

Tar Heel Tailings

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

Special Interest Articles:

- President's Report
- Elections
- Upcoming Events

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President's Report

Hello All,

The November meeting is our last for the year. It's hard to believe that time is already here. Another year has come and is almost gone.

But There's Always ROCKS!

I want to thank Field Trip Chairperson Tom Todaro for arranging our trip to the Wakestone Nash County Quarry last month, October 22. And thanks to Wakestone Geologist Cole Atkins for
Continued on page 3



Elections

During the business meeting, we will be having Elections. So if you want to run for a position as one of the

Club's officers, or want to decline any positions nominated for, make sure to be at the November meeting.

The 2012 TG&MC Show Dates will be, Friday-Sunday, March 30 - April 1, 2012, with access Thursday.



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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

November Jerry and Deborah Miller
2012

January Eileen Breckstein

September Walt Milowic

October Cyndy and Corinne Hummel

PROGRAM SCHEDULE:

November Elections & Summary of Field
Trips

We are starting to get some volunteers to supply refreshments for next year's meetings. Let's get some people who never have picked a month to sign up with Jeanette at this meeting. You can be reimbursed up to \$40 for volunteering to bring refreshment to a meeting.

Thank you, Jeanette Baugh

September/October Treasurer's Report

September/October Treasurer's Report

September Ending /

Oct. Beginning Balance \$11,420.29

Deposits (+)

Auction \$400.00

Members \$61.00

Sub total \$11,881.29

Checks Written (-)

Newsletter \$155.32

Show Expense 38.43

Show Expense (Staples) 36.13

Monthly Refreshments 40.00

Fieldtrip 9.37

Sub Total \$372.25

Oct. Ending /

Nov. Beginning Balance \$11,508.84

November B-Day Members

- Tom Bapple
- Jason Boyd
- Linda Vaughn-Burd
- Daniel Cathey
- George Crowell
- Valerie Eakley
- Gerald Knight
- Melissa Ellis
- Scott LaBorde
- Deborah & Jerry Miller
- Ron Wheeler
- Jan Schetzina
- Jonathan Starke
- Leland T. Thompson



Membership applications may be mailed to:

Tarheel Gem & Mineral Club
Attention: Treasurer
10609 Chelsea Drive
Raleigh, NC 27603

Tar Heel G & M Club October Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, October 18, 2011

The meeting was opened by Joe at 7:48. Walt read the minutes. George Harris made a motion to accept the minutes as read. Randy Jones seconded.

Joe said that the last program was great, Jeff did a great job. It was a very interesting project on Hiddenite and emeralds.

Joe will make a list of people who want Rock and Gem magazine at a cost of \$22.95. They are running a special offer which is \$5 off the normal price and the club also gets \$6 back for each subscription.

Someone donated two frames for use in demonstrations for children.

Tom talked about Black Ankle quarry in Monroe. Everyone had a good time, an excellent trip, it was primarily slate but there was also some quartz, and some Diabase dikes. They came back with a truckload of specimens. There is another trip to Wake Stone. You need to arrive at about 8:30 with proper equipment. After a safety brief, drive down into the quarry and load up. We'll be there until 1PM. Bring gloves!

Mike Boykin introduced himself as a new member Dan Dombrowski came with his son and his daughter. They brought some nice clamshells with calcite crystals from Ruck's pit in Florida.

President's Report

Continued from page 1

taking the time to supervise us and freely share his knowledge of the geology of the quarries. It's always nice to see member Jim Davenport from Bath, NC. He doesn't make it to many meetings, but he doesn't miss many fieldtrips and he usually makes it up to help out at the show.

Tom has already scheduled another fieldtrip for November 19 to the Burgin Mine in Stanley County, NC, to dig for quartz crystals! We will be talking more about this upcoming fieldtrip and taking a look at ALL the fieldtrips the club has been on this year as the program for the November meeting. The club has been on at least five trips this year so it ought to be interesting and a lot of fun. Please bring any specimens you collected that you think are good examples from one quarry or another. Here's your chance to show them off!

Flourite

Submitted by Walt Milowic

Fluorite is found as a common gangue mineral in hydrothermal veins, especially those containing lead and zinc minerals. It is also found in some greisens, granites, pegmatites and high-temperature veins, and as a component of some marbles and other metamorphic rocks.

Fluorite is a naturally occurring mineral consisting primarily of calcium fluoride, or CaF₂. In its pure form, fluorite appears colorless with a glass-like texture. In most cases, however, it contains trace impurities that impart it with vivid colors ranging from yellow to red to blue. Despite its attractive appearance, jewelry smiths avoid fluorite as a gemstone because it fractures easily.

Jeanette is collecting names of people for refreshments for next year. Please sign up for a month.

