

Tar Heel Tailings

Special Interest Articles:

- Prez Sez
- History of Gold in North Carolina
- Annual Rock and Gem Show
- Carmeltazite: A New Unique Gemstone

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A newsletter for Gem and Mineral enthusiasts in and around the Raleigh, North Carolina area.

Prez Sez

By Anthony Andreoli

It's that time of year again... Show Time!!! With that comes one of my favorite meetings of the year! This month we will be making grab bags for our hospitality booth to sell at the show. So please remember to search your collections and bring in any and all of your small specimens to help us reach our goal of making 1000 grab bags. We will also be labeling and stamping post cards for the show mailing list.



Sign-up sheets will be at this month's meeting again to volunteer at the show.

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History of Gold in North Carolina

While the California gold rush is popular in our nation's memory, it was North Carolina that started the gold rush craze. Gold was first discovered in North Carolina near Charlotte, in Little Meadow Creek. Used for 3 years as a door stop, the 17lb nugget—discovered by 12-year-old Conrad Reed—was sold for \$3.50. If that price sounds low, it *was*, even for the time! \$3.50 is estimated to be “one tenth of one percent” of the gold's actual value in 1802 dollars. As Conrad's father, John Reed, started to realize the value of what was on his property, he partnered with other farmers to mine the creek. The find that started the gold rush in earnest was made by a slave named Peter, who dug up a 28lb gold nugget.

After that, newspapers started spreading the word, and other local farmers found veins that attracted
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Annual Rock and Gem Show

By Cyndy Hummel

Hello There,
I see we have a lot of new club members. Welcome to the group. You may have heard about the annual Rock & Gem show. If not, sit back and I will tell you all about it.

The annual show at the Fairgrounds has free parking and free admission. As you enter the double set of doors of the Kerr Scott building, you approach the Hospitality booth. This area is responsible for the daily door prize tickets, grab bag sales, club membership forms, free magazines and other literature. Knowledgeable club members identify items in the grab bags and answer general questions about the show and club. This is a good place for new members to learn and share their enthusiasm for the hobby with the general public.
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Tar Heel Gem & Mineral Club, Inc.

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919-779-6220

We're on the Web!

See us at:

www.tarheelclub.org

Program & Refreshments

REFRESHMENT SCHEDULE:

Coordinator: Open

March: Beverly House
Beverages: Renny Young

PROGRAM SCHEDULE:

January - Tom Todaro- Safety Briefing
February - Michael Frankilin
March - Grab Bags / Postcards
April - Post-show Discussion
May - Jeff Schlottman
June - TBA
July - TBA
August - Cathy Young
September - Paul Byrne
October - Grab Bags
November - Election

Remember, the club will reimburse you for up to \$85 (bring your receipts to the treasurer).

March B-Day Members

Matthew Catrine
Dan Garrett
LuAnn Hagerty
Fredora Jones
Jennifer Kreidler
Jim Lovejoy
Linda McCall
Bruce Norcross
Ethan Pointer
Jerry Smith
Joseph Stephens
Tricia Weiner



February Treasurer's Report

Beginning Balance:	2/1/19	12,865.33
Income:		
	Show Vendor Fees	3,450.00
	Membership Dues	538.22
	Total Income:	3,988.22
Expense:		
	Club/Officer Mtg - Refreshments	113.68
	Field Trip Gift Cards	50.00
	Stripe Fees (Jan/Feb)	21.44
	Membership dues refund	20.00
	Newsletter Printing, Copy Card	140.40
	SFMS membership dues	136.50
	SFMS liability/show ins	402.00
	Show - Tucson purchases	2,046.00
	Total Expenses:	2,930.02
Ending Balance:	2/28/19	13,923.53
CDs	32-90 day	5,377.16
	91-181 day	5,699.97
	Total CDs	11,077.13



Membership applications may be mailed to:

Tar Heel Gem & Mineral Club, Inc.

