

# Tar Heel Tailings

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

## Special Interest Articles:

- President's Report
- March Door Prize
- Upcoming Events
- Black Glendon Matrix

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## President's Report

Well, the 35th annual Tar Heel Rock and Gem show has come and gone for another year. Somehow we managed to come together and pull off what I would consider a very successful show. Which is no token achievement these days. Attendance Friday evening and Sunday were average, but the crowd we had all day Saturday really saved the

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## March Door Prize - Agate and Foxfire

By Eileen Breckstein

I selected a beautiful piece of AGATE and it's 'sidekick' a small deposit of FOXFIRE.

The AGATE is called Parrot Agate because of the several colors similar to the brilliant coloring of a parrot.

Since the stick of FOXFIRE is about the same color, it was suggested that a similar fungus may have contributed to the brilliant AGATE colors of the piece when it was forming. Sort of like - before and after.

This piece of AGATE probably

came from Brazil, a country where some outstanding agate and agate deposits have been located.

AGATE is

frequently found in association with geodes. The outer edges of geodes are agate. The various

bands of color are

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Tumbled Stones for the Grab Bags.

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

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

**Program & Refreshments**

<b>REFRESHMENT SCHEDULE:</b>	
Coordinator: Jeanette Baugh (919) 522-9044 <a href="mailto:villagegems@yahoo.com">villagegems@yahoo.com</a>	
April	Potluck
May	Sarah and Barrett Redpath
June	Open
July	Open
August	Ice Cream Social
September	Walt Milowic
October	Cyndy and Corinne Hummel
November	Jerry and Deborah Miller
<b>PROGRAM SCHEDULE:</b>	
April	NSF Trip to Siberia - Tim Martin
May	Auction
June	Open
July	Open
August	Ice Cream Social
September	Open
October	Open
November	Open

The Club reimburses members up to \$75 for bringing refreshments. Please let Jeanette know on Tuesday if you would be willing to bring refreshments for the June or July meetings. Your fellow club members will be grateful. We still need a volunteer for refreshments for the June and July meetings but everyone has the opportunity to bring something to share for the Pot Luck this month. The club will supply ice, cups (hot & cold), paper plates, bowls, napkins and plastic ware. Please consider bringing drinks, appetizers or salads, meat or veggie entrées, deserts or fruits. If everyone brings something, we will have a wonderful feast to celebrate another great Gem & Mineral Show. Thank you. Jeanette Baugh

**March Treasurer's Report**

Due to the TG&MC Annual Show, there is no Treasurer's report for this month.



- April B-Day Members**  
 Bob Bendelow  
 Pamela Borden  
 Kimberly Cathey  
 Julyah Gabriel-Havel  
 Mariana Lichtman  
 James Payne  
 Craig Potter  
 Veronica Samuel  
 John Stranzl  
 Tom Todaro



Membership applications may be mailed to:

Tarheel Gem & Mineral Club  
 Attention: Treasurer  
 10609 Chelsea Drive  
 Raleigh, NC 27603

## Tar Heel G & M Club March Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, March 15, 2011

Meeting began at 7:42 Joe Moyer presiding.

Secretary Walt Milowic read the minutes. Corrections or additions were made.

Bob Bendelow made a motion to accept the minutes as revised and Jeannette Baugh seconded. Vote: unanimous

Display cases for the show were discussed there are still some available.

Joe clarified that SOME board meetings would be before the regular meetings, but that other board meetings will be required.

Cyndy Hummel made a motion to get in touch with Joe if you wanted a display case. Joe said that anyone wanting a display case should get in touch with him.

Jeannette Baugh suggested putting your name on or in your case so everyone knows whose collection is being displayed.

Joe thanked Mike Franklin for fixing the tires on the club trailer.

Tom Todaro mentioned the field trip this Saturday, the 19th, at the Martin Marietta mine in Greensboro. He sent an email. He also put a sign up list out and gave directions. Directions can also be found in the newsletter

April 23rd is the Glendon pyrite trip for the Southeast Federation. It is probably too late if you have not responded already. Notice was given by email. To find out about Glendon, go to the SFMS website to read the Lodestar newsletter.

