

TAR HEEL



ROCKHOUND

Organized 1969

APRIL 2014

CATAWBA VALLEY GEM & MINERAL CLUB, INC.

2014 OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES

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Secretary:	Dean Russell 828-303-1448		Bob Tallent 828-851-8434	Eastern Federation	Larry Huffman 828-612-4469
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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.



REEL MINE FIELD TRIP

April 12 , 2014

Lincoln County
for amethyst

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CATAWBA VALLEY
GEM & MINERAL CLUB, INC.

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

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Norma Ridenhour, Club President

Wonderful show! I will not try to thank everyone because I would surely miss someone. I believe Warren has done an excellent job extending thanks. Please know it comes from my heart even when it doesn't come from the pen.

My daughter will be having back surgery on Tuesday so I will not be at this month's meeting.

The weather is at the perfect settings to provide for great gem and mineral hunts. Hope we can have a good turnout for the dig at the Reel Mine in April. Happy Spring and Blessed Easter!

Norma

CATAWBA VALLEY GEM AND MINERAL CLUB, INC. Minutes for March 11, 2014

The March 11, 2014 meeting of the CVGMC was called to order by President Norma Ridenhour at 7:00 PM. There were 42 members and visitors present.

A motion was made by Harry Polly and seconded by Rick Glover to accept the February 11, 2014 minutes. Motion was passed by the Club.

Treasurer Report: Bank balance was reported.

Field Trip Report: No field trip in March. Reel Mine will be in April.

Education Committee: George Max did a program for Scouts in Conover. He will also do a presentation on fossils in the future.

Show Committee:

Vendors are full. Two are new.

Pottery Convention attendees, with hand stamp, are admitted free.

Catawba Science Center attendees, with sticker, are admitted free.

One case will be presented to a school that hasn't received one yet.

Each grab bag will receive a tumbled agate and each child will receive one also.

Complimentary tickets to the radio station and quarry.

Member's complimentary tickets will be \$2.00 each. Amount will be charged to members for tickets used.

Warren Hollar has sent out advertising to Scout groups, church groups and home school groups.

Meg Sims will make Club information sheet and posters.

Larry Huffman will take care of food for the vendors.

Grand Door Prize was donated by Richard Sipe.

Two door prizes donated by Betty Hollar.

\$10 gift certificates for children.

George Max stated set up will be Thursday, March 26th at 1:30 PM.

Tickets – No door prize tickets for guest when returning the second or third days. Complimentary tickets will have red ink.

Post cards – Ryan Sims will make new format.

Old Business: None

New Business: None

Closing of Business: The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 PM

Program: No program was presented. Members and officers prepared for the Show.

Respectfully submitted,
Dean Russell, Secretary



FIELD TRIP NEWS

The April field trip of the CVGMC will be held April 12. We will be going to the Reel mine in Lincoln County for amethyst. There is a \$25.00 dig fee. We will meet in the parking lot of Roses on Hwy 70E at 8:00 am. You will need digging tools and hard rock mining tools. A screen may be helpful if the ground is not too wet. There are no facilities. Please bring all you need with you, as there is no food or drinks close by. Don't forget raingear.

Harry

APRIL PROGRAM

Rick Glover, Program Director

Ron Ruschman will present the April program.

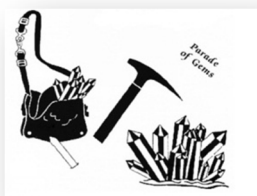
Rick

EDUCATION

Glenn Bolick and George Max traveled to West Alexander Middle School to present the Special Mineral Exhibit to the school. April Walsh, the science coordinator arranged to have all their sixth grade students attend the show and they had over 180 students attending. The students, teachers and staff were excited to see the exhibit which has a prominent place in their media center.

GEM & MINERAL SHOW

Baxter Leonard, Show Chairman



On behalf of all the officers in CVGMC, the volunteers and club members were again responsible for the success of the 44th annual mineral/jewelry show. It was

through their unselfish work and attention to detail that the public and vendors were able to enjoy the earth sciences that we displayed. So many children had a chance to learn some basic principles of our hobby in a fun setting.

Thanks again.

Baxter

THANK YOU TO EDUCATION AREA PRESENTERS AND WORKERS

Warren Hollar, Education Liaison

Thank you for your work in making the 2014 Gem and Mineral Show Student Education Program a success. I know you did not have to volunteer your time, but without your assistance we would not have had an education area. The numbers of students on Friday were not as high as last year. I don't have the official numbers from Terry yet, but we should be well over 1,000 students, scouts, and other young visitors. I know there were many others who helped set up, take down, etc. Also, thanks to Baxter for his guidance. Many other members sold tickets and grab bags; helped set up and take down tables, cases, etc.; and did many other jobs to make the show a success. I can only directly identify those who worked with the education component, so I would be remiss in trying to identify all the other club members who assisted with the show.



