

THE MOUNTAIN GEM
Volume XL1 MARCH 2013
Number 2

Official Bulletin
Of
The Gem & Mineral Society of Franklin, North Carolina, Inc.

The Gem and Mineral Society of Franklin, North Carolina, Inc. is a founding member of the Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies. A schedule of our monthly meetings is on the back cover of *The Mountain Gem* as well as on the Society's web-page. Meetings are held at the Macon County Community Facilities Building, Highway 441 South, Franklin, N.C. Visitors are always welcome.

The objectives of this society shall be to effect a close association of those persons who are interested in the study of gems, rocks and minerals and the sciences and arts related to them. We are a working organization that operates and maintains The Franklin Gem and Mineral Museum.

The Society and Museum are self-supporting on a 100% volunteer basis.

**The FRANKLIN GEM
AND MINERAL MUSEUM**

is operated under the direction of the
Board of Directors of

The Gem and Mineral Society of Franklin, NC, Inc.

School tours are always available by contacting our Education Chairman, Diane Aiello.

Membership in the Society is \$15.00 per person with \$10 each additional family member, and \$3.00 for junior (pebble pups).

Membership is from September to September.

Non-member subscription to *The Mountain Gem* is \$15.00 per year. Donations are tax deductible.

Articles written by members of our club may be borrowed provided credit is given to the author and *The Mountain Gem*.



The Franklin Gem and Mineral
Museum

25 Phillips Street
Franklin, NC 28734
Phone: 828-369-7831

In the Old Jail House
FREE ADMISSION
May 1 - October 31

Monday Thru Saturday 12 p.m. - 4 p.m.

November 1 - April 30:

Only Saturdays: 12 p.m. - 4 p.m.

Open Year Round For Tours
And Special Requests

www.fgmm.org

Society email:
franklingemsociety@fastmail.fm

**2012-2013 Officers And
Board Of Directors**

President	Lon Peden	371-8450
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Secretary	Sharon John	369-0161
Treasurer	Marie Tsacrios	369-5791
Assistant Treasurer	Dean Plesner	349-4224
Director (2014)	Linda Smith	342-8288
Director (2013)	Wally Smith	386-626-4082
Director (2014)	Diane Aiello	371-2436
Director (2013)	Al Pribble	369-2548

** Voting members on the Board

+++++

Museum Managers

**Museum Manager	Al Pribble	369-2548
Museum Ass't. Mgr.	John Hayes	524-8062
**Curator	Fred Plesner	349-4224
Curator Ass't	Sharon John	369-0161
**Gift Shop.	Elena Marsh	369-8915
Ass't. Gift Shop	Doris Smith	386-626-4082
Museum Workshop	Al Pribble	369-2548
Ass't. Workshop Mgr.	John Hayes	524-8062
Calendar Chairman	Al Pribble	369-2548

**2012-2013
Committee Chairmen**

Budget & Finance	Marie Tsacrios	369-5791
	Dean Plesner	349-4224
Constitution/By-Laws	Linda Behr	349-0827
Door Prizes	Arlon Eldridge	369-5271
Education	Diane Aiello	371-2436
Field Trips	Lon Peden	371-8450
Gemboree	Jack Jungles	369-6664
Gemboree Ass't.	Fred Plesner	349-4224
Historian	Sharon John	369-0161
Librarian	Dean Plesner	349-4224
Membership	Linda Behr	349-0827
**Publications	Linda Behr	349-0827
Publicity	Fred Plesner	349-4224
Programs	Linda Smith	342-8288
Refreshments	Dean Plesner	349-4224
Scholarships	Jean Emerson	828-293-7784



**American Federation
Bulletin Awards**

1994 (7th), 1995 (2nd),
1996 (2nd), 1997 (5th),
1998 (5th), 1999 (3rd),
2000 (5th), 2004 (7th),
2005 (2nd) 2006 (10th)
2008 (5th) 2010(3rd)



**Southeast Federation
Bulletin Awards**

1976, 77, 78, 79, 92, 94, 95
1996-99 (1st)
2003 2nd New Editor
2004 (2nd), 2005 (2nd)
2006 (1st), 2008 (2nd),
2010(1st)

American Federation (AFMS): www.amfed.org
Southeast Federation (SFMS): www.amfed.org/sfms
Franklin Gem Museum and Society: www.fgmm.org
Email for the Society is: franklingemsociety@fastmail.fm

General Meeting

Date: March 28, 2013

Day: Thursday

Time: 6:30 p.m.

