

GOLDRUSH LEDGER



FROM THE PREZ

Warren Falcone

Hopefully this will reach you before the show. We need *everyone* to pitch in and help with the show this weekend! See you at the Merchandise Mart on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday.

The June meeting will be held at Amity Presbyterian Church. We would like for everyone to come to the meeting on June 23 to discuss future meeting times and locations.

Well, summer is upon us, so that means a lot of very hot days. Remember to take plenty of water with you when you go out digging and don't over-do it.

Thanks to Danny Jones for his presentation about setting up display cases at the meeting last month. If you have a meeting idea, please contact Jimmy Strickland or another board member with your suggestion!

Our 49th Year

June Meeting Program

The mineral for the month is *apatite*. Please bring your samples of *apatite* to the meeting on June 23.



!!! Meeting Location and Date Changes !!!

We have 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, June 23, 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.

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★ **Next Meeting** ★
★ **Friday,** ★
★ **June 23,** ★
★ **7:30 p.m.** ★
★ **Amity** ★
★ **Presbyterian** ★
★ **Church** ★
★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★



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**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 (60 years and better) 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!)

Some lucky person will win a beautiful amethyst pendant—

* 20-mm round, multifaceted, brilliant *

* weight of 35+ kt. *

* gold wire-wrapped mount and bail *

* good dark color and very clean *

Raffle—\$1/ticket

*If you have not been contacted to volunteer to help at the show,
please call Jolene Falcone at 704/855-9815 or
Becky Strickland at 704/537-6010.*

You may sign up for 3-4 hour time slots.

*Volunteers are needed in many areas, such as publicity;
set-up/tear-down; exhibits; demonstrations; and ticket 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.*

DMC Program of the SFMS Field Trip Committee
An Official Field Trip of Forsyth County Gem & Mineral Club (Host)
An Official Field Trip of the Charlotte Gem and Mineral Club
8:00 a.m.-12:00 Noon, Saturday, June 10, 2006
Vulcan Materials Company's Morganton Quarry
Morganton (Burke County), NC

Children: **Over 12 years old can attend if supervised closely by parent or guardian. Must wear appropriate safety gear.**

No Pets

Contact: Jim Stroud if you have any questions concerning the fieldtrip, phone: 336-744-2940
e-mail address: stroudj@vmcmail.com mail address: PO Box 4239 Winston-Salem, NC 27115

Trip: Vulcan Materials Company's Morganton Quarry

Collecting: This quarry has several rock types, including augen gneiss, chlorite biotite gneiss, amphibolite, and pegmatite. The following collectable minerals have been found at this location: garnet, golden beryl, black tourmaline, apatite, sphene, feldspar, biotite and muscovite books, and siderite. The majority of these minerals are found in the pegmatite zones. Garnets are almandine variety and have been found up to silver-dollar size. However, the majority of them are 1/8" to 1/4" in diameter imbedded in the pegmatite.

Special Conditions: This is an operating mine. All persons attending the fieldtrip will be required to sign a hold-harmless agreement, take 15-minute hazardous training, and wear the required safety gear at all times. This includes a hard hat, safety glasses, and steel-toed boots. **We will meet at the quarry office at 8:00 a.m., sign releases, receive instructions on boundaries and safety, and be lead into the collecting area. We must leave the quarry by 12 noon!** In addition, all persons are asked to stay away from the quarry walls. There is plenty of material loose on the quarry floor. **VEHICLES WILL BE PERMITTED INSIDE THE QUARRY ON THIS TRIP and parked until leaving.**

Bring: Hard hat, safety glasses, rock hammer, and something to carry and wrap samples.

Where to Meet: We will meet at the quarry at 8:00 am and be allowed to collect until 12:00. Quarry's phone number (828)437-2616.

Directions to our meeting place: From Interstate 40, take Highway 18 North at exit 105. At the fourth traffic light, turn right on Fleming Drive. Continue to end of road at Route 64/70 (dead end at Bi-Lo Food Store). Turn left on Route 64/70, travel under the railroad bridge. Immediately after crossing under bridge, at the Viscotec plant, turn right on Kirksey Drive. Make another right on Quarry Road.. Quarry entrance is 1/4 mile off Quarry Road.

Vulcan Materials Company
Causby Quarry Road
Morganton, NC 28655
(828) 437-2616

Drive Time: This is approximately a 1-1/2 hour drive from Winston-Salem, NC.

"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!"

