

TAR HEEL



ROCKHOUND

Organized 1969

NOVEMBER 2012

## CATAWBA VALLEY GEM & MINERAL CLUB, INC.

### 2012 OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES

President:	Baxter Leonard 828-320-4028	Editor:	Velda McLean 828-572-1826	Show Chairmen:	George Max 828-328-9107
Vice President:	Joan Glover 828-324-0707	Field Trip:	Harry Polly 828-728-9553		Eric Fritz 828-495-7031
Treasurer:	Terry Russell 828-330-0034	Education:	George Max 828-328-9107	Scholarship:	George Max 828-328-9107
Secretary:	Dean Russell 828-330-0034		Bob Tallent 828-851-8434		

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.

### NOVEMBER PROGRAM

Joan Glover, Program Director

Our November Meeting will be at the **Catawba Science Center** instead of St Aloysius Catholic Church at **6:30 PM**.

#### *Science after Dark – Rock Stars*

Tuesday November 13  
 Planetarium Building and Carpenter Hall  
 Doors Open at 6:30 PM

We will meet at 6:30 PM in the north lobby, facing the library, the back side of the main entrance. (See page 3)

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CATAWBA VALLEY  
 GEM & MINERAL CLUB, INC.

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Baxter Leonard, Club President

I would like to encourage all members to seriously consider placing 1-2 exhibits in our March 2013 show. The public and students really enjoy these exhibits and the knowledge and beauty that each exhibit provides exceeds the time and work required for its preparation. You may enter your exhibit(s) into competition for the most beautiful, most educational, most interesting, first time exhibitor, or the best junior exhibitor. However, you may choose not to exhibit for competition. There are several members within the club who can assist or advise on how to set up your exhibit.

Since we as yet do not have a central theme/exhibitor, I'd like the club to place two cases for the public's viewing in a non-competitor status. One would be *Fossils of North Carolina*, and the other would be *Minerals of North Carolina*. Any member may choose 1-2-3 specimens (or more if space is available). Each member should notify me of what they wish to provide to the exhibit (specimen name, collecting site) so that I can produce labels that are uniform in size.

**Baxter Leonard**

### CATAWBA VALLEY GEM AND MINERAL CLUB, INC. Minutes for October 9, 2012

The October 9, 2012 meeting of the CVGMC was called to order by President Baxter Leonard at 7:00 PM. There were 32 members and guests present. Minutes from the September 2012 meeting were approved by the club. Motion was made by Larry Huffman and seconded by George Max.

**Treasurer Report:** Check book balance is \$15,226.56.

**Field Trip Report:** No field trip in October.

**Show Committee:** Contracts are being sent to Baxter Leonard.

**Education Committee:** None

**Old Business:** For future meeting choices by Jeff Schlottman, please send suggestions to Joan Glover.

**New Business:**

A) Election Committee will have a slate of officers for the club to elect.

B) December meeting will be the *Club Auction* that will start at 6:30 PM. Look for future information.

C) January we will fill up the grab bags. Please bring rock, minerals, fossils, etc. to put in bags.

D) March 22-24, 2013 is the annual club show. Suggestions for the theme are *NC Fossils and Minerals* or *World Wide Fossils and Minerals*.

E) Notes from Eric Fritz:

1) Mary Lewis in hospice.

2) December 8th is "Rock Day" at the Catawba Science Center

3) NC State Museum director is retiring.

4) FYI – USPS direct mail fee is 14.5 cents per piece-- consider for show.

5) The club was well represented at the "Great Balls of Fire" at the *Catawba Science Center* opening.

6) The Club has two displays out: *Pisgah Research Center* and "Great Balls of Fire" at Catawba Science Center.

7) Show a display cabinet. If interested in one, contact Eric Fritz.

F) Albert Kieser suggested a club mineral museum and workshop. He will talk to the *SALT Block* about a possible site. This was tabled for a future meeting.

G) Motion by Joan Glover and seconded by Harry Polly to have the November meeting at the CSC *SALT Block*.

**Closing of Business:** The meeting adjourned at 7:22 PM

**Program:** Shield & Frances Flynn presented "Mining History of Cornwall"

Respectfully submitted,  
Dean Russell, Secretary

## FIELD TRIP NEWS

Harry Polly, Field Trip Coordinator

I have been trying for several months to put a trip together to Jacksons Crossroads in Tignall, Georgia to dig for amethyst. After talking to Terry Ledford, I realized this is not going to happen this year. Terry is not planning to go down before spring of next year. We could go down now, but with no new material having brought up since May, I think it would be a wasted trip. That being said, I have planned an alternative trip for this month.

