

TAR HEEL



ROCKHOUND

JANUARY 2012

CATAWBA VALLEY GEM & MINERAL CLUB, INC.

2012 OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES

President:	Baxter Leonard 828-320-4028	Editor:	Velda McLean 828-572-1580	Show Chairmen:	George Max 828-328-9107
Vice President:	Joan Glover 828-324-0707	Field Trip:	Harry Polly 828-728-9553		Eric Fritz 828-495-7031
Treasurer:	Zan Ritchie 828-495-8456	Education:	Glenn Bolick	Scholarship:	George Max 828-328-9107
Secretary:	Dean Russell 828-330-0034				

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, \$18; Individual, \$12; Junior, \$6

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.



BRAGGING ROCK CONTEST

Best Self Purchased
Best Self Collected
Best Self Crafted

All of these categories must have
been during the year 2011 only.

NO PRIOR YEARS.

Please come early enough to get set up.

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CATAWBA VALLEY
GEM & MINERAL CLUB, INC.

Website:

<http://www.cvgmc.com/>

Web Master: Mike Streeter

Velda L McLean, Editor
3484 Coy Miller Road
Lenoir, NC 28645
velda@email.com

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Baxter Leonard, Club President

Happy New Year 2012.

We should have a fun and productive year as the three day March show is around the corner, as well as upcoming "grab bag day" and assistance with the dinosaur exhibit at the Catawba Science Center. Signup sheets for the March show as well as persons entering exhibits will be available at the January meeting.

Many thanks to all who came to the December meeting to make the auction a success. Special thanks to Larry Huffman of PO BBQ for the generous & excellent BBQ as well as to Eric Fritz, our "auctioneer in residence" whose knowledge and humor added to the event.

Two persons who are not able to attend many of the meetings also deserve special thanks for 2011. Velda McLean who continues to provide excellent service as our news bulletin editor and Mike Streeter who is CVGMC's webmaster which enables our organization to be promoted and displayed on the internet.

Let's all continue to enjoy our hobby and make 2012 a very special year.

Baxter Leonard

CATAWBA VALLEY GEM AND MINERAL CLUB, INC. Minutes, December 13, 2011

The December 13, 2011 meeting of the CVGMC was called to order by President Baxter Leonard at 7:00 PM. There were 30 members and guests present. The minutes of the November 2011 meeting were read, a correction that Baxter Leonard will be the 2013 Show Chairman not the 2012 was made and then the minutes were then approved by the Club.

Treasurer Report: Checkbook balance is \$11652.22.

Field Trip Report: There will not be a December field trip.

Show Committee: George Max reported he has received 17 responses from dealers. He passed around *2012 Show Flyers* for distribution. He reminded everyone that the January field trip will be at 9:00AM at the L-R Science Building to fill Grab Bags for the Show. He asked that Club members to also bring appropriate sized donations for the bags.

Education Committee: None

Unfinished Business: None.

New Business:

- 1) Joan Glover passed around a sign-up sheet for any member interested in doing a presentation to the Club at our monthly meeting.
- 2) Think about having a demonstration or exhibit at the 2012 Show.
- 3) Eric Fritz reported that the Catawba Valley Science Center was asking for volunteers to help setting up their Dino Exhibit.
- 4) The Science Center suggested that they have a Dino Day the weekend of the Show. A motion by Eric Fritz, seconded by Zan Ritchie, that those people with a paid admission to the Dino Day would receive a free admission to the Show. Motion was passed by the Club.
- 5) A motion by Eric Fritz, seconded by George Max, for the Club to purchase 36 Dino books at \$3 each for a total of \$108.00. Motion was passed by the Club.

Old Business: A reminder that the 2012 Club dues are due in January, accompanied by a form and check.

Announcements: Megan Russell requested the Club members collect baby food jars for her to use as a project for the children at the 2012 Club show. Please contact Megan at 330-0034 if you have any for her or bring them to a Club meeting.

Closing of Business: The business meeting adjourned at 6:45 PM

Program: The annual Club Christmas Party and Live Auction. Many treats were brought and enjoyed by Club members during the auction. A huge thank you to Club member Larry Huffman of PO BBQ for his donation of the main course. Everything was delicious.

Respectfully submitted,
Dean Russell, Secretary

FIELD TRIP NEWS

Harry Polly, Field Trip Coordinator

There will not be a field trip in January. We set aside field trips this month in order to make up grab bags. We will meet on Saturday, January 14th in the Mingus Science Building on LR campus. We will meet at 9:00 am. We need good clean material, no larger than fist size. If we have a good turnout, we should be through by lunch.

Harry Polly

GRAB BAG SATURDAY

George Max

WHAT: GRAB BAG PACKING ANNUAL EVENT

WHEN: Saturday morning, January 14, 2012, starting at 9 AM.

