

TAR HEEL



ROCKHOUND

NOVEMBER 2011

CATAWBA VALLEY GEM & MINERAL CLUB, INC.

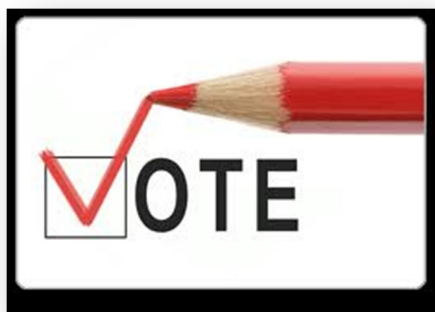
2011 OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES

President:	Baxter Leonard 828-320-4028	Editor:	Velda McLean 828-750-4803	Show Chairmen:	George Max 828-328-9107
Vice President:	Loyd Hoke 828-256-2466	Field Trip:	Harry Polly 828-728-9553		Eric Fritz 828-495-7031
Treasurer:	Zan Ritchie 828-495-8456	Education:	Glenn Bolick	Scholarship:	George Max 828-328-9107
Secretary:	Dean Russell 828-330-0034				

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.

November Elections for 2012 Held at the November Meeting



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CATAWBA VALLEY
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<http://www.cvgmc.com/>
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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Baxter Leonard, Club President

As we get closer to the ending of 2011, we should all enjoy our goals reached this year, and commit ourselves for further goals next year. A club should not be static, and as the membership changes, CVGMC needs new volunteers to assume new roles in continuing its growth. On behalf of our organization, I encourage all members to continue serving in any capacity, and I believe each individual will experience a sense of satisfaction in this service.

Next month is our *Annual Auction* which is always a fun event plus a distinct possibility of picking up some nice specimens at a reasonable price. We can support our club by bringing things for sale and earn some extra cash, as well as helping CVGMC. So save your dollars, and bring them next month.

Baxter Leonard

CATAWBA VALLEY GEM AND MINERAL CLUB, INC.

Minutes, October 11, 2011

The October 11, 2011 meeting of the CVGMC was called to order by President Baxter Leonard at 7:00 PM. There were 25 members and guests present. The minutes of the September 2011 meeting were read and the minutes were then approved by the Club.

Treasurer Report: Tabled until next month.

Field Trip Report: The October field trip will be at the Probst Mine for Sapphires.

Show Committee: George Max reported: Planning is moving along with organizing the 2012 Club Show. Dates for the 2012 Show are March 16, 17, & 18, 2012 at the Hickory Metro Convention Center. Dealer contracts are almost ready.

Education Committee: None.

Unfinished Business: None.

New Business:

- 1) Board of Directors voted to keep the Club dues at the 2011 level for 2012.
- 2) Harry Polly will be giving a talk at the Crestview Baptist Church on "Minerals of the Bible".
- 3) Harry Polly will head-up nominations for officers for the 2012 Club year.

Announcements:

- 1) The suggestion was made to clean-up your donations for the grab bags while the weather is still nice.
- 2) Megan Russell requested the Club members collect baby food jars for her to use as a project for the children at the 2012 Club show. Please contact Megan at 828-330-

0034 if you have any for her or bring them to a Club meeting.

Closing of Business: The business meeting adjourned at 7:25 PM.

Program: A talk was given by Club member Eric Fritz about mineral collections with an emphasis on thumbnails. He also talked about storage, labeling, mounting, and displaying your collection.

Respectfully submitted,
Dean Russell, Secretary



Our slate of officers to be elected on for next year is as follows:

President- Baxter Leonard

Vice President - Joan Glover

Secretary - Dean Russell

Treasurer - Zan Ritchie

Editor - Velda Mclean

Members at Large will be nominated from the floor.

Harry Polly

FIELD TRIP NEWS

Harry Polly, Field Trip Coordinator

I am still trying to plan a trip to Jacksons Crossroads. I have not been able to get in touch with Terry Ledford.

