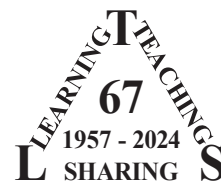




THE TUSCARORA BULLETIN



Vol. 61, NO. 9

THE TUSCARORA BULLETIN

OCTOBER 2024

Time for the Final Touches

Gemarama is only a few weeks away. Now is the time for the last-minute preparations for your single stone submission and/or your Gemarama case design. During the summer, the Gemarama Committee was busy organizing all the containers for easy transport/setup at the show. And, Anthony Lombardo, with the assistance of numerous other TLS members, acquired new LED lighting for all the Gemarama cases. This new lighting will enhance the unique characteristics of all the phenomenal gems on display.

This year, the summer was also busy for numerous other TLS members. First, many thanks to all who participated in cleaning up the capping machinery and organizing the tools and other equipment for the fall classes. And second, the TLS Budget and Finance Committee met numerous times to fine-tune the budgetary needs of the TLS Education Center for the maintenance of the building, the yearly operation costs, and the upkeep and replacement of the various lapidary equipment for the next few years. The results of the Committee's analysis indicated that the yearly TLS membership fees will need to be raised. The TLS Board approved this recommendation. However, the final decision and approval of the yearly TLS membership fee increase will be discussed and voted upon by the TLS membership at the October General Meeting. Additional information, prepared by the Budget and Finance Committee chairman, Frank Warner, on this topic, can be found in the Bulletin.

The October General Meeting will host the TLS Fall Silent Auction, a special event featuring an assortment of donated lapidary rough, finished stones, and equipment. To get a "sneak peek" of all the items for sale, I urge you to come early at 6:30 P.M. to the Springfield Township building to help set up the tables. Your assistance at the end of the Silent Auction to volunteer to help take down the tables is equally important.

We need your help with Gemarama. Your assistance on Friday, before the show on Saturday, is crucial to get the show up and running. This will also allow you to witness how the show comes "alive." You will also have the opportunity to talk with the vendors after they have finished setting up their booths. Help is also needed during and at the show's end. Your participation in these tasks is vital. Sign-up opportunities to help with the various tasks of the show are available at the Education Center and online.

Lastly, please encourage all your friends to come to Gemarama to see all the phenomenal gems on display and to make this show a "phenomenal" success!

—Ingrid Ratsep, TLS President

Dates to Remember . .

- September 28: Brookhaven Family Day
- October 2: TLS Board Meeting, by ZOOM, 7:30 p.m.
- October 9: TLS General Meeting; Silent Auction, Springfield Township Building, 7:30 p.m.
- October 16: Gemarama Meeting, by ZOOM, 7:30 p.m.
- November 1: Gemarama 2024 set up begins; 8 a.m., Hall D, Philly Expo Center, Oaks, PA. Unload the truck, set up dealer tables and signs, followed by the TLS Booth, Demonstration and Exhibit areas, Admissions, and the Kid's Table.
- November 2 - 3: **Gemarama 2024, TLS's 55th Gem, Jewelry, and Lapidary Show**, Hall D, Philly Expo Center, Oaks, PA; Saturday, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.; Sunday, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
- November 3: Tear down at 5 p.m. on Sunday; please stay to help!



News and Notes

- Condolences to Anna Thompson on the loss of her brother.
- Sign up to help at Gemarama 2024! Information is on page 4.



— From TLS Board of Directors

Dues Proposal

The Board has given unanimous approval to the proposal below from the 2024 Budget and Finance Committee for a modest increase in dues to be effective for the 2025 dues cycle and for any new members joining in November or December of this year. TLS bylaws require that dues "shall be set by the Board of Directors with concurrence of the majority of members at a regularly scheduled meeting." Members will be asked to approve the new dues structure at the October General Meeting (silent auction at the Springfield Township Building).

Since 2014, dues have been \$40 per member, \$60 per member couple, \$20 per spouse auxiliary, and \$10 for junior members. The newsletter-only fee has been \$15, and the new member application fee has been \$20.

The 2024 Budget and Finance Committee recommended that the new rates be \$50 for members, \$75 per member couple, \$25 for spouse auxiliary, and \$15 for junior members. The newsletter-only fee would be \$20, and the new member application fee would become \$25.

Members receive benefits that dues help support including the TLS Bulletin, General Meetings, the TLS Library, and a subsidized annual dinner. In addition, dues help cover insurance, accountant fees, corporate registration and website costs. Occasional increases in dues are necessary to help cover these operational expenses.

The Board strongly recommends approval of the new dues structure.

65+ YEARS OF TEACHING . . . LEARNING . . . SHARING

WE TEACH THE JOURNEY FROM ROCK TO GEM TO JEWELRY.

