

TAR HEEL



ROCKHOUND

SEPTEMBER 2011

## CATAWBA VALLEY GEM & MINERAL CLUB, INC.

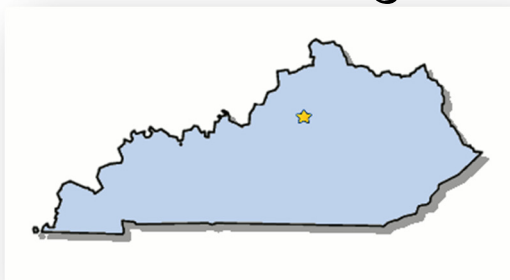
### 2011 OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES

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.

## Pictures from Kentucky



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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](mailto:velda@email.com)

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Baxter Leonard, Club President

September is a month that signifies "Fall is around the corner." It's a good month for activities and gives expectations for upcoming family/ friend holidays to come. The field trip activities are anticipated and all members, if able to do so, are encouraged to participate in these events. Our knowledge in the hobby and equally the friendships are strengthened through these local planned trips.

It's not too early to think of our grab bags in January. Now is the time to "sort out" and clean material, as well as collecting specimens during the fall field trips. Children certainly enjoy these offerings at our annual March show, as well as the teachers & parents that accompany them for such a nominal price.

May September be a great month for all members and their families, and "happy collecting" this Fall.

***Baxter Leonard***

## SEPTEMBER PROGRAM

Loyd Hoke, Program Director

Our program for September will be Joan and Rick Glover's Rock Trip to Nebraska.

***Loyd Hoke***

## FIELD TRIP NEWS

Harry Polly, Field Trip Coordinator

There will not be a field trip this month. The Kentucky trip was it.

I talked with Terry Ledford last night concerning the Jackson's Crossroads trip. He said that he would not be going down in October, but would be going in November. He was not sure of the date as of yet, but would let me know. I will schedule a trip for October to another location.



***Harry Polly***

## CATAWBA VALLEY GEM AND MINERAL CLUB, INC. Minutes, August 9, 2011

The August 9, 2011 meeting of the CVGMC was called to order by President Baxter Leonard at 7:00 PM. There were 30 members and guests present. The minutes of the July 2011 meeting were read with the correction that Zan Ritchie's July Treasurer report was given in absentia and the minutes were then approved by the Club.

**Treasurer Report:** Zan Ritchie reported that the checkbook and savings balance was \$12,183.22.

**Field Trip Report:** There was no trip in July. The August trip will be at the Presnell Mine site looking for Kyanite.

**Show Committee:** None

**Education Committee:** None

**Unfinished Business:** Zan Ritchie gave the 2011 Show expense review. Zan discussed the disparity of the Club's profit between the 2010 and 2011 Shows. A major difference was the cost of renting the Hickory Metro Convention Center (HMCC). The HMCC in 2010 forgot to charge the Club for some expenses, but charged the Club for full expenses at the 2011 show. Also a concern was the Club's out of pocket expenses for the 2011 Show. A motion by Larry Huffman and seconded by Harry Polly was made to accept the Treasurer's expense report for the 2011 Show. It was passed.

**New Business:** Gary Ledford, a dealer at the Club's Show, passed away from a heart attack.

**Closing of Business:** The business meeting adjourned at 7:15 PM

**Program:** A talk was given by Club member Harry Polly on collecting geodes in Kentucky. He also discussed the upcoming club field trip to the Danville, Kentucky area to collect geodes.

Respectfully submitted,

Dean Russell, Secretary



# KENTUCKY ROCKS! MCCLURE FARM GEODE HUNT

By Mike Streeter

(mcstreeter@charter.net)

A great time was had by all who attended the Catawba Valley Gem & Mineral Club's 2011 Kentucky Geode hunt, as demonstrated by following pictures taken on the first of two very hot days.



Leonard McClure & Opal



Rick McClure



Our fearless leader, Ann Koeberling

The 2011 Kentucky geode hunt was a scorcher, but great fun was had by all who braved the heat.

See <http://cvgmc.com/SpecialEvents.html> or <http://cvgmc.com/FieldTrips.html> for a link to a field trip picture report about last weekend's Kentucky trip.

