

# Tar Heel Tailings

## Special Interest Articles:

- Prez Sez
- History of Jasper and Chalcedony in North Carolina
- Mars Has A Brand New Crater

## Individual Highlights:

Prez Sez	1
History of Jasper and Chalcedony in North Carolina	1
June's Meeting Minutes	3
May, June and 6-Month Treasurer Reports	5
Mars Has a Brand New Crater	6
Color-Change Pink Pyrope Garnet	6
Announcements	7

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

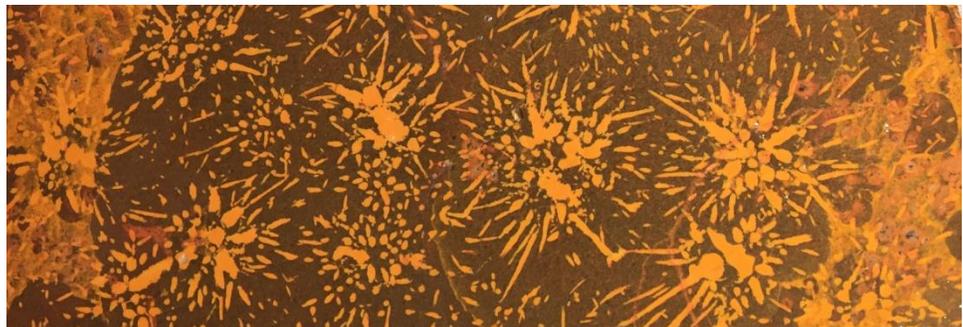
## Prez Sez

**By Anthony Andreoli**

This month George Harris will be doing a presentation on the Smithsonian Gem Collection at the Museum of Natural History. I will be asking who would like to volunteer to help out at our table for the Museum of Life and Sciences paleontology event. We would like two extra hands if possible. Beverly will be providing food for this month's meeting and Renny will be bringing beverages. I will be bringing the UV flashlights to sell to club members as well. We only have 9 remaining.

See you all on July 16th!!!

Anthony Andreoli, President  
Tar Heel Gem and Mineral Club, Inc.



Starburst Firework Jasper...Happy 4<sup>th</sup>!  
Credit: Nia Taubr via [www.pinterest.com](http://www.pinterest.com)

## History of Jasper and Chalcedony in North Carolina and Where to Find Them Today

Archeological evidence shows that the native people of North Carolina did, to some extent, use jasper and chalcedony in their tools. Collector Jim Maus describes the jasper tools he has found in the piedmont as "red, tan, brown or yellow.: They are "chipped artifacts" made from flakes of jasper. Jasper artifacts are rare. The highest concentration of them in NC seems to be in the "eastern mountains and central NC-VA border area," but they can technically be found throughout the state. There are also a few "hotspots" for jasper artifacts along the Dan river in Rockingham and Stokes Counties. Maus states the following about the artifacts, "If you find a brown to red to yellow spear point in the Piedmont, there is a better than average chance that it is jasper."

Regarding chalcedony, the majority of these artifacts recovered in NC will be "tan to white to pale grey and are semi-transparent to translucent," says Maus. The items were likely made by people living in the years 9,000-6,000 BCE. These chipped artifacts often fall into two categories: "Palmer Corner Notch and Kirk  
**continued on page 4**

**Tar Heel Gem & Mineral Club, Inc.**

PO Box 33783,  
Raleigh, NC 27636-3783

Anthony Andreoli– President  
fossilguy9494@yahoo.com  
(919) 803-4899

George Harris – V-President  
GeorgeFHarris@yahoo.com  
(919) 674-0243

Linda Searcy – Treasurer  
ljs0928@gmail.com  
(919) 909-0750

Beverly House – Secretary  
beverlyhouse@yahoo.com  
919-389-1821

Lindsey Bradsher – Newsletter  
Editor and Committee Member  
littlebluellama@gmail.com  
(919) 451-9158

Katelyn Hennessey – Field-Trip  
Coord.  
katelynphennessey@gmail.com

Cyndy Hummel-Show Chairperson  
and Committee Member  
mchummel@mindspring.com  
919-779-6220

**We're on the Web!**  
See us at:  
[www.tarheelclub.org](http://www.tarheelclub.org)

**Program & Refreshments**

REFRESHMENT SCHEDULE:

Coordinator: Open

July: 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-Digging the Guibault Claim  
June - The Challenger Family- Mineral Identification  
July – Smithsonian Collection  
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).