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—From Janice Lawson, Recording Secretary

August Board Meeting Minutes/Highlights

The August 7 Board Meeting by Zoom was called to order at 7:33 p.m. by Vice President Doug McNicol. The minutes of the June Board and General meetings were approved as distributed.

Treasurer's Report: Ken Dahl reported a positive cash inflow and outflow for the month of June.

Committee Reports:

Community Programs/DCAC: Linda Green, interim chair, announced that she attended today's DCAC meeting, which included discussion on the newly rebuilt Upper Darby summer stage building, the summer programs, and Delco Arts Week. TLS will host an Open House on Friday, September 27. Linda also shared that Brookhaven Family Day will be the next day, September 28, and TLS will have a table at that event.

Programs: Kathy Lopez reported that programs are in place for the Fall and that she and Tina Brunner are ready to schedule programs for the Spring. Kathy also reported that everything went well with the June dinner.

Ed Center Director: Vincent DiAngelus reported that the rekeying of the locks is finished and keys were distributed. Carpet cleaning will take place on August 19 and 20. Vince also reported that John Chickadel will hold a Clean-up day on August 22, Volunteers are welcome. Vince stated that he is working on the gas booster and finding a landscaper. Vince then reported that during a recent visit by the Fire Marshall, it was brought to his attention the danger of using powerstrips. Discussion was held on this topic. Removal of the power strips will begin as soon as possible.

Class Manager: Steve Hansen reported that the fall schedule is finalized and working its way through the process. Two guest instructors are scheduled. Steve stated that MLSN registration is open.

Registrar: Barbara Bates reported that the fall data for registration is in the database. Barbara stated she is confident that the system is stable and ready for the larger volume of registrations.

Acquisitions: Doug McNicol reported that there were no acquisitions for this month, but there was a returned sale of a Genie that was running too hot and was out of balance. Doug stated that the \$250 will be returned. Vincent DiAngelus and Doug Schwarzkopf offered to look at the Genie.

Equipment and Facilities: Don Schwarzkopf reported on the repair of the oil pump and that he is waiting for the company to send the correct size of the piston ring that is needed. Don also stated that he will work on the removal of the power strips in the Ed Center.

Gemarama: Barry Messino reported that the next Gemarama meeting will be August 21. Mimi Favre reported on a vendor update for Gemarama. Mimi stated that there are 6-7 new dealers and that there are two spaces left. It was proposed that the lights in the display cases be replaced with LED light strips with switchable colors. The pricing is \$40 each and there are 30 display cases. A motion was made to approve this proposal. It was seconded and approved.

SKIP: Dennis Coren reported that he has two submissions for apprentice cabochon and that they will be presented at a future

General Meeting. Dennis will provide an article for the Bulletin. Webmaster: Zasha Morales-José said that the website contact information was updated following the passing of Bill Frampton.

Special Topic

Report from Budget and Finance Committee: Frank Warner reviewed and led discussion on the proposals that were distributed to the Board and Committee members before the meeting.

Cash Assets: A motion was made to open a money market account and move \$100,000 into the account. It was seconded and approved.

Dues: The Committee also presented a proposal for a modest dues increase, starting with the 2025 dues cycle. The dues increase proposal will be voted on by the Board at the September Board meeting and then, if approved and as required by the Bylaws, the proposed increase will be presented to the membership for approval at the October General Meeting.

Tuition: Frank and Steve Hansen presented the process used to determine levels of tuition and fees so that income would cover Education Center expenses, including reinvestment in equipment, while having classes remain affordable. Frank also presented a revision of the teacher credit policy. Frank encouraged everyone to think about the proposed tuition changes as they will be brought back for discussion in September. Doug McNicol encouraged anyone who has input to email Frank or Ken Dahl so it could be shared at the next Budget and Finance Committee meetings on August 14 and 28.



—From Janice Lawson, Recording Secretary

September Board and General Meeting Minutes/Highlights

The September 4 Board Meeting by Zoom was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by President Ingrid Ratsep. The minutes of the August Board meeting were approved as distributed.

Treasurer's Report: Ken Dahl reported a positive cash inflow and outflow for the month of August.

Committee Reports:

Membership: Doug McNicol reported that former member Annamaria Beatty would like to be reinstated as a member. Doug stated that Annamaria has paid the required dues. A motion was made to approve Annamaria Beatty's reinstatement.

Community Programs/DCAC: Linda Green, interim chair, announced that she attended today's DCAC meeting which included discussion on the various events and activities for Delco Arts Week, September 21- 29. TLS will host an Open House on Friday, September 27, from 5 - 8 p.m. Linda shared that all volunteers for the Open House are in place. Linda also shared that Brookhaven Family Day will be the next day, September 28, and TLS will have a table at that event and have Gemarama discount tickets and bookmarks available.

Programs: Kathy Lopez reported that the program for next week's General Meeting is in place and the guest will be provided with the Zoom link. Kathy also reviewed some of the Spring programs that are scheduled.

