

Toledo Gem & Rockhound Club

March 2025



Letter from the President

Hello Fellow Rockhounds

We have so many talented members in our club. The proof was there at the February meeting during the Show And Tell portion. I encourage you to bring your project to a meeting and share with everyone your story. Who knows, maybe showing your item could inspire someone else to do their own special project.

Don't forget the Auction at the March meeting. We have had some great donations from our members. There are some mineral specimens, jewelry making and rock related magazines and books, tools and jewelry to name a few of the items that will be up for bid. Let's show our support to the faceter's group. They have new members joining but one of the faceting machines is out of commission. Let's help them get their faceting machine fixed!

The Open House is coming up quickly. What are you doing to help us? We need volunteers to help park cars, we need volunteers to do demonstrations, we need volunteers to help our volunteers. Contact Will, the Open House Chair, and tell him that you are available. We haven't had an open house in a while. Let's stop being one of Toledo's best kept secrets and show the public what a wonderful club we have.

Happy St. Patrick's Day

Diane Bieber
President.

Birthstones

Modern: **Aquamarine**

Traditional: **Aquamarine**

Alternate: **Blood Stone**

Ancient Hebrew: **Blood Stone**

If you would like a detailed breakdown, you can check out the following site:

<https://www.gia.edu/birthstones>



March*



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Workshops

Make your first pendant class-

Saturday March 15 from 11 am to 3 pm. Students will learn how to cut metal, make a bezel and back plate, solder, polish and set a stone. To register, contact instructor Michelle Grigore at mgrigoretgrh@gmail.com at least a week before the above date. Class is limited to 4 students. Members pay \$45, non-members \$55. All materials provided to complete a small sterling silver pendant with a polished gemstone cabochon

Make a patterned ring band class-

Saturday April 26 from noon to 3 pm. Students will use the rolling mill and pattern plates to texture a ring band, cut it to size and solder their handcrafted ring. Different metal finishing techniques will also be explored to complete the ring. To register, contact instructor Michelle Grigore at mgrigoretgrh@gmail.com at least a week before the above date. Class is limited to 5 students. Members pay \$25, non-members \$35. All materials provided to complete a copper or brass ring band.

Engraving Class

March 6

special graver session with Kent Snyder. Reservations required, for more information please contact- mgrigoretgrh@gmail.com



Attention All Moderators

Before leaving the craft center after your session, make sure that the thermostat is set for the appropriate temperature, all indoor lights are turned off, all doors are locked, the restroom door is locked and the key is on the hook, and the exterior door including the deadbolt is locked. It has been brought to my attention that occasionally some of these things have not been done properly. For everyone's safety and security you must review your checklist before leaving the premises.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Collection and ID Classes

March 10th- Plotting The Course

In this session we will be selecting locations and planning outings. First we will go through the process of plotting our course to the chosen location. In addition we will search along our route for other possible search locations and do research on said location to determine what you might need if you decide to take the trip yourself. Hours will be 6PM-8PM. Class will be \$4 for club fees.

April 14th- Specimen Identification

Members who wish to attend this session should bring one specimen that is unidentified and or unknown to them. As a group we will be making identification cards as well as attempting to identify everything we can! Come on down from 6PM-8PM on February 10th! Please bring \$4 dollars for club fees.



Pendants made during "Make your first pendant class"



Patterned ring made during "Make a patterned ring band class"

Story and photos by Jim Nowak

ARTIST: Bill Oswald

DESCRIPTION: Stained Glass

Sometimes you get a package deal. Bill Oswald is Toledo Gem & Rockhound Club's Sergeant-at-Arms and his wife, Deb, is our club Secretary. Bill also brings stained glass artistry skills to Toledo Gem & Rockhound Club's repertoire, adding another facet (pun intended) to TGRC's creativity. Nice package!

Bill was introduced to stained glass when the company where he worked offered training in various crafts. He wasn't sure he wanted to try stained glass. "After I asked the instructor so many questions, she looked at me and finally said, 'Bill, just sign up!'"

As his skills grew, Bill began making the glass angels to sell. However, "I started giving the angels as memorial gifts to friends who had lost a spouse or other family member. So, I've never sold one." It would certainly be hard to put a value on that generous gesture! Shaping the glass elements and fabricating the frames and channels has parallels to stone and metal crafting.

The main difference is the use of low-temperature solder in assembling the frames. Bill's pieces feature beveled elements, adding extra depth to the designs. As a patriot, it was logical that Bill produced the red, white and blue ribbon motif. The textured blue glass adds the feel of stars in the American flag.

