

TAR HEEL



ROCKHOUND

JANUARY 2016

CATAWBA VALLEY GEM & MINERAL CLUB, INC.

2016 OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES

President:	George Brown 828-292-7407	Editor:	Velda McLean 828-572-1826	Show Chairmen:	Baxter Leonard 828-320-4028
Vice President:	Joan Glover 828-446-7633	Field Trip:	Harry Polly 828-728-9553	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, \$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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CATAWBA VALLEY
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PRESIDENT'S NOTE

George Brown, Club President

Great news, I spoke to Harry Polly on January 5th and I am happy to report that his back operation was a success. Harry should be back with us after a couple of weeks of R&R.



Let's make this a happy and healthy New Year for all and keep working on ideas on how to get the word out about our amazing club.

George

CATAWBA VALLEY GEM AND MINERAL CLUB, INC. Minutes for December 8, 2015

The December 8, 2015 meeting of the CVGMC was called to order by President George Brown at 6:50 PM. There were 41 members and 3 visitors present.

Minutes: Motion by Norma Ridenhour, seconded by Harry Polly to accept the corrected minutes for November 10, 2015. The motion was passed by the Club membership. The correction to the *New Business* notes is as follows:

11) Larry Huffman provided information on possible future Club house.

- A) Looking for a warehouse that hasn't been rented. Example – Old dry cleaners building at 1151 1st Ave. SW.
- B) Old Soup Kitchen Building by the Courthouse.
- C) Looking for a location with either free rent or one dollar a year rent, with the Club paying lights, water, and insurance.
- D) Hugh McCammon will write a proposal to the City of Hickory with information on the Club to see if it would be considered. The proposal will be reviewed, edited, and approved by the Board.

Treasurer Report: The bank balance was reported.

Field Trip Report: None for December. January 2016 field trip will be at St. Andrew's Lutheran Church to fill grab bags.

Education Committee: None

Show Committee: None

Old Business: None

New Business:

- 1) Update concerning Ann Kobberling; Ann broke her ankle. She has added new therapy besides the hip.
- 2) A thank you to Larry Huffman and PO BBQ for catering the Christmas dinner.
- 3) Larry Huffman brought to the Club's attention of a letter in the Newsletter by Cheryl Neary about the AFMS Endowment Fund Auction. He asked Club members to consider a donation.

Closing of Business: The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 PM

Program: Annual Club Auction

Respectfully submitted,

Dean Russell, Secretary

JANUARY PROGRAM

Joan Glover, Program Director

January Program is The Bragging Rock contest. Members can enter ONE specimen in each category: Best Self Collected, Best Self Crafted and Best Self Purchased and these items must have been acquired in the year 2015. If you plan to enter, come early for the set up.

Dues are also due at this meeting with the renewal form filled out.

Joan



FIELD TRIP NEWS

Harry Polly,
Field Trip Coordinator

The field trip for January will be the grab bag make up. Details are in the newsletter.

Harry

GRAB BAG PREPARATION



George Max

On Saturday, January 16th, 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. We will be at **St. Andrew's Lutheran Church** at 629 Eighth St, NE at the edge of Lenoir-Rhyne University. From I-40, drive north up LR Blvd and go under the railroad underpass and turn left at the first stoplight and straight at the next stoplight and then take the first left into the parking lot behind the church educational building. We will work in Fellowship Hall 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 the activity with other club members while preparing bags that help 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 16th!

Thanks so much.

George



POSITION OPEN

The Club has the Field Trip Chairman position still open and we need someone to volunteer to fill it. Harry

Polly is willing to help as much as possible with contacts, etc. He is no longer able to do it physically.

DUES ARE DUE!

Secretary Terry Russell will be accepting membership renewals at the January 2016 meeting. You will need the *Membership Form* you received with your December 2015 newsletter and dues. If you joined our club in 2015, dues shall be pro-rated by the following formula:

January 1-June 30, full amount of annual dues

July 1- September 30, 50% of annual dues

October 1 - December 31, full amount of annual dues (shall apply as payment of year following payment date)

You may also mail your dues with the form.

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO:

CATAWBA VALLEY GEM & MINERAL CLUB, INC.

MAIL TO:

Catawba Valley Gem & Mineral Club, Inc.

C/o Terry Russell

PO Box 2521

Hickory, NC 28603-2521

Honorary Members must also return the form in order to stay on the roster. The roster is purged in February. Members failing to comply will be removed from mailing lists and no longer covered by insurance on the monthly club field trip.

JUNIORS

Velda McLean, Editor

Do you have children or grandchildren that attend the meetings or go with you on field trips? If so, please have them send in photos of their finds or artwork of minerals they like. They may want to include a few words (or even an article) about their rockhounding adventure or information about the mineral in their sketch or artwork. Junior participation will encourage other juniors--but most of the time that needs to be initiated by an adult.

Please do not hesitate to use the newsletter to communicate the information members need. All articles are due Tuesday PM, one week before the meeting.

ERIC JAMES MAX

George and Marilyn Max have a new grandson, Eric James Max, born on December 31 to Dave and Karla Max. They live in Falls Church, VA.



