

Tar Heel Tailings

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

Special Interest Articles:

- Who are AFMS, SFMS, & EFMLS .
- Cartersville, GA 2nd SE Gem, Mineral, & Fossil Show Review.
- Our club is the recipient of a generous donation .

Individual Highlights:

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Who is **AFMS**, **SFMS**, & **EFMLS** and why are they important to us?

The American Federation of Mineralogical Societies (AFMS) is a non-profit educational Federation of seven similar regional organizations of Gem, Mineral, and Lapidary Societies founded in 1947.

Our Club is a member of the Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies, Inc. The SFMS provides us with our Liability Insurance Program which covers our field trips, shows, club meetings ,

etc. as well as educational opportunities that constitute the real backbone of the federation.

The Eastern Federation of Mineralogical and Lapidary Societies, Inc. (EFMLS) was organized in 1950 to bring about a closer association of Clubs and Societies devoted to the study of the Earth Sciences and the practice of the Lapidary Arts and related crafts in

the eastern portion of the United States.

The SFMS sponsors five Gem, Jewelry and Mineral workshops each year; these are held at Wildacres, near Little Switzerland NC, and at the William Holland Retreat near Young Harris in northeast Georgia. The EFMLS sponsors two workshops this year at Wildacres. A broad range of courses related to the lapidary arts are taught by

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Cartersville, Georgia August Show Report

Cartersville, Georgia – approximately one hour from Atlanta, was the setting of the second Southeastern Gem, Mineral, & Fossil Show, August 14, 15, and 16, 2009. An audible hum could be heard as soon as we stepped into the Cartersville Holiday Inn. The Holiday Inn had it all, including the rooms for collectors, and a nice restaurant with bar which provided our food and beverage needs. The dealers had their minerals, jewelry, fossils, original paintings, and miscellaneous items displayed in the same rooms they occupied at

night. All your necessities of life were in one place so your car could remain parked all weekend – a very appealing aspect of the show.

Accommodations could be arranged through Marty Zinn, saving a few dollars.

The pulse of activity seemed to hasten our walk to the rooms downstairs where the minerals were displayed. In Spruce Pine we had talked with a number of dealers that were planning to be selling minerals at Cartersville. Many are the same faces we see at the Tarheel Gem and Mineral show in Raleigh. There were sixty eight dealers at

the Southeastern show.

Also, representatives from *Rocks and Minerals* were there.

Trafford-Flynn was set up with some wonderful specimens. We last saw them in Asheville in July and before that they were dealers in our show in Raleigh. They always seem to have some unusual specimens and a range of prices for everyone. I have bought some great specimens for use with the microscope and later to mount as micros from their "Beginner Collectors" table.

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Scottish Gemstone Expert murdered in Kenya



“...Eight men with machetes, spears, clubs, knives, bows and arrows appeared...”

A renowned Scottish gemstone expert was brutally murdered in Kenya by a mob armed with machetes, clubs, spears — even bows and arrows — in what police believe was the final fight in a years-long mining dispute.

A group of at least 30 men attacked Campbell Bridges, 71, his son Bruce, and four Kenyan employees near the Tsavo National Park, a popular tourist site in the Kenyan bush known for its lions.

“My men were cut to ribbons and I took a panga [machete] to the neck,” Bruce Bridges told The Times of London.

“It was an ambush,” Bridges told the paper.

The murder was the bloody culmination of a three-year battle

between squatters and Bridges — a senior jewel consultant with Tiffany and Company in New York. The squatters have reportedly stolen rare tsavorite gems from Bridges' team in the past.

Bridges' son charges the local miners with illegally digging for gems on the family's 600-hectare property. He also adds that the Bridges family has received repeated death threats, the most recent one coming just two weeks ago.

“As we drove towards our mining camp we found huge thorn trees blocking the road. Eight men with machetes, spears, clubs, knives, bows and arrows appeared

shouting ‘We’re going to kill you all!’ Then more people came down the mountain like ants, 20 or 30 of them,” Bridges told the Times of London.

According to his son, Campbell Bridges was attacked by two men and was stabbed in the side.

“I saw him fall,” he told the paper. Bridges' son is now in Nairobi with his father's body.

The 30-year-old fought his way to his father's side, armed with a club that he kept in the car.

“At the same time, two of my security guards who were with us were gashed with pangas and beaten with clubs,” he said.

Source FoxNews

The AFMS “Code of Ethics” for Rock Hounds



“AFMS is composed of seven regions.

