



# THE TUSCARORA BULLETIN



Vol. 59, NO. 2

THE TUSCARORA BULLETIN

FEBRUARY 2022

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings to you all in the very chilly month of January. I hope that everyone is well and you all had a pleasant holiday season.

The winter session is underway. We have a wonderful roster of courses being offered this term. Kieu Pham Gray had a fun and successful series of classes in early January. It's always a special treat when she visits as a guest instructor at TLS. I'm happy to say that most of our winter classes are filled. There are still some spots available in the open studios - Open Cabbing, Open Slab Saw, Open Metalsmithing/Soldering and Open Torch Bead Making. If you've been thinking about taking a class this winter, there's still time to register for a spot, so you can start a new project or complete some pieces you've been wanting to finish. Valentine's Day is just around the corner. Handmade gifts are a great way to show love and appreciation for friends, family, loved ones, and all of the other people in our lives that are so dear to us.

If you haven't heard, there's a special anniversary coming up... Tuscarora Lapidary Society turns 65 this year! There's a lot to celebrate for sure. TLS was initially formed by Roger Kettimon in March of 1957, with a small group of people interested in lapidary arts. In the early days, Society meetings were held in members' homes. At the time, those who wished to learn a new skill would ask a member expert for instruction, and would be invited to that member's home for private lessons. We've come a long way since then. From the early workshop programs held in Newtown Square, to the Skill Center in Media, all the way to our current home at the TLS Education Center in Brookhaven. We are so fortunate to have such a wonderful space to host our current class offerings, as well as such terrific, talented volunteer teachers to instruct our students. Above all else, participating in classes, meetings and activities with our fellow members is one of the true highlights of being a part of our Society. TLS members are knowledgeable, friendly, generous and caring. Our members and their true spirit of volunteerism are the main reason why we have grown into such a robust and successful organization. We would not be where we are today without all of you and all of the great folks who came before us.

To those who subscribe to Rock and Gem magazine, be sure to check out the February 2022 issue. There will be a featured article about TLS's 65th anniversary written by Helen Serras-Herman, an acclaimed gem sculptor and gemologist, with over 39 years of experience in unique gem sculpture and jewelry art. For many years her Gem Art Center was an award-

winning dealer at our annual Gemarama show. Helen was also the guest speaker at our September 2021 General Meeting, where she presented an excellent program on Mayan jade. In this upcoming article, Helen presents a terrific historical retrospective of TLS. We are so appreciative of her efforts to highlight our organization for Rock and Gem readers.

While on your quest for more info about our back story, be sure to check out our website <https://www.lapidary.org/history/> to read another interesting synopsis on the history of TLS. And be sure to follow the current series of history articles in the TLS Bulletin by our Historian, Frank Warner. Here's to many more years of Teaching, Learning and Sharing!

—Stacey Segal, TLS President



## DATES TO REMEMBER . . .

- February 2:** TLS Board Meeting; 7:30 p.m., by ZOOM.
- February 9:** TLS General Meeting; 7:30 p.m., by ZOOM.
- March 16:** Gemarama Meeting; 7:30 p.m., by ZOOM.



## NEWS AND NOTES

- Welcome to our new SKIP committee chair, Dennis Coren.
- Welcome to new members Helen Driggs, Megan Royer, Zoe Brown, and Joseph Caruso. We look forward to meeting you!
- Get well wishes to Joann Morris. We hope for a speedy recovery!
- Sincere condolences to Bonnie Marcus on the passing of her husband, Michael Bennett, an auxiliary member of TLS.



— From Janice Lawson, Recording Secretary

## BOARD AND GENERAL MEETING MINUTES/HIGHLIGHTS

The January 5 Board Meeting by Zoom was called to order at 7:35 p.m. by Stacey Segal. The minutes of the December Board and General Meetings were approved as distributed.

**Announcements:** Stacey welcomed and thanked new board members and committee chairs.

**Treasurer's Report:** Ken Dahl reported on the December Financial Report, including final figures for Gemarama. Dues have been received from 83% of members.

### **Committee Reports:**

**Membership:** Gary Cummings presented new membership applications from Helen Driggs, Megan Royer, Zoe Brown

**60+ YEARS OF TEACHING . . . LEARNING . . . SHARING**  
**WE TEACH THE JOURNEY FROM ROCK TO GEM TO JEWELRY.**

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(junior member) and Joe Caruso. All applications were approved by the Board.

