



Goldrush Ledger

Charlotte Gem & Mineral Club Newsletter

March 2020

Prez Sez.....

We missed the February meeting due to weather. Hope you all stayed warm and safe. Jimmy Strickland's presentation on Fluorescent Minerals and Photography Techniques has been rescheduled for May.

Last Call —Dues are Due! Please renew your membership ASAP. Sam Baker will be collecting dues at the meeting, or you can use the online membership form to mail a check. The form is available at charlottegem.org.

We are hosting the SFMS DMC Field Trip in April! It should be a great dig, with amethyst, beryl, and epidote at the site. Since we missed the February meeting, please sign up and send payment directly with the dig coordinator using the directions provided in the DMC field trip notice, which will be sent out separately to all current club members. Remember, all attendees must be current on your 2020 dues to participate.

For our March meeting, Brad Glover and yours truly will provide a presentation on Gems and Minerals on the Internet, how to find treasures and not get taken!. I hope you will also share your stories and adventures shopping online for gems and specimens!

The Board of Directors held the annual drawing in February for the SFMS Scholarship winners. This year we selected 3 winners, for a one-week class at one of the SFMS workshops held at the William Holland School of Lapidary Arts, or at the Wildacres Retreat. Congratulations to our Winners: Mary Fisher, Carl Lockwood, and Becky Strickland!

Hope to see you all at the next meeting!

Kim Gwyn

Club President

Charlotte Gem & Mineral Club

*You might be a
rockhound if...*

*-- You can pronounce
the word 'molybdenite'
correctly on the first try!*



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2020 CGMC Officers & Board

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Aquamarine

Credit: FWC Jewelers, www.fwcj.com/education



Aquamarines are the second most famous beryl member and the birthstone for March. The name aquamarine means “seawater” because most natural aquamarines are a light to medium blue with green undertones, caused by iron impurities. Colors range from pure baby blue to deep blue.

The most famous aquamarine mine among gem connoisseurs is the Santa Maria mine in Brazil. For the last 100 years it has produced both the largest and the most intense natural aquamarines on the market; in fact any deep blue aquamarine is referred to as “Santa Maria color” due to the fame of this mine. The beautiful crown pictured above that was given to Queen Elizabeth is from Brazil.

A little rock riddle:

Three lives have I:

Gentle enough to soothe the skin,
Light enough to reach the sky,
Hard enough to crack rocks.

What am I?

— Answer on page 3

me getting home after a hike with the bag of cool rocks I found, nothing special just ones that I liked



Next Club Meeting

Thursday, March 19, 2020

Social Time begins at 6:30 PM

MEETING BEGINS at 7:00 PM



Tyvola Senior Center
2225 Tyvola Road, Charlotte

Last Call for Dues!

Please renew your membership ASAP! We will clean up the membership list at the end of March. A membership form is available on our website at www.charlottegem.org. Membership fees are still just \$20 for individuals, and \$25 for families. Your annual membership fees help to cover club costs such as meeting space, refreshments, and club insurance. Membership gives you discounts on classes, and access to sponsored field trips like the DMC digs listed below.

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 2020 dues may attend.

March 2020 - Mobile Rock & Gem Society, Inc. (Mobile, AL)

April 2020 - Charlotte Gem and Mineral Club

May 2020 - Mississippi Gem and Mineral Society (Jackson, MS)

June 2020 - Gaston Gem, Mineral & Faceters Club

DMC Dig information for April will be emailed to current members.

For more information about these digs, please contact charlottegem@yahoo.com.

Upcoming Shows

50th Annual Catawba Valley Gem, Mineral, Fossil, and Jewelry Show

Hickory Metro Convention Center

Hickory, NC

March 27-29

Hours:

9am-6pm – Fri & Sat

10am-5pm – Sunday

Please note, our club will not have a booth at the Catawba/Hickory show this year.

Riddle answer: Water!

