

Tar Heel Tailings

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

President's Report - Tar Heel Gem & Mineral Club, Inc.

I would like to call your attention to the above appellation for our club. There is nothing new about it, really, except that at the last board meeting it became our "official" title. In the past we have used several different versions of this title. Sometimes the "Inc." has been included, and sometimes not. At our banks' behest,

Continued on page 3



A Walk Through Geologic History: The Cambrian Period

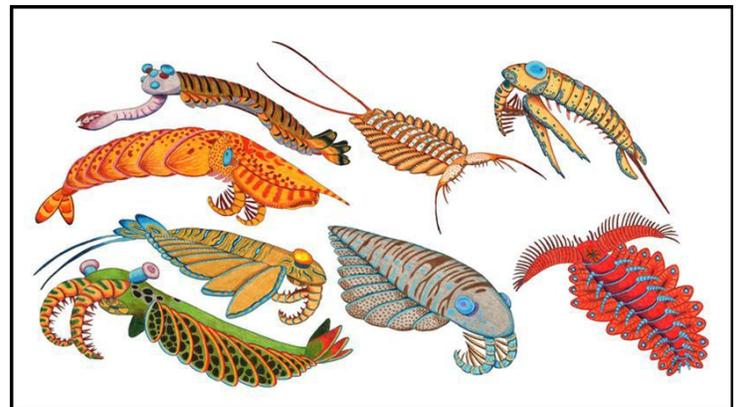
by Dion Stewart, Cobb-L-Stones, March 2012

As Precambrian history came to an end nearly 570mya almost 87% of Earth's history had already elapsed; the re-maining 13% of our history contains numerous fossils and a history of crashing continents, mountain rising and erod-ing away, sedimentary layers deposited as oceans flood onto the continents or as continents rise and the ocean bot-tom is exposed to the forces of erosion. This rich history is divided into three

larger intervals called —Erasll; namely the Paleozoic Era (literally —early lifell), the Mesozoic Era

(—middle lifell) and the Cenozoic Era (—late lifell). Eras are often referred to by the dominate life forms.

More on Cambrian - page 4



Special Interest Articles:

- President's Report
- A Walk Through Geologic History: The Cambrian Period
- Sard Agate Bowl...Sardonyx?
- 2012 SFMS Workshop Class Schedule

Individual Highlights:

President's Report	1
A Walk Through Geologic History: The Cambrian Period	1
Treasurer's Report	2
June's Business Meeting Minutes	3
Sard Agate Bowl... Sardonyx?	3
2012 SFMS Workshop Class Schedule	6
Upcoming Shows:	7
Vug Sites:	7

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We're on the Web!
See us at:
www.tarheelclub.org

Program & Refreshments

REFRESHMENT SCHEDULE:

Coordinator: Jeanette Baugh (919) 522-9044
villagegems@yahoo.com

June	Open
July	Jack Fried
August	Ice Cream Social
September	Walt Milowic
October	Cyndy and Corinne Hummel
November	Karen Santala

PROGRAM SCHEDULE:

July Debbie Miller – Jewelry Demo.

Remember, the club will reimburse you for up to \$40 (bring your receipts to the treasurer).

Thank you, Jeanette Baugh

July Treasurer's Report

May Ending /	
Jun. Beginning Balance	\$12,346.75

Deposits (+)	
Members	\$85.00

Sub total	\$85.00

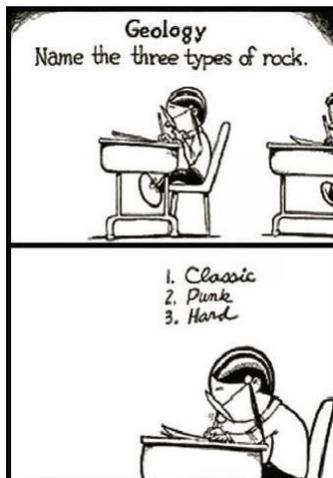
Checks Written (-)	
Show	\$339.33
IMP Newsletter	155.32
New - P O Box	109.00
Remaining checks	240.94

Sub Total	\$844.59

Jun. Ending /	
Jul. Beginning Balance	\$11,587.16

July B-Day Members

Ella Myers
Becky Davenport
Barbara Todaro
Mark Davis
Ann McBeth



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. - June Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, June 19, 2012

Attendees = 45

At 7:43 Joe Moylan called the meeting to order and welcomed several newcomers to our meeting.

Joe then opened by asking about how many members were able to make it to the Vulcan Materials "Jack" Quarry, 23308 Cox Rd., Petersburg, VA 23803.

