

Toledo Gem & Rockhound Club

July 2026



Greetings!

Summer is heating as are activities with our Club. We hope you will all take advantage of the classes, group sessions and other activities we have to offer our membership.

Preparation for the Show is well underway and we hope ALL OF YOU will volunteer your time and/or materials to assure its success. In addition to volunteers to run/help in club areas (Admissions, Raffle, Club Booth, Kids Area etc) we also need our talented craftsmen and artists to demonstrate what our club is all about. Each year we have a large Demo area where guests can observe Gemcrafting, Metalcrafting, Beading, Gem Trees, Flintknapping and more. I'd like to see as many Demos running as possible so we can show off our non profit educational purpose. If each able bodied member could give up ONE DAY to volunteer and/or demo, it would be a huge help! Plan to spend the day, with a couple shifts interspersed with shopping time. Remember volunteers earn free admission to the show for the day. Please do your part!

Lastly, we are well on our way to submitting our 501(c)3 application. We have registered our new entity; the Toledo Geological and Rockhound Club, with the State and the IRS and are actively working on the Bylaws and the rest of the parts needed for our application. We are on track to complete this by our planned deadline of Dec 31, 2026. More updates as we move forward.

These are exciting times for our club and we appreciate our members' support as we look towards a bright future!

Jerri Heer
President
419-344-9999



Letter from the President

Birthstones

Modern: **Ruby**

Traditional: **Ruby**

Alternate: **Carnelian**

Ancient Hebrew: **Onyx**

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

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



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*Going forward, workshops will be held one on one. Please contact the instructor listed to sign up.

Sandcasting Rings-

Students will learn how to make a sand mold and use molten metal to create their own bronze ring from a variety of available patterns.

There are only three students per class. Register by contacting Michelle at least a week ahead of class at mgfirebug@gmail.com. Class fee is \$45 and class open only for members. No prerequisites or experience required. Saturday June 27 from 10 am to noon
Tuesday June 9 from 10 am to noon

Inlay Ring Class-

Students will learn how to use crushed turquoise or other precious stones to make an inlaid stainless steel ring. All materials are provided for the class fee of \$45. Class is limited to five students and ring sizes are limited to the blanks on hand.

Register for the class below by emailing Michelle a week ahead of class at mgfirebug@gmail.com. Saturday June 6 from 11 am to 2 pm.

Torch-fired Metal Clay Pendant-

Get on a list for future classes! Using copper or bronze metal clay, students will learn to roll out, impress, dry and then torch fire a 1" pendant. All materials will be provided for the class fee of \$30. Class is limited to 4 students. Email Michelle a week ahead of the class at mgfirebug@gmail.com.



Wire Wrapping Workshop-

Our last Wire Wrapping & Weaving Workshop was fantastic! Every participant went home with a completed creation, and it was wonderful to see everyone's unique style come through. Upcoming workshops are usually held on the 3rd Saturday of each month from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. The next workshop dates are July 18 and August 15.

Attendance is limited to 4 members, so please register early with Erika at Erika.tgrc@gmail.com. The cost is \$25 per person for the full 4-hour workshop. Here are a few pictures from our last workshop. Please also let me know what you are interested in learning, and I will do my best to incorporate those ideas into future workshops.



Gem Tree Class -

Greeting from our Gem Tree Group!

This month we created Bamboo Trees, while technically a grass, most people think of them as trees. Four students worked on trees, two completed in class.

Our next project is a Coconut Palm Tree. This session will be held Sunday, July 19, 2026 from 11 am- 5 pm at the Craft Center. Cost is \$25 for members, all tools and materials provided. RSVP to Jerri Heer at Jheerx6@aol.com.

Treasures Unearthed Show Meeting - 6:00 PM Wednesday July 15th. Contact is Jerri Heer or Jim Nowak.

Saturday July 18th at 10:00AM - Display case cleanup and preparation at the Club. Should last about 2 hours. Contact is Michelle Grigore.

Saturday August 15th - Making simulated geodes for kids Contact is Bill Tiede.

Load and Unload Truck- Load the truck at our Clubhouse on September 10th to go to the Wood County Fairgrounds. Or load the truck for our return and unload on September 13th. Or both. A strong back is preferred, although we'll also need a clipboard jockey to mark items as they are loaded and unloaded. Steve Stalker or Jim Nowak can give you details.

Remember that Treasures Unearthed is the biggest fund-raiser to keep TGRC operating and relies on our generous TGRC Member volunteers. The more successful the Show is, the better the club can be. At Treasures Unearthed Our philosophy for volunteers is simple: "If everyone does a little, nobody has to do a lot." Join us for the fun!



