

**NFMS Annual Meeting
April 10, 2015, Ogden, Utah
Official Minutes**

Call to Order & Welcome:

The meeting was called to order by President, Warren Rood at 4:02 pm. He introduced himself and the Executive Officers, Hidemi Kira, 1st Vice President, Jim Bosley, 2nd Vice President, Lyle Voeglpohl, Treasurer, and Judi Allison, Secretary.

The **Pledge of Allegiance** was led by Jim Bosley.

Warren then continued by introducing Committee Chairpersons. He also introduced and welcomed Marion Roberts, current AFMS President.

Introduction of Past Presidents and VIP's: Hidemi Kira introduced Past Presidents in order of service: Lyle Vogelpohl, Ed Romack, Dee Holland (also AFMS), Lauren Williams (also AFMS), Patty Amos, Evelyn Cataldo, Fritz Mack, and Judi Allison. He also introduced Shirley Leeson as Past President of California Federation and AFMS.

Introduction of Directors and Delegates: Jim Bosley asked the Delegates and Directors present to please introduce themselves. Among the group was Bob Jones, Contributing Editor of "Rock and Gem" Magazine and international ambassador for the AFMS.

Invocation was then given by Pastor, Evan Day, who mentioned blessing us in our "mischief" as we proceed.

Credentials: Del & Clara Walker reported there were 20 clubs with 37 members present. They added there were additional attendees without credentials. Clara moved to vote into accepting the non-credentialed and Dee Holland seconded. Motion carried unanimously. With the additions, 25 clubs with 46 members were represented. (Just a side note: Last year 32 clubs were represented by 55 members. I guess Topaz Mountain was an attraction some could not pass up. JA)

Junior Achievement Award: Audrey Vogelpohl pointed out there were eight Junior awards given out last year. It was agreed at an executive meeting that in the future, the awards would be given out at the annual meeting. Sadly, no one applied this year. Audrey encouraged members to be mentors to our youth. Have the Junior members apply. She answered questions. Individual Juniors can apply. Lyle stated it is a free cash award. As long as a Junior is listed in the directory, they don't have to be a member of a separate Junior Club. Participation in the AFMS Badge Program is optional. The Junior needs to be a member during the previous year. The award is based on last year's activities, so the 2016 awards will be based on activities from 2015. There is an application form on the website, and Audrey makes certain it is included in the Newsletter. So please be certain that if you club has Juniors, you encourage them to apply for the award.

President's Report: Warren Rood thanked the membership, stating ours was a strong organization with a lot to offer our clubs and their individuals. He stated it was because of "you": the committee members, delegates, volunteers, officers that provide leadership. "Thanks, and keep on."

Secretary's Report: Judi Allison urged those present to take the extra packets back to their membership so they can read them. She will most probably provide a significantly smaller number in the future, as it seems that many copy off the email form sent prior to the meeting. That is a good deal, as it saves on cost to the Federation. Thanks for all you do.

Treasurer Report: Lyle Vogelpohl pointed out that the treasurer's report reflects only the expenditures thus far in the year. Since the bulk of our income is early in the year from dues, the balance sheet shows us well situated. As the year progresses, the expenditures will more truthfully reflect our actual debt for the year. He stated the Rock and Arrowhead dues are now paid, with an approximated gain in total membership at sixty. Although the Eugene Club disbanded, and the Port Townsend Club chose not to rejoin this year, we gained two new clubs. The Darrington Rock Club is near the area where the Oso, Washington mud slide was last year. The Prineville Rockhound Pow Wow Association is the second addition. Lyle explained that the Prineville Pow Wow and The Prineville Pow Wow Association are not the same. The Association that joined our Federation is not commercial, thus qualifies for membership. Lyle then moved for the membership to accept the treasurer's report as given. Dee Holland seconded, and the motion was carried. . (Treasurer's Balance Sheet

included as an addendum in hard copy. Special requests can be made to receive a copy if viewing on the website or email.)

2014-15 Budget: Hidemi Kira stated he had briefly written about the process in the packet. He thanked his advisors, especially Lyle. The proceeds from the Ogden Show was not known because of the timing so he felt the numbers might be off a bit. Although more are receiving the Newsletter via the internet, the cost remained the same because of the printer issue reported earlier in the newsletter. Cheri George asked why there was no money available under the Special Committee for the website contest. Hidemi pointed out it was included in the Website Budget. With that clarification Hidemi moved to adopt the budget as presented with the ability to move monies if needed. Cheri seconded. Motion carried. (Budget included as an addendum in hard copy. Special requests can be made to receive a copy if viewing on the website or email.)

Bulletin Aids: Ronna Watkins encouraged members to submit next year from this year's work. She would like to see special publications entered. Shirley Leeson added that it would be "bad news" if no entries were made next year, since it is a combined AFMS/NFMS Show. We want to put our best foot forward.

Following is Ronna's written report:

Only one club submitted entries to the bulletin contest this year, so please think about submitting something next year. Open invitation to the Editor's Breakfast with Bob Jones to speak in the Baja Room at the comfort suites at 8 a.m.

