

TAR HEEL



ROCKHOUND

Organized 1969

June 2023

Catawba Valley Gem & Mineral Club, Inc.

2023 Officers and Committees

|                |                                |             |                                |                                  |                               |
|----------------|--------------------------------|-------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| President:     | Slade Harvin<br>202-702-7299   | Editor:     | Brenda Huffman<br>828-612-1918 | Show Chairman:                   | Dean Russell<br>828- 303-1448 |
| Vice President | Joan Glover<br>828-446-7633    | Field Trip: |                                | Scholarship:                     | George Max<br>828-328-9107    |
| Treasurer:     | Terry Russell<br>828- 303-1563 | Education:  | George Max<br>828-328-9107     | Eastern Federation<br>Liaison:   | Larry Huffman<br>828-612-4469 |
| Secretary:     | Dean Russell<br>828- 303-1448  |             |                                | Southeast Federation<br>Liaison: | Larry Huffman<br>828-612-4469 |

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, \$25; Individual, \$18;

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.

**June Picnic Postponed  
until October Meeting**

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**CATAWBA VALLEY GEM & MINERAL CLUB, INC.**  
<http://www.cvgmc.com>  
 Web Master: Mike Streeter

Brenda Huffman, Editor  
 456 5<sup>th</sup> Av PI NE  
 Hickory, NC 28601  
 bhuffman@gmail.com

## June President's Report

### President's Report:

The weather has definitely been warmer and the critters are out.

I was out in the woods several times over the past two weeks, unfortunately not all looking for rocks.

The ticks, mosquitoes, and snakes are also enjoying the nicer weather.

Please remember to make sure that you are careful to watch where you step and place your feet and/or hands.

Also, make sure that you use insect repellent and check for ticks following being outside.

I hope that you are able to make this month's meeting.

Until next time,

*Slade*

## Our June Program

The program for June is "**Fluorite**" By Jeff Schlottman. You will not want to miss this informative program!

## May Minutes

CVGMC minutes for May 9, 2023

The May 9, 2023 meeting of the CVGMC was called to order by Vice-President Rick G. at 7:02 PM.

Visitors – Meredith D., Ben H., Marcus T.

Program: “Aurora Fossil Museum and the upcoming Fossil Festival” by Rick and Joan G.

Minutes: A motion was made by Larry H. and seconded by Richard A. to accept the amended April 11, 2023 minutes. Motion was passed by the Club.

Treasurer Report: None

Education Committee: Traci and Wayne – Maple Grove Days Heritage Group Presentation with 4 th graders.

Show Committee: None

Field Trip Report:

10 rooms have been set aside at the Bright Leaf Golf Resort for the annual Labor Day Trip. See the Tar Heel Rock Hound for the information.

Old Business: None

New Business: A motion was made by Larry H., seconded by Jimmy S., to postpone the CVGMC Annual picnic to October. Motion was passed by the Club.

Announcements:

- 1) Update on Harry P.
- 2) EFMLS drawing tickets available – see Larry H.

Closing of Business: The meeting was adjourned at 7:19 PM

Respectfully submitted,  
Shelda A., Acting Secretary

## Labor Day Field Trip to KY

Slade has reserved 10 rooms at the Bright Leaf Golf Resort. All of the rooms have two double beds.

BE SURE TO TELL THEM YOU ARE WITH THE CATAWBA VALLEY GEM & MINERAL CLUB in order to get the special rate. Please call them and give them your credit card information to reserve your room.

At this time 10 rooms at the resort have been reserved in a block. Everyone will need to call or email the resort for their own reservation. All of the rooms will be reserved under one entity: **CLUB**. Everyone needs to make sure that you let the resort know that you are with the **CATAWBA VALLEY GEM & MINERAL**

### **Bright Leaf Golf Resort**

1742 Danville Road, Harrodsburg, KY 40330

Telephone: (859) 734-5481; (800) 469-6038

Website: <http://www.brightleafgolfresort.com>

Email: [info@brightleafgolfresort.com](mailto:info@brightleafgolfresort.com)

**Check In: September 1, 2023 (Friday)**

**Check Out: September 4, 2023 (Monday)**

Rate: \$95+/Single Occupancy; \$135+/Double Occupancy

Deposit: A \$70/room deposit is required to secure the reservation. **Deposit due by April 30th.**

This year we plan to go to two quarries and also a location for geodes. We hope to see you there.

Look for further updates as they become available.

Slade

## **Wildacres' Experience**

### **Wildacres' Retreat, Little Switzerland**

**By Larry Huffman**

**What a fun-filled week I spent enjoying the EFMLS Wildacres' experience for the first time. I checked in on Monday afternoon and checked out on the following Sunday morning. For the week, I chose Silversmithing with Richard Meszleras as my instructor. What a wealth of knowledge he has and he knows how to bring it you in a way every student in his class could understand.**

**The bell rang each morning at 7: 30 for wake up. Breakfast was at 8:00, No Pork (the kitchen adheres to the founder's wishes of only Kosher food) and the food turned out to be very good with plenty of it. After breakfast, the speaker-in-residence, Helen Serras-Herman (Jewelry artist and writer for Rock and Gem) gave a 45 to 1 hour slide show and talk about different places she had visited or had showcased her many gem art works. She was a truly interesting speaker.**

**It was time for class instruction each day until the lunch bell at 12:30 then back to class until 5 o'clock, with an hour for socializing with newly made friends in the Canteen before dinner. After dinner, some teachers and students returned to the class for extra instruction or work. Around 8 each night the students and instructors started gathering in the canteen again for a Nutty Buddy or Klondike Bar, or the glass of wine. It was a very relaxing end of a busy day.**

**Thursday was the free day to explore the area or go on a field trip. Normally Harry and I lead one of the field trips. This year I took a group to the Sink Hole Mine in Bandanna. At 3 o'clock the groups returned to Wildacres for a tailgate. About 13 students and instructors had items for sale from minerals to supplies to jewelry.**

**On Friday you resumed the class instruction with the evening being reserved for the auction with proceeds to benefit the Wildacres' Fund. The total cost for the week at Wildacres Retreat is close to \$1300 per student. The Blumenthal foundation (the Retreat was founded by I. A. Blumenthal) and the EFMLS Wildacres' funding brings the cost down to \$425 for the room and board for a week.**

**By Sunday morning I was ready to head to Hickory and some non-Kosher pork sausage. It was a great experience and I'm glad I took advantage of this opportunity. Yes, I would go again if the class I wanted to take is offered (Mineral Photography). The EFMLS and the Southeastern Federation both have a total of 4 weeks at the retreat, with each offering 6 to 8 different classes each session. What a wonderful relaxing fun-filled week you can have. I highly recommend you look at the Wildacres' website calendar and sign up now for one of the weeks.**

## Photos of Wildacres' Retreat



**Dining Hall**



**One of the silversmith projects I made**



**Social Hour in Canteen**



**This year was the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary for  
EFMLS at Wildacres**

First Class Mail



# Tar Heel Rockhound

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Club Meeting

Tuesday  
June 13, 2023  
St Aloysius Catholic Church  
921 2nd St NE  
Hickory, NC

Tar Heel Rockhound,  
Brenda Huffman Editor  
Post Office Box 2521  
Hickory, North Carolina 28603-2521  
<http://www.cvgmc.com/>

