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

Prez Sez

Happy New Year!

Our program in January is a combination of live auction and discussion of the 2015 show. So bring your money and bring your ideas for the show. I would like to get ahead of any concerns or issues BEFORE the show occurs this year. This will be a novel approach. I would like all sorts of idea brought up and discussed. Consider this a brainstorming session to improve the show. We have THE best show in the state, but improvements can still be made.



SHOW INFORMATION

By Cyndy Hummel

Sign up to volunteer for different booth areas at the January meeting!!!!

You should wear your nametag at all times during the show. You may not be allowed entrance prior to show hours without your 2015 nametag.

Set-up time is 5 PM on Thursday, March 26th at the fairgrounds, Kerr Scott building. Tables and chairs should already be in place. Expect to paper tables for each club booth area; Silent Auction, Geode, Hospitality, Demonstration and Display Case Tables and haul boxes and assemble display cases. We are usually finished

by 8PM. The more helping hands we have, the sooner we can finish! Friday morning each club booth area will remove items from boxes and organize the areas to their preference. The dealers set-up early Friday morning beginning at 8AM. Club members also set up their own demonstration / sales area and display case on Friday no earlier than 8AM. Breakfast snacks and coffee

will be available all three mornings. The pre-ordered Panera supper on Friday will be delivered at 5PM. Lunch is provided on Saturday & Sunday for club members who are currently **volunteering** at the show, no dealers. The purpose of these meals is to feed our own volunteers who work all day so they need not worry about their meals.

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Tar Heel Gem & Mineral Club, Inc.

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Raleigh NC 27603

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We're on the Web!

See us at:

www.tarheelclub.org

Program & Refreshments

REFRESHMENT SCHEDULE:

Coordinator: Need Volunteer

January TBD

PROGRAM SCHEDULE:

January Mineral Auction / Gem & Mineral Show Discussion

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

November / December Treasurer's Report

Oct. Ending /
Nov. Beginning Balance \$3,611.39

Deposits (+)
Dealers \$590.00
Members 55.00

Sub total \$645.00

Checks Written (-)
Newsletter \$130.93
Supplies (grab bags) 51.44
Cyndy H. supplies 49.04
Corinne H. supplies 370.24

Sub Total \$601.65

Nov. Ending /
Dec. Beginning Balance \$3,654.74

Deposits (+)
Dealers \$4,550.00
Members 45.00

Sub total \$4,595.00

Checks Written (-)
Post Office Box (1 Yr) \$232.00
Trailer Space (1 Yr) 720.00
Supplies for Show 85.86

Sub Total \$1,037.86

Dec. Ending /
Jan. Beginning Balance \$7,211.88

January B-Day Members

- Laura Bottomley
- Marion Broadway
- Ken & Ellie Carlson
- Christa Ennis
- Victoria Fox
- Jack L. Fried
- Russ Holshouser
- Cyndy Hummel
- Kayla Johanson
- Carrie Jones
- Walt Milowic
- Rob Moseley
- John Nigro
- Mary Obenchain
- Ryan O'Neal
- Christina Perry
- Greg & Connie Shay
- Jacob W. Stephens



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. - October Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, November 18th, 2014

* A note of apology to the members of the Tar Heel G & M Club as the minutes for Nov. 2014 are not available in their wholeness. Instead, fragmented thoughts as the filling system known as the hard-drive kicked the bucket in early Jan. 2015. And thus, follows:

Meeting:

There was a Thank you Feast for the membership of the club and elections took place. And there was laughter and dismay. The current officers are continuing into 2015 except one. That being Secretary Walt Milowic was nominated and voted in place, while Obsidian withdrew. And to Walt my hats off to you and good luck! And thank you for being a good sport.

SHOW INFORMATION

Continued from page 1

Water, soda, coffee and tea will be provided for both dealers and club members throughout the three-day period. Sunday evening is pack-up and takedown for dealers and the club. Display cases are disassembled and wrapped in the table paper. Each booth inventories and boxes their items. Everything is then carefully placed in the storage trailer or rental unit.

