

Tar Heel Tailings

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

Special Interest Articles:

- President's Report
- Gemstone & Mineral of the Month
- Field Trip Report

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Prez Sez

Welcome to Hot July! We have a program celebrating the heat with "Volcanic Eruptions on the Leeward Islands" by Randy Bechtel of the NC Geological Survey.

Julie has volunteered to bring refreshments this month.

The Board will meet again at 7PM sharp and continue to work on the By-Laws.

Hope to see you on Tuesday,
Cyndy Hummel

President, Tar Heel Gem and Mineral Club, Inc.



July Birthstone - Ruby by Obsidian Harris

The gemstone ruby is the red variety of the mineral Corundum, the second hardest natural mineral known to mankind. Ruby is the July birthstone, and the Capricorn Zodiac stone. Ruby has been associated with the values of love, success, integrity, passion, and promise.

All colors of corundum other than red or white are called Sapphire. The red color in ruby is caused by trace amounts of the element chromium. The best shade of red for ruby is often given the name "pigeon

blood red", but ruby can be any shade of red up to almost pink.

Oriented rutile crystal inclusions cause a six-rayed-star light effect (called asterism) to form

the popular Star Ruby.

Rubies come from all over the world but good gemstones are found at Thailand, India, Madagascar, Zimbabwe,

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We're on the Web!

See us at:

www.tarheelclub.org

Program & Refreshments

REFRESHMENT SCHEDULE:

Coordinator: Need Volunteer

July	Julie Niederkorn
August	Ice Cream Social
September	Walt Milowic
October	Hummels
November	OPEN

PROGRAM SCHEDULE:

July	Randy Bechtel "Volcanic Eruptions of Montserrat of the Leeward Islands
August	Ice Cream Social AND Cabbing Demonstration by Robin Suddaby
September	The Smithsonian by George & Obsidian Harris
October	Grab Bags
November	Elections & Thank You from The Club

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

Field Trip Information

Propst Sapphire Farm/Mine

When: Saturday, July 12, 2014, 9 am until you get tired.

Where: Startown Road, south of Conover, Lincoln County, North Carolina

Who: Please RSVP to Shirley. 919-274-1837 or Richard60Green@yahoo.com

July B-Day Members

Becky Davenport
Mark Davis
Bill Layne
Lori Osborne
Penny Rosser
Barbara Todaro
David Willick



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 17th, 2014

Attendees = 23

Special notation from Obsidian:

I wish to sincerely apologize to the folks I had to contact to inform about the change of presentation, that were looking to attend the one about "Gold Mining". For those folks did not attend thinking it was changed. It is my hope that you can excuse my action.

Board Meeting:

The executive board meeting took place at 7 pm.

There were 5 people in attendance.

Opening of Club Meeting:

The meeting commenced at 7:35 pm.

New Business:

There were 4 to 5 new folks in attendance that introduced themselves.

Cyndy also mentioned Birthday Babbles for the month of June for club members and how they go into minerals.

Cyndy noted new visitors at the meeting. They discussed how they got into minerals & stones.

Cyndy went into discussion about how the website for the club is being worked on.

Corinne noted about funds that can be used for charity for organizations.

Folks brought their minerals for the change of presentation, which turned out to be a second presentation.

One young man talked about a mineral that may be fluorite, as well as about other minerals from Burnsville, NC. He also passed some pieces around so folks could see them.

Dr. Mike also presented azurite & malachite minerals that he had set out for display. He also addressed how fragile they are and that they are mildly toxic. There was a discussion about how much copper dissolves depending on the chemical structure.

Walt proceeded to talk about pieces he brought. One of which, epidote, showed up in sprays amidst Calcite.

He also talked about the collage of minerals in the large piece he had.

Door Prize:

A new attendee won the door prize for the evening.

Chuck Simmons chose an ammonite fossil from Madagascar. He gets to have fun and write an article and send it to the newsletter editor.

Congratulations! Chuck Simmons.

Old Business:

Obsidian on behalf of the Treasurer, Newsletter editor and herself put out a request for folks to send in a quarterly updating of e-mail addresses for the membership listing. So there is an easy flow of getting messages out to folks.