Community Programs: Linda Green attended the DCAC meeting with Lisa Laffend. Delco Arts Week will be two weekends this year, October 1 - 9.

Programs: Stacey Segal’s request to have the silent auction moved to April instead of March was approved. Kathy Lopez is looking for a program for March. The rest of the schedule through June is set.

Education Center: John Chickadel is subbing until a new Ed Center director is found. John thanked folks for coming out for the cleanup on the 29th. All the help was greatly appreciated.

Class Manager: Steve Hansen stated that winter classes are underway, and that Kieu Pham Gray will be here this weekend. Please reach out if you have teaching ideas for the spring term.

Registrar: Bill Frampton raised a question regarding isolation protocol for any student who has tested positive for COVID-19.

Equipment & Facilities: Don Schwarzkopf reported on plans to fix a broken cabinet, replace a driveway light, and test a vulcanizing press. Steve Hansen requested that Don check out the faceting machine that was having problems at Gemarama.

By-Laws & Parliamentarian: Frank Warner has been working on updating the TLS operations manual, which should be ready for approval at the February Board Meeting.

Gemarama: Barry Messino reported that it has been decided that there would be no change in admissions fees or dealer fees for the 2022 show.

Old Business: Stacey Segal updated the Board on the COVID-19 status.

New Business: Stacey Segal stated that Dennis Coren has agreed to be SKIP chair. A motion to appoint was seconded and approved. Also, Dennis has generously donated a BezelEase (his invention) to the jewelry room that teachers can use with classes. Many thanks to Dennis.

It was agreed that TLS members who have jewelry or lapidary related businesses will have the opportunity to place specially formatted business cards in a special issue of the *Bulletin* each year, resuming a practice started in 2014.

The budget for 2022 was presented and approved.



The January 12 General Meeting by Zoom was called to order at 7:32 p.m. by President Stacey Segal. In attendance were 29 members and 8 guests. Committee and other items discussed at the Board Meeting were briefly presented.

Stacey Segal wished everyone a Happy New Year and guests were given the opportunity to introduce themselves. She welcomed incoming board members and committee chairs: Vice President Gary Cummings, Board Members Doug McNicol and Anthony Lombardo, Recording Secretary Janice Lawson, Community Program Chair and DCAC Representative Linda Green, Print Communications Chair Lynn Bibolet, with Mary Batter as her assistant.

Ken Dahl reported the year end account balances.

Linda Green reported she hopes to rejuvenate Community Programs. Anyone interested in community outreach please let Linda know.

Kathy Lopez reported the spring silent auction has been moved from March to April. In February, the Zoom program will feature Dr. Phil Stokes, the Executive Director of Penn Dixie Fossil Park and Nature Reserve in Hamburg, NY. His talk will be “She Sells Seashells: The Story of Mary Anning’s Fossils”.

Stacey mentioned that we still need to fill the Education Center Director position, and that John Chickadel has been gracious to continue on until we fill the post. John thanked the following for volunteering to perform the winter clean-up: Joe Caruso, Bill Frampton, Dennis Coren, Linda Green, Paul Stieff, Helen Driggs, Steve Hanson, Ken Dahl, Anthony Lombardo, and Doug McNicol.

Steve Hansen was traveling, but reported to Stacey that planning has started for the spring and summer terms. If there is a class anyone would like to see offered, or especially would like to teach, please email Steve.

Stacey Segal reported a nice donation of ten or more books from Zasha Morales-José.

Stacey Segal presented a SKIP award, Apprentice Level in Jewelry Casting, to Dennis Coren for his two beautiful pieces of cast jewelry.

A Covid update described that case levels are up. We are still continuing with our policies with masks and social distancing for all classes, meetings, and functions at the Ed Center for the time being.

Stacey Segal shared that Dennis Coren donated a terrific tool of his own creation, for making castellated bezels. Thank you Dennis.

Following the business meeting, a video was presented with a talk by Paula Crevoshay at the 2019 Dallas Mineral Collecting Symposium titled, “Illuminations: Nature as Art”. Ms. Crevoshay walked us through the exhibition and described her creative processes: the source of minerals and gems used, and how she utilized the inspiration of the natural world to create.