Dean Russell has agreed to lead the trip this month while I am recovering from carpal tunnel surgery on my right hand (too much digging and hammering this summer).

Dean Russell will be leading a trip to the Ray Mine on November 17th. Meeting time and place will be 8:00 am in the Roses' parking lot. You will need hammers, chisels, digging tools. This is a very strenuous half mile uphill walk in. There are no facilities and no fee.



Mike & Crissy Streeter

**Harry**

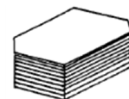
# MINI MINERS MONTHLY

## CLEAVAGE & FRACTURE

Cleavage and fracture are descriptions of how a mineral breaks into pieces. Cleavage describes how a mineral breaks into flat surfaces (usually one, two, three or four surfaces). Fracture describes how a mineral breaks into forms or shapes other than flat surfaces. Cleavage is determined by the crystal structure of the mineral.

### Common Cleavage Descriptions

1. **Cubic:** When a mineral breaks in three directions and the cleavage planes form right angles (90 degrees to each other). Results are pieces in the shape of a cube.
2. **Octahedral:** When a mineral breaks in the form of a diamond, resulting in 8 nearly equal faces.
3. **Rhombohedral:** When a mineral break in three directions and the cleavage planes form angles that are other than 90 degrees. The shape formed is called a rhombohedron.
4. **Pinacoidal:** When a mineral breaks in one direction, leaving a single flat surface (cleavage plane). When a mineral breaks into very thin sheets, like mica minerals, the pinacoidal cleavage is called micaceous.



### Common Fracture Descriptions

1. **Conchoidal:** describes a curved, nearly rounded, smooth fracture that looks like the inside of a shell. This is seen best in the igneous rock, obsidian, but also in massive pieces of the mineral quartz.
2. **Fibrous:** describes minerals (like chrysotile asbestos) that break into fibers.
3. **Splintery:** describes minerals that break into stiff, sharp, needle-like pieces.
4. **Hackly:** describes fractures that have rough edges.
5. **Uneven or irregular:** describes minerals that break into rough, uneven surfaces.



Sometimes one person might identify a fracture as hackly and another would describe the same specimen as irregular because they are fairly close to each other in appearance. With more experience, a mineralogist can easily tell the difference between these two fractures.

Not all minerals have cleavage. All minerals will have some form of fracture.

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## SLATE OF OFFICERS FOR YEAR 2013

Norma Ridenhour - President  
Joan Glover - Vice President  
Dean Russell - Secretary  
Terry Russell - Treasurer  
Board of Directors, Members at Large- Larry Huffman, Albert Keiser

## NOVEMBER PROGRAM

Joan Glover, Program Director

At the October meeting, the club voted to attend a program at the *Catawba Science Center* for the November meeting. We will meet in the north lobby, facing the library, the back side of the main entrance.



### Science after Dark – Rock Stars

Tuesday November 13  
Planetarium Building and Carpenter Hall  
Doors Open at 6:30

The evening's activities include on-going demonstrations and hands-on activities about asteroids and comets in the *Great Balls of Fire* exhibit; meteorite samples and tips to find your own space rocks presented by the Catawba Valley Gems and Mineral Club; and stargazing on the Main Arts and Science Center lawn under the direction of the Catawba Valley Astronomy Club, including a simulation of how astronomers are able to find asteroids and comets. The evening will culminate in the world premiere of the planetarium feature *Fire in the Sky* at 7:45 pm in Millholland Planetarium, hosted by Tom Lesser, show developer.

Eric has volunteered to bring meteorites that we can show to the members of the public. This will be a great opportunity for us to visit the exhibit for which we provided support. There is no charge for admission.

Joan

## ROCK DAY

Saturday, December 8<sup>th</sup>  
(BEFORE OUR DECEMBER MEETING)

We need everyone to join us. Who knows, Maybe I will let you hold a big stone fallen from the heavens.

Eric Fritz

EarthVision

339 Brook Hollow Lane

Taylorsville, NC 28681

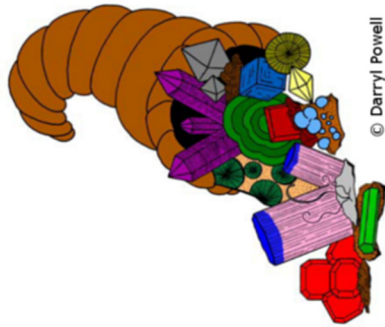
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Club Meeting

Tuesday  
October 13, 2012

**6:30 PM**

**Catawba Science Center**  
**Hickory, NC**