



THE GOLDRUSH LEDGER



CHARLOTTE GEM & MINERAL CLUB

AUGUST 2015

THE PREZ SAYZ

Here we go again – Matthews Alive is less than a month away. Without a doubt, this is the busiest time of year for the Charlotte Gem and Mineral Club. For newer members who have not participated in this unique event, allow me to explain. Approximately 35 years ago there used to be a modest Labor Day weekend event in Matthews called “The Stumptown Festival” consisting of food vendors, crafts for sale and activities for kids. Today it is called The Matthews Alive Festival, dedicated to the support of local non-profit organizations and it draws approximately 20,000 people. Over the three day Labor Day weekend there is food, kiddy rides, outdoor entertainment, craft vendors and The Charlotte Gem & Mineral Club.

We have participated continuously in this event for about thirty-five years. We started out as a tent in a

field with a few crates of geodes out front and a couple of power saws under the canvas. Purchase a geode and we will cut it in half for you. Now we occupy three 12 by 12 tents with three power saws, several hundreds of pounds of geodes and a custom-made 16 foot sluice. The bulk of the money earned during this event is given in the form of scholarships to geology and earth sciences majors at the University of North Carolina/Charlotte and Appalachian State University.

You don’t have to be a geology genius to work the booth. We need members who can handle money, wrap geodes, instruct kids in how to use the sluice, talk about our club, etc. It’s a very unique way to spend a part of your holiday weekend for the following reasons:

- *The excitement and anticipation on the kids’ faces is priceless*
- *It’s a terrific bonding/getting to know you experience for club*

members

- *Cutting open a geode is (messy but) fun*
- *The monies raised go to a worthy cause*

We are sending out recruitment emails every week this month in an effort to fill our needs for a full roster of workers for this three-day event. I look forward to receiving your time commitment and seeing you in one of our green CG&MC T

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shirts this Labor Day.

I am pleased to report that the incredible Orchard Collection of fine lapidary specimens is now safely shelved in the CG&MC storage trailer and inventorying is already under way. Profuse thanks to Brad Glover, Kim Gwyn, Carl Lockwood, Sam Baker, Dottie Carrano, Anne Lockwood and Vickie Glover who, over two very hot days last weekend, moved these amazing pieces from their previous location to the trailer. Speaking of an inventory, it turns out there are more pieces in the collection than was originally estimated. Be sure to attend the August 20 meeting where some pieces will be for sale to members-only at very attractive wholesale prices. This is a great opportunity to get some early Christmas shopping done for those special people on your list.

Murray Simon

President

Charlotte Gem and Mineral Club

OUR SPEAKER THIS MONTH:

Shelley Pawlyk will share specimen photos and describe her experiences attending the two-week Tucson, Arizona Gem, Mineral and Fossil shows with 55,000 other people each February - including meeting fan favorites from the television show Prospectors. She has close photographs of the Dorris Family icon pocket as displayed at the Convention Center. If time permits, Shelley will share video interviews from her special subscription to The Mineralogical Record from collections not always available to the public.



Charlotte Gem and Mineral Club Monthly Meeting

Thursday August 20, 2015

Social Hour from 6:00 - 7:00

Orchard Collection Sales Table 6:00 - 7:00

Meeting to Start at 7:00

Location:

Tyvola Senior Center

2225 Tyvola Rd. Charlotte, NC 28210 (704) 522-6222

Our Monthly Presentation:

Tucson Show!

Shelley Pawlyk will share specimen photos and describe her experiences attending the two-week Tucson, Arizona Gem, Mineral and Fossil shows.

*** No September meeting due to Matthews Alive**

***Jewelry Making Workshop prior to the meeting* 5:00 to 7:00 pm**

Martha & Linda will bring natural stone beads & stone chip beads to make necklaces. You choose the length you desire and we will supply beads, stringing material, toggle clasps, jump rings and crimps. As is our custom, there is no charge to members for the class. If you have supplies you would like to donate or use, please bring them.

How you as a CGMC member can help at Matthews Alive



Our club's participation in Matthews Alive 2015 is scheduled for September 4th through the 7th. We need help from our members to make this a success. Since we have less than a month before show time, your immediate attention is needed.

