

TAR HEEL



ROCKHOUND

AUGUST 2013

CATAWBA VALLEY GEM & MINERAL CLUB, INC.

2013 OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES

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Secretary:	Dean Russell 716-319-0129		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.

Annual Club Picnic Photos Coming Next Month's Issue



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CATAWBA VALLEY
GEM & MINERAL CLUB, INC.

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

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Norma Ridenhour, Club President

CATAWBA VALLEY GEM AND MINERAL CLUB, INC. Minutes for July 8, 2013



What a great weekend we had collecting amethyst at the Reel Mine the first weekend in August. The weather was perfect! Although no one brought home the "motherload" I believe everyone enjoyed the search. This was my daughter's first dig and she is completely hooked. We set up camp, built a fire, and put on the steaks. Francis and Phyllis (the owners) stopped by to see if we needed anything. Before leaving, Francis said that if we heard anything it would probably be wild hogs, wild turkeys, bear, or coyotes. They were all in the area. Yikes! No one told me about this. *Too late to go home now.* Dawn went to bed with a hot dog fork and I settled in beside my gun. I put in my ear plugs and had a great night's sleep. Dawn decided to use just one earplug so she could hear if anything was coming. Needless to say, she didn't get any sleep.

There are always people working behind the scenes to make our club as special as it is. Joan Glover, VP and program director was busy taking pictures. Harry Polly made arrangements for the trip. Velda McLean is faithful to get the newsletter out on time. There are others too, but I will try to mention them at another time.

Safe travels to all who go to Kentucky for the geode hunt. I hope you have wonderful weather and a successful find.

Norma

The July 8, 2013 meeting of the CVGMC was called to order by President Norma Ridenhour at 7:00 PM. There were 27 members and visitors present.

Treasurer Report: Dean Russell reported on the checkbook balance.

Field Trip Report:

1) Aug 3-4 will be at the Reel Mine in Lincoln County from 8 AM – 12 PM each day to look for Amethyst. Hand tools only. Cost is \$25.00 per person for both days. Half days were set up due to August heat. Meet at Roses parking lot at 7:30 AM.

2) Also mentioned was the club field trip to Kentucky to collect geodes August 30 – September 2, 2013 (Labor Day weekend).

3) Norma Ridenhour asked the members if anyone was interested in a possible cave field trip and gave information on three possible trips.

Education Committee: Harry Polly did a talk at the Newton Library.

Show Committee: Need student door prize donations if anyone is able.

New Business: CVGMC members Megan Ryan and Ryan Sims are getting married on July 20th.

Old Business: None

Program: Club members Norma Ridenhour, Joan Glover, Warren Hollar, and Rick Glover each gave a talk on various subjects.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Dean Russell, Secretary

AUGUST PROGRAM

Joan Glover, Program Director

The program this month is "Proper Care and Cleaning of Specimens You Collect," and is being presented by Harry Polly.

Joan

FIELD TRIP NEWS

Harry Polly, Field Trip Chairman

There will not be another field trip in August. Our August field trip was held on August 3rd and 4th at the Reel Mine in Iron Station for amethyst. This locality has been closed since the late 90's, but the owner has decided to open the mine up to area gem clubs. He can only have four weekend digs a year, though. We had an outstanding turnout and everyone seemed pleased with their finds. Saturday morning, we met in Roses' parking lot and caravanned to the mine. We met several other members at the mine. We had a total of 20 members that day. It was originally planned to have two half day digs, and several members left at noon. As it was not miserably hot, several of us stayed and toughed it out. Sunday morning, we again met and caravanned to the mine. Norma and her daughter had decided to camp at the mine site. We ended up with ten people that day. Some of them were half day returnees, so they did not pay for the Sunday dig. The mine owners came down several times during the day to check on things and everyone, to make sure all was going to plan. I think they were very pleased with how smooth everything was going. There were several nice clusters brought out, the nicest being brought out by Jim Stoops, a guest from Georgia. He will send us a picture when he returns to Georgia next week. Hopefully, I will have it in time for the meeting. We have been promised a weekend dig in November when the weather is cooler.

KENTUCKY FIELD TRIP

Our next field trip will be our annual Labor Day trip to Kentucky for geodes. If you are planning to go, and have not made your reservations, please do so quickly. We are staying at the Quality Inn in Danville. Phone 859-236-8600. They have a block of rooms reserved for us. Just be sure to tell them you are with the CVGMC. We have a special rate of \$58.99 per night. The regular rate is \$72.99.

Dates are Aug 30-Sept 2. We will be going up on Friday and returning on Monday. Any questions, feel free to call me at 828-244-6651. This is always a good trip.

Harry



HAVING FUN: JUNIOR ACTIVITIES

Jim Brace-Thompson, Junior Activities Chair

Future Rockhounds of America Badge Program:

An Overview for Newcomers – and Us Golden Agers Too!

