**FORSYTH GEM AND MINERAL CLUB, INC.**

***Nature's Treasures***

***July 15, 2021***

 **MEETING**: Due to the ongoing Covid-19 (Coronavirus) lockdown, the next meeting of the Forsyth Gem and Mineral Club will be a virtual Zoom meeting on Thursday, July 15, 2021 at 7:30 pm. Follow the link in the invitation below to attend.

 ** PROGRAM**: The next meeting of the Forsyth Gem and Mineral Club will be Thursday, July 15th at 7:30 pm. Once again, we will be having a virtual meeting via Zoom. Follow the link in the invitation below to attend. You can participate with a computer, tablet or smart phone.

Program Note: Our program for July will be on the History of the Forsyth Gem and Mineral Club and Show with updated information on the upcoming 50th Anniversary Show. Our own Ken Reed will be presenting. Please plan on asking any questions you may have on either of these topics. We have many newer members and hope this will allow them to get better acquainted with both the Club and Show.

Charles Whicker is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: History of the Forsyth Gem and Mineral Club and Show

Time: Jul 15, 2021 07:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82872583174?pwd=aEdaRlAzSXpFc2tZSDVHQ214djZTdz09>

Meeting ID: 828 7258 3174

Passcode: 630024

One tap mobile

+16465588656,,82872583174#,,,,\*630024# US (New York)

+13017158592,,82872583174#,,,,\*630024# US (Washington DC)

Dial by your location

+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

Meeting ID: 828 7258 3174

Passcode: 630024

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kcnXSx3xpr>

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|  | **Forsyth Gem and Mineral Club Show News** |  |

Did you realize that by the time you receive this month’s bulletin it will be less than two months until our 50th Anniversary Gem Show?

Due to the early date for the Cub picnic (August 14th), information about the Club picnic appears below as does an example of the Show work schedule and sign-up sheet. As most members are aware, this will be our Club’s 50th anniversary Show. As a result, an increase in advertising is occurring. As the loosening of pandemic restrictions occur and people are becoming more active, a larger attendance is expected and hoped for.

* Jim Stroud will produce new posters for the Show. These posters will be available for general distribution at the picnic.
* Security for the Show has been arranged.
* Ken Reed is in the process of listing our Show in several local publications.

**August 14, 2021, Hathaway Park**

**The Forsyth Gem and Mineral Club’s Annual Picnic, Grab Bag Preparation and Gem Show work schedule sign-up will be held on Saturday, August 14 from 3:00 to 7:00 PM.**

Please gather, sort and size materials for the grab bag making event held in conjunction with the annual picnic. We will prepare approximately 1,000 grab bags this year. Please gather sort and size materials for this event. Keep in mind all grab bags need not contain the same materials; in fact, it is desirable to make them different. If you have as many as 20 pieces of suitable material to contribute, please bring them to the picnic. They will be used.

For the, picnic, please bring a picnic lunch item or covered dish to share with others for the picnic. The Club will provide drinks, ice, cups, plates, and utensils.

If necessary, we will have a short business meeting following the picnic. Additionally, this will be the final push to fill open work schedule positions. Sigh-up sheets for volunteers will be passed around during the picnic. Show tickets, flyers and a limited number of posters will be distributed to Club members.

**New 50th Anniversary Logo T-Shirts**

A limited quantity of the usual Club logo t-shirts will be available at the picnic and Show. The colors available are red, blue, black and white. Additionally, a new 50th anniversary black t-shirt is available. Prices for the t-shirts are $12 prior to the Show. The price for the 50th anniversary t-shirt will be $15 during the Show and made available to the public.

**Volunteering for the Show**

Volunteer activities include set-up day, dealer dinner setup, take-down day, door/ticket sales, geode/grab bag sales, and geode cutting. The Show sign-up will sheets be available at the Club picnic in August

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 (September 9th). 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**: The Club sponsors an annual dinner on the evening of the set-up day. Setup for the dinner begins around 5:00 pm with positioning the tables and chairs.
* **At this time, we are planning to have the dealer dinner catered. This is subject to change.**
* **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 (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 10:00 am to 7:00 pm on Friday and Saturday and 12:00 noon to 5:00 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.

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.

