

# GOLDRUSH LEDGER



## FROM THE PREZ

Warren Falcone

I hope to see everyone at our meeting this month. Please note the unusual date, **April 28**, at Amity Presbyterian Church. Club member Sarah Boyce will be sharing her vast knowledge of opals with us. We will also be discussing our upcoming annual show and Reed Gold Mine Heritage Days. Please be ready to sign up to help at these events!

The club is currently short on officers and board members. You can look at the listing on Page 2 of the bulletin to see where positions are open. We will also be loosing our treasurer, HP, after the show. We need your voice in directing the club! You may speak to any officer about your interest in helping in any position.

See you all soon!

### Our 49th Year

#### April Meeting Program

The April meeting will be presented by Sarah Boyce, who will present examples of finished and rough opals, and discuss how to make doublets and triplets and different mountings. Sarah has been teaching at Wildacres and William Holland for several years, and is well versed in the subject.

The mineral for the month is *dolomite*. Please bring your samples of dolomite to the meeting on April 28.

### **!!! Meeting Location and Date Changes !!!**

We have, unexpectedly, had to relinquish our meeting room at Discovery Place for the events associated with the Dead Sea Scrolls exhibit.

This month's meeting has been rescheduled for the fourth Friday in the month,

**Friday, April 28, at Amity Presbyterian Church.**

Amity Presbyterian is located between Albemarle Road and Independence Blvd., on the corner of Sharon Amity Rd. and Peirson Rd. Turn on Pierson Rd. and go to the back of the church to park.

The Fellowship Hall is in the long wing of the church bordering the north side of the parking lot.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★  
★ **Next Meeting** ★  
★ **Friday,** ★  
★ **April 28,** ★  
★ **7:30 p.m.** ★  
★ **Amity** ★  
★ **Presbyterian** ★  
★ **Church** ★  
★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★



**2006 CGMC  
Officers & Board**

**President**

Warren Falcone  
704/855-9815

**Vice President**

Jimmy Strickland  
704/537-6010

**Secretary**

open

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Dee Rittenhour  
704/845-5627

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Kim Tyler  
704/454-5337

**Past President**

Jimmy Strickland

**CLUB CHAIRPERSONS**

**SFMS Contact &**

**Stamp Chairman**

open

**Points Scholarships Chair**

open

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open

**Workshop Chairman**

open

**Web Master**

open

**Librarian**

Pat Walker  
704/523-5261

**Picnic Chairman**

Jolene Falcone

**Christmas Party Chairman**

Pat Walker

**New Members**

Please welcome these new and returning members and add their names to the members list from the March newsletter:

- Douglas Dodds, Cornelius
- Nancy Elliott, Charlotte
- Floyd Halcin, Charlotte
- James McGlynn, Harrisburg
- Wayne Ward, Monroe
- Lindsay Werden, Charlotte

**APPLICATION FOR COMPETITIVE EXHIBIT  
Charlotte Gem and Mineral Show, June 9, 10, and 11, 2006  
Charlotte Merchandise Mart, 2500 E. Independence Blvd. (Hwy. 74)  
Charlotte, NC**

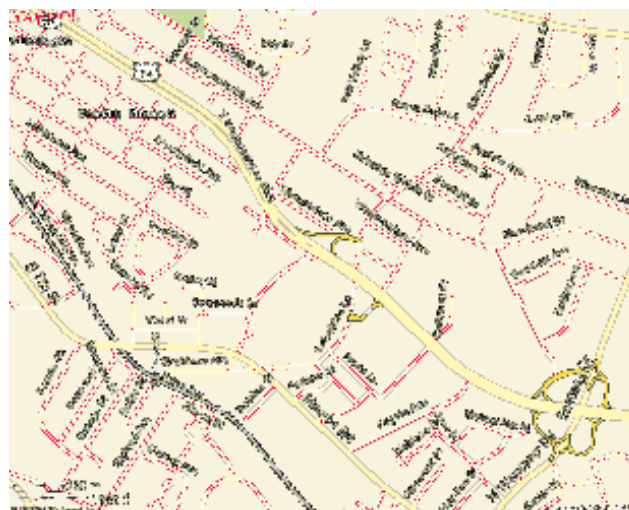
The exhibitor is responsible for the exhibit throughout the show, including set-up and take-down. Guards will be on duty at all times; however, neither the Charlotte Gem and Mineral Club nor the Charlotte Show Committee assumes responsibility for any loss or damage.

