

Gem & Mineral Society of the Virginia Peninsula (GMSVP) Internet Acceptable Posting Policy (APP) for Officer's & Members

Last Update: 4/13/2016

Rationale:

GMSVP web pages are public documents welcoming the outside world to the Society and linking officers, members and prospective new members to sources of information. Guidelines are required in the construction of GMSVP web pages to ensure that information on the pages is appropriate for any Internet user from within the community and around the world to access. Web pages should support the chartered aims of GMSVP.

In producing web pages, the following goals should be considered:

1. Introducing outside visitors to the GMSVP and/or Committees and its programs
2. Fostering communication of information between the Society and the community
3. Sharing the GMSVP successes with the world
4. Linking users to good information resources
5. Providing top-quality, family-friendly content that is appropriate to and in compliance with the mission statement, educational goals and objectives of GMSVP.

Posting Requirements:

1. GMSVP Webmaster

The setting up of a Website shall have a Webmaster appointed by the Board of Directors. The GMSVP Webmaster shall assist the Board of the GMSVP in ensuring that these guidelines are adhered to and that the content of the web pages meets the Board's approval. The GMSVP Webmaster is the primary person in the Society authorized to upload files to the web site. With the website being one of the main communication tools for electronic document storage, member information and attracting new members a backup plan should be in place. As a backup the Newsletter Editor or other appointed board member, may also have access, this will insure a recovery plan in the case of unforeseen circumstances regarding the Webmaster. The Board must review and approve the GMSVP website after posting of any modified content.

2. GMSVP Home Page

The GMSVP home page shall be located on the Board approved hosting server. If the GMSVP has additional web pages on one or more sites on external web servers, then the GMSVP home page shall provide direct links to all sites. All GMSVP web pages must conform to these guidelines regardless of the location, whether on the approved web server or an external web server. The GMSVP home page shall indicate the date of the last revision.

3. Content of Web Pages

The content of all GMSVP web pages must be consistent with the educational aims of the GMSVP and with the policies and spirit of the GMSVP Board of Directors. Prior permission must be obtained before any Society members' personal information is posted on the Internet web pages. This includes posting of a member's residential telephone number. This number when used with other information found on a website allows a home to be targeted for burglary.

4. Communication Links

No web page content may allow people accessing the page to contact any Society member directly as a matter of default unless allowed under paragraph 3 above. Communication with respect to the content of any page must be directed to the Webmaster of GMSVP. GMSVP home pages must include a "mailto:" link to the Webmaster.

5. Advertisements

GMSVP web pages may contain small acknowledgments of GMSVP partnerships or sponsorships. Web pages may provide links to partners or sponsors' web pages.

6. External Links

All links connecting to external sites must be approved by the GMSVP Webmaster, and are subject to final approval by the Board; this includes separate member web pages hosted on external servers.

7. Identification of Minors/Juniors

For a minor/junior member full name and/or information about the junior to appear on any GMSVP web page, GMSVP must obtain parental permission. Only topic, event or first name may be used to identify minor/junior member work. A minor/junior's full name or email address may NEVER appear on a web page. Work may include but is not limited to; artwork, graphic design, written documents, multimedia presentations, projects, etc... Filenames for pages and images should be checked to ensure that full names do not appear there, e.g., marysmith.gif, jimpaul.html.

8. Affiliated Clubs/Federation Member Home Pages

Only the GMSVP Webmaster will verify and post the web pages of affiliated clubs/federations within the GMSVP, any other clubs/federations non-affiliated to the GMSVP will be dismissed and not linked.

9. Respecting Copyright

Copyright must be respected. The author of the web page must not use copyrighted materials without permission. This includes icons and "buttons", images, background watermarks, sounds and video.

10. Claiming Copyright

The author for his/her own original work may claim copyright.

Restrictions: Society Members are Precluded from:

1. Posting, linking to or sending any transmissions or files constituting or encouraging conduct that would constitute a criminal offense, giving rise to civil liability, or otherwise violating any local, state, national or international law, including without limitation the U.S. export control laws and regulations.
2. Posting or transmitting any information or software that contains a virus, worm, malware, cancelbot or other harmful component.
3. Uploading, posting, publishing, transmitting, reproducing, distributing or participating in the transfer or sale of any information, software or other material obtained through the Internet which is protected by copyright or other proprietary right or derivative works with respect thereto, without obtaining permission of the copyright owner or right holder.
4. Abusing or fraudulently using the Web Posting Service in any way not specifically set forth above.
5. Chain letters are not allowed to be posted.
6. Irresponsible postings that result in large numbers of complaints to GMSVP Administration will result in posting privileges being disabled.
7. Illegal postings, such as harassment, pornography or copyrighted software or other data (such as mp3 sound files) are grounds for immediate termination of the user's web-posting privileges and/or website update access, and will result in subsequent disciplinary action and/or prosecution. Any disregard for the above conditions may result in your website update access privileges being disabled, along with any and all other appropriate District, local, state, national and international actions including prosecution of all involved perpetrators.

Web Page Posting Ethics:

Before posting any material on the web, ask yourself this question: Would I put this in a local or national newspaper for anyone to read? If you answered "no", then it doesn't belong on a web page.

Penalties and Disciplinary Actions for APP Violations:

Violations of the GMSVP Acceptable Posting Policy (APP) are treated as violations of the GMSVP Operating Regulations and qualify the offender for any and all appropriate actions and punishments as set forth in the Operating Regulations, including suspension and/or expulsion of membership.

These guidelines were established using the [Orcutt Mineral Society, Inc. \(OMS\) Internet Acceptable Posting Policy](#) (APP) and the [Owyhee Gem & Mineral Society \(OGMS\) Website Acceptable Posting Policy](#) as a base. Thank you OMS and OGMS for your base information, it is most appreciated.