

TAR HEEL



ROCKHOUND

OCTOBER 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.

Field Trip October 15th



Mike & Crissy Streeter

Corundum Crystal
Propst Farm
Lincoln Co., NC

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CATAWBA VALLEY
GEM & MINERAL CLUB, INC.

Website:

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

Web Master: Mike Streeter

Velda L McLean, Editor
3121 Blue Creek Road
Lenoir, NC 28645
velda@email.com

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Baxter Leonard, Club President

October should be a fun month for everyone. Generally the heat has changed to a fall temperate climate, the leaves will change to beautiful colors, and the search for minerals will be a good diversion from raking those beautiful fallen leaves. Children will have returned to school for 1 month or more, and now is our chance to collect items for their grab bags for our March 2012 show.

I'm excited that we've received a verbal confirmation for our feature exhibit to be *Fluorescent Minerals* by Charles & Hershel Ward for our next show. This should immensely broaden the public's exposure to a different facet of our hobby plus looking at the variety beautiful colors under UV lights are always a pleasure.

Baxter Leonard



BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

The CVGMC Board of Directors will meet at 6PM October 11th before the club meeting at 7 PM. Any member is welcomed to attend.

Baxter Leonard

CATAWBA VALLEY GEM AND MINERAL CLUB, INC. Minutes, September 13, 2011

The September 13, 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 August 2011 meeting were read and the minutes were then approved by the Club.

Treasurer Report:

Zan Ritchie reported that the checkbook and savings balance was \$11,838.40.

Field Trip Report:

The September field trip was geode collecting in Kentucky. The October field trip will be announced.

Show Committee:

George Max asked for a volunteer to act as the Dealer Chairperson for the 2012 Show. Please contact George if you can help.

Education Committee: None

Unfinished Business: None.

New Business:

1) Zan Ritchie showed the Club members the projector that was donated to the Club. If a Club member would like to borrow it, please contact Zan.

2) Eric Fritz donated gem magazines for Club members to take. He also showed a flyer for mineral specimen cabinets...if interested, contact Eric.

3) Loyd Hoke made the motion and it was seconded by George Max that the Club tries to preserve the knowledge and life experiences of our Club members by publishing a column in our Newsletter each month on each member, starting with our oldest members so that their wealth and knowledge won't be lost. Down the road, these columns may be put together into a book for the next generation to read and understand what went before them. The club approved this motion. Loyd volunteered to start the project with Club members help and input.

Announcements:

1) Charles B. Ward will display fluorescent minerals at the 2012 Club Show.

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 330-0034 if you have any for her or bring them to a Club meeting.

3) There will be a CVGMC Board of Directors meeting at 6:00 PM before the October 11, 2011 Club meeting.

Closing of Business:

The business meeting adjourned at 7:26 PM

Program:

A talk was given by Club members Joan and Rick Glover about their trip to Nebraska to collect Prairie Agates. (They showed a wonderful slide show using the Club's projector.)

Respectfully submitted,
Dean Russell, Secretary

ABOUT THE EFMLS

The Eastern Federation of Mineralogical and Lapidary Societies, Inc. was organized in 1950 to bring about a closer association of Clubs and Societies devoted to the study of the Earth Sciences and the practice of the Lapidary Arts and related crafts in



the eastern portion of the United States. Beginning with three "founding" clubs and seven "charter" clubs, the EFMLS has now grown to approximately 150 affiliated clubs and societies with a combined membership of well over 10,000 individuals. The EFMLS is a member of the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies, the umbrella association for the seven regional federations in the United States. It joined the AFMS in 1952.

The Eastern Federation of Mineralogical and Lapidary Societies includes clubs these states:

Alabama	Maine	Pennsylvania
Connecticut	Maryland	Rhode Island
Delaware	Massachusetts	South Carolina
District of Columbia	Mississippi	Tennessee
Florida	New Hampshire	Vermont
Georgia	New Jersey	Virginia
Kentucky	New York	West Virginia
	North Carolina	

OCTOBER PROGRAM

Loyd Hoke, Program Director

Eric Fritz will have the program on October 11th on Mineral Collections with emphasis on thumbnails. He will talk about storage mounting and display.

Loyd Hoke

FIELD TRIP NEWS

Harry Polly, Field Trip Coordinator

The October Field Trip for the Catawba Valley Gem & Mineral Club will be held Saturday October 15th. We are going to the Propst farm to dig for sapphires.