Credit: AFMS.org

The AFMS has put forth the following “Code of Ethics” that all members are expected to adhere to:

1. I will respect both private and public property and will do no collecting on privately owned land without the owner's permission.
2. I will keep informed on all laws, regulations or rules governing collecting on public lands and will observe them.
3. I will, to the best of my ability ascertain the boundary lines of property on which I plan to collect.
4. I will use no firearms or blasting material in collecting areas.
5. I will cause no willful damage to property of any kind – fences, signs, buildings, etc.
6. I will build fires in designated or safe places only and will be certain they are

- completely extinguished before leaving the area.
7. I will discard no burning material – matches, cigarettes, etc.
8. I will fill all excavation holes which may be dangerous to livestock.
9. I will not contaminate wells, creeks, or other water supply.
10. I will cause no willful damage to collecting material and will take home only what I can reasonably use.
11. I will support the rockhound project H.E.L.P. (Help Eliminate Litter Please) and will leave all collecting areas devoid of litter, regardless of how found.
12. I will cooperate with field trip leaders and those in designated authority in all collecting areas.

13. I will report to my club or federation officers, Bureau of Land Management, or other proper authorities, any deposit of petrified wood or other material on public lands which should be protected for the enjoyment of future generations for public educational and scientific purposes.
14. I will appreciate and protect our heritage of natural resources.
15. I will observe the “Golden Rule,” will use “Good Outdoor Manners” and will at all times conduct myself in a manner which will add to the public stature and public “Public Image” of rockhounds everywhere.

Cartersville *Continued from Pg.1*

Our next stop was at the Adams Collection. Laurie Adams has been a dealer at the Tarheel show in the past. He has a variety of minerals from around the world. However, much of his stock is from North Carolina locations. Currently he has some great pieces from an old German collection. I usually find at least two Wulfenites that need to go home with me in his stock. He is a native of North Carolina and enjoys "rock hounding" as well as selling. He also sells minerals on the internet. A stop at "Rare Minerals" by Alfredo Petrov produced some unusual treasures for me. He makes trips to Japan, Germany, and Bolivia, as well as other places to collect minerals. He is also a tour guide to these places. His mineral prices are extremely reasonable. He contributes articles to many magazines, is an active part of Mindat, and has just finished writing a book. He will soon be

working on a book about Japan. He also has a web site, www.petrovrareminerals.com which opens with a well known photo of him with a bird perched on his hat. We knew Leonard Himes would be in the same location as last year. He was there with his friendly smile and exquisite specimens. An eye catching blue fluorite greeted you on his counter. It was only \$2,000. We discussed how it could be displayed. I personally found new meaning to life, in the form of a magnificent specimen of copper. It was only \$3,500 and worth every penny. The second time we visited Leonard, the fluorite had been sold. The copper was still there, but I brought home mica with a garnet in it. Carolyn Buckles was in the Ballroom with her amazing jewelry. She has been at the Tarheel Raleigh show for years. Her pieces are always

exceptional – sometimes whimsical. She does not always use polished stones. She creates incredible jewelry using a lot of natural stone – no cutting or polishing. Jeffrey with GeoKrazy, was set up in a front entrance corridor, so everyone walking in the front door passed by his display. Jeffrey was a dealer in Raleigh this year and later in Asheville. He had some pink fluorite from Peru that I am very fond of. A pink fluorite specimen is now a permanent feature in my home. Kevin Desai, owner of Superb Minerals, Inc. specializing in minerals of India was there, smiling as always. He was also in Raleigh with the Tarheel Gem and Mineral Show this year. He had a price range for every wallet. His specimens are a rainbow of colors. He also enjoyed the rain of Spruce Pine with us in August, so being inside at Cartersville was a pleasant change for him.

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September B-Day Members

Susan Bennett
 Jim Bilau
 Liessa Bowen
 Eileen Breckstein
 Mark Broadway
 Matt Cook
 George Harris
 Pat Jackson
 Allen Lawrence
 Gary McCutchen
 Eric Motzno
 Karen Santala
 Elaine Schulz
 Ben Stewart

Program & Refreshments

This month's program will be an auction of some very nice Herkimer Diamonds & other material generously donated to our club. Turn your cash or checks into some really nice classic specimens. A lot of these Herkimer's are in their matrix and make

for some very nice display pieces.

On behalf of the Tar Heel Gem & Mineral Club; "We all would like to thank the Cavins very much. Your generosity and consideration are greatly appreciated".

