

## NFMS MID-YEAR MEETING AGENDA/REPORTS/MINUTES

April 17, 2021 – 10 am Pacific Daylight Time via Zoom

<https://zoom.us/j/96197796390?pwd=YkxVNUgrY0xvc013SHB6dUxtb0xCdz09>

- Call to Order Beth Heesacker, President
- Pledge of Allegiance Beth Heesacker, President
- Parliamentary Evan Day
- Introduction of Officers & Chairs Beth Heesacker, President
- Introduction of Past Presidents and VIPs Larry Hulstrom, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President
- Introduction of Attendees – Directors/Delegates Darrell Coyle 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President
- Invocation Pastor Evan Day
- Moment of Silence Beth Heesacker

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

- President Beth Heesacker
- Executive Secretary Judi Allison
- Treasurer Linda Harvey
- Budget – 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Larry Hulstrom
- Bulletin Aids Kat Koch
- Circulation Tom Burchard
- Credentials Clara & Del Walker
- Custodian-2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Darrell Coyle
- Directory Carol Willey, OPEN after June 1
- All American Club Award OPEN
- Endowment Fund Jim Brain
- Field Trip Doug True
- Historian OPEN (Report From Linda Barlow)
- Juniors Gayle Butler
- Newsletter Paul Heesacker
- Nominating Ken Zahn
- Northwest Rockhound Retreat Walt Butler
- Past Presidents Council Jim Bosley
- Public Lands Advisory Susie Koppert
- Public Relations OPEN
- Resolutions Audrey Vogelpohl
- Rockhound of the Year Laurie Ellis
- Rules & Awards Darrell Coyle
- Safety Kathy McLean
- Scholarship Mary Lou Northrup
- Show Coordination Pat Lambert
- Slide/Video Darrell Watkins
- Stamps Chuck Sonner
- Supplies Patty Amos
- Ways & Means Janice VanCura
- Webmaster Brad Larson
- Website Competition Cheri George, OPEN after June 1
- ALAA OPEN

### ADDITIONAL BUSINESS. . .

- 2021 Annual Meeting – Judi
- 2022 and 2023 (hosting AFMS) shows
- Zoom meeting questionnaire results - Beth

Website Updates report – Larry and Judi  
By-Laws update report – Ken, Judi, Ronna, Evan  
AFMS Scholarship Honoree report - Beth  
Use of endowment Funds Discussion – Jim Brain

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **ADJOURNMENT**

#### **MINUTES OF MID YEAR MEETING-Recorded and transcribed by Judi Allison, Secretary**

*Thirty members were present for the midyear meeting, held via Zoom because of Covid – 19 restrictions.*

***President, Beth Heesacker** called the meeting to order, thanked **Chris Sorensen** for hosting the meeting and asked that she give an overview of protocol and capabilities for a Zoom meeting. Chris then spent a few minutes explaining, demonstrating, and questioning to assure that all were comfortable with the format.*

*Beth then led the Pledge of Allegiance*

*Beth introduced **Evan Day as Parliamentarian** and asked if he had anything to add about using the electronic format. He stated that Chris covered it all. Everyone is getting better on using Zoom. The regular Roberts Rules of Order will be used if there is a need to clarify any process.)*

*Beth then introduced the current Executive Board: Beth Heesacker, President; Larry Hulstrom, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President; Darrell Coyle, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, Linda Harvey, Treasurer; Judi Allison, Secretary.*

*Larry introduced the Past Presidents in attendance: Chuck Sonner, Judi Allison, Ken Zahn, Ronna Watkins, Paul Heesacker.*

*Darrell called the names of folks who appeared on screen. Those not previously mentioned were Andy Patapoff, Laurie Ellis, Larry Stewart, Mel Lambert, Mike Rose, Pat Lambert, Clara Walker, Mary Lou Northrup, Deann, Ronna and Darrell Watkins, Walt and Gayle Butler, Jennifer Haley, William, Margie Tominson, Kat Koch, Jim Brain, Bill Harvey, Janice Van Cura, Kathy McLean, Denise Harrison, Susan Merideth, Susie Koppert (This Secretary apologizes if some names were omitted. I have trouble reading my own writing at times.)*

*Beth then asked Evan to give the Invocation. He prefaced it with the comment, “And the One here we didn’t mention.”*

*Beth asked for a moment of silence for those whom we have lost this last year. She continued by calling for reports, hers being the first. She pointed out that hers was in the packet that was previously sent out via email.*