Attention: Treasurer

PO Box 33783,

Raleigh, NC 27636-3783

Tar Heel Gem and Mineral Club, Inc. – Febuary Meeting Minutes

February 19, 2019

Attendees (Members): 43

Visitors: 1

TOTAL Attending: 44

Birthdays:

Membership table: Linda Searcy, Treasurer and Karen Santala, Membership

Food: Domino's Pizza -Beverly House; Drinks- Renny Young; Pound Cake- Stacey Vaughn

Meeting called to order at 7:30 pm by Anthony Andreoli, President

Presentation: Vitamins/Minerals Presentation by Dr. Mike

- Importance of Zinc
- Fact Sheet distributed

Tucson Buying Trip

- Greg shared some of the specimens he purchased while at the Tuscan show

New Field Trip Rules and Bylaw additions

- List of proposed field trip rules listed in newsletter
- Proposed updates to bylaws
- Anthony will open floor for discussion at March meeting
- Members will vote on new rules and bylaws, as a whole at next meeting

THGMC Trailer

- The trailer needs new tires-three are cracked
- Members unanimously voted to replace the tires
- New lock installed on the trailer- old one was rusted shut

Field trips

- Field trips will be on new website for sign up
- Emails will go out alerting members of field trips

Door prize winner

- Ryan Haga

THGMC Show- April 5-7, 2019

- New Dates- April 5-7, 2019
 - Friday April 5, 2019 3:00PM to 8:00PM
 - Saturday April 6, 2019 10:00AM to 6:00PM
 - Sunday April 7, 2019 10:00AM to 5:00PM

- Volunteers needed: sign-up sheets available during meeting
- Volunteers working 8 hours are eligible for drawing for to attend William Holland workshop
- Grab bags will be filled at March meeting- donations are welcome

Respectfully submitted,

Beverly L. House,
Secretary Tar Heel Gem and Mineral Club, Inc.



Greg presents the specimens from the Tucson show

Gold: Continued from Page 1

miners from Europe and South America. In the 1820's, the NC state legislature appointed a geologist from UNC to survey the state for gold. McDowell county was one hotspot, but the middle of the state actually ended up producing the most gold, leading a German immigrant named Christopher Bechtler to start a mint in Rutherford County, and congress decided to build a mint in Charlotte in 1835. By the Time Gold was discovered in California in 1849, North Carolina's minable gold was running out. Today, it is mostly collected by rock hounds, though some companies have bought mineral rights in Raleigh and Asheboro as recently as 2011.

If you would like to pan for gold today, one option is to Thermal City Gold and Gem Mine. This tourist mine offers, along with the usual salted gemstone buckets, the option to pan through dirt from their property that may contain placer gold (flakes found in the ground rather than nuggets). They will also set up a trommel for you to process a larger load of material (you have 3.5 hours to process your allotment) for a higher fee. If you would rather pan on your own, USA Today reports that it is legal to pan for gold in Pisgah and Nantahala National Forests. Those interested in panning for gold should take note of the following guidelines from the USDA Forest Service:

- Rockhounding and gold panning may take place on most national forest lands – provided only small quantities of material are removed for personal, non-commercial purposes
- Materials must be removed using small hand tools without mechanical means or motorized equipment. Removing mineral materials with a pick, shovel, sluice box or similar large tools can cause significant impacts to resources is considered mechanical so therefore not allowed.
- Suction dredges are not allowed by forest closure order.
- Gold pans may be used for gold panning in the beds of streams, but the banks of streams cannot be disturbed by digging or removing materials.

If you decide to search for gold in any of the counties or areas described above, check to be sure you are on public land (or get permission on private land) and checking with the Bureau of Land Management is recommended (see: <https://www.blm.gov/basic/rockhounding>).

Rockhounding is allowed on most public land, but there are exceptions for national monuments and national wilderness areas such as Linville Gorge. There may also be restrictions on where you can park. Usually, in public areas, collection is limited to less than 10-25lbs of material.