DMC Program of the SFMS Field Trip Committee
An Official Field Trip of the Northeast Georgia Mineral Society,
Cornelia, GA (Host)
An Official Field Trip of the Charlotte Gem and Mineral Club
9:30 a.m. , Saturday, July 8, 2006
Corundum Knob (also known as Chunky Gal Knob)
Clay County, NC

Collecting: Ruby corundum (pink to red), spinel (black to brown "galaxite" and magnesio-chromite), sapphirine, talc, serpentine, brucite (white to blueish chalky chunks), tremolite, actinolite, smaragdite (chrome-emerald green amphibole), pyroxine (chrome diopside/sparse green micro-crystals of weathered amphibolite matrix), fuchsite and dunitite.

Directions: At the intersection of US-64 and US-441 (southwest of Franklin, Macon County, NC), interested parties/individuals will take US-64 west (toward Murphy, NC) to the Buck Creek Road turnoff (north). All field trip/DMC members will meet here, because the entrance to Chunky Gal is unmarked. The Buck Creek Road turnoff is 17.5 miles west of Franklin, NC. In accordance with SFMS/DMC rules, all participants must meet at the meeting site, and then we will proceed to Chunky Gal, which is one mile further west on the road. This is a "free site" for collecting in the Nantahala National Forest, **BUT DO NOT DIG ANY DEEPER THAN 18 INCHES**, under Nantahala National Forest Rules (Chunky Gal has been designated as a "rockhound collecting site"). Please fill any and all holes that you dig! It will be July, but it may be cool at this altitude, so bring a light jacket or long-sleeved shirt.

Tools: If you wish to screen sediments (this is "blind mining") for home washing/tumbler cleaning, you will need shovels, 3-5 gallon buckets or 2-3 gallon plastic bags (like those from the market), 1/4 inch (6mm) screens, hand shovels, gloves, and goggles. Most of the above minerals will be found this way. If you wish to collect smaragdite with ruby, sledge hammers, chisels, 3-5 gallon buckets, gloves and goggles (eye protection) will be needed. Please make sure your "tetanus" shots are up to date. Please wear boots/hiking shoes. This is tick country so check yourself especially if you dress lightly. Sprays with "DEET" are recommended. Watch out for snakes, because this is rattlesnake country. **DO NOT STEP OR PUT YOUR HANDS WHERE YOU CANNOT SEE!**

Accommodations: Franklin, NC, is the best bet for lodging and restaurants, especially on US-441, US-64, NC-28.

Contacts: Richard Walter at 770-532-8874 e-mail rhw912@yahoo.com or Kim Cochran at 770-979-8331

Mineral of the Month



apatite

Chemistry: $\text{Ca}_5(\text{PO}_4)_3(\text{OH},\text{F},\text{Cl})$

Uses: main source of phosphorus and mineral specimen

Color: colorless, blue, green, pink, purple, red, reddish brown, violet, white, yellow, multicolored

Hardness: 5.0

Specific gravity: 3.1 - 3.2

Crystals: hexagonal

Accompanied by: aegirine, anatase, cassiterite, feldspar, leucite, magnetite, nepheline, phlogopite, quartz, rutile

Fracture: conchoidal.

Luster: vitreous to greasy

Cleavage: indiscernible in one basal direction.

Streak: white

Similar to: calcite, hornblende, micas, nepheline

Apatite is named after the Greek word *apate*, which means "deceit," since it has a similar appearance to minerals, like beryl, peridot, and olivine.

Apatite is made up of three different minerals, depending on the predominance of either fluorine, chlorine, or the hydroxyl group. Found mainly in various igneous and metamorphic rocks; however they are also found in carbonatites and sedimentary rocks.

Due to the phosphate content, apatite crystals are usually small and can be hard to detect in thin section. It is soluble in HCl, and is often fluorescent or thermoluminescent.

Normally forms hexagonal crystals and also occurs as flat, tabular plates, columnar, in globular masses, acicular, grainy, stalactitic, and earthy.

It is mainly used as a source of phosphates for fertilizer.

Mainly found in Brazil, Canada, East Africa, Mexico, Myanmar (Burma), Russia, Spain, Sri Lanka (Ceylon), Sweden.

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 The June CGMC Board Meeting will be held at Dee Rittenhour's home on Monday, June 26, at 7:30 p.m. If you are interested in serving your club as an officer or club chairman, please contact one of the board members listed on page 2 of the bulletin. Several positions are still open. 

For Sale

Bausch & Lomb
0.7 X — 3 X Stereoscope
\$275.00

Pat Walker
704/523-5261

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

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!

There will not be a regular newsletter published next month. Any timely information received for July will be posted on the club's website

<http://www.charlottegem.com>

Please check out the redesigned web site and let Ron Gibbs know how much you appreciate all his hard work on getting this up and running!

See you in August!

—Kim Tyler

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

Next Meeting
Friday, June 23
7:30 pm
Amity Presbyterian
Church

June
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>