**July B-Day Members**

- Andria Craig
- Ann Wease
- Charles Black
- Chuck Umstead
- David Baltzegar
- Ellen Deters
- James Lovejoy
- John Guerriero
- Jonni Simonis
- Julia Kleman
- Katelyn Hennessey
- Lindsey Bradsher
- Peggy Hudson
- Stephen Acai
- Sue Thies
- Susan Violon
- Toby Woolard



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. – June Meeting Minutes

Minutes 06/18/2019

Attendees (Members): 38  
Visitors: 4  
New Members: 2  
TOTAL Attending: 44

Birthdays:

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

Food: Pizza-Beverly House, Drinks-Renny Young

Meeting called to order at 7:30 pm by George Harris, vice-president

### Announcements:

Flashlights will be available at the July meeting.  
Life and Science Museum booth- August 2019. We need club members to volunteer to cover this event.  
Additional information will follow at the next meeting.

### Demonstration: Mineral Identification

The David and Stephen Challener provided information about different spectrometers and did a live presentation. They performed analysis on rocks and minerals brought in by club members.

### Request:

The staff at NCSU Craft Center has noticed several incidents of the cabbing and faceting machines being damaged. If you see or find any damages or misuse please report this to the front desk immediately.

Door Prize Winner- Stephen Challener

Next Meeting: Tuesday, July 16, 2019 7:30 pm

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



Above: David and Stephen Challener analyze a club member's mineral sample

Below: Stephen Challener chose a Tiffany Stone as his prize



**Continued from page 1**

points.” It is interesting to note that while these points are rare and “prized by collectors,” they are rarely counterfeited.

According to Joseph Hyde Pratt’s article in the 1933 edition of *American Mineralogist*, chalcedony was known to be found in Caldwell, Cabarras, Granville and Orange Counties. He describes chalcedony with “a rich fawn and salmon color” that was found near Linville in Avery County. Chrysoprase, also known as prase, was discovered on “Tremont Mountain,” in Macon County. This stone was a “very light” green. The chrysoprase excavated near Morgan Hill, in Buncombe county, was also “pale green”—at the surface. In an exciting development, “the tint became deeper and richer as the mineral was obtained from lower depths!” Pratt goes on to say that red and black banded jasper was found in Granville and Person counties. In Madison, Moore and Wake Counties, a “bright brick red and yellow” colored jasper was found.

Today, searching for specific locations to find jasper and chalcedony may be difficult online, due to the fact that they are overshadowed by more “exciting” gems. The amateur prospector may have luck in quarries and public lands in the counties mentioned above. Though there is no modern location known exactly as “Tremont Mountain” west of Franklin, there is a Trimont Ridge in Burningtown, NC, west of Franklin and accessible by the Old Bartram Trail. This location is located in Nantahala National Forest, in which “collection of small amounts of

widespread, low-value, relatively common minerals and stones (common quartz crystals, agate, obsidian) for noncommercial use” is allowed. It should be considered, though, that this is a 7 mile hike, not for the faint of heart! This general area is also accessible by driving to the “stone lookout tower on Wayah Bald.” Here, “from Wayah Gap the Appalachian Trail passes through beautiful hardwood forests as it ascends Trimont Ridge.” Perhaps the green chrysoprase could be found by a lucky hiker! ...And if not, apparently there is a lovely view from the lookout tower.

Please note, if you decide to search for jasper or chalcedony 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.

**Sources:**

<http://www.jimmausartifacts.com/stones-used-by-piedmont-indian/>

<https://books.google.com/books?id=OhgtAAAAIAAJ&pg=PA226&hl=en#v=onepage&q&f=false>

[https://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/r3/recreation/regulations/?cid=fbdev3\\_022266](https://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/r3/recreation/regulations/?cid=fbdev3_022266)

<https://www.hikingupward.com/NNF/WayahBald/>

<http://www.nantahalahikingclub.org/event/hike-trimont-ridge-on-the-old-bartram-trail/>



Image: “Spearpoints; rhyolite, quartzite, jasper, coastal plains chert, ridge & valley chert; NC, SC & VA; Early to Middle Archaic, circa 8,000 - 4,000 BC”  
Credit: Jim Maus

<http://www.jimmausartifacts.com/galleries/miscellaneous-artifacts/>

## Treasurer Reports: May, June, and 6-Month Report

TGMC Treasurer Report - May 2019			
<b>Beginning Balance:</b>	5/1/19		<b>21,707.94</b>
<b>Income:</b>			
	Membership Dues (Stripe/checks)	110.00	
	<b>Total Income:</b>		110.00
<b>Expense:</b>			
	Newsletter Printing/Office misc	110.37	
	Show venue rental balance	11,341.00	
	Show trailer transport	65.00	
	Stripe Fees (May)	4.70	
	<b>Total Expenses:</b>		11,521.07
<b>Ending Balance:</b>	5/31/19		<b>10,296.87</b>
<b>CDs</b>	32-90 day		5,377.34
	91-181 day		5,700.68
	<b>Total CDs</b>		<b>11,078.02</b>

