

TAR HEEL



ROCKHOUND

JUNE 2014

CATAWBA VALLEY GEM & MINERAL CLUB, INC.

2014 OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES

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ldhuff314@embargmail.com

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.

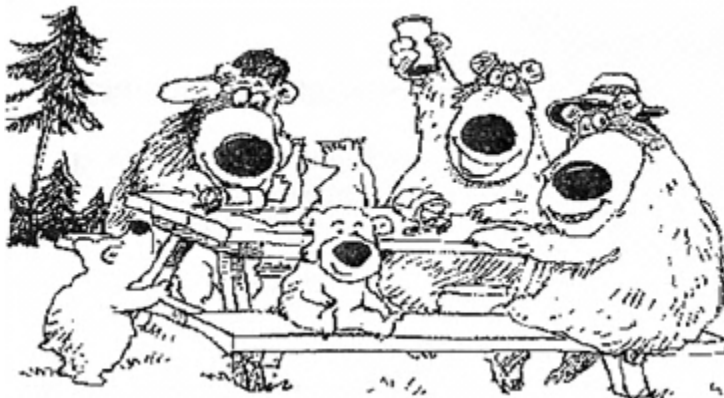
ANNUAL CLUB PICNIC

6:30 PM at Home of Harry & Janice Polly

Guests & Members Welcome!!

Larry Huffman is bringing the fixings from Post Office BBQ.

Members bring a desert and lawn chair.



CATAWBA VALLEY
GEM & MINERAL CLUB, INC.

<http://www.cvgmc.com/>

Web Master: Mike Streeter

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Norma Ridenhour, Club President

It is that special time of the year we can just sit back and enjoy each other's company. Many thanks go to Harry and Janice Polly for hosting the annual group picnic and to Larry Huffman for providing his great BBQ. Everyone needs to bring either a side i.e. chip and dip or a dessert. I will bring the drinks.

August is national "Invite a Young Person to Your Rock Meeting" month. OK, maybe not. But it is a good idea to bring someone new into the club so the club will remain strong even after all we old gray heads have kicked the bucket! So give some consideration to whom you would like to invite.

I look forward to seeing everyone at the picnic.

Norma

CATAWBA VALLEY GEM AND MINERAL CLUB, INC. Minutes for May 13, 2014

The CVGMC meetings for May 13, 2014 was called to order by President Norma Ridenhour at 7PM. Members & visitors were welcomed of which 32 were present.

The minutes from the April meeting were reviewed and 2 corrections were made. Concerning the emerald in the necklace formerly owned by Glenn Bolick, this had been purchased and not found by him. Concerning the field trip during the Eastern Federation show March, 2015, this will be to the Reel mine. The minutes were then approved by club vote.

Treasurer's report: Tabled

Committee reports:

Field Trip--Harry Polly stated this month's trip would be May 24 to the Reel Mine. Meet 8AM Rose's parking lot, Hwy 70.

He reminded every one of the annual Labor Day trip to the Danville, Kentucky area and for interested persons to call the Quality Inn for reservations with club rates.

Education--None

Show--None

Old Business: Reminder of next month's meeting/annual picnic to be held at Harry & Janice Polly's home at

6:30PM. Menu and catering were reviewed by Larry Huffman.

George Brown brought new membership cards for review. Club approval was made, pending review of any copyright questions.

New Business: Two motions were made in regard to Professor Joanna Connolly's tragic death on April 16, 2014.

(1) Harry Polly proposed a gift of \$100 be made to the Eastern Federation in her memory. This was seconded and approved by club vote.

(2) Baxter Leonard proposed future scholarships to students from CVGMC be made in her memory and be known as the Joanna Connolly Scholarship. This was seconded and approved by club vote.

Announcements: Harry Polly reviewed the new policy from the Forestry Service concerning collecting at the Ray Mine & other forestry locations. Change of what is considered hand verses mechanized tools declares no further digging is allowed.

Upcoming mineral shows are Spruce Pine's *Grassy Creek Gem and Mineral Show* (two dates), July 27 - August 3, 2014 and October 16-19, 2014 and Spruce Pine's indoor *NC Mineral & Gem Festival*, July 31st - August 3rd, 2014.

Meeting concluded: 7:30PM.

The program was presented by Richard Aultman, *Introduction to Fossils*. Richard gave a very interesting and informative review of personally collected fossils from NC and the south.

Respectively submitted
Baxter Leonard, acting Secretary

JUNE PROGRAM

Rick Glover,
Program Director

June meeting will be our annual picnic which Harry Polly has graciously agreed to host. Members are



encouraged to bring a dessert. Food is BBQ catered by Larry Huffman. Come and enjoy great food and fantastic fellowship.