Resources:

<https://www.romanticasheville.com/gold-mine>

<https://www.smliv.com/features/digging-deep-into-western-north-carolinas-mining-history/>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Carolina_Gold_Rush

Prez Sez: continued from page 1

Our volunteers are what makes our show a success every year! Remember any member that volunteers for 8 hours or more will be eligible for a drawing for a one week stay at either William Holland or Wild Acres where you will take classes to learn everything from lapidary work to jewelry making to scrimshaw, and much more. There are 2 trips up for grabs so make sure you sign up to volunteer!

Refreshments for this month's meeting will be provided by Beverly. Anyone interested in bringing refreshments for any of our meetings please let myself or another board member know. You will be reimbursed up to \$85 combined for food and beverages, just keep your receipts.

Before we start assembling the grab bags we will be voting to put in place the set of rules that was drafted to be attached to the club bylaws that was in last month's newsletter. So please look them over and bring any questions that you may have. They will be addressed before the vote.

Lastly, if anyone has any items they wish to bring for the silent auction please bring them to the Kerr Scott building on either Thursday April 4 during our setup time in the afternoon or on Friday morning before the show starts. Also, if you have any old newspapers laying around we will need them to wrap geodes at the geode booth so please bring those as well. Thank you and see you all on Tuesday March 19th.

Anthony Andreoli
President, Tarheel Gem and Mineral Club

Annual Rock and Gem Show:**Continued from Page 1**

Directly behind the Hospitality area are display cases for club members to spotlight their talents and discoveries. Minerals, fossils, silver, gold and wire wrapped jewelry, cut and polished gems, and slabs of rock that all combine to create our fascinating hobby are reflected behind glass.

As you move around the room, listen for the dulcet tones of saws cutting through hard rock. The Geode booth along the right hand wall is very popular with customers. Indeed, the same people purchase geodes year after year. One never knows what is inside each hollow or solid sphere until it is sliced open. In this area, there is a display of beautiful geodes that have been cut over the years. Knowledgeable club members operate the saws, clean, wrap and bag the geodes. Be sure to quiz them on how geodes are formed.

The Silent Auction is located on the back wall to the right. This is where children and adults alike can find treasures at bargain prices. Items such as jewelry, minerals, fossils, faceted gemstones and slabs of rock are put up for auction for an undisclosed amount of time. Each item has a paper listing the name of the item and location of origin in the case of a mineral or fossil. The bidder places their name and a dollar amount on a blank line and steps away from the bidding table. The next person places a higher bid on the next line. When time is called, the last person on the list is the lucky winner.

Along the left back wall is where our club's talent shines, literally. This is the Demonstration/Sales area where club members showcase their hobby/addiction. At any given time you will see faceting, cabbing, wire wrapping, gold and silver smithing and gem tree creating. Be sure to come view our specialties and ask plenty of questions about how we do what we do.

Upstairs is where we keep the goodies to eat. Hot coffee, soft drinks and snacks can be found at differing times throughout the weekend. Club members are greatly encouraged to bring homemade tasty treats. This area is for current club members and dealers ONLY. Current nametags must be worn.

Set up for the show is Thursday night. Set up involves papering the club area tables, unloading boxes of merchandise for the Hospitality, Geode and Silent

Auction areas and assembling the display cases. Club members set up their own space in the demonstration area and fill their display case on Friday morning.

As you can see there are many areas that club members can participate in during the show. I hope you will join us in April.



Items from Tucson to be featured at Rock and Gem Show

SHOW INFORMATION

You should wear your nametag at all times during the show. You may not be allowed entrance prior to show hours without your 2019 nametag.

