

FORSYTH GEM AND MINERAL CLUB, INC.

Nature's Treasures

February 21, 2019

*** PUBLIC VERSION ***



MEETING: The next meeting of the Forsyth Gem and Mineral Club will be held at **7:30 PM, February 21, 2019**, the third Thursday of the Month, at **Vulcan Materials Company's Training Center, 4401 N. Patterson Ave., Winston-Salem, NC**



PROGRAM: Our speaker for the February meeting will be Shaun Shelton. His topic will be the history of and minerals found at the Silver Hill mine in Davidson County.



Refreshments: Refreshments for the meeting will be provided by the **Dows and Brouhles**. 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	Sandra and Stephanie Myers	July	Shelton and Hyde
February	Dow and Brouhle	August	Picnic
March	Hebert and Gaskill	September	Show
April	Whicker and Beck	October	Fulcher and *** one needed ***
May	Goode and McGilvary	November	Reed and Marion
June	Gonzalez & Schlottman	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 here and in North Carolina that always comes with a chance of “surprises”, 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.



In Memorium - Libbi Stroud

It is with great sadness that we report that long-time member Libbi Stroud left her mortal body on February 5th. Libbi was a friend to all and a smiling face always pleasant to have around. Though she didn't often go on field trips she was frequently at the club meetings and was a consistent presence at the annual show until her health started failing.

Libbi is survived by her husband Jim, who is a very active club member and long-time Vulcan liaison.

Though Libbi enjoyed rocks, her main passion was flowers. She and Jim worked together to create a very impressive home garden and fish pond.

A memorial service will be held on Saturday Feb 23 at Hayworth-Miller Funeral Home in Lewisville.

The obituary and more information on the memorial service can be found at: <https://www.hayworth-miller.com/notices/ElizabethLibbi-Stroud?fbclid=IwAR0WrbhmeTE-om8WwORcXgVnKQUHiw-w34Ccvh15LuNOEjsDcvY2-L7htkw>



Final Call on Dues

Just a reminder that dues for the coming year to due are past due. Dues may be paid at the meeting or mailed to the Treasurer.

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

If you are a new member who joined after July 1 and you paid a full year's dues, you do not need to renew. If you joined before July 1, or if you joined after July 1 but paid the half-year rate, then you do need to renew. All longer-term members also need to renew. If you have a question, contact Treasurer Alex McGilvary.

Also, as a reminder – EVERYONE needs to fill out a membership form. The form is how the roster gets updated and verified.



DMC Field Trip

The Dixie Mineral Council's field trip for February is before the February club meeting and was listed in the January newsletter.

The DMC field trip for March will be held on Saturday, March 23, at Ross Creek in Grueti-Laager, TN. Since the trip will be after the March meeting, details will be in the March newsletter.



Upcoming Shows / Events

February 23, 2019 – Schiele Museum, Gastonia, NC – Annual Fossil Fair – 10 AM to 4 PM. – Cost is \$3 in addition to normal museum admission. More information at: <http://www.schielemuseum.org/happening/373-fossil-fair.html>

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 <http://www.cvgmc.com>



FGMC Field Trip

The original field trip planned for February was to be to the Schiele Museum Fossil Fair on Feb 23. However since this date conflicts with the memorial service for Libbi Stroud it will not be held as an official club event. Members interested in going on their own can see the information in the events section or on the Schiele Museum web site.

It is possible that an alternate February trip will be planned, but details were not available at newsletter press time. If such an event is to be held details will be provided at the February meeting.

In addition, the Field Trip committee met before the January meeting and set out a plan of tentative trips for the year. Note that the key word here is TENTATIVE. Each trip will be confirmed closer to its planned time. The current plan for the year is:

2019 FGMC Tentative Field Trip Schedule

Date	Location	Description	Trip Leader
January	Douglas Lake	Quartz crystals	Al Gaskill
February	Schiele Museum	Museum and Show	David Goode
March	Probst farm	Corundum	Scott Bruhle
April	Hiddenite	Rutile, quartz, mica	Jeff Schlottman
May	Black Mountain	Kyanite, mica	Charles Whicker
June	Little Pine and Sinkhole	Garnets, etc	Shaun Shelton
July	Club Auction		Jeff Schlottman
August	NC Natural Science Museum	Tour	Jeff Schlottman
September		Open	
October		Open	
November	Tellus Museum, Patty Quarry	Agates	Charles Whicker
December		Open	



Gauging Interest

There have been a couple of items come up where members have an opportunity to participate in some additional activities.

First, David Goode has been enjoying the Great Courses lectures on video. He is wondering if any other members might be interested in getting together on a sporadic basis to watch additional episodes. Details would be worked out about where, how long, and how often. If anyone is interested, contact David for more information.