Talented TGRC Members: We need demonstrators at September's "Treasures Unearthed" to show our rock & gem skills to our visitors. We're looking for Extreme Beaders, metal crafters, gem crafters, wire-wrappers and gem tree makers to show your stuff Sign up at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C084CADAC2BABF4C52-64661506-toledo#/> or scan the QR code below. And yes... you get an exclusive volunteer T-shirt, too! Sign up today!



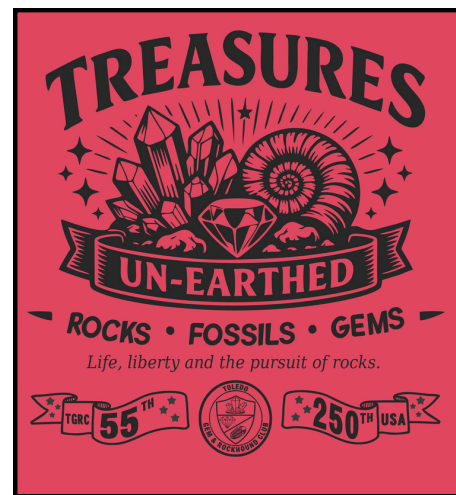
Volunteer tee cut of date is Aug 15th after that date not guaranteed a tee shirt. design photo shown.

Also

Tee shirt Size S-4XL (unisex sizes) Please those who are willing, we ask a VOLUNTARY \$5 donation No obligation, Steve Stalker will accept the donations.



Volunteer at SignUpGenius:
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C084CADAC2BABF4C52-63522430-toledo>



“The Inside Story”

He'll make 'em so the kids can break 'em. But first, here's some background...

Bill Tiede likes to share stories. That's because he's always curious and looking for the answers to “Why?” in our natural world. He says his compulsion started when he was young. “A friend lived near a small stone quarry,” Bill recalls, “and we would find brachiopods. I loved learning the stories behind the stones.” While he is still most attracted fossils, he also loves just about any kind of stone. He's often at the Toledo Gem & Rockhound Club's gem crafter saw room, slabbing specimens to be cut and polished. So, he knows a lot but believes, “To know a story is useless. To share it is the reward!” This is why Bill likes to teach local groups and students about stones and fossils. And, while it's tough to take classes of young people on a field trip, it's possible to bring a field experience to the class. That's why he makes “geodes.” It's his solution to the problem of giving young people a hands-on activity with a take-home gemstone, fossil or crystal.

Splitting genuine geodes takes special equipment, a supply of heavy specimens and the safety equipment to make sure no one gets hurt. The students may watch geodes being cracked open, but for safety reasons cannot actually break them personally. Therefore, Bill and his wife, Sue, make simulated geodes by hand, combining plaster and sand into spheres that contain a crystal or fossil inside. The students use a rubber mallet to safely “break” the simulated geode themselves, revealing the treasure contained inside. The real payoff is when the students are excited to learn more about geology and paleontology.

Bill plans to make about 100 geodes to use in the “Cave of Secrets” at TGRC's rock & gem show, “Treasures Unearthed,” September 11-12-13. He's asking TGRC members to help. The geodes are fairly easy to make, formed by hand and take about a week to set up. Anyone who can help may contact Bill at blissfielddetails@yahoo.com or editor.rockyreader@gmail.com to coordinate. He's also planning a “Geode Day” on August 15th at 10:00AM the TGRC craft center so more simulated geodes can be made as needed.

Bill has other fascinating activities planned. Since “No one knows what color trilobites were,” he's made plaster casting of trilobites so young people can color them with color markers. That stimulates imagination and creativity. “Besides, no matter colors these young people come up with for the trilobites, as of right now no one can prove them wrong!”

Story by Jim Nowak, TGRC Vice President



LAPIDARY MACHINES + OTHER Equipment FOR SALE

Diamond Pacific Genie Rock Grinder: (newer 1/4hp) for sale. Can't have more than a couple of hours on it in total. The DP Galaxy & Nova wheels on the left are barely broken in & the right-side DP Nova wheels grouping still has most of its usable life remaining. Everything runs as it should. \$2500 cash, firm.

Diamond Pacific Genie Rock Grinder: (older 1/4hp) for sale. Everything runs as it should. This machine is an absolute workhorse. The onboard DP Galaxy & Nova wheels still have much of their grinding & polishing life remaining. \$1500 cash, firm.

Diamond Pacific Genie Trim Saw Attachment: *New* in unopened box \$400 cash, firm.

Beacon Star L-15 All-Aluminum Vibratory Lap: Lapidary face polishing machine + four separate trays (one smooth), each with its own bumper ring. One grit liner + newer double-level stacking brackets/hooks. Motor runs quietly and exactly as it should. \$1500 cash, firm.

