

Special Interest Articles:

- Prez Sez
- Earth Science Week: Minerals Day
- August Birthstone - Peridot

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

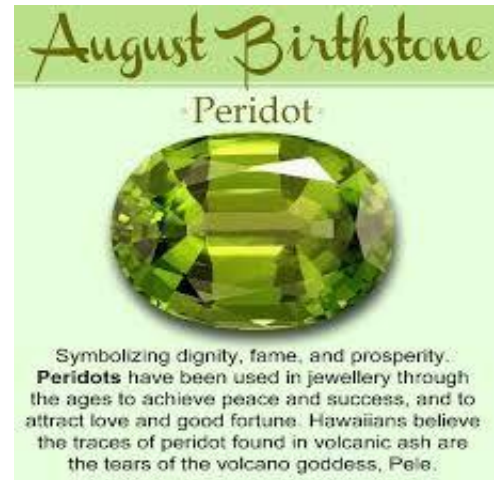
Prez Sez By Beverly House

Greetings all. Happy August! I want to wish a Happy Birthday to all our members born in August and welcome to our new members!

Field trips:

Recent update: Senter Quarry is unavailable for field trips until further notice. The corporate owner is doing some test drilling to the quarry through the end of September (at least) and will let us know if and when we can return.

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Earth Science Week: Minerals Day By Chris Tacker

Hi, y'all,

We're all kind of shut indoors, so I thought that you and your members might enjoy some mineral-based talks and videos. Please help me spread these around to interested people.

Today is the first Minerals Day for Earth Science Week. The link is <https://mineralsday.org/>.

The mineral webinars are at: <http://www.earthsciweek.org/webinars/>

I have blog posts at:

<https://naturalsciencesresearch.wordpress.com/2020/10/11/rocktober-earth-science-week-2020/>

<https://naturalsciencesresearch.wordpress.com/>

[2020/10/12/rocktober-minerals-day/](https://www.earthsciweek.org/webinars/)

The Society of Mineral Museum Professionals has also been hosting weekly video meetings with major collector/dealers and with curators of major museum mineral collection. You can

get a gallery or collections tour at major museums. You might have some fun with that, because we won't be travelling to Boston, Vienna or Paris any time soon.

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Tar Heel Gem & Mineral Club, Inc.

10609 Chelsea Drive
Raleigh NC 27603

Beverly House – President,
Field-Trip Coord.
beverlyhouse@yahoo.com
919-389-1821

John Guerrero – V-President
johnguer@johng500.com
(919) 605-0625

Linda Searcy – Treasurer
LJS0928@gmail.com
(919) 909-0750

Cyndy Hummel – Secretary
mchummel@mindspring.com
(919) 779-6220

Renny Young – Committee
Member,
rennydyoung@gmail.com
(203) 297-1664

George Harris – Committee
Member, Newsletter Editor
GeorgeFHarris@yahoo.com
(252) 937-9337

We're on the Web!

See us at:

www.tarheelclub.org

Program & Refreshments

REFRESHMENT SCHEDULE:

Coordinator: Open

August TBD

PROGRAM SCHEDULE:

August TBD

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

**August
B-Day Members**

JP Hamilton
Tyler Rockwell
Vallee Jones
Rebekkah Jou
Julie Niederkorn
Stacey Tarle
James Tunney
Barry Wilder
Kenny Williams
John Zisek



Membership applications may be mailed to:

Tar Heel Gem & Mineral Club, Inc.
Attention: Treasurer
P. O. Box 33783
Raleigh, NC 27536-3783

Tar Heel Gem and Mineral Club, Inc. - July Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, July 20, 2021

Opening of Club Meeting:

Beverly opened the meeting at 7:08 pm.

Program:

No program.

Business:

Treasurer's report was displayed on screen for all to see. June ending balance was \$7,478.99.

Quarries are not letting groups attend yet. There is a pyrophyllite mine near Troy. The contact and phone number was given to Beverly to check. Jon showed a chunk of fossil conglomerate on screen.

John G. shared the website "Rockhound Lounge" with the group. He also described a video regarding picture jasper. He mentioned an article about the hot spot - Yellowstone's Super Volcano.

The Grassy Creek show is July 25-August 1. This is a good one to attend. Remember, when rock hunting on your own, be aware of snakes.

Refreshments:

No Refreshment

Door Prize:

No Door Prize

Close of Meeting:

Closed meeting at 8:02 pm.

Respectfully Submitted
 Cyndy Hummel,
 Secretary, Tar Heel Gem and Mineral Club, Inc.

Tar Heel Gem and Mineral Club, Inc. - August Meeting Information

The Tar Heel Gem and Mineral Club is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting for the August Monthly Meeting.