From past events, we have determined that we need 7-9 members per time slot to be effective in greeting and taking care of festival patrons.

Please remember that Matthews Alive Festival is our majority money maker for the year. Your help is needed to make this show a winner for us.

The income from this festival provides money for (A) scholarships for 2 college students as well as (B) the scholarships to the regional lapidary schools for 2 of our members. Additionally, we have to cover the other expenses for the weekend, such as booth rental, supplies such as saw blades and materials for the sluice as well as geodes.

How can you help?

First, you can sign up to work during one of the time segments that doesn't have enough volunteers.

Second, you can come ready to promote our booth as well as our club. We have the opportunity to let people know what our club (and club members) do. This is a valuable source for reaching potential new members.

What do you get out of it?

You get to spend time with other members, friends you already have and ones you get to make.

You get to meet the people who come by the booth, as customers, or possibly new members.

The satisfaction of knowing you did something important for our club. Donating your time and effort to make our club a little bit better.



Thank you,

The CGMC Board Members



Directions:

From Interstate 77 South: I-77 to I-485 East and follow to Matthews exit. Turn left onto East John Street. Take East John Street to Historic Downtown Matthews.

From Interstate 85 South: Follow I-85 to I-77 South to Brookshire Boulevard East. Follow to the U.S. 74 (Independence Boulevard) exit, and exit left. Take U.S. 74 to Matthews, turning right on Sam Newell Road, and follow across Matthews Township Parkway (N.C. 51) to North Trade Street and Historic Downtown Matthews.

Parking

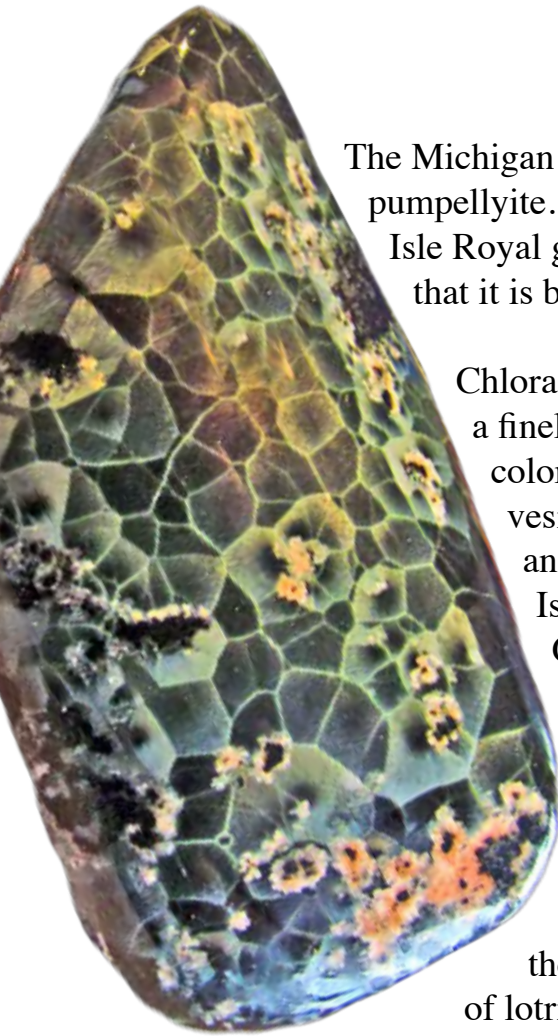
People with disabilities may use the “horseshoe” parking area located at the side of the Matthews First Baptist Church, off of Sadie Drive. If those spaces are filled, there are handicapped accessible spaces in our Town public parking areas (see below) and at adjoining businesses that are closed during festival hours. Our festival parking attendant can direct you to open spaces.

