



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.

OCTOBER 2021

An Award-Winning Publication

VOLUME 61 ISSUE 10

October Info

Lapidary is cancelled through the end of October.

The Membership Meeting WILL be held in person. The meeting will be on **Tuesday, October 12, at 7:00 pm.** There will be no speaker, so this will be a **Show & Tell** program. **Please read the details and safety precautions for the meeting on Page 3.**

The **Board** will hold a virtual meeting on **October 19 at 6:30 pm.**



The President's Message

- by Carl Miller

Weighing the Risks – Part 2

The Board Members met on September 21, and worked out the ground rules for commencing meeting in person again.

We want members to be able to get back together in the safest environment possible, and want everyone to feel comfortable with this step. Please read and be sure you understand the precautions we will have in place at the meeting (page 3 of this newsletter). If you have any questions, please contact a Board Member (see page 2 for contact information).

We have no speaker or program planned for this month, more of a homecoming visit, and a chance to show off specimens you've acquired in the past 19 months that we've been apart.

I want to send a special thank you to Andy Dietz and his troupe of volunteers, who worked tirelessly to get the TOTE Show display set up, manned the tables, and then packed it all up at the end of the show.

Stay Safe and Wash Your Hands!... Carl

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Calendar of Events – October 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12 In-Person Member Meeting	13	14	15	16
17	18	19 Virtual Board Meeting	20	21	22 Newsletter Deadline	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

September Board Meeting Minutes

*For the Richmond Gem & Mineral Society
September 14, 2021*

The September 2021 ZOOM Meeting of the RGMS Board was brought to order by President Carl Miller at 6:35 p. m. Additional attendees were Pamm Bryant, Andy Dietz, David Hutchison, Jim Campbell, and Frank Toth.

Carl stated that he has been in touch with Ridge Baptist Church with regard to having meetings going forward. They are okay with our having meetings, as long as we abide by current CDC and VHD requirements with regard to Covid 19 protocols. They were not disappointed that we did not have a meeting this month. Carl also advised us that the church secretary had retired and that they are getting up to speed with their new personnel.

Andy Dietz stated that the Treasures of the Earth Show was a success. We had good participation from members to set up and take down the displays manning the tables. Andy especially noted that Eddie Patton was a great ambassador for the club at the show. Andy also added that he was approached by the TOTE promoter about the club advertising the Spring show in our newsletter and our Facebook page. We will need to investigate this further before we can say yes to this request.

Andy also advised that he has 7 registrations for the November 13 Swap and over 20 emails, which he expects will be additional requests for tables at the Swap. He also noted that he will be passing out flyers for the Swap at the Willis Mountain field trip on September 25.

Jim Campbell noted that we had a 64,000 person "reach" on Facebook last month. He is looking into advertising the club on Facebook.

A lengthy discussion ensued as to whether we should have an October membership meeting. Andy stated that he would like to see the club meet, and we could set up basic rules for coming such as everyone inside will wear a mask, social distancing, outdoor refreshments. The format will be more of a "meet and greet" type thing with no program. The consensus of the Board was to go ahead with the meeting with those and other restrictions in place.

Dues will be collected for 2022 starting at the October meeting.

There was no further business and the President adjourned the meeting at 8:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Frank Toth, Recording Secretary

Club Meeting Dates October 2021

Membership Meeting

Tuesday, October 12
7:00 pm
ZOOM Session

Board Meeting

Tuesday, October 19
6:30 pm
ZOOM Session

September Membership Meeting Notes

For the Richmond Gem & Mineral Society

September 21, 2021

The September ZOOM virtual membership meeting was brought to order by President Carl Miller at 7:05 p.m. The format of the meeting was changed to virtual shortly before the meeting, due to a Covid-19 flare up in the community. This meeting was a "Show and Tell" meeting as there was no time to arrange for a speaker at the last minute.

The Annual Swap and Sale will be on for November 13, 2021. Andy noted that he has table reservations already from several vendors.

Dave Hutchison was our only show and tell speaker of the night. He went to Wyoming this past summer to search for small mammal fossils. He found kangaroo rat, mouse and dog fossils and said the heat out there was nearly unbearable. Thanks, Dave, nobody ever thinks there were little guys like this running around the dinosaurs.

There was no further business and the meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Frank Toth, Recording Secretary

RGMS
October "Mask-to-Mask" Membership Meeting
October 12 • 7 pm
Ridge Baptist Fellowship Hall

Agenda
Formation of Nominating Committee for December Board Elections
Update on progress of November Swap
Report on TOTE Show
Plans for December Meeting
Other Business

Program
Wear your coolest mask! Our topic for the evening will be **Show & Tell**. Please bring specimens! We will allow sale/swap during the meeting.

Refreshments will be served and consumed outside.

COVID Safety Protocols that will be in place during the Meeting
Out of consideration of fellow members, please wear a mask over nose & mouth at all times inside the Fellowship Hall.
Be aware of social distancing.
Hand sanitizer will be available please use it.
We need 3-4 electric fans – ventilation in the Fellowship Hall is not optimal.
Leave politics and other incendiary topics at home.

