

# Tar Heel Tailings

A newsletter for Gem and Mineral enthusiasts in and around the Raleigh, North Carolina area.

## Special Interest Articles:

- Prez Sez
- Show Information
- SFMS 2016 workshops
- Door Prize Reports

## Individual Highlights:

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## Prez Sez By Cyndy Hummel

April will be potluck and discussion of the show. Bring stories of the show, what went well and improvements to make. Remember, when suggesting improvements, have a solution on hand or a way to get it done.

We should be able to have the drawing for the 2 chances to Wildacres/William Holland. I will also have a summary of person hours donated to the show.

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## March Door Prize – Pyrite Sun By Robert Neyland

Pyrite Suns from Sparta, Illinois  
The mineral pyrite, also known as iron pyrite, is iron sulfide, the most common of the sulfide minerals. Pyrite crystallizes in the isometric crystal system and is most commonly found associated with other sulfides or oxides in quartz veins, metamorphic rocks, sedimentary deposits including coal beds, and as a replacement mineral in fossils. Pyrite is the paradigm "Fool's Gold". While there are other shiny, brassy colored minerals, pyrite is by far the most common and most frequently mistaken for gold. Pyrite is a

favorite of mineral collectors due to its golden, metallic luster and interesting crystals. Pyrite is so common in the Earth's crust that it is found in almost every possible environment in numerous forms and varieties.

One of the most unusual and striking varieties of pyrite are the disc-shaped pyrite "suns", also known as pyrite

dollars, which exhibit striations radiating out from the center like rays of the sun. These unique specimens are recovered from underground coal mines near Sparta, Randolph County, Illinois USA, where they occur in narrow, compacted seams of slate interbedded in 300 million-year-old Pennsylvanian Period coal deposits.

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**Tar Heel Gem & Mineral Club, Inc.**

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We're on the Web!  
See us at:  
[www.tarheelclub.org](http://www.tarheelclub.org)

**Program & Refreshments**

REFRESHMENT SCHEDULE:

Coordinator: Need Volunteer

April Pot Luck

PROGRAM SCHEDULE:

April Potluck & Show discussion  
May Gary McCutcheon: Silversmithing  
June Vince Schneider: Triassic Basins and Their Fossils  
July Fred Booth: Geology Trip to Yellowstone, Wyoming  
August Ice Cream Social AND Auction  
September Scott LaBorde: Quartz Collecting  
October Grab Bags AND (short) Program  
November Elections & Thank You from The Club

Remember, the club will reimburse you for up to \$75 (bring your receipts to the treasurer).

**April Treasurer's Report**

No Treasurer's Report this month.  
See the Treasurer's Report on the show on Page 4.



**April B-Day Members**

- Bob Bendelow
- Kim Cathey
- Hilton Freed
- William Greene
- John Hagen, Jr.
- Robert Neyland
- Ray Niederkorn
- Victoria Pointer
- Thomas Todaro
- Kay Williams



Membership applications may be mailed to:

Tar Heel Gem & Mineral Club, Inc.  
Attention: Treasurer  
10609 Chelsea Drive  
Raleigh, NC 27603

## Tar Heel Gem and Mineral Club, Inc. - March Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, March 15, 2016

Attendees = 28

### Opening of Club Meeting:

Meeting was called to order by President Cyndy Hummel at 7:47.

### Opening:

The sign-up sheets for volunteers for the big show April 1, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> were made passed around. Birthdays for March: None for tonight.

### New Business:

No stamps for the postcards, but there are labels.

No refreshments tonight. People need to volunteer or we don't have refreshments. Next Month is Pot Luck. November is Member Appreciation. We have a \$75 budget for refreshments and you will be reimbursed. Please help us with this important part of our monthly meetings.

Programs for the year are in the Newsletter.

We have an e-mail list for communication.

Show chairpeople are in the Newsletter.

No changes to the Minutes were needed.

Bob Bendelow is now out of the doghouse with his article on Facet Rough.

We need volunteers for the show. Volunteers who work 8 hours will get a chance at winning a week at William Holland or Wild Acres. You have a year and a half to use the week. Winners for this year will have until the end of 2017 to claim their week.

Cyndy talked about needing volunteers for setup and breakdown/pack up.

Cyndy explained the different areas of the show. She also talked about the boxes of rocks for the Grab Bags and Silent Auction in the storage area. She then explained how to make a grab bag.

Geodes will have a Camera/TV so people can see their Geodes being cut. John G donated the camera and came up with the idea. We'll be videoing the big geodes. If everything goes well, we may do more cameras next year.

Since the show did not fill up with dealers, we aren't making as much money. So we'll probably have to go into the CD's to donate money to education programs.

Dr. Mike talked about Snakes and Ticks.

