



# THE GOLDRUSH LEDGER



CHARLOTTE GEM & MINERAL CLUB

MAY 2015

## THE PREZ SAYZ

A few weeks ago I drove down to Atlanta to pick up my teen-aged grandson. We drove 90 miles south to the Hogg Mine in LaGrange, Georgia. The Hogg is known for its beryl, tourmaline and rose quartz. My grandson was par-

ticularly interested in looking for tourmaline. We had been at this dig site a few years ago and he had found some rather impressive tourmaline specimens.

My collecting objective, on the other hand, was considerably different. I was after yard specimens. The interior of our home is filled with shelves, tables and display cases containing mineral specimens collected over many years. I do have a number of rock specimens in our patio garden but there's always room for a few more (outstanding) pieces. The interesting thing about the Hogg mine is the fact that there are big rose quartz boulders lying all over the place. You don't have to

dig for hours following potential seams in hopes of finding a unique acquisition. What you do need is a sturdy hand truck and a grandson who played football in high school.

Over a 4 hour period we collected a couple of buckets of nice rose quartz pieces (my grandson now has a great



## TABLE OF CONTENTS

1	The Prez Says
4-5	Rock of the Month
6-7	Field Trip
8	Upcoming Shows
9	Jewelry Class



## 2015 CGMC OFFICERS & BOARD

### **President**

Murray Simon  
msimonnc@gmail.com  
(704) 668-5658

### **Vice President**

Kim Gwyn  
gwynk@flashlink.net

### **Secretary**

Vickie Glover

### **Treasurer**

Vivian Philson  
Philson05@carolina.rr.com

### **Directors at Large**

Mary Fisher  
mefisher@att.net  
Brad Glover  
glov4305@bellsouth.net

### **Web Master**

Kim Gwyn  
gwynkim@gmail.com

### **Bulletin Editor:**

Zach Blackburn  
zachery.blackburn@hotmail.com

### **CLUB CHAIRPERSONS**

#### **Geode Chair**

Jimmy Strickland

#### **Workshop Chair**

Linda Simon  
lsimon1@carolina.rr.com

#### **Field Trip Chair**

Vacant

#### **Christmas Party Chair**

Pat Walker

#### **Special Events**

Carl Lockwood  
aclockwood@outlook.com

#### **Jr. Rockhounds Chair**

Mary Fisher

tourmaline in rose quartz souvenir in his room) and I spotted two particular “monsters” that I knew would look great in the garden. As we neared the end of our dig time I “negotiated” with my grandson the details of getting those two big pieces into the car. He decided a milkshake and French fries at a nearby Arby’s would get the job done and I quickly agreed to his (reasonably priced) demands.

Both of those boulders now occupy prominent positions near the entrance to our house on the lake (see photos below) and although I came home very dirty and tired, every time I look at them I am reminded of a great weekend with my grandson. Be sure to check them out at the club picnic in July and the next time you find notice of an interesting dig on the CG&MC website, THINK BIG!!!

*Murray Simon*

*President*

*Charlotte Gem and Mineral Club*

## *William Holland* School of Lapidary Arts

Are you interested in taking your gem and mineral hobby or business to the next level? Then William Holland School of Lapidary Arts is the place for you! Registration for the 2014 season is open now.

Learn about silver smithing, faceting, cabochons, opals, and tons of other interesting and exciting topics. Spend one week immersed in rockhounding pursuits in the beautiful Georgia countryside.

Learn more at:

<http://www.lapidaryschool.org/>





# **Charlotte Gem and Mineral Club Monthly Meeting**

**Thursday May 21, 2015**

**Social Hour from 6:00 - 7:00**

**Silent Auction and Personal Collection 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:**

## **Exploring eBay**

**AN EXCITING SAFARI THROUGH THIS FAMOUS  
AUCTION JUNGLE OF LAPIDARY MYSTERIES . . . .**

**ITS DANGERS, DECEITS AND DELIGHTS**

**John DeFelice will be our guide.**

**Jack King will host a sales table featuring well made,  
reasonably priced jewelry**

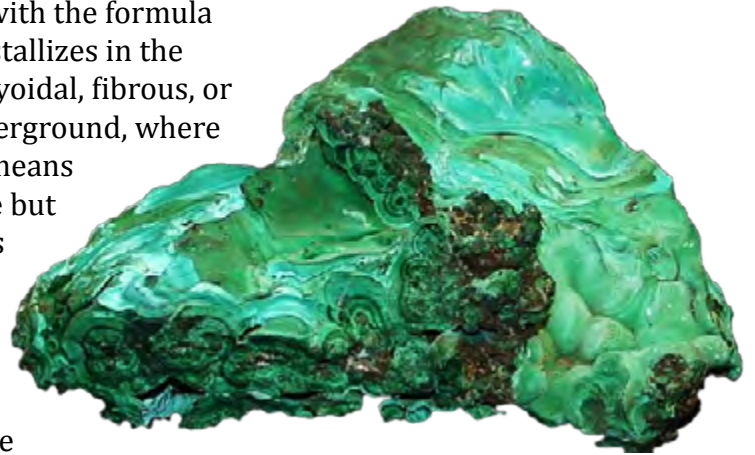
**\*Jewelry Making Workshop prior to the  
meeting\* 5:00 to 7:00 pm**

**Class will be taught by Linda Simon – Your instructor  
will teach a simple yet attractive technique for mounting  
cabochons**

# ROCK OF THE MONTH

## MALACHITE

**Malachite** is a copper carbonate hydroxide mineral, with the formula  $\text{Cu}_2\text{CO}_3(\text{OH})_2$ . This opaque, green banded mineral crystallizes in the monoclinic crystal system, and most often forms botryoidal, fibrous, or stalagmitic masses, in fractures and spaces, deep underground, where the water table and hydrothermal fluids provide the means for chemical precipitation. Individual crystals are rare but do occur as slender to acicular prisms. Pseudomorphs after more tabular or blocky azurite crystals also occur.



### Etymology and history

The stone's name derives (via Latin: *molochitis*, Middle French: *melochite*, and Middle English *melochites*) from Greek Μολοχίτης λίθος *molochitis lithos*, "mallow-green stone", from μολόχη *molōchē*, variant of μαλάχη *malāchē*, "mallow". The mineral was given this name due to its resemblance to the leaves of the Mallow plant. Archeological evidence indicates that the mineral has been mined and smelted at Timna Valley in Israel for over 3,000 years. Since then, malachite has been used as both an ornamental stone and as a gemstone.



### Use

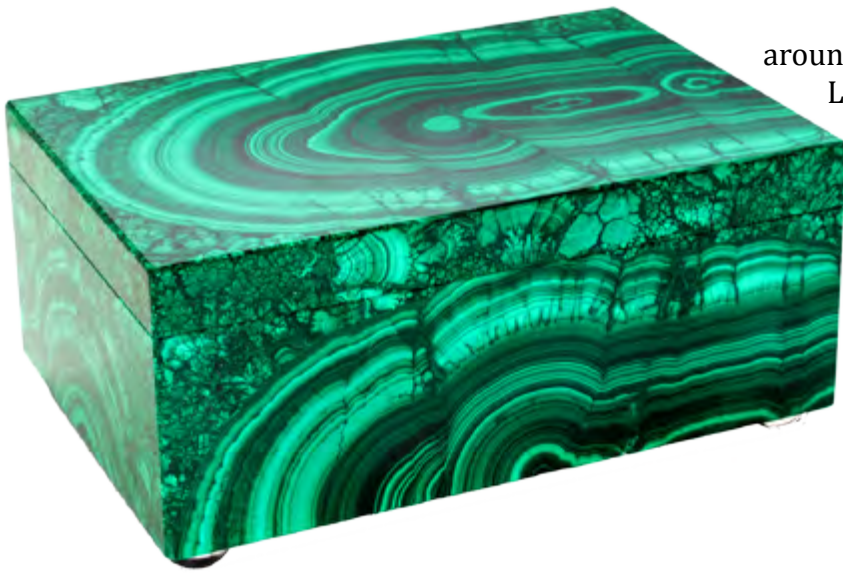
Malachite was used as a mineral pigment in green paints from antiquity until about 1800. The pigment is moderately lightfast, very sensitive to acids, and varying in color. The natural form was being replaced by its synthetic form, verditer, among other synthetic greens. It is also used for decorative purposes, such as in the Malachite Room in the Hermitage, which features a huge malachite vase, and the Malachite Room in Castillo de Chapultepec in Mexico City. "The Tazza", a large malachite vase, one of the largest pieces of malachite in North America and a gift from Tsar Nicholas II, stands as the focal point in the center of the room of Linda Hall Library.

