



THE GOLDRUSH LEDGER



CHARLOTTE GEM & MINERAL CLUB

FEBRUARY 2016

THE PREZ SAYZ

The Charlotte Gem & Mineral Club has officially entered the 21st century: we now have a Facebook page. Mary Fisher presented the idea for a Facebook page last fall to the CG&MC board. She volunteered to retain the services, at her expense, of a specialist in social media to set it up. If you would like to see the results, go to www.facebook.com. Once you are at the Facebook site search Charlotte Gem and Mineral Club.

I won't spoil the excitement by telling you what's on our page, but I think you will be pleased and proud to discover what we now convey to the world of social media. As someone who had never previously jumped aboard the Facebook train, I am obviously not the one to try to try to explain why we have done this. Perhaps it will become clearer if I relate why Mary felt it would be a good thing for our organization:

- It gives us a public venue to post club events.
- It provides a forum for an exchange of ideas among members
- We can share relevant content about gems and minerals
- Classes at The Dairy can be posted both to members and the public
- It gives us an established system to grow the club
- It makes us

look (and feel?) up to date, contemporary, with it

Please take a few minutes to go to our Facebook page and let us know what you think. We're kind of new at this and any input from those of you who are Facebook veterans would be most welcome. Just Twitter us a Tweet and

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msimonnc@gmail.com
(704) 668-5658

Vice President

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gwynkim@gmail.com

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Philson05@carolina.rr.com

Directors at Large

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glov4305@bellsouth.net

Web Master

Kim Gwyn
gwynkim@gmail.com

Bulletin Editor:

Zach Blackburn
zachery.blackburn@hotmail.com

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lindadairy@yahoo.com

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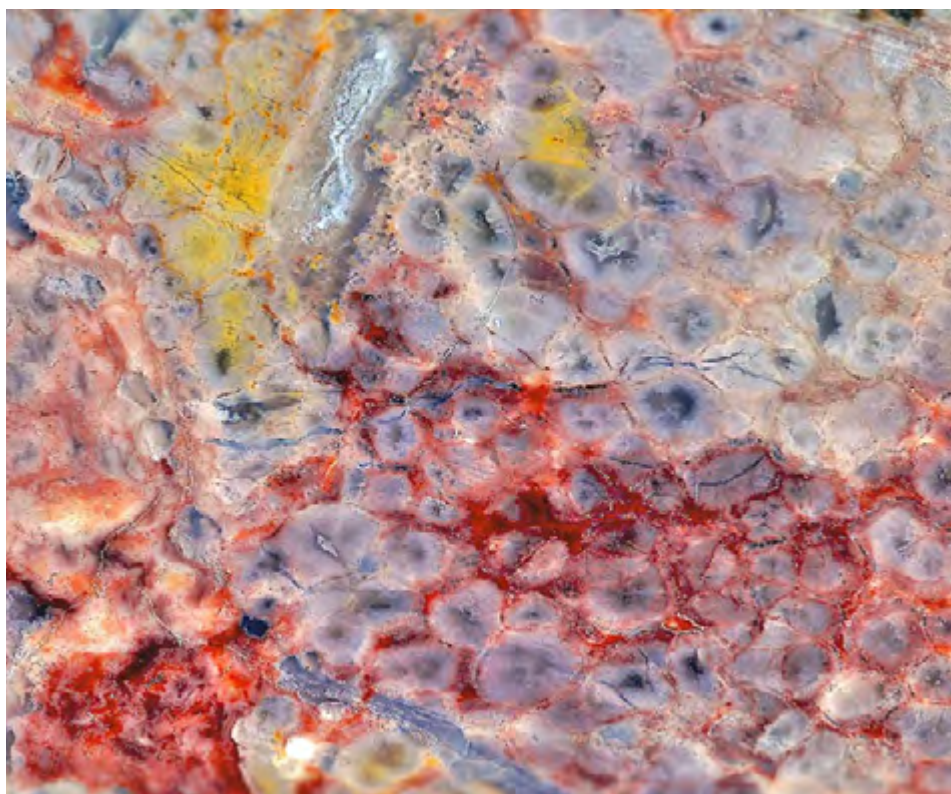
let us know what you think. Or perhaps you might Tweet us a Twitter. Or Drop us a Dropbox? Tell you what, Linda Simon is our new Facebook administrator / Dairy schedule manager so talk to her about it at lindadairy@yahoo.com.

So keep those thumbs up and Likes coming I'm not sure what that means but it sounds positive and very trendy. See y'all at the February 18 meeting.