Show Information for New Members

By Cyndy Hummel

Hello There,

I see we have a lot of new club members. Welcome to the group. You may have heard about the annual Rock & Gem show. If not, sit back and I will tell you all about it.



The annual show at the Fairgrounds has free parking and free admission. As you enter the double set of doors of the Kerr Scott building, you approach the Hospitality booth. This area is responsible for the daily door prize tickets, grab bag sales, club membership forms, free magazines and other literature. You might even see a display from the Aurora Fossil Museum. Knowledgeable club members identify items in the grab bags and answer general questions about the show and club. This is a good place for new members to learn and share their enthusiasm for the hobby with the general public. This area also hosts different groups such as local museums.

There was also a discussion on the By-Laws of the Club and how they were to be changed. The website for the club is also still in progress of being worked on.

Close of Meeting:

Cyndy called the meeting to a close.

To everyone in the membership thanks so much for making this year and interesting one and being able to serve as I have.

Respectfully Submitted

Obsidian Harris,

Secretary, Tar Heel Gem and Mineral Club, Inc.

Show hours for customers are -

Friday, March 27 3PM – 8PM

Saturday, March 28 10AM – 6PM

Sunday, March 29 10AM – 5PM

Remember, ENJOY the show. This is a rewarding and exciting time!!!



Directly behind the Hospitality area are display cases for club members to spotlight their talents and discoveries. Minerals, fossils, silver, gold and wire wrapped jewelry, cut and polished gems, and slabs of rock that all combine to create our fascinating hobby are reflected behind glass.

As you move around the room, listen for the dulcet tones of saws cutting through hard rock. The Geode booth along the right hand wall is very popular with customers. Indeed, the same people purchase geodes year after year. One never knows what is inside each hollow or solid sphere until it is sliced open. In this area, there is a display of beautiful geodes that have been cut over the years. Knowledgeable club members operate the saws, clean, wrap and bag the geodes. Be sure to quiz them on how geodes are formed.



The Silent Auction is located on the back wall to the right. This is where children and adults alike can find treasures at bargain prices. Items such as jewelry, minerals, fossils, faceted gemstones and slabs of rock are put up for auction for an undisclosed amount of time. Each item has a paper listing the name of the item and location of origin in the case of a mineral or fossil. The bidder places their name and a dollar amount on a blank line and steps away from the bidding table. The next person places a higher bid on the next line. When time is called, the last person on the list is the lucky winner.



Upstairs is where we keep the goodies to eat. Hot coffee, soft drinks and snacks can be found at differing times throughout the weekend. Club members are greatly encouraged to bring homemade tasty treats. This area is for current club members and dealers ONLY. Current nametags must be worn.



Along the left back wall is where our club's talent shines, literally. This is the Demonstration/Sales area where club members showcase their hobby/addiction. At any given time you will see faceting, cabbing, wire wrapping, slab cutting, gold and silver smithing, bead stringing, gold and silver chain making, and gem tree creating. Be sure to come view our specialties and ask plenty of questions about how we do what we do.



Set up for the show is Thursday night. Set up involves papering the club area tables, unloading boxes of merchandise for the Hospitality, Geode and Silent Auction areas and assembling the display cases. Club members set up their own space in the demonstration area and fill their display case on Friday morning.

As you can see there are many areas that club members can participate in during the show. I hope you will join us March.

Cyndy Hummel

Garnets

By George Harris



Garnet, the birthstone for January, signifies eternal friendship and trust and is the perfect gift for a friend. Garnet, derived from the word granatum, means seed, and is called so because of the gemstone's resemblance to a pomegranate seed. References to the gemstone dates back to 3100 B.C., when the Egyptians used garnets as inlays jewelry. Garnet is the name of a group of minerals

that comes in a rainbow of colors, from the deep red of the pyrope garnet to the vibrant green of tsavorites. Today, the most important sources for garnet are Africa, Sri Lanka, and India.