Tom Todaro noted that it was a good field trip and members had found specimens of feldspar, quartz, smoky quartz, pyrite and calcite. Tom also passed around his specimen from the quarry.

Alexis Todaro shared her California beach sandstone with fossil shell inclusion.

Tom then stated that he was working on confirming Hanson Aggregates Southeast Inc. 10501 Capital Blvd., Wake Forest NC 27587 for our next field trip in late July.

Tom also inquired who would be interested in a field trip to Hiddenite Gems Inc., Emerald Hollow Mine at 484 Emerald Hollow Mine Dr., Hiddenite, NC 28636 to which many responded affirmatively.

Joe then noted that the junior volunteer winners of \$50.00 gift certificate for the THG&MC Show last April are:

1. Michella Dillon

2. Nick Dillon

Joe then had Jack Fried help draw the raffle winners for the adult volunteers at the THG&MC Show to Williams Hollow and Wild Acres. Winners are:

1. Ryan O'Neal
2. Marion Broadway

Alternates in case the above are unable to accept their prizes:

1. Jim Jin
2. Cyndy Hummel

Our guest speaker was Nick Gessler, PhD. from Duke University. Doc Gessler presented a wonderful talk on meteors and how to find and identify them. For another glimpse at some of the subjects covered in Doc. Gessler's presentation, see:

<http://www.duke.edu/web/isis/gessler/>

Larry Siems was the winner of our door prize and selected a beautiful fossil echinoid.

At ~9:20 PM a motion to close the meeting was made by Obsidian Harris and seconded by Mike Troutman. The meeting was closed.

Respectfully Submitted

Michael Troutman, Secretary

President's Report

Continued from page 1

we were recently asked for more consistency. Yes, it's just a three letter suffix, but it does change our literal name. So, now, the "Inc." has been officially added and registered with the Secretary of State.

Of course, to really get our designation correct, we had to wade into an age old debate. The big question of whether the cognomen "Tar Heel" is one word or two. This debate has been waged since the end of the Civil War with esteemed professors of English petitioning institutions such as Webster's Dictionary for a designation of their preference that the moniker becomes one word. Alas, it seems they have failed. Hence, we have chosen to go with what has historically been the most common nom de plume of two words. For your information, this would make the correct acronym of our club name, "THGMC, Inc."

So, if you think it's just been hot outdoors try sitting in at one of our board meetings.....Phew!

In the process of looking at our designated registration with the Secretary of State's office, we noticed that the Registered Agent on file with that office was no longer with us and that this position also needed to be up-dated. I am very happy to announce that Corinne Hummel is now the new Registered Agent for the club. Corinne willingly accepted this position, as she has accepted so many other duties and offices for us in the past, and I can think of none other more appropriate for the designation. Thank You, Corinne.

Sard Agate Bowl... Sardonyx?

I was very happily surprised to win the door prize at the May meeting, (Dr. Mike must have been absent), because I have coveted this beautiful little red agate bowl since first laying eyes on it. My choice was very easy!

Other news worthy business dealt with at the last Board meeting is that we now have a PO Box for our permanent mailing address and will be gradually moving into it as operations permit. It is PO Box 33783 and is located at the Method Station Post Office at 3919 Beryl Road, Raleigh. Ofcourse notice of this change will be sent out as soon as it officially becomes our main mailing address.

At the time of this writing, I am not sure what the program for the July meeting will be. We were hoping to have some of the jewelry making members of the club give presentations and demonstrations of their work. Due to the large crowd and speaker at the last meeting I neglected to announce this idea and now, like me, I guess you will just have to show up and see what presents itself. Any jewelers in the club that would like to bring some of their work to showcase are, as always, more than welcome to.

The program for the August meeting is ICE CREAM!, followed by an Auction!

Be cautious in this record heat. Drink plenty of water. Be safe.

Hope to see everyone at the next meeting,

Many Thanks for All that Everyone does,

Joe Moylan, President, Tar Heel Gem and Mineral Club, Inc.

The red in this agate is wonderful, and hopefully ala natural. Agate is a form of cryptocrystalline quartz called 'Chalcedony'. Sard is a name for shades of red, but only properly used when applied to describing colors in agate or chalcedony.

Sardonyx is a birthstone for August. So would this be Sardonyx?



The red, or sard, areas of this bowl do have a thin outline of parallel banded lines. If a cabochon were cut highlighting just this banded area of this agate I believe it would qualify as an onyx. But looking at the whole piece I am content to just call it a beautiful little Sard Agate Bowl.