REFRESHMENT SCHEDULE:

September – OPEN
 October – The Hummels
 November – OPEN
 December – No Meeting

PROGRAM SCHEDULE:

September – Auction
 October – Grab Bag Fillings
 November – Elections
 December – No Meeting

*"213 days until...
 The Annual THG&MC
 Gem & Mineral show for
 2010 scheduled for
 April 9, 10, & 11"*

Who is AFMS...

Continued from Pg.1

qualified instructors from throughout the Federation. All instructors are volunteers who are not paid for the highly skilled and professional expertise that they bring to the workshops. Anyone I have ever met who has been on one of these retreats will tell you that what they learned, the fun they had, the food they ate, the experiences they gained and the friends they made was unmatched by any other lapidary learning experience and the cost can't be beat.

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

Cartersville *Continued from Pg.3*

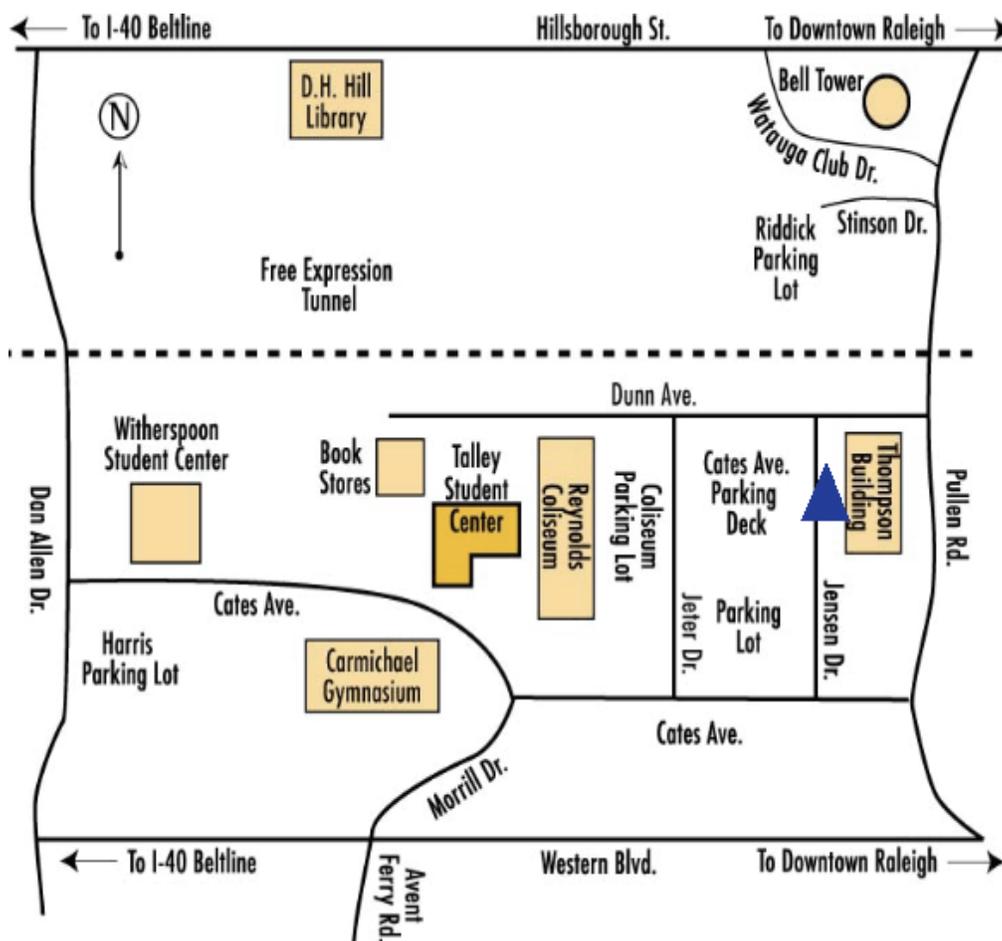
We were invited to dinner and to explore the exhibits at the Tellus Museum. The facility is spectacular and environmentally friendly. The view as we walked into the exhibition section made me inhale deeply. I stood still for a moment, just to appreciate the total attraction waiting for us. I felt eager to rush

through to see every specimen, while coveting more time to look intently at each display. The dinosaur displays were excellent. The minerals were superbly displayed in the exceptional Tellus Museum. The mineral exhibit will become more impressive as the years

pass. The museum is definitely a must see. The dealers did not seem to sell a lot at this fairly new event, but it was a fun trip for us.

