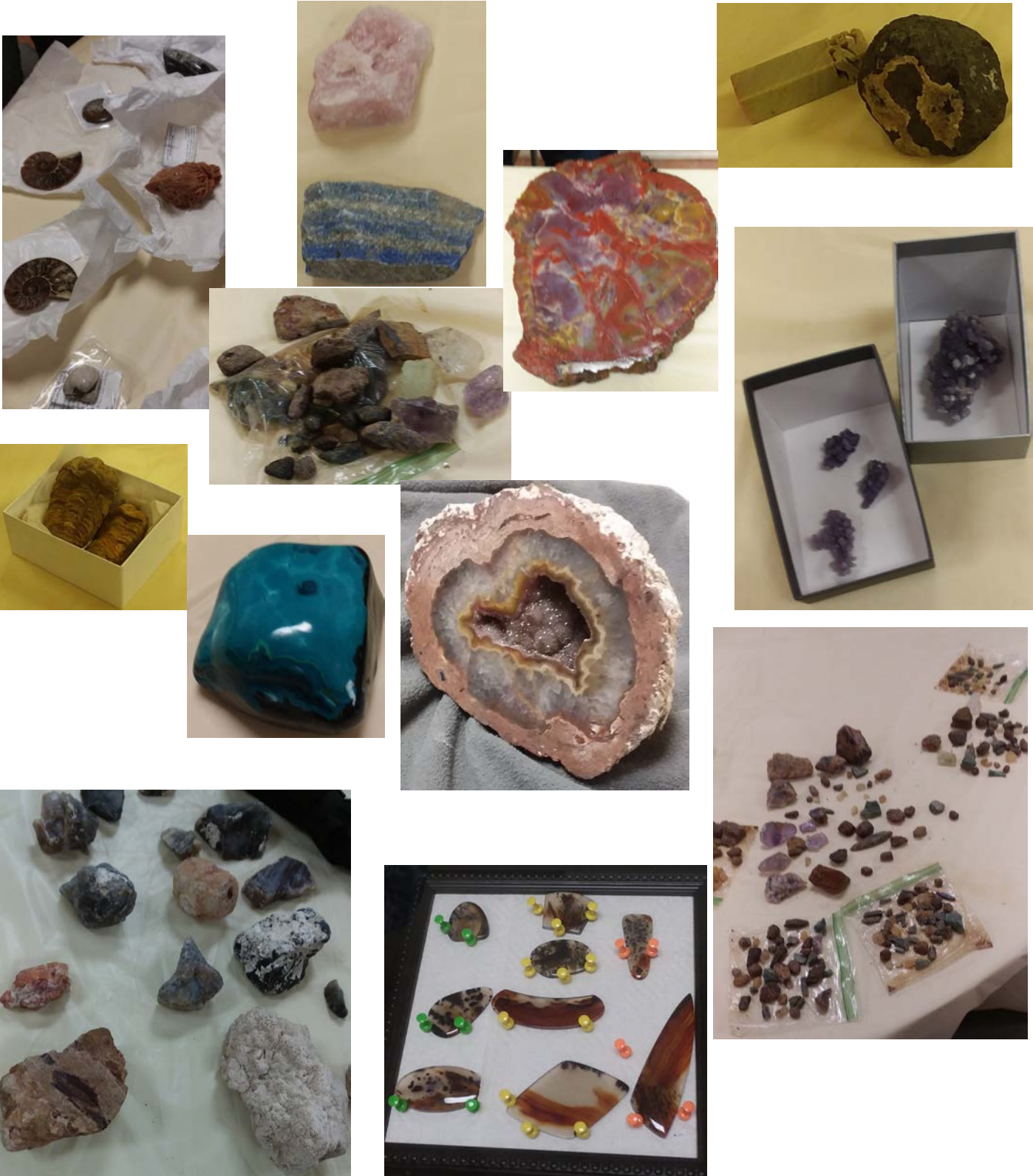
### CORNY JOKE

What do rocks eat?



Answer on back page.

# Program Highlights: Bring a rock to show!



## ELECTION NOTICE!

Please be informed that TGMS Election of Officers will be held on November 19, 2021 and is fast approaching! Please bear in mind that the following Offices are open for Elections:

President  
1st Vice President  
2nd Vice President  
Secretary  
Treasurer



*We will never forget*

### Editor's comment:

It has been 20 years since we were attacked on our soil. I hope that we do not let the younger generations forget the horrors we lived through on 9/11/01 and those who died on that day due to hate.