Columbia Gem and Mineral society has their annual show coming up soon.

Joe asked for opinions on increasing the amount we sell the grab bags from \$1.25 to \$2.00. A quick show of hands – keep it at \$1.00!

Barrett Redpath told the group about some sapphires he found on a recent fieldtrip.

Cyndi told how a grab bag should be put together and how much material should be in it.

The drawing was won by Walt Milowic. He chose a purple Fluorite specimen.

Jack made a motion to close the meeting and Barbara Watkins seconded.

The meeting was closed by Joe at 8:14PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Walt Milowic

Please don't forget to bring a check if you would like to renew your subscription to Rock and Gem Magazine. It is better we send them in together to get the club discount and refund. One year subscription with \$ 5.00 club discount is \$ 22.95. I will supply the order forms for you to fill out at the meeting.

You could bring two checks and go ahead and get your membership dues out of the way for next year. (Just saying.)

Of course there will be some business and announcements to bring up, mostly about the show next year. But let's not forget the Elections for officers. If you feel like volunteering for a position or nominating someone else, there will be time before the elections begin.

See You at the Meeting,

Joe Moylan

It is used as a flux in steel making, in ceramics, and in the production of Hydrofluoric Acid and its derivatives. Hydrofluoric acid also serves as the precursor to fluorosilicic acid, the primary source of fluoride in municipal water supplies, and to sodium fluoride, the fluoride component in many types of toothpaste.

Fluorite is a mineral with a veritable bouquet of brilliant colors. The range of common colors for fluorite starting from the hallmark color purple, then blue, green, yellow, colorless, brown, pink, black and reddish orange is amazing and is only rivaled in color range by quartz. Intermediate pastels between the previously mentioned colors are also possible



Fluorite with Calcite (picture by George Harris)

The rich purple color is by far fluorite's most famous and popular color. It easily competes with the beautiful purple of amethyst. Often specimens of fluorite and amethyst with similar shades of purple are used in mineral identification classes to illustrate the folly of using color as the sole means to identify minerals.

The blue, green and yellow varieties of fluorite are also deeply colored, popular and attractive. The colorless variety is not as well received as the colored varieties, but their rarity still makes them sought after by collectors. The rarer colors of pink, reddish orange (rose) and even black are usually very attractive and in demand.

Most specimens of fluorite have a single color, but a significant percentage of fluorites have multiple colors and the colors are arranged in bands or zones that correspond to the shapes of fluorite's crystals.

To top it all off, fluorite is frequently fluorescent and, like its normal light colors, its fluorescent colors are extremely variable. Typically it fluoresces blue but other fluorescent colors include yellow, green, red, white and purple. Some specimens have the added effect of simultaneously having a different color under long wave UV light from its color under shortwave UV light. And some will even demonstrate phosphorescence in a third color! The word fluorescent was derived from fluorite since specimens of fluorite were some of the first fluorescent specimens ever studied. Another unique luminescent property of fluorite is its thermoluminescence. Thermoluminescence is the ability to

glow when heated. Not all fluorites do this; in fact it is quite a rare phenomenon.

Fluorite has other qualities besides its great color assortments that make it a popular mineral. It has several different crystal habits that always produce well-formed, good, clean crystals. The cube is by far the most recognized habit of fluorite followed by the octahedron which is believed to form at higher temperatures than the cube.

Fluorite is the most popular mineral for mineral collectors in the world, second only to quartz. Every mineral collection owned by even the newest and youngest of mineral collectors must have a specimen of fluorite. Fluorite is by far one of the most beautiful and interesting minerals available on the mineral markets.

THE PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS OF FLUORITE:

- * Color is extremely variable and many times can be an intense purple, blue, green or yellow; also colorless, reddish orange, pink, white and brown. A single crystal can be multi-colored.

- * Luster is vitreous.

- * Transparency: Crystals are transparent to translucent.

- * Crystal System: Isometric; 4/m bar 3 2/m

- * Crystal Habits include the typical cube and to a lesser extent, the octahedron as well as combinations of these two and other rarer isometric habits. Always with equant crystals; less common are crusts and botryoidal forms. Twinning also produces penetration twins that look like two cubes grown together.

- * Cleavage is perfect in 4 directions forming octahedrons.

- * Fracture is irregular and brittle.

- * Hardness is 4

- * Specific Gravity is 3.1+ (average)

- * Streak is white.

- * Associated Minerals are many and include calcite, quartz, willemite, barite, witherite, apatite, chalcopyrite, galena, sphalerite, pyrite and other sulfides.