We will meet in the Roses' parking lot on Hwy 70 East at 8:00 am. This is located just off of I-40 (exit 123) and Hwy 321 South. There is a short drive from Hickory (about 15 miles), and there is a \$5.00 digging fee. Tools needed are shovels, mattocks, scratching tools. A screen is sometimes helpful if the ground is not wet. A small bucket is helpful also. There are no facilities. Bring your food and drinks and raingear in case of inclement weather. **BE PREPARED TO GET DIRTY.** A jug of water and towel is good to clean up with afterwards.

photo by Mike & Crissy Streeter



Harry Polly

NORTH CAROLINA CLUBS OF THE EFMLS

Catawba Valley Gem & Mineral Club, Inc.

Gaston Gem, Mineral & Faceter's Club

High Point Mineral Club

Tar Heel Gem & Mineral Club, Inc.

<http://www.amfed.org/efmls/index.htm>



GREENSBORO GEM AND MINERAL CLUB ROCK SWAP

WHEN: OCTOBER 13, 2011 FROM 9 AM TILL...

WHERE: SHELTER 6 AT HAGAN STONE PARK

ADDRESS: 3920 HAGAN STONE PARK RD.
PLEASANT GARDEN, NC 27313

WHAT TO BRING: ANY ROCKS THAT YOU WANT TO TRADE OR SELL:: BRING TABLES IF WE HAPPEN TO RUN OUT IN THE SHELTER.

REFRESHMENTS: BRING YOUR OWN



AMERICAN FEDERATION OF MINERALOGICAL SOCIETIES

A NON-PROFIT EDUCATIONAL FEDERATION OF SEVEN
SIMILAR REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS OF GEM,
MINERAL AND LAPIDARY SOCIETIES.

Founded in 1947

Purpose of the AFMS:

To promote popular interest and education in the various Earth Sciences, and in particular the subjects of Geology, Mineralogy, Paleontology, Lapidary and other related subjects, and to sponsor and provide means of coordinating the work and efforts of all persons and groups interested therein; to sponsor and encourage the formation and international development of Societies and Regional Federations and by and through such means to strive toward greater international good will and fellowship.

The American Federation of Mineralogical Societies is composed of the following seven similar regional organizations of gem, mineral, and lapidary societies.

CFMS - California Federation of Mineralogical Societies

EFMLS - Eastern Federation of Mineralogical and Lapidary Societies

MWF - Midwest Federation of Mineralogical and Geological Societies

NFMS - Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies

RMFMS - Rocky Mountain Federation of Mineralogical Societies

SCFMS - South Central Federation of Mineral Societies

SFMS - Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies

<http://www.amfed.org/>



ROCK PALS

AFMS Updates (06-26-2011)

A new kids rock exchange program!!!

When you were in school, you may have been partnered with kids from schools in towns and countries far-and-wide to become Pen Pals in a letter-exchange program. Patricia Egolf of the Gem & Mineral Society of Syracuse, New York, has instituted a new spin on this for junior rockhounds, namely, establishing a "Rock Pals" program in conjunction with our AFMS Future Rockhounds of America program.



Kids love the different rocks, minerals, and fossils to be found across our great nation, but they can't always afford to buy them or to travel to collect them. But how wonderful it would be for juniors in a club to band together to collect local samples to trade with juniors in other clubs across the country! With that in mind, Patricia has volunteered to establish and oversee "Rock Pals." A club would gather between 20 and 25 local specimens in sizes small enough for all to fit in a \$10.95 flat-rate box available at the post office and, after making arrangements with another club, each would mail a box to each other.

Clubs interested in participating should contact either Patricia Egolf (phone 315-471-1758, email Pjegardens@aol.com) or, as a back-up, Jim Brace-Thompson (phone 805-659-3577, email jbraceth@roadrunner.com). They'll be building and maintaining a list of clubs interested in participating that your club can contact and start the ball rolling. As a start, we've already heard from clubs in New York, California, Colorado, Florida, Idaho, and Washington, so we have all four corners of the nation covered, with a few points between! http://www.amfed.org/fra/rock_pals.htm

KIDS LOVE ROCKS (Left)

We are very, very excited to announce that as of this month, *Kids Love Rocks* is a partner in the Mini Miners family. *Kids Love Rocks* is a wonderful website where young mineral collectors like you can find information about minerals. Return to their website often because they will be posting mineral activities, coloring pages, collecting information and more every week. Much of the material they post will be FREE for you to download. Please visit their website - at least once a week - and you will find new activities to enjoy. You can find them at:

www.kidsloverocks.com

The owner of "Kids Love Rocks" is Adam Marchacos. Kids Love Rocks is an educational branch of the "Cold River Mining Company." If you are looking for some nice, very reasonably priced specimens, please check out the Cold River Mining website. They have some neat fossils, too!