Onyx is a name for banded agates, or chalcedony, where the bands are parallel to each other consisting of fine intergrowths of the minerals quartz and moganite. Black onyx is much more common and, consequently, popular in the marketplace today. Unfortunately most of it is artificially colored. The colors of onyx have been enhanced and dyed since (or before) Roman times.

Thanks so much THGMC, Inc!
Respectfully submitted
Joe Moylan, May Door Prize Winner

Also, today, the name "onyx" is commonly applied to banded calcite. The banded calcites are much more common and abundant, softer and easier to work. True onyx only applies to the chalcedony.

A Walk Through Geologic History: The Cambrian Period of the Paleozoic Era

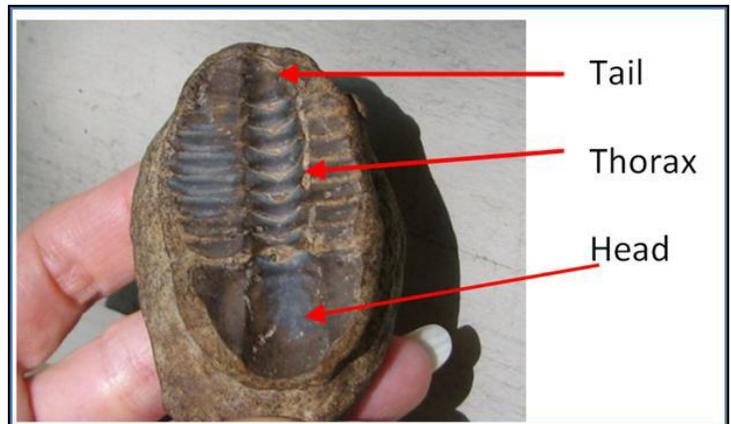
by Dion Stewart, Cobb-L-Stones, March 2012
Continued from page 1

The Paleozoic is known as the Age of Invertebrates, the Mesozoic as the Age of Reptiles & Dinosaurs, and the Cenozoic as the Age of Mammals. Just like a year is divided into months, each Era is divided into Periods, and the first period of time in the Paleozoic Era is called the Cambrian.

The Cambrian Period began 570 million years ago with an explosion of different species of life, most of them have gone extinct and have no living decedents. What geologists call the —Big Bang of life on Earth is thoroughly documented at the Wolcott Quarry in the Canadian Rocky Mountains. A formation in the Canadian Rockies called the —Burgess Shale first existed as a steep-sided lagoon that had frequent mudslides that covered and transformed the early exotic animals into fossils, see picture below. The same group of fossils has now been discovered at Chin-guae in China and Sirius Passet in northern Greenland, showing that they existed across the Globe.

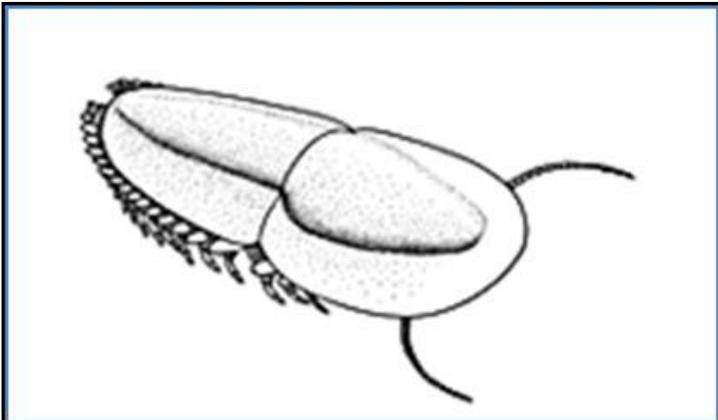
Although most of these creatures did not survive very long on the Earth, one of the creatures from the Burgess shale seems to have been the predecessor of the common trilobite (trilobite meaning three lobes). The original predecessor to the trilobite had only two lobes and was called Naraoia Compacta, and about two years ago it

was found in Georgia's Conasagua Shale Formation extending the evidence of the early explosion of life into our state.



The typical three lobed trilobite from the Conasagua Shale formation.

