

*NFMS Midyear Meeting Official Minutes,*

*April 26, 2014 Kennewick, Washington*

**President, Don Innes**, welcomed the fifty or so individuals present. After reciting the Pledge of Allegiance, he introduced the Executive Officers as follows: **Lyle Vogelpohl, Treasurer; Warren Rood, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President; himself; Judi Allison, Secretary pro-tem; and Hidemi Kira, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President.**

**1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, Warren Rood**, then introduced the past presidents in attendance: **Paul Heesacker, Jon Spunaugle, Judi Allison, Evelyn Cataldo, Lyle Vogelpohl, Jack Edwards, Dee Holland, Lauren Williams, Chris Blickfeldt, Patty Amos, (all NFMS) and Shirley Leeson, CFMS. Dee, Lauren and Shirley have also served as AFMS President.**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, Hidemi Kira**, then asked the Delegates and others in attendance to introduce themselves.

**President, Don Innes**, stated his report was in the packet. (as follows) I hope you are all looking forward to an early spring. This has been a cruel winter. We do need some warmth so we can clean our rock hound tools and get to rockin. Think of safety as you clean and sharpen tools. It would be interesting to know who was instrumental in getting you involved in the hobby. Are you enthusiastic enough to involve others? Are you involved enough to teach others as you were taught? In preparing for this report I remember the founder of the company I worked for years ago. We were at a convention and he was giving a talk and due to circumstances beyond his control he had to give the speech after 10 PM. We were sure it would be **very boring, since it was so late. Boy was I surprised. His** speech was "History isn't worth a Nickel." If we would flip a coin with past on one side and future on the other it would appear to be of equal net value. By avoiding the mistakes of the past we can plan a future without these mistakes. It would be like losing our memory, and not knowing the past, would be hard to plan the future. Every day would be new, vacant of all the knowledge we have to plan the future. I am looking forward to meeting all of you at the Midyear and annual meetings. I will be available to any and all if I can help. Thank you for the opportunity to serve.

Don Innes [doninnes.innes20@gmail.com](mailto:doninnes.innes20@gmail.com)

**Secretary, Pro-Tem, Judi Allison**, added that her report was also in the packet. She did ask for members to be certain email addresses are correct for the Clubs, Directors and Delegates, as business is much more readily conducted online. (report) First, I want to again send my regards to Evan Day and family for the loss of, not only our beloved friend and Executive Secretary, but a loving wife, companion, mother and grandmother. Joan will always have a special place in our hearts and memories. I only hope I can begin to hold up to the job she so caringly held for thirteen years (In the event you decide to officially pass the position on to me.) The midyear meeting is essentially the first item of business I have officially taken on. Evan so efficiently finished up Joan's work and tied together everything I could possibly need, that I have gone forward with an enlightenment and feeling that I can do the job. I have found that there are many hours in front of the computer, especially getting things set up to work for me the first time. I have run across some challenges, which I figure will iron out as time goes on. My older iMac is incapable of being upgraded, so I have been converting the newer documents on a laptop and emailing them back to my iMac so I can get them back in a format that works for what I need and printing capability. One of these days I will have to buy a new computer, but I haven't quite made the plunge into the monetary output or the anticipated learning curve. Evan sent me a plethora of written material via thumb drive and email, but I have yet to figure out a process for cut and paste of email accounts, so. . .that means manual input. Oh, well, we all need something to do, right? I apologize for being a bit slow in getting the email accounting of the midyear packet out to everyone. Maybe if I didn't rattle on so much, I might get the other things done, so for now, I thank you for holding the confidence in my ability to do the job, and I look forward to serving you.

**At the suggestion of Beth Heesacker, the assembly then took a moment of silence to honor the memory of Executive Secretary, Joan Day.**

It was noted that an official signed copy of the 2013 Annual meeting minutes was available for review in the packet.

**Treasurer, Lyle Vogelpohl**, shared his report under separate cover. He stated the trip was going to be a quick one as his West Seattle Club was having their show this weekend and they came this morning and were leaving this afternoon after the meeting. Although the Whidbey Pedal Pushers are no longer members, there is a slight gain this year. The report also included expenditures to date for the Federation.

**Warren Rood, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President**, presented a proposed budget for 2015 that will be voted on at the annual meeting. He also noted his proposal in reference to the Newsletter distribution in the midyear packet, as follows. **Newsletter distribution proposal:** Currently the NFMS newsletter is printed and mailed to all members unless a member chooses to receive an e-mail which would remind them to look at the website for the latest newsletter. We are printing and mailing an average of 3611 copies to our membership at a cost of approximately \$18,000. This amount represents about 85% of the income of the NFMS from clubs. That is a lot of money for the paper, printing and mailing of the newsletter. These are costs which will only grow as time goes on. I am proposing we switch the first choice of distribution of the newsletter. In other words, those with computers and an e-mail address would automatically receive an e-mail with a PDF attached. This PDF would be distributed by each local editor that has an e-mail list. If a special request was made, we would then mail the newsletter to that individual. We will continue to print and send the newsletter to all of those with no computer. I am proposing that with this savings, the NFMS would help clubs improve their NFMS show with money for special lectures, field trips, or displays. The local club would arrange for lectures, field trips and displays and would submit a record for reimbursement that would be under the newly budgeted amount in the \$2000-\$3000 range. These are things that would benefit all of the members that attend the show and would encourage small clubs to have a show. Warren Rood

#### **Budget under separate cover-Appendix II**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, Hidemi Kira**, acting as Custodian, thanked everyone for the quick response to his requests for information about the Federation's properties in their possession. (See Appendix I for a breakdown of the report.)

