

TAR HEEL



ROCKHOUND

NOVEMBER 2015

CATAWBA VALLEY GEM & MINERAL CLUB, INC.

2015 OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES

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Treasurer:	Terry Russell 828-303-1563	Education:	George Max 828-328-9107	Eastern Federation Liaison:	Larry Huffman 828-612-4469
Secretary:	Dean Russell 828-303-1448				

Club Address: PO Box 2521, Hickory, NC 28603-2521

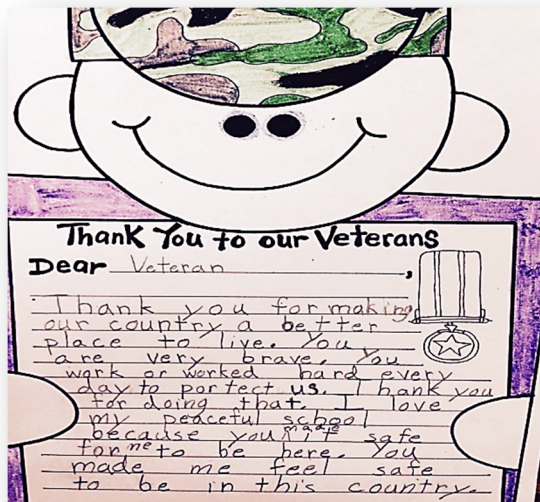
Regular Meetings: Second Tuesday, 7:00 PM

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.



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CATAWBA VALLEY
GEM & MINERAL CLUB, INC.

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

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NOVEMBER ELECTIONS

Harry Polly & Larry Huffman,
Nomination Committee

The Club will be electing officers and board members at the November meeting. Be sure to attend the meeting so you are able to participate in this important process.



Slate of Officers Proposed for 2016

President: George Brown

Vice-Pres: Joan Glover

Secretary: Dean Russell

Treasurer: Terry Russell

We will also need board members at large and a new field trip chairman. We will take nominations from the floor to fulfill these positions and also take other nominations for the above offices.

CATAWBA VALLEY GEM AND MINERAL CLUB, INC. Minutes for October 13, 2015

The October 13, 2015 meeting of the CVGMC was called to order by President George Brown at 7:00 PM. There were 43 members and 5 visitors present.

Minutes: Motion by Harry Polly, seconded by Larry Huffman to accept the September 8, 2015 minutes. The motion was passed by the Club membership.

Treasurer Report: The bank balance was reported.

Field Trip Report: October 17th field trip will be Propst Farm.

Education Committee: Program was presented for the retirees at LRU.

Show Committee: Ed Speer will be the guest speaker for the 2016 Gem Show.

Old Business: None

New Business:

- 1) Norma Ridenhour mentioned that her collection is for sale. She has a \$1,000 invested, but is asking \$500.00.
- 2) The Sims family thanked the Club for its donation in memory of Tyler Sims.
- 3) The buyer of a Parotodus Tooth that was bought at an auction from Glenn Bolick's collection donated the tooth to the Aurora Fossil Museum. It was then sold for \$520.00 to benefit the Aurora Fossil Museum at their fundraising auction.
- 4) The EFMLS Scholarship Fund is looking for donations for their 2016 fundraiser. For more

information, see Larry Huffman. Raffle tickets for the 2016 fundraiser will be \$10.00.

- 5) Hugh McCammon presented a draft of a public relations piece that can be used for possible contacts to the newspaper, Scout groups, etc.
- 6) Harry Polly and Larry Huffman will head a nomination committee for the 2016 Club's officers. The elections will be held at the November meeting.
- 7) The Annual Club Auction will be December 8th at 6:30 PM. More information to come in future newsletters.
- 8) Warren Hollar reported that the schools systems will be on a break during the 2016 Gem Show. He is looking for ideas how the Club can serve the schools.

Closing of Business: The meeting was adjourned at 7:35 PM.

Program: A sample *Education Program* was given by George Max. He informed the Club on what the Education Committee presents to the public and that they are looking for volunteers to help in the future

Respectfully submitted,
Dean Russell, Secretary

NOVEMBER PROGRAM

Rick Glover, Program Director

The November program will be *A Geological Tour of Iceland* presented by Shields and Frances Flynn of *Trafford Flynn Minerals*.

Rick



FIELD TRIP NEWS

Harry Polly, FT Chair

The November field trip will be held on November 14th. This is a week earlier than normal, but I have prior commitments. We will be going to a new locality in Hiddenite. I have never been to this locality, but will be going to scout it out in the next few days.

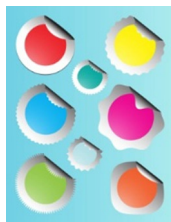
We will meet at 8:00 am in the Roses parking lot on Hwy 70 East. Bring all of your digging tools, shovels, mattocks, etc. Bring your food, water, and raingear. Hopefully we will find some good material. My cell is 828-244-6651.