**Saturday
November 13, 2021
9am to 3pm**

29th Annual Fall Swap

FREE ADMISSION

Open to all children and adults (from novice to expert) to swap or purchase various mineral, gem, jewelry, fossil, shell, and lapidary items.

Free items for kids and a raffle.

Food and beverages are available at nearby restaurants. Restroom facilities are available in the building.



Ridge Baptist Church Meeting Hall, 1515 East Ridge Road, Richmond, VA 23229

NORTH OR SOUTH OF RICHMOND

Use I-95 to Exit 79 to I-64 West (North of Richmond City). Leave I-64 at Exit 181A (South) on Parham Road.

Proceed south on Parham Road for about 1.5 miles and turn left onto East Ridge Road.

The Ridge Baptist Church and Meeting Hall are 400 feet on the right, across from Kroger's Grocery.

Meeting hall is the white building at the rear of the parking lot.

There is ample parking in front of the Meeting Hall.

EAST OR WEST OF RICHMOND

Use I-64 to Exit 181A (South) and follow the directions at left.



Wire- Twisting fun!



With a fun and successful class held in September, Pamm Bryant and Valerie Johnson are again offering a jewelry-making class the

4TH SATURDAY OF THE MONTH

October 23rd from 1pm to 4pm at Valerie's shop.

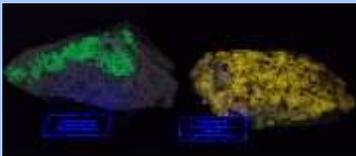
To sign up, email to moonlightgems@gmail.com

(only 6 students per class)

Project is learning how to make earrings, (and if there's time maybe a bead pendant). Class fee is \$20.00, which covers copper supplies and instructions.

TOTE Show - Fall 2021

Photos by Jane Owen and Barbara Hadley



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)

LAYOUT TOOLS

Dimensions on some features of a design can be fluid while others must be accurate for the design to work. When precision on a piece is important, good layout techniques are essential.



These are the tools that I rely upon to get holes in the right place, to achieve correct angles, and to cut pieces the correct length.

I like crisp sharp lines to follow, so I often coat surfaces with a dark marker and scribe my layout lines onto the metal. A square makes quick work of checking right angles or marking where to cut, and the thin center punch helps me mark a place to drill holes exactly where I want them.

Finally, a good set of dividers is probably my favorite layout tool. They let me quickly mark a strip for cutting, swing an arc, and divide a line or curve into as many equal segments as I need. I keep at least one set of dividers in every toolbox.

INVENTORY RECORD

In an ideal world each of us who sells their jewelry has a good record with photos of all pieces in our inventory. We use it for insurance purposes, to record the cost to produce, to note where the item was sent out on consignment, and maybe to store descriptive text for marketing. Eventually, we note in the record when the piece was sold and for how much.

It's nice to also have good pictures of each piece, but sometimes we don't have time for a full-on photo session.

In situations like this it's worth doing a quick group shot with the help of a phone, a camera, a scanner, or even a color copier. The quality is at least sufficient for an accurate identification in case a piece is lost.



CONGRATULATIONS to Pamm Bryant!

Pamm was awarded the "Wildacres Appreciation Award 2021" for her role as Director of Wildacres. A ceremony was held during Wildacres in September. The award honors the effort of a most worthy person on the Wildacres team.

In her role as Director, Pamm is involved in shows, routine club activities and all manner of hobby-related effort. The EFMLS newsletter (October, 2021 edition) notes that Pamm has shown enthusiasm, imagination, dedication, inspiration, and a little instigation to make attendees time at Wildacres an experience to be remembered.

Congratulations, Pamm, on a job well done!

MAMGA Events:

Jacquot & Son Mining and MAGMA are having their last show of the year at Camp Stephens, 263 Clayton Road, Arden, North Carolina: December 10-12, 2021. He still has outside table space available.

MAGMA also has a three day dig at the Sharpes Emerald Prospect for November 5th – 7th. Recent diggers have been finding some nice aquamarine and smokies, so a fall dig would be nice once the weather has cooled down and the bugs and weeds are dead.

The fee is \$20 per person, per day, or \$50 for all three days.

There is camping available on site for quite a few people and there are campgrounds in the area and hotels in Taylorsville and Statesville about 20 minutes away.

Feel free to contact Rick with any questions. 828-779-4501

Checkout the MAGMA/Jacquot & Son Mining website for other information and updates:

www.americanrockhound.com

Membership Information

Dues will not be collected for current members during 2021.

Dues for 2022 can be paid beginning with the October Membership Meeting.

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

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**DEADLINE FOR
THE NEXT ISSUE:
OCTOBER 22**



Meetings are the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 pm and are being conducted virtually through Zoom.
Bulletin articles and items may be reprinted provided that credit is given to the author and the Richmond Gem & Mineral Society.