Place: Macon County
Community Center
on 441 South

Program:

*This is your opportunity to show and
explain your favorite
rock to your fellow
club members.*



Lon Peden, President

Our president was unable to write a message for this month.

Look for his next month.

At the request of Lon, Al Pribble has written the following:

John Hayes and Al Pribble painted the meeting room. The new carpet has been ordered and should be installed soon.

Two new wheels were received for the cab machines.

The printer has been deemed 'unfit for repair' so the purchase of a new one will be discussed.

April Celebrations

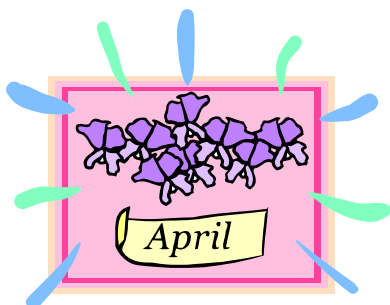
April Birthdays

12 – Dean Plesner

24 – Dorothy Crawford

April Anniversaries

15 – Bill & Kay Kennedy



**APRIL'S newsletter
deadline will be
April 8th.**



February Program

February's video was great! It showed the gorgeous mountains of Franklin and the many mines. Our gem museum was pictured several times. Even Ruby City was filmed.

I found it quite informative.

Linda Behr, editor

**The Gem & Mineral Society of Franklin, NC
Board of Directors Meeting
of February 26, 2013**

President Lon Peden called the February 2013 Board of Directors meeting to order in the Museum Meeting Room.

Present were: Lon Peden, Al Pribble, Arlon Eldridge, Tom Sterrett, Fred Plesner, Dean Plesner, Linda Smith, John Hayes, Diane Aiello, Linda Behr, Marie Tsacrios, Elena Marsh, Ray Behr and Sharon John. Absent: Tom Morley

We received a check for \$500.00 from a Gun Show for the table rentals. There are 10 more Gun Shows coming up in 2013 and we should get \$500.00 a show for rental of our tables.

Arlon Eldridge made a motion to sell the old wooden tables for \$25.00 each and buy new ones. Al Pribble seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Arlon also said that some time in the near future we will be getting DSL Internet service for free. Arlon also said he has cut the Aquamarine stones for the settings for the drawing of our annual jewelry raffle.

Museum Manager: Al Pribble reported that the staff bathroom is finished; the work on the second floor fire escape is almost finished. He checked on quotes for carpet and it seems that Mr. Bob's carpet is less expensive. Before the carpet goes in, the walls need to be painted.

The printer in the office is in need of repair.

We will host a SFMS Field trip in September with as much as 60-80 people coming to Franklin. John Hayes, Arlon Eldridge, Fred Plesner and Bruce Siegfried will be heading up the committee for that.

Arlon Eldridge made a motion to make Al Pribble the Museum Manager. Linda Smith seconded the motion. Motion carried.

There will be a tour of children on March 6th—one at 10:15 a.m. and another at 11:15 a.m.

Linda Smith reported that she will show a movie of Gem Mines of Franklin for the February meeting. **For March it will be "Bring your favorite Rock."**

Gift Shop: Elena Marsh would like some one to help identify the rocks in the Gift Shop.

Also, when there are rocks and minerals that are not needed, put them in a box (labeled for such) on the floor in the Work Shop. Hosts may give these rocks to Earth Science teachers or other school teachers.

Scholarship Education: Jean Emerson has given information to several colleges for students that are either a junior or senior studying Earth Science.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon John, Secretary



New members Robbie and Janet Hayles.

