

# GOLDRUSH LEDGER

## FROM THE VP

*Jimmy Strickland*

Hello all. We're seeing good digging weather again, and a number of good field trips are coming up. The program for this month will be given by Bill Logan on the phosphates group of minerals. We have our auction in November to look forward to, and we also must be thinking about electing a new slate of officers at that meeting. Dee is the nominating chair; please contact him if volunteering for a position or with suggestions—and, NO, I am not accepting president

for life! The December meeting will be the annual party at the church. I promise the chili I bring won't cause self combustion, unless you add too much of the hot sauce to it. I hope my talk at the last meeting didn't worry anyone about glowing in the dark from a few of the minerals we have here in North Carolina, particularly the Spruce Pine area and the Chalk mine. I hope to see a lot of you at the meeting this month.



Our 49th Year

### October Meeting

#### Program

This month's program will be presented by Bill Logan. Come learn about the minerals of the phosphates group.

Thanks to Jimmy Strickland for the informative September program about radioactive minerals.

The Mineral of the Month for October is **pyromorphite**. Please bring any specimens of pyromorphite to the meeting.



### **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 Kim Tyler (704/454-5337).

Jimmy can teach you how to use the machine; the machine at Kim's is for use by folks who already know how to use it!

*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.

**2006 CGMC  
Officers & Board**

**President**

Warren Falcone  
704/855-9815

**Vice President**

Jimmy Strickland  
704/537-6010

**Secretary**

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Jimmy Strickland

**CLUB CHAIRPERSONS**

**SFMS Contact &**

**Stamp Chairman**

open

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**Picnic Chairman**

Jolene Falcone

**Christmas Party Chairman**

Pat Walker

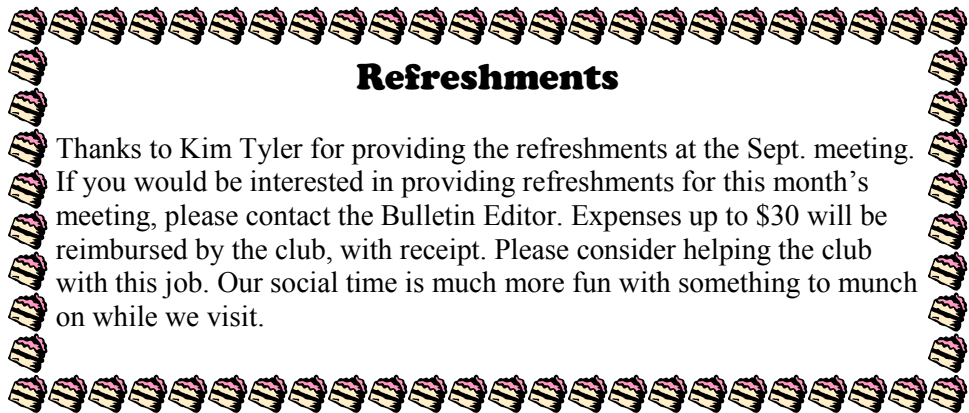
**Club Picnic**

Several folks enjoyed a beautiful day at Dan Nichols Park in Salisbury on Saturday, Sept. 16. The weather was perfect, visiting with each other was fun, and some great purchases were made at the local gem shop.

**3rd Annual M.A.G.M.A. Club Picnic  
October 15th, 2005**

Invitation extended to CGMC

This year we are having the club's annual picnic on October 15. Member Sharon Cummings is hosting the event at her property in Avery's Creek, just south of Asheville. Members are asked to bring a covered dish. Sharon will provide drinks and her three small granddaughters will be selling iced tea and lemonade for 25 cents. Please support them as they are all excited about their little business venture. Sharon was owner of a shop called The Opal House and has decided to liquidate all remaining stock and inventory. She has a great deal of cutting material and specimens. This will all be sold at below wholesale prices. There are jaspers, jades, petrified wood, tiger eye, tiger iron, precious opal (Australian) rough and cut stones of every sort (faceted and cabachons). She also still has two (NEW) Whites metal detectors in boxes with warranties. Sharon was a dealer for Whites detectors in this area. All members are encouraged to attend this sale as this is a one time event. For directions to this event, contact me (Rick Jacquot) at: rick@wncrocks.com or Steve Penley at stevenpenley@bellsouth.net



**Refreshments**

Thanks to Kim Tyler for providing the refreshments at the Sept. meeting. If you would be interested in providing refreshments for this month's meeting, please contact the Bulletin Editor. Expenses up to \$30 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 while we visit.

