

TAR HEEL



ROCKHOUND

OCTOBER 2012

CATAWBA VALLEY GEM & MINERAL CLUB, INC.

2012 OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES

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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.

OCTOBER PROGRAM

Joan Glover, Program Director

Our October program will be given by Shields Flynn and his wife, Frances.

The talk will consists of two parts: the first part being about the *Mining History of Cornwall* and the second part will be more of a travelogue of other things to see for anyone visiting Cornwall. The second part will be given by his wife Frances, who is British and was born in London.

NO OCTOBER FIELD TRIP

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CATAWBA VALLEY
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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Baxter Leonard, Club President

CVGMC is an organization whose benevolent principles are a part of its underlying mission which is to educate the public, adult & children/students. We share our ideas and come together to complete our goals. The club provides educational programs to schools and assists school teachers with instruction when asked. We assist the Catawba Science Center with projects, assist the Aurora Fossil fair every May, and spend much time and effort with our own annual show every March. We provide an annual scholarship when an eligible and deserving student is identified. We provide a monthly informative newsletter and a noteworthy website. On a more personal basis our group shows a genuine friendship for one another and shares knowledge and specimens.

In return, these acts of benevolence bring to us rewards that are intangible but none the less remembered. At our March 2012 show, I remember a child could not restrain his joy when he had won a door prize. Another little girl when looking at small zip-lock bags of tumbled polished agates and asked to choose one was searching for a single agate within the bags. When told that she could choose one bag to take home, she was so happy and her mother was so appreciative.

We have an exceptional group of members who carry on this tradition of giving to others. I not only thank all of you, but encourage us to continue at any opportunity.

Baxter Leonard

CATAWBA VALLEY GEM AND MINERAL CLUB, INC.

Minutes for September 11, 2012

The September 11, 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 August 2012 meeting were approved by the club. Motion was made by Harry Polly and seconded by Rick Glover.

Treasurer Report: Check book balance \$14,115.66.

Field Trip Report: Harry Polly took small groups to the Ray Mine, the Sink Hole Mine (Wild Acres group) and to Mitchell County for Kyanite. The next field trip will be at the Probst Farm on September 22, 2012.

Show Committee: Six vendors have committed for the 2013 show.

Education Committee: None

Old Business: Warren Hollar volunteered to co-chair the ticket sales for the 2013 show with Terry Russell.

New Business: A brief Board of Directors meeting was held, voted on and passed:

- 1) To keep club dues the same for 2013
- 2) Nomination Committee to be Harry Polly (Chairman), Larry Huffman and Norma Ridenhour.
- 3) Audit – Harry Polly to audit books.

“Rock Day” at the Catawba Science Center will be December 8, 2012 from 10 AM – 4 PM.

There was a question about mileage reimbursement.

Choices were presented for the 2013 club year were tabled for next the meeting.

Norma Ridenhour related a Ray Mine story.

Closing of Business: The meeting adjourned at 7:23 PM

Program: Jeff Schlottman gave a talk on “Collecting Emeralds in Hiddenite, NC”.

Respectfully submitted,

Dean Russell, Secretary



GREAT BALLS OF FIRE EXHIBIT CATAWBA SCIENCE CENTER

Club members have opportunities to participate in the *Great Balls of Fire Exhibit* at Catawba Science Center.

Events where club participation is planned are highlighted:

Science Café with Dr. Joe Pollock at Crescent Moon Café

September 25, 2012 7 pm

Opening Gala

September 28, 2012 6 pm

Members will circulate with meteorites.

Family Day and General Public Opening

September 29, 2012 10 am – 4 pm

Space Science Family Day

October 9, 2012-- 6:30 pm

At Sherrills Ford Library

Rockets Away (preschool program)

October 18, 2012-- 11 am

At Sherrills Ford Library

Science Fiction day (also national chemistry week fun)

October 27, 2012--10 am – 4 pm

Asteroids and Comets

November 3, 2012--10:30 am

At Sherrills Ford Library

Science After Dark - Rock Stars

November 13, 2012--7 pm

Anthony Love will participate – a how to for collecting.

Meteorite or Meteor-wrong

November 27, 2012--6:30 pm

At Sherrills Ford Library

Star Party with CVAC

December 4, 2012--7 pm

At Sherrills Ford Library

Rock Day

December 8, 2012--10 am – 4 pm

OCTOBER PROGRAM SPEAKER SHIELDS & FRANCES FLYNN

Joan Glover, Program Director

Our October program will be given by Shields Flynn and his wife, Frances. He provided the following information:

My interest in minerals started when I was 8 years old in the mountains of western North Carolina. After many years of collecting in the southern states, learning to facet and make jewelry the die was cast and I knew geology and minerals would form an important part of my life. In 1960 I obtained a BS in Geology from UNC Chapel Hill only to discover there was little demand for geologists. After three years in the Army in Germany I returned home to learn that the job market was still lean for geologists, so I expanded on skills learned in the army and entered the world of computers and software in 1964.