Free public parking areas are located by the train tracks at North Trade Street and Charles Street. Matthews Station offers parking in front of and behind Town Hall (across from public parking). Parking is also available at many businesses along John and Trade Streets, Matthews Presbyterian Church on John Street and Matthews United Methodist Church on South Trade Street (accessible from Fullwood Lane off N.C. 51)



ROCK OF THE MONTH

CHLORASTROLITE

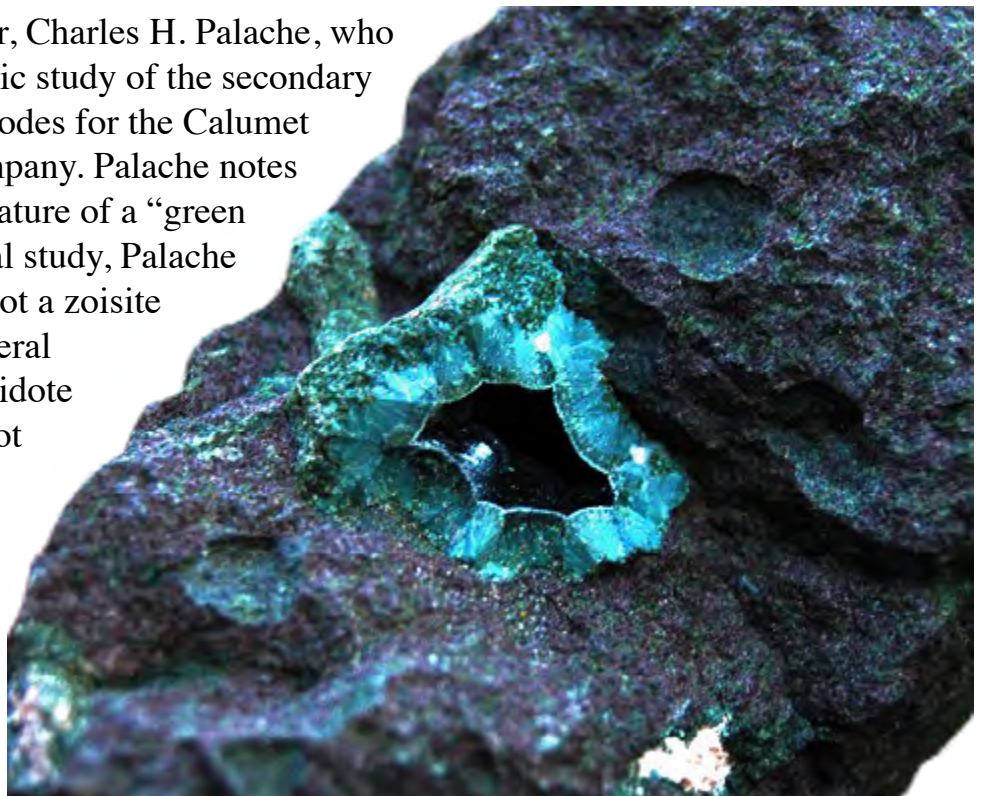


The Michigan State Gemstone is chlorastrolite, a variety of the mineral pumpellyite. It also goes by the common name of greenstone or Isle Royal greenstone. The term greenstone can be confusing in that it is both a rock and a mineral term.

Chlorastrolite is found chiefly as small rounded beach pebbles showing a finely radiating or stellated pattern of slender crystals. The masses, colored pink to green to black or mottled, are derived from nodular vesicle fillings in the amygdaloidal basalts of the copper country and were formerly found in relative abundance, particularly on Isle Royale beaches. Chlorastrolite was named the “Official State Gem” of Michigan by the Seventy- Sixth Legislature (Act 56, PA 1972, effective March 30, 1973).

Pumpellyite is closely related to the epidote family. It is widespread low-grade metamorphic mineral (particularly in glaucophane schists) and a hydrothermal mineral in altered mafic igneous rocks (like basalts, and diabases). Originally the mineral was described in 1901 by Murgoci under the name of lotrite from the southern Carpathian Mountains. The writer was enabled to examine the handwritten notes

of his former Harvard professor, Charles H. Palache, who in 1920 made the first systematic study of the secondary minerals in the altered copper lodes for the Calumet and Hecla Copper Mining Company. Palache notes the widespread and abundant nature of a “green zoisite.” Shortly after this initial study, Palache realized his green zoisite was not a zoisite but believed it to be a new mineral closely related to the zoisite-epidote family. Unfortunately he had not encountered Murgoci’s (1901) description of lotrite. Palache submitted a manuscript to Calumet and Hecla describing the “new” mineral proposing to call it “kearsargeite.” B. S. Butler didn’t like

