

TAR HEEL



ROCKHOUND

Organized 1969

May 2023

### Catawba Valley Gem & Mineral Club, Inc.

#### 2021 Officers and Committees

President:	Slade Harvin 828-612-4469	Editor:	Brenda Huffman 828-612-1918	Show Chairman:	Dean Russell 828- 303-1448
Vice President	Joan Glover 828-446-7633	Field Trip:		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.



**Crabtree emerald (ver Beryl)  
 Cabtree Emerald Mine, Spruce Pine, Mitchell Co., NC**

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**CATAWBA VALLEY GEM & MINERAL CLUB, INC.**  
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## **May President's Report**

### **President's Report:**

I would like to thank Becky and Jimmy for their program about the Tucson show and the slides that they had.

Other than the pollen, the weather is nice for an outing to collect or to be outside cleaning past items that may still may be in the garage or other location. Also, as the collection season is getting into full swing, I encourage everyone to go through their tools to make sure you have everything you might need. Additionally, check your tools for safety issues, such as "mushroomed" chisels. Now is a good time to check and address any potential concerns. On this note, there is a current safety recall on certain sledge hammers and crack hammers.

I hope you can make it to the May Club Meeting.

Thank you,

*Slade*

## **Our May Program**

The program for May is "A short program on the Aurora Fossil Museum and the upcoming Fossil Festival", By Rick and Joan Glover.

## April Minutes

CVGMC minutes for April 11, 2023

The April 11, 2023 meeting of the CVGMC was called to order by Vice-President Joan G. at 7:00 PM.

Visitors – Meredith D., Sue P., Brooke C., Meredith T.

Program: “Trip Out West” by Jimmy & Becky S.

Minutes: A motion was made by Harry P. and seconded by Richard A. to accept the amended March 14, 2023 minutes.

Motion was passed by the Club.

Treasurer Report: Bank balance was reported.

Education Committee: None

Show Committee:

1. Thank you to everyone who volunteered to help with the very successful show.
2. 1,949 paid attendance, second all-time attendance. Over a thousand paid customers on Saturday, which is a one-day record.
3. 2024 show is tentatively scheduled for March 22-24, 2024.

Field Trip Report:

1) 10 rooms have been set aside at the Bright Leaf Golf Resort for the annual Labor Day Trip. See the Tar Heel Rock hound for the information.

Old Business:

New Business: Harry P. donated a mineral projector.

Announcements: Update on Harry P.

Closing of Business: The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 PM

Respectfully submitted,  
Dean Russell, Secretary

## Labor Day Field Trip to KY

Slade has reserved 10 rooms at the Bright Leaf Golf Resort. All of the rooms have two double beds.

BE SURE TO TELL THEM YOU ARE WITH THE CATAWBA VALLEY GEM & MINERAL CLUB in order to get the special rate. Please call them and give them your credit card information to reserve your room.

At this time 10 rooms at the resort have been reserved in a block. Everyone will need to call or email the resort for their own reservation. All of the rooms will be reserved under one entity: **CLUB**. Everyone needs to make sure that you let the resort know that you are with the **CATAWBA VALLEY GEM & MINERAL**

### **Bright Leaf Golf Resort**

1742 Danville Road, Harrodsburg, KY 40330

Telephone: (859) 734-5481; (800) 469-6038

Website: <http://www.brightleafgolfresort.com>

Email: [info@brightleafgolfresort.com](mailto:info@brightleafgolfresort.com)

**Check In: September 1, 2022 (Friday)**

**Check Out: September 4, 2022 (Monday)**

Rate: \$95+/Single Occupancy; \$135+/Double Occupancy

Deposit: A \$70/room deposit is required to secure the reservation. **Deposit due by April 30th.**

This year we plan to go to two quarries and also a location for geodes. We hope to see you there.

Look for further updates as they become available.

Slade

**42° 57' 13.68" N, 75° 31' 36.48" W and 35° 33' 20.52" N, 79° 23' 15.72" W**  
**By Cheryl Neary, AFMS and Member of the CVGMC**

I feel that I should be saying: hike -hike -hike and snapping a ball!

Side note: The hike call was created by John Heisman. John William Heisman was born in 1869. He spent his boyhood amongst the oil fields of northwest Pennsylvania in the town of Titusville. He played a game that was a cross between soccer and rugby. He played football at Brown University before transferring to the University of Pennsylvania to pursue a law degree. He wrote the game of football; spread the growth of the game coaching at various schools; was the promoter of the forward pass; divided the game into quarters and in 1898 utilized the word hike as a way for the entire team to know when the ball would be snapped into the backfield. Prior to the use of the dynamic sound, the backs used silent gestures to begin plays. Heisman was a coach, a lawyer and a part-time stage actor and writer and best known as the pioneering coach for whom the trophy for the best college player of the year is named.

Back to the numbers!

What are those sets of numbers? The first set of coordinates belongs to New York State while the second set belongs to the State of North Carolina.

What do these two states have in common? (Besides the fact that I am a member of a rock club in each?)

Let's begin with the total area of both states. NYS is 54,555 square miles. North Carolina is 53,819 square miles. The difference between both states' area is 736 square miles.

Geologically, they both have the Appalachian Mountains..

The Appalachians are generally considered the geographical divide between the eastern seaboard of the United States and the Midwest region of the country. The Eastern Continental Divide follows the Appalachian Mountains from Pennsylvania to Georgia.

The Appalachians were once the same height of the Rocky Mountains, but over time the peaks eroded to the height seen today!

Rocks exposed today are folded and thrust faulted marine sedimentary rocks, volcanic rocks and parts of an ancient ocean floor, which provides strong evidence that the rocks were deformed during plate collision.