The Trailer tires were discussed.

Friday Night is the Panera Bread meal night. Chairpeople get their meal comped, but everyone else has to buy theirs. Cyndy will be sending out forms for that.

There are flyers, and extra postcards can be used for advertising at work.

Kenny Gay has oxalic acid if anyone needs some to clean rocks. CAUTION: It is dangerous.

### Program:

Grab Bags and Postcards



### Old Business:

T-Shirts. Greg Dillon is our shirt printer this year. This year's color is burgundy. They can be purchased at the show for \$10 at the Hospitality area. Older shirts are \$5.

### Door Prize:

Robert Neyland won the door prize and chose a Pyrite Sun specimen.

### Close of Meeting:

The meeting was closed at 8:18 pm.

Respectfully Submitted

George Harris,

Newsletter Editor, Tar Heel Gem and Mineral Club, Inc.

## Show Information

By Cyndy Hummel

### Treasurer

Show sales	geodes	hospitality	silent auction
2014	6,443	1,147	980
2015	4,066 cash	1,227	854
	2,220 credit		
2016	3,830 cash	1,632	1,087 cash
	3,235 credit		45 credit

### Geodes

I would like to thank everyone for their hard work and assistance in making the Geode booth successful again this year! We purchased over 650 pounds of Geodes so there was obviously a lot of painting and preparation that took place prior to the show opening. Also, we had many volunteers that helped cleaning up and packing everything once the show was over which was greatly appreciated. A special thanks and mention to George Harris, John Guerriero, Eric Montzno, Larry Jackson & Ryan O'Neal for volunteering so many hours, their relentless dedication and support to ensure the Geode booth operated like a well-oiled machine each day! Also, the live video stream by the camera (suggested & provided by John G.) was a huge hit not only with the youth but also adults! Our goal for the show next year will be to purchase a large (high resolution/definition) TV along with 3 additional outdoor cameras to project a live feed on all 4 saws simultaneously (4 separate frames on the TV at once). Thanks again to all that volunteered or helped out at the Geode booth this year!

Greg Dillon  
Geode Chair

### Demonstration

I would like to thank everyone who has made the "Demo" area a fascinating place for the past 3 to 4 years. And it is time for me to try either Hospitality, Geodes, Refreshments, or Silent Auction for a change. Thus, I'm stepping away from being a Chairperson of that area. Not that I chose it to start with I just got "oh, surprise, there you are". It's been fun and I have learned much there. I'm looking forward to working with one of the other ones now. And the choices are not easy to make. All are fun ones at the show. Again, thanks so much!

Obsidian Harris

### Hospitality

Hospitality - Sales	#	\$amt
Grab Bags		
Friday	260	260
Saturday	551	551
Sunday	99	99
	910	910
Misc		
Handouts		5
Crystal Garden		9
Candy		26
		40
Raffle		
Friday	17	17
Saturday	56	56
Sunday	57	57
	130	130
T-Shirts		
2016	32	320
Blue	24	120
	56	440
Cash		1642
Beginning Cash		-60
Checks		45
Membership		
new	9	plus 5 family members
renewal	12	plus 5 family members
Cash	300	
Checks	45	

Linda



## Prez Sez

### Continued from page 1

Thanks very much to all the club members who helped make an enjoyable and seamless event.

If anyone would like the new T-shirts, please contact me so I can bring your size. The new burgundy shirts are \$10.

## Pyrite Suns

### Continued from page 1

The origin of pyrite suns has been a subject of speculation and debate. While some authorities have speculated they originated as fossils that were subsequently replaced with pyrite, the current consensus is they are concretions spread out under pressure and forced to grow in a laterally compressed, radiating manner in the seams of slate.

Marcasite, a polymorph of pyrite, has also been identified in pyrite suns. While marcasite has the same chemical formula as pyrite, it crystallizes in the orthorhombic crystal system, making it a distinct mineral. Marcasite is difficult to distinguish from pyrite without laboratory analysis when clear indicators such as well-formed crystals are lacking.

See you soon.  
Cyndy Hummel  
President,  
Tar Heel Gem and Mineral Club, Inc.

Much sought after by mineral collectors and particularly by those with an affinity for pyrite, pyrite suns will become increasingly rare and difficult to obtain as the Illinois coal mines cease production and are shut down one by one.

You can find them for sale on both Ebay and Amazon ranging from \$17.00 up to a few hundred dollars for the more elegant ones.

Pyrite Dollar on eBay - Looking for New Pyrite Dollar? - ebay.com?

Pyrite Sun at Amazon.com?

Be sure and get yours while they are still available!

## CNCMC : Monthly meeting special event and presentations

### Tricia Weiner

This is Tricia Weiner, a member of the Tarheel club in Raleigh and I am also a member at the club closer to my home, CNCMC. We have great presentations lined up.

