

A non-profit organization whose goal is to foster the knowledge and appreciation of general geology, minerals, fossils, archaeology, and lapidary arts. An affiliate of the Eastern Federation of Mineral and Lapidary Societies and the American Federation of Mineral Societies.

MARCH 2022

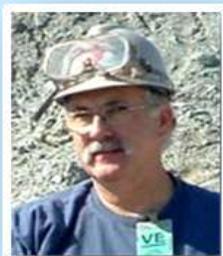
An Award-Winning Publication

VOLUME 62 ISSUE 3

March Meetings Info

The Membership Meeting will be held in person on **Tuesday, March 8 at 7:00 pm.** Masks are optional if you're vaccinated.

The Board will hold a virtual meeting on **March 15 at 6:30 pm.** (If this changes, we will be notified.)



The President's Message

- by Lynn Taylor

Marching Forward!

With the Covid numbers headed in the direction we wanted, we're ready to hold an in-person meeting again this month. For members who have been vaccinated, masks will be optional.

I'm really excited about this month's program. Member Chuck Stilson will be presenting on how to stay safe while collecting in quarries. Chuck always has excellent programs, and I'm sure we'll all enjoy this one as well.

Our schedule this month is finally starting to look like "BC" (Before Covid). We have the Treasures of the Earth Show over the weekend of the 18th-20th. Volunteers are still needed, and are encouraged to reach out to Andy Dietz. Later in the month, Pamm Bryant and Valerie Johnson are giving another class in wire weaving. On the last page of this newsletter are just a couple of the upcoming shows. Lots more coming!

Keep an eye on the ground, and the other on the sky - Lynn

In This Issue...

President's Message.....	1
March Meetings Info.....	1
Calendar of Events.....	1
Feb Board Meeting Minutes.....	2
TOTE Show Volunteers.....	2
RGMS Contacts.....	2
Feb Membership Minutes.....	3
TOTE Show Announcement.....	3
W&M VJAS Symposium.....	3
March Meeting Info.....	4
Membership Info.....	4
Wildacres Info.....	4
Jewelry Bench Tips.....	5
Wire Weaving Jewelry Class.....	5
MAGMA Events.....	6
Other Shows Happening.....	6

Calendar of Events – March 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8 Member Meeting	9	10	11	12
13 Daylight Savings Time starts	14	15 Virtual Board Meeting	16	17 	18	19
TOTE Show				24	25 Newsletter Deadline	26 Wire Weave Class
27	28					

February Board Meeting Minutes

For the Richmond Gem & Mineral Society

February 18, 2021

The February 2022 ZOOM Meeting of the RGMS Board was hosted by Webmaster Jim Campbell and opened by President Lynn Taylor at 6:35 p. m. Additional attendees were Pamm Bryant, , Andy Dietz, Jim Campbell, Thomas Hale, Cathy and Julia Paine, Eddie Patton, and Frank Toth.

President Lynn Taylor stated that he is currently working on a place to have a live board meeting. He also commented that he would like to see more club members at the board meetings.

Pamm announced that she will have a live speaker for the March meeting, but has not firmed up the speaker as of this meeting. The April speaker will be Dave Hutchison.

Andy Dietz noted that the Treasures of the Earth is still on for March 18 – 20 and that we need folks for set up, take down and to man the booth, particularly on Saturday.

Thomas Hale is continuing to digitize the RGMS records and data. To that end, he has made a directory of this data and needs to compare what he has to what is in Betsy Martin's data to ensure that he has covered all sources. The data bank is presently around 1 terabyte in size.

Kathy Paine announced that she wants to take the mini miners on a field trip to Mr. Jarrett's farm, which is along the Saylor's Creek battlefield to metal detect for relics this spring. She has also requested that we reserve a table for her at the Treasures of the Earth show this spring.

No Club field trips have been scheduled as of this meeting.

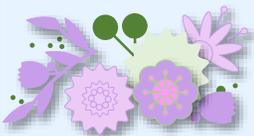
The Tuckahoe Library has been suggested as a place to have Board meetings. We have also been requested to place a display box at this library. Andy has requested that we move board meeting day from Tuesday as he has a conflict on that day for the foreseeable future. There was some discussion on this topic but nothing was changed for now.

