

TAR HEEL



ROCKHOUND

Organized 1969

JUNE 2016

CATAWBA VALLEY GEM & MINERAL CLUB, INC.

2016 OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES

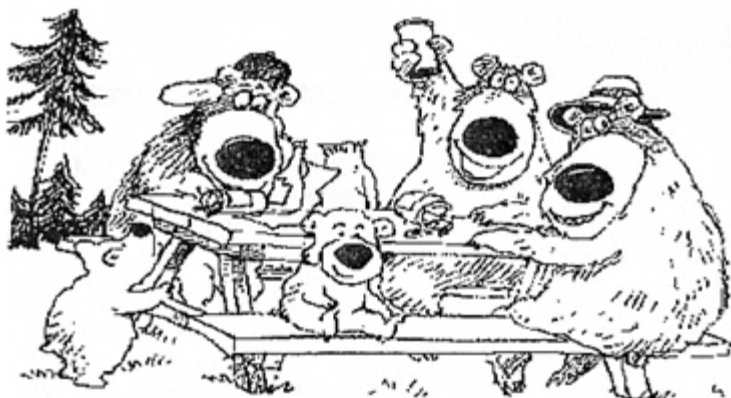
President:	George Brown 828-292-7407	Editor:	Velda McLean 828-572-1826	Show Chairman:	OPEN
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Secretary:	Dean Russell 828- 303-1448				

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.

ANNUAL CLUB PICNIC

6:30 PM at Home of Harry & Janice Polly
Guests & Members Welcome!!
Members bring a desert, side dish, and lawn chair.



CATAWBA VALLEY
GEM & MINERAL CLUB, INC.
<http://www.cvgmc.com/>
Web Master: Mike Streeter

INSIDE

President's Message-----	2
Minutes-----	2
Field Trip News-----	2
Norma Ridenhour-----	2
Annual Picnic-----	3
Wildacres-----	3
Rock Collecting Helps Kids--	4
Safety Matters-----	4
EFMLS Convention-----	5
Let's Rock & Roll-----	5
AFMS Show-----	5
2017 CVGMC Show Flyer---	5

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

George Brown, Club President

It is picnic time again. A great time to share our stories and our passion for what we do. Good Food, Good Friends, It does not get any better than that! DIG IT!!

George

CATAWBA VALLEY GEM AND MINERAL CLUB, INC.

Minutes for May 10, 2016

The May 10, 2016 meeting of the CVGMC was called to order by President George Brown at 7:00 PM. There were 33 members and 1 guest present.

Door Prize Drawing: Nine pieces of Calcite from the Crystal River #2 Quarry, Citrus County, FL. were donated by Club member Danny J.

Minutes: Motion by Rick G., seconded by Harry P. to accept the minutes for the April 12, 2016 meeting. The motion was passed by the Club membership.

Treasurer Report: Bank balance given.

Education Committee: None

Field Trip Report:

- 1) No field trip planned for May.
- 2) Harry P. talked about Presnell and Sinkhole Mines trips he led recently.
- 3) Larry H. reported on the Maryland trip.
- 4) Larry H. reported on: Save the dates of August 8-14, 2016 for the Lake Superior Agate trip to Munising, MI.
- 5) USFG Franklin Faceters Frolic is July 28-30, 2016.
- 6) Kentucky Geode Trip is Labor Day Weekend.

Old Business: Terry R. mentioned that if you have not gotten your 2016 membership card to see her.

New Business:

- 1) Larry H. reported on possible Clubhouse site. He needs to take people with him to see if it is large enough.
- 2) Club members discussed possible ideas for additional new ways to advertise to the 2017 Show.
- 3) Annual Club Picnic is June 14th @ 6:30 PM at Harry P's house. Club will supply hot dogs and hamburgers. Club members to bring a covered dish and/or dessert or chips and drink to share.

Closing of Business: The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 PM.

Program: Ron Ruschman talked about "Rockhound Characters I Have Known".

Respectfully submitted,
Dean Russell, Secretary



FIELD TRIP NEWS

Dean Russell,
Acting Field Trip Chair

Our June Field Trip will be to the Sinkhole Mine in Bandana, NC in Mitchell County on Saturday the 18th. I will send out a notice on where to meet by email and I will mention it at the picnic also.

The Sinkhole Mine pegmatite is a light colored rock with unusually high quality alkali potash feldspar, milky to gray quartz, very high quality Muscovite Mica, and abundant very fine (but small) garnet crystals. Other minerals commonly found are Thulite and less often, Apatite (a fleshy color to green). The feldspar is often translucent and sometimes transparent (gem feldspar). The feldspar often fluoresces a light pink to occasionally a neon green color. The Apatite fluoresces orange.

Dean



NORMA RIDENHOUR

The Club would like to express condolences to Norma Ridenhour and her family in the passing of her mother.