Many of the holiday icons were found on <http://www.bing.com/images/search=Easter&Form=R5FD5#>
BING: Easter and Passover.

The Gem & Mineral Society of Franklin, NC General Meeting of February 28, 2013

The February 2013 General Meeting was called to order at 6:40 p.m. by President Lon Peden.

There were 22 members and one guest present. Welcome to our two new members: Robbie and Janet Hayles.

Please let Linda Behr know if you are not receiving your newsletter or if you would like yours sent via email.

Treasurers Report: Our total income was \$2,188.87; total expenses were \$2,045.18 leaving us with a net income of \$143.69.

Museum Manager: The County fixed the bathroom and even put a new lock on the door. The fire escape is being worked on. The Meeting room will be painted before the carpet is put down.

Education: Diane Aiello reported that there will be a group of 70 children touring the Museum on March 6th. (You are invited to come observe how the tours are conducted. More hosts are welcome.)

Gift Shop: Elena Marsh asked for help in identifying many rocks and minerals in the Gift Shop.

She has also put recycling boxes in the Meeting Room.

John Hayes presented a Certificate to Claudette Rollins for finishing a class on Cabbing. Congrats!

John also presented Linda Behr with a pendant for being the Editor. Congrats to you too, Linda. John is planning on having a class on making this glass picture pendant.

The new EZ Guide has a good write up about the Museum in it.

Arlon Eldridge will be ordering T Shirts to sell in the Gift Shop. Lon is taking the orders. The cost is \$15.00 per shirt

Lon Peden put in new plants and new mulch on the Phillips Street side of the Museum. Thanks Lon!!!

Names were drawn for the membership lapidary scholarship. The order of names is: 1. Jerry Kolle, 2. Al Pribble, 3. Denis Bernard. (If Jerry declines, it goes to Al; if Al declines, it'll go to Denis).

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Sharon John, Secretary

Door Prize Winners:

1. Linda Behr, 2. Al Pribble, 3. Sande Lolli, 4. Lon Peden, 5. Al Klatt, 6. John Hayes, 7. Marilyn Kolle, 8. Jack Jungles.



New member, Al Klatt.

Fall 2012 *on the lighter side*

Recently, at our family-owned restaurant, a customer asked, "What's good tonight?"

Obviously, we would never serve anything we didn't think was good, so I braced myself when I heard the question posed to my husband.

He calmly replied, "Anything over \$17.95."

March/April 2010 • *on the lighter side*

A cop pulls over a carload of older women.

He says to the driver, "This is a 65 MPH highway—why are you going so slow?"

The lady apologizes and says, "Sir, I saw a lot of signs that said 22, not 65."

The cop chuckles and says, "Oh, that's not the speed limit, that's the name of the highway you're on!"

At this point the cop looks in the back-seat where the other ladies are shaking and trembling.

"Excuse me," he says, "but what's wrong with your friends? They're shaking something terrible."

She replies, "Oh, I don't know. We just got off of Highway 119."



SPECIAL DONATION REQUEST –

If anyone has extra silverware at home that you don't know what to do with (spoons and forks especially) please bring them to the next meeting.

Elena would like to begin using real utensils for refreshments – this will save the club in the long run because plastic utensils will not be needed as often.

Any donations are appreciated! Any questions, please call Elena at 369-8915. Thanks!



Have you ever wondered what the visitors to the museum think about us?
Here is your opportunity!
We're on the "blog" of the Franklin Chamber of Commerce Website:
www.franklin-chamber.com/blog/
Also have you gone to:
Trip Advisor.com?
Our "facebook" page is great.
Thank you to Lacey Morley.



Bits and Pieces

by Fred Plesner for the Gem & Mineral Society of Franklin, NC

I was recently going through a collection of old newspaper clippings and found several that related to "The Old Jail." Unfortunately there were no dates other than the year so I cannot be more specific. There was a serious lack of detail in the reporting but the literary style was quite interesting. I will quote these stories exactly in the hopes that you will find them as interesting as I did. I am pretty sure that they were clipped from the "*Franklin Press* and *The Highlands Maconian*."