There was a break for munchies for a few minutes.

Program:

Gold: Greg Dillon

The meeting resumed at 8:15pm with Greg doing the presentation about Gold mining. Greg introduced himself and

started talked about gold mining with Bob for many years. He kept things simple with the presentation - high melting point, common to find Gold & Silver combined, associated with Lead & Mercury, used with cell phones. It is malleable, can be milled to a thin sheet that is transparent, can be dissolved in mercury. There is no clarification of how long it takes to dissolve. It was also used on the helmet visors on spacesuits. He also had photos of types of Gold in various deposits and their transition in location due to weather conditions. There was also an issue of Gold coming from outer space. He also mentioned about theories he has. He illustrated about in a stream how Gold settles in a velocity area of a stream. He also gave mention about one family in 1799 a boulder of Gold was used as a doorstep. There was question as to how much the boulder of Gold costs in current times. George commented about the family that located the boulder of Gold and that the younger members did not know what they had. 17 pounds at least was the weight of the boulder. A 28 lb. nugget was located also. In 1831 nuggets the size of a potato were found. China, Australia, U.S., Peru. A diagram of the state was shown to illustrate the strata of where Gold is located. He also showed a Gold measurement scale and purity scale. The various Karat weights are noted, and the differences.

Trivia...Gold has been discovered on every continent. 80 % of Gold is still uncovered and underground. There may be 25 million ounces in the ocean water alone. One ounce of Gold can be stretched over many miles. Gold & copper was discovered about 5000 BC. Bob presented Greg with a trivia question about the location of the largest quantity of Gold. Gold is formed into 7 x 3 inch bars during smelting process. In North Carolina Gold is more pure than in western states. Greg also showed various tools that Gold prospectors use in the field. He also showed a clever bottle that released water and keeps Gold inside. Greg went also went into some details about the tools used and what they are called. Flour Gold was also a terminology used by some folks. He showed a video about Gold mining, which was intriguing. Bob & Greg get land permission to do mining. He also showed a video of a commercial that took place 3 years ago or so in which he stared. There were photos of California mining where materials were brought to a monitor. He showed lead he took out of the water during dredging.

Mining in North Carolina is done for fun. There were photos of the landscape where mining was occurring. Gold was rolled down by Glaciers long ago. There were many pieces on display.

Close of Meeting:

The meeting was brought to a close, with folks watching a "panning" that Greg did with Gold. And further questions came about.

Respectfully Submitted

Obsidian Harris,

Secretary, Tar Heel Gem and Mineral Club, Inc.

July Birthstone - Ruby

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North Carolina in the U.S., Afghanistan, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Kenya, Tanzania, Kampuchea, and perhaps most notably, Burma.

Like most gemstones from the antiquities, Ruby is one of the Biblestones. In Exodus, the Breastplate of Aaron is described as containing a "sardius", the ancient name for ruby.

Rubies have a famous place in science - the first lasers were made from artificial ruby crystals. They still are used for this purpose although other materials offer improved efficiency. Some natural ruby crystals show the fluorescence (actually very short term phosphorescence) that makes a laser possible.

http://www.galleries.com/July_Birthstone

Introduction to Meaning and Uses of Ruby

The fiery and captivating Ruby is a stone of nobility, considered the most magnificent of all gems, the queen of stones and the stone of kings. Ancients believed it surpassed all other precious stones in virtue, and its value exceeded even that of the Diamond. The Chinese Emperor Kublai Khan was said to have offered an entire city in exchange for a sizable Ruby. [Melody, 573][Fernie, 138, 140][Megemont, 159][Kunz, 102][Simmons, 332]

Revered in many cultures throughout history, Ruby has always been a talisman of passion, protection and

prosperity. It symbolizes the sun, and its glowing hue suggests an inextinguishable flame within the stone that legends claim would shine through even the thickest clothing and could not be hidden; if Ruby were cast into water it would cause it to boil, and if carved and pressed into wax, it would melt the wax. It was worn as an amulet or charm to ward off plague and pestilence, warned its wearer of impending danger, kept the body safe, and banished sadness and foolish thoughts. It was reputed to bring its owner peace, drive away frightful dreams, restrain lust, and to help resolve disputes. Burmese legend declares inserting a Ruby into the flesh would make one completely invulnerable.