Ed Center Director: Vincent DiAngelus reported that the carpet cleaning was completed and shared that some wear patterns were identified. Vince also reported that clean-up day went well

and gave thanks to John Chickadel. Stacey Segal made mention of an incident involving the activation of the building alarm and asked that Vince be added to the contact list. Ken Dahl stated he will take care of this before the next Board meeting.

Class Manager: Steve Hansen reported that the successful Summer term has ended. The Fall term will begin tomorrow. Steve also reported that he is working on the Winter term. Steve shared that the mid-October MLSN session sold out immediately and a second session has been scheduled for the following weekend.

Registrar: Barbara Bates reported that Fall registration has been robust with over 100 students registering for the near 300 classes. Barbara stated that the registration system has been running well.

Equipment and Facilities: Don Schwarzkopf reported on the repair of the oil pump and that he is still waiting for the company to send the correct size piston ring that is needed. Vincent DiAngelus stated that he has two quotes for oil drum replacements. Don also stated that in the coming weeks he will work on the replacement of the power strips in the Ed Center.

Gemarama: Barry Messino reported that flyers and discount and complimentary tickets are being passed out and this will also be mentioned in the Bulletin. Barry also reported that everything is settled regarding the dinner for the vendors. Frank Warner will confirm the exact number of tables needed and get that information to Taylor Rental.

SKIP: Dennis Coren reported that he has four submissions for sphere master category. Dennis shared that he recently casted feathers for these awards.

Old Business

- Vincent DiAngelus reported that he will order two basic fire blankets to have in the Ed Center.
- Linda Green will take care of the information for chemicals used by TLS after Gemarama.
- Vincent DiAngelus reported that he is unable to find one contractor to do both snow plowing and landscaping at this time.
- Linda Green reported that the TLS sponsorship ad for PA Guild of Craftsman program has been completed, printed, and is on the website. Linda stated she is meeting tomorrow with someone from the Guild to give discount tickets and bookmarks ready to have at the welcome show. Design has also been provided to the billboard company which will go up on Route 422 for the month of October.
- Linda Green reported that she will be touching base with Michael Holmes likely after Gemarama about the new TLS logo.
- Ingrid Ratsep is looking into possible use of the Brookhaven Municipal Building for some future General Meetings.
- Sheryl Dahl reported that the LED light strips for the Gemarama cases were ordered, tested, and will be installed as the cases are set up.

New Business

- The Budget and Finance Committee proposals for dues and tuition were first reviewed at the August Board meeting. A motion was made to approve the Committee's dues proposal. It was seconded and approved. Frank stated that the dues proposal will be printed in the October Bulletin. As specified in the TLS Bylaws, dues are set by the Board with the concurrence of the majority of members at a regularly scheduled meeting. Approv-

al by the members will be requested at the October General Meeting. If approved, the new dues will be effective for 2025 and for new members joining in November or December of this year. A motion was made to approve the Committee's tuition proposal. It was seconded and approved. The new tuition rates will start with the winter 2025 term. Frank made a motion to approve the membership application form updated to include the new dues and with the option of receiving the Bulletin by US mail deleted. Going forward, all new members would receive the Bulletin electronically. That motion was seconded and approved.

- Development of the Long Range Planning Committee will be mentioned in the final report of the 2024 Budget & Finance Committee and will be a topic for next month's Board meeting.
- Doug McNicol reported that a donated Genie that was not working correctly was returned. Upon inspection, the Genie's motor is not optimal.



The September 11 General Meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by President Ingrid Ratsep. The meeting was held by Zoom. Attendance included 32 members and 18 guests. Ingrid Ratsep welcomed all members and guests to the meeting. Ingrid Ratsep shared condolences to member Anna Thompson in the recent passing of her brother.

Committee and other items discussed at the Board Meeting were briefly presented. In addition:

- Linda Green, interim chair, encouraged everyone to view the calendar of activities for Delco Arts Week on delcoarts.org. TLS will host an Open House on Friday, September 27, from 5-8 p.m. and the following day will have a table at Brookhaven Family Day.
- Kathy Lopez reported that a speaker is in place for January's program and John Chickadel and Lily Bieling will present in April.
- Vincent DiAngelus announced that he is looking for a snow-plow company who can also provide landscaping/garden maintenance and he can be contacted with any recommendations.
- Steve Hansen reported that fall classes are underway, and that a second session of our Main Line School Night capping workshop was added and is full, and that planning for the winter term is underway.
- Doug McNicol reported a donation from Linda Green which includes small stones and jewelry.
- Anthony Lombardo announced that Gemarama is November 2 and 3. Anthony then reported that sign-up for Gemarama is available at the Ed Center as well as online and that he, Barry Messino, Joann Morris, and Lisa Laffend are all available to assist. Anthony asked that Gemarama sign-up be encouraged by instructors during classes.
- Dennis Coran announced two recipients, John Hughes and Megan Schaefer, for the SKIP award in apprentice cabochon. They both are awarded a ribbon, certificate, and a feather casting. Dennis also reported that there are four SKIP awards in the sphere category to be announced.