1906

"The noted moonshiner, Sam Lamb, who has devoted much time to the manufacture of illicit liquor near the line of Macon County, North Carolina and Rabun County, Georgia and who is very familiar with the interior of the jails of both counties, is in jail at this place for tinkering with the odoriferous Mountain Dew. Sam is a sly and slick veteran in the bad cause and has given much trouble to Uncle Sam's agents. He has frequently broken out of jail, and the duration of his sojourn here now is something of an unknown quantity."

1906

"Town Marshall I. J. Ashe and Otto Love engaged in a dispute in front of the Hotel Jarrett Saturday night, resulting in Ashe's knocking Love down with his bullet."

I loved this one because here a gunfight is simply a dispute and there was no reference as to what led up to the shooting or any references as to what charges would be brought against Mr. Love. For those who are not familiar with the Hotel Jarrett it stood across the street from the recently closed People's Department Store.

1904

"There are no prisoners in our jail now. Those who have not served out their terms have escaped and all is quiet in that corner."

Instructor John Hayes presenting Claudette Rollins with her certificate for completing her cabochon class.



Marsha Harmon learning cabochon from John.



American Federation of Mineralogical Societies web site is at: <http://www.amfed.org>

Southeast Federation of Mineralogical
<http://www.amfed.org/sfms>

SFMS class information, schedules and registration forms for Wildacres & William Holland can be found at their website.

Also, the SFMS newsletter, LODESTAR is obtainable on this same website; look for "newsletters."



TUMBLING TO POLISH CABS

By **Rick Copeland**, President, Colorado Springs Mineralogical Society

I use vibratory tumblers to polish about 90% of my cabs. I rough out the cabs on a 100 grit lap. Then I put them into the vibratory tumbler with 150/220 grit with ceramic media and run it for a day or two. Then I clean it out and run it on 600 grit for a day or two.

Then the cabs are cleaned with soap and water and put into a separate vibratory tumbler with tempered glass shards that have been through a 150/220 and 600 grit cycle to take the sharp edges off (you can also use ceramic media sold at jewelry supply websites and stores for tumble polishing jewelry). I use Tin Oxide for polish. I let it run for at least 3 days, usually 5 or more.

I use a spray bottle to add water so as not to add too much. I start the tumbler and give it 4 or 5 squirts of water. Then I add a couple of tablespoons of Tin Oxide and watch the action. When it slows down, I give it 4 or 5 squirts. Once it's rolling pretty well, I add another two tablespoons of Tin Oxide. Again I watch the tumbling action and when it slows down, I give it another 4 to 5 squirts. You want the Tin Oxide to be covering your stones and media. Now let it run an hour and come back and check. If the rolling of the stones and media is sluggish or the paste Tin Oxide has a dull look to it, give it 4 to 5 squirts of water. You should have just a bit of white liquid showing on the inside edge of the bottom of the mass of stones and media.

The cabs come out with a better polish than if I went through the trouble of doing all the grinding and polishing by hand. And I can produce a lot of cabs with little effort. Just a few hours of grinding the cabs, then keeping tabs on the tumblers, and I'm free to do other things. There is a little rounding on where the back side meets the side edge. I do a pretty good job with roughing out the cabs so they don't require much tumbling. Some commercial cutters let the tumblers do a lot more of the work and that leads to more rounding which make the stones difficult to bezel set.

The stones I won't use the tumblers for are Natural Turquoise, Boulder Opal, Lapis, and any other high priced stone.

Posted on *Lapidary List*, Jan. 25, 2008,

via March, 2013 *Ozark Earth Science Gem, Mineral & Fossil Club Newsletter*

Safety February Lodestar 2013

By Bob Green

Greetings, all, I hope all had a good holiday season and a good January. I went to sleep on the job in January and unlike one of the spring announcing groundhogs, I have seen my shadow.