Jerry Miller has a signed contract for the dinner on Friday night at the show. It will be the same menu as last year, barbecue, chicken, slaw, salad, and banana pudding for 100 people. Only take one plate because they count plates. Each plate is \$11. This may be the last year for this meal. Joe is the chairman of the show because we don't need two people in that position. The rent for the building has reportedly gone up \$500 per day so next year we may need to raise the price per table next year.

There are several committees mentioned in the bylaws and Joe asked for volunteers, especially for the finance committee to man them. Joe said that for now, the executive committee would be the finance committee. Be prepared to spend extra time outside of the normal meeting time for these committees. Some of the committees are the children's committee, finance committee, and show committee. These will get further attention after the show

Joe passed out sign-up sheets for the show. They can be used to sign up and to record hours worked at the show. Joe gave one to all of the chairmen of the committees. We need accurate hours because there is a drawing for a week at William Holland or Wild Acres.

Because of monetary crunch Corrinne made a motion to bring the number of scholarships down to two from three.

There was some discussion. Walt seconded the motion.

Vote: unanimous aye.

Flyers are available for the show. Please pick some up.

Joe asked where the nametags were. Corrinne said that club nametags are available if your dues are paid up. Cyndy will pass out special nametags for chair people at the show. Corrinne said she would have more club nametags available at the show as well.

We will be cutting back on club food for Saturday and Sunday. Nancy Holland asked if anyone had any food allergies. Let her know if you do. Food this year will be mostly a big salad. If you want meat or something hot you are welcome to bring a potluck dish. Breakfast will be great. Bring a casserole, dessert, or anything else you want.

Refreshments at meetings were discussed. There are three options: 1) do away with them completely, 2) cut back from \$75 to \$40 and only serve snacks and drinks, or 3) leave it the way it is. We will vote on this at the next meeting.

Breakdown at the show will be different this year so we can utilize the storage unit. For the trailer, Graham asked for a layer of geodes then pack everything else on top of that.

Storage cases and one saw will probably be put into the storage area. Jeannette asked if we should get shelves first. Joe will put down some pallets for now. Joe asked if anyone have any shelves we can have and don't spend club money.

Greg Dillon said that you must be certified to run the geode saw because the blades are very expensive. No slabs will be cut on the saw in storage.

The club area at the show is first come first served on Friday morning. You can't claim them on Thursday. Only one half of a table can be taken on Friday. If no one has claimed them by Saturday morning, then you can spread out. Demonstrations take priority over sales tables. Someone who does sales and demos should get extra room.

T-shirts will be \$10 per member. There was a motion to forego T-shirts by Micky Broadway and Tom Bapple seconded. vote: one aye/ unanimous no otherwise. In discussion it was decided that left over shirts could be sold to non-club members for \$15 at the show. Cyndy said T-shirts are made every 5 years. This is the 35th year of the show therefore it is a year for shirts. We discussed color choices. Joe got a consensus on the colors presented and narrowed the choices to royal blue or turquoise. After a show of hands, turquoise won. Cyndy asked about sizes and a sheet was put out to get the proportionate number of sizes.

Publicity for the show was discussed. Tell all of your friends and get posters. Eileen has gotten free promos on TV and radio stations.

Corrinne brought in a printout for Mammoth rock shows. We'll work on publicity and show committees for next year.

Joe mentioned that he bought the new motor for the geode saw.

## Tar Heel G & M Club March Meeting Minutes

Continued from page 3

Tim Martin will be speaking at the next meeting about his show. expedition with the National Science Foundation to Siberia. There will be a potluck dinner prior to the talk.

There will be lots of discussion required at the May meeting and an auction will be held also. There will be more information in the newsletter, including what will be auctioned.