Harry Polly

LOOKING AHEAD - DECEMBER

Our *Annual Auction* is at the December meeting. Please note start time is **6:30 sharp**. A short business meeting will be held prior to the auction.

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. **Remember the auction will start 7:00 sharp.**

Larry Huffman of PO BBQ has generously donated BBQ as the main course for our dinner so, finger foods and desserts may be brought by other members. A sign up list will be at the November meeting.



CHILDREN'S PROJECT 2012 CLUB SHOW



Megan Russell requested the Club members collect baby food jars for her to use as a project for the children at the 2012 Club show. Please contact Megan at 828-330-0034 if you have any for her or bring them to a Club meeting.

A SPECIAL OPPORTUNITY!

by Steve Weinberger, Wildacres Committee Chair



EFMLS Wildacres Scholarship

Please share this important information with all of your club members:

In 2012 we will be celebrating the 40th Anniversary of EFMLS Workshops at Wildacres Retreat. **In recognition of this special event we will be offering two scholarships to attend our sessions.** One will be awarded for the spring and one for the fall session.

Criteria for consideration will include active membership in an EFMLS member club, completion of an application form, and never having previously been to an EFMLS Wildacres Workshop. In addition to some basic information (name, address etc.), the application will ask all candidates to submit a brief essay telling why they would like to receive the scholarship.

Once all applications for the scholarship have been received and selection made, all candidates will be notified as to whether they have or have not been selected. Applications will be printed in the December Newsletter once the dates of our sessions become available.

We're excited to be able to offer the opportunity for two new people to attend one of our fabulous workshops tuition free. If you've never experienced an EFMLS Wildacres Workshop, now's the time to find out what you've been missing!

Please do consider applying and planning on joining us "on the mountain" at one or both of our workshops in 2012. New York.

EFMLS News --November, 2011

DUES ARE DUE JANUARY 2012

Members will be receiving the *Membership Information Forms* with the December newsletter. You may also find a copy on the club's website: <http://www.cvgmc.com/>



HAVING FUN: JUNIOR ACTIVITIES

by Jim Brace-Thompson, Juniors Program Chair

Seeking Activity Suggestions for Our New Badges



As noted in my prior articles, I'm in the midst of developing five new badges for our AFMS Future Rockhounds of America badge program. This month, I invite your suggestions. Based on a survey of clubs most actively utilizing our program, here are the five new badges we'll start offering in 2012:

The World in Miniature. Learning about miniature, thumbnail, and micromount minerals and fossils, plus a unit on sand collecting.

Special Effects. Learning about rocks and minerals exhibiting such neat characteristics as magnetism, triboluminescence, double refraction, chatoyancy, "TV stone," etc., and holding an "Amazing Mineral Magic Show" to demonstrate such characteristics.

Fluorescent Minerals. Learning why some minerals fluoresce, building a basic fluorescent mineral collection, learning about famous localities like Franklin, NJ, etc.

Reaching Across Generations. Pairing junior members with senior members to share knowledge and fun stories, with a follow-up activity to share what's been learned. (Note: This badge was suggested by Erica Nathan, a junior member of the Coquina Kids in Florida based on her fond experiences with a senior member of her club!)

Maps. Learning about different map types and how to use them, sources of maps, how to make basic maps, using GPS, etc.

I'm now developing specific activities to go with each badge and drafting basic designs for each. If you have suggestions of activities you've tried in any of these areas, please share them with me (805-659-3577; <jbraceth@roadrunner.com>). For instance, Anne Lowe-Salmon in Connecticut has pointed me to the International Sand Collectors Society and other neat resources to consider for the World in Miniature badge. And Dennis Gertenbach, the leader of the Junior Geologists of the Flatirons Mineral Club of Colorado has told me about a geocaching activity he's done with his juniors to give them hands-on experience learning about GPS while having fun! I welcome fun activities *you* might suggest.

