

TAR HEEL



ROCKHOUND

DECEMBER 2010

CATAWBA VALLEY GEM AND MINERAL CLUB, INC.

2010 OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES

|                 |                             |             |                              |                |                            |
|-----------------|-----------------------------|-------------|------------------------------|----------------|----------------------------|
| President:      | Tom Winslow<br>800-589-4619 | Editor:     | Velda McLean<br>828-750-4213 | Show Chairmen: | George Max<br>828-328-9107 |
| Vice President: | Baxter Leonard              | Field Trip: | Harry Polly<br>828-728-9553  |                | Baxter Leonard             |
| Treasurer:      | Zan Ritchie<br>828-495-8456 | Education:  | Glenn Bolick                 | Scholarship:   | George Max<br>828-328-9107 |
| Secretary:      | Baxter Leonard              |             |                              |                |                            |

Club Address: PO Box 2521, Hickory, NC 28603-2521  
 Regular Meetings: Second Tuesday, 7:00 PM  
 St Aloysius Catholic Church  
 921 2<sup>nd</sup> 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.



**AUCTION HIGHLIGHTS**

**Bring your money. Here is a partial list of items that will be auctioned off next week.**

- California Tourmalines**
  - North Carolina Gold**
  - Meteorites including a Martian Tektites**
  - Libyan Desert Glass**
  - A Tektite from Texas-Bedaisite**
  - A nice Fluorescent Specimen from Franklin NJ**
  - Fossil Shell sets from Texas**
  - Shark Teeth from NC,SC, Chile, Morocco**
  - Cutting Rough**
  - Huge Faceted Brazilian Quartz 15-20 carats**
  - Garnet in Mica, NC**
  - An UNBELIEVABLE set of faceted Apatite**
  - Minimum \$75.00**
  - A Stupendous Australian Opal Cab, Minimum \$100.00**
  - A Giant Ocean Jasper Cab Minimum \$75.00**
  - Sea Lion Skull, Modern**
- MUCH, MUCH, MORE**

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Membership Form Enclosed

Velda McLean, Editor  
 3121 Blue Creek Road  
 Lenoir, NC 28645  
 828-750-4213  
[velda@email.com](mailto:velda@email.com)

## FINAL NOTES FROM THE PREZ

Tom Winslow, Club President

Well, club members, the end of the year is almost here and Christmas is in the air.

For the past four years I have been privileged to serve the Catawba Valley Gem and Mineral Club as both Vice-President and President. It has been a rewarding experience for me.

We have a great club and we will continue to grow under the leadership of President Baxter Leonard and the other officers of the club. I hope that I can continue to support the club going forward.

Actually, I am looking forward to being just a member and enjoy the meetings from the other side of the room. Maybe now I will have the time to put together a display for one of our upcoming Gem and Mineral Shows.

Don't forget the auction and bring out some of the good stuff to sell. I am looking forward to the possibility of picking up a treasure.

*Tom Winslow*

### DON'T GET DROPPED DUES ARE DUE

**Treasurer Zan Ritchie will be purging the membership list the first of the year.** He has new software to manage the membership and needs each member to renew by returning the enclosed *Membership Form* with dues. All renewals are due January with the absolute deadline being the end of February. (He has to

turn in EFMLS dues for each member that covers the field trip insurance March 1<sup>st</sup>.)

If you are a new member who paid the full membership between October 1<sup>st</sup> and December 30<sup>th</sup>, then you are covered the year of 2011. He would like for you to fill out the *Membership Form* this time with that info to update your personal information. New members who paid 50% membership between July 1<sup>st</sup> and September 30<sup>th</sup> need to renew January.

**Dues will not be excepted without the *Membership Form*.** Zan is adamant about this. We cannot contact you concerning club activities or send the newsletter without correct and updated contact information. This may be mailed to the club's address or turned in at a meeting. No \$100 bills. Checks are welcome.



## CATAWBA VALLEY GEM AND MINERAL CLUB, INC

Minutes, Nov 9, 2010

The November meeting of the CVGMC was called to order by Vice President, Baxter Leonard at 7:00 PM due to the absence of President Tom Winslow. Twenty two members were present and were welcomed. The minutes of the October meeting were approved without corrections. Club members drew for door prizes

**Treasurer's Report:** Zan Ritchie could not be present, however, sent the information on the current balance which was \$13,245.41.

