



# Goldrush Ledger

Charlotte Gem & Mineral Club Newsletter

August 2022

## Prez Sez.....

Our indoor picnic in July was a lot of fun—I hope you were able to join us for that event.

For August, we have another special guest speaker! Roy Auerbach will give a presentation on the Art and Science of Gem Fakery. Gems have been highly prized for all times and places. As with any highly valued possession, there have been people who have tried to cheat the system with enhancements and fakes. In this talk Roy will give an overview of what has typically been done in this innovative field. Roy has had a long interest in jewelry and gemology and has practiced gem faceting and silver jewelry fabrication as a hobby. Don't miss this presentation!

If you haven't been to a meeting lately, the meeting room is spacious and we are continuing to be diligent with distancing and covid safe practices. The chairs are generously spaced—and you are welcome to move your chair out further if it makes you feel more comfortable. Snacks and drinks are individually packaged for safety too. Please join us for an upcoming meeting.

As a reminder, we will not be participating in the Matthews Alive festival (Labor Day weekend) this year. Several key volunteers were not available, and we did not have enough signups of new volunteers.

We are already looking forward to our club auction in November. This is one of our biggest fundraisers of the year, and this year we're already collecting interesting pieces for the auction. If you are sorting through your collection this year, and have lapidary items that you no longer want, please consider making a donation to the club. Mineral specimens, slabs, as well as lapidary equipment and supplies are always welcomed.

I look forward to seeing you at this month's meeting!

**Kim Gwyn**  
**Club President**  
**Charlotte Gem & Mineral Club**

***You might be a  
rockhound if...***

Your garage is  
so full of rocks that  
your car won't fit!



## 2022 CGMC Officers & Board

### **President**

Kim Gwyn  
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### **Vice President**

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### **Secretary**

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## Club Chairpersons

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### **Newsletter Editor**

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### **Geode Chair**

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## Watermelon Tourmaline

Article Information: [geologyin.com](http://geologyin.com); Image credit: *Etsy listing*

Watermelon tourmaline is a variety of color-zoned tourmaline that has concentric rings of different colors, often red interiors and green exteriors.

Bi-color tourmaline can also display striking color change longitudinally along the crystal, however the distinctive rings of watermelon tourmaline give it a unique beauty.

All colored Tourmaline gems display pleochroism, meaning their color changes when viewed at different angles.

In some Tourmaline gems, this effect is hardly noticeable, while in others it is strongly apparent. Gemstone cutters must take this into account when cutting a Tourmaline, so that the finished gem brings out its best color.



The watermelon effect is caused when trace elements change during the crystal's growth, by concentration or composition. During formation the crystal may start out as red but then end up growing into green. This type of tourmaline can be found in Brazil, Nigeria, Madagascar, Afghanistan and in the U.S. Domestic locales include California, Arizona, Colorado, New Hampshire, Connecticut, and Maine.



## August 18 Meeting

### The Art and Science of Gem Fakery

**Presenter: Roy Auerbach**

**6:30 - Social Time**

**7:00 - Meeting begins**

**Tyvola Senior Center**





# Rock Happenings



## SFMS Lodestar - Regional Newsletter

The Charlotte Gem and Mineral Club is a member of the national AFMS American Federation of Mineralogical Societies, and its regional organization, the SFMS Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies.

The SFMS publishes a monthly newsletter, the Lodestar, to keep us up to date on regional club happenings. If you are interested in receiving the SFMS Lodestar via email, send a message to our newsletter editor, Mary Fisher, [mefisher2010@gmail.com](mailto:mefisher2010@gmail.com).

**New Website!** Check out the new SFMS website at [SoutheastFed.org](http://SoutheastFed.org)

## Upcoming Gem Shows:

Henderson County Gem & Mineral Society Show — September 2-5 in Hendersonville

Forsyth Gem and Mineral Club Show (indoors) — Sept 9-11 in Winston-Salem

Columbia Gem and Mineral Club Show — November 18-20 in Columbia SC

## SFMS Workshops

William Holland and Wildacres are hosting classes this year and next!  
Check the SFMS Website for more information!

