

TAR HEEL



ROCKHOUND

January 2022

Catawba Valley Gem & Mineral Club, Inc.

2021 Officers and Committees

President:	Larry Huffman 828-612-4469	Editor:	Brenda Huffman 828-612-1918	Show Chairman:	Dean Russell 828- 303-1448
Vice President	Rick Glover 828-446-7634	Field Trip:	George Brown 828-292-7407	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			Southeast Federation Liaison:	Larry Huffman 828-612-4469

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.

**Happy  
New Year!**

**2022**

Brenda Huffman, Editor  
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 Hickory, NC 28603  
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**CATAWBA VALLEY GEM & MINERAL CLUB, INC.**  
<http://www.cvgmc.com>  
 Web Master: Mike Streeter

## President's Message

**Happy New Year to all! My wish for you is that you may find that one special mineral specimen that you have been looking for this year.**

**We have just received word that the Dixie Mineral Council "DMC" will start having field trips again this year. The January trip has not been announced as of the printing of the newsletter, but it will be announced at the January meeting.**

### January Program – Bragging Contest

**This month's program will be the club's Annual Bragging Rock Contest. Bring your rocks to enter them in the following categories: **Best Self Collected**, **Best Purchased**, and **Best Crafted** (Entries must have been from **January 1, 2019 to December 31, 2021**). Join us for this fun-filled evening to enjoy talking rocks and even a chance to brag a little. Members are permitted to make one entry per each category, consisting of one specimen per category. We look forward to seeing everyone there.**

Type your text

**To those who contributed to the annual Christmas Party, I thank you very much. We had an abundance of fine food and drinks. Please see editor's article about the party and entertainment.**

Type your text

**'til next month ... Happy New Year and great rock hounding. Yes, Santa brought me a case of Dr. Pepper. What a special Christmas treat!.**

*Larry*

## CATAWBA VALLEY GEM & MINERAL CLUB, INC. - December Meeting

There are no official minutes for the December meeting date that was held on Tuesday, December 14<sup>th</sup>, 2021 because we had a **PARTY** and enjoyed food, fellowship and fun at our Christmas gathering at the Catholic Church meeting room. It was a small group that gathered, but with a multitude of food, snacks and drinks that were shared. Personal Christmas memories were shared by some of the guests in attendance ... particularly memorable are the stories from several of the military veterans while in service for our country at Christmastime!

“ Christmas 1941 – A Story of Sacrifices ” was provided for us by Warren Hollar about his Uncle Warren who had “probably visualized the family sitting around the fireplace with a cedar tree in place and the joyful sound as they performed the Christmas hymns” , but in actuality “while lacking a little over a month until the end of combat missions, when his untimely death came in December 1944 as his plane exploded in a mid-air collision off the coast of present-day Dubrovnik, in Bosnia” ... and “was buried as an unknown soldier in Bari, Italy.” ... As Warren Hollar wrote, “we still reap the fruits of the sacrifice of those who came before us as we practice our religious freedoms during the Christmas season.”

I am personally looking forward to purchasing the soon-to-be-published copy of the Hollar’s book “Sleigh Wreck on Hogan’s Mountain” that Warren and Betty shared with us at our gathering!

All nostalgia aside ... the games began on Christmas Trivia ... Women versus Men!! Just for example: ... Do you know?

Which country started the tradition of putting up a Christmas tree?

In A Christmas Story, what gift does Ralphie receive from his Aunt?

In the song “Twelve days of Christmas,” what is given on the 10<sup>th</sup> day?

True or False? “Jingle Bells” was always intended to be a Christmas song.

There were many ties in this game, but the final results gave the **Women** the Win!

Those that couldn’t attend for various reasons were missed ... those who were present enjoyed the Merry Christmas celebration!!

*Brenda*

Brenda Huffman, Editor

## Christmas Party Pictures



**Membership Information Forms** are included in the January newsletter below. You may also find a copy on the club's website: <http://www.cvgmc.com/>.

The membership form must accompany your dues in order for your name to be included on the 2022 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 and to maintain your honorary membership status.

Please print clearly and legibly on the form so that your information can be updated accurately. The treasurer, Terry Russell, will be deleting anyone from the roster who does not renew their membership by the April 2022 meeting.

The treasurer will accept renewals at the January or February meeting or you can send your payment and form to the Club PO Box. *Catawba Valley Gem & Mineral Club, c/o Terry Russell, PO Box 2521, Hickory, NC 28603-2521.*



## 2022 MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION FORM

Please Check all the Appropriate Boxes

New Member  Renewal

(New members must attend TWO meetings and may apply for membership at the second meeting)

Single \$18/yr  Family \$25/yr  Honorary \$0/yr

Onetime fee for name badge \$10/person  Quantity

\*\* Spelling on badges ONLY IF PURCHASING any: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY & FILL IN ALL INFORMATION

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

SPOUSE'S NAME (family membership): \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS (Street): \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS (City, State, and Zip Code): \_\_\_\_\_

MINOR CHILD (family membership): \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

MINOR CHILD (family membership): \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

HOME PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ CELL PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

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

DUES (NEW MEMBERS ONLY) SHALL BE PRORATED AS FOLLOWS:

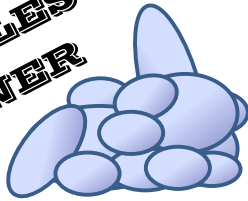
January 1 – June 30: full amount of annual dues

July 1 – September 30: 50% of annual dues

October 1 – December 31: full amount of annual dues shall apply as payment for the following year

FOR USE BY TREASURER ONLY: Amt Rec'd \_\_\_\_\_ Check # \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

# **THE PEBBLES' CORNER**



**RIP Jackson**

## **Why Minerals Can be Found in Different Colors**

**By Cheryl Neary**

The unique physical properties of minerals are used to classify the various minerals. The physical properties include hardness, luster, color, streak, specific gravity, cleavage, fracture and tenacity. In the upcoming months we will talk about the different physical properties. This article is focusing on color.

Color is an obvious property of a mineral. It is one of the first thing that is noticed when viewing a mineral. Some people are attracted to certain colors – green or blue or orange for example. However, many minerals have several different colors – identical to other minerals colors!

That is why color should never be used solely to identify a mineral.

Elements found in minerals produce certain colors in the minerals. The same element may cause different colors in different minerals!

For instance, chromium (Cr) causes the green color in emeralds (beryl) and the red color in rubies (corundum). The reason for the trace element causing the different colors is because most minerals in a pure state are usually white or colorless.

Many minerals are found in a variety of colors. For instance, quartz. Pure quartz is colorless. Quartz can be found in a multitude of colors-clear, white, gray, black, brown, pink, purple, blue, green, red and orange.

Traces of the element iron causes the quartz to be purple – and the quartz is known as amethyst. The amount of the iron in the amethyst determines how intense the color of purple will be.

For instance, the Reel Mine located in Lincoln County in Iron Station, North Carolina produced an amethyst cluster two feet long by two feet wide and one foot high. This cluster has such an intense purple pigment that the color has been compared to a glass of grape juice held to a light source. The color was intensified by the element of manganese (Mn). This cluster can be found at the Grandfather Mountain Nature Museum in Linville, North Carolina.

First Class Mail



# Tar Heel Rockhound

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Club Meeting

Tuesday  
January 11, 2022  
St Aloysius Catholic Church  
921 2nd St NE  
Hickory, NC

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