While in New York City I met Frances Trafford, a Londoner recently off a Pan Am flight from England, who was to become my wife.

My next 38 years was primarily consumed by the computer/software business, and raising a family. In 1968 I started doing mineral shows, primarily in New England, as this permitted me to pursue my interest in minerals while maintaining my day job in the growing and competitive computer industry. During this time there were frequent opportunities to visit England for business as well as visiting my wife's relatives, so an English mineral collection started to evolve that included many Cornish and North England classics like lironite, clinoclase, ludlamite, and pyromorphite, etc. Over the years my wife and I have visited Cornwall over a dozen times exploring the rich countryside filled with mining history, beautiful gardens, quaint villages, and an ever changing 500 mile coastline.

In 1997 I found myself on the losing side of a corporate merger. At this point I decided to try minerals full time and formed with my wife Frances, TRAFFORD-FLYNN Minerals, with (Trafford being my wife's maiden name). Shortly thereafter I started a web site, www.trafford-flynn.com, and began selling minerals online as well as attending minerals shows. In addition to US mineral shows we also did shows in England and Europe for over 10 years.

I like to build and sell collections as well as seeking good individual specimens. To date I have sold an extensive collection of

English minerals, and a collection of old German classics. I am currently building Chinese, Russian, Namibian collections, as well as another English collection. My special mineral interests are in old classics, unusual crystal associations and forms, and a thumbnail collection that now numbers over 1,700 specimens.

Photography has always been an important part of my life, and as a result I have used this interest to do all my mineral photography, and have just completed photographing over 300 specimens of my Chinese collection.

Shields Flynn



Frances & Shields Flynn
Tucson Party 2011
The Californian Gold Rush

WILLIAM RENN ADAMS, 92, PASSES AWAY

Friend of the club, past exhibitor and owner of Adam's Farm, Emerald Mine has passed away. Adams of Hwy. 90 East, Hiddenite, died Saturday, September 15, 2012, at Palliative Care Center and Hospice of Catawba Valley.

He was born in Alexander County January 30, 1920, son of the late Tom and Ruby Turner Adams. Mr. Adams owned W.R. Adams Construction Company for many years before his retirement, and was a member of Hiddenite Baptist Church. He faithfully served our country during World War II in the U.S. Army, and fought during the Battle of the Bulge. He was an active member for over sixty years of Stony Point Masonic Lodge # 593.



Reitzell & Adams

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his wife, Cecile Stikeleather Adams; and two brothers, Paul and E. Aaron Adams.

Survivors include a daughter, Dr. Renee Adams Glover and husband Dr. Michael Glover of Manteo; a grandson, Griffin Glover of Manteo; a brother, Boyd Adams of Boone; a sister, Margaret Stikeleather of Jackson, South Carolina; and a number of nieces and nephews.

A service to celebrate the life of Renn Adams was held Monday, September 17, 2012, at Hiddenite Baptist Church with Rev. Jim Justice officiating. Burial followed in Hiddenite Cemetery, with Military Rites by DAV Chapter # 84, and Masonic Burial Rites by Stony Point Masonic Lodge 593. Memorials may be given to Hiddenite Baptist Church, PO Box 38, Hiddenite, NC 28636.

Condolences may be sent to the Adams Family at www.adamsfunerals.com.

NEEDED: NOVEMBER PROGRAM

Joan Glover, Program Director

If anyone is interested in doing the program for November, that slot has become available. It is always interesting to get insight on a rock collecting subject from a fellow club member! Just send me an email at joancsg@embarqmail.com. Thanks, Joan

REPORT OF THE RECEPTION AND OPENING
GREAT BALLS OF FIRE
 CATAWBA SCIENCE CENTER

The CVGM club was represented at the preview reception held September 25th. Members present were Albert Kiser, Betty and Dr. Warren Hollar and Eric and Nancy Fritz. The club had an exhibit of large meteorites on loan where participants could view and hold. About 100 people participated in the evening, previewed the exhibit and held a piece of outer space. The event was for sponsors and volunteers, most of which had not seen much less held a meteorite before. The exhibit was very good with a lot of interactive components and was partially designed by CSC staff and youth volunteers. The following day, I was on hand and again made patrons hold a meteorite. Many were younger children who sheepishly approached my offer and then grinned in amazement holding chunks of celestial metal. Many parents also could not believe the opportunity to see and hold a meteorite. On exhibit were a Sikhote-Alin, 60 plus pounds, a Gibeon of 35 pounds, a Nantan of 25 pounds, an Oum Rokba, and Canyon Diablo each 5 pounds and a smaller Gibeon for younger children weighing a few ounces. A magnet and a polished slice as well as a cut in half NWA stone meteorite to exhibit metal inclusions. The club also has two or three cases of meteorite on loan and will have signs publicizing the loan. **Plan to participate in the Science After Dark and definitely Rock Day December 8th.** We need everyone to join us. Who knows, Maybe I will let you hold a big stone fallen from the heavens.