### MARCH BULLETIN DEADLINE

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 18



### TLS YOUTUBE CHANNEL

A video on faceting, prepared by Steve Hansen and Frank Warner, is now available on the TLS YouTube Channel. You can gain access to our channel by clicking the red YouTube logo in the “Follow us on Social Media” section at the bottom of our website home page, [lapidary.org](http://lapidary.org), or go to page 6 here in the Bulletin and click on the YouTube logo. In addition to the new faceting video, our channel contains six other videos: TLS Glass Program, Gemarama Exhibit Highlights, Making a Cabochon, TLS Lapidary Program, Building the Tuscarora Lapidary Society Education Center, and the TLS Jewelry Program. The Making a Cabochon video has now been viewed over 1,600 times.

## IN THE NEWS

If you see something newsworthy to share with our members, please send link to [JodyshawTLS@gmail.com](mailto:JodyshawTLS@gmail.com).

Sri Lanka's largest sapphire-family corundum found  
<https://economynext.com/sri-lankas-largest-sapphire-family-corundum-found-88791/>

7 New Minerals Created by Human Activity  
<https://www.mentalfloss.com/article/93526/7-new-minerals-created-human-activity>

Triassic Dinosaur Footprints Discovered in Wales  
<https://www.geologyin.com/2022/01/triassic-dinosaur-footprints-discovered.html>



## INTERNATIONAL FLAMEWORKING CONFERENCE 2022

The International Flameworking Conference 2022 (IFC2022) returns to Salem Community College's main campus on March 18 through 20, 2022. Two presentations are on Friday evening's program, which begins at 7:00 PM. Four demonstrations each day constitute the program over the next two days between the hours of 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM. Further information regarding artists in the program, the presentations' and demonstrations' topics, ticket prices, and registration information can be found at the website [www.salemcc.edu/ifc](http://www.salemcc.edu/ifc).

## CALENDAR

**Caution: Many show dates are tentative at this time due to COVID-19 and some from this list may have been canceled.**

**March 5-6:** Annual Delaware Mineral Show, DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel, Wilmington, DE

**March 19-20:** Gem, Lapidary, and Mineral Society of Montgomery County MD Annual Show, Montgomery County Fairgrounds, Gaithersburg, MD

**March 26-27:** Che-Hanna Rock/Mineral Club, Wysox Volunteer Fire Co, Wysox, PA

**March 26-27:** Phila. Mineralogical Society Show, LuLu Temple, Plymouth Meeting, PA

**April 2-3:** Annual New Haven Gem and Mineral Show, Amity Middle School, Orange, CT

**June 4-5:** Orange County Mineralogical Society Show, Museum Village, Monroe, NY

**August 19-21:** Gem Miner's Jubilee Gem & Jewelry Show, Lebanon Valley Fairgrounds, Lebanon, PA

**September 17-18:** EFMLS Convention and Mineral Show/Central PA Rock and Mineral Club, Harrisburg, PA

—From Ken Dahl, Treasurer

## TUITION REFUNDS

Since positive tuition balances cannot be used in our online registration system, we no longer carry tuition credits from one term to the next. Positive tuition balances will generally be refunded soon after they are generated. I will try to clear all such balances before registration for a new term begins. Be sure to read carefully our REFUND POLICY that is posted both on our website and in the Bulletin when classes are published. Tuition credits are generated both from classes that are canceled, and from drop requests submitted to the Registrar in accordance with the Refund Policy.



## LAPIDARY LINKS

You can visit the North Carolina Museum of Natural History anytime from the comfort of home using their immersive virtual tours. The virtual tours include biodiversity, extinction, mountain coves, and many more. Visit and explore at [https://naturalsciences.org/exhibits/virtual-tours/..](https://naturalsciences.org/exhibits/virtual-tours/)



—From Linda Green, Community Programs Chair

## COMMUNITY PROGRAMS COMMITTEE

The community programs committee has been largely inactive the past few years. There have been a few open houses and the Brookhaven Family Day. The committee would like to have further outreach with community programs going forward. If anyone has ideas for community programs the TLS might offer, please let Linda Green know.



## FOLLOW TLS ON INSTAGRAM

In addition to Facebook we are now on Instagram ([@tuscaroralapidary](https://www.instagram.com/tuscaroralapidary)). Please "Follow" us and "Like", "Comment" and "Share" our posts. Feel free to repost our posts on your feed but please indicate that the post came from @tuscaroralapidary.

