



# THE GOLDRUSH LEDGER



CHARLOTTE GEM & MINERAL CLUB

SEPT. 2014

## THE PREZ SAYZ

**I**t was a record setting weekend at the Matthews Alive Festival!!! For the first time ever we grossed over \$5000 in three days. But the definition of success goes far beyond the amount of money we made. The turnout of member volunteers was awesome (thank you Kristie Bulla for your incredible scheduling efforts). Saturday afternoon was the busiest I've seen in a long time but right up to the 7:30 closing we were well staffed and could easily handle the demand. It was very gratifying to have so many new members participating – two of the more important benefits of this event are that members get to know each other better and newer members become better integrated with club activities.

As usual, there were many memorable experiences, especially related to the kids. How many times did we hear, "Do you remember

me; I get a geode from you every year"? A little girl approached the sales table with a \$25 geode. She reached into the little purse on her shoulder and pulled out some cash. I asked if she was paying with her own money. Her mother told us that day was her birthday and it was what she wanted to do with her gift money (she got a nice present from the CG&MC). How about the mother who's daughter was so excited about sluicing and the collection she was accumulating that they came to sluice each morning and afternoon for all three days (a future rockhound in the making???). I overheard an argument at the \$50 geode basket between a 13-year-old boy and his father. The father complained that the boy had already bought a number of cut geodes over the years and strongly suggested he buy a \$25 or \$30 one and save the balance for something else. The boy was hoping for a "special" geode and insisted that a \$50 one offered the best chance for getting it. Fifteen minutes later he was proudly holding up two of the most beautiful geode halves to



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### Workshop Chair

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### Field Trip Chair

Vacant

### Christmas Party Chair

Pat Walker

### Special Events

Kim Gwyn

### Children's Program Chair

Mary Fisher

come out of our booth within the past couple of years (see the photo below) and his father was thanking us profusely.

There isn't enough space to individually thank all who helped make this weekend so successful, but your efforts were duly noted and greatly appreciated. Special thanks, however, must be extended to Pat Walker and her sister June (CG&MC's Energizer Bunnies), Martha Rogers and Dottie Carrano (CG&MC's tent decoration/food services committee), Mary Fisher (no child left behind), Gale and Tom Blevins (always there when you need them), Jack King (a man of many donations), Jimmy and Becky Strickland (sliding off the glacier in the nick of time), Vickie Glover (director of tent-based mining operations), Xavier Bulla (sluicing's little giant), Clarence Johnson (Forest Gump sales director), Chuck Borawa (please don't move to Colorado) and Linda and Kristi (the CG&MC backstage wire wrap crew).

And to the two gentlemen without whose tireless, ongoing efforts this event (and so many others) would not have been the success it was – thank you Kim Gwyn and Brad Glover!

*Murray Simon*

*President*

*Charlotte Gem and Mineral Club*





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

**No Meeting in September!**

**No Jewelry Class this month.**

**All future meetings through  
2015 will be held at the  
Tyvola Senior Center!**

***Charlotte Junior Rockhounds***

*Saturday September 27, 2014*

*Topic: Gem Hunt*

*(By Invitation Only – Details to follow by email)*

# A FIELD TRIP OF THE CHARLOTTE GEM AND MINERAL CLUB

Saturday – October 18, 2014 – 8AM to 6PM

Reel Amethyst Mine - Iron Station, NC - Lincoln County, NC

Reel Mine is located on the premises of Mr. Francis Sulphin:

375 Timber Road

Iron Station, NC

(704) 736-0506

[reelamethystmine@gmail.com](mailto:reelamethystmine@gmail.com)

There is no direct website but you can access the following for information:

<http://mcrocks.websitetoolbox.com/post/reel-mine-update-6609096>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pWoqq91hUGE> - August, 2013

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Rgf4s2ETHw4> - May, 2013

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jxrwIFJo1pw> - 2011

Type of dig and sample site picture are shown below:



**DIRECTIONS:** One hour drive from downtown Charlotte, NC. From the I-485 Outer Beltway take Exit 16 West/Brookshire Tpk. Left at the end of the exit ramp and proceed on Hwy 16 west for 10 miles to the Hwy 73/Huntersville Exit. Take a left on Hwy 73 and travel 7.6 miles to a left on Reinhart Circle followed by first left onto Timber Road. Look for a dirt road on your left with a Reel Mine sign. Travel on the dirt road until you reach the mine entrance (approximately ½ mile – not a sports car kind of road). If the weather is bad, you can



park at Mr. Sulphin's house and walk the half mile to the mine.