**Show Committee:** George Max stated the Hickory Metro Center will be forwarding the contract this week. Eric Fritz has been working of the feature exhibit with the Smithsonian Institution.

**Field Trip Report:** Harry Polly stated the November trip will be to Propst Farm to search for Sapphires. Members will meet at Rose's parking lot on Hwy 70, at 8 :00 AM on November 13.

Larry Huffman & Harry Polly visited the Mt Ida Arkansas area this past week, and both stated it was a very worthwhile experience especially their Quartz finds from the Miller Mountain Mine.

**Education Committee:** Glenn Bolick had no report.

**Building Committee:** Albert Keiser had no report..

**Unfinished Business:** Nominating Committee headed by Harry Polly has returned a slate of officers for 2011; President-Baxter Leonard, Vice President- Loyd Hoke Jr, Treasurer- Zan Ritchie, Secretary-Dean Russell. A "at large member" was needed also, and Albert Keiser volunteered.

Nominations were opened from the floor. There were none. It was motioned and seconded that the slate as presented be approved. The club voted and approved these officers for 2011.

**New Business:** The CVGMC web site has been completed and on-line. It was noted that 2 meeting rule for new members before joining CVGMC was not present on the web site. The VP would address this error.

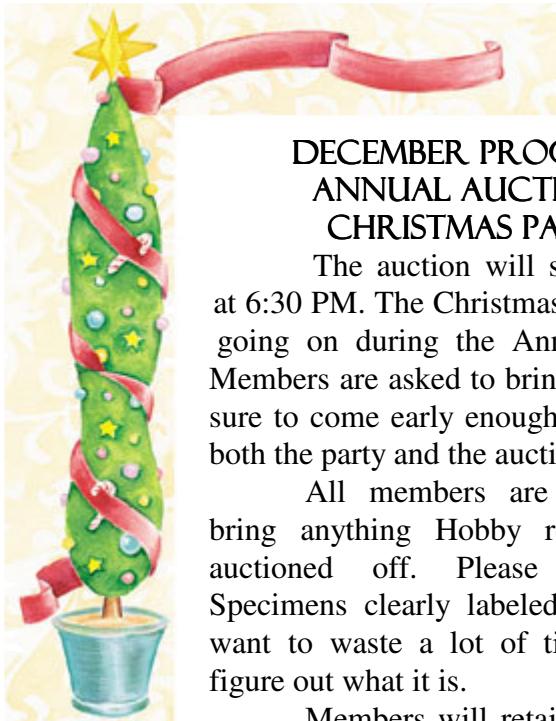
**Announcements:** The December meeting would start at 6:30 PM followed by the auction at 7:00 PM.

The business meeting closed 7:20 PM. Ron Ruschman presented a program on the *American Mineral Treasures: Collecting Sites of the Southeast*. These consisted of: *Crater of Diamonds State Park, AR; Hot Springs; Mt Ida, AR; Graves Mountain, GA; Jackson's Crossroads, GA; Hiddenite, NC; Elmwood Complex, TN.*

Ron gave a very educational program with personal experiences, as well had beautiful representative specimens to view. With the end of the program at 8:10 PM, the club meeting was adjourned.

Respectively submitted,

Baxter Leonard, Acting Secretary



## DECEMBER PROGRAM: ANNUAL AUCTION / CHRISTMAS PARTY

The auction will start promptly at 6:30 PM. The Christmas party will be going on during the Annual Auction. Members are asked to bring goodies. Be sure to come early enough to set up for both the party and the auction.

All members are welcome to bring anything Hobby related to be auctioned off. Please have your Specimens clearly labeled. We do not want to waste a lot of time trying to figure out what it is.

Members will retain 75% of the sale and 25% will go to the club unless the member specifies all proceeds go to the club. You may set a minimum bid of at least 20.00 and as high as you like. There will be no minimum bids below the \$20.00 threshold. Guests are welcome but may not bring auction material. Guests may bid and purchase as much as they like. Please bring your favorite finger food and a drink to share with everyone.

Remember the auction will start 7:00 sharp. We will start at 6:30 pm. **NOTE THE TIME CHANGE.** This is half an hour earlier. This gives us time to get all the auction material set up, have a short, very short, business meeting and get started with the auction by 7:00 pm. If you bring items to sell, come as early as possible.

