



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.

MAY 2022

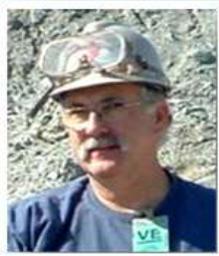
An Award-Winning Publication

VOLUME 62 ISSUE 5

## May Meetings Info

The Board Meeting will be held on **May 10 at 6:30 pm, before the Membership Meeting.**

The Membership Meeting will be held in person on **Tuesday, May 10 at 7:00 pm.**



## The President's Message

- by Lynn Taylor

### Spring is blooming!

Dave Hutchinson will be presenting our program this month, on fossil lycopods. Dave is a captivating speaker, so this promises to be great. We'll be holding the Board meeting immediately before the Membership meeting again this month.

I want to thank all my co-presenters for their presentations in April. Kudos to Dave, Pamm, and Andy!

We have another wire weaving class in May, sponsored by Pamm Bryant and Valerie Johnson. This month they will be wire wrapping a cabochon.

We have some decisions to be made regarding the lapidary sessions for the club. I'd like to ask each of you to take a few minutes to fill out a survey, even if you've never attended a lapidary session, we'd like to know your thoughts. See page 4 of this newsletter for a link to the survey.

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

### In This Issue...

President's Message.....	1
May Meetings Info.....	1
Calendar of Events ..	1
April Membership Mtg Minutes .....	2
RGMS Contacts .....	2
April Board Minutes.....	3
July Meeting Venue .....	3
Something for Everyone!.....	4
Lapidary Survey .....	4
May Meeting Info.....	5
Membership Info .....	5
Wildacres Info.....	5
Club Contribution .....	6
Wire Weaving Jewelry Class.....	6
MAGMA Events .....	7
Upcoming Shows.....	7

### Calendar of Events – May 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	<b>10</b> <b>Board + Member Meeting</b>	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	<b>27</b> <b>Newsletter Deadline</b>	<b>28</b> <b>Wire Weaving Class</b>
29		31				

## April Membership Meeting Minutes

*For the Richmond Gem & Mineral Society*

*April 12, 2022*

The April meeting was opened by President Lynn Taylor by welcoming all in attendance to the 2022 season of the RGMS. Lynn welcomed the following guests to our meeting and asked that each one would tell the group their main interest:

Taylor	Geology	Jill	Collector
Pat	New Member	Tyler	Collector
Amanda & Neptune	Collectors	Jill & Mike Matthew Former members, coming back. Will bring grandkids.	
Amy	"Here to learn"		

**Programs:** Pamm Bryant announced that the May topic will be about fossil lycopods presented by Dave Hutchison.

Pamm also announced the spring Wildacres session will be from May 16th to the 22nd and the speaker for the session would be Natalie Brandis.

**Activities:** Andy Dietz announced that the Annual Swap and sale will be held on the 2nd Saturday of November and that he is sending out the notices to last year's vendors. He also noted that the club has been invited to participate in the Treasures of the Earth show in September. This event is free to RGMS members to attend.

No field trips are scheduled at this time.

Andy spoke briefly about the Lapidary shop as to whether the club wanted to continue with it and to what extent the membership would be willing to participate.

Pamm and Valerie have a class planned for earring making on April 23. Contact them for more information.

The Moorefield Mine is having a sale on April 16, 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. This may be your last chance to visit this property for the foreseeable future.

There was no further business and the meeting was adjourned at 8:00 at which time the program began.

Respectfully submitted,  
Frank Toth, Recording Secretary



Please be sure to take our survey  
about the future of RGMS Lapidary.

See page 4 of this newsletter.

Thanks!

## April Board Meeting Notes

*For the Richmond Gem & Mineral Society*

*April 12, 2022*

The April 2022 RGMS Board meeting was opened by President Lynn Taylor at 6:35 p. m. in the Ridge Baptist Church Fellowship Hall. Additional attendees were Pamm Bryant, Andy Dietz, Jim Campbell, Dave Hutchison, Bob Simon, Carl Miller, Bobbie Sandvig and Frank Toth.

Pamm announced that the upcoming presentations were Dave Hutchison on fossils for May and possibly Rudy Bland for June. We are not able to use the church fellowship hall for July and have come up with nothing for that time slot as of yet. Dave will contact the church to see if it would be possible for us to use the fellowship hall on the 3rd Tuesday of July.

Andy advised that the Treasures of the Earth show has contacted him as to whether we want to participate in the fall show. The Board consensus was YES however, we will bring it before the membership to verify.

Carl Miller advised that he would reach out to Mark Davis to see if he has had any luck in setting up any field trips.

Treasurer Dave Hutchison stated that we have membership dues coming steadily and finances were OK.

Bobbie Sandvig announced that refreshments were all going to be wrapped items and bottled water and soda. She will wait until she gets further direction from the Board prior to changing this policy.

### **New Business**

Lynn noted that there will be no more notices in the bulletin about mask wearing. It will be up to each member and their individual judgement and requirements.

Richard Starr has contacted Lynn to advise him that he would like the lapidary equipment relocated from his garage. He has other obligations and will not be able to keep it there going forward. Andy suggested that we put out a survey questionnaire as to whether members would help finance new equipment, pay for classes, help with space rental and associated items.

Jim Campbell asked if we had any budget allowances for advertising. The Board will investigate and advise. He also asked when we were going to make a new brochure.

Andy noted that the swap is scheduled for the 2nd Saturday in November (Nov. 12), and that he has sent flyers to last year's table renters.