Set-up time begins at 1:00 p.m., Thursday, June 8, 2006. All exhibitors must be out of the building by 8:00 p.m. Access to the building on Friday morning, June 9, is at 9:00 a.m. for exhibitors. All set-ups must be completed prior to the show's opening at 10:00 a.m. Friday. Removal of a display prior to closing at 5:00 p.m. Sunday is not permitted without the express approval of the Exhibit Chairman or the Show Chairman. Removal without permission will result in forfeiture of any prizes/awards/ribbons won. Judging will be under the 2005 AFMS Uniform Rules. All exhibitors agree to abide by these rules.

The exhibitor's signature on the following form acknowledges consent to these statements.

**For further information contact:**

Danny F. Jones at 704-844-6036,  
e-mail [Dannyfjones@aol.com](mailto:Dannyfjones@aol.com)



**American Federation of Mineralogical Societies** web page is [www.amfed.org](http://www.amfed.org). This site contains copies of the Federation rules and guidelines. 2005 AFMS Uniform Rules can be downloaded from this site. Any questions or requests for assistance should be addressed to Danny F. Jones, Exhibit Chairman.

Map location of  
Charlotte Merchandise  
Mart

**Please print clearly as the name below will be used on any awards.**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

AFMS Affiliated Society (required) \_\_\_\_\_

**Competitive Exhibits (Deadline is June 1, 2006)**

This exhibitor is a member in good standing of the AFMS-affiliated society listed above.

Society Officer \_\_\_\_\_

*Competitive cases will be judged using the AFMS Regional Rules, Eighth Edition, corrected through 2005.*

***The exhibitor is responsible for determining the proper Division and Class.***

Master \_\_\_\_\_ Advanced \_\_\_\_\_ Novice \_\_\_\_\_ Junior \_\_\_\_\_ Society \_\_\_\_\_ Jr. Society \_\_\_\_\_

Division \_\_\_\_\_ Class \_\_\_\_\_ Reference Class of Restriction for BF and FC \_\_\_\_\_

Specify contents/subject of Restricted (X, Y, or XY), Open Division, or Educational cases:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

I request the use of a Charlotte Show case. \_\_\_\_\_

I plan to bring my own case (indicate size). \_\_\_\_\_

Do you wish to have your name(s) released to writers preparing articles for publication, or people seeking potential exhibitors for other mineral shows? YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_

Names for I.D. Badges: 1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

**I (we) agree to abide by the above rules and procedures.**

Exhibitor(s) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Send application to: Danny F. Jones, 3100 Greywood Lane, Matthews, NC 28104

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## Upcoming Field Trips

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### **An Official Field Trip of the Charlotte Gem and Mineral Club**

**April 15**

### **Woodleaf Quarry, Martin Marietta Quarry, Salisbury**

Minerals found at this site include calcite, pyrite, chalcopyrite, and zeolite. This is a site many of the more distinguished (older) rockhounds have visited before.

This is a working mine, so **hardhat, boots, safety glasses, and long pants are required.**

**Tools** you will need: hammer (all sizes), chisels, rock pic, newspaper or paper towels, and, of course, some food and water.

**Directions from I-77**, take the exit for US-70 towards Salisbury. Follow until you get to NC-801 and take a left. Go about 3.5 miles. Turn left onto Woodleaf Barber Rd., then stay straight to go onto Quarry Rd.

**Directions from I-85 southbound**, take the exit for Jake Alexander Blvd. and turn right. Go until you reach US-70 and turn left. Go until you come to NC-801. Turn right, go about 3.5 miles. Turn left onto Woodleaf Barber Rd., then stay straight to go onto Quarry Rd.

**Directions from I-85 northbound**, take the exit for Jake Alexander Blvd. and turn left. Go until you reach US-70 and turn left. Go until you come to NC-801. Turn right, go about 3.5 miles. Turn left onto Woodleaf Barber Rd., then stay straight to go onto Quarry Rd.

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### **DMC Program of the SFMS Field Trip Committee**

### **An Official Field Trip of Mobile Rock and Gem Society, Mobile, AL (Host)**

### **An Official Field Trip of the Charlotte Gem and Mineral Club**

**9:30 a.m. Central time, Saturday, April 22, 2006**

**Epes, Sumter County, Alabama**

Children are allowed under adult supervision. Pets are allowed on leash.

**Fees:** There is no fee for collecting at this site.

**Contact Numbers:** Larry Landry, Field Trip Chairman, (251) 653-8459  
e-mail address: maryloulandry@aol.com

**Collecting:** The finds are marcasite, pyrite nodules, and fossils from the cretaceous period.

**Bring:** Buckets or bags, small hand shovel and scraper, newspaper for wrapping fossils. There is no restaurant nearby, so bring food, water and drinks. Wear layered clothing for our unpredictable Alabama weather.