The Appalachians were named after a Native American village near present-day Tallahassee, Florida when Spanish explorers visited the area. The Spanish transcribed the name of the village as Apalchen or Apalachen, which was altered by the Spanish later to Apalachee, which they used as the name of the tribe and the tribe's area. The cartographers of the Spanish expedition of 1540 applied the name of the tribe to the mountains. However, the whole mountain range was often called the Allegheny Mountains. It was Washington Irving who suggested renaming the mountains either Appalachia or Alleghania.

In the southern regions of the Appalachians the word is pronounced with the third syllable sounding like "latch", while in the north, the third syllable sounds like "lay" and the fourth syllable as "Chins".

Then there was Ebenezer Emmons who was appointed the first state geologist of the Second North Carolina Geological Survey in October of 1851.

***He was considered the founder of American Paleozoic stratigraphy and the first discoverer of the primordial fauna of any country.***

***Ebenzer, a pioneering geologist was born in Massachusetts in May of 1799. His work included the naming of the Adirondack Mountains (which are not part of the Appalachian Mountains) and the Taconic Mountains in New York. In 1818 he graduated from college with a degree in medicine. He practiced in Berkshire County in Massachusetts. In 1824, Ebenzer assisted Chester Dewey, also a graduate of Williams College of Massachusetts in preparing a geological map, classifying the rocks of the Taconic area. Chester Dewey was a Congregational minister, educator, and scientist. He was internationally recognized as a botanist and served as the University of Rochester's first professor of natural science from 1850 until his death in 1867.***

***Ebenzer continued to study geology at Rensselaer School now known as Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. In 1836, he became attached to the Geological Survey of the State of New York, grouping local strata.***

***Ebenzer has a scientific disagreement with James Hall, the New York State Geologist. Hall believed the age of the rocks of the Taconic system were of Ordovician age, while Ebenzer believed they were of Cambrian age. Due to this dispute, Ebenzer was banned from the practice of geology in New York State. He sued Hall for slander and libel, however lost the lawsuit. What turned out to be a loss for New York State, since later Ebenzer was found to be correct, was a gain for the state of North Carolina.***

***The state of North Carolina hired Ebenzer in 1851 as State Geologist of the Second North Carolina Geological Survey. He provided information on the rocks and other geological information for the economy of the state. Within the first year he traveled the Coastal Plain of the state. He investigated the use of marl for agricultural purposes. He evaluated the coal deposits of the Deep River Basin and Dan River.. He studied navigation and water power of the rivers. He maintained a home in Albany, New York until the war broke out and he was unable to journey north. He died in 1863 at his plantation in Brunswick County, the state's southernmost and fourth largest county. Most of his papers were lost or destroyed as a result of the war.***

***According to the North Carolina Geological Survey's website:***

***"Denison Olmsted, professor at the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill and an 1813 graduate of Yale, published several papers on the minerals, rocks and geology of North Carolina in the American Journal of Science. The first of the papers, published in 1820, is one of the first known scientific articles about the geology of our state. Olmsted proposed the idea of a State geological and mineralogical survey to the state Board of Internal Improvements in 1821. His original request was denied by the Board that year, but his persistence paid off on December 31, 1823, when an act to conduct a "Geological and Mineralogical Survey" of North Carolina was ratified by the General Assembly. This act made it the duty of the "Board of Agriculture of North Carolina to employ some person of competent skill and science to commence and carry on a geological and mineralogical survey of the various regions of the State." Because of his interest and experience, Olmsted was chosen as this person.***

### ***Denison Olmsted***

***Receiving a yearly salary of \$250, Olmsted traveled the state on horseback from Cape Lookout as far west as the Great Smoky Mountains, collecting and describing fossils and minerals. In his "Report on the Geology of North-Carolina, Part I," dated November 10, 1824, Olmsted described the many different types of rocks found in the state, as well as the extent of gold mining in the Piedmont. In a second report, Olmsted described the rock types west of the***

***Carolina slate belt and produced the first geologic map of North Carolina, dated November 1825. Hand-drafted with color inks, the map displays eight geologic divisions. This map is considered to be the oldest geologic map of an individual state in the United States and still survives at the North Carolina Division of Archives and History in Raleigh. Olmsted resigned in 1825 to teach at Yale.***

***After Olmsted's resignation, Elisha Mitchell of the University of North Carolina and a former Yale classmate of Olmsted's, assumed responsibility for the survey. Mitchell made a determined but unsuccessful attempt to continue the work started by Olmsted and even made two additional reports to the Board of Agriculture. In his diary, Mitchell lamented, "The Geological Survey dies a natural death at the end of this year. There is no one who takes any interest in the business, nor, in the present state of the treasury did I find there was the least prospect in succeeding in my applications to the legislature, and therefore gave it up at once." Little did Mitchell know that the Industrial Revolution in the United States throughout the late 1800s and early 1900s would put a renewed interest on the geological and mineralogical resources of North Carolina!***

***Olmsted's survey was the first geologic work performed at the public's expense in the United States - qualifying as our Nation's first geological survey. His work that began in 1823 transformed over the next 200 years into the institution that is now known as the North Carolina Geological Survey.***

***The North Carolina Geological Survey, the first in the nation, will celebrate its 200th anniversary on Dec. 31, 2023. To honor this historic occasion, the Survey is planning celebratory events throughout 2023. Check the following web address for a listing of the festivities:***

***<https://www.deq.nc.gov/geological-survey-200#:~:text=Olmsted's%20survey%20was%20the%20first,the%20North%20Carolina%20Geological%20Survey>***

First Class Mail



# Tar Heel Rockhound

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Club Meeting

Tuesday  
May 10, 2023  
St Aloysius Catholic Church  
921 2nd St NE  
Hickory, NC

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