There was no further business and the meeting was adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Frank Toth, Recording Secretary

### **In search of a meeting venue for July**

**We can't meet on our usual night at the church, during July and are looking for a large enough space to hold our club meeting.**

**If you have access to a large enough space that is available 7 to 11 pm on July 12, please contact a board member!**



# Something for Everyone!

By Diane Moxley

As a multi-year member of RGMS, I often felt intimidated in the beginning, by all of the various experts in our club. We have museum-level mineral collectors, a dinosaur specialist, a fossil turtle aficionado, people who could probably recite the chemical formulas in their sleep, and then the “other” people like me who simply like and collect rocks. We have no particular agenda for what we collect. We see it, we like it, and we want it for our collection. It’s that simple. Maybe it sparkles just right, or has a nice color, or fits our hand really well when we pick it up. Who knows what makes us feel drawn to this one or that one? We just are. The important thing is...there are a lot more of “us” simple collectors out there than there are experts.

I learned this recently when I volunteered for a shift at TOTES. I talked with many people who were just like me...simple collectors who buy what catches their eye. When I asked them if they were in the rock club, their response was, “Are you kidding? That is for people who already know a lot about rocks.”



What a lesson that was for me, and should be for all of us. Sometimes we overlook the masses in search of a rare specimen. Rare specimens are great, but it is a lot easier to find a diamond in the rough, I think. Even a “rough cut” can look really great after some polishing. As our current membership ages and changes, perhaps our focus on new members should as well.



## The Future of RGMS Lapidary

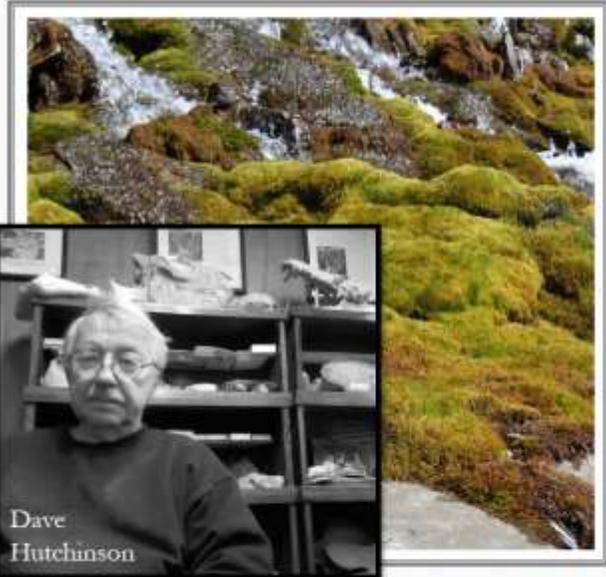
As RGMS reopens after several months of zoom meetings, there are a number of issues the club needs to address as we move forward. Richard Starr wants to relinquish his role as lapidary coordinator and reclaim his garage for his own needs. Also, RGMS needs to address our old lapidary equipment from the safety and functional aspects. We would like to learn if there is sufficient interest among members to continue sessions.

To help us determine a way forward, we’re asking ALL members to take a survey, even if you have not participated in lapidary sessions in the past. The survey will only take about 5 minutes to complete. To access the survey, please click the button below:

[TAKE THE RGMS  
LAPIDARY SURVEY](#)

# Lycopods fossil sunlight

RGMS Membership Meeting  
May 10, 2022 ■ 7:00 PM  
Ridge Baptist Church Meeting Hall



<b>RGMS Membership Information</b>	Dues for 2022 can be paid at the Membership Meeting or mailed (due in January)	<b>2022 CLUB DUES</b>	<b>Mail your Dues to: RGMS 1622 Rocky Ford Road Powhatan, VA 23139</b>
		<b>Adult</b> ..... \$12 <b>Family</b> ..... \$18 <i>(includes children under 18)</i> <b>Junior (14-17)</b> ..... \$5 <b>Mini Miner</b> ..... \$3 <i>(under 14 with adult sponsor)</i>	

**WILDACRES**  
Spring Session  
May 16-22, 2022

[www.efmls.org](http://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.  
*Note: if old info appears on website, clear your browsing history.*

## LOOKING FOR WAYS TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE CLUB?

I am on the lookout for **original articles**, written by members, **photos**, or **original artworks** by members to include in our newsletter. Items submitted may be entered into the EFMLS Annual Bulletin Editor's Contest.

Mini Miners are strongly encouraged to participate!

Send your original works to: [thecollectingbag@yahoo.com](mailto:thecollectingbag@yahoo.com)

## Wire Weaving Jewelry Class



A Wire Weaving Jewelry Class will be held  
**May 28 at 1:00 pm.**

Our project will be a wire-wrapped cabochon

To sign up, email Valerie at:  
[moonlightgems@gmail.com](mailto: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](http://www.americanrockhound.com)

**Upcoming Shows**

**June 4 + 5, 2022** – 10 am – 4 pm – Orange County Mineral Society – Monroe, NY. Annual Mineral, Gem, Jewelry and Fossil Show. Museum Village 1010 Route 17 M, Monroe, NY. Rain or shine.  
[www.ocmsny.org](http://www.ocmsny.org)

**June 25, 2022** –10am – 5pm - Gilsum Rock Swap & Mineral Show – Gilsum, NH — Gilsum Elementary School & Community Center 640 Route 10, Gilsum, NH.

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](mailto:TheCollectingBag@yahoo.com)

Barbara Hadley, Editor  
9359 Cedar Lane  
Mechanicsville, Virginia 23116

**Deadline for the  
next issue:  
May 27**



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.