WHERE: Minges Science Building, located at the northeast corner of Lenoir-Rhyne University. You may park in the science faculty parking lot (sign says "P" permit required)

or along the street beside Minges Science Building/Belk Centrum. Come to the northeast door (near the flammable storage building) and go downstairs to the geology lab.

WHY: To pack grab bags for the Gem and Mineral Show. If you have grab bag material to share, please bring it.

WHO: All are invited to come and share the fun packing grab bags together!



DUES ARE DUE JANUARY 2012

Treasurer Zan Ritchie will be purging the membership list first of the year. The *Membership Form* must accompany your dues in order for your name to show up on the 2012 Club Roster.

Honorary members also need to fill out the form in order to keep records up to date and maintain your *Honorary Membership*.

Members received the *Membership Information Forms* with the December newsletter. You may also find a copy on the club's website: <http://www.cvgmc.com/> or contact an officer.



CHILDREN'S PROJECT 2012 CLUB SHOW



Megan Russell requested the club members collect baby food jars for her to use as a project for the children at the 2012 Club show. Please contact Megan at 828-330-0034 if you have any for her or bring them to a club meeting.

CATAWBA SCIENCE CENTER

Eric Fritz, Show Chairman

The Science Center has reached out to our club to be more involved with each other. I have met with an advisory committee in reference to the return of the Robotic Dinosaur Exhibit that will be returning to the Science Center in January 2012.



The CVGM Club will loan three of our large Cases to be used for actual fossils of Dinosaur age material throughout the exhibit. Anyone with Permian, Jurassic and Cretaceous fossils to loan, please contact me. I already have a good number lined up. The cases will state that they are on loan from our club. They also want to participate at our show on some level. The exhibit will go in early to mid-January and they asked if club members would like to help with that setup. I will get contact info and possibly we can do a sign up-contact sheet at the auction. It is exciting to be able to partner with our neighbors at the Science Center after all these years. I will be away for a lot of January and February so other club members will have to step up in my absence. Thanks in advance for supporting this good cause.

Eric Fritz
EarthVision

339 Brook Hollow Lane
Taylorsville, NC 28681
828-381-2825
efritz@charter.net

DINOSAURS

Opens January 28

Walk among the dinosaurs in an immersive prehistoric setting that offers a glimpse of late Permian, late Jurassic and late Cretaceous periods.

Exhibit features half-sized roaring robotic dinosaurs, including King of the Dinosaurs Tyrannosaurus rex — along with Triceratops, Pachycephalosaurus, Dimetrodon, Stegosaurus and a mother Apatosaurus protecting her newly hatched babies.

Go beyond the bones and see how these prehistoric creatures may have looked and sounded when they roamed the earth millions of years ago. Visit the exhibit's paleo-research camp, dig for fossils and more.

http://catawbascience.org/temporary_exhibits.html

Catawba Science Center • On The SALT Block • 243 3rd Avenue NE
• PO Box 2431 • Hickory, NC 28603 • Phone: (828) 322-8169 • Fax: (828) 322-1585



I HAVE ADDED A NEW ROCK (FOSSIL) TO MY COLLECTION

North Carolina Petrified Wood from near Fayetteville, NC
Tom Winslow



The 3,800 lb x 9 foot long log was found in an old stream bed about 25' under the earth while excavating for a farm pond.

It has been in a yard in Matthews, NC for the past 25+ years.



The log now resides in my back yard, in Newton, on a mulch bed.



Carolyn & Steve Weinberger

The countdown is on! **Wildacres registration** for 2012 opens this coming Sunday, January 1 --- actually with the mail delivery on Tuesday since the Post Office is closed on Monday.

We're eagerly looking forward to sharing an exciting session or two with you in the coming year. Details about our speakers and classes can be found on the website <www.amfed.org/efmls> (click on the Wildacres tab to be instantly transported to our fabulous new website. (Works best with the Google Chrome web browser. Download via the Google homepage).

While there, you can also download a registration form. It's a "fillable form" -- just type the information onto the form you download, save it to your desktop and then print out a copy. Couldn't be easier.

AND....drumroll please....don't forget that if you've never been to Wildacres, you have an opportunity of winning one of the two **scholarships** being offered this year in recognition of our 40th year at Wildacres. Details and an application form are also on the website. Deadline for receipt of the scholarship applications is **January 31**.

Do share this information with your club members and consider making one of the sessions a club "field trip".

We wish each of you a very happy, healthy and prosperous 2012 and look forward to seeing you at Wildacres.

