

# FORSYTH GEM AND MINERAL CLUB, INC.

## *Nature's Treasures*

January 17, 2019

\*\*\* *Public Version* \*\*\*



**MEETING:** The next meeting of the Forsyth Gem and Mineral Club will be held at **7:30 PM, January 17, 2019**, the third Thursday of the Month, at **Vulcan Materials Company's Training Center, 4401 N. Patterson Ave., Winston-Salem, NC**



**PROGRAM:** The program for the meeting will be a DVD about Yellowstone park from the How the Earth Was Made series.



**Refreshments:** Refreshments for the meeting will be provided by **Sandra and Stephanie Myers**. The Club will provide cups and napkins and ice for the refreshments. Those volunteering to provide refreshments need only provide sufficient drinks and snacks, such as, cookies, cakes, crackers, or donuts *and ice*

### 2019 Refreshment List

January	<b>Sandra and Stephanie Myers</b>	July	*** <i>two needed</i> ***
February	Dow and Gaskill	August	Picnic
March	Hebert and *** <i>one needed</i> ***	September	Show
April	Whicker and Beck	October	*** <i>two needed</i> ***
May	Goode and McGilvary	November	Reed and Marion
June	TBD	December	Holiday/Show Dinner

If you enjoy the refreshments, please be prepared to take a turn in furnishing them. NOTE: if you volunteer to bring refreshments, please do so. If you are unable to attend for any reason, contact Vickie or Al Gaskill prior to the meeting so that alternate arrangements can be made.

*Note: Due to equipment issues in the meeting area kitchen, it will be necessary for the refreshments providers to also bring ice for the drinks, at least for the next couple of months.*

### Dates To Remember:

**September 6-8, 2019** – Annual Gem, Mineral, Jewelry, and Fossil Show



**DON'T FORGET YOUR NAME TAGS**



### Inclement Weather Procedure

Winter is just around the corner and with it chances for bad weather for the next few months, so it is time to review the procedures to be followed in case of bad or threatening weather on any of the event or meeting dates.

If inclement weather is a possibility, plans are to try to make a go/no-go decision by the day before the meeting. If the decision is made to cancel, an email alert will be sent out, as well as a notice posted on the club web page. Members who do not have email or internet capability should call one of the officers.



## **Entrance Changes**

Due to procedure changes by Vulcan, entrance to the building for the monthly meetings will now be done through the front, main entrance.

In addition, it will no longer be appropriate/valid to prop open the door for late arrivals. Because of this it is strongly encouraged for everyone to be on time if at all possible.



## **FGMC / DMC Field Trip**

The January DMC field trip will be hosted by FGMC. This will fulfill our requirement to periodically host a trip in order to be able to continue to participate in trips hosted by other groups.

The field trip will be to Douglass Lake for collecting quartz specimens. See the detailed information in the DMC field trip notice.



## **Dues Renewal Time**

Just a reminder that dues for the coming year to due to be paid by the end of the current year. Dues may be paid at the November meeting, at the December dinner, or mailed to the Treasurer.

Members who do not renew by the time of the March meeting will be dropped.

In order to assist, a copy of the 2019 membership form is included in this newsletter and will also be in the coming months' editions. Also, a reminder that ALL members need to fill out the forms with current information each year.



## **Field Trip Committee Meeting**

Reminder that the field trip committee will meet prior to the January meeting. The meeting will be held just before the January meeting on Thursday, January 17. The meeting will start at 6 PM.

Anyone who has ideas on possible field trip locations but is not able to make the meeting is encouraged to get the information to other members, in particular Al Gaskill or Charles Whicker.



## **Display Cases for Sale**

Trudi Hartz has donated several display cases of various sizes to the club to be sold. Arvil Marion is handling the details and will have photos at the January meeting. One very nice flat case approximately 5ft X 2ft X 1ft.



