

# TAR HEEL



# ROCKHOUND

SEPTEMBER 2010

## CATAWBA VALLEY GEM AND MINERAL CLUB, INC.

### 2010 OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES

President:	Tom Winslow 800-589-4619	Editor:	Velda McLean 828-750-4213	Show Chairmen:	George Max 828-328-9107
Vice President:	Baxter Leonard	Field Trip:	Harry Polly		Baxter Leonard
Treasurer:	Zan Ritchie 828-495-8456		828-728-9553	Scholarship:	George Max 828-328-9107
Secretary:	Baxter Leonard	Education:	Glenn Bolick		

Club Address: PO Box 2521, Hickory, NC 28603-2521  
 Regular Meetings: Second Tuesday, 7:00 PM  
 St Aloysius Catholic Church  
 921 2<sup>nd</sup> 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.



## MINI MINERS MONTHLY

A Monthly Publication for Young Mineral Collectors

Vol. 4 No. 8

August 2010

Not every solid material that comes from the earth is a mineral. There is a difference between a mineral and a rock, for instance. Do you know the definition of a mineral? A mineral, by definition, is . . .

1. Inorganic, which means that it is not made by a living organism.
2. A Solid. There is one unusual exception. Native mercury is a mineral and is the only metal that is a liquid at normal temperatures.
3. Has a regular crystal structure. The crystal structures are described as crystal systems.
4. Made by nature which means minerals are not made, directly or indirectly, from human activity.
5. Has a predictable chemical formula.

### Which of the following are minerals?

Pyrite ("Fool's Gold"), Snow, Galena, Ice Cubes, Graphite, Ruby  
 Cubic Zirconia, Diamond, Fluorite

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From the previous page: Which of the following are minerals?  
 Snow: Mineral Galena: Mineral Ice Cubes: Not a mineral (made by humans in a freezer) Graphite: Mineral Ruby: Mineral Cubic Zirconia: Not a mineral (made in a laboratory) Fluorite: Mineral Diamond: Mineral

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Tom Winslow, Club President

Be thinking about what we need to do about a club web site. I would like to make a decision this meeting and see if we have any progress to report. I want the club to assume the domain names: CVGMC.COM and CVGMC.ORG as I have been paying GODADDY.COM for these annually from my own funds.

Also, at this meeting, we need to make a decision and approve funds for a club laptop and Microsoft Office software. The cost will be about \$1000.

I am looking forward to a great trip report from Danville, Kentucky. Sorry I missed the trip. Short n' sweet. The Prez.

## KENTUCKY FIELD TRIP

This was our first Kentucky geode trip and we had an absolutely enjoyable time! Whether amateur rockhounds like ourselves or seasoned rockhounds it was one of the best trips as you never know what you will find but you know that you are guaranteed a find. We found it very addictive. The travel wasn't bad and the weather and the company were great.

We would highly recommend this trip to everyone and look forward to next year!

John and Beth Oczkowski



## SEPTEMBER PROGRAM

Baxter Leonard



## CATAWBA VALLEY GEM AND MINERAL CLUB, INC Minutes, August 10, 2010

The August meeting of the CVGMC was called to order by club president Tom Winslow at 7:00 PM. Twenty eight members were present and one visitor, Ben Allman of Conover was welcomed. There were no corrections to the July's minutes and these were approved.

**Treasurer's Report:** Zan Ritchie stated the existing balance was \$13,904.60.

**Show Committee:** Eric Fritz stated a meeting was held on July 18 whereby several officers and one interested member were in attendance. As a result, George Max would be show chairman for 2011 with Baxter Leonard co-chairman. Eric & Beth Oczkowski would share co-dealer chairpersons.

**Field Trip Report:** Harry Polly announced no field trip for this month. The Labor Day weekend/ field trip to Danville, KY will center around the Holiday Inn Express with trips for the Quartz geodes.

**Education Committee:** Glenn Bolick stated that he provided a program to Brian Center East Nursing Home since the last meeting.

**Building Committee:** Albert Keiser stated there was no report.

**Announcements:** (1) Southeast- Gem, Mineral & Fossil Show at Cartersville GA August 20-22, 2010.

(2) Zan Ritchie, treasurer, stated it is imperative that members complete an annual membership application form with their dues to him in order to receive the monthly newsletter.

(3) Tom Winslow introduced guest Ben Allman- Tom & Ben have purchased the old Walker Foundry in Taylorsville, N.C.- they are considering a future "rock swap/auction with a date TBA- possibly this fall.

