

TAR HEEL



ROCKHOUND

OCTOBER 2018

Catawba Valley Gem & Mineral Club, Inc.

2018 Officers and Committees

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828-328-9107
Eastern Federation: Larry Huffman
828-612-4469
Liaison: Larry Huffman
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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.



Photo: Barite and Calcite. Danville, KY

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CATAWBA VALLEY GEM & MINERAL CLUB, INC.

<http://www.cvgmc.com>

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President's Message

It is that time of the year again. By this, I mean it is election time. This will be my last year to serve as your president. It is time for me to pass the gavel.

Please consider serving as one of the officers if you are asked. The nominating committee will be in contact with several members asking them to serve. During the election process at the November meeting, nominations will also be taken from the floor. If you have someone in mind, talk to them to see if they are willing to serve, and nominate them also.

There are a good many in the club that are qualified if they are only asked. Do not be a doorstop, get involved, it will do you good as well as the club.

Harry

Safety Matters – Ticks, Chiggers, Mosquitos, Oh My! by: Ellery Borow, EFMLS Safety Chair

Ticks, chiggers, mesquites, fire ants, black flies, scorpions, venomous snakes, poison ivy earthquakes, volcanos, flashfloods, and excessive heat -oh my! Pretty much anywhere a rock collector goes one will find something in the area that needs special attention. That something can be a little thing or a big thing, but still a thing which should, for safety sake, be addressed and not ignored.

We collectors check maps, monitor tire pressure, bring water, update medical aid kits, research what mineral might be found in the area and soon. We might be well advised to also check into things which might bug us on our trips.... things such as bugs and bears and storms and snakes.

Fire ant bites are not fun. Mosquitoes and ticks are transmission vectors for more and more diseases. Weather patterns are changing. For these and other local conditions for which the well prepared collector should be aware, there are numerous sources of data. NOAA weather services, state and local health services monitor area insect populations, and even the USGS has websites which report on earthquake and volcanic activity.

A rain in the mountains and the resulting flash flood 6 miles away could isolate our vehicle, knowledge of how long a tick takes to transmit Lyme Disease, how to prepare for a venomous snake in the trail, precautions concerning fresh bear tracks in the area-all these take time to research and understand but the well prepared collector is a safer collector. It is, in this time of internet, far easier and less time consuming than yesteryear to be prepared and be safe. Truly, there is sometimes too much information out there to review it all.

When traveling, most rock collectors bring at least the basics - maps, water, food, medical kit, personal protective equipment and so on.

Besides the basics, it is the wise collector who prepares for any additional hazards the area has to offer. Such additional protections might be as simple as bringing an extra strong mosquito repellent.

Please don't let little flying things bug you. Your safety matters.

Lithophones

I learned a new word – Lithophones.

This is sound, like music, from stones. It appears there were these shaped stones in a museum out west that were in storage and no one knew what to make of them until someone heard music made elsewhere in the world using stones that have different sounds when hit.(like a xylophone).

That allowed them to identify a reason for why these stones were selected and shaped. This was totally new to me. I wonder if Tom W. knows anything about this.

George M.



October Field Trip

The October Field Trip will be discussed at the meeting.

A possible new dig site is being looked into.

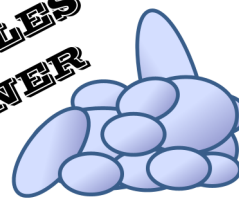
Thank you George for accepting the Field Trip Coordinator position for the Club.

Program

The topic for the October program will be presented by Warren H. and titled, "A Trip to Alberta and Ammonite."

We look forward to seeing everyone.

THE PEBBLES' CORNER



This section of the newsletter is being started to help generate more interest and interaction with younger rockhounds and to have fun in the process.

I welcome any information a member may wish to provide to be included in the upcoming newsletters each month, especially related to items that would be of interest to our younger and aspiring rockhounds.

I hope that everyone had a safe Labor Day and also was safe during Hurricane Florence.

Although the rain may not have been welcome, especially in the quantities that came, there can be some good to come of storms, rain, and other natural events.

You still need to be safe, especially after big storms. Areas could be slippery, limbs may be hanging and can fall, or other potential dangers as a result of the weather event.

Though the storms may have caused damage, they may also help with the uncovering of potential treasures.

Rain can help to wash dirt from minerals, in addition to eroding areas that help to expose areas that were not previously visible.