Thanks go to:

Richard and Shelda Aultman - Presentations to school groups of Friday; girl, boy, and cub scouts on Saturday and Sunday; and many parents, children, and adults on all three days.

George and Patti Brown - For operating the mini-mine for all three days. This was a highlight for many of the young children who visited the show. A special thanks go to George for taking the time to identify specimens for the children. George, I hope your back recuperates soon!

Dr. Zan Ritchie - Zan again did an admirable job answering questions of all types. The youngster especially like the flashing sign you wore!

Harry Polly - Children and adults gained a better understanding of both faceting and cabbing under your guidance.

Ryan and Megan Sims, Jackie Glover - Thanks for bringing out the artistic talents of the young people. Thanks Jackie for filling all those jars!

Rick and Joan Glover, Betty Hollar Richard Sipe - Thanks for answering the thousands of questions from the young people. It would be interesting to hear some of the most humorous questions or statements at one of our club meetings. Rick, your work with the scouts was outstanding. You operated the area like a mini-military operation. Scouts talked about how much fun they had doing the merit badge. Joan Thanks for your help with the girl scouts.

Loyd Hoke - Thanks for your work with the cases, directing students, counting results, etc.

George Max - As always you did a presentation and assisted with a number of the educational stations.

Joanna Connolly - Your assistance with both the presentation and coordinating the work of the CVCC Geology Club was outstanding. The work of the geology club members was very helpful on each of the days. Please give them a special thank you for assisting with the Scout merit badges and educational visits.

Tom Winslow - I learn a little more about American Indian Artifacts every time you do your presentations. The specimens you brought were great quality. I heard two boys talking on the way out how they were going arrowhead hunting over the weekend.

Frances Sutphin - Thanks for filling a needed space with the educational presentations. Students and adults enjoyed learning about the Reel Mine!

Larry Huffman - Thanks go to you and your wife for organizing the door prize prior to the show.

Dean Russell - Thanks for helping move scout groups, make announcements, and coordinate door prize times.

Dr. Warren Hollar, Educational Liaison

COMMENTS FROM SCHOOL FIELD TRIP LEADERS



We were very pleased with our experiences at the Gem & Mineral Show. The presenters were knowledgeable, enthusiastic, and patient with the students. Thanks again for making this available for students and teachers in the Catawba Valley. Looking forward to next year!

We loved it! We all thought that it was much better this year than last because it wasn't as crowded. Thanks for everything!

There were many wonderful learning experiences and it was very informative! Thank you for having us, we truly enjoyed it!

EXHIBIT AWARDS

George Max
Photos by Joan Glover

The exhibit awards at the show went to:

Dean Russell - Most Interesting



Betty Hollar - Most Beautiful



We encourage more club members prepare exhibits next year at our show. We did not have any first time exhibitors this year.

Joan Glover - Most Educational



Rich Olsen - Tourmaline Group Exhibit

The Student Choice Award



Best Guest Exhibit - Shields Flynn



FALL FUN AT WILDACRES



Steve Weinberger,
Wildacres Committee Chair

Wildacres in the fall...

- Cool breezes after a long, hot summer.
- Days spent enjoying our hobby without the interruptions of radio, television, traffic and work.
- Being served delicious meals without having to cook them.
- Learning new skills from our wonderful instructors.
- Gaining new knowledge from our interesting speaker.

And all of this for a very reasonable cost of \$390 per person for the week (class supplies are extra). What more could anyone ask for?

For over forty years now the EFMLS has enjoyed the Wildacres facility to conduct its educational retreats. People have come back year after year to participate in this excellent opportunity to immerse themselves in our all-encompassing program. Not only do registrants gain knowledge and new skills, but many have developed life-long friendships with other participants.

Our speakers over the years have run the gamut of mineralogists, geologists, jewelry experts, and world travelers. This fall we are pleased to have Justin Zzyzx, well known mineral collector and editor as our Speaker-in-Residence. Justin, who will be accompanied by his wife Brandy, will present six talks to us during the week, live on campus, and participate in all our activities.

If you've not yet registered, why not do so? The earlier you send in, the better your chance of getting your preferred choice of classes. The dates are September 1 – 7. The list and description of classes being offered and the registration in the April 2014 EFMLS newsletter.

We still have openings available at this time, but do what a very wise person once said to me: "Handle a piece of paper once – then it's not forgotten." Simple advice, but how many of us put things off until it's too late.

Hoping to see you on the mountain in September. You'll be delighted that you did.

Silversmithing class demo



WILDACRES FALL CLASSES

September 1 – 7, 2014, Speaker in Residence: Justin Zzyzx

Cabochons – Basic, Al DeMilo

Hands-on instruction will be given to show how to transform a rough piece into a shiny, well-formed cabochon. The use of a trim saw as well as techniques to

grind, sand and polish the stone into a standard size and shape will be covered. Slabs will be provided, but you may use your own with instructor's approval. Students should bring safety glasses and an apron. No prior experience necessary. 2-day class offered first semester.