**HISTORY:** Specimen types usually found here, include amethyst, beryl, ironized quartz, smokey quartz, and associated gems and minerals. This mine has been intermittently opened and closed for many years. Mr. Sulphin has recently reached an agreement with the County on how field trips will be scheduled and conducted. Since the reopening two digs have been conducted a month. The Charlotte Gem and Mineral Club (CGMC) has scheduled its planned dig for the Southeast Federation for Saturday, April 19, 2014. However, to comply with the County agreement,.

**ASSEMBLY:** CGMC officials will be at the mine entrance beginning at 8:00 AM, Saturday, April 19, 2014, to collect the fees and provide instructions for the dig. You will be responsible for bringing any food, water and digging tools or collection containers for you and/or your party. There will be two porta-potties provided and space is available for camping depending on the weather.

**COST:** \$25 for each digger (children under 13 free when accompanied by a paid digger). Diggers must be current paid members of the Charlotte Gem & Mineral Club (insurance liability issues). The fee will be collected at the entrance in the form of cash or personal check (made out to Mr. Francis Sutphin) by a CGMC official.

#### RESERVATIONS REQUIRED

Contact George Libby at [onsiteinatlanta@yahoo.com](mailto:onsiteinatlanta@yahoo.com).

**EQUIPMENT:** Hand digging tools (shovels, spades, picks, post holes diggers, forks, rakes, and other similar digging equipment are to be used. No large electrical or drilling equipment will be allowed. You may wish to bring a small canopy for shade.





## BIRTHSTONE OF THE MONTH SAPPHIRE

Sapphire, the September birthstone, has been popular since the Middle Ages and, according to folklore, will protect your loved ones from envy and harm. Medieval clergy wore sapphires to symbolize heaven, while commoners thought the gem attracted heavenly blessings. Blue sapphires range from very light to very dark greenish or violetish blue, as well as various shades of pure blue. The most prized colors are a medium to medium dark blue or slightly violetish blue. Sapphire is a variety of the gem species corundum and occurs in all colors of the rainbow. Pink, purple, green, orange, or yellow corundum are known by their color (pink sapphire, green sapphire). Ruby is the red variety of corundum. - See more at: <http://www.americangemsociety.org/september-birthstone#sthash.iIVyTSUh.dpuf>



## *William Hollan D* 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/>

## VULCAN QUARRY FESTIVAL

Oct. 4, 2014 11:00 - 2:00

Vulcan Materials is having a celebration to promote goodwill among the community. CG&M members have been invited to the festivities. There will be food, music and tons of rocks.





# Hiddenite Gem, Mineral and Fossil Show (And Mine Dig!)



Hosted By The Mountain Area Gem and Mineral Association

**September 25th - 27th, 2014**

At The Hiddenite Center in Downtown Hiddenite, North Carolina  
Show hours: 12pm - 6pm Thursday, 9am - 6pm Friday and Saturday

**Admission is FREE!**

**Gems - Minerals - Fossils - Cutting Rough  
Jewelry - Faceted Stones**

This show will coincide with the annual Hiddenite Craft Fair.



**DIG YOUR OWN MINERALS  
IN HIDDENITE, NORTH CAROLINA  
Every Rockhound's Dream Location!**

**Sharpes Emerald Prospect Mine Dig  
September 27th, 2014**

We will have a one day dig at the Sharpes Emerald Prospect in Hiddenite, NC. This is a new mine site. Specimens found on the last dig here included gem grade muscovite mica, green and blue beryl, smoky quartz crystals and cutting grade smoky quartz. We will have a machine in prior to the dig to open new areas.

**Date: Saturday September 27th - Location: Sharpes Emerald Prospect**

Hours, the dig will begin at 8:00 am and end at 5:00 pm

**Fee: \$25 adults, children 12 and under are free.**

All attendees should find Jesse or Andrea Sackett upon arrival to fill out a release form and make payment. Directions: From I-40 East, take Exit 132, take Hwy 16 North towards Taylorsville, Take Hwy 64 East towards Hiddenite. Turn left onto Prichard Lane, look for MAGMA sign on right. The mine is approximately 1 mile from the gem show at the Hiddenite Center.