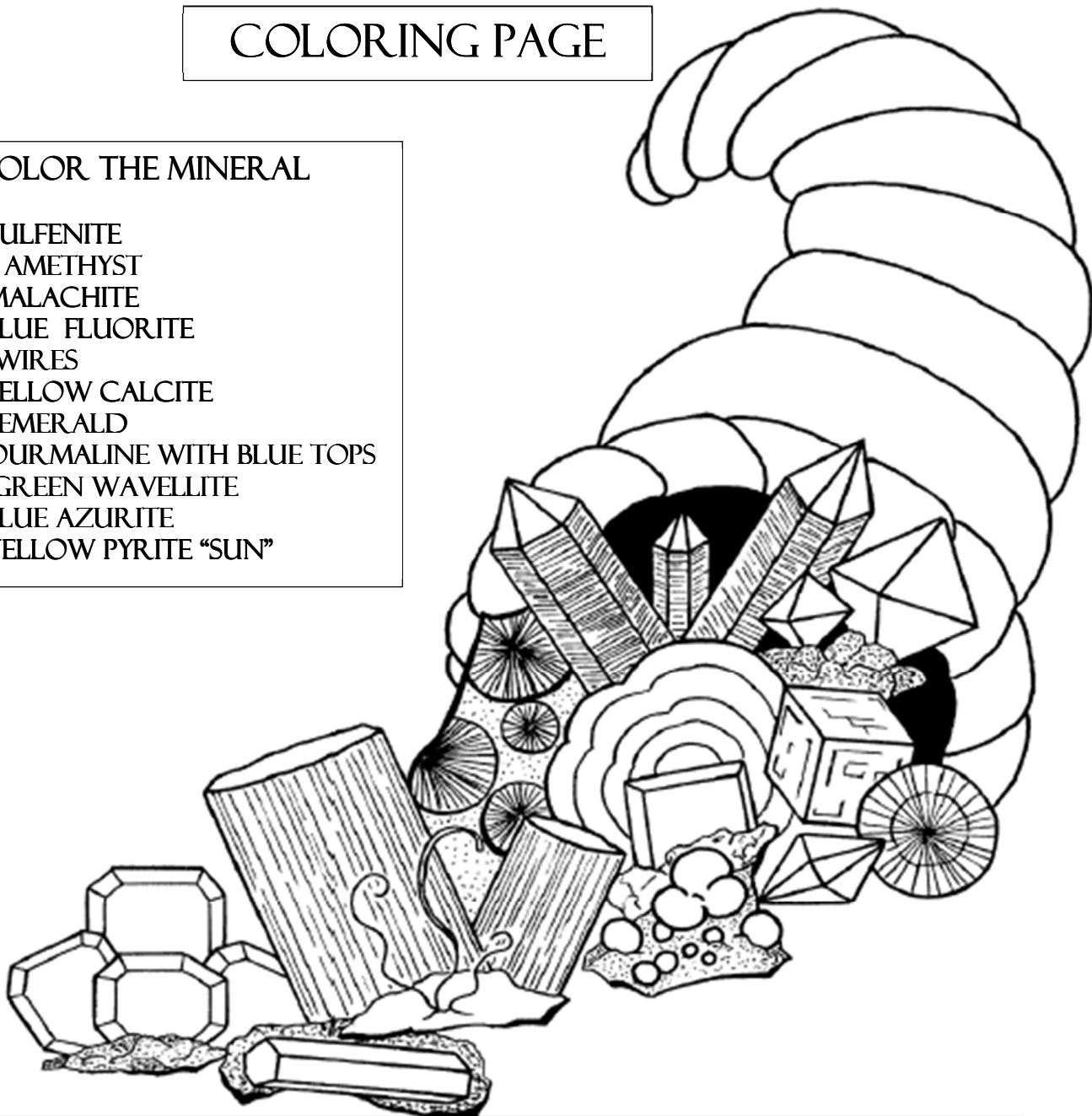
AFMS Newsletter – November, 2011

MINERAL CORNUCOPIA

COLORING PAGE

COLOR THE MINERAL

RED WULFENITE
PURPLE AMETHYST
GREY MALACHITE
LIGHT BLUE FLUORITE
SILVER WIRES
LIGHT YELLOW CALCITE
GREEN EMERALD
PINK TOURMALINE WITH BLUE TOPS
GRASS GREEN WAVELLITE
LIGHT BLUE AZURITE
BRASS YELLOW PYRITE "SUN"



