

TAR HEEL



ROCKHOUND

FEBRUARY 2018

Catawba Valley Gem & Mineral Club, Inc.

2018 Officers and Committees

President:	Harry Polly 828-244-6651	Editor:	Slade Harvin 252-702-7299	Show Chairman:	Dean Russell 828- 303-1448
Vice President:	Rick Glover 828-446-7633	Field Trip:	OPEN	Scholarship:	George Max 828-328-9107
Treasurer:	Terry Russell 828- 303-1563	Education:	George Max 828-328-9107	Eastern Federation Liaison:	Larry Huffman 828-612-4469
Secretary:	Dean Russell 828- 303-1448				

Club Address: PO Box 2521, Hickory, NC 28603-2521
 Regular Meetings: Second Tuesday, 7:00 PM
 St. Aloysius Catholic Church
 921 2nd St. NE Hickory, NC
 Annual Dues: Family, \$25; Individual, \$18;

The purpose of the Club is to increase the individual's knowledge of the earth sciences and to aid in the development of lapidary and related arts and skills; to promote fellowship and exchange of ideas; to hold exhibitions, contests, lectures and demonstrations for educational purposes; to help interest more people in the gem and mineral hobby; and to capture and preserve the beauty of nature, the arts, and the works of man.



Photo: S. Harvin Fluorite (Kentucky)

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CATAWBA VALLEY GEM & MINERAL CLUB, INC.

<http://www.cvgmc.com>

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President's Message

Well, our new year is upon us and it greeted us with the cold and wet. The flu season is in full swing. Stay warm, dry, and well.

This time of the year is a good time to stay indoors and work on our winter projects. We can organize, reorganize our collection of minerals we have acquired this past year. We can label and make room in our display cabinets for them. We can do some cleaning of our recent finds. We can work on some lapidary items, we can wire wrap some of those treasures. There are numerous things that we can do.

In the next few weeks, there will be a sign-up sheet passed around for volunteers for our annual show. We need your help. Please consider helping in any one of the many areas. We all have talents, let us put them to use.

Again, I am going to harp on this. We desperately need a file trip chair. Please consider helping the club in this vital area. This is one of the lifelines of a club.

Harry

Catawba Valley Gem and Mineral Club, Inc.

The January 9, 2018 meeting of the CVGMC was called to order by President Harry P. at 7:00 PM.

Minutes: Motion by Rick G., seconded by Shelda A. to accept the minutes for the December 12, 2017 minutes. The motion was passed by the Club membership.

Treasurer Report:

- 1) Bank balance was reported.
- 2) Membership dues and paperwork are due by the end of February.

Education Committee: None.

Show Committee:

- 1) Schools have been contacted about the show.
- 2) The Mini Mine needs donations.
- 3) To continue the tradition of great shows, the Club will once again need many volunteers.
- 4) Club Members – Let George M. know what size case you will need for the show.
- 5) Need a donation for the Show's Grand Prize.

Field Trip Report:

- 1) Grab bags at St. Andrews Lutheran Church at 9:00 AM on Saturday, January 21st.
- 2) The Club needs a new Field Trip Chairperson.

Old Business: AFMS Raffle tickets are still available, see Larry H.

New Business: The Club's rock tumbler is now set up.

Closing of Business: The meeting was adjourned at 7:20 PM

Program: Bragging Rights Night.

Winners: Best Collected – Slade H.
Best Purchased – Larry H.
Best Crafted – Betty H.

**Respectfully Submitted,
Dean Russell, Secretary**

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION FORMS

FINAL NOTICE FOR MEMBERSHIP DUES

The deadline for the membership dues is February 28, 2018. You can find membership forms on the club's website: <http://www.cvgmc.com/>. Blank forms will also be available at the February meeting.

As a reminder, the yearly dues have increased to: \$25 for family and \$18 for single memberships.

The membership form must accompany your dues in order for your name to be included on the 2018 club roster and to receive the monthly newsletter. **Honorary members must also fill out the form each year in order to keep the club records up to date, maintain their honorary membership status and stay on the roster.**

Please print clearly and legibly on the form so that your information can be updated accurately. Please make checks PAYABLE TO: CVGMC (CATAWBA VALLEY GEM & MINERAL CLUB, INC). You may also mail your dues with the membership form to: Catawba Valley Gem & Mineral Club, Inc. c/o Terry Russell P.O. Box 2521 Hickory, NC 28603-2521.

Anyone who does not renew their membership by the end of February will be removed from future mailing lists and will not be able to participate in upcoming field trips.

February Field Trip

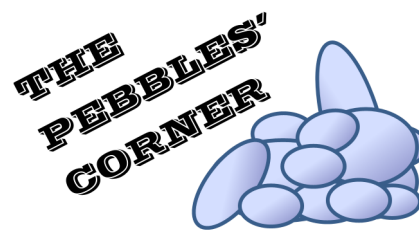
A February Field Trip is currently not scheduled.

Also, everyone is asked to please consider taking the Field Trip Coordinator position for the Club.