**Thanks!!!**

A big "Thank You" needs to be extended to Mario and Jessica Caceres for their help at Matthews Alive. Sorry I omitted your names in last month's thanks! Your help was definitely appreciated. —Kim Tyler



**Upcoming Events**

Mark your calendars for the annual club auction on Nov. 16, at 7:00. Please pull out some special items to share with club members at this fun meeting. Also, mark your calendars for the Holiday Party on the evening of Dec. 8. More information about both these special occasions will be in the next issue of the Goldrush Ledger.

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## SFMS NEWS

### 2006 SFMS SLATE OF NOMINEES

The SFMS Nomination Committee is pleased to present the following slate of nominees for officer elections to take place during Part 2 of the Annual SFMS Meeting in Montgomery, Alabama in December 2006:

President: Buddy Shotts  
1st Vice President: Steve Heneger  
2nd Vice President: Betty James  
Secretary: Beryl Ferguson  
Assistant Treasurer: Roger Campbell  
*Lodestar* Editor: Carolyn Daniels  
4th Vice President  
AFMS: Don Monroe

Nominations will also be taken from the floor.

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### SOUTHEAST FEDERATION OF MINERALOGICAL SOCIETIES ANNUAL MEETING (PHASE 2)

Hosted by Montgomery Gem & Mineral Society, Montgomery, Alabama  
Saturday, December 2, 2006

**Hotel:** Drury Inn & Suites located at I-85 & Eastern Boulevard, 1124 Eastern Boulevard, Montgomery, Alabama. For reservations call: 1.800.325.0720 and use the code SFMS for the rate of \$64.00 for King Bed Deluxe or \$74.00 for two Queen Beds Deluxe (the rates are for up to six people per room). Rates are valid per room, per night plus tax. Reservations must be made by November 1st for these special rates. Hotel amenities include: Free Hot! Quikstart Breakfast: Scrambled eggs, sausage, Belgian waffles, biscuits & gravy and more. Free Evening Beverages and Snacks. Free Long Distance: One Hour, Every Room, Every Night. Free High-Speed Internet Access in all rooms. Free Local Phone Calls. Free HBO, ESPN, CNN & More. Indoor/Outdoor Pool & Whirlpool. Well-Lit On-site Parking. Plus much more!! Directions to Drury Inn & Suites: Exit I-85 at Eastern Boulevard. (Motel sign can be seen from the I-85.)

There are **R.V. hookups** at Garrett Coliseum, 1555 Federal Drive, the site of the Montgomery Gem, Mineral & Jewelry Show, for \$15.00 per day. The spots are on a first-come, first serve basis, and anyone desiring a spot should go to the Coliseum office any time from 8:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m. (CST) to pay and be assigned a spot.

**Directions to Coliseum from Drury Inn & Suites:** Turn left on Eastern Bypass after leaving motel parking lot. Travel west approximately 4.2 miles to U.S. 231/Wetumpka exit, turn left and travel about 2.9 miles. Coliseum will be on the right side of Federal Drive (you can't miss it.)

**Show Information:** The 36th Annual Montgomery Gem, Mineral and Jewelry Show, December 1-3. Show times: Friday, 9:00 a.m.–6:00 p.m.; Saturday, 10:00 a.m.–6:00 p.m.; Sunday, 11:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m. Free Admission & Parking.

**Meeting:** The meeting will be held in the Kiwanis Room at Garrett Coliseum, 1555 Federal Drive.

**The Banquet:** The banquet will be held at 7:00 p.m. at the Mann Wildlife Learning Museum auditorium and will be served buffet style. It will feature roast beef, boneless chicken breast, tossed garden salad, potatoes O'Brien, buttered green beans almondine, bread, drink, and dessert. Reservations must be made by November 1st and should include your check made payable to the Montgomery Gem & Mineral Society for \$20.00 per person and returned to P.O. Box 3273, Montgomery, Alabama 36109-0273.

**Directions to Mann Museum from Drury Inn:** Travel as if going to Garrett Coliseum. Instead of getting off on the Highway 231 go to Coliseum Blvd. exit. Turn left, go to Gardendale (there is a traffic light there). Turn right and go about 2 blocks to Fairground Road. Turn right again and following the road pass the Zoo on right. Look for Mann Museum sign and parking. It will be on the right hand side of the road.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Number Attending \_\_\_\_\_  
Amount enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

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## Upcoming Field Trips

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**DMC Program of the SFMS Field Trip Committee**  
**An Official Field Trip of the Knoxville Gem and Mineral Society (Host)**  
**An Official Field Trip of the Charlotte Gem & Mineral Club**  
**8:30 a.m. EST, Saturday, October 14, 2006**  
**Kingston , TN**

We will be collecting the cephalon (head) and pygidium (tail) of the Cambrian trilobite *Blountia* sp. from the Conasauga Shale formation. They will range in size from 1mm to 25 mm. On rare occasions, a complete specimen will be found. For the trilobite collector this will be an opportunity to add a rare specimen to your collection.