Today, Ruby's metaphysical properties are no less astounding. This exquisite crystal emanates the pure Red ray with a vibrancy unsurpassed in the mineral kingdom. It actively stimulates the Base Chakra, increasing vitality and *chi*, the life-force energy, throughout the physical body and into the spirit. It promotes a clear mind, increased concentration and motivation, and brings a sense of power to the wearer, a self-confidence and determination that overcomes timidity and propels one toward prosperity and achievement.

<http://www.crystalvaults.com/crystal-encyclopedia/ruby>

July Mineral - Carnelian

By Obsidian Harris



Carnelian (sometimes spelled "cornelian") is an orange variety of chalcedony, whose color can vary from nearly yellow to nearly red. If the color is darker (appearing brownish), it would be called Sard. The color of both is due to iron oxide impurities.

Carnelian is always somewhat translucent; sard may appear opaque.

VARIETY INFORMATION:

- **VARIETY OF:** Crypto-crystalline [Quartz](#), SiO₂
- **USES:** Gemstone and ornamental stone.
- **COLOR:** Yellow, orange, or red-orange
- **HARDNESS:** 7

- **CLEAVAGE:** none
- **CRYSTAL SYSTEM:** none visible (actual crystals are microscopic)

Carnelian is the traditional birthstone for July, and the Zodiac birthstone for Virgo. It is associated with luck and safety.

Carnelian is only one of several chalcedony (cryptocrystalline quartz) varieties. The primary varieties are as follows:

- [Agate](#) is a banded variety (sometimes with translucent bands)
- [Bloodstone](#) is green with red speckles
- [Carnelian](#) is yellow to orange
- [Chrysoprase](#) is green
- [Flint](#) is generally black with a fibrous microscopic structure
- [Jasper](#) is any colorful agate

- [Onyx](#) is black, white, or alternating black and white
- [Sard](#) is yellow to brown
- [Sardonyx](#) is banded, alternating sard and (usually white) onyx

<http://www.galleries.com/carnelian>

Metaphysical aspects are as follows:

Carnelian Spiritual Energy

Carnelian encourages acceptance of the cycle of life and helps remove the fear of death. As an ancient stone, it was used to protect the dead on their journey to the afterlife. It gives courage and promotes positive life choices. [Hall, 94]

Carnelian is a crystal of action, overcoming procrastination or indecision. It encourages one to stop waiting for dreams to appear, and stimulates the courage to embrace change and Divine Will to begin to make one's highest goals happen. [Ahsian, 93]

Carnelian encourages an awareness of the connection between the emotional state and the inner condition of the self. It promotes a spiritual energy conducive to awakening one's talents and perceptions of surroundings, and for offering love in return for love. Carnelian in shades of pink-orange, especially encourage love between parents and children, and between parents and parents. [Melody, 183]

Carnelian may be used, with advanced training, to see into the past. It carries the stories and records of our planet, and reflects its light energy back in the color of our physical world. It stimulates a deeper love and appreciation for the beauty and gifts of the earth.

<http://www.crystalvaults.com/crystal-encyclopedia/carnelian>



July Treasurer's Report

By Corinne Hummel

Feb. Ending /
Mar. Beginning Balance \$7,100.46

Deposits (+)
Members \$1,675.25
Food reservations 40.00
Dealers fees 2,413.00
Geodes (Square CC) 2,606.53

Sub total \$6,734.78

Checks Written (-)
Secure storage \$1,320.00
IMP printing 423.56
New coffee pot 415.26
Machine blades 487.10
Office /show supplies 191.20
Postmaster 1,084.22
Rock candy show 139.35
Table wrap show 91.59
Rocks grab bag 36.34
Start up cash 425.00

Sub Total \$4,613.62

Mar. Ending /
Apr. Beginning Balance \$9,221.62

Deposits (+)
Members \$45.00
Geode Booth 3,836.50
Hospitality Booth 1,147.27
Dealers fees 10,673.00