The Cornucopia is also called "The Horn of Plenty." At Thanksgiving time, a cornucopia is traditionally overflowing with food from the harvest, like apples, grapes, squash, potatoes, and all sorts of fruits and vegetables. Here is a cornucopia overflowing with minerals for you to color and identify. In this picture are the following minerals: wulfenite, emerald, tourmaline, silver, azurite, malachite, amethyst, fluorite, pyrite "sun", calcite, magnetite, and wavellite.

Mini Miners Monthly
2007 Diamond Dan Publication

Vol 3 No 9 - November 2007
Darryl Powell, Editor

MINI MINERS MONTHLY

Vol. 5 No. 10

A Monthly Publication for Young Mineral Collectors

October 2011

Golden Facts

Fill in the blanks in the paragraph below. You might need to use a good mineral hand book or the internet to discover the answers. You will see the first letters of each word, just to give you a hint. When you think you have found the correct answer, place the answer in the correct space in the crossword puzzle on the next page. The place in the puzzle is indicated in bold to the right of the blank space. Good luck!



Paul and Penny Prospector are brother and sister. Last summer they were on vacation in the hills of California and stopped to have lunch by a beautiful stream. After lunch they waded in the stream. Penny flipped over a rock and something shiny and golden caught her eye. She picked it up and screamed with delight, "I found a gold nugget!" They spent the rest of the day searching for more, but didn't have the right tools to pan for gold. So, they went home to study and prepare so that next time they could find more gold. This is what they learned.

Natural gold is very soft: it has a ha_____ <13 Across> of only 2.5 to 3. Because it is so soft, harder metals are added to pure gold so it can be worn as jewelry. Pure gold is 24 ka_____. <15 Across> Most jewelry is 14 karat; it has less gold but is harder and wears well. Paul and Penny learned that the smooth gold nug_____ <5 Down> they found in the river was in what is called a pl_____ <1 Down> deposit. This is where nuggets of gold are deposited by moving water in a river. Gold can also be found trapped in solid rock. Very often gold occurs in veins of white mi_____ <16 Across> quartz. The quartz itself has no value. The gold is removed and the quartz is thrown away. Geologists call this quartz "trash" ga_____. <17 Across>

Gold has a lot of interesting physical properties. It crystallizes in the is_____ <7 Down> cry_____ <10 Down> system. This is also called the cu_____ <9 Down> system. Penny found a rounded nugget, but in the quartz seams the gold can crystallize. It forms cubes, sometimes, and 8-sided diamond-shaped crystals more often. When the gold is deposited in thin spaces between rocks, it is as thin as the tin foil Paul and Penny see in their kitchen. When it is this thin, it is called le_____ <12 Down> gold because it looks like leaves from a tree.