*Murray Simon: President
Charlotte Gem and Mineral Club*

A Gentle Reminder:

*Dues for 2016 are due.
\$25.00 for a family membership
\$20.00 for an individual membership*



Charlotte Gem and Mineral Club Monthly Meeting

Thursday February 18, 2016

Social Hour from 6:00 - 7:00

Meeting to Start at 7:00

Location:

Tyvola Senior Center

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



***We will be featuring a sampling of the Orchard
Collection for sale before the meeting.***



Our Monthly Presentation:

The Allure of Pearls...Gifts from the Sea

Our guest will be Jennifer MacLeod of Perry's Jewelers.

We will discuss the history of pearls, how they form in oysters, how they are cultivated, harvested and processed for market. We will also take a look at the different types of pearls and how they are valued.

*There will not be a jewelry making class before the meeting.
Sign up for a jewelry class at the Dairy workshop.*

**Yearly dues are due. Please have your
dues at this meeting.**

\$25.00 - Family Membership

\$20.00 - Individual Membership

A Day at The Dairy

by George Libby

I have never gone to William Holland or Wild Acres even though I have friends that have, some of whom have taught there. Actually I was never interested in wire wrapping. I played with faceting and silver smithing but always was more into collecting minerals and fossils. I also enjoyed sculpturing and mounted a couple of butterflies, made from jasper with wire antennas, mounted on some cave onyx I collected.

Wire wrapping was something I left to my wife. I did make a Pharos Ring, which I am proud of, but it is really crude and you can easily see the lack of skill. Of course I never practiced because my wife was better at it than I and we only had 3 sons so I had no one to share what I could do.

Then my world changed one day. That was when my teen-aged granddaughter said “can you make this for me?”



Since then I have gotten much better at wire wrapping and did take a few lessons. Now the club offered lessons, with a \$40 cost to cover rent and utilities. I knew material and supplies would easily double that and being retired I gave it some thought. I had to weigh the cost against pleasing my granddaughter. No more needs to be said about that.



I arrived at “The Dairy” just before 9AM and after viewing our new facilities, my instructor Linda and I sat down to create a masterpiece. That was easier to say than do. Over the years I had picked up many bad habits. I was the only wire wrap student that day. There was another couple working on cabbing but Linda and I were in a different room. That meant that Linda had nothing to distract her from trying to fix the bad habits I had learned. I don’t know where she gets her patience from. Every time she would correct she would explain why she did it the way she did. Actually she didn’t have to explain as one look at her wire wrapping and you saw the difference. Of course every time she would leave me alone I would fall back into my old ways. That is something I will still have to work on but at the end of the day I had two perfect cabs. One was held with prongs and the other was one she taught before but now had some additional embellishments.

When all is said, I would recommend taking her class to everyone.

WORKSHOPS AT THE DAIRY

Location:

Art in The Dairy
7701 Tuckaseegee Rd.
Charlotte, NC 28214

Currently scheduled classes:

Feb 13 – Beaded Pendant with Martha Rogers
– \$30 class fee & \$20 materials fee

Feb 20 – Cabochon Making with Sarah Lee Boyce
– \$40 class fee

Feb 20 – Polymer Clay with Linda Simon
– \$40 class fee & \$20 materials fee

Feb 27 – Beading with Martha Rogers
– \$30 class fee & \$20 materials fee

Contact Linda Simon to register for a class.

Email: lindadairy@yahoo.com

Call: 704-543-6651.





Dixie Mineral Council Field Trips

The Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies, Inc



The Friendly Federation - Founded in 1976 to serve
DMC Program of the SFMS Field Trip Committee
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Saturday, February 27, 2016

Stoney Bluff

Girard, GA

9:00 AM

TRIP: Stoney Bluff is located about 30 miles south of Augusta, Ga and just east of the small town of Girard. We will assemble in Girard at 9 am in the vacant lot just south of the Post Office (do not park in the Post Office parking lot). The collecting site is only a few miles away at the end of Stoney Bluff Rd.

COLLECTING: “Savannah River Agate”

BRING: Colorful, agatized material can be found on the surface at the site, but many people usually bring light digging tools and small pry bars to free larger boulders from the sandy soil. Leather gloves are recommended. Bring plenty of water and dress for the weather.

DIRECTIONS AND WHERE TO MEET:

Directions from I-20 in Augusta, GA.