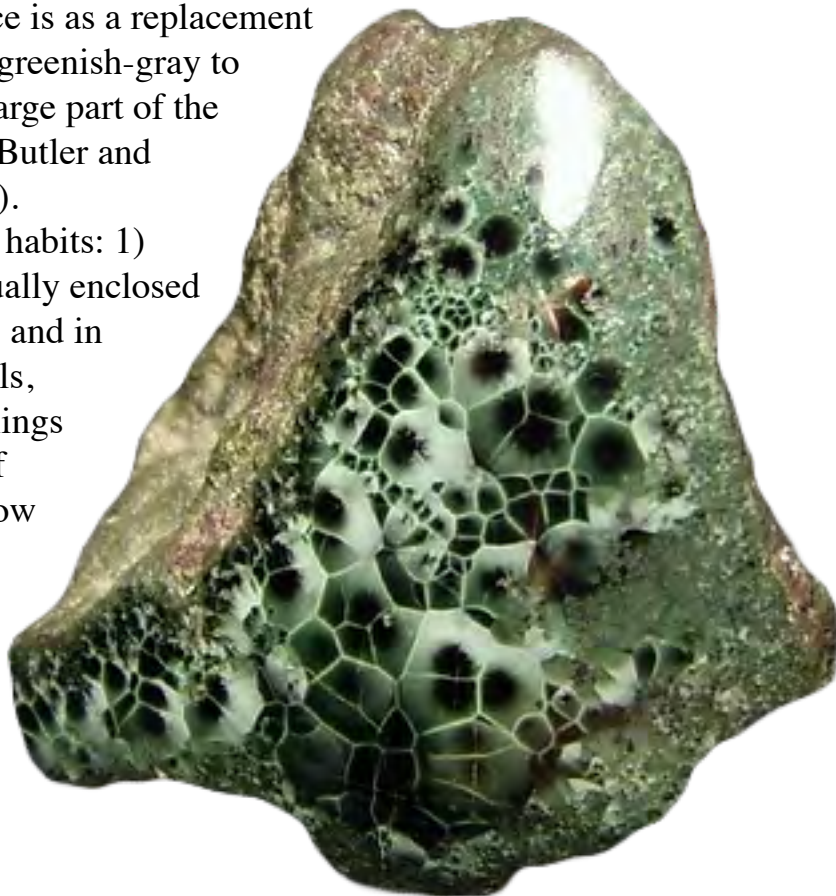




the name and Palache changed the manuscript by crossing out kearsargeite and penciling in “pumpellyite,” in honor of Raphael Pumpelly, a noted 19th century U.S. Geological Survey geologist who made many contributions to the knowledge and understanding of copper minerals and the copper deposits of the Keweenaw Peninsula. Chlorastrolite is now known to be a variety of pumpellyite. This was first verified by W. B. Griffiths at the University of Michigan in the late 1940’s (personal communication). Previously, chlorastrolite had been considered 1) an independent species, 2) a variety of prehnite, or 3) a variety of thomsonite.

In general, pumpellyite is abundant in all the amygdaloidal lodes and in all fissures. It is present but not abundant in the copper conglomerates and felsites. It forms in vugs and, with quartz, has also replaced large volumes of the host rocks. It may occur in amygdules by itself, as needles in quartz, associated with chlorite, and in the same amygdules with epidote (from which it is not easily distinguished). Much of the pumpellyite is bluish-green in contrast to the epidote, which is yellow-green. Its most common occurrence is as a replacement of rock in flow tops, yielding a hard, dense, greenish-gray to bluish-green lode material that makes up a large part of the mined parts of the Isle Royale amygdaloid (Butler and Burbank, 1929; Stoiber and Davidson, 1959).

Keweenawan pumpellyite has the following habits: 1) Radial Stout prismatic, euhedral crystals usually enclosed by quartz; in fragmental amygdaloidal flows and in veins. 2) Radial groups of needle-like crystals, either alone or with chlorite as amygdule fillings in “footy zones” of flows. 3) Felty masses of cryptocrystalline grains replacing parts of flow tops and ashy layers, with primary igneous textures preserved.