2014 NFMS Awards were:

The 2014 NFMS Bulletin Contest Awards: Original Adult Articles 1st Place Original Adult Articles "Making a Cabochon" by Forrest Settle (Posthumously), *The Clackamette Gem*, 4/13; 2nd Place Original Adult Article "CMGC Display Case in the Rice Museum" By Hidemi Kira, *The Clackamette Gem*, 12/13; 3rd Place Original Adult Article "Why Join a Club?" by Yuriy Krushelnytskiy, *The Clackamette Gem*, 2/13; 4th Place Original Adult Articles "Why is CMGC Registered as a 501(C)(3)" By Jim Heiman, *The Clackamette Gem*, 12/13; 1st Place Written Features "A Bit of History in Honor of the CMGC 50th Anniversary" by Beth Heesacker, *The Clackamette Gem*, 8/13; 1st Place Special Publications "Gem Show Manual" by Shirley Metts, Magic Valley Gem Club, Twin Falls, Idaho. And, the 2014 AFMS Bulletin Contest Awards: 1st Place Large Bulletins *Clackamette Gem*, 3/13, Beth Heesacker, Editor Clackamette Mineral & Gem, Oregon City, OR; 5th Place Original Adult Articles "Making a Cabochon" by Forrest Settle (Posthumously), *The Clackamette Gem*, 4/12; Honorable Mention Original Adult Articles "Why Join a Club?" by Yuriy Krushelnytskiy, *The Clackamette Gem*, 2/13; Written Features, Honorable Mention "A Bit of History in Honor of the CMGC 50th Anniversary" by Beth Heesacker, *The Clackamette Gem*, 8/13; 7th Place Special Publications "Gem Show Manual" by Shirley Metts, Magic Valley Gem Club, Twin Falls, Idaho.

Custodian: Custodian, Jim Bosley stated he had submitted a list of items from those who responded to his email. Committee chairs reporting they had no Federation materials were: Bulletin Aids, Ronna Watkins; Juniors, Audrey Vogelpohl; Rockhound of the Year, Bev Bockman; Resolutions, Fred Burton; Website Contest, Cheri George; Past President, Don Innes; Show Coordination, Pat Lambert' Field Trip Chair, Doug True; Webmaster, Brad Larson; NW Rockhound Retreat, Lamar Tilger. Those who reported they had possession of Federation property are designated below.

Historian: *Shirley Leeson*, 1 4-drawer file cabinet, 1 large pink plastic tote box (NFMS Yearly Directories), 4 early bound volumes 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, NFMS Newsletters, Minutes from Mid-year & Convention from 1976 (earlier minutes were thrown away), Mineralogist Magazines.
Judging Director: *Lauren Williams*, 8 clip boards, 1 box stone boxes, 15 judging in progress signs, 1 cigar box of pencils, tape, judges and clerks ribbons and miscellaneous items

Librarian: *Darrell Watkins*: Inventory as shown in the Directory minus 2 DVD's, plus 15 DVD's.

Directory: *Carol Willey*: Print cartridge for printing updates for the Directory

Past President: (as custodian) *Hidemi Kira* holding items that will be passed on to Warren Rood, Future Past President. Material for the NFMS Past Presidents' Case, Material for the Cabochons from the NFMS Case

Treasurer: *Lyle Vogelpohl*: 1-drawer filing cabinet, calculator

Newsletter Editor: *Beth Heesacker*: \$62 in petty cash

Scholarship: *Evelyn Cataldo*: 5 sheets of stationary

Secretary: Judi Allison: 4-drawer file cabinet, 9x12 envelopes, NFMS logo envelopes and letterhead, 2 Estwing rock hammers, archived minutes of past meetings. (I am in the process of purging some of the unnecessary items, ie old ink pads and stamps, manual page sorter, broken cassette recorder.)

Competitive Displays: Judging Director, Lauren Williams reported there are ten competitive displays entered. Lauren called for judges and masters exhibits for the 2016 Show as it is combined with the AFMS. A clarification was made about the master level at a combined show. If a regional case receives a ninety or above, it automatically “goes up” to be judged on the National level. Lauren thanked all those who had taken their time to judge. (Following is his advance report.)

By the time you read this we will be in Ogden at the NFMS meeting. I do not really have anything to say except that last year’s show in Hermiston was a great success for competitive cases. I will have a verbal report about the competitive cases in Ogden. And to remind you that if you have scored above 90 or above in competition in the last few years then you can enter next year’s show in Albany and compete at the AFMS level.

Lauren Williams, Judging Director

Credentials: Clara stated, “Our job is done.”

Circulation: Tom Burchard was absent, but it was stated by Warren that he has been in contact with the editor and things are running smoothly,

Directory: Lyle brought the Directories and said it was the best return time for clubs getting their information he has seen. Each club receives a copy. Additional are \$10 apiece. There was a request to send a Directory to Matt Charsky of the Eastern Federation as he is President Elect of AFMS. Although we send a copy to the Central Office, it does not necessarily get to that person. Although Directory Chair, Carol Willey was not present, her annual report follows.