- See more at: <http://www.americangemsociety.org/january-birthstone>

Garnets are the modern birthstone for January. They are the Zodiac birthstones for Aquarius, and an alternate for Capricorn. Garnets are given on the 2nd and 6th anniversary. Garnets are associated with strength, perseverance, prosperity, and health.

As a gemstone, garnets have had a mixed reputation. Garnets do possess high indices of refraction, are hard enough, have pretty colors, are wonderfully transparent, lack cleavage and are durable; thus making good candidates for gemstones. However, many people consider garnets to be inferior to other colored gems. This may be due to garnet's relative abundance and widespread use, and therefore a (typically) low price. Garnets are greatly variable in colors and varieties, though, and many of these are both rare and

beautiful, producing genuinely precious gemstones. Some garnets are truly unique in the mineral kingdom and have much to offer as both gemstones and mineral specimens.

The main differences in physical properties among the members of the garnet group are slight variations in color, density and index of refraction.

The most common crystal shape for garnets is the rhombic dodecahedron, a twelve sided crystal with diamond-shaped (rhombic) faces. This basic shape is the trademark of garnets, for no other crystal shape is so closely associated with a single mineral group like the rhombic dodecahedron is with garnets.

Most garnets are red in color, leading to the erroneous belief that all garnets are red. In fact a few varieties, such as grossular, can have a wide range of colors, and uvarovite is always a bright green. As a mineral specimen, garnets usually have well shaped and complex crystals and their color and luster can make for a very beautiful addition to a collection. At times, garnets are accessory minerals to other valuable and pretty gem minerals such as topaz, beryl, tourmaline, vesuvianite and diopside making these specimens extra special.

Garnet:	Typical Color:
<u>ALMANDINE</u>	reddish brown to brown
<u>ANDRADITE</u>	brown, black or green
<u>GROSSULAR</u>	colorless, orange or green
<u>PYROPE</u>	dark red to ruby red
<u>SPESSARTINE</u>	orange, pink or brown
<u>UVAROVITE</u>	green

http://www.galleries.com/January_Birthstone

Garnets as a group are relatively common in highly metamorphosed rocks and in some igneous formations. They form under the high temperatures and/or pressures that those types of rocks must endure. Garnets can be used by geologists as a gauge of how much temperature and pressure the rock has endured. As a gemstone, garnets have had a mixed reputation. Garnets do possess high indices of refraction, are hard enough, have pretty colors, are wonderfully transparent, lack cleavage and are durable; thus making good candidates for gemstones. However, many people consider garnets to be inferior to other colored gems. This may be due to garnet's relative abundance and widespread use, and therefore a (typically) low price. Garnets are greatly variable in colors and varieties, though, and many of these are both rare and beautiful, producing genuinely precious gemstones. Some garnets are truly unique in the mineral kingdom and have much to offer as both gemstones and mineral specimens. Of course, garnets are the January Birthstone.

The general formula for most of the garnets is $A_3B_2(SiO_4)_3$. The A represents divalent metals such as calcium, iron, magnesium and/or manganese. The B represents trivalent metals such as aluminum, chromium, iron and/or manganese and in the rarer garnets; vanadium, titanium, zirconium and/or silicon. The general formula for a couple of rarer garnets (hibschite and katoite) is $A_3B_2(SiO_4)_3-X(OH)_4X$. The main differences in physical properties among the members of the garnet group are slight variations in color, density and index of refraction.

Garnets are isostructural, meaning that they share the same crystal structure. This leads to similar crystal shapes and properties. Garnets belong to the isometric crystal class, which produces very symmetrical, cube-based crystals. The most common crystal shape

for garnets however is the rhombic dodecahedron, a twelve sided crystal with diamond-shaped (rhombic) faces. This basic shape is the trademark of garnets, for no other crystal shape is so closely associated with a single mineral group like the rhombic dodecahedron is with garnets. Most garnets are red in color, leading to the erroneous belief that all garnets are red. In fact a few varieties, such as grossular, can have a wide range of colors, and uvarovite is always a bright green. As a mineral specimen, garnets usually have well shaped and complex crystals and their color and luster can make for a very beautiful addition to a collection. At times, garnets are accessory minerals to other valuable and pretty gem minerals such as topaz, beryl, tourmaline, vesuvianite and diopside making these specimens extra special.