**Bulletin Aids, Ronna Watkins**, submitted a report. (below) She made a request for each club to send their newsletters to her for review and eventual judging. She also gave a plea for clubs to buy their Editors breakfast at the NFMS Show in Hermiston. Ronna's email address is [4ronna@gmail.com](mailto:4ronna@gmail.com) (report) I would like to thank the NFMS Nominating Committee and the NFMS Officers for their confidence in me. I have secured the information I needed as BEAC from Linda Jaeger, AFMS BEAC Chairman. I contacted Peggy Blickfeldt; she had no inventory to pass along. In October, I submitted a report to the November "Northwest Newsletter" to give instruction and bolster entries to the 2013 Bulletin Editors Contest. In February, I judged the contest entries and sent the top winners to the AFMS Bulletin Editors Contest. Submissions were few.

Currently, I am acquainting myself with our editors, and encouraging them to pre-register and come to the All Editors Annual Breakfast, to be held during the Annual Convention in August in Hermiston, Oregon.

Our guest speaker will be Cheri George, President of SCRIBE. She will also be presenting Web Site Awards at the breakfast. Judith Allison has assured me that arrangements for the breakfast have been made by The Hatrockhounds Gem & Mineral Society. I look forward to presenting contest awards at the breakfast, and will hold a fun, helpful, and informational meeting. Please encourage your editors to attend. Thank you.

**Credentials Chairs, Clara and Del Walker**, stated they will be ready for the process at the annual meeting.

**Circulation Chairman, Tom Burchard**, stated his report was in the packet. (following) Our Treasurer, Lyle Vogelpohl, and our Directory Chair, Carol Willey, have not yet delivered the "roster's" to me. When they do the process of updating the Mailing Labels List will take about two to three weeks. Last year there were a lot fewer Address Service Request (ASR) responses from the Post Office. And I mean a LOT fewer. So, imagine my surprise when the February-March, 2014, ASR Responses came ROLLING IN. \$182.83 worth, so far. I think perhaps I was lulled into believing that the clubs were updating me because there had been so few ASR responses last year. Maybe most of the responses were because of late year changes and there wasn't enough of a response from the post office during the holiday season. Whatever the reason, our Newsletter Editor has assured me that she WILL publish an ASR late this year to see if that helps. These responses may mean there are some members receiving newsletters that they shouldn't be receiving, AND,

some current and new members NOT receiving newsletters that should be receiving them. The Directory and Circulation Chairs are doing what we can to keep up, but we need the cooperation of the clubs updating us of changes to stay ahead of the curve. If we don't get that cooperation, we will be way behind in getting federation members their newsletters. Tom Burchard

**Directory Chairperson, Carol Willey**, stated the Directory was completed on April first. One club sent in their information after that date. Individual pages were printed and handed out as inserts. Audrey Vogelpohl added that clubs need to look at the listings in the Directory and send an email to Circulation Chair, Tom, and Directory Chair, Carol with and additions or deletions.

**Education Chairpersons, Jim and Libby Spencer**, were unable to attend, but reported through Judi Allison that one submission was received for the All American Club Award, and that it was forwarded on to the AMFS. Judi then gave a brief explanation of the process and encouraged other clubs to consider creating an entry for the All American Club Award.

**Endowment Fund, Chair Edna Nelson: Jon Spunaugle reported in Edna's absence.** The Fund is now in excess of \$200,000. This is a great plus, since many remember the hopes of reaching a \$100,000 mark. Funds are used in support of the retreat as well as other needs. Jon stated they were collecting "food for thought" with ideas for use of some of the funds. Suggestions centered around the idea of NFMS purchasing estates to possibly use for silent auctions or to preserve them. Hermina Kolski stated the Robeson collection was in the old jail in a bottom drawer in Bozeman, Montana. Ideas of where such things could be housed for preservation included the Rice Museum, the School of Mines Museum in Butte, Montana. Although no conclusions were made, the possibility of housing items in different states seemed appealing.

**Historian, Shirley Leeson**, stated the information was in the packet. (as follows)

The 75th Anniversary of the Northwest Federation took place in Butte, Montana in 2013. The host society Butte Mineral & Gem Club put on a great banquet, NFMS Past Presidents Luncheon and Editor's Breakfast. This is an important milestone in the history of the NFMS, wish there had been more clubs there to participate. There were NFMS members from throughout the Federation.

Ed Romack, NFMS president in 1985 & 1986 came from Alaska to join us. Other Past Presidents were: Lyle Vogelpohl, 1982; Dee Holland, 1988; Lauren Williams, 1993; Doug True, 2001; Chuck Sonner 2007; Paul Heesacker 2009. If I've missed someone, please forgive me.

The picture is of Doug True, Shirley Leeson, Dee Holland and Lauren Williams. All old and all past presidents....



**Junior Chair, Audrey Vogelpohl**, commented that the information was in the packet about ideas for starting a Junior Club. She also reminded attendees there is a Badge Program that can be accessed online. (report) You don't need to climb a mountain to form a Junior Rock Club. There are so many resources and the Juniors are our future so excited to learn ... if we don't include them and their leaders in our daily activities we are not helping. I should not suggest an item to NOT DO, but I will point out why this is so important.