**Old Business:** The club has in the past brought up the desire to start a web site--however, as to this date, no concrete decisions have been completed. Eric Fritz proposed that Beth

Oczkowski's daughter, who is a graphic designer, be allowed to design a club web site. This was seconded and a vote was taken with passage of this motion.

The business was concluded and door prizes were drawn by members. The program was presented by Betty & Warren Hollar on their trip to the *Crater of Diamonds State Park* in Murfreesboro, Arkansas earlier this year--also, mention of several quartz mines in the area--this was very interesting and informative.

The meeting adjourned with the conclusion of the program at approximately 8:30 PM.

Respectively submitted:  
Baxter Leonard, acting Secretary

## A PRECIOUS JEWEL!



George Max finally has a grandson who was born in North Carolina! George is looking forward to taking John rockhounding. John W. Max was born August 28 in Goldsboro to Dave and Karla Max. He is already a precious jewel!

## ANNUAL PICNIC 2010 TAKE 2

Rick And Joan Glover



To view the video, please click the link ↓

[HTTP://SHARING.THEFLIP.COM/SESSION/87640FFAC370B82A5A325658C3F54E68/VIDEO/1821225](http://sharing.theflip.com/session/87640ffac370b82a5a325658c3f54e68/video/1821225)

## DUES

*The Constitution and By-Laws* of the Club are quite specific about how, when and what dues are to be paid. Also, the *Membership Application and Information Form* is the only way for the Club to know who is a member, how to contact that member and where and how to send the Newsletter. Therefore, proper payment of dues and completion of a Membership Form are both required for membership.

### The by-laws state that:

Dues shall be payable annually, in advance, for a calendar year, and no later than the end of February.

Dues shall be pro-rated by the following formula:

**January 1-June 30**, full amount of annual dues.

**July 1-September 30**, 50% of annual dues and

**October 1-December 1**, full amount of annual dues which shall apply as payment for the remainder of the current year and for the year following.

**In order for these requirements to be met, the following policies are now in effect:**

No dues will be accepted without an accompanying membership form with at least the minimum information necessary to identify and contact you, including: date; whether the dues are for new member(s) or for a renewal; name(s) of member(s); type of membership; mailing address if receiving Newsletter by mail, email address if receiving Newsletter electronically; and how you want your Newsletter delivered (mail, email, or both). A form must be submitted every year, even if your information is unchanged.

A legible copy of the form and the payment can be delivered by mail to the Club's address (P.O. Box 2521, Hickory, NC 28603-2521) or delivered to the Treasurer (Zan Ritchie) at a meeting. If you give these items to a third party, you are risking that your dues might not be paid properly. The Club will not be responsible for any errors of submission or failure to deliver the form and dues.

If you pay more than the pro-rated amount given above, the excess will not be refunded.

**No dues will be accepted at the annual show.**

Membership forms are available from any Officer of the Club at a meeting or elsewhere. The Newsletter Editor will include a membership form with the December newsletter. You may also request a membership form by mail or email from any officer: see phone numbers in Newsletter. You may also request a form by mailing to the Club's address, given above or by email to [cvgmcrocks@gmail.com](mailto:cvgmcrocks@gmail.com).



## FIELD TRIP NEWS

Harry Polly, Field Trip Coordinator

There will not be another field trip for September. I will be at Wildacres next week and will not have access to computer. Will put something together for October.

### Kentucky

Just got back from Kentucky. Best field trip ever to Kentucky. Due to the flooding in May, the creeks were swamped with geodes. Everyone did real well. Had a good turnout of members, and all were pleased with their finds.

Mike and Chrissy Streeter took the following pictures while collecting geodes with the group in Kentucky last Saturday (September 4th).