***Secretary, Judi Allison** also stated that the information was in the packet. She added a thank you to all the Committees that do the work to keep things going.*

***Treasurer, Linda Harvey** also stated her report was in the packet.*

***1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, Larry Hulstrom** stated his report was in the Addendum. He stated that since we are not sure of the exact budget that he will be presenting at the annual meeting because of the unusual circumstances of the year. We will either have a status quo or it will reflect how things are going.*

***Bulletin Aids.-Kat Koch** stated she sent out emails to sixty-nine clubs for submissions and no one replied. The only submission was from the Clackamette Club. She expressed her disappointment and asked, “How do I reach folks?”*

***Tom Burchard, Circulation.** No report*

***Clara Walker** stated the **Credentials** report was in the packet.*

***2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, Darrell Coyle** stated the inventory list is in the packet. He asked that when transfers of goods are complete, please email him so he can update the inventory.*

*Beth mentioned that **Directory** position held by **Carol Willey** would be open after June first. Judi clarified a bit stating that, yes, Carol wishes to be replaced, but that she won’t immediately abandon the position on June 1.*

***All American** Position is open.*

***Jim Brain** stated the **Endowment Fund** report is in the packet. He added that Lakeside had donated \$100 and that the funds were up \$18,000 in six weeks.*

***Doug True, Field Trip Chair** was absent. There was some discussion about whether there was also a field trip in May, since the June AFMS Show will be conducting field trips to the same area. Judi said she would check with Doug to clarify.*

*Clarification: Yes. There will be a field trip on Memorial Week in May and field trips in June. The difference between the two is that the one in May will include a campout.*

**Historian** is in the packet. Linda Barlow, who submitted the report, has resigned. There is a significant amount of inventory she would like to have moved.

**Gayle Butler, Junior Chairperson** stated she hasn't sent out forms yet because most kids are not having meetings. She is looking for inspiration. A number of folks stated that the Juniors are having electronic meetings, so Gayle can send out forms to solicit for applications. There was a question on the timeline and Beth said Gayle could probably have an idea of the timeline when we had the discussion about the Annual Meeting.

**Paul Heesacker, Newsletter Chairperson** stated the information is in the packet.

Beth then called on **Ken Zahn as Nominating Chair**. He stated we have a great **Candidate for 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President** and deferred to Judi to introduce her. Judi explained that this worthy candidate was found through the "pipeline". She then introduced **Jennifer Haley** and asked her to give her own introduction. Jennifer stated she was happy and honored to accept the nomination.

I have been a CFMS President twice, and I have been an AFMS VP twice on behalf of the CFMS. I moved to Oregon in December 2019. I live in Grants Pass, Oregon. I belong to 2 Oregon clubs, Springfield Thunderegg Rock Club, and the Rock & Arrowhead Club of Klamath Falls. Both clubs are 4 hours away either north and south, and they accepted my membership when I wrote to them before I moved knowing I needed to be a club member of a Northwestern Federation to keep my AFMS Historian Committee chairmanship. I have been a member of them both since November 2019. We moved to Oregon the week before Christmas 2019. Between the snow closing the highway north and south of me, and then the pandemic I haven't been able to meet with either of them. Both clubs understood that I might not be able to attend meetings every month due to the travel, but they were fine about that. Over the years I have worked together with Hidemi Kira, Ronna Watkins, Doug True and Lauren Williams in the American Lands Access Association and my work with AFMS and CFMS.

I fell in love with the rockhounds the first time I met them when I attended as a guest at the Napa Valley Rock & Gem Club in California. I didn't even know about them until I was in my 40's. When I looked up the different towns I lived in when I was a child through high school, to see if they ever had clubs, every town had a rock club even before I was born. I'm still upset about the fact I missed out on the shows back then.

Beth reminded all that nominations are still open. Jennifer is our first nominee.

**Walt Butler** gave an overview on the status of **Camp Hancock**. He stated Janet Ohara, the manager of the camp has let him know that they haven't yet approved the plans for the new restrooms. It is very questionable that we will be able to hold the camp because of the construction. There was a question about sharing a restroom with the women, and Walt said they can't be shared. A second suggestion was the use of a portable toilet. It was pointed out there is no ability to shower with such an arrangement. Walt added that the entire Northwest section of the camp would be closed off if the construction isn't completed. He also pointed out that OMSI is not taking reservations. Oregon is not allowing international travel and one of the instructors lives in Canada. Larry asked what would be the "drop dead" date to get everything done. Walt stated, "three months". Larry commented that it would be doubtful at this point and Walt agreed.