ANNUAL CVGMC PICNIC

6:30 PM at Home of Harry & Janice Polly
Guests & Members Welcome!!
Larry H. is grilling hot dogs & hamburgers.
Members bring a covered dish and/or a desert or chips and a soda to share.
Don't forget your lawn chair.

*Mary R. is bringing chili

*Norma R. is bring slaw

*Dean R. is bring onions and Yankee mustard

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.

ANNUAL CVGMC PICNIC TUESDAY, JUNE 14, 2016

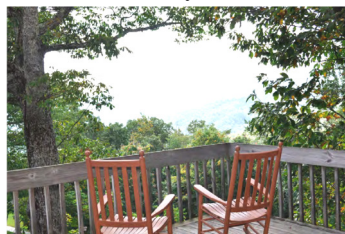
Harry Polly

Larry Huffman will be providing the burgers, dogs, and the buns. All of the paper products are here at the house. We need pickles, relish, lettuce, tomatoes, chips, dip, mustard, ketchup, mayo, potato salad, baked beans, watermelon, cantaloupe, and DESSERTS. I will be making a 'nanner puddin'. We also need drinks. We are providing a gallon each of sweet tea, unsweet tea, and tea w/splenda. There is plenty of room to sit at tables on the inside, or in the garage if you wish to bring your own chair. The festivities will start at 6:30 pm and end whenever. If any questions, or get lost my cell is 828-244-6651. DID I MENTION DESSERTS?



WILDACRES IN THE FALL

by Steve Weinberger, Wildacres Committee Chair



What? You've never attended an EFMLS Wildacres Workshop? Do you realize what you've missed over the past 44 years?

The Wildacres Retreat is located on its own private mountain, just off the Blue Ridge Parkway in Little Switzerland, NC

(about an hour north of Asheville). It's run by a private not-for-profit foundation dedicated, like our Eastern Federation, to the betterment of human relations. The generosity of the Wildacres Foundation makes it possible for approximately 90 non-profit organizations, such as EFMLS, to use the facility for a variety of workshops. This May for example, we're sharing the campus with a group of cellists and members of a consortium of scientists, mathematicians and engineers. Other groups invited to use the facility include potters, astronomers, writers, story tellers, religious groups, micologists and more.

Each EFMLS Workshop features talks by a guest "speaker-in-residence". For fall, we'll have **Alfredo Petrov**, a well-known mineralogist and world traveler who will share some of his stories about minerals and travels to unusual places. Not to worry, Alfredo's talks will not be technical and will be of interest even to the non-mineral oriented person. He's an interesting, fun and entertaining guy who has recently had a new mineral, "Alfredopetrovite", named after him.

The week includes six talks by Alfredo, about 20 hours devoted to classes, an auction, tailgate and show and tell session where everyone can see what participants have produced in classes during the week, and a mid-week Activity Day where you can go exploring or participate in the organized field trip if you wish. There is also sufficient time to relax on the wonderful porches or patio that overlook the Blue Ridge Mountains.

Perhaps one of the best things about a week at an EFMLS Wildacres Workshop is that thanks to the Wildacres Foundation which underwrites a major portion of the cost for the week, tuition for the week is only \$400 per person. This fee covers room and board, gratuity for the Wildacres Retreat staff and access to one or two of the classes being offered during the week.

Instructors volunteer their time and talents to teach our classes. Most have been with us before and are outstanding! For fall, our line-up of classes is:

4-day classes:

- Faceting - Steve Weinberger
- Jewelry Design - Brenda Smith
- Polymer Clay - Barbara McGuire

2-day classes:

- Fused Glass (both basic & advanced) - Becky Edmundson
- Opal Cutting (both basic and advanced) - Cheryl Kasper
- Roadside Geology - Virginia Meador
- Uncomplicated Mineral Photography - Virginia Meador
- Silversmithing (both basic & intermediate) - Richard Meszler
- Wirewrapping (both basic & intermediate) - Pamm Bryant

For a description of each of the classes, visit the EFMLS Wildacres Workshop website <efmls-wildacres.org>. You can find registration forms there as well. I'm looking forward to seeing you at the fall EFMLS Wildacres Workshop, September 5 - 11, 2016.

EFMLS News --May, 2016

HOW ROCK COLLECTING HELPS KIDS: OUR RESPONSIBILITY

by Dr. Gary Lohman, Juniors Chair

Nearly every rockhound I meet is eager to explain how their interest in rocks, minerals, or fossils started when they were young. In fact, prior to the development of an increasingly media-driven society, hobbies like rock collecting were important parts of both personal and social development. With all the time spent watching television, playing video games, and tethered to social media, the sad reality is that many of today's children have never experienced the rewards of a hobby. To be clear, a hobby is not the same as organized, adult-directed, after-school activities such as Little League. Hobbies are an important means of self-discovery and expressions of personal accomplishment that help build self-esteem and resilience.