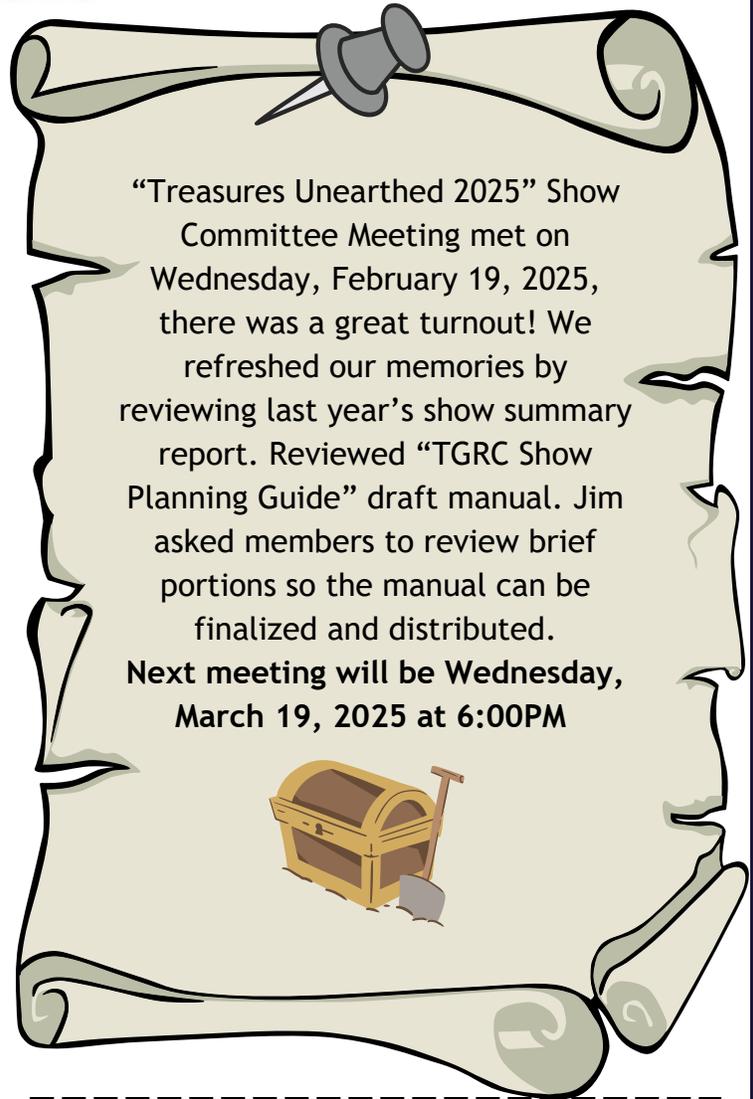
Bill's pièce de résistance (Deb's description,) is his swordfish. "I've always enjoyed water and boating so this pattern appealed to me." The finished work is approximately 28 inches in diameter. Bill says he worked on it for about two months, Judging by the workmanship, it was time well spent.

Anyone interested in learning about stained glass can watch the TGRC calendar for introductory classes taught by TGRC Treasurer Steve Stalker.



Our Open House is coming up fast, May 4th, and heres the rundown so far! There are a few vendor spots still available for club members that want to advertise their work, or sell some items. A pamphlet has been designed to print out, that way we can start getting the word out to the world! We ask if you are available to to please take some and put them in places that get high traffic. That way we can get lots of people to come check us out and see what we have to offer. William Miniard is holding conferences in March and April pertaining to the show and asks that you please come and share your ideas and get updates. March 8th and 22nd, April 12th and 26th, at 6PM to 7PM, will be the first 2. If you have any questions, want to sign up for table/ volunteer work or have something you would like to donate for the raffle, please email editor.rockyreader@gmail.com. We want this to have a great turnout, thank you!

Dont forget to Join the club for the auction on March 19th 6PM!!!!



“Treasures Unearthed 2025” Show Committee Meeting met on Wednesday, February 19, 2025, there was a great turnout! We refreshed our memories by reviewing last year’s show summary report. Reviewed “TGRC Show Planning Guide” draft manual. Jim asked members to review brief portions so the manual can be finalized and distributed. Next meeting will be Wednesday, March 19, 2025 at 6:00PM





FREE ENTRY

Open House




You are invited to our Open House. Join us and see what Toledo Gem and Rockhound Club has to offer.
Demonstrations, Vendors, Raffle.

MAY 4, 2025
12 Noon to 4pm

2453 Tremainsville Rd, Toledo, OH 43613

Board Members

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March 2025

- Faceting
- Rocky Reader
- Gem Crafters
- Extream Beaders
- Metal Crafters
- Collection/I.D

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 10:00 AM Gem Crafters 10-3 Sherm 12:00 PM Metal Crafters 12-3 Michelle
2 12:30 PM Gem Crafters 12:30-3:30 Erika	3	4 10:00 AM Extream Beaders 10-2 1:00 PM Metal Crafters 1-4 Michelle	5	6 11:00 AM Gem Crafters 11-3 Mike	7	8 12:00 PM Gem Crafters 12-3 Erika 12:00 PM Metal Crafters 12-3 Mike
9	10 6:00 PM Collection/I.d 6-8 Max	11 10:00 AM Extream Beaders 10-2 1:00 PM Metal Crafters 1-4 Michelle	12	13 11:00 AM Gem Crafters 11-3 Steve	14	15 10:00 AM Gem Crafters 10-3 Sherm 12:00 PM Metal Crafters 12-3 Michelle
16 12:30 PM Gem Crafters 12:30-3:30 Erika	17	18 10:00 Extream Beaders 10-2 1:00 PM Metal Crafters 1-4 Michelle	19 6:00 PM Show Meeting 7:00 PM Monthly Club Meeting Club Auction	20 11:00 AM Gem Crafters 11-3 Mike	21	22 10:00 AM Gem Crafters 10-3 Sherm 12:00 PM Metal Crafters 12-3 Mike
23 Faceting class Anthony	24	25 10:00 AM Extream Beaders 10-2 1:00 PM Metal Crafters 1-4 Michelle	26	27 11:00 AM Gem Crafters 11-3 Steve	28	29 10:00 AM Gem Crafters 10-3 Sherm 12:00 PM Metal Crafters 12-3 Michelle
30 Faceting class Anthony	31					

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