# HOW TO KILL YOUR CLUB IN 13 EASY STEPS

1. *Stay away from meetings.*
2. *If you do come, find fault.*
3. *Decline office or appointment to a committee.*
4. *Get sore if you are not nominated, appointed or when you feel “snubbed” by another member.*
5. *After you are named to a committee, don't attend meetings.*
6. *If you do get to a meeting, clam up until it is over, THEN tell them how things should really be done.*
7. *Don't do any work if you can help it and when the “old reliables” pitch in, accuse them of being a clique.*
8. *Oppose all meetings and seminars as being a waste of time and members' money.*
9. *When there's a lot of business to discuss at the meetings, take up meeting time by complaining.*
10. *Never except a place at the head of the table. You might learn something new.*
11. *If you aren't asked to sit there, get angry and threaten to resign because you are not appreciated.*
12. *Don't pay your dues on time, let the executive sweat. After all, they wrote the budget and write all the checks.*
13. *Read your mail only now and then. Put the club newsletter aside, there isn't anything in it anyway.*

*From: American Federation of Mineralogical Societies Sept. 2000*



## UPCOMING SHOWS

**Sept. 27-28—DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA:** Wholesale and retail show; Intergalactic Bead Shows; Durham Convention Center-Jr Ballrooms; 301 W. Morgan St.; Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-5; adults \$5 Sat., \$4 Sun. (\$2-off coupon on Web site), children (12 and under) free; precious and semiprecious gemstone beads, sterling silver, findings, freshwater pearls, hand-blown glass beads, vintage beads, crystals, delicats, gemstone chain, findings; contact Chris Murray, 3865 Lawrenceville Hwy., Ste. 107, Lawrenceville, GA 30044, (888) 729-6904; e-mail: [contact.beadshows@gmail.com](mailto:contact.beadshows@gmail.com); Web site: [www.beadshows.com](http://www.beadshows.com)

**Oct. 3-5—DALLAS, NORTH CAROLINA:** Annual Gaston Gem Show; Gaston Gem, Mineral & Faceters Club; Gaston County Park; 1303 Dallas Cherryville Hwy.; Fri. 9-6, Sat. 9-6, Sun. 9-5; free admission; dealers, minerals, fossils, gemstones, wire wrapping, geodes, jewelry, sluice; contact Rick Perkins, (704) 288-9091; Web site: <http://gastongemclub.weebly.com>

**Oct. 17-19—FRANKLIN, NORTH CAROLINA:** Show and sale; Gem & Mineral Society of Franklin; Macon County Community Bldg.; 1288 Georgia Rd.; Fri. 10-5, Sat. 10-5, Sun. 11-4; adults \$2, children (12 and under) free; demonstrations, door prizes, repairs, stone setting, gold and silver jewelry, rough and cut gemstones, minerals, equipment; contact Linda Harbuck, 425 Porter St., Franklin, NC 28734, (828) 524-3161; e-mail: [llindah@franklin-chamber.com](mailto:llindah@franklin-chamber.com); Web site: [www.visitfranklinnc.com](http://www.visitfranklinnc.com)

**Oct. 17-19—KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE:** Annual show; Knoxville Gem & Mineral Society; Kerbela Temple; 315 Mimosa Ave.; Fri. 10-6, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 11-5; adults \$5 per day or \$8 show pass, children (under 12) free; contact Beth Willis, 3305 Fairway Rd., Knoxville, TN 37917, (865) 306-8542; e-mail: [beth.willis2@gmail.com](mailto:beth.willis2@gmail.com)

**Oct. 17-19—VIRGINIA BEACH, VIRGINIA:** Retail show; Treasures of the Earth Inc.; Virginia Beach Convention Center; 1000 19th St.; Fri. 12-6, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 11-5; adults \$5, students (16 and under) free with adult; 14K and sterling silver, classic, contemporary and handmade jewelry, loose stones, beads, findings, pearls, minerals, crystals, lapidary supplies, jewelers, wire wrappers, jewelry design and repairs, mineral specimens, crystals, lapidary supplies, jewelers, wire wrappers, jewelry design and repairs, rock and mineral display, lapidary demonstrations, on-site appraisals available ; contact Jane Westbrook, PO Box 59, Gloucester Point, VA 23062, (804) 285-4281; e-mail: [jane@treasuresoftheearth.com](mailto:jane@treasuresoftheearth.com); Web site: [www.treasuresoftheearth.com](http://www.treasuresoftheearth.com)