

Toledo Gem & Rockhound Club

September 2026



Letter from the President

The time is upon us, for our annual show. This is the biggest event of our year. We would love to have everyone volunteer to assist in some way. Whether you help in a club area, support the vendors by giving them bathroom breaks, demonstrate the skills you're learning through the club; all of it is possible, helpful, and the best way to share what your club means to you.

Last year we had over 50% participation club members in our show. That is HUGE! I've worked with and had experiences with dozens of clubs throughout the United States, and one thing I know is that most clubs have closer to 5 to 10% participation.

It's not too late to sign up in any area. Please consider committing to ONE DAY.... Admission is free for the day you volunteer, so work a little, shop little, demo a little. Use your phone to access the QR codes for Demo and Volunteer slots. We need to fill as many as possible! If you can demo, bring samples of your work and something to work on. Here's a chance to work for free. As a demonstrator you can also offer your work for sale!

Support your club!

Jerri Heer, President

Birthstones

Modern: **Sapphire**

Traditional: **Sapphire**

Alternate: **Lapis Lazuli**

Ancient Hebrew: **Sapphire**

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

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



September

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

Torch-fired Metal Clay Pendant-

Saturday Sept 19 from 10 to noon.
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.



Metalsmith Stone Setting Workshop-

Sept. 27, 2026, 11 am to 2 pm

JJ Masuda is a well-respected jewelry and metalsmith instructor from Michigan. He teaches metalsmiths through Monroe Community College and Detroit Country Day School. JJ will give us three hours of intensive stone setting- covering tube, flush and channel setting gemstones in the TGRC metals studio. The workshop is limited to six students with some metalsmithing experience. The fee is \$80 and students need a 6" digital caliper, a riveting or goldsmith's hammer, a set of 6" needle files, a sharp center punch and a curved or straight burnisher. Register by emailing mgrigoretgrh@gmail.com. Payment is needed to complete your registration for class



Wire Wrapping Workshop-

September 19 and October 17
11 am - 3 pm

Bring the project that is calling your name! These August and September sessions are open workshops—much like our Tuesday beading sessions, but with wire, stones, laughter, and plenty of inspiration. Work at your own pace; if a design develops “a personality,” Erika can step in with a demonstration, a fresh idea, or a rescue plan.

OPEN WORKSHOP

\$3 per hour

MAKE & TAKE

\$25 for 4 hours

Bring your current project, tools, and curiosity. Erika will be nearby when you want help.

New to wire wrapping—or want a prepared project?

Email ahead so materials can be ready for you.

New wrappers are warmly welcome. This is a friendly group session. If you prefer one-on-one instruction tailored to your interests or skill level, email Erika and a private session can be arranged.

RESERVE A MAKE & TAKE OR ASK A QUESTION •

erika.tgrc@gmail.com

Bring your stones. Bring your tools (We also have tools to get you started). Bring your curiosity. Leave with new ideas—and perhaps a tiny treasure.



Rocks! Gems! Minerals! Fossils! Crystals! Jewelry! = Treasures Unearthed

If that headline caught your attention, you understand the excitement about Treasures Unearthed, September 11-12-13th at the Wood County Fairgrounds in Bowling Green, Ohio.

This is the Toledo Gem and Rockhounds Club's (TGRC) biggest event and vital fundraiser that keeps our Club going. This year marks TGRC's 55th year of rock and gem shows but even our most experienced rockhounds will find awe-inspiring gems and minerals.

Treasures Unearthed is organized and run by TGRC volunteers. Every TGRC member is asked to donate at least 2 hours to help.

Volunteers get:

- A FREE limited-edition, designer Treasures Unearthed t-shirt (if you volunteer online by August 15th)
- FREE admission to Treasures Unearthed on the day(s) they volunteer
- The satisfaction that you've helped keep TGRC operating for the next year

Use this link or the QR code below to sign up today!

Our experienced TGRC members recommend this strategy:

1. Sign up to volunteer at Treasures Unearthed by going to <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C084CADAC2BABF4C52-63522430-toledo#/> and reserve your Treasures Unearthed t-shirt size before August 14th.
2. Wear your t-shirt to Treasures Unearthed and on the day(s) you volunteer, browse show a little, do your volunteer shift, shop for more rocks, etc....
3. Grab lunch at one of the food trucks, go back into Treasures Unearthed and repeat step two!

More opportunities are available this year in the Kid's Activities, Gem Trees and the "Cave of Secrets" family-oriented areas. The Admissions area greets our guests and collects entry fees; Scholarship Raffle sells tickets that fund our scholarships for the University of Toledo and Bowling Green State University; Club Merchandise features rockhound apparel and raises money for TGRC; Hospitality supports our vendors and special guests.

Your support and dedication is deeply appreciated because it is our members who make the Toledo Gem and Rockhound Club great!