DO NOT have the Juniors meet at the same time as the adult/regular meeting. WHY?

- 1) The leader(s) is excluded from the activities of the regular meeting. They soon stop leading, or worse, drop out of the regular club.
- 2) The people that are resources for the leader, your members, don't want to miss the regular meetings either.

OKAY ... so you say that your club has the Juniors come in at the end of the meeting.

- 1) They have missed being included in the attendance drawing.
- 2) All of the upfront seats are taken so they have to sit in the back ... can't see what is going on and so start fidgeting.
- 3) They have not seen the program selected by the adults, or heard the speaker ... a chance to learn at the

adult level.

4) Aren't asked to participate in show and tell, or they have show and tell of their own.

**I don't know about your club, but at our club the Junior members are involved.**

1) To join. an adult family member must also join ... this is a family hobby.

2) They are so proud to show and tell about their rocks ... adult members come around and share further information about the rocks

3) There are rock segments taught at school ... our Juniors are becoming part of the leadership in class and at Scout meetings.

4) Maybe your adult program cancels ... ask the Juniors to share what they are doing/creating with their rocks and minerals.

The Juniors don't want to always be "crafting". In the Junior Badge Program there are 20 badges to earn, with several pages of resources for the leader(s) on each badge. This program is one of the benefits of our NFMS clubs being members of the American Federation.

Award your badges at the regular meeting ... the Juniors are proud to be seen. And the club members will glow with the satisfaction of helping a Junior become a rockhound ... Juniors are the future of our clubs.

Oh, by the way, if your club is not receiving 3 copies of the "Mini Miners Monthly" published by Diamond Dan for the benefit of our Juniors and leaders, please let me know .... [nfmsjunior@comcast.net](mailto:nfmsjunior@comcast.net) . Your subscription is being paid by the NFMS. by Audrey Vogelpohl, Chair

**Librarian, Darrell Watkins**, stated many of the slides are falling apart and cracking because of their age. He asked if any could be restored or repaired. Approximately ten percent need to be preserved. Jon Spunaugle stated the AFMS was in the process of doing such to digitize the slides. He has been involved in the process and offered to take some of the slides to work on them. (Darrell's written report also follows) I moved the library inventory from Sharon's house, in December, to Tieton, WA. I have filled several requests, and have had good feedback on the quality of the programs. I have completed and turned in an inventory. I would like to discuss the possibility of having the slide programs digitized, and am investigating options. Darrell Watkins

**Newsletter Editor, Beth Heesacker**, commented that some things on the web are late as Brad was sick and/or out of town. She suggested some sort of backup plan. There was not enough information sent in for a May newsletter, so May and June will be combined. Remember to check the second page of the newsletter to find the email and physical addresses of the committee chairs. (report)

Newsletters are going on time and thanks to Tom Burchard (Circulation) and Pat Lambert (Show Coordinator) and everyone else, the content fills the pages allotted. :- ) I look forward to the discussion on emailing or linking to the website for as many as we can in order to save the printing and postage costs. It will be nice to not be the biggest line item/drain on the NFMS budget. Beth Heesacker

**Nominating Chair, Kathy Moedl**, was absent, but her report is included below. In her absence, Lauren Williams introduced the list of nominees and stated nominations will also be asked for from the floor at the annual meeting. Candidate for 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, Jim Bosley then spoke a bit about his stand on rockhounding. He feels it is important to make the clubs and hobby relevant to younger people and discussed the challenges he sees in doing so. (Kathy's report follows)

The nominating committee is pleased to announce the slate of executive office nominees for 2015. These individuals will be introduced as candidates at the Midyear meeting in Kennewick, Washington on April 26th. Voting on these candidates will be at the Annual Meeting in August. Most of our candidates have shown their worth in previous service, and thus, are known to our membership.

By way of introduction, the 2nd Vice Presidential nominee, Jim Bosley, is a member of the Idaho Falls Gem & Mineral Society. Jim just finish a stretch of 3 years as the IFG&MS President and is involved in all activities of his club, makes many items and teaches his craft on a regular basis. Jim graduated as a Mining Engineer and is recently retired from Idaho National Laboratory. He and his wife Linda became members of the IFG&MS in 2007 but enjoyed the hobby long before then. They both enjoy the many field trips and do beautiful work with the items they bring home.

Personally, I have been very impressed with Jim's terms as President of the club. He brought many new and innovative ideas to the club in which we have all benefited and feel that the NFMS will benefit from his

participation as well. *Introducing the roster for 2015 Executive Committee Nominees:*

**President: Warren Rood, 1st Vice President: Hidemi Kira, 2nd Vice President: Jim Bosley  
Secretary: Judi Allison, Treasurer: Lyle Vogelpohl** *Nominating Committee: Kathy Moedl*

**Northwest Rockhound Retreat Chairperson, Lamar Tilgner**, stated the retreat is full with two people on standby. Last year was the only year all pre-registered participants showed up. He spoke of the initial challenge of getting the word out when the retreat began a few years ago. He said now it is done simply through word of mouth advertising because of the previous successes. People will also be able to learn about what things are needed to become a competitive displayer. The roster of classes will be as in the past.

**Past Presidents Council Chairperson, Evelyn Cataldo**, stated her report was in the packet. She added that the Council has now sent the proposal for the 2015 Show hosted by the Golden Spike Club to the Executive Committee for approval.