Working on hobbies teaches children how to learn about things, how to set goals, make decisions, and develop a variety of problem-solving skills. Hobbies often mature into lifelong interests and sometimes even careers. Consider how thirty-plus years ago almost every kid in your neighborhood had some sort of hobby, whether it was trading baseball cards, mounting butterflies, or collecting things like stamps, or rocks. A young colleague recently expressed the financial motivation behind his degree in electrical engineering and his current interest in pursuing a master's degree in business to make him more promotable. This was in stark contrast to an older colleague, also with a degree in electrical engineering, who expressed his start in "building radios" as a child and now dissatisfied with a career that increasingly pulls him away from his technical "roots." Similar to the way trees need solid roots to grow tall and stand strong, kids need hobbies to help them develop life-long "roots" as well.

As rockhounds, we already recognize the value of our hobby, so how do we help children today develop and sustain hobbies?

Having participated in events with a variety of displays and demonstrations at a number of venues with children over past years, I am repeatedly reassured that kids still have innate curiosities for which hobbies form a way of tapping into. The child-like curiosity that is still awakened in us as adults through the pursuit of our hobbies is a necessary ingredient. Fortunately, geology remains fashionable among kids. Collecting rocks is interesting and learning how those rocks are geological windows into our own past is even better. Kids love to recognize patterns in nature.

Cultivating a hobby takes "spare time," which is arguably the first casualty of media-driven distractions and tightly packed schedules of organized activities in today's world. Consider that by age 15, the average child has spent more time watching television than sitting in a classroom. Add to that the addictive-like effects of video games and the tether-like effect of social media and texting, and one quickly recognizes that potential "spare time" is rapidly consumed by a craving for stimulation - even to a point of over-stimulation. Childhood is followed by the adult pressures of making a living with increasingly demanding schedules. If one never learned how to appreciate and make use of "spare time" with hobbies as a child, it's not likely to be an integral part of adult life either. Hence, the first challenge is making room for "spare time."

Un-tethering the child, even for a little while, from his or her media-fed environment does not have to involve draconian parental controls accompanied by screaming and door slamming. The key is to (1) set an example by making time ourselves as adults and (2) taking advantage of that time to tap into a shared child-like curiosity. This is where family-oriented events like rock shows, county fairs, STEM expos, etc. can be very important venues to help explore interests together. This is also where it is important for our clubs and their memberships to continue hosting and participating in such events. In today's financially-obsessed world, it is easy to forget that the real "value" of these events is not measured by their profitability in a purely monetary sense. The last STEM expo in which I participated with a 10x10 blackout tent filled with UV lights and fluorescent minerals captivated the interest of children and their parent's innate curiosity alike! Asking questions together, many became interested in the glowing rocks and how they could get involved also. By setting the example as role models and being prepared to provide encouragement and guidance, there is still room for hobbies in today's world. The good news is that activities like this psychologically free kids from being merely glued to computers and cell phones all day! When given the chance, children embrace the opportunity to get back to those interests we used to call "hobbies!"

For want of spare time, a hobby may never develop. It takes a village as helping to make that "spare time" reality involves the time and effort of our clubs and its members supporting each other, parents, and children. The reward is that by helping a child to find a hobby, a talent may be born and a life enriched. In future articles, I intend to further explore how to inspire and guide children of different ages within the hobby.

EFMLS News--May, 2016

SAFETY MATTERS – TERRIBLY TOXIC TREASURES

by Ellery Borow, Safety Chair

Tightly tucked toward the top of our trinket trunks are treasures too toxic to touch, tempting us though as they tease our thoughts.

Yes, tis true! Tossed throughout our treasure trunks are things that are toxic to the touch and taste, even in this totally tantalizing, yet tranquil, task of teaching there are terrors taxing my task.

Well, enough of these terrible, Thesaurus taxing "t's".

The message this month is a mention that there are dangers lurking among our mineral treasures and what to do about that. Think for a moment, if you will, about the chemical compositions of some of the minerals we collect - autunite, arsenopyrite, cinnabar, betafite, thorite, cuprosklodowskite, malachite, even beach shells for the jewelry we make have within them chemistries that, under certain conditions of working, handling, or storage, can present concerns about their part in maintaining our health. Think of the conditions in which we find our mineral treasures -- conditions that hide biting, stinging insects, or rash-causing plants, or offer precarious physical conditions which may impact ones health.

Our hobby is associated with great joys but also has within it certain dangers with which we should exercise substantial care and caution. There are minerals that should not be touched with bare hands and fingers. There are minerals that should not be worked dry. There are minerals that produce slivers that, oh so easily, penetrate the skin. There are minerals of a radioactive nature as well. Each of those situations requires certain protective measures.