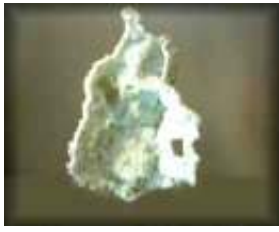
**Where to Stay:** There are approximately 20 motels and four campgrounds in Tuscaloosa, Alabama, which is 52 miles northeast of Epes. Livingston, Alabama is approximately 8.7 miles west of Epes on U.S. Highway 11 and has two motels, Comfort Inn and Western Inn. Demopolis, Alabama is 30 miles south of Epes and has seven motels and two campgrounds.

**Directions:** Epes is on U.S. Highway 11 which runs parallel with Interstate 20 and 59. We will meet at or near the R & E Quick Stop County Store and Service Station on Highway 11 at the intersection of Highway 21, which is approximately 1/4 mile west of the Tombigbee River bridge.

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Field trips are open to all members of associated clubs of the DMC program of the SFMS Field Trip Committee and to all members of SFMS member clubs who have provided their membership with SFMS liability insurance. Because of insurance requirements, members of the GENERAL PUBLIC are NOT invited on this or any DMC program field trips!

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# Mineral of the Month

## dolomite



**Name:** Dolomite

**Chemistry:**  $\text{CaMg}(\text{CO}_3)_2$

**Uses:** As an ingredient in cement and also as a mineral specimen

**Color:** Color is often pink or pinkish and can be colorless, white, yellow, gray or even brown

**Hardness:** 4.5-5

**Specific gravity:** 2.85

**Dolomite** is, after calcite, the second most important and abundant of the carbonate minerals. Chemically and structurally it may be regarded as calcite with half the calcium ions replaced by magnesium. Iron or manganese may substitute for magnesium in dolomite, forming isostructural series with ankerite and Kutnahorite.

The crystal structure, hexagonal-rhombohedral, is similar to that of calcite, with alternate layers of calcium ions totally replaced by magnesium. This ordered arrangement of cations slightly impairs the overall symmetry of the structure but is essential to the stability of the mineral. Hardness is 4.5-5; specific gravity 2.85; luster vitreous to pearly; color ranges from colorless to white with green, brown, or pink tints; and cleavage is perfect in three directions.

Like calcite, dolomite occurs in virtually all geologic settings: in igneous rocks as carbonatite, in metamorphic rocks as marble, and in hydrothermal deposits. Also, like calcite, the most abundant occurrences are in sedimentary rocks; rock composed primarily of dolomite is sometimes referred to as dolostone.

Such rocks form vast deposits; in Italy, the Alpine range known as the Dolomites is almost entirely composed of dolomite. However, unlike calcite, dolomite's sedimentary origin is enigmatic. Although the most stable carbonate mineral where magnesium is abundant in the marine environment, it is unknown as a primary mineral. The vast, ancient deposits apparently formed from primary calcite or aragonite by diagenesis, yet this process is not observed in modern marine environments.

Dolomite is quarried for building and ornamental stone, road stone, and the production of refractory brick. It is the principal ore of magnesium metal and the source of the magnesium used by the chemical industry.

Crystal habits include saddle shaped rhombohedral twins and simple rhombs some with slightly curved faces, also prismatic, massive, granular and rock forming. Streak is white.

Calcite is far more common and effervesces easily when acid is applied to it. But this is not the case with dolomite which only weakly bubbles with acid and only when the acid is warm or the dolomite is powdered. Dolomite is also slightly harder and denser, and never forms scalenohedrons (calcite's most typical habit).

Dolomite can be several different colors, but colorless and white are very common. However, it is dolomite's pink color that sets another unique characteristic for dolomite. Crystals of dolomite are well known for their typical beautiful pink color, pearly luster and unusual crystal habit, and it is these clusters that make very attractive specimens. Associated Minerals: include calcite, sulfide ore minerals, fluorite, barite.

### Dolomite at Tsumeb

Rhombohedral crystals of dolomite are typically curved and colored by other elements, for example green (zinc) and pink (cobalt). Chemical analysis of some dolomite have shown up to 5% lead and 9% zinc. A mineral of similar composition was named minrecordite in 1986. It can be found as small white rhombs on certain diopside specimens.

The mass of the rock in which the ore was found consisted of massive dolomite. Dolomite is a difficult rock to recognize. It can be confused with calcite or even smithsonite from Tsumeb.