(report) Per the Operational Procedures of the NFMS, the Past Presidents' Council is charged with reviewing all proposals to host the annual show and convention prior to the host society submitting a bid to the Assembly of Directors. The Council shall present their recommendation as to the suitability of the proposed bid to the Executive Board before a vote is taken to accept or reject the bid.

As of the date of this report, March 18, 2014, the Council is in the process of evaluating a proposal to host the 2015 show and convention. Upon conclusion of evaluating the proposal, the Council will send a recommendation to the Executive Board.--

**Public Lands Advisory Chair, Andy Johnson**, stated that his report could be read in the latest issue of the Northwest Newsletter. He further added that the whole day could be taken up with issues and opinions. Remember that speaking up can count significantly in helping to work through the issues around the country dealing with access to our public lands.

### **Resolutions**

Dee Holland, representing the Bitterroot Gem and Mineral Club, presented a proposed OP change defining the duties of the NFMS President and 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President to the AFMS Scholarship Committee. (as shown)

The Bitterroot Gem & Mineral Society would like to propose the following addition to the duties of the NFMS President & NFMS 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President as it pertains to the duties they have to the AFMS as AFMS Regional Directors.

Dee Holland, Alternate Federation,  
Wayne Farley, Federation Director  
Bitterroot Gem & Mineral Society  
Hamilton, Montana

OP Board – 2 PRESIDENT

- Shall serve as a member of the AFMS Board of Directors for the AFMS and the AFMS Scholarship Foundation at their Annual Meetings. Should the NFMS President or NFMS 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President be unavailable to attend the AFMS Annual Business Meeting, Appoint the NFMS 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President. If there are not two (2) of the three (3) NFMS Officers attending, appoint someone to represent the NFMS. Preferably an NFMS Past President. Prepare for the AFMS a report on the state of the NFMS, to be sent to the AFMS Central Office prior to the AFMS Annual Business Meeting – notice of which will be sent out by the AFMS Central Office. In addition the NFMS President will have a written list of members who have passed since the last AFMS meeting, this list will be read at the AFMS Annual Business Meeting and turned over to the AFMS Secretary.

OP BOARD – 3 1<sup>st</sup> VICE PRESIDENT

- Shall serve as a member of the Board of Directors for the AFMS and the AFMS Scholarship Foundation at their Annual Meeting. Prepare for the AFMS a report of the activities accomplished by the NFMS 1<sup>st</sup> V.P. to be sent to the AFMS Secretary prior to the AFMS Annual Business Meeting – notice of which will be sent out by the AFMS Central Office.

**Rules and Awards Chairman, Dee Holland**, stated he and Shirley Leeson are spending some time here at the Lakeside Show with some judges in training. They are critiquing some of the cases in hopes that folks

will consider competitive display. **Registration Chair, Lauren Williams**, pointed out there is a two-sheet form for application to display competitively. He shared that it is not a competition with others, but a means to make you a better artisan. Remember, you don't need all the pages in the rules book; just the general ones and those pertaining to your area of competition. (report from packet follows.)

### Competitive Exhibits

JULY 15th. That's the cut off date for competitive exhibit applications for your show in Hermiston, Oregon.

Do you have your exhibit ready? If not, get with it. This is going to be an opportunity for you to show what you have to the public in a new location. If you have any questions or concerns, let me know,

[beauholland@centurytel.net](mailto:beauholland@centurytel.net) please don't try to call. I am on the road a lot and can't be reached, but do monitor my emails. Our newest NFMS Rules member is Lauren Williams, send your applications to him and he will acknowledge. Looking forward to a huge show with lots of competition... Dee Holland, Chair  
Joe Slouber, Judges Chair, Lauren Williams, Registrar

**Safety Chairperson, Chuck Sonner**, was not present, but his cryptic report follows. Please help him out. Mid Year report as follows: Need Ideas!!! Chuck :-)

**Scholarship Chairperson, Evelyn Cataldo**, urged folks to donate to honor before stating her report was in the packet.

Contributions from the NFMS to the AFMS Scholarship Foundation have not been strong the past couple of years. I encourage all Directors to discuss the AFMS Scholarship Foundation in the reports you will make to your clubs. It is very important to keep the fund growing with new contributions. Contributions can be made in memory of a passing member, in honor of an outstanding member or simply as a donation to an excellent program.

Now, a recap of contributions from the NFMS membership to the Scholarship Foundation for 2013:

<b>Donor</b>	<b>In Memory/Honor of</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Clackamette Mineral & Gem	Donation	\$ 100
D. Holland/Bitterroot G & M	Ruth Bailey	50
Bev Dillon	Ruth Bailey	50
Yakima Rock Club	Olga Beeman	10
Yakima Rock Club	F. Cannon/Jake Friedt	20
Yakima Rock Club	A.Beeman/L.Bowlin/L.VanAlstein	30
D. Holland (Butte Auction)	T.Buchard/Golden Spike	100
D. Holland (Butte Auction)	J. Slouber/Butte G &M	400
Evelyn & Dom Cataldo	Joan Day	50
Lakeside G & M	Robert Stallwood	50
Lakeside G & M	Bill Shawver	50
<b>TOTAL FOR 2013</b>		<b>\$ 910</b>

Contributions From 1/1/14 through 3/18/14:

<b>Donor</b>	<b>In Memory/Honor of</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Jane & Frank Erwin	Joan Day	\$ 40
Clackamette Mineral & Gem	Donation	100
Yakima Rock Club	Howard Walter	10
Eileen & Tom Moon	Honor of Glenn Lee	100
<b>TOTAL TO DATE 2014</b>		<b>\$ 250</b>

Thank you for considering a donation to the Scholarship Foundation. -- Evelyn Cataldo

**2014 Show Chairperson**, Judi Allison added to the report below with information that the banquet will have a western theme to go along with the "Circle Up Your Wagons and Come on Down" invitation. The eighteen inside dealers have been selected with three to four outside pending. After the groundwork is laid, we will be taking up the generous offers from the Lakeside and Marcus Whitman Clubs for additional assistance.