Jeannette said that if you want a potluck you should BRING something. Contact Jeannette with what you are bringing. Bring your own drinks, but the club will supply the paper products.

Cyndy told everyone what goes in a typical grab bag for the

Tom Todaro reminded everyone to get on his email list to make sure you find out about field trips.

Greg asked for people to bring newspaper to the show to wrap the geodes.

John Heinz chose the ticket for the drawing. Eileen Breckstein won the drawing and chose Parrot Agate and a piece of Foxfire.

Barbara Watkins made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Eileen Breckstein seconded. Vote: unanimous aye.

Respectfully submitted, Walt Milowic

## President's Report

Continued from page 1

the weekend for us. Several dealers commented to me on what a fine little club and show we have. Hats off to all those involved! I know it's a lot of work but I hope, in the end, the reward is the enjoyment of having contributed to the production and completion of the show in any way you may have. I gained a new appreciation for the care and effort the founding/past/ and longtime current members of the THGMC have put in to make this event the successful venue it is. But since we're all getting about as old as ROCK, I'm thinking about trying to get the NC State football team to help with set-up and breakdown next year and we can all be Supervisors. HA!

I know there were a lot of suggestions and ideas from members about ways we can make next years even better. So many in fact that it would be nice if you would write these down for review. Include any suggestions you have on how to implement these changes or new ideas.

Bring a dish and come hungry to the next meeting on April 19th. We'll have something to eat and then sit down to enjoy our speaker program on Siberia.

CONGRATULATIONS AND THANKS AGAIN TO EVERYONE!!!

Joe Moylan

## March Door Prize - Agate and Foxfire

Continued from page 1

caused by the minerals in the silica solution that percolates through the nodule in volcanic rocks or ancient lavas as it was cooling. Think of it as a bubble in the molten lava that gets filled up with waters containing siliceous matter. It then cools, drains, deposits and forms over and over again for

thousands of years. AGATE is usually used to make jewelry but once was the component of marbles, hence the nickname of marbles being AGATES. Since AGATE is a microcrystalline form of quartz it was used to burnish or scrape leather for tanning before metal tools were available.



## Black Glendon Matrix - Mafic Volcanic Rock

By Kenny Gay P.G.

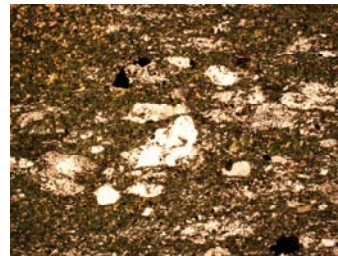
Many people were asking about the black rock containing pyrite cubes that was found at the Glendon quarry last fall. I sent a sample of the black rock out and had a thin section made. Under the microscope the rock is composed of a mosaic of tiny hornblende crystals, some of which are altering to epidote. A rock like this was a mafic volcanic rock, probably originally of a basalt composition. Pyrophyllite deposits are thought to be formed by the hydrothermal (hot spring) alteration of volcanic rocks of a felsic composition. It is not surprising to have the occasional mafic lava flow mixed in with a thick sequence of felsic lavas and tuffs, which is what this black rock represents. The hydrothermal alteration has resulted in some minor quartz and pyrophyllite replacing some of the mafic minerals. All the pyrite found at Glendon is secondary mineral growth, after the eruption of the felsic and mafic volcanic rocks. The pyrite probably formed during or just after the hydrothermal events which altered the original volcanic rock and created the pyrophyllite. One of the hot spring vents can be seen just west of Occoneechee Mountain State Park in Hillsborough, NC. The preservation of the hot spring is rare. The hot spring rock, a siliceous sinter, is soft and not often preserved.



Hot spring deposit at Hillsborough

The hot spring (hydrothermal) activity extracted silica and other minerals and elements from some rock types or added silica to other rock types forming hydrothermally altered rocks. Evidence of hydrothermally altered rock is present in the pyrophyllite deposits associated with Occoneechee Mountain. At Occoneechee Mountain, hydrothermal fluids removed silica from the ash deposit. The altered ash was later metamorphosed, into the pyrophyllite.