### Occurrence

Malachite often results from weathering of copper ores and is often found together with azurite ( $\text{Cu}_3(\text{CO}_3)_2(\text{OH})_2$ ), goethite, and calcite. Except for its vibrant green color, the properties of malachite are similar to those of azurite and aggregates of the two minerals occur frequently. Malachite is more common than azurite and is typically associated with copper deposits







around limestones, the source of the carbonate.

Large quantities of malachite have been mined in the Urals, Russia. Ural malachite is not being mined at present, but G.N Vertushkova reports the possible discovery of new deposits of malachite in the Urals. It is found worldwide including in the Democratic Republic of Congo; Gabon; Zambia; Tsumeb, Namibia; Mexico; Broken Hill, New South Wales; Lyon, France; Timna Valley, Israel; and the Southwestern United States, most notably in Arizona.

*From Wikipedia.com*



## **DMC Program of the SFMS Field Trip Committee**

**An Official Field Trip of Mid-Tennessee Gem & Mineral Society, Inc. (HOST)**

**11:00AM until 3:00PM CDT**

**Saturday – May 30, 2015**

**WHERE: Cumberland Furnace, TN**

**WHEN: Saturday – May 30, 2015**

**DIRECTIONS:** From Nashville, TN off of I-40 take exit 196 for US-70 S (Bellevue/Newsom Station) go 0.2 miles. Turn right at TN-1 W/US-70S W go 1.8 miles. Turn left at TN-1 W/US-70 W/Charlotte Pike go 16.1 miles. Turn right at TN-47 (White Bluff) go 9.6 miles. Turn right at TN-48 (Charlotte) go 6.8 miles. Take a slight left at Earl Leech Rd go 0.2 miles. Turn left on Cinder Road. You will see a log cabin (Starks Cabin) on the left hand side of the road. You can park in the field next to the cabin.

**ASSEMBLY TIME:** 11:00 AM at Cinder Road, Cumberland Furnace, TN  
For those meeting as at Cumberland Furnace, we should arrive about 10:00. Meet near the old log cabin on Cinder Road.

**COLLECTING:** We are heading to Cumberland Furnace to collect slag. The slag was a byproduct of making iron. Some of the slag is quit colorful in shades of blue and green ... some with swirls. The slag is easily cut and polished and makes nice pendants – it is too soft for rings.

Our target is a dump pile on the banks of the stream that runs through Cumberland Furnace (access by crossing a large field owned by the community). This dump pile is located about a ¼ of a mile from the parking area. Although the dump pile has the greatest potential, slag can be found anywhere along the banks (both upstream and downstream). Another way to search is by wading downstream from the furnace if the creek is low. I am not sure if conditions will permit - bring wading shoes just in case if you wish to collect in the stream.

**AGE LIMIT:** Everyone is welcome but children must be 6 years or older. They will not be allowed to roam around unattended and must obey all safety requirements and have all safety equipment. All pets must be under control at all times.

**EQUIPMENT:** You need to bring a hand tool, trowel, small shovel, etc to dig in the slag pile and gloves to protect your hands. Bring a back pack or small buckets for carrying. Boots or wading shoes are recommended as your feet may get wet otherwise.

**SEVERAL LODGING SUGGESTIONS:** Depending on which direction you are coming from, I would recommend staying in the Nashville area, Clarksville(north of the furnace) or Dickson (south of the furnace). If you are going to meet us and go as group, then Nashville is the best choice.