The Hatrockhounds are busy working to bring you the best show we can provide. It will be held at the Hermiston Conference Center, Friday August 15 through Sunday, August 17, 2014. We have 20 dealers

lined up and are ready to accommodate over 50 display cases with some special displays by Sally Reed of Marcus Whitman Club and Jim Bowen of Hatrockhounds. Our kids' corner will include a special straw draw and other activities to entertain the youngsters. We have a number of demonstrators and are working on a venue of worthy speakers. Our all Editor/Webmaster Breakfast and Past President/Committee Chair luncheon will take place on site. We have put together a banquet with a western flair we are sure all will enjoy. It will take place at our local Eagles Club, which is just a short distance from the show. (As is everything in Hermiston, since our little berg has a population of just over 17,000.)

Delegates and others interested in the annual meeting will be able to attend with ease, as they will also be held at the Conference Center. We have also reserved a time for an ALAA meeting on the premises so that folks can easily attend.

The Mount Hood Club has again generously agreed to run and man the silent auction. They will be looking for quality items to sell, so please keep that in mind as you come enjoy the show. Remember, all the proceeds from the auction go to the Federation.

Although there is no camping on site, we have arranged for camping at the local fairgrounds within a twelve-block distance. Approximately forty full hookup sites will be \$15 per night with availability from Wednesday, August 13 through Sunday, August 17.

We will have a food vendor on site that has proven worthy to us in the past. There are simple hot dog offerings as well as some items with a Polynesian flair. There are also a number of restaurants within a short distance providing a variety of fares from family style to Oriental to Mexican.

For those who have an extra day, we have reserved space for a field trip to the China Hollow Mine out of Wasco on Monday, the 18<sup>th</sup>. We are hoping folks will be able to take part in this venture to search for and purchase some of the sought after Biggs Jasper.

We, the Hatrockhounds of Hermiston, Oregon are excited to welcome you to our "Hatrockhound Happenin'" the Biggest Little Show in Town. So circle up your wagons, and come on down! Judi Allison and Mike Filarski, Co-Chairpersons

### **2016 NFMS/AFMS Federation Show Report**

Willamette Agate and Mineral Society is currently in the planning stage for the 2016 show. It will be held in Albany Oregon July 29th, 30th and 31st. The theme is "Treasurers of the Northwest." So look around your collections and see what great "treasurers" representing the northwest you might be interested in displaying. Janice Van Cura, 2016 Show Chair

**Show Coordination Chairperson, Pat Lambert**, was unable to attend, but asked that clubs be reminded when they send their information to include the admission price. (report) A reminder – please include admission prices in the information you send me. We were able to get a few shows mentioned on the Northwestern Outdoors Radio program. I am sending information to the Western AAA Journal and Northwest Travel Magazine. I am sending Idaho shows to Idaho Magazine. They will publish information as time and space allow. As suggested at a mid-year meeting, I am reminding everyone that Craig's list is a great place to advertise their show. I send your show information to the NFMS newsletter and website. I, also, send it to Rocks and Minerals Magazine and Rock & Gem Magazine. If anyone has other sources that I could use to spread the word, please let me know. Pat Lambert

**Stamps Chairperson, Hermina Kolski**, gave an entertaining plea for folks to save their stamps. She stated there is too much phone and email going on for her to have gathered sufficient stamps for a box. She also urged people to buy commemorative stamps and discussed the difference. There needs to be plenty of paper around the stamps or they won't be accepted. (following is her written report)

### **A Labor of Love**

It all started when a Cancer Center volunteer accidentally left a pair of scissors in a package that went to Great Falls. That's how we got acquainted with Ben and Hermina Kolski and learned more about their unusual philanthropic hobby.

Ben and Hermina, members of the Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies, have long been involved in a special NFMS fundraising project – collecting stamps and selling them to buyers worldwide. With the proceeds, the NFMS has helped many causes since the stamp project first began in the 1930's. Originally, they bought milk for underprivileged children in foreign countries. Today, the Northern Rockies

Radiation Oncology Center (NRROC) is a fortunate recipient of funds raised through NFMS's stamp collecting and sales.

NRROC found out about the stamp project through a former patient, Evadna Scott, who is also a member of the NFMS. At Evadna's request, volunteers began trimming used postage stamps from the Center's incoming mail. These are bundled and shipped to the Kolskis on a regular basis. This past spring, the volunteers' scissors were accidentally sent along with the bundles of stamps to the Kolskis home in Great Falls.

Being the upstanding folks they are, Ben and Hermina sought to return these scissors to their rightful owners. This fall, the Kolskis paid a visit to the Northern Rockies Radiation Oncology center, returned the missing scissors, and told their story.

"We've been involved in the Federation since 1964," says Hermina Kolski. "It's an organization of rockhound hobbyists. Most local gem or mineral clubs join. Membership has varied through the years, but right now we are about 6,900."