### NEWSLETTER INFORMATION

- ◆ Please remember the newsletter is best viewed on a computer, not a cell phone. Display size can be adjusted in Acrobat Reader; bring your mouse to lower screen and change to 75% or less.
- ◆ The newsletter will be sent out by email the weekend before the meeting. With the deadline being the 3rd of the month for input, quite often it is ready before then. However, I feel that if it is sent too early, people will think the meeting is that Friday instead of the usual third Friday of the month. The only time we have our meeting on the second Friday is when we have our Christmas Party.
- ◆ If you do not find your newsletter in your Inbox, please check your SPAM folder.
- ◆ To safeguard your email addresses, I blind copy you when the newsletter is sent. The officers and committee heads do have to have their emails public and have been subjected to phishing schemes; we want to lessen the chance of that to our members..
- ◆ We welcome articles from our members; please do not hesitate to send one in! It does not have to be a finished product. It will need to be reformatted to go into the newsletter after all.
- ◆ Those who participate in any of the field trips, please take pictures and send them in so they can be shared with the membership via the newsletter!



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



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. All 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 you are already receiving the magazine.

## OPPORTUNITIES AT THE SHOW:

- ◆ Meet other people with the same interest in rocks and fossils
- ◆ Show your stuff - collection, things made, etc
- ◆ Demonstrate what you do with rocks!
- ◆ Use our Display cases - we have two sizes!
- ◆ Find rough, finished cabs, jewelry findings, fossils from a great selection of vendors and even on the club tables!



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## YOU ARE INVITED!



To the Grand Opening of the new James Madison University Mineral Museum.

**It is on Friday, October 29th at 4:30.**

Everyone who intends to come needs to send an RSVP!

You can respond either by email, by phone call, or by USPS. Please be sure to indicate which club you belong to.

**Ann Marie Coe  
COEAM@JMU.EDU  
540-568-7274**

**or Mail to: Ann Marie Coe  
James Madison University  
Office of Donor Relations  
MSC 3604  
Harrisonburg, VA 22807**



# Desautels Symposium

Mark your Calendar

## 65<sup>th</sup> Annual Paul Desautels Micromount Symposium

Saturday, October 9<sup>th</sup>, 2021 at 1 pm Eastern

**By Zoom**

----- Hall of Fame Inductions by Quintin Wight -----

Jean-Luc Designolle  
Dr. Anthony Kampf

Announcement of New Candidates

----- Talks -----

**Jean-Luc – “Micromounts of the Sancy Massif”**

**Tony – “The Journey from an Unknown to a New Mineral”**

----- Voice Auction -----

Items Selected and Auctioned  
By Al Pribula

Register with Mike Seeds [mseeds@fandm.edu](mailto:mseeds@fandm.edu)  
to receive a free Zoom invite

Michael Seeds  
Prof. of Astronomy  
Franklin & Marshall College  
Lancaster PA 17604



The Sancy Massif





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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!

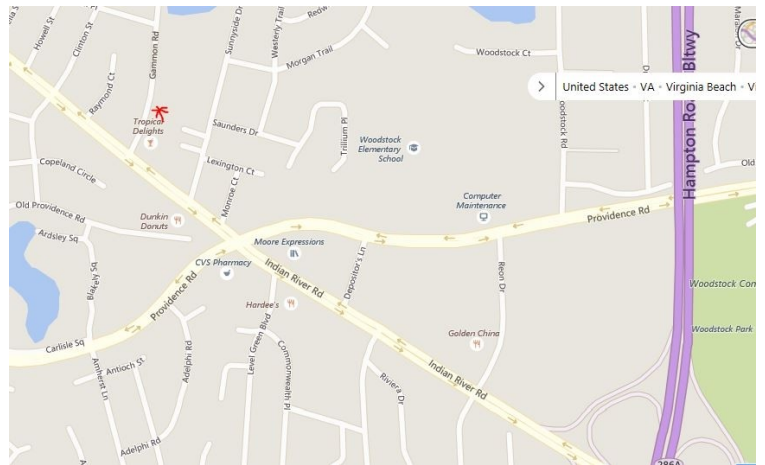
**Facebook:** <http://www.facebook.com> Login to FB, then go to Groups and in the search box, type in "Tidewater Gem & Mineral Society", The page is open to view by anyone. Click "join" to join the group to add photos of your own and to post information. Brooks administrates the site and will get back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



**Corny Joke Answer:**  
 Pom-a-granites.



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Our meeting in September will be on  
 September the 17th 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)