**Tools:** At a minimum, bring a rock hammer, newspaper (to wrap specimens), and a beer flat or similar item (to hold specimens)

**Hazards:** Some climbing on loose slippery shale may be involved. This will not be a good trip for small children, but teenagers will probably do OK.

**Directions:** Take exit 350 off of I-40 east or west bound (approximately 40 mile west of Knoxville , TN). You will be able to see a Lowes and Kroger's as soon as you exit. We will meet at 8:00 a.m. at the Lowes / Kroger's Shopping Center on Highway 70. Park near the SFMS sign. We will convoy to the site at 8:30 a.m. If you arrive late wait, for someone to return for another group at 30-45 minute intervals until approximately 10:00 am.

**Essentials/Accommodations:** There are several eateries and motels one exit before 350 and one exit after 350. All are within 6 mile of the collecting site.

**Contact:** If you have any questions or would like to see photos of specimens, please contact: Danny Griffin, (865) 406-8802, or [GCJINC@comcast.net](mailto:GCJINC@comcast.net)

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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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**SFMS FIELD TRIP**  
**Standard Mineral Company, Glendon, North Carolina**  
**Saturday, October 21, 2006, 8:00 a.m.—12:00 Noon**

The Southeast Federation has again been invited to participate in one of the best and most interesting field trip opportunities in the Southeast. If you have not collected here in the past, you should not miss an opportunity to go to this quarry for quality specimen/cabinet grade pyrite. The Glendon pyrophyllite mine is an open pit quarry that has produced many perfect pyrite crystals up to 4 inches on a side and 6 inches long!! Generally, you can find a cube approaching 2 inches or so and a bunch of others in all shapes and sizes up to one inch or more. The pyrite cubes are located loose on the surface or in seams down a foot or less in the bottom of the quarry floor. If it hasn't rained for some time, the light gray pyrophyllite soil seems to coat everything with a gray goop that makes it difficult to identify the pyrite crystals on the surface. Using a VERY GOOD metal detector makes the hunt almost a "no brainer"! A basic metal detector may offer some help in finding those cubes containing the most iron but just digging anywhere in the quarry floor will probably yield much quicker results. You may also find small greenish blue fluorite crystals in crevices on some of the larger boulders strewn about the middle of the quarry floor.

**Collecting:** pyrite cubes, pyrite cubes in matrix, green fluorite, and micro-minerals.

**Directions:** Take I-85 North to Charlotte, North Carolina. On I-85 North of Charlotte, either exit the interstate at Lexington on to US 64 and travel through Asheboro to SR 42. Turn right and follow SR 42 past Coleridge and Bennett and SSR 902. Then SR 42 makes a left towards Carabonton and Sanford. Before Carabonton there is a flashing yellow light @ SSR 1006. Turn right onto SSR 1006/ Glendon-Carthage road and go south to the mine which will be on your left. If you spend the night at Sanford you will be traveling West on SR 42 and have to make a left on SSR 1006. Sanford, which is 12 miles to the East of Glendon, is probably the best bet for finding a good motel room and nearby restaurants.

*Jim Flora, SFMS Field Trip Chair*

*(continued on page 5)*

**An Official Fieldtrip of M.A.G.M.A.  
(Mountain Area Gem and Mineral Association)  
Diamond Hill Mine, Antreville, SC  
Machine Dig!**

**October 22 and 23, 2005**

Also invited are clubs affiliated with:

Tarheel, Gaston Co., Charlotte, Henderson Co., Western South Carolina, Pendleton District

Hello members. Back by popular demand, we have set up another track hoe dig to the Diamond Hill site with the owner, Chet Karwoski. We will have a track hoe operated by "Chunky," the track hoe guy, on Saturday and Sunday, October 22 and 23. Attendees are welcome to start arriving on Friday afternoon to set up camp for the weekend. The site will be open to our club members the following week and weekend also, so if you open a nice hole, you will have plenty of time to work it! The cost is \$25.00 for Saturday, \$25.00 for Sunday, and \$15.00 each day afterward; there is no cost for Friday if you are just coming to set up camp. Children 14 and under and elderly people and others who do NOT dig but just surface collect will only be charged \$15.00 each day. Arrangements to visit the site during the following week and weekend MUST be made during the dig on the 22nd and 23rd. We will be working again in the smoky quartz pit, skeletal pit and some other areas at the mine, some which may contain amethyst. I will have release forms with me, but to make the process faster, try to bring a release form already filled out. You can download a form: <http://www.gamineral.org/commercial-diamondhill.htm>. This was one of the best trips we had this summer—everyone found some incredible specimens and we think this trip will be just as good or better!