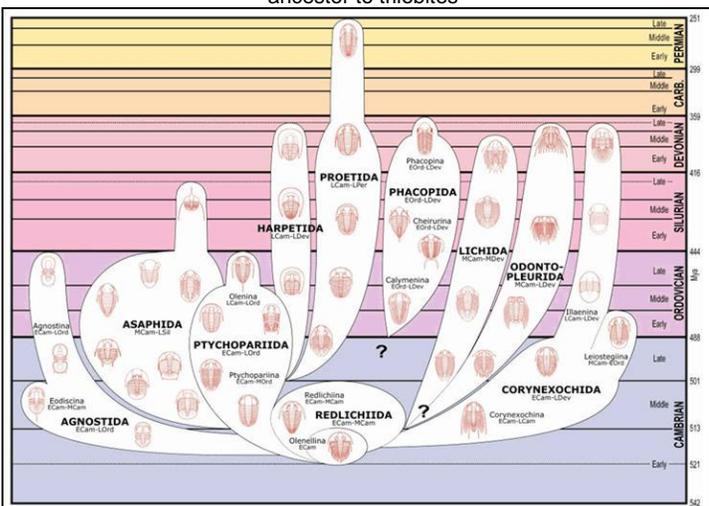
The Conasagua Shale is loaded with trilobites, most are only the size of your thumbnail and are on the bedding planes of the shale, but a few are much larger and occur inside of silica rich nodules found in the shale.



The Burgess Shale's *Naraoia Compacta*, now found in Georgia is an ancestor to trilobites



The Western part of this sea deposited several famous formations, most notably the Bright Angle Shale, seen in the Grand Canyon. When you look into the Grand Canyon from most overlooks you only see the outer canyon, which goes down to the Bright Angle Shale. There is a small, narrow, deep —inner canyon that is cut in the Precambrian rocks found below the Bright Angle Shale. If you look closely at the photo above, you can see the inner canyon.



Trilobites, the pill-bug look-alikes of the Paleozoic Era, evolved very quickly into over ten distinctly different groups, and they became the primary fossils to distinguish and subdivide the various Periods... Cambrian, Ordovician, and Silurian.



Bright Angel Shale at bottom of outer canyon



Photo from Trilobite Treasures, Utah.

<http://jan.ucc.nau.edu/~rcb7/namC500.jpg>

One of the best trilobite collecting localities in the United States is in Utah, where Cambrian Shale beds have been split into layers in a quarry. You can find dozens of beautiful 1-2" samples in a few hours at the world famous Wheeler Amphitheater at Antelope Springs, Utah

Cambrian rocks were deposited as North America slowly subsided and an ocean called the Saik Sea inundated our continent from both the West and the East. This ocean did not entirely cover the USA, it left a peninsula called the Mid-continental highland that ran from pre-sent day Minnesota through Nebraska and down to New Mexico, (see below) where no Cambrian rocks exists.

2012 SFMS WORKSHOP CLASS SCHEDULE

<http://www.sfmsworkshops.com/SFMSgeneralinfo.html>

Workshop Staff

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E-mail: dtalbott@bellsouth.net

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Wildacres Workshop September 10-16, 2012	
<u>Beading for the Holidays</u>	Barbara Green
<u>Cabochons, Free-Form</u>	Pat Davis
<u>Chain, Beginning</u>	Marilou Hillenbrand
<u>Faceting</u>	Steve Hillenbrand
<u>Fused Glass, Beginning</u>	Rich Dillon
<u>Mineral ID</u>	Scott Forward
<u>*Silver, Filigree</u>	Shannon Stafford
<u>*Stone Setting</u>	Don Roberts
<u>Wire for Beaders</u>	Leslie Wayment

William Holland Workshop October 7 - 13, 2012	
<u>Beading for the Holidays</u>	Barbara Green
<u>Beading</u>	Becky Patellis
<u>Cabochons</u>	Jerry Mason
<u>Casting</u>	Joe DePietro and Lou Mager
<u>*Channel Inlay</u>	Don and Ann Monroe
<u>Faceting</u>	Bill Roberts
<u>Lampwork</u>	Cindy Reed
<u>Mineral ID</u>	Scott Forward
<u>Opals</u>	Sara Lee Boyce, Carl Talbott
<u>Polymer Clay</u>	Carolyn Stearns
<u>*Silver, Filigree</u>	Shannon Stafford
<u>Silver, Beginning</u>	Mack Thornton
<u>Wire I</u>	Diane Mason

Wildacres Workshop August 20 - 26, 2012	
<u>Cabochons</u>	Anita Westlake
<u>*Metalsmithing, Advanced</u>	Jeff Sheer
<u>*Digital Photography</u>	Ron Gibbs
<u>Polymer Clay</u>	Carolyn Stearns
<u>Raku Beads</u>	Jim Cullen
<u>Scrimshaw</u>	Bill Weitzel
<u>Silver Cold Connection</u>	CANCELLED
<u>Wire, Beginning</u>	Rowan Rose