Our Meeting ID: 870 6466 7686
 This meetings Passcode: 132206

Topic: Tar Heel Gem and Mineral Club August 2021 Monthly Meeting

Time: August 17, 2021 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm

We look forward to "seeing" everyone there. If you experience any issues getting into the meeting, you can call or text me at (919) 389-1821. Thanks,

To join the Zoom Meeting, use the following link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87064667686?pwd=bGdoaXhINIBUUVNSa0Y4K01WVzVPUT09>

Beverly House
 President
 Tar Heel Gem and Mineral Club, Inc.

August Treasurer's Report

TGMC Treasurer Report - July 2021			
Beginning Balance:	7/1/21		7,478.99
Income:			
	Membership Dues	155.00	
	Total Income:		155.00
Expense:			
	Stripe Fees	6.61	
	Total Expenses:		6.61
Ending Balance:	7/31/21		7,627.38
CDs	91-181 day		5,705.78
			-
	Total CDs		5,705.78

This is the August report for the fiscal month of July.

Linda Searcy
 Treasurer,
 Tar Heel Gem and Mineral Club, Inc.

Upcoming expenses for August:
 Show refund - \$380 - pd (Anthony Michniak)
 Show postcards - \$134.62 - pd

Prez Sez

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Other quarries: The following have provided updates on future field trip opportunities:

- Martin Marietta - Castle Hayne, NC- none for the remainder of the year
- Onslow Quarry - possible additional information later in the fall
- Holly Springs - no information at this time.
- Hanson Gardner - Lillington- They are getting a new plant manager in July- status of field trips unknown at this time
- Wake Stone - Loris SC and Rocky Mount, NC- no information at this time.

When we have field trip notifications, they are made through emails, sent to all current members. If your email is incorrect in our records, you may be missing important information about upcoming events.

Meetings:

Next Meeting: August 17, 2021 7:00 pm

Agenda: General information

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89116385082?pwd=ZHNKUUIPck9XRWthRXI2dWEzaTNDQT09>

Meeting ID: 891 1638 5082

Passcode: 201861

Please feel free to contact me via email, text, or phone or if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you all for either being a member of THGMC or your interest in our club-and as always ROCK ON! Thank you all for either being a member of THGMC or your interest in our club-and as always ROCK ON!

Beverly House

President

Tar Heel Gem and Mineral Club, Inc.

EQUIPMENT & CUTTING ROUGH FOR SALE!!

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This is notice of a **LARGE** collection of gem & mineral-related equipment that has recently come up for sale. There is also a large assortment of cutting rough (as in a ton or two). What an opportunity for us to get used, "less pricey" equipment and/or cutting stock!

The owner is open to buyers acquiring either an individual piece of equipment or "everything". "Everything" includes saws, cabbars, dremels, tumblers, as well as numerous jewelry-making machines (such as a wax injector, vulcanizer, therminder, kiln, hydrogen welder, etc).

Interested parties can contact this individual directly. Her name is Liz, and her number is (828) 256-2707. Please call her to arrange visits to see/buy related to this offer.

Note:

This offer is being directed to all gem & mineral clubs in the state.

Earth Science Week: Minerals Day

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Posted so far are:

Mineral Talks LIVE – Playlist

(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r4FzDmSC5Vg&list=PLYUSEUgiTprl9Vh7ZLXu8x_hHp0dN_TDJ)

[Episode 01](#) - Dr. Eloïse Gaillou - Curatrix; Paris School of Mines;

[Episode 02](#) - Dr. Robert Lavinsky - Founder; The Arkenstone;

[Episode 03](#) - Peter Megaw - Private Collector; Mexican Minerals;

[Episode 04](#) - Thomas Bellicam - MARCOM Mgr.; Sainte-Marie-aux-Mines Show;

[Episode 05](#) - Dr. Raquel Alonso-Perez - Curatrix; Min & Geo Museum Harvard University;

[Episode 06](#) - Diana and Ian Bruce - Owners; Crystal Classics, UK;

[Episode 07](#) - Patrick Dreher - Master Carver; Dreher Carvings, Idar-Oberstein;

[Episode 08](#) - Prof. John Rakovan - Prof. Geology & Earth Science; Miami University;

[Episode 09](#) - Dr. Vera Hammer - Curatrix; Natural History Museum of Vienna;

[Episode 10](#) - Ryan Roney - Curator; Tellus Science Museum, Georgia;

[Episode 11](#) - Bill Larson - Collector - Fallbrook, CA, USA;

[Episode 12](#) - Joylan Ralph - Founder - mindat.org;

[Episode 13](#) - Salim Eddé - Founder; mim Museum, Beirut, Lebanon;

[Episode 14](#) - George Rossman - Prof. of Mineralogy; Caltech, Pasadena, California;

There are over 50 Episodes! The latest is a tour of the NYC Museum of Natural History!