TGMC Treasurer Report - June 2019			
<b>Beginning Balance:</b>	6/1/19		<b>10,296.87</b>
<b>Income:</b>			
	Membership Dues	125.88	
	Show vendor fee	125.00	
	<b>Total Income:</b>		250.88
<b>Expense:</b>			
	Meeting Refreshments	57.06	
	Newsletter Printing	96.04	
	Field Trip Gift Cards	235.00	
	Speaker Fee	75.00	
	Stripe Fees (May)	6.31	
	<b>Total Expenses:</b>		469.41
<b>Ending Balance:</b>	6/30/19		<b>10,078.34</b>
<b>CDs</b>	32-90 day		5,377.52
	91-181 day		5,700.68
	<b>Total CDs</b>		<b>11,078.20</b>

6-Month Report January 1 - June 30, 2019			
	Beginning balance		<b>17,063.62</b>
	Income	24,777.89	
	<b>Subtotal</b>		<b>41,841.51</b>
	Expenses	<b>31,763.17</b>	
	<b>Ending balance</b>		<b>10,078.34</b>

## Mars has a brand new crater, and it sure is pretty

By Mike Wehner, BGR News



Credit: University of Arizona

Mars, like any other rocky world, has its fair share of craters. These scars of ancient impacts give the dusty surface of the planet some serious personality, and sometimes it's easy to forget that new craters can happen right before our eyes. That's exactly what seems to have occurred, and a new image from NASA's Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter reveals a brand new impact site that might only be a few months old.

The image, which was captured by the HiRISE camera built into the orbiter, shows a bold dark patch of material surrounding a circular crater on the

Martian surface. Researchers believe it might have been created as recently as February 2019.

The University of Arizona posted the photo, along with the following caption:

*An impressionist painting? No, it's a new impact crater that has appeared on the surface of Mars, formed at most between September 2016 and February 2019. What makes this stand out is the darker material exposed beneath the reddish dust.*

The photo itself was captured in April and is only just now getting the attention it deserves. However, because the orbiter can't be looking at the entire planet at all times, it's unclear when exactly the crater formed, and researchers can only narrow it down to sometime between September 2016 and February 2019.

This is yet another great reminder of the fantastic work NASA's Mars orbiter has been doing for years now. The spacecraft originally launched way back in 2005 and arrived at Mars in March of the following year. When it did, its primary mission was only scheduled to last for two years, but it has since put in over 13 years of faithful service for scientists. As long as it keeps producing images like this one, we hope it keeps going for a long time to come.

<https://news.yahoo.com/mars-brand-crater-sure-pretty-030737209.html>

## Color-Change Pink Pyrope Garnet

By Erin Hogarth

Jewels from the Woods (Blanco, Texas) displayed color-change pink pyrope garnets (see right) at the AGTA show. Their color changes from purple in daylight-equivalent light to pink in incandescent light. This was the first time there had been such a large selection of the stones at AGTA, according to independent gem cutter Desmond Chan, who was assisting Jewels from the Woods. He said the material had been very well received.



"This 20.00 ct oval color-change pyrope garnet was cut by Victor Tuzlukov."

Credit: Kevin Schumacher, courtesy of Jewels from the Woods.

The stone had been slow to come onto the market, Chan said, because not much rough was available, and the deposit—believed to be in Morogoro, Tanzania—has been depleted. The garnets are said to have been mined in 1988. Initially assumed to be rhodolite, they were put in a safe deposit box until 2014, when they were acquired by cutters Meg Berry, Todd Wacks, and Jason Doubrava. Wacks (Tucson Todd's Gems, Tucson and Vista, California) was the first to detect the color change, and he introduced the garnets in 2015 at the Riverpark Inn (Pueblo) show ([Spring 2015 GNI, pp. 88–89](#)). GIA performed a gemological study of the material (Z. Sun et al., "[Vanadium- and chromium-bearing pink pyrope garnet](#)," Winter 2015 *G&G*, pp. 348–369). One interesting finding was that two of the larger stones had the strongest color change.

Garnets have been "on fire" the last four or five years, according to Doubrava (Jason Doubrava Gems & Minerals, Poway, California). He said the public is more aware of garnets and more appreciative of their varied colors than in the past. "These just absolutely glow," he said of the color-change pink pyrope garnets at the booth.