The following are photomicrographs of the black rock collected at Glendon last fall. They indicate the rock is a slightly altered mafic volcanic rock. One was taken in plain light, and one in cross polar light.



Glendon 25x plain light



Glendon 25x cross polar light

Mosaic of hornblende, epidote and some quartz, the black areas are tiny pyrite crystals

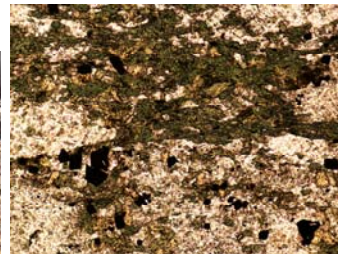


Glendon 25x plain light

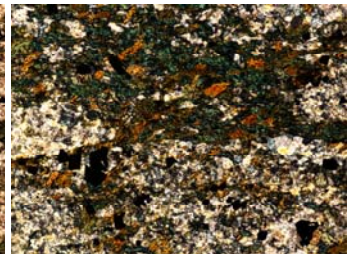


Glendon 25x cross polar light

Mosaic of hornblende, epidote and some quartz, the black areas are tiny pyrite crystals



Glendon 100x plain light



Glendon 100x cross polar light

Mosaic of hornblende, epidote and some quartz, the black areas are tiny pyrite crystals

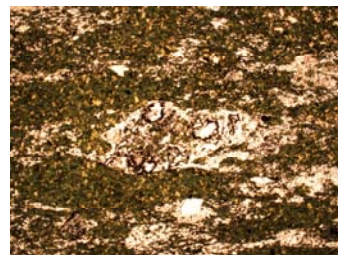


Glendon 100x plain light



Glendon 100x cross polar light

Mosaic of hornblende and epidote, the eye-shaped area is full of quartz, and the black triangle is pyrite



Glendon 25x plain light



Glendon 25x cross polar light

Mosaic of hornblende and epidote, the eye-shaped area is full of quartz, and the black triangle is pyrite

## Upcoming Events

### Graves Mountain "Rock Swap and Dig" Dates

Friday, April 29, 2011 - Sunday, May 1, 2011 8 am to 6 pm  
Friday, October 7, 2011 - Sunday, October 9, 2011 8 am to 6 pm

"You are invited to field collect minerals at Georgia's premiere mineral location!"

The caretaker in charge of Graves Mountain, Clarence Norman Jr., has announced plans to hold two three day digs and rock swaps on the Mountain during 2010. He will have the mountain open to collecting from 8 am to 6 pm each day. All participants must stop at the welcome table in the Hospitality tent to sign a liability release and make a small contribution to defray the cost of opening the mountain and providing port-o-lets. There will be several golf cart type, four wheeled vehicles available to transport those participants who have trouble walking long distances. The dig will cease and everyone is expected to be off the mountain by around 6 pm each day. Participants will be allowed to park in a designated area on the mountain.

Rock Swap and Hot Food/Drinks:

Junior will set aside an area in the upper parking lot for tables to be setup for daily rock swaps. Anyone who would like to setup a table(s), please contact Junior at the phone numbers listed below. Hot food cooked on the grill, cold drinks and chips will be available for purchase on the mountain during all three days of these events. Don't forget to bring some extra money to buy the special "Graves Mountain Rock Swap and Dig" T-shirt!

Contact Information:

Clarence Norman Jr. (Junior) - 706.359.3862 (his business) or 706.359.2381 (his home)

THESE DIGS ARE OPEN TO ALL SFMS CLUBS and the GENERAL PUBLIC!

Mark your calendar and tell all your members about these two great events!