Following the meeting Ingrid Ratsep gave a detailed introduction and warm welcome to speaker, Peter Torraca, a faceter

and gemologist who is known for orienting faceting rough for color and salvaging worn gemstones using precision cutting with minimal stone loss. He gave a very interesting and well received program on how orientation can affect the colors displayed by faceted gems of various types.



—From the Gemarama Committee

Gemarama Needs You!

Gemarama is coming up quickly and we need your help to make the show successful and fun for everyone. There are lots of ways to be involved and something for everyone! It's a great way to get to know each other a little better, and very satisfying to see the hall change from a big empty room to an inviting and exciting showplace!

Here are ways to volunteer. There are more details about the different opportunities below.

- Sign-up sheets are at the Ed Center in the classroom and will come to the next General Meeting at the Springfield Township Building.
- Sign up online! SignUpGenius is a popular and secure application used by many volunteer organizations. Follow the link below or use the QR code and sign up for as many slots as you like. You do not need an account, but if you provide your email address, SignUpGenius will send you a confirmation and a reminder, and you can make changes later if necessary. It's very user friendly, and if you have any trouble or issues, please reach out to us.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040E4CEA822ABFD0-50709138-gemarama#/>

- Joanne Morris will make phone calls to see how you can help.

Teachers: Please encourage your students to share their enthusiasm in the Demo Area and/or share their time in the Volunteer Areas! Remember that a 2 hour commitment at Gemarama can replace one meeting requirement for prospective members.

Volunteer Opportunities

Pre-show and post-show activities take place at either the Expo Center or the Ed Center.

Pre-show activities:

On Thursday morning, help is needed at the Expo Center to hang signs and other activities to get ready for the show. Then, on Thursday afternoon at 3 p.m., we start loading the truck at the Ed Center with everything we'll need at the show.

Starting at 8:00 Friday morning at the Expo Center, we'll unload the truck, set up tables, cover them, put up signs, and get everything ready for opening Saturday morning. We provide lunch for volunteers on Friday and dinner for the volunteers and vendors.

During the show:

Demos: Bring your enthusiastic talented self and show off your skills and talents! We'll have cabbing and faceting machines available, and space to for you to demo or discuss any

jewelry related process you like: wire wrapping, wax carving, beading, chain maille, metalsmithing, PMC, channel, intarsia, and lampworking, or any other jewelry craft. We won't have torches, but you can still bring your work to show off.

Admissions: We now have an online ticket system. We need people to collect tickets and money at the door and to keep track of and direct people coming in.

TLS Booth: This is our operations center for the show, and you'll help with the Treasure Wheel, Grab Bags for the kids, and other activities.

Silent Auction: The silent auction volunteers help visitors sign up to bid and help organize and distribute the winnings at the end. This is a very popular event at the show and raises a lot of money for TLS!

Kid's Table: The Kid's Table is fun for the whole family, with crafts and a scavenger hunt. Volunteers will help make sure they have the supplies they need, but adults are required to stay with their children.

Education Center Table: Located by the Demos area, this is an opportunity to talk to our visitors about TLS. We'll have printed information about TLS, a draft of the upcoming winter class schedule, and more.

Post-show activities:

What goes up must come down! These last items are VERY IMPORTANT parts of our effort to put on a great show and cannot be left to just a few members. These tasks do require lifting of some heavy objects. Please volunteer to help.

From 5pm to about 7pm on Sunday, we will pack up TLS equipment, including the exhibit cases, and load the truck with everything that came from the Ed Center. We will start to fold and stack the tables and chairs as the TLS booths are packed up.

Once the truck is loaded, it will return to the Ed Center. Some volunteers will go to the Ed Center to unpack the truck and put everything away in the storage room. This is a great opportunity for people who live near the Ed Center to help! If you want to help, but were not at the show, we can contact you to let you know when the truck will arrive. Generally, this activity will take place from 7pm to 9pm.

In the meantime, volunteers are needed at the Expo Center, too, to continue to collapse and stack the tables and chairs as the vendors are packing up their booths. The last vendor is usually out by 9pm.

SignUpGenius QR Code



—From Anthony Lombardo, Gemarama Co-Chair

We Just Need Two From You!