Wind may also help by blowing down trees, which may yield surprises when the roots pull up and disturb the soil around the uprooted tree.

So even though the weather event may not have been desired, there still could be a possible silver lining to those dark clouds.

The key is safety and being able to enjoy each trip.

Be safe so another trip can be enjoyed!

Until next time.....

Slade

CATAWBA VALLEY GEM & MINERAL CLUB, INC. - MINUTES

The September 11, 2018 meeting of the CVGMC was called to order by President Harry P. at 7:00 PM.

Introduction of New Members and Guest: Tom Rice

Minutes: Motion by George B., seconded by Philip M. to accept the minutes for the August 14, 2018 meeting. The motion was passed by the Club membership.

Treasurer Report: Bank balance was reported.

Education Committee: George M. spoke to 57 people at the Statesville Library.

Show Committee:

- 1) 29 vendors will be at the 2019 Show.
- 2) A third of the vendors contracts are in already.

Field Trip Report:

- 1) September's field trip was the Kentucky trip.
- 2) George B. has kindly become the new Field Trip Chairperson. Please give him ideas where you would like to collect.

Old Business: None.

New Business: Motion by Harry P., seconded by George M., to nominate Larry H. for the position of Eastern Federation Mineral & Lapidary Societies (EFMLS) Region VI (6) Regional Vice President. The motion was passed by the Club membership.

Announcements:

- 1) The Club discussed the status of the tumbler.
- 2) The Club discussed renting the Club's Cabbing and Faceting machines.
- 3) Club members Ryan & Meg S., welcomed a baby girl in August.

Closing of Business: The meeting was adjourned at 7:25 PM

Program: Club member Joan G. presented a video from the Club's Library on the "Mystery of the Megaflood." There was also a review of the Kentucky trip.

Respectfully Submitted,
Dean Russell, Secretary

Build Enthusiasm, Create Smiles, and Honor Your Members!! *By Judi Allison, ACROY Chair*

Hi Folks.

The year is drawing to a close and there are only a handful of submissions for the Rockhound of the Year. I realize only a select number of people get this news - letter, so please take the time to mention the honor your club can give to a special member. And don't forget those Juniors! Let's fill the AFMS Newsletter with pages of honorees from all over the country.

Following is the information I have for Rockhound of the Year Chairpersons for each Federation. If you are no longer the contact, please let me know. Thanks.

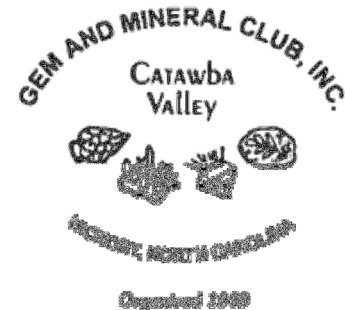
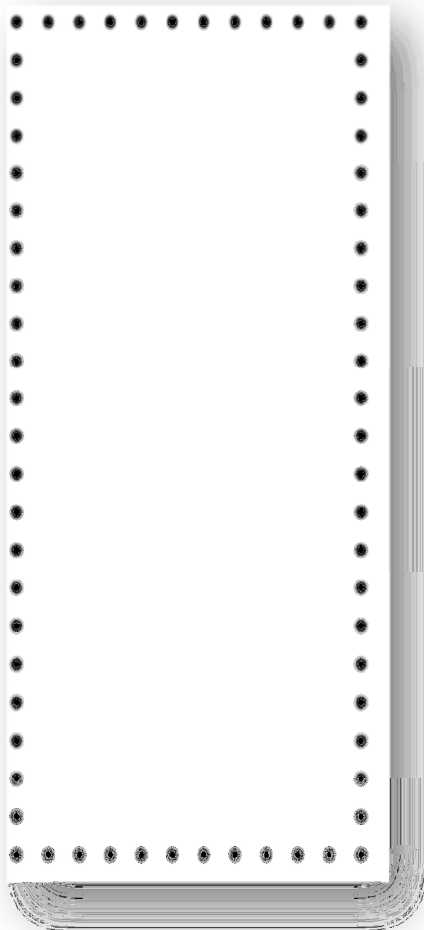
Eastern: Ellery Borow, PO Box 47; Waterville, ME 04903-0047
Southeast: Marty Hart, 4935 Olivia Dr. Antioch, TN 37013

Photos from Kentucky Field Trip By: James J., Laura A.



First Class Mail

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Club Meeting

**Tuesday
October 9, 2018
7:00 PM**

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