Please follow this link for a map to Graves Mountain:

(<http://www.gaminer.org/commercial-gravesmountain.htm>)

SFMS Field Trip Committee:

Please reply by e-mail to: [dmc@gaminer.org](mailto:dmc@gaminer.org)

Jim Flora - SFMS Field Trip Committee Chair

### Laurie's Open House and Rock Swap!

All Day, Saturday May 14th, 2011

You are invited to the Spring Open House at my rock shop in Denton, North Carolina on May 14th. The event we had here last spring was a resounding success, with about 20 participants setting up their wares for swapping or selling. This year should be equally successful as I am inviting members from many NC clubs. Last springs event was very well received by everyone, there was a lot of swapping, selling, and giving away of minerals. The kids will have a big pile of freebie rocks to dig through, (which will be open for adults this time). One of my goals is to encourage young rockhounds so I will be giving away lots of stuff to the kids. I had incredible feed back from last years participants. Any mineral dealer or collector that wants to come can set up for free! I only have a limited number of tables I can provide so if you can bring your own tables that would be greatly appreciated. Regardless, we'll find a place for your stuff. As with the first event, I'll be giving away a very fine specimen by drawing. There will be a campfire and hopefully music and picking in the evening. You are welcome to camp on the site, both on the night before and the night after the event, and there will be room for one family/group to crash in my small cabin, first come first served.

There will be a grill set up for hot dogs, hamburgers, or whatever and other refreshments. I will provide coffee, a bunch of hot dogs and ice for drinks. You will have to put up with my music! I hope you can stand killer John Prine, bluegrass, Grateful Dead and similar goodies. It would be helpful for me if you could e-mail me in advance so I could

get an idea of how many to expect. I do several mineral shows and events throughout the year, most are expensive to participate in, **but mine is totally free**. Tables will be provided on a first come first serve basis. You can buy, sell, or trade, but even if you don't set up a table, be sure to bring a few specimens to swap. The campfire at night can be magical, bring your instruments. (See directions below) I also have a modest rock shop here for you to look at. Thanks, Laurie.

This year I will be inviting anyone interested to join me on Sunday, the day after the event, to go down with me to the Bowers Limonite Mine, in Stanly County, about 45 minutes from my shop, a well known locality for pseudomorphs of limonite after pyrite in singles and clusters. (The owner requires a \$5.00 per day digging fee).

**DIRECTIONS TO THE OPEN HOUSE:** The shop is located about one hour east-northeast of Charlotte, 45 minutes southeast of Winston-Salem, and about 45 minutes southwest of Greensboro. If coming from Greensboro or points east, take I-85 south from Greensboro to the main Thomasville exit and turn left at the end of the ramp (south) onto Hwy 109. After the second rr crossing, take the next road to the left (at a crossroads). This is Cedar Springs Road. Go 2/10 mile to the shop at the third house on the right. FOR THOSE WITH GPS SYSTEMS, THE ADDRESS IS 268 CEDAR SPRINGS ROAD.

For more info, call me at 336-859-3471 or email me at: [laurieadams@triad.rr.com](mailto:laurieadams@triad.rr.com)

## UPCOMING SHOWS

April 23-24, 2011 Memphis, TN. Memphis Mineral, Fossil, Jewelry Show; Memphis Archaeological and Geological Society. "The Earth Wide Open" Memphis International Agricenter, Expo Center, West Pavilion & A-wing 7777 Walnut Grove Rd. Memphis, TN Web: [www.TheEarthWideOpen.com](http://www.TheEarthWideOpen.com), email: [info@theearthwideopen.com](mailto:info@theearthwideopen.com). Show/dealer info. W.C. McDaniel 901 274-7706

April 30 – May 1, 2011 Charleston, SC "Art by Nature" Annual Jewelry, Gem, Mineral, & Fossil Show; North Charleston Arts Festival. THE LOWCOUNTRY GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY. Saturday and Sunday: 10 AM to 5 PM. FREE PARKING AND FREE ADMISSION. Charleston Area Convention Center Exhibit Hall A, 5001 Coliseum Drive, North Charleston, SC. Show contact: Karen Havenstein, Show Chair 843-795-2956. Email contact: [fossils@comcast.net](mailto:fossils@comcast.net) Club Website: [www.lowcountrygemandmineralsociety.org](http://www.lowcountrygemandmineralsociety.org)

