



Goldrush Ledger

Charlotte Gem & Mineral Club Newsletter

June 2019

Prez Sez.....

What better way to start the summer than with a rockhounding trip? There are lots of interesting gem shows and field trips within day-trip distance that are coming up soon. See page 3 for details.

The Club is actively looking for members to volunteer for various roles within the club. Club officers are needed, as well as helpers to organize and assist with the club picnic, Matthews Alive event, field trips and newsletter. Groups like ours can only run when members chip in to make it work. Please consider volunteering!

In May, Jimmy and Becky Strickland did a wonderful talk about their trip to Tucson, and what they saw along the way. Thanks Jimmy and Becky!

For our June 20th meeting, we welcome Matt Guilin, who will discuss the **History and Metamorphism of the Eastern Blue Ridge!** He's bringing hand samples and photomicrographs to help us learn more about the formation of the Appalachian Mountains and the Eastern Blue Ridge. Matt is currently a graduate student at UNCC, studying for his master's degree in Geology.

We are looking forward to our annual Club Picnic, which will be held at our regular July meeting timeslot as an indoor picnic. Mark your calendars now for July 18 and plan to join us for some fun!

Hope to see you at the next meeting!

Kim Gwyn
Club President
Charlotte Gem & Mineral Club

You might be a rockhound if...

*-- Your employer has asked
you not to bring any
more rocks to the office
until they have time to
reinforce the floor!*



In This Issue

- New Emerald Find!
- Digs and Shows
- Day Trip Ideas!



2019 CGMC Officers & Board

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Spectacular New Emerald Find!

(Photo and excerpt from www.GeologyIn.com)

A massive emerald that weighs 794 pounds and stands around 4.3 feet high was unearthed earlier this year, 600 feet deep inside the Carnaiba Mine in Brazil. Experts predict the enormous specimen could fetch around \$300 million.

The emerald rock discovered in a gem mining field in Brazil is being kept under heavy security in a secret location to protect both the emerald and its owner. The private holder said the giant stone is extremely rare because of its 'considerable size and the quality of its gigantic crystals'.

There are only two giant stones with this density of crystals in the world, and according to the owner the other one, the Bahia emerald, which was the subject of a legal dispute over ownership between Brazil and America, 'does not possess the same pure quality as the new Carnaiba emerald'.

The secretive keeper, who is currently finalizing the legal paperwork for ownership, described the find as 'a majestic and beautiful monument'.

Next Club Meeting

Thursday, June 20, 2019

Social Time at 6:30 PM

Meeting begins at 7:00 PM

Tyvola Senior Center
2225 Tyvola Road, Charlotte

Club Picnic!

Thursday, July 18, 2019

Social Time at 6:30 PM

Dinner is Served at 7:00 PM

Bring a dessert or side dish!

Tyvola Senior Center
2225 Tyvola Road, Charlotte

Upcoming Field Trips

Dixie Mineral Council Field Trips

Note: DMC Field Trips are for club members of DMC-affiliated clubs and their families only. Liability issues mean that these trips cannot be attended by the general public unless otherwise noted. Because this dig is not open to the public, full details are not published in our newsletter. As a benefit of membership, our club is a DMC-affiliated club and CGMC members who are current on their 2019 dues may attend.

Friday, June 21

An Official Field Trip of the Henderson County Gem and Mineral Society (Hendersonville, NC)

Thermal City Gold Mine

For more information about DMC digs, club members please contact charlottegem@yahoo.com.

Upcoming Gem Shows

Gaston Club - Summer Gemboree

June 21-23—GASTONIA, NORTH CAROLINA: Show; Gaston Gem, Mineral and Faceters Club; Absher Flowers VFW Post 9337, 3250 W. Franklin Blvd (HWY 74); Fri. 9-6, Sat. 9-6, Sun. 9-4; free admission; Premiere Edition of our Summer Gemboree is taking place with indoor and outdoor experiences in crystals, gem and mineral specimens, fossils, geodes and jewelry, and a sluice on site.

Franklin Gem Shows

July 24-28 —FRANKLIN, NC: 1602 Highlands Road, Franklin, North Carolina 28734 One of the area's longest-running and most popular gem shows is the Highlands Road Gem Show. The Highlands Road Show is a retail show, open to the public, daily hours 9-5. Admission is free. Dealers come from across the United States and feature a wide range of products. Currently 41 vendors are signed up. Several wholesale shows also happening in Franklin at the end of July.

Spruce Pine and Grassy Creek Shows

August 1-4—SPRUCE PINE, NC: The NC Mineral & Gem Festival offers beautiful jewelry, gemstones, minerals, beads, crystals, fossils and much more. The show features 33 vendors. Open 10-6 on Thursday-Sat and 12:30 to 5 on Sunday. The show is located at 12085 South NC-226, Spruce Pine, NC.

July 27-August 4—SPRUCE PINE, NC The Grassy Creek Gem & Mineral Show is an outdoor show, no admission fee, free parking, many vendors. The show is located at: Parkway Fairgrounds 136 Majestic View, Spruce Pine, NC.



Day Trip Ideas - Hanging Rock State Park

Located 2.5 hours north of Charlotte, near Danbury, NC, Hanging Rock State Park offers a hiking trail network that is picturesque and diverse covers more than 18 miles and leads to mountain views, rock outcrops, waterfalls and even a mountain cave.

One of the most easterly mountain ranges in the state, the Sauratown Mountains are often called "the mountains away from the mountains" because they are separated from the nearby Blue Ridge Mountains. Prominent peaks in the Sauratown range rise from 1,700 feet to more than 2,500 feet in elevation and stand in bold contrast to the surrounding countryside, which averages only 800 feet in elevation.

Since its creation as a 1930s Civilian Conservation Corps project, Hanging Rock State Park has offered the best of a traditional outdoor experience with 73-site campground, picnic grounds, stocked lake for swimming and canoe rentals and more than 20 miles of hiking trails that climb onto spectacular views and weave alongside clear streams and waterfalls. There is also access on the Dan River for paddling, 8.4 miles of mountain biking trails and rock climbing opportunities with permit. A complex of vacation cabins is available for longer visits. Free interpretive programs complement the education offerings of a park museum that explores the natural and cultural history of the Sauratown Mountains.

Photo and description from Hanging Rock State Park website: www.ncparks.gov/hanging-rock-state-park