See you there!—Rick Jacquot

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**An Official Field Trip of M.A.G.M.A.  
Henderson County Gem and Mineral Society  
Nantahala Talc and Limestone Quarry, Swain County, NC  
October 29, 2005**

Invitation extended to CGMC

Hello members. I have been in contact with Mr. Jack Herbert, the President of the Nantahala Talc and Limestone Quarry. This quarry, located near the Nantahala Gorge, is famous for its excellent specimens of pink, purple, yellow, and blue banded marble. This material can be cut into spheres or other shapes and makes great cabochons. There is also a light green soapstone to be found along with a few other minerals. We will meet at the Silver Armadillo parking lot located in the Westgate Shopping Center in West Asheville at 8:30 a.m. Saturday morning and caravan to the mine. The gate will be opened at 10 a.m. I suggest heavy boots and gloves at this site; no hard hat is required but it might be a good idea anyway.

Tools: small sledgehammer, large sledgehammer, chisels, prybar, hand truck, food, drink, rock pick, mattock

See you there!—Rick Jacquot

(continued on page 6)

**DMC Program of the SFMS Field Trip Committee**  
**An Official Field Trip of the**  
**Aiken Gem and Mineral Society (Host)**  
**An Official Field Trip of the Charlotte Gem and Mineral Club**  
**Graves Mountain, Lincoln Co., GA**  
**Saturday, November 4, 2006, 9:00 a.m.**

**Collecting:** Rutile, lazulite, kyanite, prophyllite, goethite/hematite (iridescent), pyrite, muscovite, and ilmenite. For micro collectors, barite, cacozenite, candallite, gypsum, phosphosiderite, strengite, variscite, wavellite and woodhousesite can be found.

**Directions:** Exit I-20 for Washington, GA SR 78 (SR 10, SR 17). Travel north to Washington, turn right onto SR 378 and drive 11 miles to the Graves Mountain area. The entrance to Graves Mountain is on your right about 8/10 mile past the Lincoln county line. From Lincolnton, GA., travel east on SR 378 and the entrance to Graves Mountain will be on your left about 5 miles from Lincolnton.

**Food and Drinks:** Bring your own as there is nothing available at Graves Mountain.

**Meeting Location:** Entrance to Graves Mountain.

**Fees:** A donation of \$5.00 per person is recommended. Donation will be collected when your liability release form is filled out.

**Equipment:** A transport cart, buckets, backpack, 8-lb sledge, 2-4 lb crack hammer, rock hammer, pry bar, shovel chisels, SAFETY EYEWEAR, and gloves. Hard hat required if you plan to work adjacent to the high wall areas.

**Children and Pets:** Children 12 years and older can participate but must be supervised by a parent or guardian. Pets must be kept under control by owner.

**Special Conditions:** Ladders or power tools of any kind are not allowed. (Hand tools Only)  
Stay away from edge of all high walls  
No repelling off anything  
No one is allowed to drive their vehicle beyond the parking area  
Everyone to be off the mountain by dusk

**Lodging:** The Cullars Inn in Lincolnton, GA. Tel. (706) 359-6161.

**Camping:** Elijah Clark State Park—approximately 6 miles east of Lincolnton on Hwy SR 378. Reservations (770) 389-7275 or 1-800-864-7275. Park Office (706) 359-3458.