Rick



FIELD TRIP NEWS

Harry Polly,
Field Trip Chairman

After doing a lot of thinking about this month's field trip, I have decided to go to the Propst farm for sapphires. I wanted to go to the Ray mine, but after last night's meeting in Hendersonville with the top ranger for the Pisgah forest, I realized that this will never be a possibility again. Their policy of small hand tools only, makes it not worthwhile to go. Essentially, it is surface collecting only, no picks, shovels, or sledge/crack hammers.

Propst Mine Field Trip

The June field trip will be held on June 14th. We will be going to the Propst farm for sapphires. We will meet in the Roses' parking lot on Hwy 70E at 8:00 am. Those that know the way can meet us at the dig site. There is a \$5.00 dig fee. You will need shovels, mattocks, small digging/scratching tools, collecting bucket, sunscreen, and insect repellent. food and water. There are no facilities. There is a lot of poison oak in the area, so take precaution.

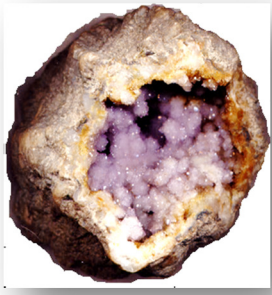


Future Field Trips

Sinkhole mine in July
Presnell mine in August
Kentucky geode trip over Labor Day weekend
Reel mine in October and November

Kentucky

If you haven't made your reservations for Kentucky, please do so quickly. Just be sure to tell them you are with CVGMC in order to get the corporate rate. After August 1st, all rooms not taken will go back on the block to be used first come, first serve, and may not be at the discounted rate.



Harry

IT'S PICNIC TIME!!

Our June meeting will be held on June 10, at the home of Harry and Janice Polly, 2821 Blowing Rock Blvd starting at 6:30 pm. The meal will be catered by POB of Hickory. Members are asked to bring a dessert to share. POB is bringing BBQ and all the fixings.



Directions from Hickory

Take Hwy 321 North through Lenoir. Pass through Walmart, BO's, and Valmead Fire Dept stoplights. There will be a **blinking caution light** at the intersection of Hwy 268 and Hwy 321 about three miles out. Come through the caution light, (**DO NOT TURN**). Go to the top of the hill at the next turn-around. (**DO NOT TURN AROUND**). Make a 45 degree turn into the private drive beside the three mailboxes and bear to your right. The driveway ends at the house.

2821 Blowing Rock Blvd, Lenoir, NC 28645

Harry & Janice

UPCOMING GEM SHOWS

Grassy Creek Gem and Mineral Show

Show Venue:

Parkway Fire and Rescue,
12966 Hwy. 226 South
Spruce Pine, NC 28777

Two Show Dates:

July 27 - August 3, 2014

Hours: 8 am - 6 pm

October 16-19, 2014

Hours: 10 am - 6 pm

Admission: Free, open to the public

Sponsored by: Parkway Fire and Rescue

<http://xpopress.com/NC-GCG-show-schedule.html>

NC Mineral & Gem Festival

Show Venue:

The Bridge Coliseum
Spruce Pine, NC

Show Dates:

July 31st - August 3rd, 2014

Thursday-Saturday 10-6

Sunday 12:30-5:00

Admission:

\$3 / Kids Under 10 are Free

Thursday Sr. Citizen Day \$1

Sunday Mitchell County Residents Day \$1

Sponsored by:

The Mitchell County

Chamber of Commerce

http://ncgemfest.com/Home_Page.php

GOVERNMENT REGULATIONS FOR ALL ROCKHOUNDS



Gold Panning and Rockhounding

Some visitors to the national forest like to try their hands at finding minerals or panning for gold. Visitors are asked to following these guidelines when rockhounding or gold panning in the National Forests in North Carolina.

- Rockhounding and gold panning may take place on most national forest lands – provided only small quantities of material are removed for personal, non-commercial purposes.
- Recreational rockhounding and gold panning are not allowed in Congressionally-designated wilderness areas or in the corridors of designated wild and scenic rivers.
- Recreational rockhounding and gold panning are not allowed in forest areas where mineral rights are owned by a private party, or in an area that is under mineral lease to a private party.
- Permits are required for removal of mineral materials for scientific and research purposes.
- Commercial removal of minerals requires a prospecting permit from the Bureau of Land Management.
- Materials must be removed using small hand tools without mechanical means or motorized equipment. Removing mineral materials with a pick, shovel, sluice box or similar large tools can cause significant impacts to resources is considered mechanical so therefore not allowed.
- Suction dredges are not allowed by forest closure order.
- Gold pans may be used for gold panning in the beds of streams, but the banks of streams cannot be disturbed by digging or removing materials.
- Any disturbance to or removal of historical or archaeological artifacts is prohibited by federal law.



<http://www.fs.usda.gov/activity/nfsnc/recreation/rocks-minerals/?recid=48112&actid=59>



LET'S KEEP THE FUN GOING!

by Steve Weinberger

Last month I shared with you my concern for holding our Fall EFMLS Wildacres session due to low enrollment. While I'm still very concerned, I'm gratified at the number of very positive articles I've seen written in numerous club bulletins during the past month. Thank you.