This month I want to readdress a subject that all of you clearly understand; eye safety. First, I lost an eye in 1952. Since then I have been at a bit of a disability. Depth perception was an issue and still is. That is why for many lapidary activities I want to get close to the subject. I also suffer from nearsightedness and as such have a tendency not to wear my glasses for readings and working on the computer. Now, it is intuitive that when soldering, you must wear eye protection. Hot solder is not nice, no matter where it strikes and the torch is extremely unforgiving.

However, I am a cabber and you might think that this is OK to be a bit remiss with the safety goggles or glasses, well, I was extremely lucky in a couple of aspects, when early on, while working a piece of agate, a small sliver impacted my face just between my good eye and my nose. That was a bit of a wake-up call. That even doing the seemingly "safe" activity of cabbing, you need to be aware that tiny piece of your work-piece can become a hazard. This was several years ago and as with any activity that you do, being a bit negligent on the safety aspect of your work can creep in.

About three months ago, for whatever reason, I had a bit of a trouble seeing the work-piece and put my normal glasses on to see the piece of Australian Dendritic Opal that I was about to work on, so like I should be doing all the time, I put on my glasses. Now, Opal is a marvelous and delicate stone with many attributes of beauty. However, this particular opal had several cracks around the edge. As I was developing the girdle, a small piece of the opal ejected and stuck my glasses protecting my good eye.

So, no matter how safe you think your activity may be, remember to protect your eyes. Wear appropriate goggles and be sure your glasses are impact resistant and shatter-proof. Until next month, be safe and enjoy your February, spring is just around the corner and more hazards are present.

Coming Events

May 2-5, 2013 Spruce Pine, NC

2nd Annual Spring Grassy Creek Gem and Mineral Show on **May 2nd to 5th, 2013** located at the Parkway Fire and Rescue Department at 12966 Hwy. 226 South, in Spruce Pine, NC, halfway between US 19E and the Blue Ridge Parkway (exit 331).

There are 30 dealers who have all kinds of gemstones, mineral specimens, jewelry, beads, fossils, and lots more.

Admission is FREE. Parking is FREE.

Hours are from 8 to 6 all days.

Contact Donna Collis at collisdonna@yahoo.com or Roger Frye at rcfrye@bellsouth.net for information. 828-765-5519 or 828-766-6136.

May 10-12 Franklin, NC 12th Annual Mother's Day Gemboree. 12th Annual Mother's Day Gemboree, May 10, 2013 - May 12, 2013, Friday - Saturday 10am - 5pm; Sunday 11am - 4pm. Macon County Community Building. Sponsored by the Franklin Chamber of Commerce.

The Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies, Inc
The Friendly Federation - Founded in 1976 to serve.
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GLENDON QUARRY
Glendon, North Carolina
Standard Minerals Division/R.T. Vanderbilt Co. Inc.
Saturday, May 4, 2013
8AM till 3PM sharp!
(Attendance limited to 120 registrations)

For those who do not know where Glendon, N.C. is located:
DIRECTIONS: From Charlotte, North Carolina -

On I-85 North of Charlotte, either exit the interstate at Lexington on to US 64 and travel through Asheboro to SR 42. Turn right and follow SR 42 past Coleridge and Bennett and SSR 902. Then SR 42 makes a left towards Carbonton and Sanford. Before Carbonton there is a flashing yellow light @ SSR 1006. Turn right onto SSR 1006/ Glendon-Carthage road and go south to the mine which will be on your left. If you spend the night at Sanford, N.C. you will be traveling West on SR 42 and have to make a left on SSR 1006.

Sanford N.C. is located 20 miles to the East of Glendon and is the best bet for finding a good motel room and nearby restaurants.

SFMS Field Trip Committee:

Internet website: <http://amfed.org/sfms> E-Mail jimflora@windstream.net

Jim Flora - SFMS Field Trip Committee Chair

More information on Museum
bulletin board or you may
request by email from the
editor



Polishing Compounds

Black rouge is for gold, silver and German Silver Gives a high polish.

Green rouge is for platinum, chrome, stainless steel, and hard materials.

Red rouge is for gold, silver, and soft metals and materials.

White rouge is for the harder metals: platinum, chrome, stainless steel, and some of the harder materials.