Motivated by the simple humanitarian impulse to help others, the Federation has gathered and sold millions of stamps. The Kolskis got involved ten years ago and now do all the coordinating and administration of the project, which has raised \$2,827.50 for cancer research and treatment.

"We push stamp collecting whenever we go to Federation meetings," says Ben. "At first, it was a little like pulling teeth from a chicken, but interest has grown. Recently, at our big annual meeting in Pasco, Washington, we picked up 200 lbs. of stamps."

"It takes 5,000 stamps to make a pound," Hermina puts in, "so you can see we're talking about a lot of stamps. We sell them to a dealer, who pays \$4.50 per pound. We send our earnings to the Treasurer of the Federation, who in turn now sends the donations to the Northern Rockies Radiation Oncology Center."

"Rockhounds are usually older folks," Hermina explains. "They have a little extra time on their hands and are able to help by collecting and clipping stamps. When we first got involved, it floored me when our buyer called and asked for more stamps. It's an obscure hobby, but there is a demand and our members work hard to meet it."

Successful stamping and trimming, the Kolskis say, means leaving as much paper around the stamp as possible. "A half-inch is ideal," says Hermina. "All stamps are needed, even foreign ones."

Ben explains that wherever they go, in social or hobby circles, they try to make people aware of the big picture of helping others. "There are very few people our age who have not had some type of trouble with cancer," he says. "When people see the positive outcome of this project, they are happy to participate."

### **Stamp Report – 3-13-14**

The Cancer Center wrote up this story for us using our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary picture, in 2000. (I was unable to reproduce the picture with the story-Judi) Ben's gone now, but I try to keep it up. Sorry to say I don't have enough stamps to fill the box for the dealer. It's only ¾ full. Whenever I get more commemorative stamps, I will send it and let you know in the newsletter. At present, we have been working with the same dealer for eighteen years. We get \$9.00 a pound, and have collected \$5760.30 so far for cancer. Thank you for all your help. Sincerely, Hermina Kolski, NFMS Stamp Chairman

**Supplies Chairperson, Patty Amos**, brought along a supply of hats for \$1.50 each and t-shirts for \$5.00 each. She will also have them available at the Federation Show in Hermiston.

### **Ways and Means (report follows)**

During the year I have received copies of the monthly accounting from the treasurer and revenue and expenditures compared to budget appear to be on track. No other information to report.

Janice Van Cura, Chair

**Webmaster, Brad Larson**, was not at the meeting. He had been out of the area for a couple of months and upon his return fell ill and ended up in the hospital. He is recuperating and will soon resume his duties and continue with the great job he has done to this point. We all wish him a very speedy recovery.) Judi Allison, Secretary, pro-tem

**ALAA President, Shirley Leeson**, stated that John George gave a presentation on road closures. She also asked for samples of jaspers that were from areas no longer accessible to show a visual of what things we are

losing out on because of closures. She has Biggs and Bruneau pieces but hopes to get samples of more rare items such as Morrisonite. If anyone can help, it will be greatly appreciated.

### **SPECIAL COMMITTEES**

**(No Special Committee Chairpersons were present. Each report is included below.)**

**Field Trip** Hermina Kolski invited those heading to Terry to go via Great Falls, Montana. She and her late husband, Ben, had a rock shop for seventeen years, and she wants to sell from the shop. So come on by on your way. (report follows)

Fieldtrip update: Come join us in this international gathering, there will be collectors from most states and from Canada. Plans are coming together from all sides. There are a few points I would like to review again so everyone will be clear on the process. When you call or e-mail telling me you will be coming, I need to know where you are from, club affiliation, how you will be staying, tent camping, RV dry camp, RV park or motel and where and full names of all attending. THAT is my information list so I may have estimates on numbers attending. IT IS NOT A REGISTRATION for any of the trips, and camping around the City Park is on a first come first served basis. When the park is full then we will fill the county block across the street and when that is full we can utilize two more blocks a block away to the east. There will be showers and RR at the park plus there will be portable toilets at each of the blocks. We are making arrangements for a honey wagon Friday evening (small fee) to empty RV tanks and the Portables.

For all those that didn't receive the latest updates, all trips to the river will be by buses. This is because of the high fire season and we do not want to cause a problem on these ranches with cars driving over everything. Fossil trips will be auto caravans.

Thursday and Friday evening we will have 2-3 programs each running 20-40 minutes long.

After discussion with several others it was decided to add a live auction on Sunday afternoon to help defer some of the cost of this trip. There will be a donation jar during the weekend and if you would like to bring something nice for the auction please do. We would love to receive a variety of things from around the country. I thank you in advance. Don't forget to bring items to Buy-Sell-Trade on Sunday.

There will also be some fee areas for those who want to hunt dinosaur material besides our trips. These numbers will be posted on our next update.

When you arrive you will be asked to sign a liability waiver, which will be part of your trip signup. We ask that you check in at our information table for instructions and schedules, to meet your camp hosts, trip leaders (10) and a few simple rules for your camping and the trips. We want this to be a special trip for all and a safe one also.

Things to bring on your trip. Sun Screen, good sturdy shoes, long pants, water containers, bug spray, rock picks and a regular screw driver, collecting bags, if you have rubber boots (thigh high) bring them also, hats as this is mid summer and daytime temps could reach 90 + degrees and our nights cool off. There will be a chance in seeing a rattlesnake on the trips. I have seen only 3 in last 20 years, but they are in the area.