Another year with the Directory and things sometimes went good and then sometimes it was not so good. I would like to ask that everyone who submits reports for the Directory please check your spelling, I cannot always figure out what the print is if you are writing in pencil or pen. It’s a guessing game for me. Please, most of all, read all of Lyle’s instructions on how to submit your list. Please do not write between the lines of the list he sends you. Use the back of your paper for your correction list. One last thing: use only one phone number for a family. It really helps if I have a prefix for a number 000-000-0000. E-mails go to Tom Burchard, roxhund@aol.com He uses the emails to send your newsletters out. I was happy to see a great number of submissions in January. It gave me a chance to work on the Directory and stay ahead this year. Thanks to everyone who got the reports in. I know it’s a big job for you and so appreciate all you folks do for the Directory.

Education: Position open (Looking for person to fill this position which is in reality, “All American Award.”) The job entails encouraging clubs to submit a yearbook to be passed on and judged at the National level. It is a great way to preserve some of your club’s history and also see how well you can put together all the things your club does.

Endowment Fund: Steve and Edna Nelson and Jon Spunaugle were unable to travel to the show this year. Lyle gave an overview. Funds show a slight increase with a substantial amount of cash available. Jon is unable to continue so a replacement is needed. (Financial report included as an addendum in hard copy. Special requests can be made to receive a copy if viewing on the website or email.)

Historian: Shirley Leeson restated some of the contents of her report: Last year’s NFMS Show and Convention was held in Hermiston Oregon. It was put on by a small club in a small town to showcase that this could be done. . .and it was. Successfully.

It’s always good to see the NFMS Past Presidents supporting the current show and convention and attending the Awards Banquet. Those in attendance were: Ed Romack, Lyle Vogelpohl, Dee Holland, Jon Spunaugle, Linda Keltz, Lauren Williams, Doug True, Patty Amos, Paul Heesacker, Chris Blickfeldt, Chuck Sonner, Evelyn Cataldo and Judi Allison. AFMS Past Presidents were: Ed Romack, Dee Holland, Shirley Leeson and Lauren Williams. Currently going through the AFMS Vice Presidents chairs is Doug True. AFMS Scholarship Honorees were: Lyle and Audrey Vogelpohl.

Shirley further added a request list, so you might look around in your archives for the following requests: (It appears that the following directories will not be found and the programs below are not available, so I will not ask any further for this information: I am still looking for the following NFMS Directories: 1943, 1944-I have the supplement only, 1951, 1953

I still need the following: 1991-Seattle, WA Editor's Program; 1992-Butte, MT Editor's Program; 1993-Mt. Vernon, WA, Editor's Program; 1994-Ogden, UT Show Program-Editor's Program; 1995-Boise, ID (AFMS) Show Program, Banquet Program, Editor's Program; 1996-Bremerton, WA, Show Program, Banquet program, Editor's Program; 1997-Idaho Falls, ID, Banquet Program, Editor's Program; 1998- Billings, MT, Show Program, Banquet Program, Editor's Program; 1999-Hillsboro, OR, Show Program, Banquet Program, Editor's Program

Librarian-Videos and Slides: Darrell Watkins stated that in 2014, 28 videos and DVD's were borrowed with a mailing cost of \$148. Doug Moore, the new AFMS librarian sent out 14 new pieces for the library that were from 2013-14 winning submissions or purchased from the Endowment fund. Darrell suggested people talk to their clubs to assure they submit a request at least ten days prior to the needed date. He said user reports have been generally filled out upon return of the items, and that some of the pieces didn't perform well. He brought up the idea of transferring them to disk. He had done some research and found someone who would do such at a cost of \$7 per tape only if a large quantity was done. We have approximately 180 tapes, so this would be a cost of \$1260. Darrell then stated he had checked into the cost of a machine to convert our own. We could purchase a machine for a cost between \$70 and \$200, depending on the durability. He then created a motion to purchase such a machine. DVD's would also be needed. Cheri George seconded the motion. Mike Blanton pointed out that not everything at this time is DVD's. We are also coming to digital. After a short discussion about changing technology and the fact that whatever we do, we will always be behind, it was brought forth that we need a solution for now, and the requested amount is small for a current solution. The motion was again restated by Warren to approve a sufficient amount to purchase the machine and DVD's. The vote resulted in a majority approval. Darrell will chair a committee to find the best machine and report their choices.

Newsletter Editor: Editor, Beth Heesacker was at Topaz Mountain because she couldn't resist the call of the rocks. She addressed the press issues in her written report. (following) Oregon Litho is now the choice. The price is not , the postage is. Lyle stated it costs \$150 extra per issue because our newsletter failed the "droop test". (If a publication flops over when it is held a certain way, it is considered heavier.) Audrey told of stopping by the Burley post office to that the lady that mailed the publications during the time they took care of our circulation. She had to read each issue to check for any commercial ads. The Burley Publisher did not go out of business. They are now publishing hard cover publications. Warren stated he checked into that possibility and it was much more expensive.