**Sample Sign Up Sheets**

**Thursday September 9th**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Time** | **Set-up** | **Sign Placement** | **Take down** |  |
| **8.30** |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |

**Friday September 10th**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Time** | **Ticket Sales** | **Geode, Grab Bag& T-Shirt Sales** | **Geode Cutting** |  |
| **10:00** | **Volunteer 1**  |  |  |  |
|  | **Volunteer 2** |  |  |  |
| **7:00** | **Close** | **Close** | **Close** |  |

**Saturday September 11th**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Time** | **Ticket Sales** | **Geode, Grab Bag& T-Shirt Sales** | **Geode Cutting** |  |
| **10:00** | **Volunteer 1**  |  |  |  |
|  | **Volunteer 2** |  |  |  |
| **7:00** | **Close** | **Close** | **Close** |  |

**Sunday September 12th**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Time** | **Ticket Sales** | **Geode, Grab Bag& T-Shirt Sales** | **Geode Cutting** |  |
| **10:00** | **Volunteer 1**  |  |  |  |
|  | **Volunteer 2** |  |  |  |
| **5:00** | **Close** | **Close** | **Close** |  |

**Sunday September 12th**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Time** | **Take Down** |  | **Sign Retrieval** |  |
| **5:00** |  |  |  |  |

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|  | **Other Dates to Remember** |  |

**August 21, 2021**
Jeff Schlottman has arranged for another Club auction! This auction together with the Club picnic will replace a field trip in August.

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|  | **Upcoming Gem and Mineral Shows** |  |

**July 25 – August 1, 2021 SPRUCE PINE, N.C.**
The Grassy Creek Mineral and Gem Show, sponsored by Parkway Fire and Rescue, is now in its 36th year, and this year marks the third time it takes place at 136 Majestic View, the field above Spruce Pine Chevrolet. The Show is 10:00 am – 6:00 pm Sunday, July 25th, to Sunday, August 1st , with some dealers open later and earlier. The Show features finished jewelry, raw stones, quartz, agate, marbles, wire-wrap jewelry, rhodolite garnet, various demonstrations and concessions from more than 60 vendors.

**August 6 - 8, 2021 AUGUSTA, GEORGIA**
The Augusta Gem and Mineral Society and the Aiken Gem, Mineral and Fossil Society presents their 33rd Annual Gem, Mineral & Fossil Show Friday and Saturday 10:00 am to 6:00 pm, Sunday 11:00 am to 5:00 pm, at the Julian Smith Casino, 2200 Broad Street, Augusta, Georgia, featuring gold, silver, fine and everyday jewelry, loose gemstones, cabochons, crystals, minerals, fossils, meteorites, treasures, beads and more. There will be hourly door prizes, grand door prize, geode sales & cutting, and grab bags

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|  | **FGMC Scholarships** |  |

In order to honor two former venerable members of the FGMC, to support the local lapidary arts department at Sawtooth School of Visual Arts and to hopefully attract new members from the local arts community, FGMC intends to establish two scholarships at Sawtooth. The name of the scholarships shall be “The Dick Hartz Cabbing Scholarship” and “The Paul Burton Faceting Scholarship”.

Sawtooth has agreed to handle the administration, advertising of the scholarships and selection of the winners, based upon the following preferences: a candidate who intends to use the knowledge obtained in a future business or education in lapidary arts, a candidate who displays an existing background in lapidary arts, and any candidate that has a financial need that is not already receiving financial assistance. However, none of these preferences shall be considered a requirement or disqualification for any candidate. Sawtooth will notify FGMC of the winners and the reason for their selection. FGMC intends to include a free membership to the winners for the concurrent calendar year.

At this time, the cost of both scholarships total about $500. That amount will cover one student for the cabbing class and one student for the faceting class for one session each, or one class per week for four weeks. FGMC intends to use the proceeds from our yearly Club auction, a 50/50 raffle when we meet in person again and individual donations to finance the scholarships. We will need to pay the funds in advance to Sawtooth, who will keep the funds in a designated account and give FGMC periodic account balances. FGMC intends to pay the funds each January for the following year. Currently, there is $500 in the account from an individual donation. If funds allow, FGMC may sponsor more than two students per year.

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|  | **DMC Field Trips Cancelled for 2021Schedule Moving Forward One Year** |  |

I hope everyone is healthy and safe as we enter this new year. COVID-19 vaccines are providing some post-COVID optimism. We are nearing a time when we can share field trips with one another again.

Unfortunately, even with vaccines available, it appears that the virus may still be a problem this year. Until we know for certain that we can gather together safely, we must approach the situation with great caution.

So, in the interest of safety, I am moving the entire DMC schedule forward by another year.

All trips scheduled for 2021 are moved to 2022, 2022 to 2023, 2023 to 2024, and 2024 to 2025.

The new schedule is posted on the SFMS website here: [http://www.amfed.org/sfms/\_dmc/dixie-proposed-ft.htm](https://amfed.us12.list-manage.com/track/click?u=80754e4f918a2ae19a26a2449&id=ccb09d1d91&e=825de0a403)

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Many thanks to all of the clubs who continue to support the DMC Field Trip Sharing Program as we work our way through this.

Stay healthy, stay safe.