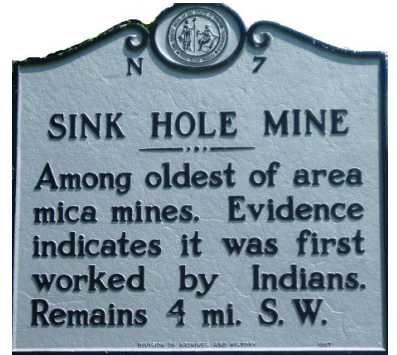
We request that people not bring \$100 bills. We might not be able to make change. Checks are welcome.



## THE DECEMBER FIELD TRIP

Harry Polly, Field Trip Chairman

The December field trip of the Catawba Valley Gem & Mineral Club will be held on December 18th, weather permitting. We will be going to the *Sinkhole Mine* in Mitchell County. We will meet at 8:00 am at the Pink BBQ Hut on Hwy 321 N. This building is sitting on a knoll on the right just past Caldwell Community College. **If the weather is inclement or below freezing, we will not go.**



This is an old mine that has been closed for some time. Recently, the owners have brought in some equipment and moving the tailings around. Found here is apatite (blue, green, blue/green), garnet, feldspar, mica, beryl, thulite, tourmaline. Sometimes the apatite will have bands of garnet.

Tools needed are digging tools, scratching tools, crack hammer, chisels. There are no facilities and no stores close by. Bring your drinks and lunch. Be sure to bring warm clothes and raingear in case the weather turns nasty while we are there. Depending on the road conditions, we may be able to drive right up to the collection area. If not, there may be a short walk-in.

Columbite crystal by Mike Streeter



Pyramid quartz by Mike Streeter



**TAR HEEL ROCKHOUND**

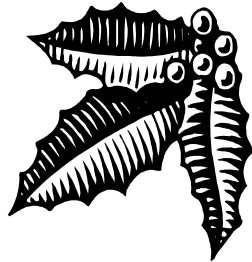
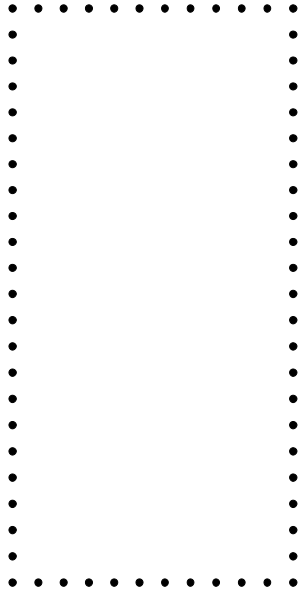
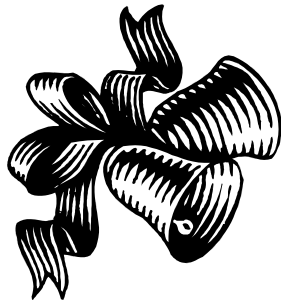
Velda McLean, Editor

Post Office Box 2521

Hickory, North Carolina 28603-2521

e-mail: [velda@email.com](mailto:velda@email.com)

First Class Mail



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**Volume 39 Number 12**

**Club Meeting**

**Tuesday  
December 14, 2009**

**6:30 PM**

**Auction / Christmas Party**

**St Aloysius Catholic Church  
921 2<sup>nd</sup> St NE  
Hickory, NC**



2011 MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION FORM

Please Check all the Appropriate Boxes

New Member  Renewal

Single \$12.00/YR  Family \$18.00/YR  Junior \$6.00/YR  
 Honorary \$0.00

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

SPOUSE'S NAME: (for family membership) \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CHILD'S NAMES: (for family membership) \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

CHILD'S NAMES: (for family membership) \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

CHILD'S NAMES: (for family membership) \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

HOME PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ CELL PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL ADDRESS (S) \_\_\_\_\_

How do you want the bulletin?  Email  US Mail

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO: CATAWBA VALLEY GEM & MINERAL CLUB, INC.

Catawba Valley Gem & Mineral Club, Inc.  
c/o Alexander Ritchie  
PO Box 2521  
Hickory, NC 28603-2521

DUES SHALL BE PRO-RATED BY THE FOLLOWING FORMULA:

January 1-June 30, full amount of annual dues

July 1- September 30, 50% of annual dues

October 1 - December 31, full amount of annual dues (shall apply as payment of year following payment date)

Renewals are always due January. You will receive a *Membership Information Form* in December. Forms are required to be updated annually for membership renewal. Please keep the club informed of changes.