(Written report) First, I am sorry that I will probably not make it to the meeting. I had made a request to have mineral field trips during the NFMS Show this year since we would be in Utah. The trip is scheduled for the same day as the meeting and I have to abide by my priorities. :-)

Second. I want to again thank Tom Burchard (Circulation), Pat Lambert (Show Coordination) and Brad Larson (Webmaster) for their wonderful assistance this year.

Third, I also want to give a big thank you to our President, Warren Rood, and our Treasurer, Lyle Vogelpohl, for their valuable assistance and rapid response during our recent newsletter printing crises. Our regular printer let us know that they were shutting down their web-press and we needed to find a new printer FAST. Then on the day they were going to print our last edition their web-press broke down. With Warren and Lyle's help we found a printer who not only had the ability to print our newsletter into the future but (with the timely response of Tom to get the addresses to them) was able to get the February edition out within a week. Great job!

Fourth, the price to print and mail our newsletter has gone up slightly due to the change mentioned above. I encourage all clubs to make the decision to go digital if you can. Digital members get to read the news earlier and in full living color. The change takes 3 easy steps. 1) Assign a contact person in your club who sets up an email list of your club members who are willing to go digital and let the NFMS webmaster know the contact person's email. 2) When the webmaster puts the newsletter up on the website he will email the contact person who can forward the announcement to your digital members. 3) Next let Tom Burchard know the names of those members of your club that are going digital so he can take them off of the snail mail list. The NFMS appreciates this and so do I since you will help me remain within my budget.

Nominations: Warren introduced the slate of nominees for the 2015-16 year, asking for an acceptance of such. Parliamentarian, Evan Day called for a point of order. A request for nominations from the floor was needed. After asking for such with no further submissions, Dee Holland moved to accept the slate presented by

acclamation. Cheri George seconded with the voting membership agreeing. (See Keith Fackrell's introduction at the end of the roster.)

Introducing the roster for 2016 Executive Committee Nominees:

President: Hidemi Kira

1st Vice President: Jim Bosley

2nd Vice President: Keith Fackrell

Secretary: Judi Allison

Treasurer: Lyle Vogelpohl

Here are a few reasons why I would like to run for 2nd Vice President for the Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies.

I enjoy finding and learning to work with rocks and gems. I enjoy getting out in the desert and seeing what great rock treasures can be found.

I actually started my Rock hounding experience at age 4 while living on a farm in Hinkley, Millard County, Utah. I spent a lot of time gathering arrowheads on our farm and filling three, one pound metal cans. When I found out we were moving to Springville, Utah, I buried them for safe keeping on the property. As far as I know, they are still there.

In Springville, we lived (and still live) on a farm where the only rocks I worked with were those I dug out of the Fence Post holes, and there are plenty of them. In 1958, I met and married the love of my life, Jerrie Sorensen Fackrell. About 4 years and two children later, we moved to Panguitch, Garfield, Utah where I drove a local delivery truck for several years. I did not realize what a Rock hounding paradise Garfield County was until I became Sheriff and got out in the Circle Cliff area. Here I found lost people and beautiful petrified wood and rocks. I was also over Garfield County's Search and Rescue Team.

Because my folks needed help, our family, which then consisted of one boy and four girls, moved back to Springville where I drove 18 wheelers in the Western States. Twenty-five years later, after retiring from truck driving, I joined my wife and became a member of the Timpanogos Gem & Mineral Society (TGMS) in 2008. In 2009 I became a Board Member for the Club. I enjoyed and still enjoy working with the Board Members to keep the Club rolling. I am impressed with how willing the knowledgeable members give of their time to help those who want to learn. For these reasons when I was asked to run for President of the Club, I quickly agreed.

When I became President in 2010, my goal was to have participation from all the Board Members and from Club Members. In 2010, I was excited to help create a Junior Club. Jerry & Charlotte Davis has been a big asset to the Club and are very knowledgeable and fun when it comes time to encourage and help teach these newest young members. We started with about 20 youth members and it has grown to about 75 members and their parents. Also in 2010 we changed from the Rocky Mountain Federation of Mineralogical Societies to the Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies, which we feel has been a good move.

From January 2010 through December 2013 I was President of TGMS. I was also the Show Chairman, a position I held throughout our 2014 Show. In 2013 I began working with the Dealers of our yearly Rock & Gem Show. For the 2014 year instead of running for President I assumed a position on the Board (which I still hold) so I can spend my time working with the members and also with the great Show Dealers and Demonstrators. My wife and I also spent two years as Grab Bag Chairmen, gathering and preparing rocks for the Grab Bags along with the help of many of the club members. I do enjoy seeing the participation we have with our board members and club members as we get ready for and work in our yearly March Shows (a job as you know takes all year.)

