

FORSYTH GEM AND MINERAL CLUB, INC.

Nature's Treasures

July 18, 2019

*** Public Version ***



MEETING: The next meeting of the Forsyth Gem and Mineral Club will be held at **7:30 PM, July 18, 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 July will be Marlene McCauley. The topic will be Gems and Light: Color and other Optical Phenomena. Marlene has been a professor of geology at Guilford College, specializing in Mineralogy and Petrology, for over 30 years. She has led student and professional field trips in the Western US, Kenya and Tanzania, Italy, Ecuador and the Galapagos, and other locations.



Refreshments: Refreshments for the meeting will be provided by the **Shelton and Gonzalez families**. 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 Gonzalez
February	Dow and Brouhle	August	Picnic
March	Hebert and Gaskill	September	Show
April	Whicker and Beck	October	Fulcher and Roby
May	Goode and McGilvary	November	Reed and Marion
June	Hyde, 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.

Editor's Note: Because of a mixup and not checking my notes in time I overlooked that the Gonzalez and Hyde families had switched months, and published the Gonzalez family as providing for June. They graciously did so, along with the Hydes and Schlottmans. After offering to relieve them of the responsibility for July they insisted that they would go ahead with July as well. Much thanks to them for doing double-duty this year.

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:

August 24, 2019 - Club Auction

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



DON'T FORGET YOUR NAME TAGS



No Program Meeting for August or September

It's that time of the year to go "off track" with the meetings. **There will not be a regular/program meeting for either August or September.**

The August meeting is replaced by the annual club picnic. The September meeting is replaced by the show. Normal meetings will resume in October.



FGMC Field Trip

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

For our field trip, we will be touring the North Carolina Museum of Natural Science in Raleigh. Our guide will be Chris Tacker, Research Curator of the Geology department.

Chris will be showing us new additions to their collection along with mining memorabilia. We'll also see the Hiddenite display. For those interested, the Astronomy and Astrophysics Research lab will be holding an open house from 12 to 4 in celebration of the 50th anniversary of the Apollo 11 moon landing. More information can be found at <https://naturalsciences.org> .



Upcoming Shows and Events

Sunday, July 28th to Sunday, August 4th, 2019 - The 35th Annual Grassy Creek Mineral and Gem Show

Show put on by the Parkway Fire and Rescue to raise money for new equipment. This Gem Show has everything! Over 60 US and International dealers with almost any kind of jewelry, gemstone and mineral specimens, fossil, lapidary equipment and more you might want. Each booth is 20 foot by 40 foot so there are LOTS of items for sale. Parking and admission are free. Food is available. Porta-a-johns are available. This is an outside event so be prepared for rain. Some vendors open on Saturday 27th. Hours: 10 to 6 daily with many vendors open earlier and later because they are staying with their booth. Address: 136 Majestic View, Spruce Pine, NC 28777. This location is on the hill above the previous location. Contact: Donna Collis collisdonna@yahoo.com 828-765-5519. Email: info@grassycreekgemshow.org . Website is www.grassycreekgemshow.org . Applications and pictures are available on the website.



Newsletter Sender Change

Due to your editor's efforts to get "untangled" from Time-Warner and thus potentially losing the triad.rr.com email address that the newsletter has been getting sent from, future issues of the newsletter will be coming from a different sender address.

The specific address has not yet been decided. Once it is settled an email notice will be sent out.

This is being mentioned at this point because if any member has to have the sender's email address "whitelisted" to allow emails to come through, that will need to be changed when the notification comes out.



Club Auction

With the success of last year's trial run on short notice, the club is going to hold another auction this year. This time the notice is getting out a bit sooner so that people can plan for such.

Also, this year's auction will be open to allow members of other clubs to submit items for sale, as an attempt to get more items and possibly more variety.

Rules and further information are on the next page.

Forsyth Gem & Mineral Club Auction Details

In place of our normal monthly field trip, our club will feature an Auction! The date will be Saturday, August 24nd, from Noon till 4:00PM. It will be held at Cornerstone Christian Church (1585 Hwy 801 North, Mocksville, NC. This is 3.7 miles north of I-40, taking exit 180 for Hwy 801N just after the Tanglewood exit heading west). There are rules that we will follow to ensure a smooth, planned event. If you have any questions about these rules, please contact Jeff Schlottman before the event!