Jim Campbell asked if there was someone who could tell the club about rockhounding as far as researching sites, safety, what to look for, etc. The Board agreed that we all could use a refresher on the subject and would look into a speaker for the topic.

There was no further business and the President adjourned the meeting at 7:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Frank Toth, Recording Secretary



Spring!

Treasures of the Earth (TOTE) Show

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

(set-up and take-down, displays and manning the booth)

Contact: Andy Dietz dietziv@yahoo.com

or (804) 922-3905

February Membership Meeting Notes

For the Richmond Gem & Mineral Society

February 11, 2021

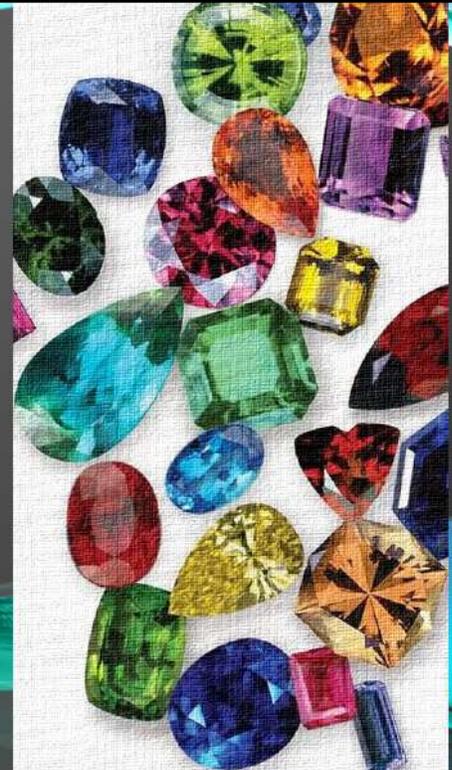
The February 2022 membership meeting was not convened. See Board Meeting notes for updates.

March 18 – 20, 2022

Richmond Raceway Complex

TREASURES OF THE EARTH SHOW

RGMS Booth volunteers wanted



WILLIAM & MARY

CHARTERED 1693

Currently recruiting judges for the
2022 Symposium
(apply by **March 15**)

For more information:

<https://vjas.org/symposium-593706.html>

or contact RGMS member
Tom Girton 804-385-5169

81st Annual Meeting of Virginia Junior Academy of Science

2022 VJAS Research Symposium

*Serving the World Through
Science*

The College of William and Mary
Williamsburg, VA

ALL VIRTUAL

Student presentations will occur
via Zoom on

May 14, 2022

Masks are optional,
if vaccinated

Keeping Safe While Collecting in Quarries

CHUCK STILSON



Mining Engineer
and Geologist
Director of Quarry
Design and
Development
Luck Stone

RGMS MEMBERSHIP MEETING • MARCH 8, 2022 • 7:00 PM

RGMS Membership Information

*Dues for 2022 can be
paid at the March
Membership Meeting
or mailed in
(due in February)*

2022 CLUB DUES

Adult.....	\$12
Family.....	\$18
<i>(includes children under 18)</i>	
Junior (14-17).....	\$5
Mini Miner.....	\$3
<i>(under 14 with adult sponsor)</i>	

Send your Dues to:

RGMS
1622 Rocky Ford Road
Powhatan, VA 23139

WILDACRES
Spring Session
May 16-22, 2022

www.efmls.org

- The Speaker-In-Residence will be Dr. Nathalie Brandes
- Classes – Whether looking to learn a new aspect of the hobby or just wanting to improve your knowledge and skills in an area you already know, with eight (8) classes to choose from, there is sure to be a class for anyone. Class schedule on the website.
- Registration – Download forms from the website. Note that single rooms will be available for an additional fee.