If you plan on staying at a motel or RV park for this trip and have not already made reservations, Terry is full, you will need to make reservations in Miles City or Glendive both about 30 minute drive to Terry by interstate.

Looking forward to meeting everyone Doug True [dtruefossils12@yahoo.com](mailto:dtruefossils12@yahoo.com)

### **Rockhound of the Year**

AFMS Club Rockhound of the Year (A.C.R.O.Y.) N.F.M.S. Nominations for 2013—14

Nominations have been received from the following clubs since the Mid-Year meeting in Kennewick, WA of May 2013:

**Spokane Rock Rollers of Spokane, WA** chose Mike Shaw as their 2013 Rockhound of the Year.

**Hatrockhounds Gem and Mineral Society of Hermiston, OR** nominated Mike Filarski as their 2013 Rockhound of the Year.

**Lakeside Gem and Mineral Society of Kennewick, WA** selected Frank and Mary Lou Omstead as their 2013 Rockhounds of the Year.

**Golden Spike Gem and Mineral Society of Ogden, UT** nominated Blaine and Kay Berry as their 2013 Rockhounds of the Year.

**Clackamette Mineral and Gem Club of Oregon City, OR** chose Paul and Beth Heesacker as their 2014

Rockhounds of the Year.

**Rock and Arrowhead Club of Klamath Falls, OR**, celebrated **Marshall Curran** as their Rockhound of the Year for 2014.

As a reminder to everyone—clubs can submit a nomination to honor an individual or a couple to the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies every year. The nomination should be brief (about 100 words), emphasizing your honoree's contributions to your club. Please send it to Vi Jones, P. O. Box 2841, Mount Vernon, WA 98273 or preferably via e-mail to [rocks1x1vi.george@frontier.com](mailto:rocks1x1vi.george@frontier.com) or call me at (360) 424-8340. Your nomination will be published in the AFMS Newsletter on a space-available basis as well as the NFMS Newsletter. I would like to see more nominations come in and I believe that Evelyn Cataldo (AFMS Chairperson) is trying to get certificates made up for the honorees. This is a great opportunity to acknowledge your members' contributions to your club—so let's get those nominations coming in before the annual meeting. Vi Jones, Chairman

### **Website Contest**

We had only one entry in the Website Contest for NFMS, what a shame!! There are so many fine websites in our Federation and I am at a quandary as to why none of our fine Webmasters are not willing to enter theirs. Why wouldn't you want to have a nice Trophy and Certificate for your club's edification?? Why would you not have a moving .gif on your website that tells the world that it won 1st, 2nd or 3rd place in the NFMS and or AFMS. The rules have changed, you no longer have to put your clubs membership form on the Website, you can enter one year after another if you do not win 1st place in AFMS for one of those years. Then you only have to wait a year to do it again!! Tell me why this contest doesn't interest you!! Email me at [lizardwoman3@yahoo.com](mailto:lizardwoman3@yahoo.com) and let me know your concerns for not entering your club's website, I am interested in knowing the reasons. I would appreciate hearing from you. Cheri George

### **New Business**

Evan Day thanked the membership for the moment of silence to honor Joan. He stated the Federation and her duties as Secretary were truly some of her greatest joys, and he appreciated the thoughts given in her honor a great deal.

Warren Rood took for floor stating that in the fall he will be charged with the duties of President. He asked the assembly to consider continuing their positions for the following year. He would appreciate an email or call now to let him know if they will or won't be able to continue in their positions.

As 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, he brought up his written proposal from the packet discussing the newsletter distribution. The current cost is \$18,000. The cost will continue to grow. His wish is to see a switch to first choice of Newsletter distribution to email, possibly in PDF form. The plan is still in a rough stage and would have to include the best method via computer. Perhaps a committee could decide. All persons needing hard copies would continue to receive them. The money saved could support clubs with the NFMS Show to have more special lecturers or field trips or displays. Hidemi Kira stated their club uses the email, which works well. He encouraged people to support the idea. Carol Cimolino stated the Marysville Club has approximately 140 members and sends only six snail mail newsletters now. Beth Heesacker and Clara Walker both expressed their favor to an online process. Evan Day commented that everyone has someone who can print out a copy for a parent or other person who may not have an abundance of computer knowledge. Lyle Vogelpohl stated historically three copies were sent to each club. People didn't get the information from the Federation, so in 1985 the membership voted to send the newsletter to every household. An additional comment included the idea of a shortened version for hard copy giving an advantage to those who opted for email. Jon Spunaugle felt that as we proceed there is a need to discuss the merits of both sides. He questioned the basic press time and setup for press at Burley as related to the fee. What is the cutoff number? The biggest increase in a smaller number is in the postage charge. Lauren Williams asked that if we were to go to email, would the addresses be removed from the directory. The consensus was that the addresses would remain. President, Don Innes formed a Committee to further study and create a formal proposal related to Newsletter Distribution. He appointed Warren chairperson and charged him with choosing four to five additional members.