Steve, Fran and Pamm(The Wildacres team)

2012 Spring Classes

Cabochons (Basic)--Bernie Emery

Cabochons (Intermediate)--Bernie Emery

Copper Etching--Pat Baker

Enameling (Basic)--Mia Schulman

Faceting--Steve Weinberger

Glass Engraving & Etching--B. Jay Bowman

Lampwork Beads--Pat Baker

Loop 'n' Loop--Pat Baker

Silversmithing (Basic) Richard Mesler

Silversmithing (Intermediate)--Richard Mesler

Wirewrapped Jewelry (Basic)--Jan Stephens

Wirewrapped Jewelry (Intrmd.)--Jan Stephens

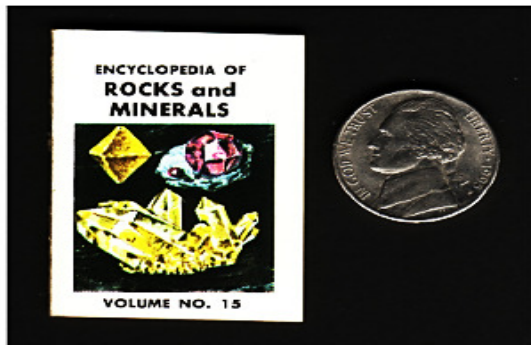
Wildacres "Wild"--Virginia Meador

Roadside Geology & Photography--Virginia Meador

MINI MINERS MONTHLY

The Tiniest Mineral Book Ever Printed!

By Darryl Powell



All serious mineral collectors have a library of mineral books. Which mineral books do you have in your library? Some of these volumes are worn out due to regular use. If you are like me, you have a copy of Frederick Pough's *A Field Guide to Rocks & Minerals*. The pages are practically falling out of mine! Other wonderful mineral books are extra-large, coffee table books that are filled with dozens of glossy, colorful mineral pictures.



One day I was searching on ebay for different mineral books and I discovered what can be called the tiniest mineral book ever published. It's title is *Encyclopedia of Rocks and Minerals* and it was published by Cracker Jack Division of Borden Foods, Borden, Inc. Yes, it is a prize from a Cracker Jack box!!

This little "Encyclopedia" (which is a very generous word for a very small publication) is No. 15 in a series of 20 little "encyclopedias" published as prizes for Cracker Jack boxes in the late 1960's. Borden Foods owned and operated Cracker Jack at the time of its publication.

This thumbnail book measures $1 \frac{1}{4}$ inches wide by $1 \frac{3}{4}$ inches tall. Though small in size, the Borden Company was able to pack 32 pages of text and pictures into the book. In addition, its cover is printed on heavier, shiny paper. The covers are printed in color while the content pages are printed in black and white.

The images and text are from early editions of *Rocks and Minerals: A Guide to Minerals, Gems and Rocks* by Herbert S. Zim and Paul R. Schaffer with illustrations by Raymond Perlman. This was one of a series of nature books published under the title of *A Golden Guide*. This is another book that I own and used so much when I was young that I had to tape the pages into the book so I wouldn't lose them. I'm thinking that Borden Foods paid the Golden Guide book company for their permission to create this little mineral encyclopedia for the Cracker Jack prize.

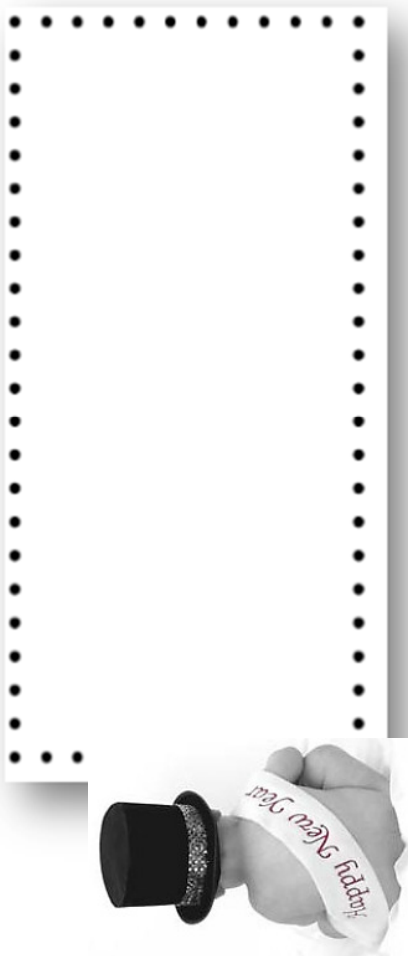
In the Wikipedia entry for Cracker Jack, an author writes, "Cracker Jack is best known for its inclusion of small, useless, but amusing prizes." This tiny mineral book is small and amusing. But to mineral collectors like me, it is interesting and far from useless.

www.diamonddanpublications.net

Darryl Powell

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Club Meeting
Tuesday
January 10, 2012

7:00 PM

6:30 PM Setup
Bragging Rock Contest

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