The Garnet Group is actually a larger group than most people realize. In the table below are the more common members with their chemistries and their significant divergent properties: density (SG), index of refraction (IR), and the typical color as well as their general environment of formation. Under environment of formation: metamorphic is indicated with an M and igneous with an I. All garnets may contribute to detrital sedimentary rocks but they are not of original sedimentary origin.

http://www.galleries.com/Garnet_Group

Garnet Metaphysical Properties And Meaning

Most people know Garnets as being burgundy red coloured and the traditional birthstone of January.

Garnet is one of my most treasured crystal friends. Not only do they come in lots of colors (though blue is rare), but they have the best form and shapes. This is because they mix in with different minerals as they form. This different chemical composition means they fall into 2 main families Pyrralsite – almandine, spessartine, pyrope and Ugrandite – andradite, uvarovite, grossular.

With a hardness of between 6.5 and 7.5 on the Mohs scale, Garnets are pretty stable stones.

Their internal lattices depend on their chemical composition but are usually cubic or rhombic dodecahedron both provide great forms.

Energetically Garnets are like having a cheer squad behind you, keeping you energized, on track and moving forward towards your desired outcome.

Sometimes we need a little extra get up and go and Garnet can be like drinking a cup of coffee, or a can of Red Bull for those of you who are younger than I.

I always go for garnets when starting new projects so I get everything in place before I build out. Or if you are in it and you have to finish by tonight... Garnets are your partner in sticking things through till THE END.

Garnet Meaning

Garnet is a stone of health, extracting negative energy from your chakras and transmuting the energy to a more beneficial state. It enhances your internal fire, bringing your creative powers to the stage of implementation (also called getting your ass in gear). It is a traditional stone of commitment: to purpose, to others and to yourself. The loving powers of Garnet tend to reflect the attributes of devotion, bringing the love of others to expressions of warmth and understanding. It stimulates both your Base and Crown Chakras to provide for free flowing movement, helping to distribute the appropriate amount of required energy to each portion of your body.

Chakras: Base, Crown, Link, Sacral

Astrological sign: Scorpio, Aquarius

<http://www.thatcrystalsite.com/garnet-metaphysical-properties-meaning/>

Field Trip Information

By Shirley Green

Thomasville Quarry, Thomasville, NC

- When:** Saturday, January 17, 2015, 9:00 am until 1:00 pm. We must arrive at the quarry no later than 8:45 am. for training and signing of waivers. No Latecomers!! I have not been here in years, but there is something weird about locating this quarry, I remember. Therefore, please allow some extra time to get there in case you get turned around. Please arrive by 8:45 am for our safety briefing. Make sure you allow plenty of time to get to quarry. It takes me 2 hours from my house in north Raleigh. We need to gather up our stuff by 12:45 pm so we can be out by 1 pm, please. There was some complaining at our last quarry visit, at the quarry, which I considered EXTREMELY RUDE. So if you feel like you might want to complain about not finding good rocks... STAY HOME. If I hear anyone complaining on our next trip, while we are at the quarry, I will ask that you be removed as a member. These quarry people give up their Saturday and their time off to do this for us for free. We need to be extremely appreciative in return!!
- Where:** 691 Upper Lake Rd., Thomasville, NC 27630
- Collecting:** Looking for Calcite; Epidote; Quartz Crystals; Unknown pink rock that I call bubble gum rock; Fluorite - possibly; Pyrite;
- Requirements:** Ages: 18 and up. Steel Toed Boots; Hard Hat (This must be an OSHA approved hard hat.). You must bring your own hard hat with you. Safety Vest Reflective; Safety glasses; Gloves; Bring water or something to drink.
- Tools:** Rock Hammer; Chisel; 3 Lb. Hammer; Newspaper to wrap specimens; Bug Spray; Snacks; Long Screwdriver; 5 Gallon Bucket or backpack; Other tools of your choice;
- Who:** 20 PEOPLE ARE ALLOWED to go on this trip. I would appreciate everyone's cooperation in making sure we follow all of the rules given to us by the Quarry Manager. If we do this we can be allowed to return again. Please RSVP to Shirley. 919-848-1085 or Richard60Green@yahoo.com