Yellow rouge is for roughing in, as it cuts faster. It usually has a base of beeswax to hold the polish in. it is for hard materials such as chrome and stainless steel.

from HOMER'S CORNER date unknown

Meteorite Triggered Scientific 'Gold Rush'

University of California – Davis Press Release, Dec. 20, 2012

A meteorite that exploded as a fireball over California's Sierra foothills this past spring (2012) was among the fastest, rarest meteorites known to have hit Earth, and it traveled a highly eccentric orbital route to get here.

An international team of scientists presents these and other findings in a study published Dec. 21, in the journal *Science*. The 70-member team included nine researchers from UC Davis, along with scientists from the SETI Institute, NASA and other institutions.

The researchers found that the meteorite that fell over Northern California on April 22 was the rarest type known to have hit Earth -- a carbonaceous chondrite. It is composed of cosmic dust and presolar materials that helped form the planets of the solar system.

The scientists learned that the meteorite formed about 4.5 billion years ago. It was knocked off its parent body, which may have been an asteroid or a Jupiter-family comet, roughly 50,000 years ago. That began its journey to Sutter's Mill, the gold discovery site that sparked the California Gold Rush.

As it flew toward Earth, it traveled an eccentric course through the solar system, flying from an orbit close to Jupiter toward the sun, passing by Mercury and Venus, and then flying out to hit Earth.

The high-speed, minivan-sized meteorite entered the atmosphere at about 64,000 miles per hour. The study said it was the fastest, "most energetic" reported meteorite that's fallen since 2008, when an asteroid fell over Sudan. "If this were a much bigger object, it could have been a disaster," said co-author and UC Davis geology professor Qing-zhu Yin. "This is a happy story in this case."

Before entering Earth's atmosphere, the meteorite is estimated to have weighed roughly 100,000 pounds. Most of that mass burned away when the meteorite exploded. Scientists and private collectors have recovered about 2 pounds remaining. UC Davis is 60 miles west of the El Dorado county towns of Coloma and Lotus, where pieces of the meteorite were found on residents' driveways and in local forests and parks.

When the meteorite fell, Yin, whose lab contains some of the country's most specialized equipment to measure the age and composition of meteorites, searched for and collected pieces of the fallen meteorite with students and volunteers. He also led a 35-member subgroup of international researchers to study and share information about the meteorite's mineralogy, internal textures, chemical and isotopic compositions and magnetic properties. Meteorites like Sutter's Mill are thought to have delivered oceans of water to Earth early in its history. Using neutron-computed tomography, UC Davis researchers helped identify where hydrogen, and therefore water-rich fragments, resides in the meteorite without breaking it open.

For the first time, the Doppler weather radar network helped track the falling carbonaceous chondrite meteorite pieces, aiding scientists in the quick recovery of them, the study reports. Yin expects that the weather radar data in the public domain could greatly enhance and benefit future meteorite recoveries on land. "For me, the fun of this scientific gold rush is really just beginning," said Yin. "This first report based on the initial findings provides a platform to propel us into more detailed research. Scientists are still finding new and exciting things in Murchison, a similar type of meteorite to Sutter's Mill, which fell in Victoria, Australia, in 1969, the same year Apollo astronauts Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin returned the first lunar samples to the Earth. We will learn a lot more with Sutter's Mill."

Via *Lodestar* January 2013

A Petrified Fact

By Ed Wengerd in *Gem Cutter's News*

Many pieces of petrified wood, especially those from the northwest, have a center that looks like wood, but with a layer of chalcedony or pumice between the center and the outside. This indicates that the tree was green when it was buried in hot ash. The water in the green wood evaporated making the wood shrink. The outside was made into a cast by the heat, so the areas left between the cast and the wood were filled with chalcedony, making beautiful pieces of petrified wood.

Via many newsletters;

via *Canaveral Moonstone* Dec 2012

All eyes were on the radiant bride
as her father escorted her down the aisle.

They reached the altar and the waiting
groom; the bride kissed her father
and placed something in his hand.