Judi Allison then read the 2016 Show report. Evelyn Cataldo stated she had heard a rumor that the Marysville or Hells Canyon Clubs might host a Show sometime in the future. Various individuals then offered the dates for their upcoming shows. (Be sure to look in the Newsletter for a complete list.) Dee Holland moved and Tom Burchard seconded we adjourn. Motion carried.  
Respectfully submitted by Judi Allison, NFMS Secretary, pro-tem

## Appendix-I

### NFMS Inventory for 2014 NFMS Mid-Year Meeting-Custodian, Hidemi Kira

#### NFMS Executive Officers

<b>President:</b> Don Innes - No Items
<b>1st VP:</b> Warren Rood - No Items
<b>2nd VP,</b> Hidemi Kira - No Items
<b>Executive Secretary:</b> Judy Allison 1-3 Drawer file cabinet, Accordion fold collator, 2-Eastwing presentation hammers, Supply of NFMS letterhead stationery and envelopes
<b>Treasurer:</b> Lyle Vogelpohl Briefcase, One-drawer cabinet, Olympia-Cpd 3210 adding machine, s/n 306-6631.

#### NFMS Standing Committees

<b>Budget:</b> Warren Rood - No Items
<b>Bulletin Aids:</b> Ronna Watkins - No Items
<b>Circulation:</b> Tom Burchard - No Items
<b>Competitive Exhibits</b>
<b>Judging Director:</b> Joe Slouber 8-Clip boards, 1-Box of stone boxes (for faceted or other small stones to be evaluated), 15-Judging in progress signs, 1-Cigar box of pencils, Tape, Judges and clerks ribbons and miscellaneous items
<b>Rules and Awards:</b> Dee Holland 1-Master Plaque, 1-Advanced Plaque, 1-Large Society Traveling Plaque 1-Small Society traveling Plaque, 2-Boxes of competitive ribbons printing plate with NFMS emblem for NFMS ribbons
<b>Registrar:</b> Lauren Williams Partial box of Competitive Registration Forms, Metal 8 1/2" x 8 1/2" x 6" NFMS Eligibility File box
<b>Credentials:</b> Del & Clara Walker - No Items
<b>Custodian:</b> Hidemi Kira - No Items
<b>Directory:</b> Carol Willey - No Items
<b>Education:</b> Jim & Libby Spencer - No Items
<b>Endowment Fund:</b> Edna Nelson - No Items
<b>Financial Advisor:</b> Jon Spunaugle - No Items
<b>Historian:</b> Shirley Leeson 1-4 drawer file cabinet, 1-Large pink plastic tote box (NFMS yearly directories), 6-Boxes of show favors, NFMS newsletters, Minutes from mid-year & convention from 1976, Mineralogist magazines, 4-Early bound volumes of NFMS history, 2-Large binders of NFMS history, 2-Large binders of NFMS history, 2-Large binders of NFMS past presidents, 1-Large binder of NFMS scholarship honorees and recipients, 1-Binder of NFMS at AFMS conventions, Copy of "NFMS Articles of Incorporation", Papers on NFMS incorporation
<b>Junior Chair:</b> Audrey Vogelpohl - No Items
<b>Newsletter Editor:</b> Beth Heesacker - Adobe Acrobat Pro, \$62 Petty Cash.

<b>NFMS Club-at Large:</b> Warren Rood - No Items
<b>Nominating Chairman:</b> Kathy Moedl Briefcase containing NFMS President's gavel and flags, Small suitcase containing all the donated specimens for the NFMS Past President's showcase
<b>Northwest Rockhound Retreat:</b> Lamar Tilgner - No Items
<b>Past President Council:</b> Evelyn Cataldo - No Items

### **NFMS Standing Committees (Continued)**

<b>Public Lands Advisory:</b> Andy Johnson - No Items
<b>Slide/Video Librarian:</b> Darell Watkins 123-VHS, 85-DVD, 206-Slides, Tall particle board cabinet (3x5, 4 shelf) 2- Metal file cabinets, 3-Cardboard slide storage boxes, 3-Flat boxes of slide show scripts, 1-Slide projector with carousel tray-Kodak ERKTAGRAPHIC III, 1-Single slide viewer Pana-Vue 6566 Automatic slide viewer
<b>Resolutions:</b> Fred Burton - No Items
<b>Safety:</b> Chuck Sonner - No Items
<b>Scholarship:</b> Evelyn Cataldo - No Items
<b>Show Chairperson 2014:</b> Mike Filaski, Judy Allison - No Items
<b>Show Coordinator:</b> Pat Lambert - No Items
<b>Stamps:</b> Hermina Kolski - No Items
<b>Supplies:</b> Patty Amos 4-AMFS pins, 3-Uniform rules 2009 Ed, 3-Small Directory Binders, 9-Fossil Lists 11-Mineral classification lists, 6-Guidelines for Editor-2012, 3-Guidelines for Judges-2003 7-Mineral lists-2001, 5-NFMS pins, 27-2006 Show pins, 2-Public relations, 19-The book in Binder, 9-The collectors catalog, 37-A system of Mineral collecting 3-Show committee chairman, 6-2005 rules update, 11-2007 rules update, 11-2008 rules update 10-2009 rules update, 39-Uncollated collector catalogs, 188-Federation hats, 154 - T-shirts 1-Cash box, 2-Paper punches, 2-Reams of copy paper, 1-Box of misc. color paper 25-Sheets of NFMS labels, 1-Box of file hangers, 1-Box of sheet protectors 11-10'2 x15 bubble mailers, 8-10 x 13 clasp envelopes, 5-6 x 9 clasp envelopes
<b>Ways &amp; Means:</b> Janice Van Cura - No Items
<b>Webmaster:</b> Brad Larson - No Items

### **NFMS Special Committees**

<b>Field Trip Chairman:</b> Doug True - No Items
<b>Rockhound of the year:</b> Viola Jones - No Items
<b>Website Contest:</b> Cheri George - No Items