Lori Carter
DMC Coordinator

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|  | **Upcoming Field Trips** |  |

* **July 17 - 18, 2021** - Danville, Kentucky area for Kentucky geodes and fluorite. See documentation attached at the end of this newsletter with details.

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|  | **Field Trip Note from Our Vice President** |  |

There has been conflicting information on whether our insurance policy covers a field trip attendee if not a member of the Club. Since one of our most attractive activities for prospective new members are field trips, I spoke with our insurance agent to get up-to-date information. They have stated that our policy DOES cover any “invited guest.” It DOES NOT cover people who “just show up” or happen to be present at the trip, but the “permissive use” clause does allow us to take guests.

Hopefully, this will allow us to introduce prospective members to field collecting and assist in increasing our membership.

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|  | **June Field Trip Report** |  |

Alas, we don’t know of anyone who ventured to the Little Pine Garnet Mine! Therefore, we have nothing to report.

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|  | **FGMC Meeting Minutes 6/17/2021** |  |

Minutes FGMC Meeting 6/17/2021

20 members participated in the ZOOM meeting. Two guests signed in from Australia and one from New Jersey!

Geoff Krasnov was our speaker. He is a mineral dealer (GeoKrazy) that has a special interest in calcites. He had great photos and good commentary about calcite mineral specimens, from the Tsumeb Mine in Namibia.

Field trip July 17 & 18 – Danville, KY area for Kentucky geodes with a 2nd site to collect fluorite.

FGMC Picnic and Grab bag packing. 3:00 to 7:00 pm. Hathaway Park, 301 Anita Drive, Winston-Salem. Please bring small minerals to be included in grab bags.

FGMC Club Auction – August 21st.

Respectfully submitted by,
Lisa Reed, Secretary FGMC

FORSYTH GEM AND MINERAL CLUB, INC.

Membership Application

For the Year 2021

Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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

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

Address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 Street City State Zip

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

 **Work (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

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

**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.

**Checks should be made to:** **Forsyth Gem and Mineral Club, Inc.**

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 | Geode Cutting (Saw Operator) |
| Grab Bag, Geode, and Gold Panning Sales |  |

**Please complete and return to the Club’s Treasurer, Jay Wilhelmi, at the address below.**

**Forsyth Gem and Mineral Club
P.O. Box 422
Pfafftown, NC 27040**

***Nature’s Treasures***

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

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| **President:** | Charles Whicker | ccwhicker@live.com |
| **Vice President:** | Ken Reed | mckinleycreed@bellsouth.net |
| **Secretary:** | Lisa Reed | lisajreed@bellsouth.net |
| **Treasurer:** | Jay Wilhelmi | jhwilhelmi@gmail.com |
| **Directors:** | Scott Brouhle |  |
|  | Sherry Marion |  |
|  | Stephanie Myers |  |
|  | Jeff Schlottman |  |
| **Hospitality Chair:** | Open |  |
| **Newsletter Editor:** | Jay Wilhelmi | jhwilhelmi@gmail.com |
| **Web Master:** | Stephanie Myers |  |

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|  | **July Field TripKentucky Geodes and Fluorite (near Danville, Kentucky)** |  |

**Trip:** Kentucky Geode and Fluorite Dig

**Collecting:**

* Saturday, July 17th we will be collecting geodes filled with quartz crystals. They are numerous at this site and come in all sizes, with some as large as a basketball. Fossils and Native American artifacts can also be found.
* Sunday, July 18th we will caravan from the geode collecting site to an old fluorite mine where fluorite and clear dogtooth calcite crystals can be found. We will be digging in the tailings at this location and will not be entering the now defunct mine.

**Tools:** Geodes are strewn about the creek where will be hunting on Saturday and tools are not required. Buckets to put geodes in is recommended along with boots or old shoes that you do not mind getting wet. There are gravel bars exposed with material, but the creek is clean and ankle deep in most places. You will find better quality geodes if you wade into the water.

For the fluorite dig a shovel is all that is needed but any digging tool, a small pick for instance, is also helpful.

**Rules:** Cost for the geode dig is $25 which includes one (1) bucket of geodes. Additional buckets are $10. The fluorite dig on Sunday is free. For both locations, guests must sign in prior to collecting.

**Directions:** Thecollecting location for Saturday is: 10330 Forkland Road, Parksville, KY 40464. The property owner’s name is Phil Daly. We have been given permission to camp onsite for free Friday, Saturday, and Sunday evening. If you are planning to camp, please check with Phil prior to setting up. If you would prefer, there are lots of hotel options (along with restaurants) in nearby Danville, Kentucky.

**Facilities:** There is a restroom on site at the geode collecting location. The fluorite mine is a wooded location and restrooms are not available. Pack a lunch for Sunday and plan to bring plenty of water as there are no facilities close by.