Harry

INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE UPCOMING DECEMBER 2015 AUCTION

Terry Russell, Club Treasurer

It's approaching that time of year again for the annual Club auction. In preparation for the auction in December, **Terry will have a signup sheet at the November meeting for anyone who is interested in participating in the auction.**



You will need an assigned number (1, 2, 3, 4, etc.) whether you are planning to buy or sell specimens. Once you sign up you will also receive stickers to label your specimens. All specimens must be clearly identified with a sticker which should be coded with your assigned number since this is what will be referenced during the auction process. Your specimens

should be labeled as follows: if your assigned number is 2 and you plan to sell 5 items then the stickers should be labeled as 2a, 2b, 2c, 2d and 2e.

Anything rock related can be auctioned; this includes tools, cut stones, display boxes/cabinets, rough stones, jewelry, etc. Members will retain 90% of the sale and 10% will go to the club unless the member specifies all proceeds go to the club. If you have any questions, please contact Terry Russell at 828-303-1563 (cell) or 828-584-5360 (work).

WELCOME TO ANOTHER EXCITING YEAR WITH THE EFMLS!

Cheryl Neary, Auction Chairperson

If you all remember in the years past I have requested the help of the Regional VPs in procuring donations for the annual auction. Well, the same applies this year. However, this year I have been asked to Chair the AFMS Endowment Fund.



So you remember the ad for the chewing gum - double the fun!

In the past many of you have generously donated personally and I thank you and hope you will continue to support the annual auction.

In 2016 the annual auction is being held at Rochester, NY in the fall. The 2016 AFMS Convention is being held in Oregon at the end of July. For the AFMS fund, I need donations as soon as possible to have the pics uploaded to the website. **SO PLEASE contact your clubs and ask for the donations.**

The Regional VPs who have clubs in both Federations should be asking them to donate twice for the AFMS! Again, this year, any VP at the EFMLS Convention who brings in the most amounts of donations will win \$25.00 to be used toward the hosting club's show!

Also, a big THANKS to Larry Huffman (Region 6) - he has already received donations for the AFMS and the convention...

As always - any question, please feel free to call! I have attached my phone number: (516) 449-5341, cell.

Cheryl

EMMA FAJ CZ (JR ROCKHOUND WONDER)

Darryl Powell,

Diamond Dan Publications

No young collector has been more important to *Mini Miners Monthly* than Emma Fajcz. Emma has been our Consulting Editor for many years. In many ways she has grown up with us! Her articles have been very well-written, well researched and accurate. She is very careful about citing her sources. She is talented, hardworking, and a trustworthy employee. I cannot express enough my admiration for Emma and my gratitude for her contributions through the years.

Here is a picture of Emma, eleven years old, with her mineral collection. Emma's first article was presented when she was very young.



Today she is a high-school graduate and is making plans for her education and her future.



"Diamond Dan" and Emma

Please see our website for the great products we can provide you for your educational endeavors.

DIAMOND DAN PUBLICATIONS

278 Howland Ave., Rochester, NY 14620

www.diamonddanpublications.net

Mini Miners Monthly-- September 2015

SAFETY MATTERS: TOUGH GUY

by Ellery Borow,, Safety Chair

Quite a few folks know I write safety articles for the AFMS News and several other newsletters. So, it was no surprise when a fellow came up to me at a local gem and mineral show and posed a question and a concern about field trip safety. His question pertained to a trip to a working mine and how to approach a matter of safety that was, to his way of thinking, different from that of the mine owner's point of view.

The fellow had seen a situation at the mine that he thought could have been more of a safety hazard than had the miner owner's representative. It is possible that the owner's representative may not have noted the potential of the hazard, or may perhaps not have noted the hazard itself. The owner's representative certainly did not know the physical abilities of the club members attending when judging a potential hazard. So, in effect, the instance was one where the fellow, a club officer, thought a situation was more hazardous to his club's members than did the mine owner's representative.



It is rather unusual, given operating equipment, mine workings, owners stocks, and the biggy -- company insurances that a club officer wished to impose greater safety limits than those required by the mining company. This is not an issue faced by many field trip leaders, so, how does

one approach an issue involving the hazard potential of any one particular situation? Even though instances such as this are seldom faced by field trip leaders, I'm a firm believer in having a plan for every situation. So here are some considerations:

1. Safety is, above all, paramount.
2. The field trip is usually at the request of the club, not the miner owners.
3. Mine and quarry workers are specially trained to stringent safety guidelines. Such workers are ever watchful and constantly monitor safety issues in their work areas. Club members on the other hand, are generally not trained to evaluate every potential safety issue in a working mine. Members are usually only given the site/mine specific instruction thought necessary for the area of collecting.
4. Of several sets of safety guidelines can be applied to a situation, the strictest set of rules should be utilized. Member safety must be paramount.
5. Field trip leaders of the club should be aware of club member's weaknesses - who is likely to dehydrate faster than the others, who has a heart condition, who might have frailties needing to be monitored more than the rest, who might have balance issues, and so on. True, folks have to ultimately be responsibility for themselves but things such as dehydration can sneak up on person, even a responsible person. Trip leaders need to be ever watchful, it's part of the job description.
6. Safety precaution lectures by mine representatives, as I have personally witnessed on numerous occasions, consist of an arm I hand wave indicating stay away from (an arm wave for) "there" or you can collect over (an arm wave for) "here". And, oh, it is also necessary to wear your hard hats, safety shoes, gloves and goggles at all times. While those guidelines are good for most folks, there are those few who tend to want to stretch the limits of "there" or "here". My own preference is to have a more distinct or physical barrier between "there" and "here". Barriers can include wooden stakes and flagging,



fences, a line of boulders, or painted lines on the ground. It's harder for wanders to ignore a distinct or physical limiter.

7. It's one thing if the owner's representative gives a field trip leader the safety specifics and then that person, in turn, passes the parameters on to the club members. It is quite another when the representative gives the specifics to everyone present at the same time. These are very different approaches in one important respect. If the mine representative passes the specifics to just the trip leader, the leader is then able to pass even more restrictive guidelines on to the members. If the members are given the specifics directly by the mine representative and then the club field trip leader wants to impose even more restrictive guidelines, it is possible that members may want to know why the additional restriction were imposed by the trip leader. More stringent restrictions may be difficult to explain to members --unless a clear case is made as to why. Such a why talk may not be understood by members, or even by the mine representative. There has to be good level of confidence in the field trip leader's judgment if additional restrictions need to be applied, and accepted by members. With human nature being what it is, there will always be members who want to stretch the mine representative's hand wave of "there" and "here".

8. What happens if a field trip leader sees the need to impose greater restriction? Might the company see it as a calling into question their judgment? Might the company see such a judgment as a need to perhaps rethink their allowing field trips to their facility? Such instances certainly call for communication -communication indicating that the field trip leader knows the additional needs or abilities of the members, communication indicating that the field trip leader understands the collecting interests of the members, communication indicating the need to keep any wandering folks to tighter designated areas, and so on. Good negotiation skills, good communication skills, good safety backgrounds and judgements, good people skills are important in such instances.

9. One helpful guide in deciding limits is the clubs own field trip guide. Your club does have a field trip guide doesn't it? An actual printed guide can help make a case for "No" meaning "No". Case closed, end of story. A generalized written field trip safety guide can be helpful. It is also helpful to have some specialized guidelines that may be applied if necessary - especially in instances when implementing additional site restrictions based on the judgment of the field trip leader(s)

10. Speaking of judgment, let's say a member sees a collecting treasure just a foot or two on the other side of the line where collecting is not permitted. The member, by rights, should not just walk across that limit line by those two feet and pick up the treasure. That said, it might be possible to seek permission from the owner's representative to reach over those two (or three, or four or so) feet over the line. One should always be aware of the potential problems with any over-the-line collecting. The key is to try and avoid jeopardizing future trips -- or collecting on any slippery slopes.



There are numerous possibilities and pitfalls with any added restrictions. First and foremost is putting club member safety first --even if the field trip leader has to be the tough guy. All the

official positions in a club have club constitutional or bylaw or other governing club document authority, therefore field trip leaders should be no less so authorized to do their job--after all, safety rules.

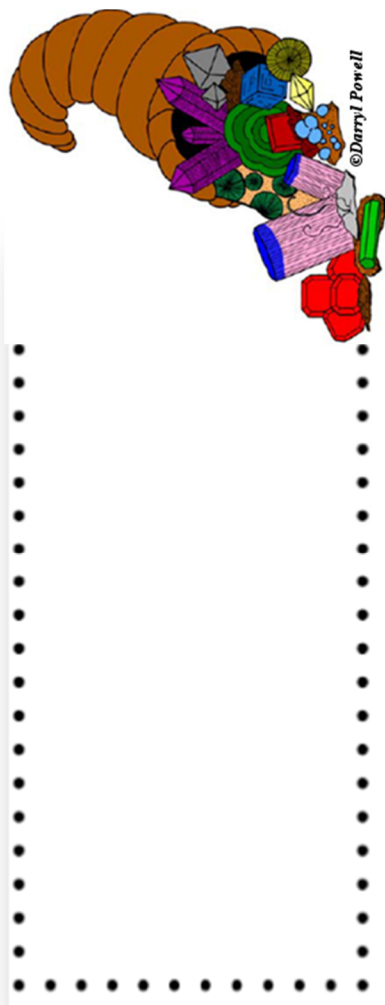
Be safe, you deserve no less. Please mind your field trip leaders.

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First Class Mail

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Club Meeting

**Tuesday
November 10, 2015
7:00 PM**

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