## **Upcoming Shows**

**March 22, 23 & 24, 2019 - Hickory, NC - 49th Annual Gem, Mineral, Fossil, and Jewelry Show - Catawba Valley Gem & Mineral Club, Inc.** Fri: 9 AM to 6 PM; Sat: 9 AM to 6 PM; Sun: 10 AM to 5PM - Hickory Metro Convention Center - 1960 13th Ave. Drive SE, Hickory, NC 28602 off of I-40, Exit 125 - Admission is \$5.00, which good for all three days; Children under 12 free; Also free - Boy & Girl Scouts in uniform, law enforcement officers & military with ID, and approved school & youth groups. - Hourly door prizes and a grand prize drawn at the end of the show, 29 vendors with gems, minerals, fossils, jewelry; Theme "Gems, Minerals and Fossils from the Mountains to the Coast." ; Focal display and presentations including; hands-on displays; mini-mine; faceting, cabochon cutting, specimen identification by geologists; Show contact: Dean Russell, Show Chairperson, (828) 303-1448 Email contact: [cvgmcsecretary@aol.com](mailto:cvgmcsecretary@aol.com) <http://www.cvgmc.com>

**FORSYTH GEM AND MINERAL CLUB, INC.**  
**Membership Application**  
**For the Year 2019**

**Date** \_\_\_\_\_

**Member Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Family Names: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_  
Street City State Zip

**Telephone** Home (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
Work (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

**E-Mail Address** \_\_\_\_\_

If you have an e-mail address, would you be interested in receiving the bulletin via e-mail rather than hard copy? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

**Annual Dues of \$15.00** are payable January 1 for the current year, per family (mailing address). Dues are reduced to \$8.00 per family, if joining after July 1 of the year. *An additional fee of \$5 per year is charged for those who wish to receive a printed newsletter by regular mail. (\$2.50 for those joining after July 1.)*

I am interested in the following activities (check all that apply):

\_\_\_ Mineral Collecting      \_\_\_ Fossils      \_\_\_ Gold or Silver Smithing  
\_\_\_ Lapidary      \_\_\_ Faceting      \_\_\_ Carving  
\_\_\_ Jewelry Making      \_\_\_ Wire Wrapping      \_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

**I would like to help with the Annual Gem and Mineral Show?      Yes      No**

**Circle yes or no**

**Areas needing volunteers work in are:**

Setup & display case assembly      Display case takedown and loading  
Club area setup & table covering      Dealer dinner  
Admission & information  
Grab bag, geode, and gold panning sales      Geode cutting (saw operator)

Please **complete** and **return to the Club Treasurer, Alex McGilvary, at the address below.**

**Alex McGilvary**  
**1524 Trinity Garden Circle**  
**Clemmons, NC 27012-8356**



## **Dixie Mineral Council Field Trip**

**An Official Field Trip of the Forsyth Gem and Mineral Club (Winston Salem, NC) - HOST**

**Note:** DMC Field Trips are for club members of DMC-affiliated clubs and their families only. Liability issues mean that these trips cannot be attended by the general public unless otherwise noted.

### **Douglas Lake**

#### **Jefferson County, Tennessee**

**TRIP:** Douglas Lake is a 30,000 acre impoundment located near Dandridge, Tennessee with over 500 miles of shoreline. It is managed by the Tennessee Valley Authority. Each winter, the TVA lowers the water level significantly, exposing miles of dry lake bed. We will be searching the dry lake bed for “Douglas Lake Diamonds”.

**COLLECTING:** “Douglas Lake Diamonds” is a phrase coined by local rockhounds for the quartz crystals found at the site due to their resemblance to Herkimer “diamonds” from New York. Crystals found here are often double terminated or twinned and are very clear. Sizes range from smaller than a pea to thumb size. Small crystal lined geodes are found here as well as chert, fossils, and agate. Note: It is illegal to remove, disturb, dig or damage historical or cultural artifacts on federal property, including items exposed on land normally covered by water. The public is asked to leave such materials in place and report anyone digging for artifacts to TVA police at 1-855-476-2489.