When Evan asked if I would run for the Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies, as 2nd Vice President, I felt frightened, but I also felt it would be exciting to work with other wonderful people in the process of making Rock hounding a great Family Oriented Organization. If I am elected to that position, I will take the time and effort necessary to do the job that is expected of me and serve the organization to the best of my ability. Keith Fackrell

Northwest Rockhound Retreat: Chairperson, Lamar Tilgner, said it was a tough year with the contract. There is a ten acre plot of privately owned property within a National Monument. They are bound to the National Monument rules which are included as part of the packet. The contract was complete in February. The sixteen instructors have been contacted. Those attending the previous year are the first to have the opportunity to return.

There are now 24 registered. The information will go in the newsletters. There were only a small number of RV's allowed and those spaces are already gone. That leaves A-frame cabins with electricity. There are outdoor facilities with showers. There is a six page packet on the Northwest portion of the AFMS website. Additional registrations are taken on a first-come-first-served based on the mailing postmark. There may be a possible extra fee for specific workshops. When registering request primary, secondary and additional desires. When one arrives, they report to their primary choice. They may move to the secondary after completion of one if there is room. The cost is \$327 for the week which includes room and board. Bring your own bedding. The camp cook provides a hot breakfast and evening meal with sack lunch items for personal preparation. This is the twelfth year of the retreat, and since it is hoped the hobby will benefit, it will be open to others in the hope they will join a club. The site is between Fossil and Antelope. The retreat takes place the week after Labor Day. There will be a spaghetti feed Monday night with classes starting on Tuesday. Classes include lapidary, intarsia, faceting, silversmithing, casting, wire wrap, beading and doublets and triplets. The information will also be on the NFMS website. Warren stated the experience was fantastic-a great opportunity.

Past Presidents Council: Chairperson Evelyn Cataldo briefly reviewed the 2017 show which will be held by the Bitterroot and Hellgate clubs May 19-21, 2016. There are ongoing talks for the 2018 show bid with a proposal getting ready to present to the executive committee. Now is the time to be thinking about the 2019 show. Dee Holland moved and Del Walker seconded we accept the 2017 show venue. Although it was thought perhaps this was already done there was a unanimous agreement. (Following is Evelyn's written report) The 2016 NFMS Show and Convention will be hosted by the Willamette Agate and Mineral Society and will be a combined AFMS and NFMS Show and Convention.

The Past Presidents' Council received, reviewed and recommended to the Executive Board a proposal to host the 2017 NFMS Convention and Show. The hosting proposal was made by the Bitterroot Gem and Mineral Society of Hamilton, Montana in conjunction with the Hellgate Mineral Society of Missoula, Montana. The proposal detailed 2017 show arrangements for May 19, 20 and 21st.

Talks are ongoing with a potential host for the 2018 NFMS Convention and Show.

The Past Presidents' Council would be delighted to start reviewing a bid for 2019. How about your club making a proposal? To do so now, would give more than adequate time for planning a great show in your area. If you have any questions on making a proposal, please send me an email or give me a call. My email address is cataldoevelyn@yahoo.com and my phone number is (509) 628-0170. Evelyn Cataldo

Public Lands Access Committee: Ben Odum, new PLAC Chair was not at the meeting. He has submitted one report for the NFMS Newsletter. He is described as young and enthusiastic.. Shirley stated he helped her in Quartzite.

Resolutions: There were no resolutions.

Safety: Chair, Chuck Sonner was not at the meeting, but asked for ideas and articles pertaining to safety.

Scholarship: Chairperson, Evelyn Cataldo requested that representatives take the idea of donating to the fund to their clubs, put the information in their newsletters and encourage individuals and clubs to give to the scholarship fund. (Her written report follows.)

It has been my privilege to serve as the NFMS Scholarship Chairman for the past three years. During that time, and per the historical records, Clackamette Mineral & Gem has been a consistent and generous donor to the AFMS Scholarship Foundation. I asked David Hanna, the President of CMGC, to tell us about their club philosophy concerning the AFMS Scholarship Foundation. David wrote the following,

"We at Clackamette Mineral and Gem are keenly aware of the need to educate and inspire young people in order to sustain memberships and interest in our hobby. We feel that contributing to the AFMS Scholarship Fund is an excellent way for us to help provide an educational route for future rockhounds. None of us are getting any younger and it is critical that we do what we can to promote this hobby in order to create the next generation of leaders and teachers."

According to Jon Spunaugle, Treasurer of the AFMS Scholarship Foundation, the Foundation celebrated its 50th year in fiscal year 2013-2014. The value of the Trust Fund currently stands at approximately \$1.2 million. Of that, \$220,116 was contributed by clubs and members of the NFMS. The investment income each year is used to fund the twelve \$4,000.00 educational grants. To date, 602 students majoring in the earth sciences, from 135 universities and colleges, have received educational grants.