Program

The February program will be on gold and presented by Don Markum.

We look forward to seeing everyone.



This section of the newsletter is being started to help generate more interest and interaction with younger rockhounds and to have fun in the process.

I welcome any information a member may wish to provide to be included in the upcoming newsletters each month, especially related to items that would be of interest to our younger and aspiring rockhounds.

The club's annual Gem & Mineral Show is coming March 23-25.

This is a good event to invite a young rockhound or any young person. There are plenty of activities and things to see.

There are educational displays and areas to see and touch different minerals. There is also a "Mini Mine" for kids to mine for some minerals.

This is a fun and educational event. There is so much to see. The event will also give you some time to have fun together. So plan to come on out and have a "Rockin' Good Time."

There will also be opportunities to purchase a souvenir for your young rockhound.

The most important thing to remember is to have fun!



Photos: Clip Art

Until next time.....

Slade

NEWS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

BRAGGING CONTEST RESULTS

Best Collected – Slade Harvin
Best Purchased – Larry Huffman
Best Crafted – Betty Hollar

GRAB BAG PACKING

THANK YOU TO EVERYONE THAT HELPED!

Thank you to everyone that helped with packing the grab bags. We were able to pack the bags quickly and have fun in the process. We could not have done it without you.

Rockhound Soap Box (by John Martin, AFMS – Conservation and Legislation Committee)

In the world of Rockhounding and Public Lands, not much has happened this year. There have not been any Federal Land Closures for Rockhounds. The National Monuments are still being reviewed and no formal decision affecting any monument has been made. With the wildfires and flooding across America, some Rockhounding areas may have been compromised on a temporary basis. Keep checking with the local land managers when it will be safe to re-enter the collecting areas.

California has a new State Symbol to go along with the State Rock, Serpentine; the State Fossil, Saber-toothed Cat (Smilodon), the State Gem; Benitoite; the State Mineral, Gold; the State Prehistoric Artifact, the Chipped Bear and joining this list is now the State Dinosaur, Augustynolophus morrisi. The State Dinosaur became a reality on September 23, 2017 when Governor Jerry Brown signed AB 1540 into law.

Grassroots effort by Rockhounds are still needed, in a proactive manner, on issues where Recreational Rockhounding may be in jeopardy through Federal or state legislation, Land Management Rules and Regulations and special interest groups with strong lobby activities. If we, as Rockhounds do not get involved and speak up to make our voices heard, we could lose the ability to enjoy our Recreational Hobby of Rockhounding, now and for future generations. Get involved, attend BLM and USFS meetings in or near your areas and make the voice of the Rockhound be heard. As United, Rockhounds can preserve the Rockhounding Hobby and keep collecting sites accessible.

Planning for the March 23-25 Gem and Mineral Show

Club leaders have been doing preparations for our keynote activity and major fund-raising effort of the year. The success of the show will be directly related to having an adequate number of volunteers to work before, during, and after the show.

Volunteers - Members will be asked to volunteer in one or more of the following activities during the show – Set up, grab bags, tickets, mini-mine, education area, case preparation, scout badges, student programs, and take down. Sign-up sheets will be available at our February meeting. If you approached CVCC, Lenoir Rhyne, or Appalachian about providing student volunteers, we ask that you make those contacts again. The jobs will include help in the education program, mini-mine, or other areas.

School Groups –Some school groups have cancelled for Friday because of the lost class time from the inclement weather and reduction in field trip approval. Additional information has been distributed to public, private, and home school groups. Depending on numbers of registrations, we may open to senior citizens or Disability programs for Friday morning.

Banquet – Our original plan to have an author who is writing a book about Hiddenite did not work because of a scheduling conflict. Three other possibilities are being investigated. The banquet will be held on Saturday evening with a similar time schedule and menu. Cost for club members is to be determined.

Scouting Programs – We have provided information to the 11 county BSA Piedmont Council, the Girl Scout program, and 4-H groups. Thanks go to Rick for coordinating the merit badge work during the Show. Thanks also go to Zan, Richard, and several others for assisting.

Memorials – Thanks go to club members who have spoken with the families of the three club members who passed during the last year. A memorial to the three will be on a board at the entrance to the show. Family members will be provided cases in the focal area in the education area if they wish to display information and samples from the deceased's collection.

Grab Bags – Dean expressed his appreciation for those who provided specimens for the grab bags and for those who worked on a cool Saturday morning. Special thanks go to Harry for making small specimens out of big specimens with his trusty hammer. Thanks also go to George for procuring the church as a preparation area. If you have interest in coordinating the sale of the grab bags, speak to Dean.

Cases - Please come prepared at the next meeting to let George Max and Wayne Bowman know about whether you will need a large or small case. We also need to determine the number of focal cases needed.

Door Prize Donations – Speak with Larry Huffman if you have door prizes you would like to donate.

Your Input – Your input is always valued. If you have a concern or a suggestion for improving the show, speak with Dean Russell, show chairperson, or Harry Polly, club president. We also welcome new members stepping forward in leadership roles. Using your expertise is always appreciated in the education area. From the input we receive from dealers, our show is the benchmark for a quality show that involves many groups including young people.

