



Goldrush Ledger

Charlotte Gem & Mineral Club Newsletter

June 2022

Prez Sez.....

As we go into this week, we will be facing some of the highest temperatures on record. If August is the hottest month of the year, be careful, we are in for some dangerous heat. This is mentioned so as to remind all of us about staying out of the afternoon heat, and to make sure we remain hydrated to prevent future health issues.

Our June speaker will be Dr. Chris Tacker, Research Curator for the North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences. With his wealth of knowledge and work experience, this should be a "Don't Miss" speaker.

Coming in July, we will again have our yearly indoor picnic (air conditioning, bathrooms, no bugs) with probably the same basic menu as last year, since it was so 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.

We have recently had 2 people donate their father's rock collections and jewelry making equipment. This is a really good start for new items to offer at our November Auction.

Be safe, and be careful out there.

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 remember your
vacations by the rocks
you brought home!



2022 CGMC Officers & Board

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Blue Topaz

*Info and comparison specimen image credit: Geology.com
Teardrop Stone Image credit: Swiss Blue Topaz 6.26 Cts 15.30 x 10.03 x 7.55 mm cut by
reddit user JamieStoneCutting, shown on reddit/r/gemstones*

Although naturally occurring blue topaz can be found, it is quite rare. Most of the blue topaz on the market today is heat treated.

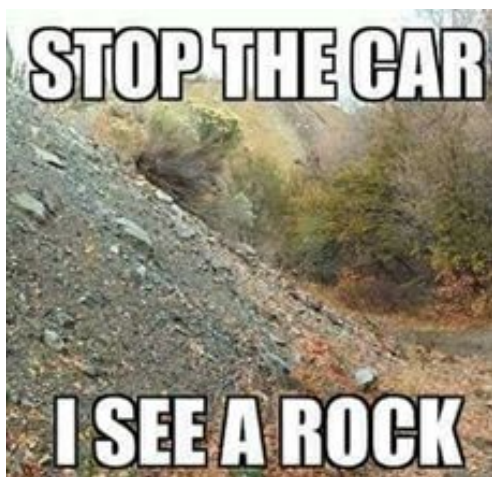
Colorless topaz is the perfect material for faceting gems of consistent color and clarity. It is abundant, available in large high-clarity crystals, and can be treated to a consistent blue color.



Faceted Blue Topaz: Two faceted ovals of blue topaz, with a blue color produced by irradiating and then heating colorless topaz. The gem on the left is an example of "Swiss Blue" topaz. It weighs approximately 2.02 carats. The gem on the right is a "London Blue"



Two varieties of treated blue topaz have become dominant. These are known as "Swiss Blue" and "London Blue" topaz. Swiss Blue is a bright blue topaz with a light tone and light to moderate saturation. London Blue is a dark blue topaz with a moderate to dark tone and saturation.



June 16 Meeting Speaker: Dr. Chris Tacker

Research Curator for the
NC Museum of Natural Sciences

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.

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!