*Used by permission, Gerdus Brönn website, [www.mineralgallery.co.za](http://www.mineralgallery.co.za)*

**Charlotte Gem & Mineral Club's  
39th Annual  
Gem, Mineral & Jewelry, Show & Sale  
June 9-11, 2006**

**Charlotte Merchandise Mart**

2500 E. Independence Blvd., (Hwy. 74)

June 9 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

June 10 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

June 11 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Admission: \$3.50 for adults; \$2.50 for seniors and students;  
free for children under 10

Free Parking

***Special Attractions:***

**Exhibit from**

**The Carnegie Museum of Natural History**

(including "City in the Clouds,"

the world's finest watermelon tourmaline crystal cluster)

**CGMC's Hornet's Nest**

(a real hornet's nest fully covered in gold leaf,  
with gold-cast hornets buzzing around!)

*It's time to begin thinking about how you will help with the annual club show. Volunteers are needed in many areas, such as publicity; set-up/tear-down; exhibits; demonstrations; and ticket, geode and club booths. Earn free admission by working on any aspect of the show for a minimum of 4 hours per person; a club tee shirt by working at least 6 hours; and a chance to win a stone faceted by Master Cutter Jimmy Strickland for working 10 hours or more! Demonstration volunteers may sell their crafts during their demonstration time.*

*Bring any questions to the meeting April 28  
and plan to sign up to help!*

## Help Needed!

The Charlotte Gem and Mineral Club will be hosting the geode booth during the Reed Gold Mine's Heritage Days on April 25 and 26, from 9:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. both days. Jimmy Strickland will need help setting up on Tuesday morning and tearing down on Wednesday afternoon. He will set up the tent and tables on Monday afternoon, plus run the power set up. Several volunteers are needed to help both days. The Mine is expecting 2000 to 2500 fourth and fifth graders for the event. Come out and have fun helping Jimmy!

## Cabochon Machines

Cabochon machines are available at the homes of Jimmy Strickland (704/537-6010) and Warren Falcone(704/855-9815).

*Please call to plan a visit to use a machine.*

These machines belong to the club; you MUST be a club member to use them.



## Refreshments

Thanks to the Stricklands for the refreshments after the February meeting.

If you would be interested in providing refreshments for this month's meeting, please contact the Bulletin Editor. Expenses up to \$50 will be reimbursed by the club, with receipt. Please consider helping the club with this job. Our social time is much more fun with something to munch on!



## Electronic Newsletter

The Charlotte Gem and Mineral Club is now publishing its monthly newsletter, *Goldrush Ledger*, on-line at the club's website,

<http://www.charlottegem.com>

***YOU MUST CALL Kim Tyler at 704/454-5337***

*and let her know, if you have not already done so, if you need a **hard copy** of the newsletter. Otherwise, she will assume you will look for the Goldrush Ledger on the website. This month's newsletter will be the last one mailed to all club members.*

The cost of sending a hard copy of the newsletter to club members now exceeds \$1.00 per copy.

If you have a computer at home, please help your club with its limited financial resources by reading the electronic version instead of a mailed hard copy.

Kim Tyler, Bulletin Editor  
5437 Somerset Lane  
Harrisburg, NC 28075  
Email: bbck4@yahoo.com

**Next Meeting**  
**Friday, April 28**  
**7:30 pm**  
**Amity Presbyterian**  
**Church**

**April**  
**2006**



## **GOLDRUSH LEDGER**

### **First Class Mail**

«First Name» «Last Name»  
«Address»  
«Address 1»  
«City», «State» «PostalCode»

The Goldrush Ledger is published monthly in Charlotte, North Carolina. Articles may be reproduced provided proper credit is given to the author and to this publication. Deadline for publication is the first Thursday of each month. Material may be submitted at club or executive board meetings, or mailed directly to the Editor, and will be in the next issue if still timely. All articles must be signed and, where applicable, references must be provided. The Charlotte Gem & Mineral Club is a member of the Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies, an affiliate member of the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies, and an affiliate of the Arts & Science Council of Charlotte, North Carolina. Annual dues of \$20.00 (family) and \$15.00 (individual) are payable in December for the following year. The purpose of this Club is to foster interest in, and promote knowledge of, minerals, gems, fossils, and all earth sciences. We also disseminate information and instruction in the lapidary arts and the utilization of precious metals in our crafts. These purposes are accomplished through regular meetings (usually the third Thursday of each month at 7:30pm, at Discovery Place, 301 N. Tryon Street, Charlotte) with informative programs, study groups, workshops and field trips. Visitors are most welcome to our club meetings. For more information, write our club at: P.O. Box 10233, Charlotte, NC 28212-5667.

**WEB SITE: <http://www.charlottegem.com>**