On behalf of the Gemarama Committee, we are filled with anxious anticipation as the 2024 Gemarama approaches! As you can imagine, Gemarama is a complex undertaking requiring the coordinated participation of our talented TLS members. The preparations extend over several months. Over the years, proceeds from the Gemarama have made the acquisition of the Education Center and our specialized lapidary equipment possible. However, ever-increasing operating costs have greatly diminished our show revenue. The Gemarama committee has considered many options to help remedy this condition and settled on the following action. Instead of increasing our admission prices, we calculated that we could reverse our declining revenue trend by increasing the paid attendance to Gemarama by just 20%. Thus, this goal was adopted. In practical terms, if every TLS member encouraged only two new people to attend Gemarama 2024, we would meet our goal! As a result, we humbly ask for your help to meet this goal.

At the TLS Ed Center, there are plenty of discount bookmarks and coupons available. If you would just hand out a discount coupon to at least 12 new people, perhaps 3-4 of those new people may attend Gemarama 2024. If every TLS member would do this, we will reach our goal! Hand them to coworkers, students, family members, friends, and even folks at gyms and churches! With your help, Gemarama will continue to be the premier lapidary event in the region! We thank our wonderful members for your continued help and support.



—From Publicity, Gemarama and Social Media Chair, Linda Green

Publicity, Gemarama and Social Media

Our social media presence on Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube is a great way for TLS to share and connect with current members, students, potential new members, and the community in general. It is also a great way to promote Gemarama. Help us “spread the word” and build our fan base. Here are some ways you can assist:

- Follow us on Facebook ([Tuscarora Lapidary Society](#)), Instagram ([@tuscaroralapidary](#)) and YouTube ([Tuscarora Lapidary Society, Inc.](#)).
- “Like” our posts on Facebook, Instagram and Like our YouTube videos.
- “Comment” on our posts.
- “Share” them with your friends and followers.

If you post photos from TLS classes or Gemarama on your Facebook or Instagram page, please “Tag” us so we can comment back or repost them.

Please send photos from classes and other TLS events to post on the TLS page. I never have enough photos. You can email them to ldgreensniffles@me.com

Feel free to repost our posts on your Instagram feed or stories but indicate that the post came from @tuscaroralapidary.

Remember “It takes a village.” Let’s make Gemarama 2024 bigger and better than ever.

—John Chickadel

Clean Up Day at the Education Center!

We had an amazing turnout on Thursday, August 22nd to help with our Fall class preparation session. Our very enthusiastic group, who kindly volunteered, replaced and cleaned cabbings wheels, maintained our trim and slab saws, refreshed the dropping station, and performed general clean-up, battery replacement and resupply chores. In attendance were Marina Brunner, Tina Brunner, Paul Stieff, Rachel Cole, Steve Hansen, Doug McNicol, Maxine Burkholder, John Frymyer, Lola Fields, Valerie Wiest, Frank Warner, Lisa Laffend, Barry Messino, Barb Bates, Alejandro Lopez, Nieves Lopez, Kathy Lopez,

— From Ellen Schwarzkopf, Gemarama Silent Auction Coordinator

GEMARAMA SILENT AUCTION

Let’s make this year’s Gemarama Silent Auction another huge success! It has been a major contributor to the income of Gemarama for many years due to the generous donations of our members. My goal this year is ONE donation from every TLS member.

Think now about what YOU can contribute to this effort. Maybe you’re working on a new style of jewelry and are making a few to perfect your design. Donate one to the Silent Auction. Maybe you discover rough that you’ll never cut or tools that you don’t use anymore. Maybe you don’t really need that particular specimen or have too many books for your shelves.

Remember, this is not a White Elephant sale; we need high-quality pieces. Items need not be terribly expensive; they must, however, be up to the quality TLS members and Gemarama attendees are accustomed to. Rough slabs, mineral specimens, faceting material, fossils, carvings, faceted stones, cabochons, pins, necklaces, bolos, other finished jewelry, books, tools, etc. are just a few suggestions.

Let me know if you can help. I can be reached by email at eschwarzkopf@verizon.net or by phone at (215) 901-2126.

Gemarama Silent Auction Donation Form

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Item Donated (with description): _____

Fair Market Value: _____

Materials Used: _____

—From Jody Shaw, Bulletin Editor

Please Help With 2025 Bulletins

Next year, Lapidary Links will focus on project-based websites for lapidary, metal, and glass. *Please* forward any that you visit for inclusion in this feature to bulletin@lapidary.org. Your help is very much appreciated!!

—From Doug McNicol, Vice President

**October General Meeting Program
Silent Auction**

The October 9, 2024 Silent Auction will be in person at the Springfield Township Municipal Building, 50 Powell Road, Springfield, PA. The auction will have a large quantity of rough material and slabs from various donations. The estate of Bill Frampton provided a large percentage of the material. There are a few cabochons and about 20 lots of higher dollar faceted stones from the estate of Bob Jacobsen.

A Durston DRM C-100 Rolling Mill and a 1-ton press will be among the hand tools available along with the remainder of items not sold at the summer sale.