Rules:

Sellers are allowed to auction off a maximum of 10 items each. We will invite other clubs as well to this years' event, with the expectation that it will bring in more items to purchase, and more buyers as well.

Proceeds are divided between the seller (80%), and the Club (20%) if an item sells. Items may be donated to the Club, in which the Club retains the full amount of the sale.

Items must be related to our hobby. This includes minerals, books, jewelry, tools, fossils, supplies, cut stones, etc. Non-mineral items will not be offered up by the Auctioneers.

All sellers and buyers must get a number assigned (sellers must get one before the auctioning starts!). The number is used to know who is selling an item, and who has the winning bid. The first person would be 1, then the next is 2, and so on.

All items must be labeled. A "Post-It" or piece of paper is fine. The label will include the seller's number, the name of the item and (if applicable) location details. If there is a minimum bid for an item, it must be noted on the label.

Items are auctioned off in a manner to make everything fair. Items will be sold as follows: 1a, 2a, 3a, 4a, 5a... and so on so that everyone has a chance to sell their items. Then we go to everyone's second item, like 1b, 2b, 3b, 4b....

Items sold will be given to the buyer after it sells. The buyer will settle up for all items purchased (and turn in their card) before they leave. Cash and checks are allowable modes of payment; no credit/debit cards.

I will be there to open up and prepare the room at Noon. At 12:15 we will let people in to bring in their items and to preview things that are for sale. We will start the Auction promptly at 1:00PM. Please come before 1:00PM to preview items. We will take brief intermissions (5 minutes) each hour to look at remaining items, but you will not be allowed to simply walk up to look during the Auction!

The Auction will end at 4:00PM. At that time we will remove our material, settle up for purchases, and clean up the room. Plan to be out by 4:30PM.

Auctioneers Lowell Baker and Jeff Schlottman suggest bringing your cash/checks and excitement for a fun event! There will be plenty of great pieces and great buys!



Show Display Cases

As a reminder, members are encouraged to set up displays at the show in the club's display cases. Displays do not have to be directly related to the theme of the current year's show, though such is encouraged when possible.

The club's cases are about 46 inches wide by 22 inches deep by 22 inches high.

Displays must be set up no later than the dealer dinner on Thursday night, and cannot be taken down until the show closes on Sunday evening.

Members wishing to put in one or more displays should contact the display coordinator Alex McGilvary to let him know how many cases you would like to have. Actual case assignments will be done on setup day itself.



Volunteering For the Show

This is a reminder that Arvil is still looking for volunteers for the show functions.

Volunteer activities include set-up day, dealer dinner setup, take-down day, door/ticket sales, geode/grab bag sales, and geode cutting.

Volunteer signup sheets will be available at the July meeting. They will also be available at the club picnic in August. Those wishing to assist with the dealer dinner setup should contact Hospitality Chair Vickie Gaskill.

Arvil has asked that if it is at all possible that you contact him BEFORE the picnic. In order to get the schedule worked out and get it to the newsletter editor in time to get published and distributed it will help immensely if the schedule can be as complete as possible prior to the picnic.

Remember that the show is the primary educational activity for the club and is a major factor in what allows the club to retain educational organization tax status.

For those new to the club and interested in helping out, the following are the functions:

Set-Up Day: This is done on the Thursday before the show starts (Sept 5). Set-up starts around 8:30 AM and goes until completed, usually some time in mid-afternoon. Work includes fetching the display cases and other materials from the storage site, setting display tables in position, covering the tables, and assembling the cases. There are a few other minor items. All of this is generally light to medium-duty efforts.

Dealer Dinner: FGMC sponsors an annual dinner on the evening of the set-up day. **Members are asked to provide vegetables, salads, and desserts.** (The meat is handled by the club.) Setup for the dinner begins around 5 PM with positioning the tables and chairs, and organizing the food as it is brought in.