If you are a paid member for 2015 you could be one of the 20 people invited to the Thomasville Quarry in Thomasville, NC on January 17, Sat. (Weather Permitting)!! Signup is required!

Shirley will take your dues at the quarry ONLY IF you BRING A CHECK MADE OUT TO TAR HEEL CLUB. NO CASH ACCEPTED!

Also, you can go to <http://www.tarheelclub.org/> to print an application. Just change date to 2015. The address to mail the application is on it.

POST QUARRY TRIP - LAURIES ROCKSHOP

After the trip to the Thomasville Quarry on Saturday, all participants are invited to stop by my rockshop only 15 minutes from Thomasville. I will have coffee and light refreshments and offer a 10% discount on any shop purchases, as well as having a small door prize drawing. Directions to the shop can be found on the homepage of my website: www.theadamscollection.com or if you have GPS the address is 268 Cedar Springs Rd., Lexington, NC 27292. Call if you have questions 336-859-3471. It's very easy to find, a straight 13 mile drive down hwy 109 from Thomasville. I have a large rock shop with thousands of specimens from around the world, and specializing in North Carolina minerals. I encourage anyone to bring a flat or two of specimens to trade, I like to swap. (Undamaged specimens please). I also have a lot of free samples outside to give away. Please shoot me an e-mail if you're coming so I have an idea how many to expect: <mailto:laurieadams@triad.rr.com>
Thanks, Laurie Adams

2015 Show Chairpeople

If you are unable to make the meeting, contact these people to volunteer in their areas.

Hospitality	Marion Broadway	(919) 612-0721	thewirenut@charter.net
Geode	Greg Dillon	(919) 772-3164	wgygunsmoke@aol.com
Silent Auction	Jack Fried	(919) 761-9390	jacklfried@aol.com
Display Cases	Jack Fried	(919) 761-9390	jacklfried@aol.com
Demonstration	Obsidian Harris	(919) 674-0243	foxivy@nc.rr.com
Refreshments	Gerald Beck	(919) 848-3319	gbeck23@nc.rr.com

UPCOMING SHOWS

March 27-29, 2014: Raleigh, NC - 39th Annual Capital Area Gem & Mineral Show. Tar Heel Gem and Mineral Club, Inc. Kerr Scott Building, NC State Fairgrounds, Raleigh, NC. Hours: Fri 3-8; Sat 10-6; Sun 10-5. Admission: Free and Free Parking. Contact: Cyndy Hummel; 919-779-6220; mchummel@mindspring.com; www.tarheelclub.org;

April 30 - May 3, 2013: Spruce Pine, NC – 3rd Annual Spring Grassy Creek Gem and Mineral Show. Parkway Fire and Rescue Department at 12966 Hwy. 226 South, Spruce Pine, NC, halfway between US 19E and the Blue Ridge Parkway (exit 331). There are 30 dealers who have all kinds of gemstones, mineral specimens, jewelry, beads, fossils, and lots more. Mine tours available. Admission is FREE. Parking is FREE. Hours are from 8 to 6 all days. Contact Donna Collis: 828 765 5519; collisdonna@yahoo.com for information.



November Door Prize: Faceting Rough

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 The SFMS Lodestar Newsletter

<http://www.carolinageologicalsociety.org/CGS/Home.htm> 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 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 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 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
January 20, 2015 @ 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