NFMS contributions from 7/7/14 through 3/2/15:

Donor	In Memory/Honor of	Amount
Bev Dillon	Dorothy & Glenn Lee	\$ 100
Bev Dillon	Viola Jones	50
Leona & Verner Tovrea	Viola Jones	25
Lakeside Gem & Mineral	Michael Furner	50
Yakima Rock & Mineral	Florence Hay	10
Lakeside Gem & Mineral	Frank Bailey	50
Dom Cataldo	Gemstone Auction	400
Clackamette Mineral & Gem Donation		100
Hat pass – 2014 NFMS Show Donation		125

I would also like to commend **Bev Dillon** and **Lakeside Gem & Mineral** for their frequent gifts to the Foundation. I encourage all NFMS clubs and members to consider making a gift/donation to the AFMS Scholarship Foundation. As Jon says, “Your gifts to the Foundation really are **gifts that keep on giving**”.

Show Chairman-2015: Evan Day discussed the format of the show as being a piggyback of their regular show. He stated the format nor the date were changed, and the newspaper had information on all the show’s offerings. He thanked Brad Larson for his job of uploading the DVD on the Ogden show and keeping up on the Ogden-grams, especially #7 which went out last minute. Beth Heesacker was also given credit for getting out the word. Evan also asked for comment about such a format. Although Evan acted as NFMS Chair for the show, Richard Gabel was the Golden Spike Show Chairman. Richard thanked all the people on the other side of the phone since last fall that helped answer questions from him, especially Dick Parks relative to the silent auction. Their assistance allowed him to present a show as it is with the judging, meetings, etc. It would be nice if there was a book on presenting a show so there would be no surprises. (Members stated there is such a book, but it is completely antiquated.)

Show Coordination: Pat Lambert was unable to attend. Her written report follows.

A reminder – please include admission prices in the information you send me. Several publications request a website so if you would like your website included in your show information, please send it along with your other information. You may also include details about your show (do you have vendors, member cases, speakers, demonstrators, children’s activities, auctions, etc...)

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, Rock & Gem Magazine, The Washington Mineral Council, The Gold Prospectors Association of America Newsletter, Northwest Outdoors Radio, Western AAA Journal, and Northwest Travel Magazine. I send Idaho shows to Idaho Magazine. They will publish information as time and space allow. If anyone has other sources that I could use to spread the word, please let me know.

GPAA Journal would like to include photos on select events. Feel free to include a digital photo with photo captions of events from the previous year with the information you send me, especially if your show includes a field trip as part of the show program.

Stamps: Hermina Kolski stated she would like to phase out of the chairman position but would like to find someone with a strong interest in stamps. If your club has someone, please talk to Hermina or Warren. Hermina can’t drive anymore, but would be willing to collect and sort the stamps then send them. Someone is needed to drive and “get stuff”. She can still sort. Hermina said she had spent twenty years as the stamp chairman. Judi mentioned an article that was printed in the mid-year minutes a couple years ago that explained the “birth of the stamp chairman.” It has been a labor of love for her.

Following is Hermina’s written report.

The very large stamp collection picked up at our last meeting was sold for \$700, if complete and \$300 if incomplete. Took months to go through all of them. Sets are one cent, 2 cent, 3 cent, 5 cents, 10 cents. When 5 cent and 10 cent are missing, the collection is much less valuable. Takes time to sort through these many sets. Three hundred dollars arrived for all higher issues we were missing. We went through several boxes before we

left and found no 5 and 10 cent stamps, but dealer wanted to be sure. The other two smaller collections sold for \$15 each because they had albums included. Therefore, we now have \$330 to add to our total. \$5990.30 plus \$330=\$6320.30 for this wonderful project for cancer research. Sincerely, Hermina Kolski

Supplies: Chair, Patty Amos stated, "It's in the packet".

Current supplies list 4-AMFS pins, 9-Fossil Lists, 11- Mineral classification lists-2003, 6-Guidelines for Editor-2012, 3-Guidelines for Judges-2003, 5-NFMS pins, 22-2006 Show pins, 2-Public relations, 3-Show committee chairman, Federation hats-need to count again, T-Shirts-need to count again, 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 Patty Amos
Ways and Means: No Report.

Website: Brad Larson reported some changes in our website. The forum has been thrown out and a Facebook group has been added for the NFMS. It is a place where ads for shows, show field trips and such can be listed. It is also searchable on the NFMS site. Denise Harrison and John Marshall of the Rice Museum are the second set of eyes to "police" things for appropriate content. At the moment there are pictures and such of the Montana Field Trip, The Hermiston Show and soon, this show. Brad's written report follows.

NFMS – 2014-2015 Annual Webmasters Report, February 28, 2015

I hope this report finds everyone in good spirit and health.

Well, it has been one fast ride this year for the website. The data for this report will be from February 28th 2014 to February 28th 2015.