Jeweler's Pine Bench Top Organizer: measures approximately 33 3/4" x 6 1/2" x 8 1/4"; \$75 cash, firm.

Please contact me by phone (please leave a message), email or text:

Natalie Hill (Member of TGRC)
Natalie.Hill.Designs@gmail.com

419-350-8051

Board Members

TOLEDO GEM AND ROCKHOUND CLUB BOARD MEMBERS

President

Jerri Heer
Jheerx6@aol.com

Vice President

Jim Nowak
Jimages@buckeye-express.com

Treasurer

Steve Stalker
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Secretary

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Catstgrc@gmail.com

Past President

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Website Editor

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Newsletter Editor

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Show Chair

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Membership Chair

Michelle Grigore
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Juniors

Stacy Flynn
Tgrcjuniors@gmail.com

Sunshine Chair

Linda Mcconahey
567-277-8238

- Faceting
- Glass Crafting
- Gem Crafters
- Extream Beaders
- Metal Crafters
- Collection/I.D
- Juniors
- Wire Wrapping
- Enameling
- Rocky Reader

JULY 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2 Gem Crafters 11-3 Michelle	3	4 Metal Crafters 12-3 Michelle Gem Crafters 10-3 Sherm
5	6 Gem Crafters 4:30-8:30 Stacy	7 Extream Beaders 10-2 Enameling 12-3	8	9 Gem Crafters 11-3 Mike	10	11 Metal Crafters 12-3 Michelle Gem Crafters 10-3 Sherm
12 Glass Crafting 1-4 Steve Faceting 12:15-2:15 Anthony	13 Gem Crafters 4:30-8:30 Stacy	14 Extream Beaders 10-2 Enameling 12-3 Metal Crafters 3-7 Mike	15 6:00 PM Show Committe Meeting 7:00 PM Monthly Club Meeting	16 Gem Crafters 11-3 Michelle	17	18 Juniors 2-4 Stacy Wire Wrapping 11-3 Erika 10:00 AM Display Case Clean-out
19 Metal Crafters 4-7 Will Faceting 12:15-2:15 Anthony	20 Gem Crafters 4:30-8:30 Stacy	21 Extream Beaders 10-2 Enameling 12-3	22	23 Gem Crafters 11-3 Mike	24	25 Metal Crafters 12-3 Michelle Gem Crafters 10-3 Sherm
26 Glass Crafting 1-4 Steve Faceting 12:15-2:15 Anthony	27 Gem Crafters 4:30-8:30 Stacy	28 Extream Beaders 10-2 Enameling 12-3 Metal Crafters 3-7 Mike	29	30 Gem Crafters 11-3 Michelle	31	

AUGUST 2026

 Faceting
 Glass Crafting
 Gem Crafters
 Extream Beaders
 Metal Crafters
 Collection/I.D
 Juniors
 Wire Wrapping
 Enameling
 Rocky Reader

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 Gem Crafters 10-3 Sherm Metal Crafters 12-3 Mike
2 Metal Crafters 4-7 Will	3 Gem Crafters 4:30-8 Stacy	4 Extream Beaders 10-2 Metal Crafters 3-7 Mike	5 Gem Crafters 4:30-8 Stacy	6 Gem Crafters 11-3 Mike	7	8 Gem Crafters 10-3 Sherm Juniors 3-4 Stacy Metal Crafters 12-3 Michelle
9	10 Gem Crafters 4:30-8 Stacy	11 Extream Beaders 10-2 Enameling 12-3	12 Gem Crafters 4:30-8 Stacy	13 Gem Crafters 11-3 Michelle	14	15 Gem Crafters 10-3 Sherm Wire Wrapping 11-3 Erica Metal Crafters 12-3 Mike
16 Metal Crafters 4-7 Will	17 Gem Crafters 4:30-8 Stacy	18 Extream Beaders 10-2 Enameling 12-3 Metal Crafters 3-7 Mike	19 7:00 PM Monthly Club Meeting Gem Crafters 4:30-8 Stacy	20 Gem Crafters 11-3 Michelle	21	22 Gem Crafters 10-3 Sherm Metal Crafters 12-3 Michelle
23	24 Gem Crafters 4:30-8 Stacy	25 Extream Beaders 10-2 Enameling 12-3	26 Gem Crafters 4:30-8 Stacy	27 Gem Crafters 11-3 Mike	28	29 Metal Crafters 12-3 Mike
30 Metal Crafters 4-7 Will	31 Gem Crafters 4:30-8 Stacy					