**BRING:** The TVA will not allow any digging or excavation of the lake bed, therefore we will be surface collecting only. Bring suitable containers for your specimens. Wear waterproof boots, warm clothes and a change of clothing. The wind can be quite cold coming off the lake with nothing to block it. Be prepared to do a lot of walking.

**REQUIREMENTS:** No special requirements, although we will be subject to the TVA rules and regulations for public lands. As noted earlier, no digging in the lake bed is allowed, no disturbing artifacts, and no littering. More information can be found at [www.tva.gov](http://www.tva.gov).

**SPECIAL CONDITIONS:** We will be parking at the public boat ramp near the dam. The parking is paved and adjacent to the collecting site. The collecting area is slightly to moderately inclined. There will be no fee or registration required.

**CHILDREN (Yes):** Children are allowed but must be closely supervised by a responsible adult or legal guardian. The site is probably not appropriate for small children unless closely watched.

**PETS (Yes):** Pets are allowed but must be closely supervised.

**FACILITIES:** There are restrooms at the site. There are convenience stores nearby and along the route and some restaurants in Dandridge.

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:** More information about Douglas Lake can be found at [www.douglaslake.info](http://www.douglaslake.info), including water levels, public ramps and lodging.



## Dixie Mineral Council Field Trip

An Official Field Trip of Athens Rock and Gem Club (Athens, GA) - HOST  
An Official Field Trip of the Forsyth Gem & Mineral Club

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** The February DMC trip occurs before our February meeting/newsletter time, so the information is included this month.

**Note:** DMC Field Trips are for club members of DMC-affiliated clubs and their families only. Liability issues mean that these trips cannot be attended by the general public unless otherwise noted.

### **Stoney Bluff Girard, GA**

**TRIP:** This is the Third Bi-annual trip to collect agate about 30 miles south of Augusta, GA. We will assemble in Girard, GA at 9 am in the vacant lot just south of the Post Office (do not park in the Post Office parking lot). The collecting site is only a few miles away.

**COLLECTING:** "Savannah River Agate"

**BRING:** Colorful, agatized material can be found on the surface at the site, but many people usually bring light digging tools and small pry bars to free larger boulders from the sandy soil. Leather gloves and safety glasses are recommended. Bring plenty of water and dress for the weather. **NOTE:** All holes must be re-filled before you leave.

**CHILDREN (Yes):** Children are allowed but must have adult supervision at all times.

**PETS (No):** Pets are not allowed.

**FACILITIES:** There are no facilities at this site and the closest facilities are several miles away.



### Snack Volunteers Needed

As you may have noticed on the front page snacks schedule there are still several spots to be filled.

As a reminder the monthly snacks are provided by members. Usually two families contribute each month. Anything can be brought, with cookies, chips, fruit trays, etc. being common. However some groups get very creative. Also a variety of drinks should be provided, as well as ice currently.

If you are willing to help out on one of the months, contact Vickie Gaskill to get on the list.



### Meeting Minutes

26 members attended the December meeting of FGMC.

This supper meeting at Golden Corral Hanes Mall is a "Thank You" to members that volunteered at the FGMC show in September. Great food, good company!

.Respectfully Submitted,  
Lisa Reed, Secretary

### Nature's Treasures

Nature's Treasures is the monthly newsletter of the Forsyth Gem and Mineral Club.

<b>President:</b>	Al Gaskill	
<b>Vice-President:</b>	Charles Whicker	
<b>Secretary:</b>	Lisa Reed	
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Alex McGilvary	
<b>Directors</b>	David Goode Sandra Myers Sherry Marion Ken Reed	
<b>Hospitality Chair:</b>	Vickie Gaskill	
<b>Editor:</b>	Wayne Ketner	336-769-3553