Please use the following handles and hashtags when posting TLS content to your feeds or stories:

@tuscaroralapidary  
#gemarama  
#picturesinstone



—John Chickadel, Ed Center Director

## ED CENTER CLEANUP

We had a great turnout of volunteers on Wednesday, December 29th, to help with our winter class preparation session. Our very enthusiastic group replaced and cleaned cabbings wheels, maintained our trim and slab saws, and performed general clean-up and resupply chores. In attendance were Linda Green, Paul Stieff, Bill Frampton, Steve Hansen, Doug McNicol, Dennis Coren, Joe Caruso, Helen Driggs, Ken Dahl, Anthony Lombardo, and John Chickadel. Thank you everyone!



–Written by Bill Frampton

## MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

This month we will get to know Bill Frampton. Bill was kind enough to write his own Member Spotlight for us to read!

I was born in Niagara Falls, N.Y., and moved to Claymont, DE when I was fifteen, where I attended and graduated from Claymont High School. I briefly went to the University of Delaware, but dropped out to sow my wild oats. I got a job with Dupont two weeks after dropping out, and worked for them for the next forty years. During that time, I got married to Joan and we had and raised Katie and Sean. The years that followed were full of wonder, surprises, and growth for us all. It was the most challenging and fulfilling time of my life. I enjoy cooking, and have done all the cooking for my family since Joan and I have been married. At one point, I had a very small side business making cheesecakes, but that did not pan out. I have done some blacksmithing and photography. I enjoyed blacksmithing, but unfortunately, I began to develop carpal tunnel syndrome and had to give it up. The upside of this is that later I got interested in silver smithing and jewelry making. For many years, I enjoyed Geocaching but a bad back curtailed that a few years back. During my time with Dupont, I



took courses at the University Of Delaware (UD) and Delaware Technical Community College (DTCC). I earned Associate degrees in Chemical and Biotechnology at DTCC and certificates in computer programing, Web

Master and Project Management at UD. I worked at several different jobs during my tenure at DuPont. Biological and chemical analytical labs, cell culture and fermentation research facilities, hazwopper and shipper at a Pilot plant, environmental remediation, and the last fifteen years there I was an IT lead, responsible for a Supervisory Control and Data acquisition system of a Fermentation Research Facility. I was retired and revised my life in 2015.

At first, I worked with craft metal, wire wrapping beads into earrings, necklaces, and chainmaile. I wanted to do more, so I took a night course in jewelry making at the Delaware Academy of Arts and Design. I was exposed to the different tools of constructing jewelry. After setting up a workplace in my basement in 2016, I began to sell my jewelry at the New Castle Farmers market at Glasgow Park. This was more to keep busy than to make money. I found TLS when I went with a friend to That's Hats to buy a hat. There I saw some very nice jewelry on display. I talked with the proprietor, who happened to be Debby Lynn Bradley, who told me about TLS. I signed up for the TLS glass bead making workshop and then for the Main Line School Night beginning cabachon course. I took the course and applied to TLS for membership in November 2016. I have been the Registrar since the summer of 2017. I also co-teach and teach the beginning cabochon and advanced cabachon class for TLS and



co-teach Main Line School Night class at the Ed Center. In 2019 I was proud to have received the Coren award. I enjoy taking the Beyond Beginning Silver course and other courses at the TLS. I also like working with other members to maintain and expand the equipment at the Ed Center. At the present time I do not sell jewelry. I mainly make things for the joy of it and to expand my skills.

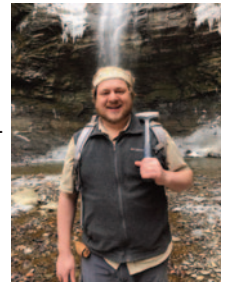


–Kathy Lopez, Program Chair

## FEBRUARY PROGRAM

**FEBRUARY'S PROGRAM: DR. PHIL STOKES OF THE PENN DIXIE FOSSIL PARK & NATURE RESERVE IN HAMBURG, NY. "SHE SELLS SEA SHELLS: THE STORY OF MARY ANNING'S FOSSILS"**

Dr. Phil Stokes is the Executive Director of Penn Dixie Fossil Park & Nature Reserve, located in Hamburg, NY - the home of trilobites. Penn Dixie - ranked #1 in the U.S. among fossil parks and also the inaugural holder of a Guinness World Record for Largest Fossil Dig - welcomes tens of thousands of visitors each year. Prior to Penn Dixie, Dr. Stokes served as an instructor, research associate, academic advisor, and community outreach coordinator in the Department of Geosciences at the University of Arizona. His thesis work used ground penetrating radar to search for mastodon bones, and to map glacially deposited units at the Ice Age Hiscock Site near Rochester, NY. In his spare time he plays guitar and ukulele, travels, and brings a telescope to music festivals for late night stargazing.