Due to the large amount of rough and slabs, a separate table will be set up with “Sale Only Items”. The material will be in boxes labeled \$1.00 and \$3.00. These items will be available for inspection and selection at 7:15 PM. Slips will be provided to take to the Treasurer for payment.

As usual, attendees are encouraged to bring items to be auctioned as donations to TLS.



How Does The Silent Auction Work?

First, bring something you wish to donate to the Club: rough, slabs, cabs, cut stones, findings, finished jewelry, equipment, tools, supplies, books, or whatever (not junk). Fill out one of the auction forms on the last page of this Bulletin or go to <https://www.lapidary.org/IMAGES/TLSSilentAuctionForms.pdf> for each item. (If you don’t know what to put down for the price, leave it blank; help will be available at the meeting.) If you have more than three items to donate, copy the auction forms; there also will be extra forms at the meeting. Please remember, while you can check things out ahead of time, the Silent Auction begins only after the General Meeting is adjourned.

How does it work? When you choose what you want, write your name and your bid on the item’s slip. Your bid must be just one increment over the last bid. If someone ‘ups’ your bid, fill in your next offer. When the table is closed, the last name on the list (the highest bid) gets to purchase the item.



TLS Class/Meeting Cancellation System

If an evening meeting or class at the TLS Education Center or a General Meeting is canceled due to inclement weather or other needs, an appropriate message will be put on the Center’s voicemail system by 4 p.m. that day. So, if you have concerns regarding any evening event, call the Center at 610-490-5252 after 4 p.m. and listen to the message. In addition, both daytime and evening instructors have the authority to cancel a class due to inclement weather at their discretion. Should this scenario occur, all affected students will be called by the respective instructor and, if possible, a message will be placed on the Center’s voicemail system.

If a General Meeting is canceled or an emergency or other circumstance requiring special attention occurs, an email will go out with more information.

—From Tina Brunner, Assistant Programs Chair

Future Programs

We have scheduled all speakers for 2024. We welcome your suggestions for speakers or presentations. Please contact either Kathy Lopez at Kathy.lopez@me.com or Tina Brunner at zebu25may@protonmail.com with your ideas.

- October 9, 2024 7:30 PM – Silent Auction – Please consider donating good-quality rough, cut stones, lapidary and jewelry tools, finished jewelry, supplies, books, and other items for which you no longer have a need. Springfield Township Building
- November 13, 2024 7:30 PM – Frank Schaffer, a miner, diamond cutter, and colored gemstone faceter, will give a presentation on a topic yet to be determined. Springfield Township Building and Zoom.
- December 11, 2024 – Holiday Party and Election of Officers, Springfield Township Building.



—Barry Messino, Gemarama Chair

ENJOY BAKING OR MAKING DESSERTS OR APPETIZERS?

Donations are greatly appreciated for Friday, November 1, 2024, for our Gemarama lunch and dinner. Bake, make, or buy your favorites to share with your rockin' friends! Bring your treats with you to the Expo Center on Friday or make arrangements with Barry Messino at stargateRB1@comcast.net. Thank you!



Pennsylvania Geology

The newest version of Pennsylvania Geology can be downloaded at the following link:

https://elibrary.dcnr.pa.gov/GetDocument?docId=8569245&DocName=PAGeoMag_v54no2

Please forward this link to anyone you think might be interested in the geology of Pennsylvania and ask them to contact us at RA-pageology@pa.gov to subscribe. For previous versions of Pennsylvania Geology, please visit:

https://elibrary.dcnr.pa.gov/GetDocument?docId=1751958&DocName=Hyperlinks_PaGeoMagazine.pdf



—Jody Shaw, Bulletin Editor

Future Bulletin Due Dates

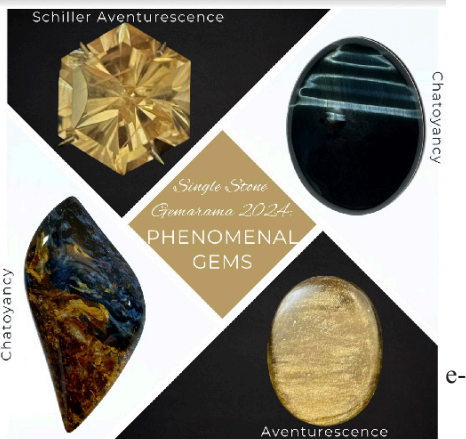
| | |
|---------------|---------------------|
| November..... | Friday, October 18 |
| December..... | Friday, November 22 |
| January..... | Friday, December 20 |
| February..... | Friday, January 17 |
| March..... | Friday, February 14 |
| April..... | Friday, March 21 |
| May..... | Friday, April 18 |
| June..... | Friday, May 23 |

—From Christina Groff, Single Stone Chair

Call for Gemarama Single Stone Exhibition Submissions

Gemarama 2024 is just around the corner and the Single Stone exhibit will be on display throughout the show, on November 2nd and 3rd! We are inviting members and non-members to submit a cabochon and/or faceted stone to display in the Single Stone showcase. The Single Stone exhibition is a program that highlights stone cutting craftsmanship. In addition to displaying the submitted stones in the Gemarama showcase, all participants will receive an award certificate and a technical feedback sheet for their submission.