LEGACY BENEFITS SCHOLARSHIP RAFFLE

How can you help the passion of a 95-year-old gem crafter live on? Through the generosity of several Toledo Gem and Rockhound Club (TGRC) members, the late Elaine Swiler's love of geology and jewelry arts will benefit a new generation.

Some background on Elaine. As a young woman in the early 1950's she earned a geology degree from John Carrol University near Cleveland. She got married. She and her husband started a family. They traveled to many remote parts of the world and had the opportunity to collect unique rock specimens. While she was trained as a scientist, Elaine loved art and appreciated the beauty of rocks & gems. She eventually discovered TGRC and became a loyal, regular gem crafter. Elaine was still cutting and polishing gems right up to the end of her 95-year lifespan.

Elaine passed away earlier in 2026. Elaine's family gave many of her rocks, gems and tools to TGRC's Michelle Grigore. While a seemingly sad task, Michelle inventoried Elaine's rocks and tools but was brightened by finding a design sketch Elaine had made for a triceratops necklace that was never finished. Michelle decided to complete Elaine's vision, make the necklace as a tribute, use it to further geology education and promote Elaine's love for stones. Michelle collaborated with Mike Cameron and Sherm Kardatzke to turn several of Elaine's beautifully polished stones into jewelry for the Scholarship Raffle. TGRC's Scholarship Raffle, held during Treasures Unearthed, raises money for earth sciences students who attend the University of Toledo and Bowling Green State University. Michelle sculpted a triceratops from Elaine's sketch and cast a bronze necklace, adding polished, fossilized dinosaur bone as an accent. "I got to bring it to life," says Michelle. How would Elaine have reacted? Michelle says she can hear Elaine say, "Oh, how marvelous!" Sherm wire-wrapped an agate polished by Elaine and Mike set one of her cabochons in copper.

Everyone can help this legacy. Buy a generous number of Scholarship Raffle tickets at "Treasures Unearthed" to support this worthy cause. In addition to these tributes to Elaine, Kent Snyder and Sarah Speer each contributed original pieces to the raffle. You can help fund TGRC's scholarship and maybe win one of the original works donated by our members. We are certain Elaine would have approved!



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
Sstalker@bex.net

Secretary

Deb Oswald
Catstgrc@gmail.com

Past President

Diane Bieber
Quartz1tgrc@gmail.com

Sergeant-At-Arms

Bill Oswald
Catstgrc@gmail.com

Board Member

William Miniard
Williamminiard.trgc@gmail.com

Board Member

Sherm Kardatzke
Sakardaszke@gmail.com

Board Member

Dana Jacob-Szymanski
Tjd021911@gmail.com

LEADING MEMBERS

Website Editor

Steve Stalker
Sstalker@bex.net

Newsletter Editor

William Miniard
Editor.rockyreader@gmail.com

Show Chair

Jerri Heer/Jim Nowak
jheerx6@aol.com
Jimages@buckeye-express.com

Membership Chair

Michelle Grigore
Mgrigoretgrh@gmail.com

Juniors

Stacy Flynn
Tgrcjuniors@gmail.com

Sunshine Chair

Linda Mcconahey
567-277-8238

- Faceting

Glass Crafting

Gem Crafters

Extreme Beaders
- Metal Crafters

Collection/I.D Juniors

Wire Wrapping
- Enameling

Rocky Reader

SEPTEMBER 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Extreme Beaders 10-2	2	3 Gem Crafters 11-3 Michelle	4	5 Metal Crafters 12-3 Michelle Gem Crafters 10-3 Sherm
6 Metal Crafters 4-7 Will	7 Gem Crafters 4:30-8:30 Stacy	8 Extreme Beaders 10-2 Enameling 12-3 Metal Crafters 3-7 Mike	9	10 TGRC Show Setup 8AM-8PM	11 TGRC Show No Classes	12 TGRC Show No Classes
13 TGRC Show No Classes	14 Gem Crafters 4:30-8:30 Stacy	15 Extreme Beaders 10-2	16 7:00 PM Monthly Club Meeting	17 Gem Crafters 11-3 Michelle	18	19 Metal Crafters 12-3 Michelle Juniors 2-4 Stacy Wire Wrapping 11-3 Erika
20 Metal Crafters 4-7 Will Faceting 12:45 -3 Anthony	21 Gem Crafters 4:30-8:30 Stacy	22 Extreme Beaders 10-2 Enameling 12-3 Metal Crafters 3-7 Mike	23	24 Gem Crafters 11-3 Michelle	25	26 Metal Crafters 12-3 Mike Gem Crafters 10-3 Sherm
27 Glass Crafting 1-4 Steve	28 Gem Crafters 4:30-8:30 Stacy	29 Extreme Beaders 10-2	30 Faceting 12:45 -3 Anthony			

OCTOBER 2026

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

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