The link to a description of the talk is.

Jim Souraf is currently teaching this class at OLLI in Durham and is presenting in May to our mineral club in Chapel Hill.

Thanks so much!

[http://www.centralncmineralclub.org/cncmc.upcoming\\_meetings.html#cncmc.meeting\\_201604](http://www.centralncmineralclub.org/cncmc.upcoming_meetings.html#cncmc.meeting_201604)

Sincerely,

Tricia

[www.tbeckerjewelry.com](http://www.tbeckerjewelry.com)



## SFMS 2016 workshops

### Cindy Reed

It is my pleasure to retain the position of SFMS Director of William Holland Workshops for June 5, 2016. We would love to spread the word about our class line-up and hope you can help us do that. I hope you will give your members the attached class listing either at a meeting or in your newsletter. You can find the class descriptions at <http://www.sfmsworkshops.com>. If anyone would like additional

information, please have them contact me at this email or 863-255-5256.

Thanks in advance. We want to make this another well attended season and

I believe we can do that with your help.

Cindy Reed, SFMS Director - WH workshops

## SFMS Workshops for 2016

We have received the schedule for the Federation workshops at William Holland and Wild Acres. If you would like more information or a registration form, check out [www.SFMSworkshops.com](http://www.SFMSworkshops.com). Or our Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/Southeast-Federation-of-Mineralogical-Societies](http://www.facebook.com/Southeast-Federation-of-Mineralogical-Societies)

You can contact the Registrar for each facility:

William Holland—Heidi Wetzel [sfms.wh@gmail.com](mailto:sfms.wh@gmail.com)

Wild Acres — Toni Garland [waregistrar2016@gmail.com](mailto:waregistrar2016@gmail.com)

### Session 1, William Holland, 6/5-11/16

Beading	Becky Patellis	Mineral ID	Scott Forward
Cabochons	Dave Bergquist	Opals	Carl Talbott
Casting	Bill Harr	Polymer Clay	Sandra Davis
Chain-Maille-Beg & Int.	Kathy Morris	*SW Silver (advanced)	Nancy English
Faceting—Beg. & Int.	Tom Mitchell	Wire Wrap I	Sandra Bergquist
Gem Trees	Jerri Heer	Wire Weaving & Filigree	Jan Stephens

### Session 2, Wild Acres, 8/22-28/16

### Session 3, Wild Acres, 9/19-25/16

Fused Chain-Maille	Roy Deere	Chain-Maille 1&2	Roy Deere
*Metalwork Special Proj.	Jeff Sheer	Gem ID	Teresa Polly
Advanced Beading	Self Study	Casting	Bill Harr
Mineral ID	Travis Paris	Flint Knapping	Michael Miller
Chasing & Reposse	Tom & Kay Benham	Wire for Beaders	Leslie Wayment
Display Case Building	Danny Griffin	Faceting—Beg. & Int.	Tom Mitchell
Deep Relief Wood Carving	Clancy Smith	Silversmithing	Pattie Appleby
Metal Clay I	Katie Baum	Scrimshaw	Rich Williams
Gourds	Pat Davis	Cold Connec. & Enamel	Debora Mauser
Wire Wrap—Beg.	Rowan Rose-Morgan	*Chasing & Reposse II	Tom & Kay Benham
		*Metal Clay II	Katie Baum
* <i>Advanced Class</i>			

This is a wonderful perk of belonging to the SFMS. Join in and support your Federation.





## UPCOMING SHOWS

**May 6-8, 2016: Marietta, GA** – 48th Annual Mother's Day Weekend Gem, Mineral, Jewelry, and Fossil Show.  
Sponsoring Clubs: The Georgia Mineral Society. Cobb Civic Center, 548 South Marietta Pkwy SE, Marietta, GA.  
EXCITING AUCTION SATURDAY AT 1 PM. Over 30 Dealers! Door Prizes! Free Demos! Special Door Prizes for Students! Win a Great Prize for Yourself and for Your School!  
Free Parking! Free Admission! Hours: Fri & Sat 10AM-6PM / Sun Noon-5PM. Show Contact: [www.gamineral.org](http://www.gamineral.org).