- * Notable Occurrences include in addition to those mentioned above Cumberland, England; Spain; China; Brazil; Morocco; Bancroft, Ontario, Canada; Naica, Chihuahua, Mexico; Germany; Elmwood, Tennessee; Rosiclare, Illinois; Fort Wayne, Indiana; Pugh Quarry and Wood County, Ohio; Nancy Hanks Mine, Colorado and many other USA localities as well as many other localities from around the world.

- * Best Field Indicators are crystal habit, color zoning, hardness (harder than calcite, but softer than quartz or apatite), fluorescence and especially the octahedral cleavage.

Uses of Fluorite, By Jack Brubaker, eHow Contributor updated January 30, 2011

Rock & Gem

THE EARTH'S TREASURES • MINERALS AND JEWELRY

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Upcoming Events

TAR HEEL GEM & MINERAL CLUB - FIELD TRIP NOTICE

FIELD TRIP DAY / DATE	SATURDAY, November 19th
TIME:	09:00 am
MINE OPERATOR	Mr & Mrs Burgin
MINE NAME	BURGIN QUARTZ MINE
MINE ADDRESS:	40764 Old Cottonville Road, Norwood, NC 28128
MINE TELEPHONE:	704-474-4686
MINE IN-CHARGE	The Burgins
TAR HEEL TRIP COORD	Thomas Todaro, 919-349-9143 (M), 919-639-7798 (H) caribtomt@yahoo.com

Notes

1. There will be a collector's fee of \$10.00 per person.
2. While this is a private mine located on private property, there are no official safety rules posted. However we must all use common sense and respect the land owners property
3. This will be rough digging on the side of a berm, so bring picks, rakes, shovels, etc.
4. No power tools allowed
5. Bear left at the mailbox on 40764 Old Cottonville road and drive into the field
6. Check out the pics of this mine on the MAGMA web site

EXTRA STUFF:

1. Feel free to bring buckets, picks, hammers, shovel, hand cart, rags, crow bar, etc.
2. Bring a change of clothes in case you get wet.
3. Dress according to the weather, expect it to be cold. It is always easier to take clothes off then put stuff on that you don't have.
4. Camera.
5. Magnifying glass or eye loop.
6. Food / snacks.
7. Drinking water to stay hydrated.
8. Ask for help to load your take home rocks, as we don't want to see anyone hurt their back.
9. Be sure to thank the mine operator upon leaving as we want to leave a good impression so as we can come back.
10. Have Fun!

Directions:

[Raleigh, NC](#)

1.	Take the I-440 E / US-1 / US-64 W exit, EXIT 293, toward Raleigh / Wake Forest / Sanford.	0.6 mi
2.	Merge onto US-1 S via EXIT 293A toward Sanford / Asheboro.	40.3 mi
3.	Take the US-501 S / US-15 S exit.	0.2 mi
4.	Stay straight to onto White Hill Rd / US-15 S / US-501 S. Continue to follow US-15 S / US-501 S.	10.5 mi
5.	Stay straight to onto NC-24 W / NC-27 S.	1.2 mi
6.	Enter next roundabout and take the 2nd exit onto NC-27 W / NC-24 W.	33.3 mi
7.	Turn slight left onto NC-109.	8.1 mi
8.	NC-109 becomes NC-109-BYP.	0.4 mi
9.	Turn right onto NC-731 / W Allenton Rd. Continue to follow NC-731.	6.3 mi
10.	Turn right onto US-52 W.	2.6 mi
11.	Turn left onto S Stanly School Rd.	1.2 mi
12.	Turn left onto Old Cottonville Rd / NC-1923.	0.08 mi
13.	40764 OLD COTTONVILLE RD is on the left.	

Burgin Quartz Mine, 40764 Old Cottonville Road, Norwood, NC 28128

Happy Rockin !

Tom Todaro

Tar Heel Gem & Mineral Club Field Trip Chair 919-349-9143,

caribtomt@yahoo.com

UPCOMING SHOWS

Nov 18-20, 2011: Columbia, SC. Columbia Gem & Mineral Society 44th Annual Gem, Mineral, & Jewelry Show, Jamil Temple, 206 Jamil Rd., Columbia, SC 29210. Hours: Fri 10-7, Sat 10-6, Sun 12-5. Admission \$4, Children 12 and under Free. All Military & their dependents Free Sunday. Contacts: 803-736-9317.
<http://www.cgams.org>

Dec 10-11, 2011: Franklin, TN. Mid-Tennessee Gem & Mineral Society. Gem, Jewelry, Mineral, Fossil Show and Sale, Williamson County AgExpo Park, 4215 Long Lane, Franklin, TN 37064. 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. Show contacts: John Stanley, Show Chair, (615) 885-5704 or Steve Henegar, Dealer Chair, (615) 714-3194. Email contact: show@mtgms.org
<http://www.MTGMS.org/Show.htm>

Pictures of the club working on the Grab Bags.



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.

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.