***Mike Streeter***



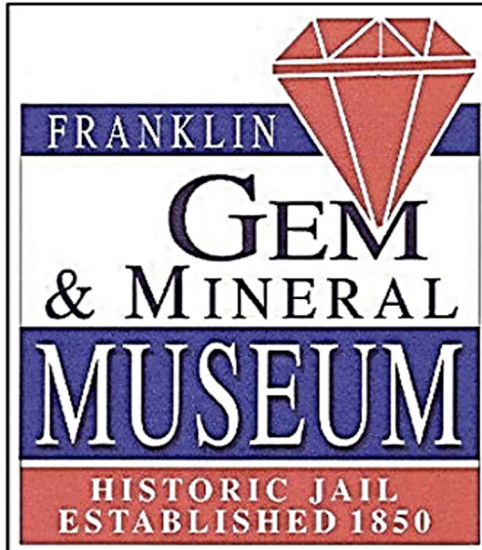
Terri & Dean Russell







# Jail House Rocks!



## Franklin Gem and Mineral Museum

25 Phillips Street, Franklin, NC 28734 (828)-369-7831

Hours of operation are subject to change without notice. Please call before your visit.

School Groups and Tour Groups of 10 or more are welcome by appointment!

Groups call (828)-371-2436 or (828)-342-6360

### Scheduled hours of operation:

May 1 to October 31  
November 1 to April 30

Noon - 4 pm  
Noon - 4 pm

Monday through Saturday  
Saturday Only

## FREE ADMISSION! THIS JAIL HOUSE ROCKS!

The Historic Old Jail of Macon County was built in 1850 and was in use as a jail house until 1972. In 1974 The Gem and Mineral Society of Franklin, NC in cooperation with the Macon County Commissioners and help from local businesses; opened it back up to the public as the Franklin Gem and Mineral Museum. The "Old Jail House Museum" now imprisons thousands of specimens on display in 8 rooms. Our displays not only contain specimens of local minerals and gem stones (found in the famous Cowee Valley) but gems, minerals and artifacts from around the world. There are 4 other members only rooms; a library, meeting / workshop room, lapidary work shop and an office. The museum is hosted by volunteers from the Gem and Mineral Society of Franklin, NC and is able to operate because of your generous donations, purchases from the gift shop, the Gemboree shows, and a yearly gemstone raffle.

This year the winner of the raffle, for the first time, is a local gentleman. **Arthur Sapin!** He won a 14K gold ring set with a 10ct Ruby from Cowee Valley, NC.

## GEMBOREE for 2011

46th Annual Gemboree:  
22nd Annual Leaf Lookers Gemboree:

<http://fgmm.org/>

July, 2012 / Thru-Sat 10am-6pm / Sun Noon to 5pm  
**Oct 14-16, 2011** / Fri-Sat 10am to 6pm / Sun Noon to 5pm  
The Macon County Recreation Park Community Building,  
1288 Georgia Rd, across from Whistle Stop Mall  
\$3.00 Adults / Children 12 and under Free

## HAVING FUN: JUNIOR ACTIVITIES

by Jim Brace-Thompson, Juniors Program Chair

AFMS Show Redux



I attended the AFMS Show & Convention in Syracuse seven years ago and was impressed, but I have to say the Syracuse society outdid themselves as they stepped up to the plate and hosted the national show once again in July. As Juniors Chair, I'll restrict my comments to that portion of the show, but it was, in all respects, simply outstanding. On behalf of Nancy and me—and speaking on behalf of the entire California Federation that I represented as CFMS President—thank you, Gem & Mineral Society of Syracuse!

First to catch my eye was the Juniors Activities booth filled with fun activities, around which there was always a crowd of kids. The huge sluice box stood out, and—judging by the clean-up job at the end—the soapstone carving station proved especially popular. Judy Cook, Patricia Egolf, and their fellow club members provided a fine example of the sorts of kids' activities I wish we could see at every local show.

I was also pleased to see the many displays entered by junior members. It was neat seeing specimens kids had collected locally, as well as specimens that came from our new "Rock Pals" exchange program initiated by Pat Egolf of the Syracuse society. (For details on how your kids can exchange rocks with kids in AFMS clubs across the country, go to the Kids Corner section of the AFMS web site and click on "Rock Pals"). A stunning Educational Exhibit of azurite, malachite, and chrysocolla was entered by Alex Moedel, who traveled all the way from the Idaho Falls Gem & Mineral Society with her exhibit. Although only 16, Alex entered in the Master's Division and won not just the trophy for that division with a perfect score of 100 points, but also thereby earned the Lillian Turner Junior Award for Outstanding Junior Exhibit.