We encounter many specimens of fauna and flora along the way as we walk to our favorite collecting localities. Many of those same fauna and flora are ones which bite, sting or scratch us. Some things just lay in wait to dig into our delicate hides, or scratch and tear us. We don't usually encounter hiding tigers or crouching dragons on our trips but those pesky little eight and six legged things sure can mess with our enjoyments.

What is a body to do to protect oneself? Glad you asked! We have a hobby based on sharing, giving, and teaching! Most of the hobby's enthusiasts out there, ones I've met over the years, follow those practices in all ways. There are folks in our clubs who have all manner of experiences with our hobby's related dangers and hazards. What I would like to offer here is a thought for your consideration. I would like to offer a suggestion that we encourage our members with the most experience to share, give, and teach not just about their knowledge with rocks, minerals, and fossils, but, also share, give, and teach what they have learned about being safe - - safe mineral handling, safe storage, safe caring and feeding of our treasures, safe traipsing on quarry roads, safe avoidance of biting insects and so on.

I'd like to broaden the sharing approach of our hobby to all things safety. Indeed, if your club does not have a safety coordinator, I would recommend your investigation of the benefits to your club with having a dedicated safety person. And, if you already have such a dedicated person in your club, I applaud your forethought! If you have a safety coordinator making safety a fun, interesting, and a learning experience, you are well ahead of the safety curve!

Please be safe, and think safety. Also, please mind those legless critters as well, after all, we all have a place on this Earth and we need to be mindful about sharing it with them.



EFMLS News--May, 2016

EFMLS CONVENTION 2016
Hosted by the Rochester Lapidary Society



The Radisson Hotel
175 Jefferson Rd, Rochester, NY 14623
October 21-23 2016

LET'S ROCK AND ROLL!

by Cherly Neary, EFMLS Auction Chair

2016 Annual Auction

It is that time of year! Time to think about our annual auction and donate, donate, and donate!

So why not think about donating rock specimens, jewelry, fossils, lapidary items and books related to our hobby? Or if you or your club cannot be at the auction- make a monetary donation to help support the Eastern Foundation Fund. The interest generated from the fund is used to support a variety of EFMLS special programs.

Let's Rock! You donate the rock hobby items and our auctioneers will be on the roll to generate the funds! Every year your support has been generous. Please keep it up! You can notify me at ciervo.neary@gmail.com of your intent to donate.

Please plan on attending the Convention at Rochester. The auction is on Saturday – time to be announced at a later date. This event is fun-filled and I am sure you will be entertained!

See you in October –Plan on spending some time and money at the Auction!

EFMLS News--May, 2016



AFMS / NFMS SHOW NEWS – JULY 29 - 31, 2016

by Janice Van Cura, Show Chair



July will soon be upon us. Remember to sign up for display cases and pre-registration for events. The forms were in the February AFMS newsletter which is available on the AFMS website http://www.amfed.org/afms_news.htm if

you have misplaced your copy.

The food is going to be great at the banquet and so will the company so sign up and come join us. Pre-registration deadlines are at the end of June.

During the show there will be a silent auction all three days, so you can have an opportunity to “go collecting” some Northwest material. In addition there is an oral auction on Sunday to support the NFMS. There are always some great items in this auction that you can take home as a souvenir.

If you have any questions give us a call or email. Janice Van Cura, Show Chair 541-752-4556, jvancura@peak.org



AFMS Newsletter – May 2016

FORTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL

**UNIFOUR GEM, MINERAL,
BEAD, FOSSIL, AND
JEWELRY SHOW**



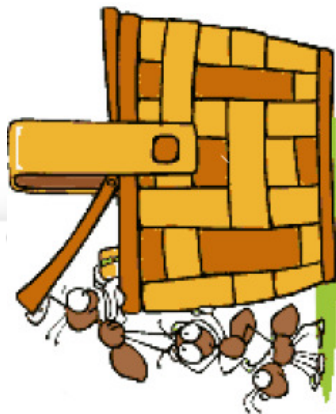
March 24, 25, 26, 2017

HOURS Fri. 9:00 a.m. til 6:00 p.m. Exit 125, I-40 next to Interstate
Sat. 9:00 a.m. til 6:00 p.m. (Just off I-40 with entrances from
Sun. 10:00 a.m. til 5:00 p.m. Lenoir Rhyne Boulevard and
Highway 70)

PLACE: HICKORY METRO CONVENTION CENTER

Hosted by **CATAWBA VALLEY GEM & MINERAL CLUB, INC.**

First Class Mail



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Club Meeting

**Tuesday
June 14, 2016
6:30 PM**

**Harry & Janice Polly's House
2821 Blowing Rock Blvd
Lenoir, NC 28645.**