Basically as for the structure of the website, the only new page that I have added was the Internet Posting Policy Page. This encompasses producing web pages where the following goals should be considered:

1. Introducing outside visitors to the NFMS and/or Committees and its programs,
2. Fostering communication of information between the Society and the community,
3. Sharing the NFMS successes with the world.
4. Linking users to good information resource.
5. Providing top-quality, family-friendly content that is appropriate to and in compliance with the mission statement, educational goals and objectives of NFMS.

If there is anything that the membership would like to see, a wish-list of sorts, I would be glad to try to accommodate this for the good of the membership to advance communications throughout the lapidary world. Please don't hesitate to speak up.

In the pages to follow I will show the growth and or decline of pages being seen and who has visited our site. The date range will be from February 28th 2014 to February 28th 2015.

I did have one suggestion to add to our site.

❖ Add a location for the Federation Show to include photographs of the award winners and/or their showcases to be displayed on our site.

- If we show a photograph of the person, we would need to get a photographic release and if they are under 18 a release signed by their parent/guardian before posting on the website.
- If we photograph the winners showcase (without photo of winner) and denote the placing and or specific award along with their name and club that they belong to, we would not need a photographic release statement.

Also, I am requesting the following from persons who are webmasters for their local clubs within the Northwest Federation:

- ✚ Please verify that if you are linking to the following sites, to use the current links as listed below.
- ✚ Please email your name and contact information, along with your URL for your site. This is, so I can create a centralized listing/location/site for all Northwest Federation club webmasters information in case of changes to anything on our NFMS Site or I need to communicate to all with new information regarding our NFMS Site.
- ✚ NFMS Main Site: <http://amfed.org/nfms/>
- ✚ NFMS Newsletters: <http://amfed.org/nfms/newsletters.asp>
- ✚ NFMS Rock and Gem Shows: <http://amfed.org/nfms/shows.asp>
- ✚ NFMS Calendar: <http://amfed.org/nfms/calendar.asp>

- ✚ NFMS Library: <http://amfed.org/nfms/library.asp>
- ✚ NFMS Committees: <http://amfed.org/nfms/committees.asp>
- ✚ NFMS Forum Site: <http://nfms.freeforums.org/portal.php>
- ✚ NFMS Juniors Program: <http://amfed.org/nfms/juniors.asp>

2012 – 2013		2013 - 2014		2014-2015	
Top Visits for Countries visiting our site					
Country	Total Visits	Country	Total Visits	Country	Total Visits
USA	1912	USA	5161	USA	5587
Canada	15	Canada	83	Canada	68
Ghana	6	India	24	Hong Kong	23
Australia	5	United Kingdom	17	India	22
India	5	Ghana	11	Nigeria	16
Brazil	4	Nigeria	11	Germany	15
Germany	4	Netherlands	11	Russia	14
Iran	4	Côte d'Ivoire	10	Philippines	13
Côte d'Ivoire	3	Germany	6	United Kingdom	12
France	3	Philippines	6	Côte d'Ivoire	11

Comparison of last year's data to this years compiled data

This is only our top 10 countries that viewed. The assessment of the above table shows that we had Then from 2013-2014 we had 5161 visits with a slight increase in 2014-2015 we had 5587 visits wish is an increase of **426** or **8%**, this was a trend for most all of the site visits per country.

2012-2013			2013-2014			2014-2015		
Top 10 Total Visits / Average Pages per visit / per State								
State	Total Visits	Average Page/Visit	State	Total Visits	Average Page/Visit	State	Total Visits	Average Page/Visit
Washington	701	3.4	Washington	1857	2.64	Washington	1894	2.69
Oregon	344	3.35	Oregon	1227	2.32	Oregon	1272	2.49
Idaho	241	4.73	Idaho	438	4.20	Idaho	467	4.26
California	167	2.66	California	312	2.84	California	387	2.8
Montana	71	4.17	Montana	237	2.97	Montana	322	2.57
Utah	37	3.59	Utah	205	2.21	Utah	315	2.69
Colorado	33	1.85	Colorado	96	2.29	Colorado	101	2.27
Michigan	27	1.93	Texas	88	2.49	Texas	79	2.28
Texas	25	2.48	Arizona	74	2.07	Arizona	74	2.05
Maryland	23	2.43	Mixture (not set)	69	1.65	Mixture (not set)	54	2.06

From the data above, it looks that we have an increase in total visits per state:

- Washington – Increase of 37 or an increase of 2% for 2014-2015
- Oregon – Increase of **45** or an increase of **4%** for 2014-2015
- Idaho – Increase of 29 or an increase of 7% for 2014-2015
- California – Increase of **75** or an increase of **24%** for 2014-2015
- Montana – Increase of **85** or an increase of **36%** for 2014-2015
- Utah Increase of **110** or an increase of **54%** for 2014-2015

Overall to gauge this based off the top 6 states from last year and this year we had a total of 1594 hits from last year verses 4372 hits this year, which is an overall increase of 2778 hits or 274.278% gain in views across the country

		2013-2014		2014-2015	
Mobile Devices (Including Tablets)					
	Visits		Visits		Visits
Desktop	1834	Desktop	4174	Desktop	4344
Mobile	163	Mobile	1258	Mobile	1570