- From I-20 in Augusta get onto I-520 (Bobby Jones Expressway) and head toward the south end of the expressway. When you reach Exit 9 (Mike Padgett Hwy), exit and head south (most likely Hwy 56 at that point) approx. 15 mi. to McBean, GA. Just beyond McBean turn left onto Hwy 23 and follow it SE about 14 mi. to Girard. Ga.

Directions from I-16 just west of Savannah, GA

- Exit I-16 at US301/US25 (Exit #116) and head north approx. 10 mi to Statesboro, GA Continue north on US 301 from Statesboro approx 20 mi to Sylvania, Ga. Continue north on US301 from Sylvania about 5 miles to junction with Hwy 24. Turn left onto Hwy 24 and drive 14 mi to Sardis, GA. In Sardis pick up Hwy 23 and drive 6 miles to Girard, GA.

CONTACT: Trip chairman: Jim Maudsley 706-353-1792 or jamesm24@charter.net

UPCOMING SHOWS

Feb. 19-20—CORDOVA, TENNESSEE: Annual show; Intergalactic Bead Show, Woodland Hills; 10000 Woodland Hills Dr. ; Fri. 10-5, Sat. 10-5; \$5 Admission; Looking for a relaxing way to spend the weekend? Then shop the Intergalactic Bead Show! Intergalactic Bead Shows unites beaders, jewelry makers and enthusiasts with some of the world's finest and rarest beads as well as precious stones, gems and finished jewelry from all over the world. Experience the world of Intergalactic Bead Shows and enjoy the luxury that only earthly treasures can bring. All shows are wholesale/retail. ; contact Shawwna Whitson; e-mail: Info@beadshows.com; Web site: Beadshows.com

19-21—HAMPTON, VIRGINIA: Retail show; Treasures of the Earth, Inc., Hampton Roads Convention Center; 1610 Coliseum Drive; Fri. 12-6, Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-5; Adults \$5, Students 16 and under free; 14K and sterling silver, classic, estate, fashion and handmade jewelry. Loose stones, beads and findings, pearls, books, carvings, gift items Mineral specimens, crystals, lapidary supplies Display of rocks and minerals and demonstrations of lapidary arts by the local gem and mineral society. ; contact Jane Westbrook, PO Box 59, Gloucester Point, VA 23062, (804)-642-2011; e-mail: ellen@treasuresoftheearth.com; Web site: www.treasuresoftheearth.com

27-27—LAKELAND, FLORIDA: Annual show; Imperial Bone Valley Gem, Mineral & Fossil Soc., Inc., First Presbyterian Church of Lakeland; 175 Lake Hollingsworth Dr; Sat. 9-4:30; \$3 Admission , Students/ Children Free Admission, Free; Door prizes, spin & win mineral wheel, kids' treasure dig, demonstrations, educational displays, silent and Chinese auctions, rocks, minerals, fossils, jewelry, gifts, hobby supplies, lapidary demonstrations, wire wrapping, cabochon making.; contact Kim Price, (863)-412-9156; e-mail: IBVGMFS@gmail.com; Web site: www.bonevalley.net

5-6—CONCORD, NORTH CAROLINA: Annual show; Intergalactic Bead Show, Cabarrus Arena & Events Center; 4751 NC- 49; Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-5; Admission \$4-\$5, Children free; Do you love great quality and prices? Then shop The Intergalactic Bead Show! Our shows provide attendees with the world's finest and rarest beads, precious stones, gems, freshwater pearls and an exquisite collection of finished jewelry. Shop quality. ; contact Shawwna Whitson , (888)-729-6904; Web site: <http://beadshows.com>

11-13—AUGUSTA, GEORGIA: Annual show; Aiken Gem, Mineral & Fossil Society and Augusta Gem and Mineral Society, Julian Smith Casino; 2200 Broad St. ; Fri. 10-7, Sat. 10-7, Sun. 11-5; \$3 Admission, Children under 12 free; 28th Annual Aiken-Augusta Gem, Mineral & Fossil Show - Vendors that offer a wide variety of jewelry, rare fossils and mineral specimens, gems of all colors shapes & sizes, lapidary and much more. Club Member Show Cases, Lapidary Demonstrations, Educational Resources, Membership booth where you can talk about becoming a club member, Grab Bags, Treasure Dig, Geode Cutting and Mineral Panning. Hourly Door Prizes and a Grand Prize that will be awarded at the end of the Show on Sunday. ; contact Chris Glass, GA, 706-284-9239; Web site: www.agams.club and www.aikengmfs.org