Second, Charles Whicker and David Goode have obtained some information about the annual “Super Dig” in Franklin, NJ on April 27. More information can be found at: <http://www.sterlinghillssuperdig.org/>

The Franklin area is particularly notable for its abundance of fluorescent minerals.

Charles is looking to discuss interest and possible details at the February meeting. Note that this would be an overnight trip.

If you are interested in going, plan to attend the meeting if at all possible. If you are interested but can't make the meeting, then notify Charles or David.



School Presentation

On January 31, Sherry & Arvil Marion and Lisa & Ken Reed represented the club by visiting the North Davie Middle School. The group gave presentations to the 8th grade science classes. The topics covered were: the Types of Rocks and their development, Fossils, Petrification, and the Geologic Time Scale. During the day there were 4 sessions, attended by 6 classes – about 175 students in all. A big hit during the presentations was the piece of coprolite (petrified poop) that we passed around – Before telling them what it was! We also presented to the school, on behalf of the club, a “sample teaching kit” containing a piece of petrified wood from Arizona, a petrified clam, worm tube, and vertebrae collected on one of our club trips to Aurora, NC some years ago.



Meeting Minutes

The following is the minutes from the Field Trip Committee meeting held just prior to the regular January meeting:

Items discussed at the Field Trip Planning Meeting held 1/17/19:

Schiele Museum, Gastonia, NC- February

Propst Farm – March

Laurel Fork, VA- near Meadows of Dan – March, April time frame. Private property. Smoky quartz.

Hiddenite, NC – April

Black Mountain NC area- Charlie Whicker’s aunt’s property – May

Little Pine Garnet Mine, Marshall, NC – June

FGMC Auction- July. Invite other clubs. Donate back to club - 20% donation of money raised from FGMC members, and 30% from other clubs.

Natural Science Museum Raleigh, NC- behind the scenes tour with Chris Tacker- August

Castle Hayne, NC – October- fossils

Summerville, GA. Quarry- Sandy Patty Quarry. Cartersville, GA and Tellus Museum- behind the scenes walk-through. Possible 2-day fieldtrip in November.

Hogg Mine- GA/Alabama border. 6 hours. Tourmaline, schorl, aquamarine

Sterling Hill, NJ- fluorescent minerals

Irvine, KY. Dog tooth calcite, agate, geodes, plant fossils, stromatalites, coral heads.

Chunky Gal Mine, NC – no digging. Corundum, ruby in zoisite.

Fairy Stone State Park, VA- Stuart, VA

Ray Mine, NC – no digging. Mica and feldspar.

All field trips and dates are subject to final determination, permission, and weather. Watch the newsletter for details and timing.

The following is the minutes from the regular club meeting:

33 members and guests were present.

We watched a video about Yellowstone Park from “How the Earth was Made” series.

Vickie Gaskill and Arvil Marion won the door prize drawings and gave their tickets to 2 newer members- Logan Sheets- chose a GGG faceted stone and Colston Beck- chose a YAG faceted stone.

Refreshments provided by Sandra and Stephanie Myers. Many thanks!

Field trip to Douglas Lake, Jefferson County, TN. Saturday 1/19/19. 9 am. Meet at dam. Small double-terminated quartz crystals may be found.

Field trip 2/23/19. Schiele Museum, 1500 E. Garrison Blvd. Gastonia, NC. Fossil Fair.

.Respectfully Submitted,
Lisa Reed, Secretary



Meet the Vendor: Crystal Perfection

This article is starting a new series that will be a sporadic filler for the newsletter. Each instance in the series will provide a short synopsis of one of the vendors that come to and set up at our show. Since the presence of the vendors is the main ingredient that brings people to the show, this will be a chance for members who have not met the dealers to get a little bit of information about them.

To kick off the series we will be starting with the dealers who are also members of the club. This initial presentation is about one of the longest-attending vendors at the show: Crystal Perfection.

Crystal Perfection is owned and operated by Jeff and Jeanne Schlottman. They are primarily mineral dealers, though they also have a few tools, reference materials, T-shirts, etc.

Crystal Perfection offers a wide variety of minerals – both in type and in quality. There are many inexpensive samples, primarily aimed at the new collector, students, etc. But they also carry a lot of high-end items as well.

Jeff regularly attends the national show in Tucson each year to buy and trade for new material, so the inventory changes from year to year.

In addition to attending a number of shows each year they also run a pretty active web site.

Jeff retired from his corporate job a few years back and now devotes most of his time to his “hobby”/business.

Jeff is also highly active with the club’s field trips and is the sponsor and arranger of several trips in the past.

Jeff has served in a few positions in the club, most notably as Vice-President and Field Trip Chair on several occasions. Jeanne served a couple of years as President.

For more information see the web site at: <https://www.crystal-perfection.com/> or talk to Jeff or Jeanne at any of the club activities.



Nature’s Treasures

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

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