It looks like we have had in increase in Desktop visits of **170** or a **4% increase**, from 2013-2013 to 2014-2015
 It looks like we have had in increase in Desktop visits of **312** or a **25% increase**, from 2013-2013 to 2014-2015

2013-2014			2014-2015			
Top 10 pages on the site						
#	Page	Page views	Page	Page views	Increase	% Increase
1	/nfms/	4056	/nfms/	4637	581	14%
2	/nfms/newsletters.asp	913	/nfms/newsletters.asp	1137	224	25%
3	/nfms/Shows.asp	1166	/nfms/Shows.asp	1545	379	33%
4	/nfms/ClubsWA.asp	824	/nfms/ClubsWA.asp	911	87	11%
5	/nfms/ClubsOR.asp	609	/nfms/ClubsOR.asp	729	120	20%
6	/nfms/FederationShow.asp	559	/nfms/FederationShow.asp	965	406	73%
7	/nfms/Clubs.asp	373	/nfms/Clubs.asp	386	13	4%
8	/nfms/ShowsJulDec.asp	459	/nfms/ShowsJulDec.asp	467	8	2%
9	/nfms/ShowsJanJun.asp	1169	/nfms/ShowsJanJun.asp	1234	65	6%
10	/nfms/NwRockHoundRetreat.asp	425	/nfms/NwRockHoundRetreat.asp	455	30	7%

Overall we had a positive page view for the top ten pages from last year.

American Lands Access Association: President, Shirley Leesom reported the meeting had taken place at one o'clock with a staff member from Congressman Rob Bishop of Utah present. He gave an overview of what's happening in Utah public lands. Shirley will elaborate in the newsletter. The staffer was given a present of coprolite" for someone in congress when asked; as Shirley stated, "A load of crap like the stuff you bring to me."

Ronna Watkins pointed out there is also a facebook page for AIAA.

Special Committees:

Multi-Federation Field Trip: Although Chairman, Doug True was unable to attend because of his wife's surgery, it was reported a fourth of July weekend NFMS fieldtrip is in the works. Roger Beck is helping with some of the details in order to coordinate in Vale, Oregon. The area is in the woods on the west side of the Owyhees. The process is not yet finalized. Doug with working with BLM and will post information in the newsletter. He is trying to keep it on the smaller side with just the NFMS this year.

Rockhound of the Year: Bev Bockman was unable to travel to Ogden because of a frail spouse and three animals on medication. She stated in her report all certificates have been delivered.

Website Contest: Cheri George told the membership there was only one entry last year which too second place in the AFMS. This year there were nine entries-more than anyone else. Four entries were sent on the AFMS to judge instead of the usual three. (The NFMS website didn't qualify because of its nature, but Cheri and others

commented that it is an excellent site.) The trophies and certificates will be passed out in the morning at the Breakfast. (Following is Cheri's written report as submitted for the agenda.)

Well, I have to say I have been completely flabbergasted by the number of entries in this year's contest. Perhaps begging and pleading do work!! We have nine entrants to the AFMS judging this year and I want to thank you all!

As Website Competition Chairman it is up to me to urge, beg, cajole and whatever is required to get people to enter their websites in this contest. I have been Website Contest Chairman since 2009, when I took the job at Billings, and joined the NFMS at the same time. You can blame Fritz and Lyle for that, they chased me down until I joined.

As a Webmaster, you work hard on your website to make user friendly, legible, and filled with information. It is apparent that you are doing a good job at this, as one of our judges has already told me it was going to be difficult because the entries were all so excellent. This pleases me and should please you as well.

We are in a tight spot this year, so when I announce the winners at the Editors Breakfast at Ogden, I will only have the NFMS results. As you all know AFMS is not until October, so some may be getting an early Christmas present!!

Remember, if you enter and do not place 1st in AFMS this year, you can enter again next year. If you do not enter next year, I may have to do it for you so don't let me down.

Again let me say THANK YOU SO MUCH!!!

Announcements: Hidemi announced there will be a midyear organizational meeting on Friday October 9, 2015 in conjunction with the Portland Regional Show. The meeting will be held at the Rice Museum at 10:00 am. There will still be a mid-year meeting in April, since the next annual meeting after that will not be until July.

Mike Blanton challenged each club to submit a prize for the AMFS Endowment Fund drawing which will be held at the combined NFMS/AFMS Show in Albany, Oregon, July 29-31, 2016.

Reminder: Please pick up a packet for the Albany Show.

Warren then adjourned the meeting and thanked all for attending.

Approved and signed by Executive Officers:

2014-15 President Warren Rood _____ Date _____

2014-15 1st Vice President Hidemi Kira _____ Date _____

2014-15 2nd Vice President Jim Bosley _____ Date _____

2014-15 Executive Secretary Judi Allison _____ Date _____

2014-15 Treasurer Lyle Vogelpohl _____ Date _____