The guests in the front pews
responded with ripples of laughter. Even the
priest smiled broadly. As her father gave her
away in marriage, the bride gave him back
his credit card.

Dixie Mineral Council Field Trips

The Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies, Inc

The Friendly Federation - Founded in 1976 to serve.

DMC Program of the SFMS Field Trip Committee Copyright © All rights reserved.

An Official Field Trip of Gaston County Gem, Mineral & Faceting Club (Gastonia, NC) (HOST)

An Official Field Trip of the Gem & Mineral Society of Franklin, NC

9:00 AM - 3:00 PM,
Saturday, April 20, 2013
Burgin Quartz Mine
Norwood, NC
Stanly County
Fee Site



No Pets

Fee: \$10.00 per person and you must sign a release.

TRIP: Last trip to this site I found great crystal both in the spoil piles loose, in vugs and inside of the quartz boulders.

COLLECTING: Quartz crystals, often clear and sometimes huge up to 4 inches across and a few inches long. The crystals are found in vugs in a very large milky quartz outcropping, though some crystals can be found by digging through the spoil piles previously dug out by a backhoe. To get the big ones, you need to do some hard rock mining using sledge hammers, and chisels to break apart the massive quartz to expose new vugs.

BRING: Sledge hammers, chisels, rock hammers, safety glasses, gloves, dirt sifting tools, buckets, newspaper to wrap specimens, drink and food. (Subway and Bojangles are only a couple of miles away if you prefer to eat out.)

DIRECTIONS AND WHERE TO MEET:

Where: We will meet at the mine.

When: April 20, 2013 from 9am - 3 pm

Directions to our meeting place: The address is 40764 Old Cottonville Rd., Norwood, NC. Use MapQuest or GPS for exact directions from the area you are coming from. Norwood is due east of Charlotte, NC.

I will be traveling from Gastonia, NC
I will go I-85 North to NC 49 North
NC 49 North to NC 73 East
NC 73 East to US 52 South
US 52 to Chad St
Chad St to S. Stanly School Rd
S. Stanly School Rd to Old Cottonville Rd.
Drive under the railroad trestle and turn left onto a dirt lane.
Follow the lane over a low ridge and watch for the digging area on the right.
There is plenty of parking

Drive Time: An hour and half from Gastonia or 1 hour from Charlotte

Contact: David Long

704-860-1025 - david28054@carolina.rr.com

(Field Trip Co-Chair for Gaston Gem, Mineral & Faceters Club)



Blessed Easter to all.

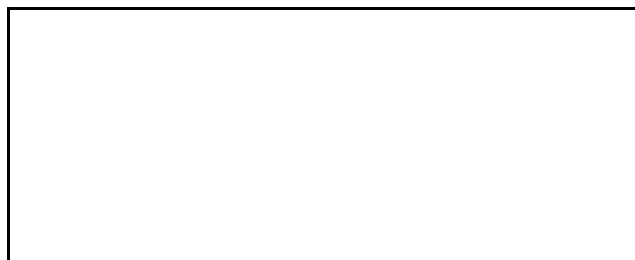
THE MOUNTAIN GEM

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Franklin, NC 28734
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themountaingem@fastmail.fm



First Class Mail

Rock Night



Board and General Meetings for 2013

MONTH	BOARD	GENERAL
JANUARY	29	31
FEBRUARY	26	28
MARCH	26	28
APRIL	23	25
MAY	28	30
JUNE	25	27
JULY	16	18
AUGUST	27	29
SEPTEMBER	24	26
OCTOBER	15	17
NOVEMBER	19	21
DECEMBER	1 pm-5 pm Saturday	14 End of Year Party

General Meetings: 6:30 p.m. the last Thursday of the month (note changes)
West Large Meeting Room of the Macon County Community Facilities Building
HWY 441 S
Meeting changes will be posted in the monthly newsletter.

Board Meetings: 6:30 p.m.
At the Franklin Gem & Mineral Museum

All Board Meetings are open to the members.
If you want to submit something before the Board, contact the President prior to meeting.