Ticket Sales: This function is handled at the front door. Volunteers here will accept the money for tickets, receive complimentary tickets, pass out door prize tickets, and answer basic questions about the show.

Geode / Grab Bag Sales: This takes place in the club corner, where geodes are sold (free cutting) and grab bags are sold.

Geode Cutting: The cutting function cuts open geodes that customers have purchased, allowing them to find out what is inside them. (Note: Cutters must be trained – but training is provided by experienced cutters at the show.)

Take-Down Day: Take-down is the exact opposite of set-up day. Display cases are disassembled, table covers are picked up, other items are packed, and all materials are then carried to the storage site. Take-down starts immediately at the show closing on Sunday afternoon and is usually completed by early evening.

The show is an all-volunteer production. Without sufficient manpower to handle all of the tasks it may soon be necessary to consider whether the club can continue to put on the show. If you enjoy the show, please make every effort to assist in putting it on.

During the show days the show activities (ticket sales, geode/grab bag sales, and geode cutting) are assigned as hourly slots, with preferably two members per each slot. Slots run from 10 AM to 7 PM on Friday and Saturday and noon to 5 PM on Sunday. If two (or more) members of a family wish to work together then they can account for both slots for the period. Note that it is also asked that whenever possible members sign up for two (or more) consecutive slots, both to make scheduling easier and to minimize turnover at each position.

Also remember that if at least one member of a family works at least one slot during the show (or works on set-up or take-down day), then the club will cover that family's cost at the annual holiday dinner in December.



Publicizing the Show

The show committee is always looking for new ideas of how to spread word about the show to try to draw more attention and attendance.

Show fliers will be available at the July meeting and at the August picnic for those who are able to distribute them and/or post them in various places.

The club will also run its regular ads in the Winston-Salem Journal.

(Note: The club has tried radio and television advertising in the past but these have proven to not be cost-effective.)

Anyone with other ideas on how to publicize the show should contact show chair Arvil Marion.



Dixie Mineral Council Field Trip

An Official Field Trip of the Western South Carolina Gem and Mineral Society (Greenville, SC) (HOST)

An Official Field Trip of the Forsyth Gem and Mineral Club

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.

Diamond Hill Quartz Mine Abbeville, SC Fee Site

TRIP: The mine is on a dirt road that should not be a problem for any vehicles. Our club has been coming to the mine for over 30 years.

COLLECTING: The main mineral is quartz crystals in the form of amethyst, smoky, skeletal, clear, and milky. More rare minerals include beryl and cacoxenite.

BRING: Your choice of hammers, digging tools, screens, and gloves. Bring sunscreen, picnic lunch, snacks, and plenty to drink.

TERRAIN: Disturbed earth with some pits. Use reasonable precautions.

FEE:

CHILDREN: Allowed with adult supervision.

PETS: Allowed on leashes

FACILITIES: Porta-potties and picnic tables. No running water other than the creek.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Check the website at www.diamondhillmine.com

DIRECTIONS AND WHERE TO MEET:



Grab Bag Assembly

Due to the fact that the club sold out of grab bags again last year, the grab bag assembly process will be making up more grab bags than usual for this year's show.

In addition, anyone who has some suitable material that they are willing to contribute should bring it to the picnic. Even a few pieces of material can be useful, especially if it is something "different" than the usual quartz, etc.

If you can't make it to the picnic contact Arvil to arrange to get the material for the grab bag assembly.



Meeting Minutes

FGMC Meeting Minutes 6/20/19

29 members present

Our speaker was Jeff Schlottman. The topic was "Digging the Gibault claim".

Thanks to the Hyde's, Gonzales', and Schlottman's for refreshments.

Door prizes won by: Amber Shelton- picked a petrified wood limb cast,
Scott Brouhle picked a halite from Utah.

Discuss at next meeting- choices for Dixie Mineral Council trip that FGMC will sponsor in 2020.

June 22- Field trip to Charlie Whicker's private property in Black Mountain, NC. 9 am. Kyanite/mica/rutile.

August 24- Club auction. Other clubs will be invited. 80/20 split with our club as sponsor of the event.

.Respectfully Submitted,
Lisa Reed, Secretary



Nature's Treasures

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

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