Cabochons – Intermediate, Al DeMilo

This course is an extension of already learned skills. It will focus on the crafting of cabochons of difficult shapes and sizes. Much one-to-one attention will be given. Slabs will be provided, but you may use your own with instructor's approval. 2-day class offered second semester. Pre-requisite: Students must know how to use the trim saw, dop a stone and use a grinding, sanding and polishing machine.

Geology I, Rob Robinson

A basic introduction to rocks and minerals and the study of the earth. The class will include a discussion and class activity about how geologists interpret rocks to tell geologic history related to their formation, deformation and sequence and timing of events. Weather permitting there will be a field trip to local rock exposures to illustrate local rock types, the deformation types, and how a geologist maps and interprets structures (only limited walking is required.) Please bring a loupe or other magnification, hiking boots or sturdy shoes and outdoor clothes for the half-day field trips. Geologic hammer and safety glass are also desirable. (Do not bring a nail hammer – they are unsafe to hit rocks.) 2-day class offered first semester. No prior experience needed.

Geology II, Rob Robinson

An overview of plate tectonics, geologic history, and the geology of the Blue Ridge region and its minerals. We will discuss the geologic environments hosting mineral and gem collecting sites. Come prepared to identify some of your favorite collecting localities to be part of this exercise. Weather permitting there will be a field trip to the Blue Ridge Museum sowing local rocks and geologic history and another to see local geology. (A one-mile walk over gentle trails is required for the geology trip.) Some knowledge of basic geology preferred. Please refer to Geology I for suggested tools, clothing and magnification. 2-day class offered second semester.

Glass Engraving & Etching, B. Jay Bowman

Students will learn the difference between engraving and etching. They will learn how to engrave using both hand and power tools. They will learn to etch using acid and sand techniques with both commercial and self-made patterns. 2-day class offered both semesters. No prior experience necessary.

Faceting, Steve Weinberger

Students will learn to cut and polish a 57 facet round brilliant gemstone. In addition, they will learn how to identify well-cut stones, select rough material and see whether or not they enjoy this fascinating aspect of the hobby. Students are asked to bring an optivisor and/or jeweler's loupe if they have one. No prior experience necessary. 4-day class.

Lost Wax Casting, Fred Sias

This is not a wax design course although you may have an opportunity to create an original wax ring model. Students will learn the basic techniques for lost-wax jewelry casting. Using commercial wax models, students will learn proper methods for repairing wax models, attaching sprues, investing, burnout, casting and final finishing of jewelry. 4-day class. No prior experience required.

Silversmithing - Session I, Pat Baker

Students will learn to make a textured sterling silver ring (band) and a textured sterling silver pendant with a pearl in the center. No prior experience necessary. 2-day class offered first semester

Silversmithing - Session II, Pat Baker

Students will learn to make a forged, twisted bar and loop sterling silver chain and have the option of a ring, pendant or brooch with a set stone as their second project. No experience required, although those with soldering experience can make more advanced projects. 2-day class offered second semester

Soapstone Carving, Sandy Cline

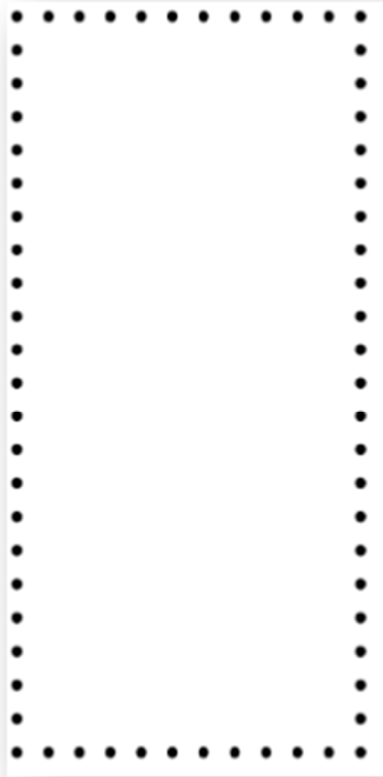
This class will provide a general introduction to the carving of soapstone. You will develop a working knowledge of the material, tools, safe handling issues and the methods used to complete a carving. You will produce a simple piece and progress to making a more advanced sculpture of your choice. The development of your own personal style will be encouraged. No prior experience needed. 2-day class offered both semesters.

Wire-wrapped Jewelry – Basic, Jan Stephens

Students will learn the fundamentals of wire art jewelry. Students will create bracelets, rings and pendants of wire and incorporate natural stones, beads, and / or faceted gems into various simple, yet elegant designs. No prior experience necessary. 2-day class offered first semester.

First Class Mail

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Club Meeting

**Tuesday
April 8, 2014**

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