Sub total \$15,701.77

Checks Written (-)
Newsletter \$116.84
Field Trip Rewards 125.00
New geodes 2,095.34
N&O Adv 1,081.71
Dealer Refund 380.00
Dealer Refund 250.00
Upstairs Food/show 630.82
Panara lunch show 214.23
Postal 122.00

Sub Total \$5,015.94

Apr. Ending /
May Beginning Balance \$19,907.45

Apr. Ending /
May Beginning Balance \$19,907.45

Deposits (+)
N/A \$0.00

Sub total \$0.00

Checks Written (-)
Newsletter \$116.84
Field Trip Cards 100.00
Trailer tags 25.84
Gas (Franklin - rocks) 75.00
Cash for Raffle minerals 400.00
Raffle Min dealer 185.00
Grab Bag Rocks 56.50

Sub Total \$959.18

May Ending /
Jun. Beginning Balance \$18,948.27

Deposits (+)
Members \$175.00
Redeposit (from raffle Purchases) 80.00

Sub total \$255.00

Checks Written (-)
Newsletter \$116.84
Food 75.00
NC State Fair 10,034.00

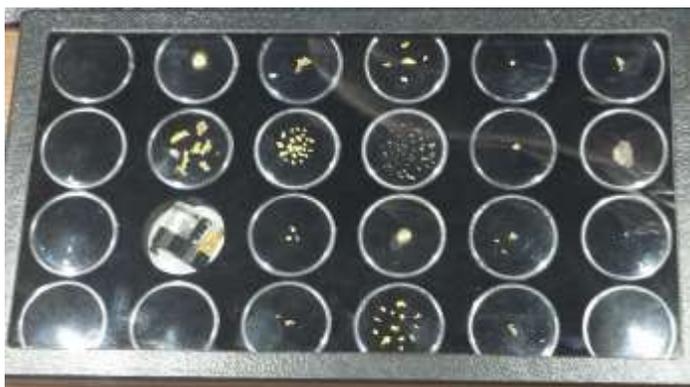
Sub Total \$10,225.84

Jun. Ending /
Jul. Beginning Balance \$8,977.43

UPCOMING SHOWS

October 3 – 5, 2014: Dallas, NC - 36th Annual Gaston Gem & Mineral Show. Gaston County Park, ,1303 Dallas Cherryville Hwy, Dallas NC. 28034 (HWY 279), or GPS 120 Leisure Lane, Dallas, NC 28034. Hours: Fri & Sat, 9am - 6pm - Sunday 9am - 5pm. FREE ADMITTANCE and FREE PARKING. Minerals and Fossils from around the world. Cutting material, Quality Gemstones, Wire wrapping, settings, Geodes, Jewelry, etc. SLUICE - A real working sluice, \$3 & \$5 sand buckets; perfect for children and adults. Amethyst, Quartz Crystals, Faceted Stones mixed at random in buckets; you must might get that special stone or treasure! Contact Show Chairman, Rick Perkins, at 704-825-9456 or online at <http://gastongemclub.weebly.com/our-show.html>

November 22 - 24, 2014: Columbia, SC - The Columbia, SC Gem & Mineral Society will hold its 46th Annual Gem, Mineral, & Jewelry Show 2014. Jamil Temple, 206 Jamil Rd. (Exit 106A off I -26), Columbia, South Carolina 29210. Hours: Friday November 22, 10:00 - 7:00. Saturday November 23, 10:00 - 6:00. Sunday November 24, 12:00 - 5:00. Jewelry, beads, loose stones, fossils, minerals, gold, silver, & tools for sale. Geodes sold & cut. Club member's rock collections on exhibit & lapidary demonstrations. Admission is \$5.00 for adults, children sixteen & under are free with adult. All military & their dependants are free. Contact information is: Sue Shrader...Publicity...803-736-9317 ashrader@mindspring.com Fax 803-736-2578. Sharon Sterrett...Dealers...803-356-1472 sssterrett@sc.rr.com The society website is www.cgams.org



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.
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
July 15, 2014 @ 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