**May 6-8, 2016: Franklin, NC** - Mother's Day Gemboree.  
Sponsoring Clubs: Gem & Mineral Society of Franklin, NC. Carpenter Community Center, 1288 Georgia Rd. (US441), Franklin, NC. Fri. & Sat., May 6th & 7th, 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM / Sun., May 8th, 10:00 AM- 4:00PM. No admission charge, indoor, climate controlled, rough and finished gemstone and jewelry, minerals, fossils and demonstrations. Contact: Norman Holbert, 828-634-0350, [normholbert@comcast.net](mailto:normholbert@comcast.net)

**Vugsites** The following are some links to Web-Sites that may interest some of our members:

<http://www.amfed.org> / <http://www.amfed.org/sfms> These are the official sites for the organizing body that the Tar Heel Gem & Mineral Club is founded under. I would strongly urge all members to check them out on a regular basis.  
[http://www.amfed.org/sfms/lodestar\\_newsletter.html](http://www.amfed.org/sfms/lodestar_newsletter.html) The SFMS Lodestar Newsletter  
<http://www.carolinageologicalsociety.org/CGS/Home.html> This site provides numerous downloadable field-trip guide books, maps, and charts of the Carolinas. It will prove to keep any avid rock hound busy for years. Great Site!  
[http://www.ncminerals.com/ncmineralswebsite\\_files/page0011.htm](http://www.ncminerals.com/ncmineralswebsite_files/page0011.htm) And while we are on the subject, try this link. Its titled: Links of Interest to Rock hounds in NC. It will take you to a list of links for North Carolina gems and minerals.  
<http://www.rocksforkids.com/> Just like the name says, a nice place to steer the younger members.  
Information & photographs of over 6300 specimens from the Glenn & Martha Vargas Gem & Mineral Collection.  
<http://www.rockhoundlounge.com> Scott Laborde, a club member maintains his own web site that might be of interest to people collecting in and around Wake County.  
[http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/29726500/ns/technology\\_and\\_science-science](http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/29726500/ns/technology_and_science-science) This site highlights a half dozen of the most recent significant fossil finds.  
<http://appmodo.com/13971/mole-quest-for-the-terracore-gem-app-review-for-the-iphone-and-ipod-touch/> If you have an iphone or an ipod touch, this rock-hounding may be the game for you.  
[http://diamonddanpublications.net/index\\_files/page0009.html](http://diamonddanpublications.net/index_files/page0009.html) Diamond Dan's Mini Miner's Monthly

I would like to encourage all members of the THG&MC that maintain their own presence on the internet to send me a link to their site to be published in future Vugsites so that other club members may learn and enjoy the craft, the art, the interests that many of us have in common.

Park in the Cates Ave. Parking Deck off Jensen Dr. Enter Thompson Building directly across from the parking lot.

## Our Next Meeting is

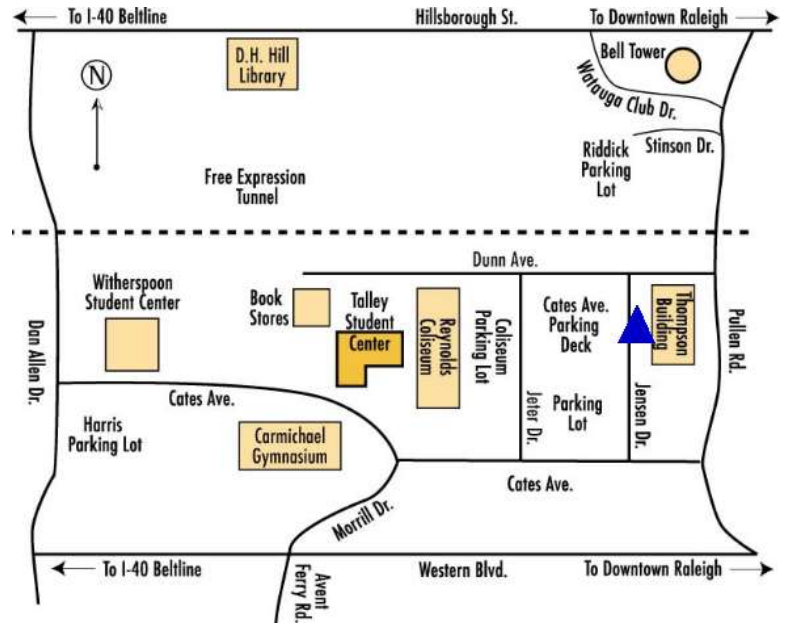
**April 19, 2016 @ 7:30PM**

## Thompson Building / NCSU Campus.

### About Our Organization...

The Tar Heel Gem and Mineral Club, Inc. was formed in 1974 as a nonprofit educational organization for people who enjoy the lapidary arts, earth sciences, and related subjects. The main objectives of the club are to investigate, preserve, and share knowledge of rocks, minerals, and precious stones, and to promote interest in mineralogy, paleontology, earth sciences, and lapidary techniques, among club members and among the general public. The club pursues these goals through publications, meetings, lectures, field trips, exhibits, demonstrations, and other activities.

**Come and be a part of the Fun!**



**TAR HEEL GEM & MINERAL CLUB**  
 10609 Chelsea Drive  
 Raleigh, NC 27603