**Contact:** Jim Stoops Tel. (706) 860-4608, Email [jirout\\_2@hotmail.com](mailto:jirout_2@hotmail.com)

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**Upcoming Shows**

- \* **November 4-5, 2006, Ft. Pierce, FL**—St. Lucie County Rock & Gem Club. Rock and Gem Show. St. Lucie County Fairgrounds, Midway Road. Hours: 4th & 5th, 10:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m.. Contacts: Dealer Chairman, Dennis Ponte at 772.288.3296 or [dennisponte@msn.com](mailto:dennisponte@msn.com) and Show Chairman, Norm Holbert at 772.873.0787 or [normholbert@bellsouth.net](mailto:normholbert@bellsouth.net).
- \* **November 10-12, 2006, Pascagoula, MS**—Mississippi Gulf Coast Gem & Mineral Society. 17th Annual Magnolia State Gem, Mineral, & Jewelry Show, Civic Center Building, Jackson County Fairgrounds. Hours 10 a.m.—6 p.m. Contact: John M. Wright, 228.875.9192 or [osjbw@datasync.com](mailto:osjbw@datasync.com).
- \* **November 11-13, 2005, Louisville, KY**—Kyana Geological Society. 34th Annual Show. Executive Inn, 978 Phillip Lane and I-264 at the Fairgrounds Exit. Hours: 11th-12th, 10 a.m.—7 p.m.; 13th, 10 a.m.—6 p.m. Show and Dealer Contact: Charles Oldham at 502.241.8755.
- \* **November 17-19, 2006, Marietta, GA**—Cobb County Gem & Mineral Society. 21st Annual Gem & Mineral Show. Cobb Civic Center, 548 South Marietta Parkway. Hours: 17th & 18th, 10:00 a.m.—6:00 p.m.; and 19th, 10:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m. Contact: Mary Ingram at 770.427.1108, [www.cobbcountymineral.org/event.html](http://www.cobbcountymineral.org/event.html) or [mimgram@mindspring.com](mailto:mimgram@mindspring.com).
- \* **December 11-12, 2006, Deland, FL**—Tomoka Gem & Mineral Society (of the Greater Daytona Beach & Holly Hill, Florida Area). Volusia County Fairgrounds, Tommy Lawrence Arena, State Rd. 44 (one mile east of I-4 Exist 118). Hours: 11th, 10:00 a.m.—6:00 p.m.; 12th, 10:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m. Contact: Pollyan Darling @ 386.428.7696 or [gemdarlings@cfl.rr.com](mailto:gemdarlings@cfl.rr.com). Website: [www.tomokagemmineralsociety.com](http://www.tomokagemmineralsociety.com).

Information from the *Lodestar*, 9/06

**Upcoming Events**

Mark your calendars for the annual club auction on Nov. 16, at **7:00**. Please pull out some special items to share with club members at this fun meeting. Also, mark your calendars for the Holiday Party on the evening of Dec. 8. More information about both these special occasions will be in the next issue of the Goldrush Ledger.

# Mineral of the Month



## pyromorphite



**Chemistry:**  $Pb_5(PO_4)_3Cl$

**Uses:** a minor ore of lead.

**Color:** various shades of green and brown: also orange-yellow and red: rarely colourless

**Hardness:** 3.5-4

**Specific gravity:** 6.5-7.1

**Crystal system:** hexagonal

**Accompanied by:** associated with other lead minerals and sometimes in zoned crystals with the outer parts tending towards mimetite

**Fracture:** uneven to subconchoidal fracture

**Luster:** resinous to subadamantine

**Cleavage:** poor, prismatic cleavage

**Streak:** white or yellowish-white

**Similar to:** pyromorphite is found as a supergene mineral in the upper oxidised parts of lead deposits in association with cerussite, limonite, smithsonite and anglesite

Pyromorphite has a widespread distribution and is found in many lead mines world wide. It is also a minor ore mineral of lead.

Pyromorphite is a mineral species composed of lead chlorophosphate:  $Pb_5(PO_4)_3Cl$ , sometimes occurring in sufficient abundance to be mined as an ore of lead. Crystals are common, and have the form of a hexagonal prism terminated by the basal planes, sometimes combined with narrow faces of a hexagonal pyramid. Crystals with a barrel-like curvature are not uncommon. Globular and reniform masses are also found. It is part of a series with two other minerals: mimetite ( $Pb_5(AsO_4)_3Cl$ ) and vanadinite ( $Pb_5(VO_4)_3Cl$ ), the resemblance in external characters is so close that, as a rule, it is only possible to distinguish between them by chemical tests.

They were formerly confused under the names green lead ore and brown lead ore (German, Grünbleierz and Braunbleierz). The phosphate was first distinguished chemically by M. H. Klaproth in 1784, and it was named pyromorphite by J. F. L. Hausmann in 1813.

The color of the mineral is usually some bright shade of green, yellow or brown, and the luster is resinous. The hardness is 3, and the specific gravity 6.5 - 7.1. Owing to isomorphous replacement of the phosphorus by arsenic there may be a gradual passage from pyromorphite to mimetite. Varieties containing calcium isomorphously replacing lead are lower in density (specific gravity 5.9 - 6.5) and usually lighter in color; they bear the names polysphaerite (because of the globular form), miesite from Mies in Bohemia, nussierite from Nuizière, Chénelette, near Beaujeu, Rhône, France, and cherokine from Cherokee County in Georgia.



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

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

**Next Meeting**  
**Thursday, October 19**  
**7:30 p.m.**  
**Discovery Place**

**October**  
**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>**