This year’s Gemarama theme is “Phenomenal Gems”, which are stones that display specific optical effects that can appear to have almost magical interactions with light. These phenomena include adularescence, aventurescence, asterism, chatoyancy, color change, iridescence, labradorescence, play of color, tenebrescence, and ultraviolet tenebrescence. Stone submissions for this exhibition do not have to match the theme, but the theme may act as inspiration for participants, if desired. Previous single stone submissions that displayed a couple of these “phenomenal” qualities are pictured here.



All submissions for the exhibition are due by Thursday, October 17th, and can be submitted at the TLS Education Center. Additional submission instructions are posted on the desk in the library. Individuals can submit up to one stone in each of the two single stone categories; cabochon and faceted. All submissions will be available for pick up in the TLS Education Center Library by Saturday, November 9th. Participants will be able to pick up their submission any time the Education Center is open, and those dates and times are all available on the TLS website calendar (<https://www.lapidary.org/calendar/>). If you have any questions please contact the Single Stone coordinator, Christina, at christina.rose93@gmail.com.



**November Bulletin Deadline
Friday, October 18**



Lapidary Links

This year, Lapidary Links will focus on databases relating to lapidary, metal, and glass. Please forward any that you visit for inclusion in this feature to bulletin@lapidary.org.

A Comprehensive Guide to the History &Types of Gemstones is an exciting and valuable resource. This online guide is packed with essential facts, including the historical significance of the most in-demand gemstones and their modern uses. Find the guide at <https://www.77diamonds.com/history-and-meaning-of-gemstones>

— From Dennis Coren, SKIP Coordinator

Skip

Congratulations to the following Tuscarora members from the 2024 Sphere Making class, who submitted their work to be judged in the SKIP program. Their certificates, ribbons, and feathers will be presented at the October General meeting. Thank you for your wonderful entries.

- Tina Brunner, Journeyman Class, Bronze Feather,
- Ken Dahl, Journeyman Class, Bronze Feather,
- Christina Groff, Apprentice Class, Bronze Feather
- Barbara Bates, Apprentice Class, Bronze Feather

Earn your own feather today by submitting your work from class or home to be judged today!

2024 Event Calendar

- October 4-6:** Baltimore Mineral Society's Paul Desautels Memorial Micromount Symposium, Baltimore, MD
- October 19-20:** Mount Bethel Gem Mineral & Fossil Show, Mount Bethel, PA
- October 26-27:** Rochester Gem, Mineral, Jewelry and Fossil Show, 435 West Commercial Street, East Rochester, NY
- November 2-3:** Gemarama, Greater Philadelphia Expo Center, Oaks, PA
- November 9-10:** Haverford Guild of Craftsmen Art & Fine Craft Show, Havertown, PA
- November 15-17:** Gem Miner's Holiday Gem Jewelry & Gift Show, Lebanon Valley Expo Center, Lebanon, PA
- March 29-30, 2025:** Pennsylvania Mineral Society's Mineral Treasures & Fossil Fair

Instructor Benefit

It is TLS policy that TLS members who teach a regular course (fall, winter, spring, or summer) or a substantial workshop may, within the following twelve months, take a regular class or workshop without paying the normal member tuition. Any special course fees or materials fees in excess of tuition must be paid by the member making use of this benefit.

Instructors who wish to take advantage of this policy must advise the Registrar of the specific course or workshop for which they would like to use the benefit.



In The News

If you see something newsworthy to share with our members, please send link to bulletin@lapidary.org.

- Geologists Reveal Incredibly Rare Mineral – Only One Specimen Ever Found on Earth
<https://www.thebrighterside.news/post/geologists-reveal-incredibly-rare-mineral-only-one-specimen-ever-found-on-earth/>
- Gold Breaks New Barrier: \$2,600 an Ounce
<https://www.jckonline.com/editorial-article/gold-barrier-2600-an-ounce/>
- How Large Gold Nuggets Form in Quartz Crystals During Earthquakes
<https://www.newscientist.com/article/2445930-earthquakes-may-explain-how-huge-gold-nuggets-form-in-quartz-rock/>

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 the month, except July and August, at 7:30 p.m. in the Springfield Township Municipal Building, 50 Powell Rd., 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. Some meetings are by Zoom only. Check lapidary.org for the current schedule.