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ROCK & GEMSTONE YARD SALE
 Rockhound Collector or Just to Look

Richard Sipe

Friday Oct. 12, 2012
Noon – 5pm
Saturday Oct. 13, 2012
9 -am--5pm

3989 County Home Rd.
Conover, NC



Cell: 828-291-2278

Club member Richard Sipe, now in his 80's, told me he had turned over a lot of dirt in his day.

I know many of you have known Richard for a lot of years and would like to see him at his *Rock & Gemstone Yard Sale*.



Take Exit 130 off I-40 for
Old US-70
Turn north on 1st St. W
go 0.6 mi
Turn right at
Herman Sipe Rd NW
go 2.4 mi
Turn right at
County Home Rd.
go 0.4 mi- on right



MINI MINERS MONTHLY

Vol. 6 No. 9 A Monthly Publication for Young Mineral Collectors September 2012

DR. FLORENCE BASCOM

Has anyone ever asked you, “What do you want to be when you grow up?”? Do you know that you can be a Geologist or a Mineralogist? Do you also know that many more men than women choose to become Geologists? This short article is for the young ladies in our *Mini Miners* family. Today, more and more women are becoming Geologists and Mineralogists. Dr. Florence Bascom was one of the first. In fact, she accomplished a lot of “firsts” in her life.

Florence

Bascom was born in Williamston, Massachusetts in 1862. She was the first woman in the United States to earn the advanced degree of “Doctor of Philosophy” (PhD degree) in Geology. The Geological Society of America published the following about her in the July 1997 issue of their magazine *GSA Today*.



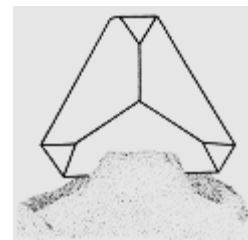
“Bascom was the first woman hired by the U.S. Geological Survey (1896), the first woman to present a paper before the Geological Society of Washington (1901), the first woman elected to the Council of the Geological Society of America (elected in 1924; no other woman was elected until after 1945), and the first woman officer of the GSA (vice president in 1930). She was an associate editor of the 'American Geologist' (1896-1905) and a four-starred geologist in the first edition of 'American Men and Women of Science' (1906), which meant that her colleagues regarded her as among the country's hundred leading geologists. After joining the Bryn Mawr College faculty, Bascom founded the college's geology department. This site became the locus of training for the most accomplished female geologists of the early 20th century.”

Our young mineral collectors may find it interesting to learn that Dr. Bascom was an expert in mineralogy and crystallography. So, a question for the young lady *Mini Miners*: What do you want to be when you grow up?

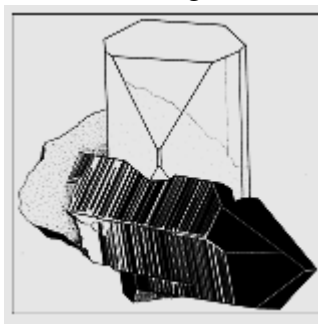
WHAT IS A GEM?

There is a difference between a “gem” and a “gemstone.” A gem is the final cut and polished object. A gemstone is usually a mineral, but sometimes another natural material, in its untouched, natural form.

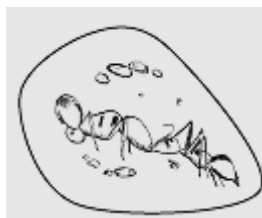
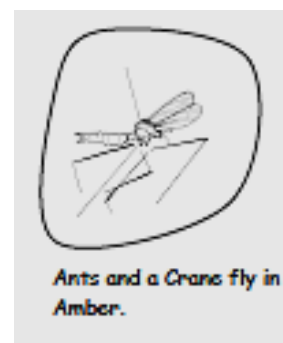
For a mineral to be considered a gemstone, it has to have three basic properties. First, it has to be colorful and beautiful to look at. Second, it has to be hard enough to be able to be shaped, cut or polished. Its hardness is also important because gems are worn in jewelry, so a gemstone has to be hard enough to be worn in jewelry without being easily scratched, chipped or damaged.



Most gemstones are minerals. A mineral is a naturally occurring substance that was not created by a living organism and that has a known chemical formula and a regular internal crystal structure. Diamonds, rubies and emeralds are minerals.



There are also some gemstones that are naturally occurring, but were created by living organisms. Well-known examples of this category are amber and pearls.



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Club Meeting

Tuesday
October 9, 2012
7:00 PM

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