

TAR HEEL



ROCKHOUND

Organized 1969

JULY 2016

## CATAWBA VALLEY GEM & MINERAL CLUB, INC.

### 2016 OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES

President: George Brown  
828-292-7407

Vice President: Joan Glover  
828-446-7633

Treasurer: Terry Russell  
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Secretary: Dean Russell  
828- 303-1448

Editor: Velda McLean  
828-572-1826

Field Trip: **OPEN**

Education: George Max  
828-328-9107

Show Chairman: **OPEN**

Scholarship: George Max  
828-328-9107  
Larry Huffman  
828-612-4469

Eastern Federation Liaison:

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.



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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

George Brown, Club President

*WE DIG IT*, but before you do, **THINK!!!** It's hot out there! Do I have enough water considering the heat? How about sun screen and bug spray. PLEASE dig smart not just hard. Good friends are hard to dig up!



**George**

## CATAWBA VALLEY GEM AND MINERAL CLUB, INC. MINUTES

There was not an official meeting at the June 2016 Club Picnic, so there were not any minutes.

Respectfully submitted,  
Dean Russell, Secretary



## FIELD TRIP NEWS

Dean Russell  
Acting Field Trip Coordinator  
[cvgmcsecretary@aol.com](mailto:cvgmcsecretary@aol.com)

**July Field Trip:** Our field trip for July is planned for July 16th. We will be going to the Presnell Mine for Kyanite. We will meet at 8:00 am in the Waffle House parking lot at I-40 exit 100. You will need crack hammers, chisels, digging tools, rain gear, food and water. There are no facilities, unless the owner is at home and opens up the campground restrooms. It is a short walk-in, but can be steep and slippery. Wear appropriate clothing and footwear. PS - The driveway is very steep and a 4X4 is recommended. You can always park at the bottom and toss your gear in someone else's vehicle.

**August Field Trip:** With Baby Sims fast approaching our rockhounding world and he/she should be here by the August Field Trip, I am asking someone else to lead the August trip. I will be starting my training as "Grandpa Nanny." Please let me know if you are interested and I can get the information out in an email and into the Newsletter.

**September - Kentucky Geode Trip:** It is time to think about making your hotel reservations for the Annual Kentucky Geode Trip to be held September 2-5, 2016. Harry Polly is being kind enough to lead this trip.

I have blocked 10 rooms off at the Days Inn, Harrodsburg, KY. The address is 1680 Danville Road; phone 859-734-9431. Rooms reserved under Catawba Valley Gem & Mineral Club. The price of the room is about \$79.99. If you are planning to go, call now and reserve. They did ask that if you decide to cancel, give a 7 day notice. We stayed at this hotel last year. It is right next to a golf course with a very nice buffet. Make your reservations now.

\*\*\*\*If you have AAA, mention that for a possible discount. (Thanks to Ken T. for that information, it reduced my cost about \$13.00 a night.)

Harry has invited a fellow rock hound from Missouri to join us for the KY trip. He is going to get us into a quarry and hopefully find some fluorites. We will need hard hats, steel toe shoes, and safety glasses to get in. Please put these on your list of things to bring.

\*\*\*\***The Michigan/Lake Superior Agate trip has been moved to June 2017. If you made reservations, you need to cancel.**

**Dean**

## JULY PROGRAM

Joan Glover, Program Director  
The Program this month will be presented by Harry Polly.

**Joan**

## GOODBYE FROM YOUR EDITOR

Velda McLean, Newsletter Editor



It is time for me to retire from position of Newsletter Editor and I wanted to thank the Club for allowing me to serve for these many years. I began toward the end of the year 1999. It has been a joy for me and in the process I have learned much about the hobby and have made numerous life-long friends. Although I am saying “Goodbye” as Editor, I am not “gone”

from the club and hope to remain active as possible as a club member.

So, out with the old and in with the new; please welcome your new Editor, Slade Harvin. I will be working with him for the next few months to help get him started. Please give him your encouragement and support as this is a complex and time consuming commitment.

## HAVING FUN: JUNIOR ACTIVITIES

by Jim Brace-Thompson, Jr. Activities Chair

### What Age Is Best for Recruiting Junior Members?

If you're looking to build a pebble pup and juniors contingent within your club, what are the best ages to target? I've been asked that question many times over the years, and I usually give an answer based on gut feelings and informal observation: if you go too young, kids lack the attention span and any activities you attempt to undertake often devolve into babysitting services. Older kids, as they get into junior and senior high school, start having many more demands on their time and attention—sports, music, cell phones and social media, videogames, cars, and chasing the opposite sex. I've always suggested there's that “middle ground” of kids at the elementary school level who tend to have the highest interest in rocks and who will likely form the core of your youth group.



Thanks to the Carmel Valley Gem & Mineral Society (CVGMS) in California, I finally have some firm quantitative numbers to confirm my gut feeling and informal observations. CVGMS periodically partners with their local Pacific Grove Museum of Natural History for “Science Saturdays” directed at kids and their families. Each year, there's a different theme and CVGMS members bring specimens and lead activities tailored to the theme. This past year's theme was “Fossils”. And this time, the Museum kept track not only of the number of kids in attendance, but their ages as well. 63% fell into the elementary school bracket, between the ages of 5 and 10. This is approximately the range of kindergarten through fifth grade. 27% were 4 years old or younger and only 10 percent were 11 to 17 (with only 1% of that total being high school age). Thus, if seeking to build up your society's pebble pups and juniors program, your first stop should be at your local elementary schools, and any recruitment efforts should be targeted first-and-foremost in that direction. Ages 5 to 10—kindergarten through fifth grade—that's apparently the sweet spot for seeking kids who will find our hobby both interesting and fun!

*AFMS Newsletter – April 2016*

## JOIN FUTURE ROCKHOUNDS OF AMERICA

### HOW TO BECOME A MEMBER OF THE AFMS YOUTH PROGRAM, FUTURE ROCKHOUNDS OF AMERICA?

All you need is a group of kids (or just 1 child), a sponsor, a name, and an application to FRA!

#### REQUIREMENTS:

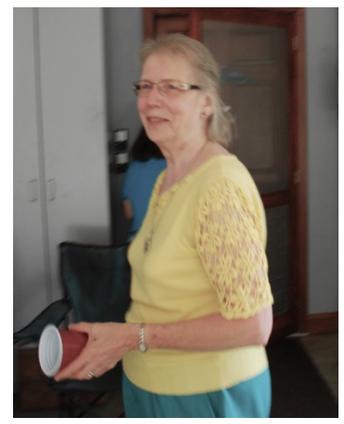
1. Your group must be a member of your regional federation, either through a sponsoring club or through an independent application into your local federation.
2. The number of youth is not important: you can have as few as 1 or 2 and as many as you can handle.
3. Age: any kids up to the age of 18.

Just fill out the application:

[http://www.amfed.org/fra/fut\\_rock.htm](http://www.amfed.org/fra/fut_rock.htm) or contact your regional federation Juniors Chair or check out the “Kids Corner” of the AFMS web site <http://www.amfed.org>.

JUNE 2016 ANNUAL CLUB PICNIC

Photos by Joan Glover



SINKHOLE MINE FIELD TRIP IN MITCHELL COUNTY, JUNE 18, 2016  
Photos by Joan Glover



First Class Mail



# TAR HEEL ROCKHOUND

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Club Meeting

Tuesday  
July 12, 2016  
7:00 PM

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

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