Mary Anning (b. 1799) spent her early years searching fossils along the Lyme Regis Coast in the south of England. At 12, she unearthed the world's first ichthyosaur - previously unknown - which helped pave the way for our understanding of extinction. Because of her standing both as a woman and a lower-class citizen, Anning received no credit or reward for her discoveries. Dr. Stokes will take us through several of Mary Anning's discoveries as well as illustrate surprising connections between the ancient histories of southern England and Buffalo, NY.

You can learn more about Penn Dixie Fossil Park & Nature Reserve here: <https://penn Dixie.org>

—From Ken Dahl, Treasurer

### 2022 TLS DUES ARE PAST DUE

Membership dues for 2022 were payable by December 31; now 2022 dues are in arrears. New-member dues paid by those who joined TLS this past fall in October, November, or December will carry through this year.

TLS Bylaws stipulate that members be suspended if dues are not paid by February 15. Reinstatement requires application to the TLS Board and payment of double dues.

*If there is a financial hardship regarding your dues, confidential arrangements can be made to continue your TLS membership. Please contact TLS Vice President Gary Cummings: 610-476-5302 or [Garycummings140@gmail.com](mailto:Garycummings140@gmail.com)*

TLS has an online system that members can use to submit updates to their membership information and to pay their dues. Those members having email addresses have received a dues and membership data update notice by email. Following instructions in that email, corrections to membership data (addresses, phones, email addresses, Auxiliaries) can be submitted electronically. One TLS member per family received a link for online payment of the family dues. The online dues payment can be made through PayPal or by credit card.

Dues can also be paid by sending the form below, together with a check for dues owed, to the Treasurer. Please fill in your name(s), address, phone number(s), and email address(es) on the form below exactly as you wish to have that data appear in the 2022 TLS membership list. Also, please put an asterisk (\*) next to the phone number you wish to be used for the TLS Phone Tree and another asterisk next to the email you wish to be used for the email alert and/or MailChimp system.

**2022 TLS DUES**

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Home phone \_\_\_\_\_

Work phone(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Cell phone(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Email(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate type of membership.

Individual full member ..... \$40

Couple (both spouses are full members ..... \$60

Auxiliary member (spouse of full member) ..... \$20

Junior member..... \$10

Newsletter only ..... \$15

Check here if you do not want your address on our mailing list.

**Make check payable to: Tuscarora Lapidary Society (TLS).  
Mail form and check to:  
Kenneth Dahl, Treasurer  
18 Tenby Drive,  
Wilmington, DE 19803**

### TLS HAS A FACEBOOK PAGE

Our online presence, particularly on Facebook, is a great way for TLS to share and connect with members, potential new members, and the community in general. In order to build our fan base, we need your help! Here are some ways in which you can assist.

- “Like” the Tuscarora Lapidary Society page on Facebook.
- Share information about TLS on Facebook, and invite your friends to “like” the TLS page.
- Send photos from classes and events to post on the TLS page. Be sure to give a few details, such as when and/or where the photo was taken, and who and/or what is pictured.
- Send event information, announcements, or reminders that you would like posted on the TLS Facebook page to Linda Green at [ldgreensniffles@me.com](mailto:ldgreensniffles@me.com).
- If you post about TLS classes or events on your own Facebook page, be sure to tag us.



—Jody Shaw, Bulletin Editor

### FUTURE BULLETIN DUE DATES

March	Friday, February 18
April	Friday, March 18
May	Friday, April 22
June	Friday, May 20
July/August	Friday, June 17
September	Friday, August 5
October	Friday, September 23
November	Friday, October 21
December	Friday, November 18



—From Kathy Lopez, Program Chair

### FUTURE PROGRAMS

Our upcoming schedule will include both in-person and Zoom events, and we will adapt as necessary to the ongoing Covid-19 situation. In the meantime, please see the schedule below, and if you have any suggestions for spring programs, please email [kathy.lopez@me.com](mailto:kathy.lopez@me.com).

\*\*\*\*Please note that due to scheduling conflicts, the Silent Auction will be held in April instead of March.