Set-up time is 5 PM on Thursday, April 4th at the fairgrounds, Kerr Scott building. Tables and chairs should already be in place. Expect to paper tables for each club booth area; Silent Auction, Geode, Hospitality, Demonstration and Display Case Tables and haul boxes and assemble display cases. We are usually finished by 8PM. The more helping hands we have, the sooner we can finish! Friday morning each club booth area will remove items from boxes and organize the areas to their preference. The dealers set-up early Friday morning beginning at 8AM. Club members also set up their own demonstration/sales area and display case on Friday no earlier than 8AM. Breakfast snacks and coffee will be available all three mornings. The pre-ordered Panera supper on Friday will be delivered at 5PM. Lunch is provided on Saturday & Sunday for club members who are currently **volunteering** at the show, no dealers. The purpose of these meals is to feed our own volunteers who work all day so they need not worry about their meals. Water, soda, coffee and tea will be provided for both dealers and club members throughout the three-day period. Sunday evening is pack-up and takedown for dealers and the club. Display cases are disassembled and wrapped in the table paper. Each booth inventories and boxes their items. Everything is then carefully placed in the storage trailer or rental unit.

If you are unable make a meeting before the show and complete the sign-up sheet and would still like to volunteer, contact the Show Chair. She will have the list of the times when someone is most needed. Cyndy Hummel 919-779-6220.

Show hours for customers are -
Friday, April 5 3PM – 8PM
Saturday, April 6 10AM – 6PM
Sunday, April 7 10AM – 5PM

Remember, ENJOY the show. This is a rewarding and exciting time!!!

Carmeltazite: A New Unique Gemstone From Israel

By David Bressan

There are currently over 5,500 known minerals on Earth, with around 100 new minerals being added to the list each year. Most are quite unspectacular in appearance, with crystals too small to be used in jewelry or too rare to be of any economic interest.

Last week, the International Mineralogical Association recognized carmeltazite as a new, distinct mineral. The mineral was named after Mount Carmel where it was found and the elements it contains - Titanium, Aluminum and Zirconium.

Carmeltazite is found in corundum, an



Reference image courtesy of Parent Géry | Wikimedia Commons

aluminum-oxide, embedded in volcanic rocks mined in the Haifa District in northern Israel. It is a complex zirconium-aluminum-titanium-oxide, with traces of scandium, calcium and magnesium to be found in its crystalline structure. The theoretical density (calculated from the crystal structure) is 4.12 g/cm^3 , higher than a diamond with 3.52 g/cm^3 . However, this doesn't translate, as erroneously reported by some media, in a higher hardness. Curiously, the chemical formula resembles allendeite, a mineral identified for the first time in the Allende meteorite, a rocky meteorite that fell February 8, 1969, in the Mexican state of Chihuahua.

Carmeltazite and its hosting corundum most likely formed near the crust-mantle boundary of Earth, at a depth of almost 18 miles. Under high pressure and temperatures, the partially molten rocks released fluids, which reacted to form new minerals. The corundum crystals, containing the carmel tazite, were then transported through volcanic vents into the upper crust. Sixty-five million years ago volcanoes flooded the area with lava and steam-blast eruption produced thick deposits of volcanic breccia and tuff. Carmeltazite is found as veins almost black to dark green in color with a metallic luster in the larger blue sapphire-like crystals, embedded in the volcanic rocks. The largest stone discovered so far has 33.3 carats (0.25 oz).

The mining company Shefa Yamim plans to market the new mineral as "Carmel sapphire." At the moment, it is not clear how large the deposits of Carmeltazite are. Shefa Yamim considers it possible that more stones are found mining the volcanic rocks of Mount Carmel. As gemstone prices are usually based on their rarity, this newly-discovered mineral has the potential to be more valuable than diamond.