Darryl Powell



www.kidsloverocks.com

Hello, my name is Adam Marchacos and I am the editor and webmaster of kids love rocks. I started this site to educate young and old alike all about rocks, fossils, minerals, and everything else that relates to our earth. I've included educational information about the types of rocks, where to find rocks, as well as information on how to make new friends with others who are interested in rock and mineral collecting.

MINI MINERS MONTHLY

Vol. 5 No. 9 A Monthly Publication for Young Mineral Collectors September 2011

MINERAL OF THE MONTH CALCITE

By Darryl Powell

Chemical Formula: CaCO₃

Crystal System: Hexagonal Trigonal

Color: Colorless, white, yellow, tan, red, green, blue, gray, black, orange, brown.

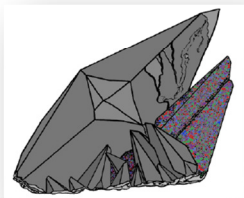
Luster: Vitreous (Glassy)

Hardness: 3

Specific Gravity: 2.7

Streak: White

Calcite is one of the most common minerals in the Earth's crust (feldspar is the most common; quartz the second most common). Calcite crystallizes in the hexagonal crystal system. It holds a special place in the mineral kingdom in that it forms more different crystal shapes than any other mineral - over 600!



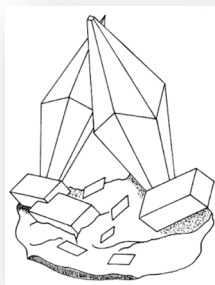
double refraction. It breaks a single ray of light into two rays. Place a piece of Iceland Spar over a single line, and you will see two lines in the crystal!

When weak hydrochloric acid is placed on calcite, it reacts with the calcite and fizzes. This is a simple, easy test to identify a specimen as calcite.

Calcite is used in cement, in some fertilizers, and in the chemical industry.

Many people collect only calcite crystals. It could take a lifetime to collect all the different crystal forms, colors, combinations and more. In addition to pure calcite crystals, it is not unusual to find calcite and other minerals growing together.

The specimen drawing at the top of this page is a famous calcite specimen from Michigan's copper country. It's color is copper red because there is pure, metallic copper inside the calcite crystals. Another



Calcite is number 3 on Moh's Hardness Scale, and is therefore relatively soft. Due to the arrangement of the molecules in its crystal structure (calcite contains calcium, carbon and oxygen - calcium carbonate) calcite has very distinct rhombohedral cleavage. Hit a piece of calcite with a hammer and it breaks easily into rhombs.

Calcite most commonly forms in sedimentary environments, especially in vugs (that is, holes) in limestone. It can also form, however, in igneous environments. Large, beautiful calcite crystals form with amethyst crystals in the very large geodes that are found in the igneous rocks found in Brazil. Perfectly clear calcite (known as Iceland Spar) has a special optical property called



example is the specimen to the left at the bottom of this page. These white calcite crystals have grown with dark gray, metallic stibnite crystals.

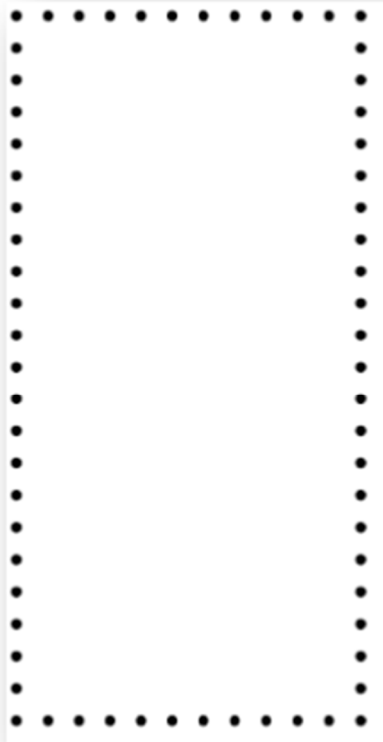
When the situation is just right, ground water can dissolve calcite (usually from the sedimentary rock, limestone), move it and deposit it in a different place. These deposits often look like rock

that has melted and flowed over the hillside. Because of this, such a formation is called flow stone.

Right is a yellow specimen of calcite flowstone from Ilion, New York.



First Class Mail



TAR HEEL ROCKHOUND

Official Publication of

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

Volume 40 Number 10

**Club Meeting
Tuesday
October 11, 2011**

7:00 PM

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

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