Happy Minerals Day!

Chris Tacker

christopher.tacker@naturalsciences.org

Chris Tacker, Ph.D., P.G., Research Curator, Geology North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences

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

11 West Jones Street
Raleigh, NC 27601-1029

AUGUST BIRTHSTONE - PERIDOT

PERIDOT BIRTHSTONE MEANING & HISTORY

Peridot is the yellowish green to greenish yellow gem variety of the mineral olivine. Throughout history, peridot has often been confused with other gems such as topaz and emerald. The Red Sea island of Topazios, a purported source of the name “topaz,” actually produced peridot. The Shrine of the Three Holy Kings in Germany’s Cologne Cathedral is decorated with 200 carats of gems that were believed to be emeralds but are, in fact, the August birthstone peridot. Some historians even speculate that Cleopatra’s famous emerald collection may have been comprised of peridot.

The word “peridot” comes from the Arabic faridat, meaning gem. This August birthstone was valued in many ancient and medieval cultures. It appeared in priests’ jewelry as early as the second century BCE and later in the chalices and churches of medieval Europe. The peridot birthstone has also been used for centuries as a protective talisman, shielding the owner from evil spirits and “terrors of the night.”

Peridot is the gem given to celebrate a 16th wedding anniversary.

The August birthstone is a pure grass green color shown in a large 364 carat peridot crystal from the historic Red Sea source, Zabargad.



GIA.edu

The preferred color for peridot is a pure “grass” green without any hint of yellow or brown. The large (364 ct) crystal is from the historic Red Sea source, Zabargad. Photo: Robert Weldon/GIA

WHERE IS PERIDOT FOUND?

Peridot, the August birthstone, has an amazing story. Although most of the peridot seen in jewelry today comes from sources such as China, Myanmar,

Pakistan, Tanzania, Vietnam and the United States, some journeyed to Earth on meteorites while others are found in exotic locales like Peridot Beach, Hawaii, where the sands shimmer a luminous green.

The Egyptian island of Zabargad (the name now given to Topazios) is the oldest recorded source of this August birthstone. Mining may have begun around 340–279 BCE. Although the island produced beautiful peridot, its harsh conditions earned it ominous names like Island of Death and Ophiodos (“snake island”). Peridot from Zabargad has been prized for centuries and is still highly desirable. The finest specimens of this birthstone for August can be found in prestigious museums around the world.

Myanmar (formerly Burma) is another important source of the peridot birthstone. On the northern slope of Kyaukpon, a mountainous region near the gem city of Mogok, loose peridot crystals can sometimes be found in crevices. The finest-quality peridot from this locality has deep color and superb transparency.



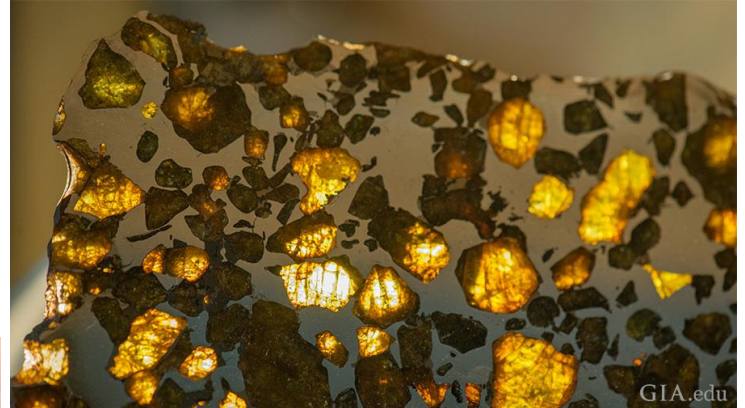
Arizona Peridot San Carlos - facet & rough specimens

Arizona is the main source of this August birthstone in the United States. Massive volcanic eruptions many thousands of years ago sent rivers of lava spilling across the desert landscape of what is today the San

Carlos Apache Indian Reservation, where some Apache families have worked the mines for decades.

This August birthstone has also come to Earth via pallasite (made of nickel-iron and olivine) meteorites. Thousands of meteorites have hit the earth, many of them containing olivine, but only a few have had gem-quality peridot.

A close-up view of the August birthstone shows transparent peridots scattered throughout a pallasite meteorite.



Transparent peridots can be seen scattered throughout this pallasite meteorite. Photo: Eric Welch/GIA. Courtesy: Magic Mountain Gems

PERIDOT BIRTHSTONE CARE & CLEANING

With a hardness of 6.5 to 7 on the Mohs scale of hardness, peridot is softer than many gems and cannot take hard wear, so it is not recommended for daily use in a ring. This August birthstone can also be damaged by some acids and even by long-term exposure to acidic perspiration. Cleaning peridot is a delicate process. Never use a steam or ultrasonic cleaner, as your peridot birthstone is vulnerable to thermal shock. It is safest to use a soft-bristle brush with a mild dish soap in warm water. Peridot should be stored with care to avoid scratching by gems with greater hardness.