Those of us who have been affiliated as officers or committee members with a particular organization for a good many years often take it for granted that everyone else knows everything there is to know about the organization and all it has to offer. It's good to reexamine that assumption now and again and to put ourselves back into the shoes we wore when we were newcomers. Thus, I dedicate this month's column to all you newcomers out there, and I want to introduce you to the AFMS Future Rockhounds of America Badge Program. And may this provide a refresher for those of us now in "golden oldie" status, too! (I say that having received a shock recently when I was handed the "senior menu" at a local restaurant...)

Sponsored and underwritten by the AFMS, the Future Rockhounds of America Badge Program is a free program of guided activities to provide kids and youth leaders in local AFMS-affiliated societies with 118 individual activities in 20 basic areas of our hobby: Rocks & Minerals, Earth Resources, Fossils, Lapidary Arts, Collecting, Showmanship, Communication, Field Trips, Leadership, Earth Processes, Earth in Space, Gold Panning & Prospecting, Gemstone Lore & Legend, Stone Age Tools & Art, Rocking on the Computer, The World in Miniature, Special Effects, Fluorescent Minerals, Reaching Across Generations, and Maps. All kids receive a Membership patch upon enrolling. They earn badges by completing a minimum of 3 activities in any one badge unit. Kids earning a minimum of 6 badges earn a "Rockhound" badge as a mark of accomplishment and distinction. And those superstars earning all 20 badges become "Rock Stars" and receive an AFMS cloisonné pin. Both Rockhounds and Rock Stars have their names included in "Honor Rolls" posted to the AFMS web site.

The requirements are few and basic: 1) the program is open for kids up to the age of 18; and 2) the kids must be members of their regional AFMS-affiliated federation, either through a local club or through an independent application into the local federation. The program can be used in a formal group setting at monthly club meetings, workshops, and field trips, or kids can pursue their badges in a less formal, individualized "home-schooling" way. A back-up sheet provides tips on different ways to use the program, with an emphasis on flexibility.

A 223-page Badge Manual, along with an FRA Membership Certificate, is provided to a local junior's activities leader upon enrolling the kids of his or her society. In addition to checklists and activity sheets, this manual includes back-up pages to provide essential information and pointers that make it easy for anyone—even a rookie rockhound—to guide kids through the activities. Again, an emphasis is on flexibility and on adapting activities to match the age ranges and abilities of the kids involved.

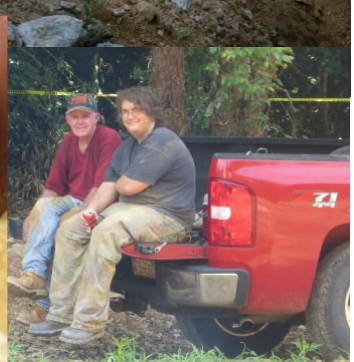
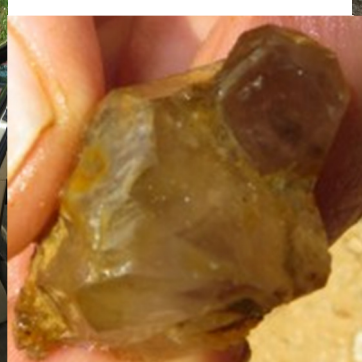
The full FRA Badge Manual is available on-line under the "Kids Corner" tab on the AFMS web site (www.amfed.org/kids.htm), and I'm always happy to provide more details (phone, 805- 659-3577, evenings and weekends; email, jbrace@roadrunner.com). Once again, this is a free service made available through the good graces of the AFMS to all affiliated societies to help ensure the future of our hobby by involving and educating our kids about it—while having fun!

AFMS Newsletter – June, 2013



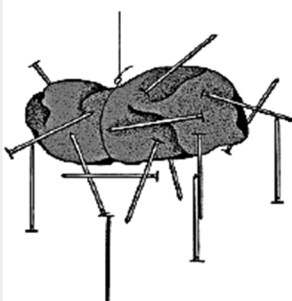
REEL MINE IN IRON STATION FOR AMETHYST

Photos by Joan Glover



MINERAL MATCH

Here's a matching challenge for you. On the left is a list of mineral names. On the right is a list of special properties. Each property goes with only one of the minerals listed on the left. Draw a line from the mineral name to the special property.



Hematite

Calcite

Magnetite

Copper

Galena

Sulfur

Asbestos

Uraninite

Muscovite

Diamond

Pyrite

Burns in a match
flame

Won't burn at all

Hardest substance on
earth

Perfect cubic cleavage

Hit it with steel and
create a spark

Fizzes in weak hydro-
chloric acid

Magnetic

Perfect micaceous
cleavage

Ductile and malleable

Blood-red streak

Radioactive

Hematite - Blood-red streak
Calcite - Fizzes in weak hydrochloric acid
Magnetite - Magnetic
Copper - Ductile and malleable
Galena - Perfect cubic cleavage
Sulfur - Burns in a match flame

Asbestos - Won't burn at all
Uraninite - Radioactive
Muscovite - Perfect micaceous cleavage
Diamond - Hardest substance on earth
Pyrite - Hit it with steel and create a spark

First Class Mail

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Club Meeting

Tuesday
August 13, 2013
7:00 PM

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