

TAR HEEL



ROCKHOUND

JANUARY 2014

CATAWBA VALLEY GEM & MINERAL CLUB, INC.

2014 OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES

President:	Norma Ridenhour 828-397-6355	Editor:	Velda McLean 828-572-1826	Show Chairmen:	Baxter Leonard 828-320-4028
Vice President:	Rick Glover 828-324-0707	Field Trip:	Harry Polly 828-728-9553		George Max 828-328-9107
Treasurer:	Terry Russell 828-303-1563	Education:	George Max 828-328-9107	Scholarship:	George Max 828-328-9107
Secretary:	Dean Russell 828-303-1448		Bob Tallent 828-851-8434		

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



GRAB BAG SATURDAY



DUES ARE DUE

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Norma Ridenhour, Club President

What a great auction we had in December! I hope everyone was as pleased with their purchases as I was. Many thanks go to Eric for his excellent job as auctioneer. We appreciate him making the trip down the mountain just for us. Kalaya and Hannah Christopher were a big help in assisting the auction. Larry provided us with delicious food as he always does. Thank you to all who brought food and beverages.

January's meeting will bring interesting finds as we enjoy the annual Bragging Rock meeting. This will be my first year entering. And please mark your calendar for Saturday, January 18 as our day to stuff grab bags. Details will be given at the January meeting.

Reminder: All board members are asked to stay briefly after the January meeting. There are a few items to discuss for the new year.

Should we have inclement weather, I will contact Velda to send out e-mails should the meeting be canceled. You are also welcome to call me at 828-397-6355 if you do not have e-mail.

Enjoy the new year and get ready for a spectacular show in March.

Norma

CATAWBA VALLEY GEM AND MINERAL CLUB, INC.

Minutes for December 10, 2013

The December 10, 2013 meeting of the CVGMC was called to order by President Norma Ridenhour at 6:30 PM. There were 44 members and visitors present.

A motion was made by Harry Polly and seconded by Larry Huffman to accept the November minutes after the correction to Loyd Hoke's book, "A Rock for Ambrose". Motion was passed by the Club.

Treasurer Report: Bank balance was reported.

Field Trip Report: November field trip was at the Sink Hole Mine. Reel Mine field trip will be in December. The club is hoping to return to the Reel Mine several times during 2014. Dates will be announced. Grab Bags will be in January.

Education Committee: None

Show Committee: Warren Hollar presented a letter to the schools for review before he sends it out.

Old Business: None

New Business:

- 1) There will a Board of Directors meeting after the club meeting in January.
- 2) The snow policy was reviewed and if the Hickory City Schools are closed, there will not be a Club meeting.
- 3) The Club received a congratulatory e-mail from EMFLS on our application for the 2015 EMFLS Convention.
- 4) It was noted that former member Dale Mingus had passed away.
- 5) Eric Fritz reported that Glen Bollic was in the hospital with pneumonia and should be home soon.
- 6) A plaque was presented to Joan Glover for her service to the Club.

Closing of Business: The meeting was adjourned at 6:50 PM

Program: The program was the December Christmas Party and Club Auction.

Respectfully submitted,
Dean Russell, Secretary

JANUARY PROGRAM BRAGGING ROCK CONTEST

Rick Glover, Program Director

The program this month will be the Bragging Rock Contest. The three categories are:



**BEST SELF COLLECTED
FOR 2013**

**BEST SELF PURCHASED
FOR 2013**



**BEST SELF CRAFTED
FOR 2013**

Club member may enter **one specimen per category** and must have acquired the specimen in the year of **2013**. **Come early to set up if you plan to enter.**

FIELD TRIP NEWS

Harry Polly, Field Trip Coordinator



There is not a field trip planned for January. As in the past, our field trip day will be used to make up grab bags. We will meet January 18 in the chemistry lab, basement level, of the Mingus Science Bldg of Lenoir Rhyne University at 9:00 am. If we have good participation as in the past few years, we should finish by noon or shortly thereafter. Everyone is asked to bring clean material, no larger than fist size. The more material we have, the more grab bags we can fill.

Harry

GRAB BAG SATURDAY

George Max

On Saturday, January 18th, at 9:00 AM, the Catawba Valley Gem and Mineral Club will pack grab bags for the upcoming Gem and Mineral Show. Grab



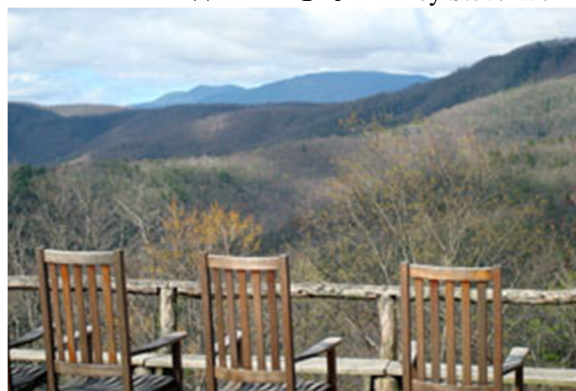
bags are a popular item at our Gem Show, and we invite and encourage your participation in this project. Park in the parking lot beside Minges Science Building at Lenoir-Rhyne University and enter the science building through the north door (near the metal storage building.) We will meet in the Geology Lab on the bottom floor.

We need a variety of different minerals which are clean and of appropriate size (no larger than a baseball.) Even if you do not have material to donate, we welcome your help. It's a great way to enjoy other club members while participating in a project which helps school children and others learn about gems and minerals.

So, if you would like the opportunity to clear out a few rocks and have fun making surprise bags, we look forward to seeing you on Saturday the 18th!

