



Goldrush Ledger

Charlotte Gem & Mineral Club Newsletter

July 2022

Prez Sez.....

Ah, summertime. If your kids are out of school, hopefully they're out having fun on rockhounding field trips.

In June, we were honored to have a special speaker, Dr. Chris Tacker who is the Research Curator for the North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences. He gave an excellent talk on day-to-day life in a Geology Lab.

For July, we will again have our yearly indoor picnic (air conditioning, bathrooms, no bugs). Our menu is BBQ and Fried Chicken with all the fixings. We did the same menu last year and it was well received. You need bring only yourselves (including family and significant others) and a dessert if you so choose. We look forward to seeing everyone as it is a good time to meet and talk to our newer members.

Looks like we will not be able to do the Matthews Alive festival (Labor Day weekend) this year, unfortunately. Several key volunteers are not available, and we have not had enough signups of new volunteers.

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...*

You associate the name
"Franklin" with a rock show,
instead of "Benjamin"!



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Morganite

Article Information: Wikipedia and GIA.com

Morganite is an orange or pink gemstone that is a variety of beryl. It was named after the famous American financier and gem enthusiast, J.P. Morgan. Morganite is found in Brazil, Afghanistan, Mozambique, Namibia, the United States, and Madagascar.

Morganite is also known as pink beryl, rose beryl, pink emerald, and cesian beryl. Morganite's subtle color is caused by traces of manganese. Morganite displays a distinct pleochroism (color shift at different angles)—pale pink and a deeper bluish pink.



Beryl (Var.: Morganite): Locality: Urucum mine, Minas Gerais, Southeast Region, Brazil.

Photo Credit: Rob Lavinsky, iRocks.com – CC-BY-SA-3.0.



Rose of Maine: 50 lb gem in situ.
photo credit Wayne Flanders

In 1989, two brothers Ronald and Dennis Holden discovered a one-foot wide morganite in Maine, at the Bennett Quarry. Named the Rose of Maine, the 50 lb. gem is the largest morganite specimen in the world. The mine is still in operation today.

When you are at a party,

but nobody wants to talk about
rocks.

July 21 Meeting: Club Picnic!

BBQ, Fried Chicken and fixings.

Club Members, bring the family!

Optional: Bring a dessert!

6:30 - Short business meeting

7:00 - Picnic Time!

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.

New Website! Check out the new SFMS website at SoutheastFed.org

Upcoming Gem Shows:

Macon County Gemboree (indoor show) — July 27-31 in Franklin, NC

Echo Valley Gem Show (indoor show) - July 27-31 in Franklin, NC

Grassy Creek Gem & Mineral Show (outdoor show) July 31-Aug 7 Spruce Pine

NC Mineral and Gem Show (indoor show), August 4-7 in Spruce Pine, NC

SFMS Workshops

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

