

Toledo Gem & Rockhound Club

December 2024



Letter from the President

Hi Rockhounds

November was a busy month for us. We had our auction with at times some boisterous bidding. We had the flintknapper teach us how to knap arrowheads. We learned a way to turn our cabochons into jewelry in the wire wrap class. We had a stained glass session and made Christmas ornaments. We appreciate the time our members take to share and teach their skills to us.

There will be a potluck dinner before our December meeting. I hope everyone will be able to attend. It will be great to see our community of rockhounds socializing together.

Enjoy this festive season. Happy Holidays!

Diane Bieber
President

Birthstones

Modern: Blue Zircon, Tanzanite

Traditional: Lapis Lazuli

Alternate: Blue Topaz

Ancient Hebrew: Turquoise

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

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



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Workshops

Make your first pendant class

Saturday Jan 11 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.



Collection and Identification class

Have you ever wanted to collect your own mineral specimens? Or wondered, while looking at specimens, how was it collected, cleaned, and end up on your shelf looking all majestic like? It takes more than seeing a pretty rock on the ground and scoop it up, although most of us have done it! Club member Max is holding classes for this purpose.

DEC 16th 6:00pm-8:00PM- Collection and Identification (Introduction to field collecting)

JAN 13th 6:00PM-8:00PM- Spot that spot! (Locating rockhounding locations for later exploration.



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.



Are you creating jewelry to give as holiday gifts? Share your work with your fellow TGRC members. Take a good quality photo, add a brief description of what stones or materials you used and send them to editor.rockyreader@gmail.com. Not sure of your photo skills? Club member Jim Nowak, “Treasures Unearthed” co-chair and producer of the show’s TV commercials, will bring his professional equipment to photograph finished items before TGRC’s monthly meeting on December 18th. No charge for this, but limit one item per person. Our goal is to publish & post examples starting in January, (so we don’t spoil any gift surprises,) to inspire fellow club members and highlight your creativity. Show us your best and most unique work!



DESCRIPTION: Larimar and thompsonite are accented by a rose zircon on this silver pendant created by Jim Nowak. This was a Christmas gift for his wife in 2023. Jim cut & polished the larimar and the thompsonite and crafted the metalwork.

INSPIRATION: Water. Larimar is associated with the ocean since it is sourced in the Dominican Republic. The thompsonite came from the shores of Lake Superior. Putting them together radiates calm.

CRITIQUE: I’d give myself a “fair” rating. I’m still developing my designing and metal crafting skills and am working to improve them. The best way to learn is by doing and getting excellent advice from fellow TGRC members.

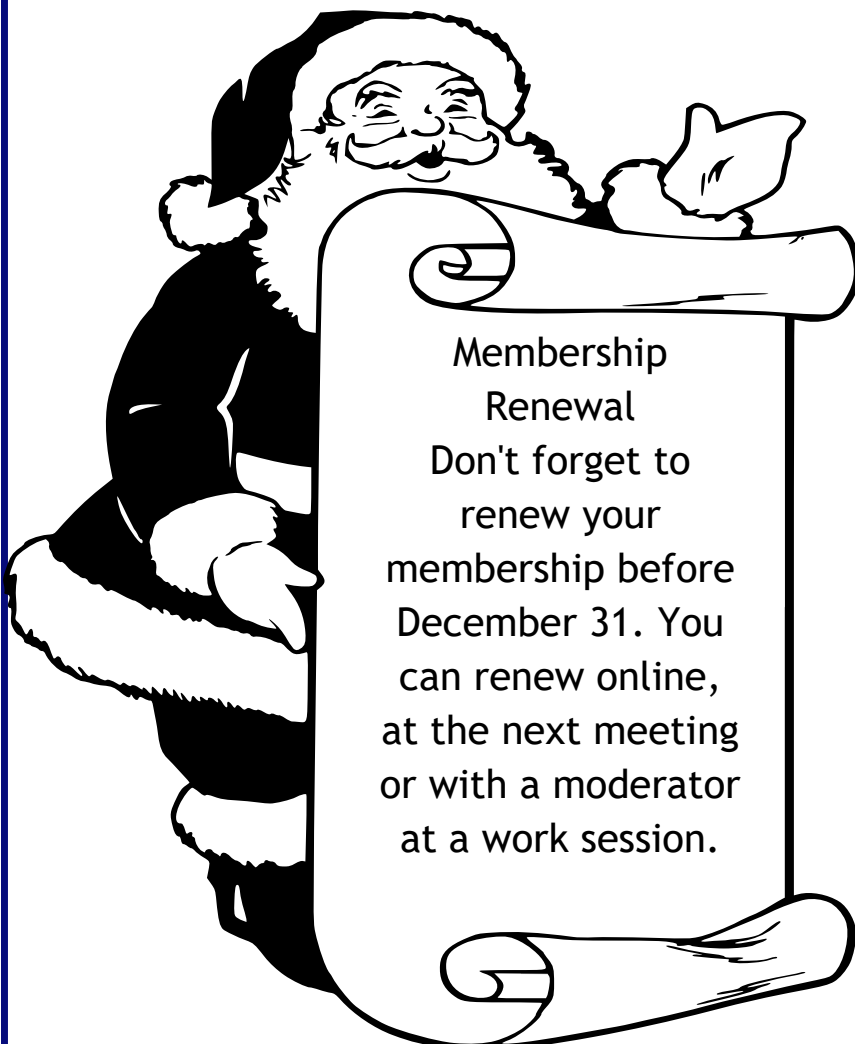
Weather Conditions

With winter weather comes the possibility of snowy weather. In the event of such situations, check the website calendar for updates to see if the work session that you are planning to attend has been cancelled due to adverse road conditions. Some of our moderators live out of town and driving conditions may be different in their area than what you are experiencing.

