

TAR HEEL



ROCKHOUND

JULY 2015

CATAWBA VALLEY GEM & MINERAL CLUB, INC.

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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.

STAND FREE IN THE LIBERTY God Bless America, My Home Sweet Home



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CATAWBA VALLEY
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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

George Brown, Club President

The weather's hot and the pollen's up.
We are facing poison ivy, oak and sumac.
With hornets, wasps, jackets, and chiggers
It's a jungle out there for all the diggers.
As for the heat, stay well hydrated.
Just be real cool, don't get excited.



George

CATAWBA VALLEY GEM AND MINERAL CLUB, INC.

There was no business meeting, therefore no minutes were recorded on June 9, 2015 at the Annual Club Picnic.

JULY PROGRAM

Rick Glover, Program Director

Big Rocks Travels Nevada and California

Warren and Betty Hollar will present the program for July. The program will include a Powerpoint of geologic features of Lake Tahoe, Mono Lake, Tioga Pass, Yosemite, California Gold Rush area, the high Sierras, and the area around Virginia City, Nevada. Information will also be provided on the California Museum of Gems and Minerals in Mariposa, California, gems and mines of California, and information concerning best known gems in Nevada and mine locations.

Rick

FIELD TRIP NEWS

Harry Polly,
Field Trip Coordinator

The July field trip of the CVGMC will be held on Saturday, July 18th. We will be going to Little Pine Garnet Mine in Madison County, NC. We will meet in the Roses' parking lot on Hwy 70E at 8:00 am. There is a \$25.00 dig fee. You will need to bring digging tools, scratching tools, hammers and chisels. There is a lot of poison oak/ivy on the hillside, so wear appropriate clothing. Bring your food and water. There is a port-a-jon on site and picnic tables. Anyone that cannot meet the group in Hickory can e-mail me for directions. Unfortunately I am not able to make this trip, but Dean Russell has graciously agreed to lead the trip this month.

At the July meeting we will be discussing the plans for the Labor Day trip to Kentucky for geodes. If you are thinking about going, please make plans to attend the meeting.

Harry



JONATHAN JONES

Jonathan L. Jones, 61, of Valdese, died Saturday, July 4, 2015, after an illness.

Mr. Jones was born December 31, 1953 in Madison, West Virginia. Jon was a long time member of the club and his family Jon Jr, and Marissa handled the *Kids Corner* at our Gem Show for many years. The club wishes to express condolences to his family.

THANK YOU FROM LAKESHORE MIDDLE SCHOOL

Warren Hollar

The following was received from Jon Price, teacher at Lakeshore Middle School, in Iredell County. He led the field trip to our Gem and Mineral Show. They received the case with the mineral specimens for their level of attendance.

I just wanted to say thank you again for the opportunity to attend the Catawba Valley Gem and Mineral Show and also say thank you for the very nice collection in the display case. It's an extremely nice collection and the handmade display case is perfect. We are displaying the case in our media center.

Jon Price,
Science Teacher
Lakeshore Middle School

HAVING FUN: JUNIOR ACTIVITIES: THE INDOOR FIELD TRIP

By Jim Brace-Thompson



Our AFMS Future Rockhounds of America Badge Program offers a badge on Field Trips, and one of the suggested activities is “The Indoor Field Trip.” Not all field trips need take place in the great outdoors—although that’s certainly to be desired in this day-and-age when kids spend far too much time

indulging in indoor distractions with electronic toys. In some places, all the hard work of searching, collecting, and cleaning rocks, minerals, and fossils has already been done and the results are just waiting for you to see. Take your kids on a trip to one such locality, namely, a science or natural history museum.

Museums large and small, international or local are terrific places for kids. It’s probably childhood trips to the Field Museum in Chicago—along with outdoor field trips sponsored by the Illinois State Geological Survey—that fanned my interest in the earth sciences. After my family moved to Maryland, I especially remember a behind-the-scenes visit in none other than the Smithsonian, where I saw row after row of cabinets with shelves that seemed to stretch for miles, all brimming with fossils.

Indulging in a little indoor distraction with electronic toys, myself, I came across a web site offering the “Top 10 Kid-Friendly Museums.” Some of these are art, baseball, and air-and-space museums, but the list also had some fine natural history museums: the American Museum of Natural History in New York City, the Children’s Museum of Indianapolis, the Exploratorium in San Francisco, and the Franklin Institute Science Museum in Philadelphia.

The web is a great place to locate the nearest museum for your club’s kids. For instance, just a few seconds after typing “Natural History Museums” into the Google search engine, I found a long list of sites.

Once you locate a museum near you with displays of rocks, minerals, and fossils, call in advance to arrange a group tour. Many museums will assign a guide or docent to escort you and your kids when such advance arrangements are made. When calling, be sure to check into the possibility of a “behind the scene” tour in addition to the public displays, and your kids, too, can be awed by rows of cabinets stretching for miles, making the tour both informative and fun!

AFMS Newsletter – June-July, 2015



EDUCATION REPORT

George Max, Education Chair

Joan Glover and I went to the Anita Alta 4-H Camp in Caldwell County on June 18th to give a special program on rocks and minerals.

The program included a visit to a mystery cave (big enough to park 3 motorcycles). The cave was off limits to kids but with hard hats and goggles we could work in the cave with screwdrivers to uncover crystal veins. First, I did a program on gems, minerals and crystals and then part of the group went into the cool of cave while Joan went over basic geology with the kids at a picnic table outside. Darlene Berry, 4-H coordinator, wanted to get the kids excited about nature and science. The cave rang with excitement as the kids popped crystals from the brown veins.

A sudden afternoon thundershower cooled things off and closed out our program without another visit to the cave. However, we did get to share in a birthday celebration and distribute rocks to the campers.

ROCK & MINERAL PROGRAM



4-H CAMPERS CLIMB INTO CAVE, UNCOVER CRYSTALS

Photos by David Prewitt



First Class Mail

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Club Meeting

Tuesday
July 14, 2015
7:00 PM

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