Resources: <https://www.gia.edu/birthstones/august-birthstones>

UPCOMING SHOWS

September 3 – 6, 2021: Raleigh, NC – Treasures of the Earth. Kerr Scott Building, NC State Fairgrounds, Raleigh, NC. Our shows feature estate, classic, handcrafted and fashion jewelry made from a variety of metals, as well as a vast array of crystals, minerals and fossils. Hours: Fri 12-6; Sat 10-5; Sun 10-5. Admission: TBD and Free Parking. Contact: <https://treasuresoftheearth.com/events/nc-state-fairgrounds/>;

Vugsites The following are some links to Web-Sites that may interest some of our members:

<http://www.tarheelclub.org/> / <https://www.facebook.com/tarheelgemandmineralclub/> These are the official sites for the Tar Heel Gem & Mineral Club. I would strongly urge all members to check them out on a regular basis.

<http://www.amfed.org/> / <http://www.amfed.org/sfms> These are the official sites for the organizing body that the Tar Heel Gem & Mineral Club is founded under. I would strongly urge all members to check them out on a regular basis.

http://www.amfed.org/sfms/lodestar_newsletter.html The SFMS Lodestar Newsletter

<http://www.carolinageologicalsociety.org/CGS/Home.html> This site provides numerous downloadable field-trip guide books, maps, and charts of the Carolinas. It will prove to keep any avid rock hound busy for years. Great Site!

http://www.ncminerals.com/ncmineralswebsite_files/page0011.htm And while we are on the subject, try this link. Its titled: Links of Interest to Rock hounds in NC. It will take you to a list of links for North Carolina gems and minerals.

<http://www.rocksforkids.com/> Just like the name says, a nice place to steer the younger members.

Information & photographs of over 6300 specimens from the Glenn & Martha Vargas Gem & Mineral Collection.

<http://www.rockhoundlounge.com> Scott Laborde, a club member maintains his own web site that might be of interest to people collecting in and around Wake County.

http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/29726500/ns/technology_and_science-science This site highlights a half dozen of the most recent significant fossil finds.

<http://appmodo.com/13971/mole-quest-for-the-terracore-gem-app-review-for-the-iphone-and-ipod-touch/> If you have an iphone or an ipod touch, this rock-hounding may be the game for you.

http://diamonddanpublications.net/index_files/page0009.html Diamond Dan's Mini Miner's Monthly

I would like to encourage all members of the THG&MC that maintain their own presence on the internet to send me a link to their site to be published in future Vugsites so that other club members may learn and enjoy the craft, the art, the interests that many of us have in common.

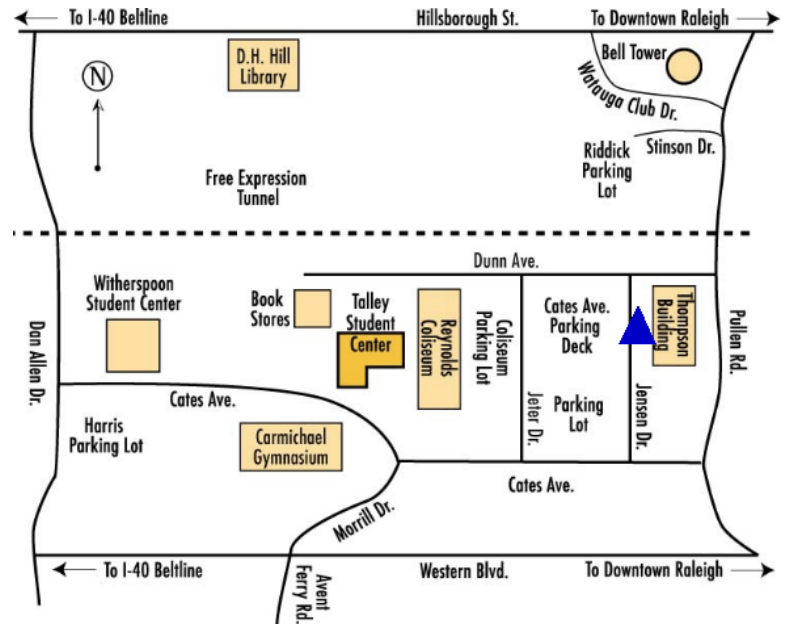
Park in the Cates Ave. Parking Deck off Jensen Dr. Enter Thompson Building directly across from the parking lot.

**Our Next Meeting is
August 17, 2021
See Inside for Meeting Details**

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
10609 Chelsea Drive
Raleigh, NC 27603