From: http://www.michigan.gov/documents/deq/ogs-gimdl-GGGS_263212_7.pdf

DMC Program of the SFMS Field Trip Committee
An Official Field Trip of The Gem & Mineral Society of Lynchburg, Virginia Inc. (HOST)
An Official Field Trip of the Charlotte Gem and Mineral Club

9:00AM until 1:00PM EDT
Saturday – August 22, 2015
KYANITE MINING CORP., DILLWYN, VA.
WILLIS MOUNTAIN KYANITE MINE

COLLECTING: Mostly white with some rare blue kyanite. Some of the white kyanite and quartz here have a beautiful light blue fluorescence and the apatite glows yellow so bring your short wave lamp and black-out cloth. Also expect to find pyrite, white muscovite, green fuchsite and red iron-stained muscovite, hematite or goethite-coated kyanite with some having a beautiful iridescent coating. The green apatite and trolleite are there but hard to locate. You can also find some small rutile crystals.



WHERE: The mine is on US 15 between Farmville and Sprouses Corner, Buckingham County, Virginia. For GPS, enter Dillwyn, VA., and 30 Willis Mt. Plant Lane (or try road). Choose James Madison Hwy or Rt. 15 as the cross street location. This is for the mine office and the assembly area.

DIRECTIONS: If you will be arriving from the north, at the US 60 and US 15 intersection in Sprouses Corner, drive south on US 15 James Madison Highway for 4 miles and turn left on Willis Mt. Plant Lane. Turn left and stop at the stone mine office on the corner. Park out of the way in the parking lot or along Willis Mt. Plant Lane. Do not block traffic and do not park along Rt. 15.

If you will be arriving from the south, at the US 460 and US 15 intersection just east of Farmville, drive north on Rt. 15, James Madison Highway for a little over 12 miles to Willis Mt. Plant Lane. The stone mine office is on the right. Park out of the way in the parking lot or along Willis Mt. Plant Lane. Do not block traffic and do not park along Rt. 15.



ASSEMBLY TIME: Everyone will meet at the mine office no later than 8:30 AM for sign-in. We will have a mandatory safety briefing starting at 8:45. We will then load up and convoy a short distance to the mine area about 9:00 AM. You will be able to drive to the collecting areas

SAFETY MEETING: Everyone must arrive at the office parking lot no later than 8:30AM to sign the release form and hear the required safety briefing. Each Club field trip leader, or their appointed replacement, will act as safety observer while in the mine and will be expected to be on the lookout for and correct all safety infractions

from any collector from any club. Keep in mind that this site is one of the few that is still open for collecting. Not obeying all the safety rules will cause this site to be closed to all future collecting.

Kyanite Mining Corp. is very safety conscious and has an excellent record. We will also have several club members with blaze orange vests who will be on the lookout for unsafe situations and conditions. If you are in an unsafe area you will be asked to move. We will be in an active mining area with many potential hazards. Please respect the safety berms, high wall setback and marked unsafe areas. Be aware of your location at all times.



SPECIAL NOTE: All the participating club field trip leaders, send me a list of your total collectors and those staying for lunch so that I can compile a list and forward it to the mine management by 8-17-15. Since this the Annual Kyanite Mining Corp. Open House event, there will be many other area clubs in attendance. There is a limit of 125 collectors from all clubs for this event so there will be room for everyone. If you have ANY QUESTIONS on the safety requirements or anything else, let me know ahead of time. Do not show up with improper safety equipment and expect to be admitted anyway. The only reason we can collect here today is because we always comply with every regulation they require. Remember, we are just one infraction away from having this site closed to all future collecting.



EQUIPMENT: The standard quarry safety gear required is a hard hats with a manufacturer's date of 5 years or less, (check the date stamp usually under the brim) safety glasses, a pair of wheel chocks either purchased, home made or even a rock is acceptable. Every time you leave the car, turn off the engine, put it in park and apply the hand brake and wheel chocks. **ADULTS: ONLY STEEL TOED BOOTS WILL BE ALLOWED, THERE WILL BE NO EXCEPTIONS!!!** If you do not have the required safety equipment, you will not be allowed to enter the quarry. Also required are long pants, gloves, hammer and chisels, wrapping paper, buckets, and water. Be prepared for windy, hot or wet weather. We will be on the mountain top and it's always windy. We can drive to the designated collecting area, so hand trucks should not

be needed. Bring a camera, as the view is awesome.