2024 TLS OFFICERS, BOARD OF DIRECTORS, AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS

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Recording Secretary Janice Lawson
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Phone: (856) 981-0306; email: bulletin@lapidary.org

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Assistant Christina Kulp
Education. Lisa Laffend
Email communications Lola Fields
Event Calendar. Lisa Laffend
Facilities & Equipment Don Schwarzkopf

TLS EDUCATION CENTER • 24 UPLAND ROAD, BROOKHAVEN, PA 19015 • (610) 490-5252 • WWW.LAPIDARY.ORG • 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).



Weird But True Facts

1. Striking your head against the wall, you can lose 150 calories an hour.
2. The color blue attracts mosquitoes as much as any other color.
3. Most toilet paper sold for home use in France is pink.
4. In 2014, a missing woman on a vacation in Iceland was found when it was discovered that she was in the search party looking for herself.
5. In 2005, Mark Zuckerberg unsuccessfully tried to sell Facebook for \$75 million. Back then it was called The Facebook.
6. Strawberries can also be white or yellow, and some can even taste like pineapples!
7. The Boston Marathon didn't allow female runners until 1972.
8. Banks have therapists known as wealth psychologists who help ultra-rich clients, who are unable to mentally cope with their immense wealth.
9. Snails have been known to sleep up to three years if the weather isn't moist enough to meet their needs.
10. The heart of a blue whale is so big, a human can swim through the arteries.
11. The last year that read the same when upside-down was in 1961. That will not happen again until the year 6009.
12. Competitive art was once an Olympic sport. From 1912 to 1948, artists could earn medals for painting, music, sculpture, and even architecture.

**GEMARAMA 2024 APPLICATION FOR EXHIBIT SPACE
THE TUSCARORA LAPIDARY SOCIETY'S 55th ANNUAL SHOW
NOVEMBER 2 & 3, 2024**

HALLS D & E, THE GREATER PHILADELPHIA EXPO CENTER, OAKS, PA

Here are descriptions of competitions, judging, and awards. AFMS Uniform Rules will not be used in the evaluation of cases and the selection of awards. Material selection, craftsmanship, presentation, and showmanship are the key factors.

****GROUND RULES FOR EXHIBITORS & AWARD SELECTION****

JUDGING: Judging will take place prior to the opening of the show on Saturday; identifying labels will be added to the cases when judging is complete.

AWARD SELECTION: A committee of judges will evaluate all cases and select winners of the four category awards:

Most Educational (All educational exhibits are eligible.)

Best Theme Display – “PHENOMENAL GEMS” (All exhibits of theme material are eligible.)

Best Non-Member Display (Cases by non-members only are eligible.)

Best Small Case – 18" x 12" (Cases by TLS members only are eligible.)

Judging committee will select cases for *Best in Show* and *Director's Award*.

ELIGIBILITY FOR AWARDS: An exhibitor may win only one of the four category awards; all cases, including winners of category awards, are eligible for Best in Show or Director's Award. An exhibitor cannot receive an identical award two years in a row. For example, the winner in 2023 of the Educational Award is not eligible for the Educational Award in 2024. Certain TLS exhibits are not eligible for awards (Single Stone exhibition, Education Center display, Memorial cases, Intarsias, etc.).

APPLICATION FORM

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE _____ E-MAIL _____

EXHIBIT TYPE (PLEASE CHECK ALL THAT APPLY) NON-MEMBER
 EDUCATIONAL
 THEME ('PHENOMENAL GEMS')
 SMALL CASE (18" X 12" TLS MEMBERS ONLY)

Description _____

a) I will provide a case that I personally own. This case: requires a table OR is freestanding.

Case size if other than standard TLS case (4' x 2'). _____

b) I will use a TLS case in my possession.

c) I wish to have a standard (4' x 2') TLS case furnished.

d) I wish to have a small (18" x 12") TLS case furnished (TLS members only).

An exhibitor providing lights must observe the 100 watts maximum.

The TLS Show Committee assumes no responsibility for loss or damage to exhibitors' property, material, or specimens displayed at the show. TLS will provide security guards from 5 p.m. Friday, November 1, through 5:30 p.m. Sunday, November 3, 2024. Set up may begin at 3 p.m. Friday and must be complete and ready for judging by 9 a.m. Saturday; tear down will begin at 5 p.m. Sunday.

I understand that all risks are my own and that the Tuscarora Lapidary Society has no insurance that applies to my exhibit.

Signature of Exhibitor _____ Date _____

Please return forms to:

Bill Mattis,

228 Sagamore Road

Havertown, PA 19083-3912.

Questions? Call Bill at 610-449-9945 or e-mail him at mattisopal@aol.com.

Forms must be returned by October 15, 2024; you will receive confirmation.

Tuscarora Lapidary
Society, Inc.



Silent Auction

Item _____
From _____
Starting Bid _____
Raise _____

| | Your Name | Bid |
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Tuscarora Lapidary
Society, Inc.



Silent Auction

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Tuscarora Lapidary
Society, Inc.



Silent Auction

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| | Winning Bid | _____ |