The show committee invited me to host a junior activities discussion forum, and rather than go it alone, I invited Darryl "Diamond Dan" Powell to co-host it with me. Darryl and I first met the last time the AFMS Show was held in Syracuse, so this was something of a homecoming reunion for us. Both Darryl and I learned some new things, and we hope all in attendance took home new ideas and resource suggestions to try out. If you missed the talk but would like to receive the handouts, drop me a note. It was especially great seeing so many people I usually "see" only via email correspondence for our FRA badge program, like Michael Putney with his great Mineral Minds kids-only club in New York.

Finally, when I established that badge program in 2004, my plan was to update and enhance it every four years. We went from 9 activity badges and the Rockhound badge in 2004 to 15 activity badges in 2008—and a Rock Star pin in 2010 for kids who earn all the badges. At this year's convention, I'm very grateful to AFMS for generously approving a budget line for me to add 5 new badges starting in 2012. I now have to roll up my sleeves in developing activities and badge designs for Fluorescent Minerals, Special Effects, The World of Miniatures, Reaching Across Generations, and Maps. If anyone has ideas for specific activities to include within these broad categories, especially activities you've tried out with school kids and junior members, I welcome suggestions (jbraceth@roadrunner.com; 805-659-3577).

And beyond juniors activities, we enjoyed that boat ride up the Erie Canal, collecting excursions for Herkimers and fossils, a tour of the Museum of the Earth, eating too much at Tully's and the Dinosaur Bar-B-Que, and socializing with so many fine folks. I don't know about everyone else, but this was one show where both Nancy and I could definitely be seen having fun!



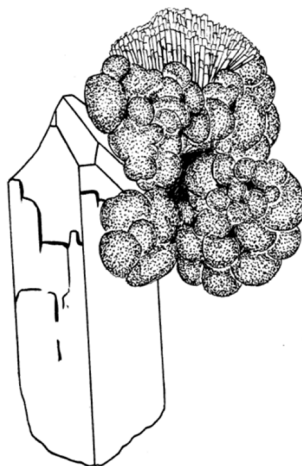
The author with Darryl Powell  
Photo by Lizzie Triano

AFMS Newsletter—September, 2011

## MINI MINERS MONTHLY

Vol. 5 No. 8 A Monthly Publication for Young Mineral Collectors August 2011

### Mineral of the Month GOETHITE



The chemical formula for goethite is  $\text{FeO}(\text{OH})$ . You will notice that this is close to the chemical formula for hematite,  $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3$ . Both goethite and hematite are important iron ores. Goethite is commonly known as brown iron ore because it is typically brown, although it can sometimes be black, like hematite. Goethite forms when iron minerals weather and are broken down by water and oxygen. It is an important part of many soils. It is a common mineral and is found

all over the world.

Goethite crystals are not common. It is very often found as rounded, bubbly masses. But in Colorado, USA, goethite has been found both as crystals and as rounded masses. In the specimen pictured here, a smoky quartz crystal is partly covered by rounded goethite which is topped off with a spray of goethite crystals. This specimen was found at the Dreamtime Claim, Crystal Peak area, Teller County.

Goethite was named after the famous German poet and philosopher Johann Wolfgang von Goethe (1749-1832). (Right: Picture of J.W. von Goethe, 1774 by G.F. Schmoll. This picture is in the public domain.)



**Chemical Formula:**  $\text{FeO}(\text{OH})$

**Crystal System:**

Orthorhombic

**Color:** Black, brown, reddish brown, yellow-brown

**Luster:** Earthy to silky

**Hardness:** 5 - 5.5

**Specific Gravity:** 3.8

**Streak:** Yellowish brown

By Darryl Powell

Diamond Dan Publications

P.O. Box 143

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[www.diamonddanpublications.net](http://www.diamonddanpublications.net)

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**Club Meeting  
Tuesday  
September 13, 2011**

**7:00 PM**

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

***Tar Heel Rockhound***  
Velda McLean, Editor  
Post Office Box 2521  
Hickory, North Carolina 28603-2521  
<http://www.evghmc.com/>