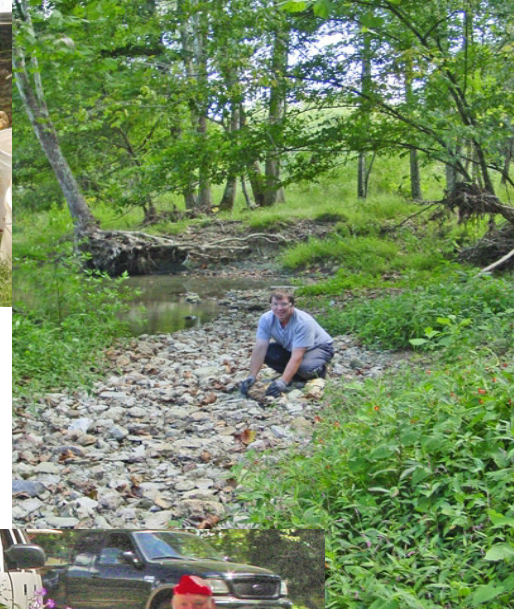
**Dry Creek Bed**



**A Day's Find**



**Geodes**



**Ken  
Twardzick  
Collecting**



**Chrissy  
Streeter  
Harry  
Polly  
At  
Lunch**

**Opal  
Streeter  
Posing**





## THE CAROLINA EMPEROR

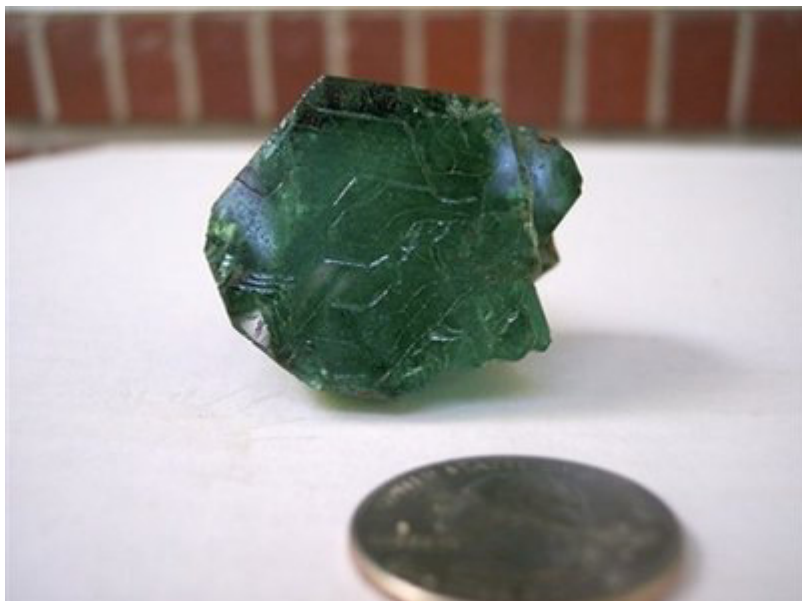


At just over 64 carats, the Carolina Emperor emerald, owned by Renn Adams (above left) and Terry Ledford (right) is an exquisite gem. The gem was found on Adams' property in the Hiddenite Community where both men have been partners in prospecting since 2001. In a recent auction, a gem with similar size and shape--the Catherine the Great emerald--sold for \$1.65 million. Emerald Mines, operated by Jamie Hill of Hiddenite.



This undated photo provided by gemologist C.R. 'Cap' Beesley shows the Carolina Emperor emerald after its final cut.

The area around Hiddenite is famous for its emeralds, which are otherwise rare in North America. Emeralds require a unique set of geological conditions to grow: high-temperature fluids laced with beryllium must infiltrate rocks with just a hint of chromium in them, which leaches out and gives the stones their characteristic green hue.



This Aug 17, 2009 photo provided by Terry Ledford shows the Carolina Emperor emerald prior to cutting, with a U.S. 25-cent coin in the foreground.



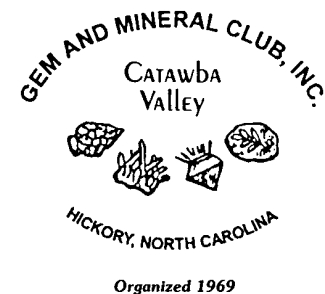
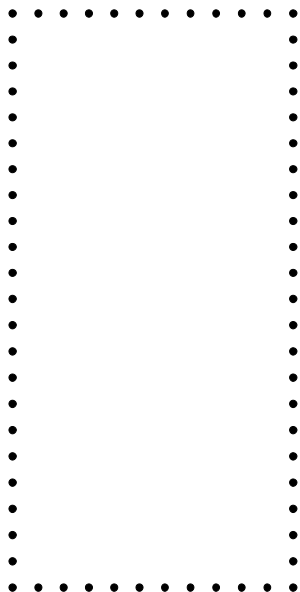
This undated handout photo provided by gemologist C.R. 'Cap' Beesley shows the Carolina Emperor emerald mined by Terry Ledford and Renn Adams in Hiddenite.

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First Class Mail



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**Club Meeting**

**Tuesday  
September 14, 2010  
7:00 PM**

**St Aloysius Catholic Church  
921 2<sup>nd</sup> St NE  
Hickory, NC**