Story by Sandy Truelove

Next Meeting September 15, 2009 @ 7:30PM



THG&MC Receives Generous Donation

A couple weeks ago Matt received a phone call from a local couple who have spent many years enjoying rocks, minerals, & lapidary. Joan Cavin and her husband made the decision that the space taken up by several hundred pounds of rocks as well as an eighteen inch slab saw could be put to better use if they could find someone who had an interest in these items. Matt contacted Joe Moylan & Kenny Gay and together they rolled up to the Cavins home to assess the content of this gift; The slab saw is practically new, there are two or three diamond blades, The Herkimer

Diamonds compose approximately 90% of the rocks & minerals with the balance comprised of various Agates, and other lapidary slabs. There were at least 30 boxes of material, and many of the boxes contained more boxes. The amount of material would fill up two cars full. The material was divided between the three and Joe returned later that day with additional help to load up and haul off the saw. Kenny spent the following weeks gathering up new boxes to replace the crumbling old boxes. "I have over a thousand Herkimer's scattered around my house and

plan to bring them all to the next club meeting. I don't have any room for them" said Kenny when I called to get his assessment. He added "These are some of the nicest Herkimer's I have seen in a long time, good size, good structure, nice pieces". The club will provide the Cavin's with a receipt for the contribution. Some of the choicest pieces will be auctioned off at the next meeting. Some will be used for raffle and future silent auctions. The lesser quality material can be used in grab-bags. All in all, A very nice gift to our club and we can all benefit from it.



"...many of the boxes contained more boxes....."

Upcoming Local Events

SEPT 11-13--WINSTON-SALEM, NC:

38th annual show; Forsyth Gem & Mineral Club; Coliseum Annex Bldg., Dixie Classic Fairgrounds, Gate #9 from 27th St.; Fri. 10-7, Sat. 10-7, Sun. 12-5

SEPT 26 & 27—FRANKLIN, NJ

53rd Annual Franklin-Sterling Hill, Gem & Jewelry Show. Franklin Borough School. Franklin-Ogdensburg Mineralogical Society & the Franklin Mineral Museum.

OCT 2,3,4 – GRAVES MOUNTAIN, GA ROCK SWAP & DIG:

Open to all SFMS members and the general public. Children will be allowed for both the swap & Dig under adult supervision. The mountain will be open to collecting 8-6 all three days.

OCT 16,17--TAYLORSVILLE, NC

21st Annual Hiddenite Gem & Mineral Show; by the Western Piedmont Mineral & Gem Society Taylorsville Lions Club Fairgrounds. Tailgating;\$5, Table;\$10, Sat.9-5, Sun 12-5, Free Admission.

OCT 18-20--FRANKLIN, NC: 20th annual show, "Leaf Lookers Gemboree"; Gem & Mineral Society of Franklin; Macon County Community Bldg., US Hwy. 441S; Fri. 10-6, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 12-5; adults \$2, children 12 and under free.

JAN 30 - FEB 14, 2010 Tucson, AZ, The largest Gem, Jewelry & mineral show in the world.

Tar Heel Gem & Mineral Club

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We're on the Web!

See us at:
www.tg&mc.org

Vugsites

<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.

Treasurers Report:

August 1 Beginning Balance	\$19,377.73	CD's set up 5-23-2003 At Club's Request
Deposits	\$ 2380.00	(1) \$5,266.24
Expenditures	<u>\$ 1059.19</u>	(2) \$5,342.04
August 31, 2009 Ending Balance	\$ 20501.72	(3) \$5,627.94
Notable Expenditures -Fed Taxes And Financial Report -Rocks For Show 2010		
Bills Due	0	
Proposed and Planned Expenditures	Based on Last Years Figures	
Charity and Good Works	\$3000.00	
State Fair Deposit for year 2010	\$1800.00	
Two Wildacres Awards	\$ 800.00	
Upkeep on NC Crafts Center		
Rock Machines	\$400.00	
Insurance for Club & Trips	\$374.00	
	\$288.00	
EFMLS DUES	\$210.00	
SFMS Dues	\$188.00	
Tax Prep year 2008	\$625.00	
Meeting Food--- half year	\$450.00	

Submitted by the Treasurer

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.

A reminder from Bob; There is still one faceting machine available for any club member that wishes to borrow it. Two other loaner machines should be returned by the 2010 Club show.

Come and be a part of the Fun!

TAR HEEL GEM & MINERAL CLUB
513 Carolyn Ct.
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