



Goldrush Ledger

Charlotte Gem & Mineral Club Newsletter

March 2022

Prez Sez.....

Hello everyone,

As you can tell, the weather is warming up meaning 2 things: we will now have a bout with pollen and it is now warm enough to dig for rocks. As I write this, Carl Lockwood is pursuing a lead for a club dig in May. More to follow as it becomes available.

Prior to this month's meeting, Brad Glover will be demonstrating how to strand pearls. He has agreed to teach a class in the near future, prior to one of our monthly meetings.

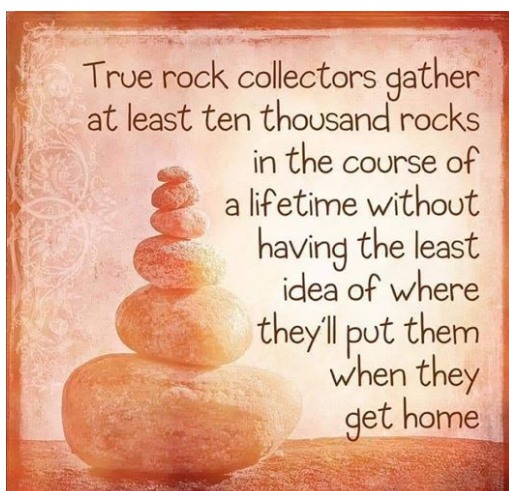
We are working on planning speakers and topics for our monthly meetings. If you have a presentation on a relevant topic that you would like to share with the club, please let us know.

As always, we look forward to seeing you at the meetings.

Kim Gwyn

Club President

Charlotte Gem & Mineral Club



*You might be a
rockhound if...*

You have to tell the moving company in advance, about "the situation" in your garage!



2022 CGMC Officers & Board

President

Kim Gwyn
gwynkim@gmail.com
(803) 370-0244

Vice President

Bob Black

Secretary

Vickie Glover

Treasurer

Sam Baker

Directors at Large

Brad Glover
Martha Rogers

Club Chairpersons

Web Master

Kim Gwyn
gwynkim@gmail.com

Newsletter Editor

Mary Fisher

Geode Chair

Jimmy Strickland

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Watermelon Tourmaline

Credit: Excerpts and image from a 2021 Article in www.geologyin.com

Watermelon tourmaline is a variety of concentrically color-zoned tourmaline with red interiors and green exteriors and is distinct from longitudinal bi-color or polychrome zonation.



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 bi-colored and multi-colored zoning that we so often see in tourmaline gems happens when the trace elements change in concentration or composition during a crystal's growth. These unique gems can have colored zones across the length of the crystal, or they can have a core of one color and an outer edge of another color. A single tourmaline crystal can contain up to 15 different colors or shades – no wonder it has been nicknamed the "Rainbow Gem".

In watermelon tourmaline, pink and green Elbaite crystals are found in the same stone, and these color zones provide a visual record of its formation process.

As the watermelon tourmaline crystal grows and thickens, it is exposed to different minerals such as manganese and lithium, which cause the gem to change color from a pink center through a pale zone to the green rind.

Dues are Due!

Club Dues were due by the end of February.

We will update the membership list at the end of March, so if you haven't renewed yet, here's your chance!

Dues can be paid at the next club meeting or by printing the form in this newsletter and mailing it to the address on the form.

March 17 Meeting

Topic: Fluorescent Rocks and Minerals

Presenter: Brad Glover and Martha Rogers

6:30 - Social Time

7:00 - Meeting begins

**Tyvola Senior Center
2225 Tyvola Road in Charlotte**





SFMS 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 Club Shows:

The following SFMS Clubs are hosting shows in our area!

Catawba Valley Gem & Mineral Club Show: March 25-27, Hickory

Tar Heel Gem & Mineral Club Show: April 1-3, Raleigh

Gem & Mineral Society of Franklin: May 13-15, Franklin

Gaston Gem, Mineral & Faceters Club: June 11-12, Gastonia

SFMS Workshops

William Holland and Wildacres are both hosting classes this year!

Registration for William Holland classes has already begun.

Stay tuned to the SFMS Website for updates on the SFMS Workshop Weeks.

SFMS DMC Announcement

The Charlotte Gem and Mineral Club has made the decision to withdraw from the SFMS Dixie Mineral Council. We were unable to meet our once-per-3-year requirement to host a dig which was scheduled for April 2022. Interesting dig sites are getting more difficult to find. All of the nearby dig sites that we investigated were either played out, or closed for dig groups. We were not able to secure a suitable site that was within a reasonable distance, and so the Board made a decision not to host the April dig.

As a result, our club is no longer eligible to participate in any DMC regional digs.

We will have the opportunity to re-apply at a later time and restore our membership status. In the interim, we hope to cultivate new field trip opportunities within our club.

If you have an interest in developing our Field Trip program, please contact Kim Gwyn.



Charlotte Gem & Mineral Club

Membership Application

Member Information

Name: _____

Mailing address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

Member Type (check one): Individual \$20.00/yr (☐) Family \$25.00/yr (☐)

Please List Family Members:

(Include Names and Ages of Children)

Interests: (Please Select ALL that Apply!)

Lapidary:

☐ Tumbling

☐ Cabochon cutting

☐ Faceting

☐ Spheres

☐ Intarsia

☐ Slab polishing

Jewelry:

☐ Goldsmithing

☐ Silversmithing

☐ Beading

☐ Wirewrap

☐ Gem trees

☐ Stone setting

☐ Chain making

Minerals & Rocks:

☐ Mineral collecting

☐ Rock collecting

☐ Identification

☐ Field Trips

Junior Rockhounds (children's club):

☐ Saturday Meetings

I/we agree to abide by the AFMS Code of Ethics. Failure to do so will result in cancellation of Membership. (Code: www.amfed.org/ethics.htm)

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Mail to:

Charlotte Gem and Mineral Club
402 Wonderwood Drive
Charlotte, NC 28211