Thank you and be safe



We are having a Holiday Potluck this year! We would love to have everyone join us! Please meet at the Craft Center at 6pm (or as soon as you can get there) on **December 18th, 2024**. Bring a dish to pass and a serving utensil. Table service will be provided as well as some beverages. The monthly meeting will be held after we eat. Newly elected officials will be sworn in that evening too.



Membership
Renewal
Don't forget to
renew your
membership before
December 31. You
can renew online,
at the next meeting
or with a moderator
at a work session.



Club News

The Workshops have been a big hit, and so much fun with everyone! So I wanted to take a minute and thank everyone for making it possible! There will be more exciting things and workshops to come! Here are some photo's of the recent workshops!! Don't forget, we are having a Christmas party durring December's meeting! Bring a dish to share!



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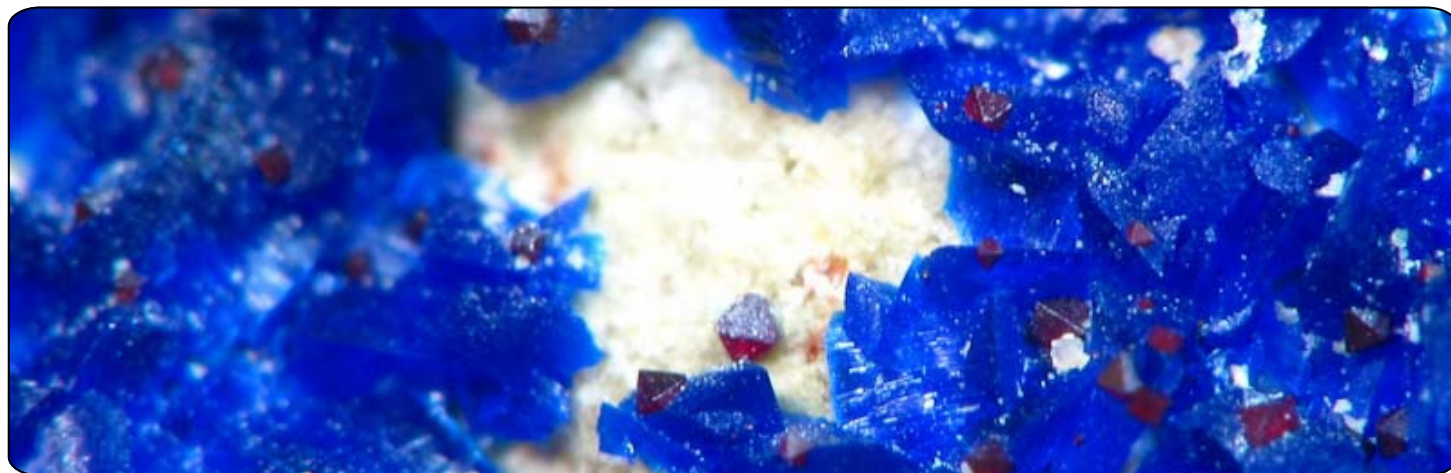
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December 2024

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

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3 10:00 AM Extream Beaders 1:00 PM Metal Crafters 1-4 Michelle	4	5 11:00 AM Gem Crafters 11-3 Steve	6	7 12:00 PM Metal Crafters 12-3 Mike 10:00 AM Gem Crafters 10-3 Sherm
8	9	10 10:00 AM Extream Beaders 1:00 PM Metal Crafters 1-4 Michelle	11	12 11:00 AM Gem Crafters 11-3 Mike	13	14 12:00 PM Gem Crafters 12-3 Erika 12:00 PM Metal Crafters 12-3 Mike
15 1:00 PM Gem Crafters 1-4 Erika	16 6:00 PM Collection/I.D 6-8 Max	17 10:00 AM Extream Beaders 1:00 PM Metal Crafters 1-4 Michelle	18 6:00 PM Club Christmas party 7:00 PM Monthly Club Meeting	19 11:00 AM Gem Crafters 11-3 Steve	20	21 12:00 PM Metal Crafters 12-3 Michelle
22	23	24 Christmas Eve No Workshop	25 Christmas Day No Workshop	26 11:00 AM Gem Crafters 11-3 Mike	27	28 10:00 AM Gem Crafters 10-3 Sherm
29	30	31 10:00 AM Extream Beaders 1:00 PM Metal Crafters 1-4 Michelle				

January 2025

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

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