May 6-8, 2011 Marietta, GA, Gem and Mineral Show, Auction - Saturday @ 1PM. THE GEORGIA MINERAL SOCIETY. Fri: 10 AM

to 6PM; Sat: 10AM-6PM; Sun: Noon-5PM. The Cobb County Civic Center, 548 So. Marietta Parkway and Fairground St., Marietta, GA. Show contacts: Show Chair Tom Batcha (678) 407-4224 Dealer Chair Roxanne Lopez 678.491.0489 <http://www.gamineral.org/may-show.htm>

June 4 & 5, 2011 Birmingham, AL. 38th Annual Tannehill Gem, Mineral, Fossil, & Jewelry Show; Alabama Mineral & Lapidary Society. Sat: 9 am to 5 pm; Sun: 9 am to 5 pm. Tannehill Ironworks Historical State Park. Show contact: Gene Blackerby, 205-807-6777. Email contact: [gene@lapidaryclub.com](mailto:gene@lapidaryclub.com) <http://lapidaryclub.com>

June 17-19, 2011: Asheville, NC - Southern Appalachian Mineral Society. Asheville Gem Fest 2011, Pack Place, 2 South Pack Square (Downtown Asheville). Hours: Fri & Sat 10 AM - 6 PM, Sun 12 noon - 5 PM. Free admission, minerals, gems, jewelry, fossils, kids' activities, silent auction, door prizes. Contact (828) 254-7162 or [www.colburnmuseum.org](http://www.colburnmuseum.org)



Glendon Pyrite in Mafic Volcanic Rock



Glendon Pyrite in Pyrophyllite Matrix

Pictures of Specimens from previous Glendon Trip.

## Vugsites

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

<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](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](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](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.

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.

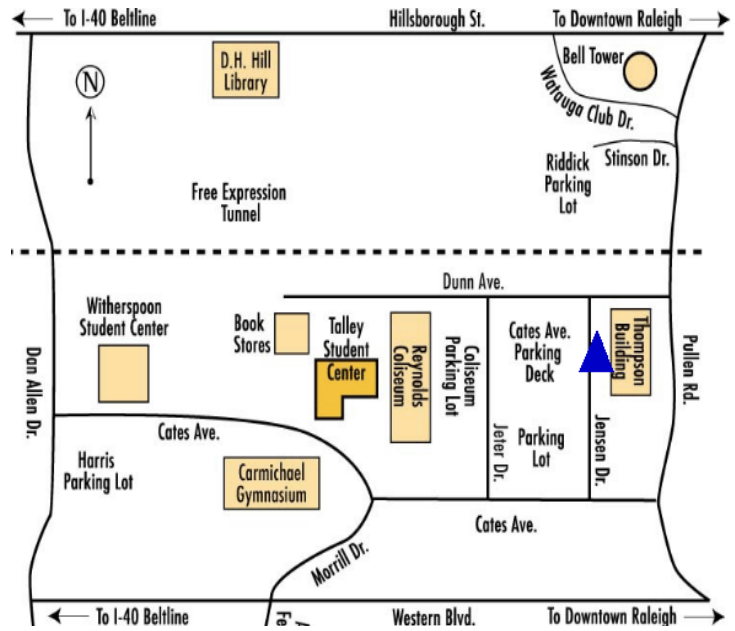
**Park in the Cates Ave. Parking Deck off Jensen Dr. Enter Thompson Building directly across from the parking lot.**

# Our Next Meeting is April 19, 2010 @ 7:30PM Thompson Building / NCSU Campus.

## *About Our Organization...*

The Tar Heel Gem and Mineral Club was formed in 1974 as a nonprofit educational organization for people who enjoy the lapidary 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**  
10609 Chelsea Drive  
Raleigh, NC 27603