AGE LIMIT: There is no age limit, but all youth must be signed for, supervised by an adult and have all the required youth safety equipment. No Exceptions!!! The mine will accept a good bicycle helmet for the youth only if a standard hard hat is not available in their size. Youth can wear good strong leather boots. No sneakers or flip flops allowed. All pets must be under control at all times.

OTHER PLANNED EVENTS: We will have available immediately after the dig at 1PM, a hot lunch and a drink for a nominal fee. You may also bring your own lunch, especially if you are on a special diet. This service will be available in the pavilion beside the office and continue until everyone has eaten. This will also be a social get-together so that we can have a chance to become better acquainted with our rock club neighbors and

to provide some time to relax before the long ride home. You might want to bring your own lawn chair and rest a spell under the shady pavilion.

SEVERAL LODGING SUGGESTIONS:

Sprouses Corner (about 1 mile away)
Star Motel 1-888-564-5422

Farmville (about 20 miles away)
Day's Inn 1-434-392-6611
Super 8 Motel 1-434-392-8196
Comfort Inn 1-434-392-8163



CONTACTS: David Callahan, Field Trip Chairman, The
Gem & Mineral Society of Lynchburg, VA. Inc.
Phone: 540-297-1853, Cell: 540-874-5201 (use cell the day of the event only please)
dbcall1@aol.com. Visit our web site www.lynchburgrockclub.org

UPCOMING SHOWS

Sept. 4-7—RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA: Retail show; Treasures of the Earth, Inc., NC State Fairgrounds; 1025 Blue Ridge Blvd; Fri. 12 noon-6 pm, Sat. 10 am-5 pm, Sun. 10 am-5 pm, Mon. 10 am-4 pm; Adults \$5.00, Military Free with ID, Children 16 and under Free; Vendors from across the US bring their merchandise to you. You will find • 14K and sterling silver, classic, estate, fashion and handmade jewelry • Loose stones, beads and findings, pearls • Mineral specimens, crystals, lapidary supplies • Books, carvings and gift items ; contact Jane Westbrook, PO Box 59, Gloucester Point, VT 23062, (804) 285-4281; e-mail: jane@treasuresoftheearth.com; Web site: www.treasuresoftheearth.com

Sept. 4-7—HENDERSONVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA: Annual show; Henderson County Gem & Mineral Society, Whitmire Center; 301 Lily Pond Rd; Fri. 10:00 am-6:00 pm, Sat. 10:00 am-6:00 pm, Sun. 10:00 am-6:00 pm, Mon. 10:00 am-5:00 pm; Adults \$4.00, Children under 12 free w/paid admission; There will be demonstrations, exhibits, refreshments, wheel of fortune, gem identification on Saturday, vendors, hourly door prizes and a grand prize. Venue is air conditioned. Our theme is Opals - the beauty within the stone.; contact Diane Lapp, (828) 775-8098; e-mail: dlapp_2000@yahoo.com; Web site: hcgms.com

Sept. 11-13—WINSTON-SALEM, NORTH CAROLINA: Annual show; Forsyth Gem And Mineral Club, Education Building, Winston-Salem Fairgrounds; Enter Gate 9 from 27th Street; Fri. 10:00 am- 7:00 pm, Sat. 10:00 am-7:00 pm, Sun. 12 noon-5:00 pm; Adults \$3.00, Students K-12 Free; Activities; Gold Panning, Geode Cutting, Grab Bags and Mineral Identification.; contact W. A. Marion, 1163 Bear Creek Church Road, Mocksville, NC 27028; e-mail: marional@yadtel.net; Web site: www.forsythgemclub.com

Jewelry Making Classes



Martha & Linda will bring natural stone beads & stone chip beads to make necklaces. You choose the length you desire and we will supply beads, stringing material, toggle clasps, jump rings and crimps. As is our custom, there is no charge to members for the class. If you have supplies you would like to donate or use, please bring them.)

***Next Class is Thursday August 20
from 5 to 7 prior to the club meeting***