CVGMC Gem, Mineral, Fossil, and Jewelry Show Overview

The Catawba Valley Gem and Mineral Club will hold their forty-eighth annual gem, mineral, fossil, and jewelry show on **March 23, 24, and 25, 2018** at the **Hickory Metro Convention Center**. The convention center is located at 1960 13th Ave Drive SE, in Hickory, NC. Hours are 9:00 a.m. till 6:00 p.m. on Friday, 9:00 a.m. till 5:00 p.m. on Saturday, and 10:00 a.m. till 6:00 p.m. on Sunday. Chaperoned school, boy or girl scouts, 4-H, church youth, day care, retirement home groups, law enforcement officers and military in uniform will be **admitted free anytime during this 3-day event**. Admission is \$5.00 which is good for all three days. Children 12 and under are admitted free.

The 2018 show theme, "Treasures in Our Back Yard, Gems and Minerals of the Catawba Valley" will be highlighted with displayed discoveries of several club members and other well-known collectors in the Catawba Valley area. Focal displays will include emeralds, rutile, hiddenite, quartz, amethyst, etc. Plans also call for presentations about gem and mineral collecting in the area by well-known rock hounds and experts in the field on Saturday, March 24. The show is being dedicated to deceased club members, Jake Canipe, Ken Arnold, and Danny Jones.

Many other educational displays and presentations will be in operation during regular show hours. Some of the areas will include fossils, Indian artifacts, wire-wrapping, cabochoning, faceting, and other lapidary arts. In addition to the focal Catawba Valley gem and mineral displays, other glass-enclosed displays will feature high quality specimens from many United States locations and other countries.

Two education areas will be in operation on Friday, March 23. As many as 12 small group presentations by club members, geology specialists, gemologists, etc. highlight areas such as minerals, fossils, Indian artifacts, and gems. Public, private, and home school groups are invited to attend the educational activities on Friday, March 23, to enjoy these different presentations that align with their geology curriculum. School groups will need to pre-register with the club to attend. A second educational area will house hands-on display where attendees are encouraged to handle labeled specimens and to study them with the aid of a magnifying lens. Club members will be on hand to assist in comparing texture, luster, and other properties of minerals and to answer questions. Other educational demonstrations include the lapidary arts and a display using black lights will allow visitors to see fluorescent minerals. A special limited-touch area will provide an educational experience with fossils such as shark's teeth. Younger children will enjoy searching for free specimens a mini mine. Participants are invited to bring gem and mineral samples for identification at a booth in the education area staffed by a geologist. Over twenty vendors will be on hand to sell during the show. Some vendors provide jewelry benchwork such as stone mounting and wire-wrapping.

A special area will be in place where Boy Scouts may complete most requirements for two merit badges on Saturday or Sunday, **March 24 from 9:30-4:00 p.m. and on March 25 from 11:00 to 3:00 p.m.** Scouts wishing to complete requirements should have reviewed the requirements before coming to the show, so they are prepared to complete these requirements. Cub Scouts, Girl Scouts, and other youth groups are also encouraged to attend.

Drawings for regular door prizes will be held every hour. A grand door prize of significant value is given at the end of the show. Special door prizes will be given school and youth groups. The club will be selling grab bags containing minerals and fossils for \$1.00 each. Geodes will also be available.

The Catawba Valley Gem and Mineral Club also has an education committee that will provide programs related to gems, minerals, and fossils in local schools and for various youth groups. An educational exhibit is also available for display in schools for a period of one to two weeks at no charge. Information concerning these services will be available at the gem and mineral show or from Dr. George Max, education chairperson. His phone number is (828) 328-9107. The web page for the club is www.cvgmc.com/. For additional information concerning the show, contact Dean Russell, show chairman, at cvgmcsecretary@aol.com or Dr. Warren Hollar, club educational liaison, at whollar1@gmail.com.

Results of the December 2017 Club Auction:

The total sales at this year's auction were \$1,751 (89 items sold) and the proceeds to the Club were \$328. This compares to \$1,551 (80 items sold) at last year's auction of which \$460 went to the Club. The proceeds in 2016 were higher than 2017 because more items were donated to the Club at 100%.



**HAPPY VALENTINE'S
DAY!**

GEM SHOW TICKET VOLUNTEERS

The 2018 Gem & Mineral Show is just around the corner and one of the areas we need volunteers are with the ticket sales. I am soliciting volunteers NOW to help sell tickets at the front tables. The ideal number of people per shift is three, but if we can have four per shift it gives us more flexibility. Each shift is 3 hours long. I would like to have the work schedule finalized by the March meeting so I have time to communicate the process to everyone. PLEASE consider volunteering – it's a great way for new members to get involved and get to know other club members. I will have a signup sheet at the February meeting.

First Class Mail

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Club Meeting

Tuesday
February 13, 2018
7:00 PM

St Aloysius Catholic Church
921 2nd St NE
Hickory, NC