I'm pleased to report that our registration numbers have improved, but only slightly and our session is still in jeopardy. What's holding you and your members back? Here are a few comments gleaned from club bulletins and written by past attendees:

"The knowledge and skills of the instructors were only exceeded by their desire for everyone to have a great experience, learn some new skills, and wind up with a project (or projects) which would hopefully result in people acquiring new lapidary related skills so that this wonderful hobby continues to have active practitioners."

"I cannot think of a better way for a rockhound to spend a vacation."

"Wildacres is an experience not to be missed. You will be enriched, fulfilled and gratified. Not only is Wildacres beautiful, but the people are equally so. Where else can you be and have everyone around you share your same passion and enthusiasm for the natural world and the Lapidary Arts?"

So now it's your turn to find out for yourself how wonderful a week our Eastern Federation Workshops at Wildacres really are. Visit the EFMLS Wildacres website (efmls-wildacres.org) to see photos, learn about the fall classes and speaker, and download a registration form.

The cost for the week of fun and learning is \$390 per person (plus a reasonable fee for the materials you use in class or classes you take). The tuition fee includes room and board (comfortable rooms, delicious meals), class instruction, talks by our Speaker-in-Residence Justin Zzyzx and so much more.



Let's not allow our September session to be but a memory! Register now and join us "on the mountain" September 1 - 7.

I look forward to meeting you there.

EFMLS News -- June -July, 2014

MINI MINERS MONTHLY

Vol. 8 No. 5 A Monthly Publication for Young Mineral Collectors

May 2014

MINERALS IN YOUR HOME

A lot of minerals are needed to make the items in your home. Minerals are needed to make the ingredients that go into products you use in your home every day. Do you know which minerals are used in these items?

BATTERIES-- Graphite, Galena, Sphalerite.



Galena is a source of *lead*.
Sphalerite is a source of *zinc*.

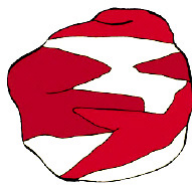


TOWEL-- Sphalerite and Chromite.

These two minerals are used to create dyes that are used to color towels. Bet you wondered how something hard like a mineral could be found in something soft like a towel!

SUNSCREEN-- Sphalerite and Zincite.

Sunscreen contains a compound called *zinc oxide*. The element zinc is removed from the minerals sphalerite and zincite.



COSMETICS-- Muscovite, Hematite, Talc.



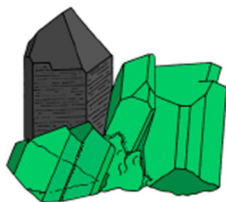
Talc is crushed into a very fine powder and used to make talcum powder and other cosmetics. Muscovite is crushed and added to cosmetics like lipstick and face powder to give a glittery look. Hematite is crushed to a powder and

added to cosmetics to give a deep red color.

TOILET-- Feldspar, Hematite, Magnetite, Pyrolusite, Chromite, Copper, Azurite, Malachite.

The toilet is made of porcelain which contains feldspar as its main

ingredient.
Pyrolusite is used to make coloring for the porcelain.
Hematite and

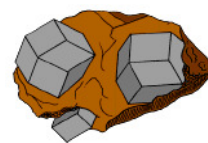


magnetite are used to make the steel parts (handles, inside valve pieces, etc.). Handles are often covered with a shiny metal called *chrome* that comes from the mineral chromite. Copper and copper ores (like azurite and malachite) are used to make the pipes that bring water to the toilet. Today, many pipes are made of plastics or flexible metal tubing as well.)

RECLINER CHAIR-- Sulfur, Hematite, Magnetite, Sphalerite.



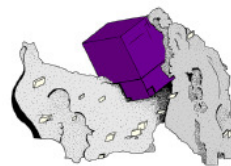
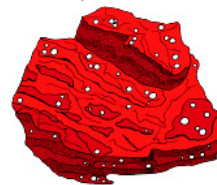
Sulfur is used to make the foam rubber that is used for soft padding in the chair cushions. Hematite and magnetite are the source of iron for making the steel that is used to make the chair frame. Sphalerite is a source of zinc that is needed to make some dyes for the cloth covering.



DENTAL CARE-- Gold, Rutile, Fluorite, Cinnabar.

Gold is used to cover damaged teeth and for fillings in cavities. Rutile is used to give color to false teeth so they look real. Fluorite is the source of the element *fluorine* which is combined with other elements to make the compound *fluoride*. Fluoride helps make teeth stronger and resistant to decay. Cinnabar

is the main source of mercury. A mercury compound (called *mercury amalgam*) was used for many years to fill cavities. Mercury is VERY poisonous, however, and mercury amalgam is no longer used.



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Club Meeting

Tuesday
June 10, 2014

**ANNUAL CLUB PICNIC
6:30 PM**

**Harry & Janice Polly's House
Lenoir, NC**