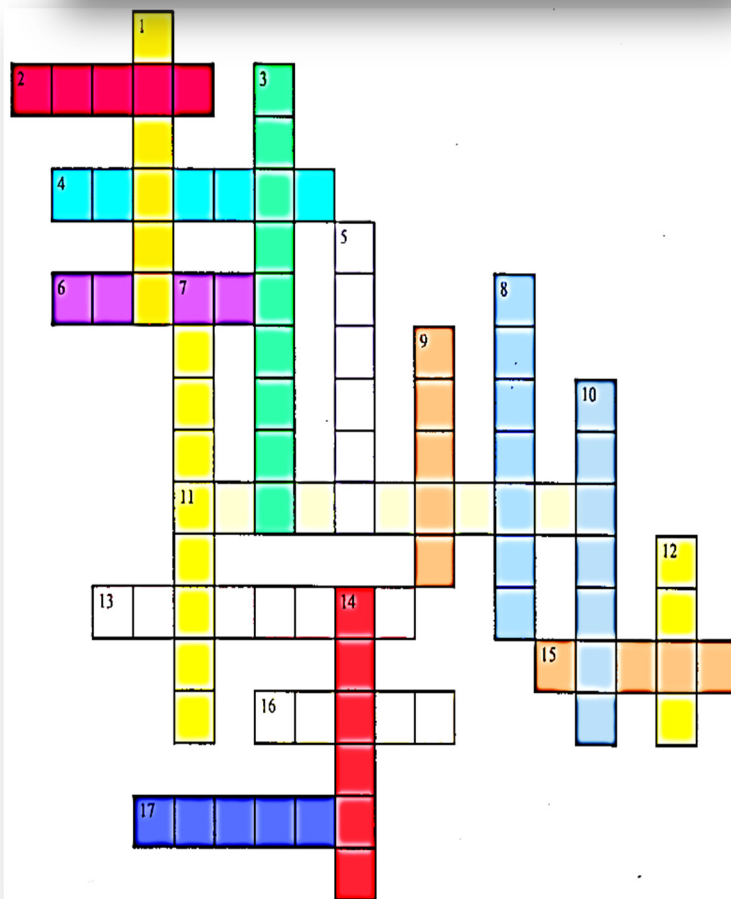
Some people think of gold as a "miracle metal." Unlike silver and copper, gold will never tar_____. <8 Down> Gold, like silver, copper and platinum, is mal_____. <3 Down> This means that it can be hammered into very, very thin sheets. Penny read in her Dad's geology book that gold is also duc_____. <4 Across> She learned that this means it can be

pulled into thin wires. While Penny was in her book, Paul was on the internet. "Hey, Penny," Paul said, "elec_____ <11 Across> can go through gold!" Later on their Mom taught them that gold, like other metals, is a conductor of electricity. That is why gold is used in computer circuit boards.

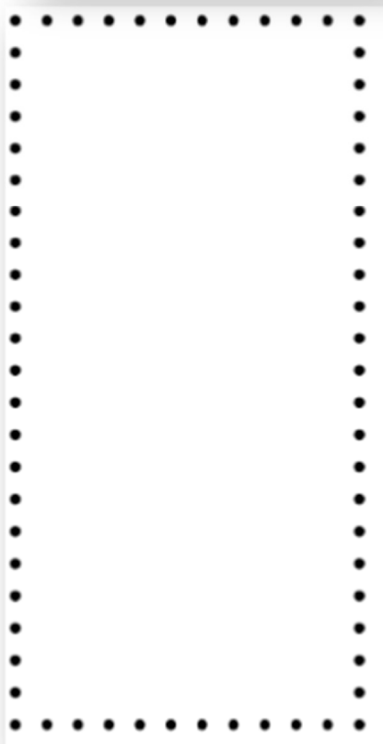
Penny and Paul sat down and looked through a mineral book they borrowed from the library. In it they read that gold that is found in nature is not always pure. Sometimes it is mixed with sil_____. <14 Down> When it is, it is called "electrum." They also learned about something called "F_____ Gold." <2 Across> Penny felt her heart skip a beat: could it be that her "gold" is not gold at all, but is only worthless iron py_____? <6 Across> Their Mom took them to a gold prospector friend who lived a few miles away. He looked at Penny's specimen and told her, with a great big smile on his face, that she had found real gold - not Fool's Gold!

Guess where Penny and Paul spent the rest of their summer? Back at the stream, panning for gold. So far they have found 7 gold nuggets and a small glass bottle that is filled with tiny gold flakes.

PAUL AND PENNY FIND GOLD!



First Class Mail



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TAR HEEL ROCKHOUND

Official Publication of

**Catawba Valley
Gem and Mineral Club, Inc.**

Volume 40 Number 11

**Club Meeting
Tuesday
November 8, 2011**

7:00 PM

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