SPRING AND FALL AT EFMLS WILDACRES

by Steve Weinberger, Wildacres Committee Chair

Happy New Year. All of us associated with our EFMLS Wildacres Workshops hope that your holiday season was a pleasant one and that 2016 brings you nothing but health, joy, and many delightful and creative rockhound experiences.



May and September are wonderful times of the year in the mountains of North Carolina and members of Eastern Federation clubs get a chance to experience all the wonders spring and fall have to offer during the Federation workshops at the Wildacres retreat. Now is the time to register so you won't miss out on the fun and learning!

Our sessions will feature Helen Serras-Herman in May and Alfredo Petrov in September as "Speakers-in-Residence". Visit our web site <http://www.efmls-wildacres.org> to learn more about them.

In addition, we'll offer a full range of classes, all taught by our outstanding cadre of teachers. We've included a list with descriptions for each session starting on page 7 in the *EFMLS News* -- January, 2016, <http://www.amfed.org/efmls/efjan16web.pdf>. In addition to some of our usual favorites, you'll notice that we've added some new ones to each session.

Tuition for the week is \$400 per person which includes your room, board and gratuity to the Wildacres Retreat staff. Lodging is in modern "motel style" rooms; meals are served family style in the lovely dining hall. All classes and talks are given in comfortable meeting rooms or classrooms conveniently located on the beautiful campus.

Wildacres is fun! Wildacres is infectious! Several of our participants have attended many of the workshops in the past -- and you'll learn why about 5 minutes after you arrive on campus. If you've not yet attended, consider coming this May or September and find out for yourself what all the excitement is about. And while you're at it, why not bring other members of your club as well.

We've included a registration form on page 10 of the issue to make it easier for you to register. You can see additional pictures and a short video about our Wildacres sessions by visiting our web site <http://www.efmls-wildacres.org>.

Remember the old song -- , "Nothing can be finer then to be in Carolina in the morning" or afternoon or evening. I'm looking forward to seeing you at one or both of the EFMLS Wildacres Workshops this year

EFMLS News -- January, 2016

SAFETY MATTERS – CAR TALK

by Ellery Borow, EFMLS Safety Chair

This "Car Talk" article is not about the Public Broadcasting Corporation radio program on car repair. It is also not about listening to talk radio or carrying on a conversation with a passenger while you drive along the highway.



This article is instead about cars that talk. It used to be that driving distracted was all about talking on the cell phone while one was behind the wheel while tooling down the highway -- and indeed that is still big news and a cause for concern while driving. But wait, there's more! More in this case is when cars start talking to us.

Do you remember when a car would say "your door is ajar" when a car door was not fully closed? While that was distracting they are even more distracting now. Modern cars can read our e-mails to us, offer driving directions, offer a backup camera, monitor how close we are to a car parked beside us, offer radar assisted driving and braking and so on. These are all wonderful and very much safety oriented features. They also qualify as distractions as they take vital portions of our precious attention to the many tasks of driving -- obeying traffic signs, watching for hidden ped-x crossings, looking for the child chasing an errant ball across the road, checking for weaving traffic and so on.



Driving requires our undivided attention! Distracting features can sometimes be turned off, or at least monitored when in a safe location such as the new texting rest stops popping up here and there. Distractions that cannot be

turned off can be monitored by a passenger if you have one with you.

Ours is a traveling hobby -- traveling to field trips and to and from meetings or shows, special club programs, workshops and the like. With all those miles, and all those distracted drivers, we need as few extra distractions as possible to be safe.

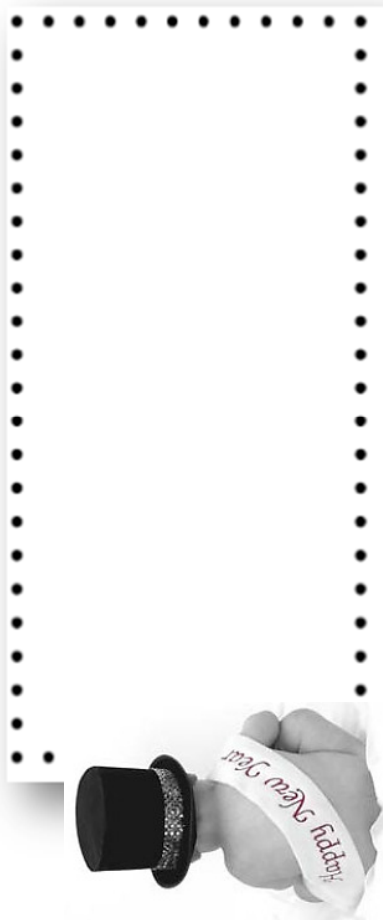
Please mind the distraction potential of all those handy talking car devices. While they can enhance the safety of our travels, they should be used with care. Be safe, drive safe.

EFMLS News -- January, 2016



First Class Mail

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Club Meeting

Tuesday
January 12, 2016
7:00 PM

6:30 PM Setup
Bragging Rock Contest

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