UPCOMING SHOWS

Sept 21-23, 2012: Jacksonville, FL - Jacksonville Gem & Mineral Society. 24th Annual Show, Morocco Shrine Auditorium, 3800 Saint Johns Bluff Road, Jacksonville. Hours: Fri 1-6, Sat 10-6, Sun 10-5. Admission \$4. Contact: Karen Olson (904) 448-5182 or e-mail jgmsnews@gmail.com

October 6-7, 2012: Lexington, KY - Rockhounds of Central Kentucky (ROCK). 22nd Annual Gem, Mineral, & Jewelry Show, Kentucky National Guard Armory, 4301 Airport Road, Lexington, KY. Show includes minerals, jewelry, equipment dealers, club sales, exhibits, KY Agate, fluorescent displays, hourly prizes, and Grand Prize drawing. Admission: \$1 adults, \$0.50 children, \$3 max family; Scouts in uniform free. Hours: Sat 10-6, Sun 12-5. Contact: Allen Ferrell, 859-277-2469 or kyrock2010kentucky@yahoo.com.

November 16-18, 2012: Marietta, GA - Cobb County Gem and Mineral Society. 27th Annual Rock, Mineral & Jewelry Show, Cobb County Civic Center, 548 South Marietta Parkway, Marietta, GA. Hours: Fri & Sat 10-6, Sun 10-5. Free Admission. Contact Mary Ingram: 404-915-3588 or mandmingram@gmail.com.

November 17-18, 2012 (Always held the weekend before Thanksgiving): West Palm Beach, Florida - Gem & Mineral Society of the Palm Beaches. 46th annual gem, mineral, jewelry, bead and fossil show, South Florida Fairgrounds Expo Center East, 9067 Southern Blvd., West Palm Beach. Hours: Sat 9-6, Sun 10-5. Free Parking. Admission \$7, children under 12 free. Visit website for \$1 off coupon, <http://www.gemandmineral.cc>. Contact show chairman, Barbara Ringhiser at bar5678@aol.com

December 8-9, 2012 (2nd weekend each December): Franklin, TN - Mid-Tennessee Gem & Mineral Society. Gem, Jewelry, Mineral, Fossil Show & Sale, Williamson County Ag Expo Park, 4215 Long Lane, Franklin (this is a new location rather than the old location at the TN State Fairgrounds in Nashville). Drive 20 miles south of Nashville on I-65 and take exit #61, turn east onto Peytonsville Road for 1/3 mile, and turn left onto Long Lane. Hours: Sat 9-6, Sun 10-5. Admission \$4 (2-Day Pass \$6.00), students 18 and under \$1, children under 12 free with adult. For additional information and maps visit www.MTGMS.org. Contact John Stanley, Show Chair, (615) 885-5704 or e-mail show@mtgms.org.



Field Trip Finds from Last Meeting

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.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 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.

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.

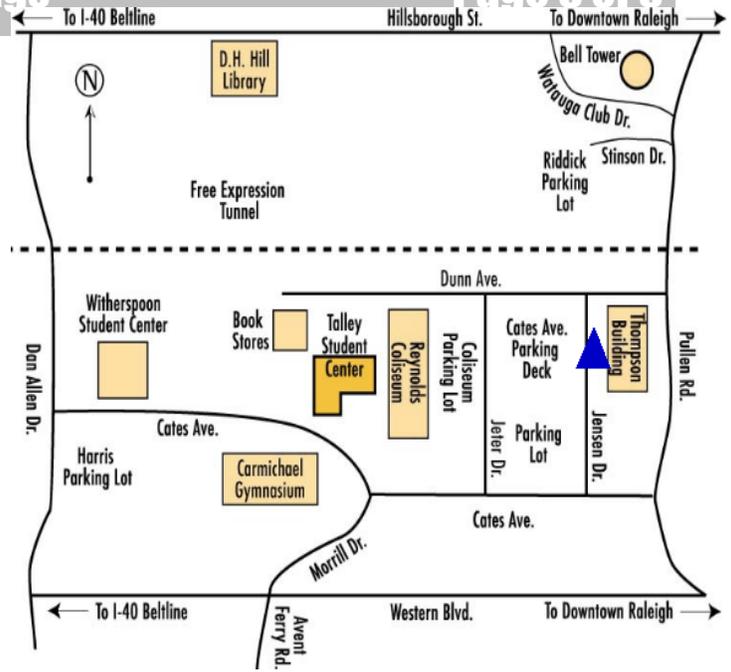
Park in the Cates Ave. Parking Deck off Jensen Dr. Enter Thompson Building directly across from the parking lot.

Our Next Meeting is July 17, 2012 @ 7:30PM Thompson Building / NCSU Campus.

About Our Organization...

The Tar Heel Gem and Mineral Club 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