**CONTACTS:** For further information or alternative directions contact: John Martin, MTGMS Vice President at [info@mtgms.org](mailto:info@mtgms.org) call my cell phone 615-210-5385 Visit our website [www.mtgms.org](http://www.mtgms.org) and visit us on Facebook.



## UPCOMING SHOWS

**May 22-24—SALEM, VIRGINIA:** Annual show; Treasures Of The Earth Gem & Jewelry Shows, Salem Civic Center; 1001 Boulevard; Fri. 10-6, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 11-5; \$5 (3-day pass), children (under 16) free; beads, pearls, gemstones, gem trees, wire wrapping, wire sculpture, silversmiths and goldsmiths, custom work and repairs while you wait, door prizes, classes available; contact Van Wimmer, Show Director, 5273 Bradshaw Rd., Salem, VA 24153, (540) 384-6047; e-mail: [van@toteshow.com](mailto:van@toteshow.com); Web site: [www.toteshow.com](http://www.toteshow.com)

**June 13-13—GREENSBORO, NORTH CAROLINA:** Annual show; Greensboro Gem & Mineral Club, Greensboro Day School; 5401 Lawndale Drive; Sat. 10 am-6 pm; Adults \$4, Seniors \$2, Students \$2, Children \$2; Numerous gem and jewelry and mineral vendors, demonstrations, food and fun for the young and old and curious!; contact Charlie Finch, PO Box 13087, Greensboro, NC 27410, (336) 696-7745; e-mail: [ggmc.rockhounds@gmail.com](mailto:ggmc.rockhounds@gmail.com); Web site: [www.ggmc-rockhounds.com](http://www.ggmc-rockhounds.com)

**June 13-14—CARTERSVILLE, GEORGIA:** Show and sale; Tellus Science Museum, Tellus Science Museum; 100 Tellus Drive; Sat. 10:00 am-5:00 pm, Sun. 10:00 am-5:00 pm; Adults \$14, Seniors \$12, Students \$10, Children \$10; Calling all rock hounds, jewelry collectors, families and everyone fascinated by the Earth's treasures! RockFest returns to Tellus for two full days that will delight the whole family. Mark this indoor/outdoor event as a summer "must-do" on your calendar. Dealers from all over the country will bring their wares for you to browse. Some will feature rare and exotic jewelry, while others will showcase ancient fossils or colorful specimens. You will have an opportunity to purchase a one-of-a-kind find at this unique festival of merchants. And what's even better? Most dealers will also honor the Tellus member discount – that means members save 10% off your purchase! Dealers will be set up outside on the back lawn and inside the Museum in the Banquet Rooms. Hourly door prizes Free mineral specimens for the first 200 guests each day Bring your mystery mineral specimen for free mineral or fossil identification Kid's activities; contact Mary Vinson, PO Box 3663, Cartersville, GA 30120, (770) 606-5700; e-mail: [maryv@tellusmuseum.org](mailto:maryv@tellusmuseum.org); Web site: [tellusmuseum.org](http://tellusmuseum.org)

**June 26-28—FISHERSVILLE, VIRGINIA:** Annual show; Treasures Of The Earth Gem & Jewelry Shows, Augusta Expo; 277 Expo Rd., I-64 Exit 91; Sun. 10-6, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 11-5; \$4 (3-day pass), children (under 16) free; beads, pearls, gemstones, gem trees, wire wrapping, wire sculpture, silversmiths and goldsmiths, custom work and repairs while you wait, door prizes; contact Van Wimmer, Show Director, 5273 Bradshaw Rd., Salem, VA 24153, (540) 384-6047; e-mail: [van@toteshow.com](mailto:van@toteshow.com); Web site: [www.toteshow.com](http://www.toteshow.com)



# Jewelry Making Classes



Learn the art of jewelry making from one of your fellow club members. The above works of art were created by members like you during a previous jewelry class. Classes are available to all up to date members.

Class will be taught by Linda Simon. Your instructor will teach a simple yet attractive technique for mounting cabochons

**\*Next Class is Thursday May 21st  
from 5 to 7 prior to the club meeting\***