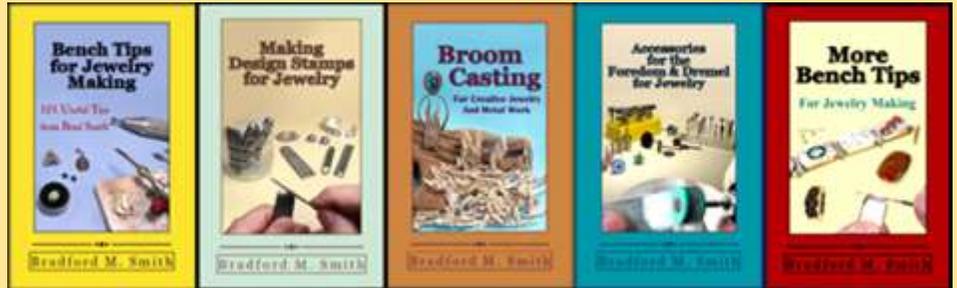
QUESTIONS?

If you have any questions, concerns, etc., you can contact:
Steve Weinberger, *Chairman of the Wildacres Committee*
(cscrystals2@gmail.com)
Suzie Milligan – *regarding registration* (smilligan@stny.rr.com or 607-687-5108)
Mark Kucera – *for info on classes and instructors* (mark_j_kucera@yahoo.com or 914-423-8360)

Class Schedule, and Registration forms are available on the EFMLS website.

Jewelry Bench Tips

courtesy of
Brad Smith



Discover New Jewelry Tricks in Brad's "How To" Books: [Amazon.com/author/bradfordsmith](https://www.amazon.com/author/bradfordsmith)

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.



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.

Wire Weaving Jewelry Class

A Wire Weaving Jewelry
Class will be held
March 26 at 1:00 pm.

Our project will be one of the
woven bead pendants
(as pictured at left).

To sign up, email Valerie at:
moonlightgems@gmail.com

Put "jewelry class" in the
subject line.



Graves Mountain Rock Swap and Dig - May 20 - 22, 2022 – Lincolnton, Georgia
(Please note date change)

No reservations needed. Current covid safety precautions must be observed. Masks must be worn when at food and vending booths. Social distancing must be adhered to. If something changes, it will be posted on the website.

The mountain will be open to collecting from 8 am to 6 pm each day. All attendees must stop at the welcome table to sign a liability release and make a contribution/donation to help with the cost of providing porta johns and golf carts. The dig will end and everyone must be off the mountain by 6:00 p.m. each day.

There will be an area in the parking lot for vendors to sell and trade minerals. If you would like to setup a booth, contact Jr. at 706-401-3173. Hot food and drinks will be available for purchase on the mountain all three days.

This is a MAGMA event – see the MAGMA/Jacquot & Son Mining website for other information and updates:
www.americanrockhound.com

Other Shows Happening

March 25-27, 2022 – Catawba Valley Gem & Mineral Club Annual Show, Hickory Metro Convention Center, Hickory, 1960 13th Avenue Drive, SE, Hickory, NC. Friday and Saturday 9:00 AM to 6:00 PM, Sunday 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM. Admission \$5.00 for all three days, children 12 and under admitted free. Club web page www.cvgmc.com. Contact Dean Russell, cvgmcsecretary@aol.com or 828-303-1448.

March 26-27, 2022 – Annual Philadelphia Gem & Mineral Show—Mineral Treasures and Fossil Fair sponsored by the Philadelphia Mineral Society, Lulu Temple, 5140 Butler Pike, Plymouth Meeting, Penna. Admission \$7 for adults, \$2 children 12 and under, scouts in uniform free. <https://www.philamineralsociety.org/mineral-show/4527879809>

Note: *Due to time constraints, the postally mailed copy of The Collecting Bag will be printed in black and white until further notice.*



The Collecting Bag

Richmond Gem & Mineral Society
TheCollectingBag@yahoo.com

Barbara Hadley, Editor
9359 Cedar Lane
Mechanicsville, Virginia 23116



**DEADLINE FOR
THE NEXT ISSUE:
MARCH 25**

Meetings are the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 pm at the Ridge Baptist Church, 1515 Eastridge Rd, Henrico, VA 23229
Bulletin articles and items may be reprinted provided that credit is given to the author and the Richmond Gem & Mineral Society.