Source:

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/davidbressan/2019/01/14/carmeltazite-a-new-unique-gemstone-from-israel/#346adab4570a>



Image courtesy of Shefa Yamim

UPCOMING SHOWS

April 5-7, 2019: Raleigh, NC – 43rd Annual Capital Area Gem & Mineral Show. Tar Heel Gem and Mineral Club, Inc. Kerr Scott Building, NC State Fairgrounds, Raleigh, NC. The show is sponsored by the Tar Heel Gem & Mineral Club and includes 29 dealers. The Hospitality area sells grab bags with mineral specimens. Buy a rock at the Geode booth and be the first to see what is inside. The ongoing Silent Auction has new items every hour. Dealers provide minerals, fossils, finished jewelry, gemstones, findings and beads for sale.. Hours: Fri 3-8; Sat 10-6; Sun 10-5. Admission: Free and Free Parking. Contact: Cyndy Hummel; 919-779-6220; mchummel@mindspring.com; www.tarheelclub.org;

March 8-10, 2019: Augusta, GA - 30th Annual Aiken-Augusta Gem, Mineral & Fossil Show. Sponsored by the nonprofit organizations: Aiken Gem, Mineral & Fossil Society; Augusta Gem and Mineral Society. Julian Smith Casino, 2200 Broad St. Augusta, GA. Diamonds, sapphires, tanzanites, emeralds and other fine jewelry. Gorgeous everyday jewelry, mineral lamps, art objects, and beads. Fabulous fossils and minerals from around the world. Jewelry making and cabochon cutting demos. Kid's Treasure Dig, Grab Bags, Geode cutting, Member case displays, Educational resources. FREE "Adopt-a-Rock" to every child. Hours: Fri & Sat 10-6 / Sun 10-5. Concessions benefit Relay for Life. Admission: Kids under 12 FREE with one Adult admission: \$3/day or \$5 weekend pass; 50¢-off admission coupon on our websites. Contact: Show Chair: Chris Glass 706-284-9239; <http://www.aikengmfs.org>; <http://agams.club>

Park in the Cates Ave. Parking Deck off Jensen Dr. Enter Thompson Building directly across from the parking lot.

Our Next Meeting is

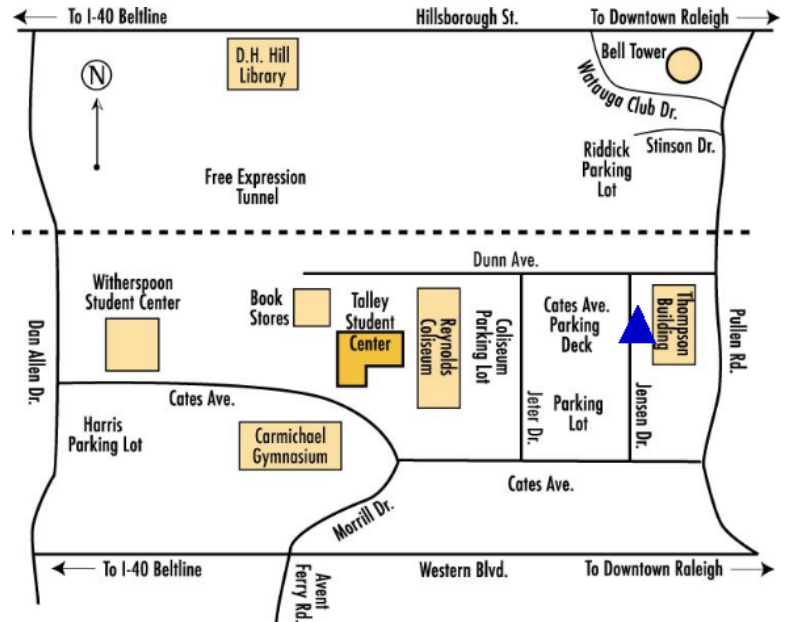
February 19, 2019 @ 7:30PM

Thompson Building / NCSU Campus.

About Our Organization...

The Tar Heel Gem and Mineral Club, Inc. was formed in 1974 as a nonprofit educational organization for people who enjoy the lapidary arts, earth sciences, and related subjects. The club pursues these goals through publications, meetings, lectures, field trips, exhibits, demonstrations, and other activities.

Come and be a part of the Fun!



TAR HEEL GEM & MINERAL CLUB
PO Box 33783,
Raleigh, NC 27636-3783