<https://www.gia.edu/gems-gemology/spring-2019-gemnews-color-change-pink-pyrope-garnet-update>

## **UPCOMING SHOWS: July 24—July 29, 2019** **Franklin Gem & Mineral Showcase: 5 shows**

### **July 24-28, 2019—Echo Valley Gem & Mineral Show**

Vendors include: Amazing Obsidian from Jalisco, Madagascar Import SEAM, Inc., Malachite and Gems of Africa, Piritas de Navajun, sharksteeth.com, Top Gem Minerals, Inc, Unconventional Lapidarist, LLC, and more!

Echo Valley Showplace  
6456 Sylva Rd., Franklin, North Carolina 28734

### **July 25-28, 2019-- G&LW Gem Show Franklin**

Thursday July 25th 10am-6pm  
Friday July 26th 10am-6pm  
Saturday July 27th 10am-6pm  
Sunday July 28th 10am-3pm

FREE!! Wholesale Only Shows – Open Only to the Trade  
Valid Business License OR Tax Certificate OR Sales and Use Tax Permit in Gem or Jewelry Related Business

The majestic foothills of the Great Smoky Mountains are the beautiful scenery of the Franklin, NC events. The show takes place every summer with four (three for May) days focusing on buying natural treasures and simplistic pleasures. With over 200 registered exhibitors, everyone's bound to be satisfied.

6295 Sylva Rd., Franklin, North Carolina 28734, United States

### **July 26-28, 2019-- Macon County Gemboree**

Vendors include: Amber America, Blue Ridge Gallery of Fine Arts, Dwarven Stone Craft & Lapidary, El-Mar Enterprises, the Kyanite King, Rock and Bones, LLC, S & S Gold and Diamond Exchange, and more!

Robert C. Carpenter Community Building, 1288 Georgia Rd./US 441, Franklin, North Carolina 28734

### **July 26-29, 2019-- Franklin Faceters Frolic**

Vendors include: Choice gems Company, Custom Cut Gems, Dan Lynch, Jersey Instruments, John E Garsow Gems and Minerals, Lightning Laps and Polishes, Mine Direct / Farooq Hassmi, Select Gem, and Ultra Tec Mfg., Inc.

Robert C. Carpenter Community Building  
1288 Georgia Road, Franklin, North Carolina 28734

### **July 24-28, 2019—Highlands Road Gem Show**

Daily 9-5, with many dealers available before and after these hours.  
Free and open to the public.

One of the area's longest-running and most popular gem shows is the Highlands Road Gem Show. The Highlands Road Show is a retail show, open to the public. Admission is free. Dealers come from across the United States and feature a wide range of products. Village Originals, Driftstone Pueblo and Quasar Gems & Jewelry are among our largest dealers.

1602 Highlands Road, Franklin, North Carolina 28734

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

# Our Next Meeting is

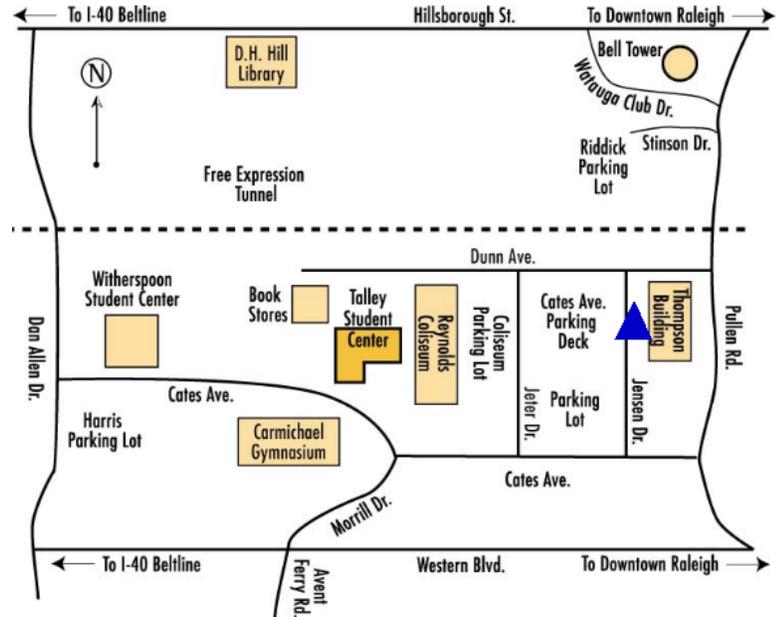
**July 16, 2019 @ 7:30PM**

# 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 arts, earth sciences, and related subjects. The main objectives of the club are to investigate, preserve, and share knowledge of rocks, minerals, and precious stones, and to promote interest in mineralogy, paleontology, earth sciences, and lapidary techniques, among club members and among the general public. 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**