- February - Dr. Phil Stokes, Penn Dixie Museum, “She Sells Sea Shells: The Story of Mary Anning’s Fossils”, by Zoom
- March - Richard Freeman, Jonas Mine Tourmaline Discovery (Video: Location TBD)
- April - Silent Auction at Springfield Twp Building, 7:30 p.m.
- May - How to prepare a Gemarama exhibit display, and a slide show of examples. Springfield Twp Building, 7:30 p.m.
- June - Annual TLS Dinner Meeting

The Tuscarora Lapidary Society (TLS) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation and a Pennsylvania Purely Public Charity organized to encourage and teach the science and art of lapidary (the cutting and polishing of stones) as well as the arts and sciences associated with lapidary interests. This mission is accomplished through general meetings, an annual show, educational courses and workshops, and free displays and presentations; all open to members of the general public. TLS meets the second Wednesday of each month, except July and August, at 7:30 p.m. in the Springfield Township Municipal Building, 50 Powell Road, Springfield, PA 19064; the June meeting is a dinner held at a local restaurant. Visitors are always welcome; anyone interested in joining the society may talk to any officer about the dues and membership requirements.

### 2022 TLS OFFICERS, BOARD OF DIRECTORS, AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS

#### OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President	Stacey Segal
Phone: 484-432-2710; email: <a href="mailto:tlspresidentss@gmail.com">tlspresidentss@gmail.com</a>	
Vice President	Gary Cummings
Recording Secretary	Janice Lawson
Corresponding Secretary	Eileen Magee
Treasurer	Ken Dahl
Directors	Doug McNicol, Anthony Lombardo, Mimi Favre
Education Center Director	John Chickadel
Gemarama Chair	Barry Messino
<hr/>	
Gemarama Co-Chair	Anthony Lombardo
Parliamentarian	Gary Cummings
Class Manager	Steve Hansen
Registrar	Bill Frampton
Historian	Frank Warner
Print Communications	Lynn Bibolet
Assistant	Mary Batter
Records Manager & Archivist	Lisa Laffend
Library/eBay	Stacey Segal
Landscape Plantings	Joyce Babiarz

#### COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Skill Improvement Program (SKIP)	Dennis Coren
Programs	Kathleen Lopez
Assistant	Volunteer Needed
Membership	Gary Cummings
Education	Lisa Laffend
Facilities & Equipment	Don Schwarzkopf
Acquisitions	Douglas McNicol
Assistant	Katy Winters
Community Programs & DCAC Rep	Linda Green
Assistant	Christina Kulp
Email communications	Lola Fields
Social media	Linda Green
Assistant	Anna Thompson
Welcoming	Margaret Bimson
By-Laws	Gary Cummings
Webmaster	Doug Klieger
Event Calendar	Lisa Laffend
Bulletin Editor	Jody Shaw
Phone: (856) 981-0306; email: <a href="mailto:jodyshawtls@gmail.com">jodyshawtls@gmail.com</a>	

TLS EDUCATION CENTER ♦ 24 UPLAND ROAD, BROOKHAVEN, PA 19015 ♦ (610) 490-5252 ♦ [WWW.LAPIDARY.ORG](http://WWW.LAPIDARY.ORG) ♦ [INFORMATION@LAPIDARY.ORG](mailto:INFORMATION@LAPIDARY.ORG)

TLS IS A MEMBER OF THE EASTERN FEDERATION OF MINERALOGICAL AND LAPIDARY SOCIETIES (EFMLS),

AND AFFILIATED WITH THE AMERICAN FEDERATION OF MINERALOGICAL SOCIETIES (AFMS).

EFMLS



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AFMS



The hashtag symbol is technically called an octothorpe.  
 The 100 folds in a chef's hat represent 100 ways to cook an egg.  
 The longest wedding veil was longer than 63 football fields.  
 Some cats are allergic to people.  
 The unicorn is the national animal of Scotland.  
 The Crown Jewels contain the two biggest cut diamonds on Earth.  
 The largest known living organism is an aspen grove.  
 Facebook has more users than many major populations.  
 You can hear a blue whale's heartbeat from more than 2 miles away.  
 The Oscars used to give out an award to child performers.  
 If you drive south from Detroit, you'll hit Canada.  
 A baby puffin is called a "puffling."  
 Four times more people speak English as a second language than as a native one.  
 The lyrebird can mimic almost any sounds it hears — including chainsaws.  
 Frank Lloyd Wright's son invented Lincoln Logs.  
 About 700 grapes go into one bottle of wine.  
 A team of six women programmed the first digital computer.  
 Baby elephants suck their trunks for comfort.  
 There's a world record for the most world record titles.

### WEIRD (BUT TRUE) FUN FACTS