George

REGISTRATION TIME HAS ARRIVED AT LAST WILDACRES by Steve Weinberger



*When you arrive at Wild-acres
Hurrah! Hurrah!
We'll give you a hearty welcome then
Hurrah! Hurrah!
The men will cheer and the boys will shout
The ladies they will all turn out
And we'll all feel gay
When you arrive at Wild-acres.*

Patrick Gilmore, an American band leader wrote the lyrics to "When Johnny Comes Marching Home" in 1863. Changing a few words easily describes the feeling of euphoria felt by both new and returning members of our EFMLS Workshops at Wildacres. If you've never been, we hope you'll join us in 2014 and feel the warmth and excitement for yourself and if you've attended before, there's nothing more we can say!

Have you thought about bringing a group of friends from your club with you? We've heard of two clubs that are already planning on having multiple members present during either the spring or fall session. We're looking forward to welcoming them.

If you've not been to an EFMLS Workshop at Wildacres yet, you can learn more about it by downloading and reading the December 2013 EFMLS News (download from our web site www.amfed.org/efmls). While there, you can also click on the Wildacres tab and see photos, download an application, and/or read about our speakers and classes.)

So get out your pens and your checkbook, give us your wish list for classes you'd like to take during the session, address the envelope and mail in your registration. We'll delight in giving you a warm welcome. Hurrah! Hurrah!

Wildacres Spring Classes – April 7 – 13, 2014

Class & Instructor:

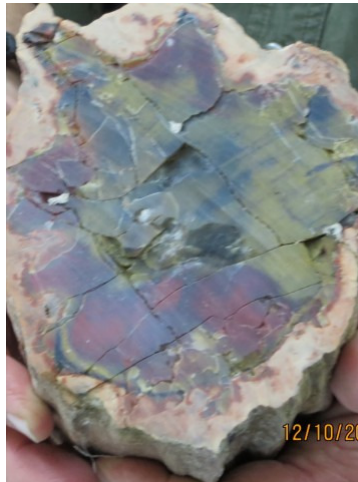
Cabochons – Basic, Bernie Emery
Cabochons – Intermediate, Bernie Emery
Chainmaille, Pat Baker
Enameling Basics, Mia Schulman
Faceting, Steve Weinberger
Fused Glass, Becky Edmundson
Micromounting, Carolyn Weinberger
Pewter Fabrication, Bruce Gaber
Silversmithing – Basic, Richard Meszler
Silversmithing –Intermediate, Richard Meszler
Viking Knit, Pat Baker
Wirewrapped Jewelry – Basic, Beverly Johnson
Wirewrapped Jewelry –Intermediate, Beverly Johnson

CHRISTMAS PARTY/ AUCTION

Photos by Joan Glover



VIDEO
CLICK LINK
<http://youtu.be/s-noVN0mGjU>





MINI MINERS MONTHLY

Vol. 7 No. 12 A Monthly Publication for Young Mineral Collectors December 2013

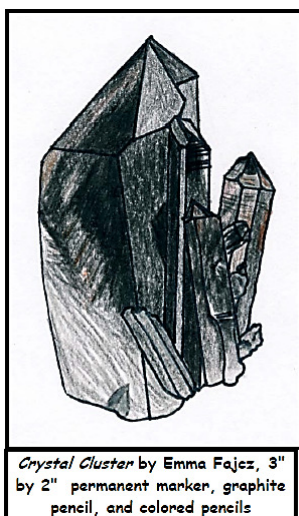
Selected Sketches: Some Minerals from My CollectionBy Emma Fajcz

This month, I did three mineral drawings, each of a different specimen from my mineral collection. I'll share the story behind how I acquired each one and some facts about irradiation.

I purchased this irradiated smoky quartz at the Gem and Mineral Show in Jacksonville, Florida this September. I wanted to buy this piece because of the beautiful crystals and colors in it. I also was curious what "irradiated" meant.

The Mineral & Gemstone Kingdom website says irradiation is "The act of being exposed to radiation. This has an effect on several gemstones by altering their natural color." Topaz, tourmaline, beryl, and calcite are some minerals that can be irradiated.

At the same Gem and Mineral Show this year, my Mom, my sister, and I were digging through a box of very reasonably priced polished specimens and slabs of minerals. Since I was thinking the lines in this specimen would make an interesting drawing,



Crystal Cluster by Emma Fajcz, 3" by 2" permanent marker, graphite pencil, and colored pencils



Striped Agate by Emma Fajcz, 2 1/2" by 2 1/4" permanent marker and graphite pencil.

I preferred this one over the others. This mineral, semitransparent in spots, is in shades of gray, milky white, taupe, and brown and was originally a gray/white banded agate nodule before it was cut into a slab and polished.

This specimen drawn below is composed of smoky quartz and amazonite crystals that grew on rock.

Mr. Stephen Phillips, a family friend, gave this piece to me in 2010, when I was starting my mineral collection. Mr. Phillips, a gemologist, has many beautiful mineral specimens at his home, and I was very grateful

to receive this nice piece. I like the interesting texture of the rock, the muted colors, and the biggest smoky quartz crystal in the center of the specimen.

I store the irradiated smoky quartz specimen in its original box, complete with a label and soft padding. The gray/white banded agate has been kept in a small, clear plastic bag with the other specimens we bought at the Jacksonville Show this year. I usually keep the smoky quartz and amazonite piece in one of my cardboard rock boxes.



Smoky Quartz and Amazonite, by Emma Fajcz, 4 1/2" by 3 1/2", permanent marker, graphite pencil, and colored pencils

First Class Mail

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Club Meeting

Tuesday
December 14, 2014

**BRAGGING ROCK CONTEST
COME EARLY IF YOU PLAN TO PARTICIPATE**

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