**Past President, Ken Zahn** "took the floor at Beth's request. He stated he had done little lately and has a knee replacement on June 2, so he may not be at Big Piney. He thanked Evan, Judi and Ronna for taking the lead on **Bylaws Revisory Committee**. He stated he has also marked up for changes to the OPs and Bylaws. There are a lot of inconsistencies which need changes and he hopes we can also get such inconsistencies corrected. In the meantime, a blanket proposal to allow for conducting business electronically appears to be a viable option. He mentioned shows in Montana: Billings the 1<sup>st</sup> weekend in May, one in Hamilton in mid-May, Butte the end of June. Bozeman has not reached a state of having sufficient permissions to hold a show in May; perhaps August or September. He said Kalispell had a show in March that was well attended and that Tucson mineral dealers did well.

**PLAC – Suzie Koppert**. Report is in the packet. Judi shared this story about Suzie's diligence to get her report in. She has been recovering from injuries incurred during our ice/snow storm in mid-February. A portable carport canopy collapsed on her trapping half of her under 8" of snow and ice in 22 degree weather. It took her over 5 hours to claw and dig herself out from under the canopy and crawl to and in the front door. She broke and tore

the ligaments in her right ankle, broke 2 fingers on each hand, 5 toes, bruised her liver and spleen, and suffered from frostbite. Judi added perhaps that could be a story for Kathy's safety report.

### **Public Relations-Open**

**Resolutions – Audrey Vogepohl.** It appears Audrey will have some work to do before the Annual meeting. To Beth's question as to whether we had any resolutions at the moment, Judi reminded members that the only official meeting with voting is the annual meeting. Evan then spoke to the resolutions being drafted relative to the bylaws stating the ability to have electronic meetings. He pointed out that we are operating the current meeting and held the annual meeting in October under the emergency proclamation of the Governor of Washington, since our Federations was incorporated in the state. Evan then gave an overview of the possible proposed bylaw change to reflect the ability of having electronic meetings. He referred to Article VIII, suggesting a blanket addition of the section under "Part G" to cover all the instances mentioned in the by-laws. The proposal could be confined to conducting electronic meetings only in the case of an emergency or at the discretion of the Executive Board. There would be a part that iterated that meetings would be in person if possible, but the idea of having the latitude of conducting committee meetings and such has some advantages. Evan said their church was meeting via Zoom and he would have asked, "What are you smoking?" last year if someone have painted such a scenario. He then asked for any input or feedback on the part of the committee. Ken made reference for the idea of emergency or general. Efficiency is also important for any board to have the ability to have options. He felt we will "fix that this year." He stated that some prefer in person meetings. Chris pointed out that Zoom meetings can be recorded for later viewing. If travel was an issue, the format could be powerful.

Janice Van Cura added that Hybrid meetings with a camera on in the room is another means of conducting a meeting. Some people meet in person, and those who can't join electronically.

Evan then reminded the membership that bylaws must be published and available for all to review with at least a 90-day window. Operating procedures can be changed at a meeting without prior notice, but it is 'bad politics'.

Ken then asked, "How do we clone Chris? (as a meeting host.) Chris then did offer to do some training for all clubs. Janice let the membership know that she is also versed in the electronic means, and that there are probably others. There was a question about the cost of having a Zoom site. Larry stated Lakeside (today's host) paid approximately \$150 for a year. One person has to manage the account, but a cohost can be added once a meeting is started. Webinars can be expensive, but just a meeting has a lot of options. Kat mentioned that their club conducts meetings through Zoom at a cost of \$18 per 1 ½ hour meeting.

Beth then closed the discussion with a statement of our need to move on.

**Rockhound of the Year – Laurie Ellis** Laurie stated that there had not been a lot of entries sent. She has put out a message or two.

**Rules and Awards – Darrell Coyle** Darrell explained the need for more members of the Rules and Awards Committee. This is his third year (the last in his three year term.) Normal progression is from Registrar to Judge to Chairperson. Darrell cannot be chair because he is 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President. He called for volunteers and explained that there is no work now, but we need to get folks trained. There is also a need for judges and clerks because we are now "treading water". Darrell felt such would be good positions for folks who were Directors or Delegates, because they are already at the show. It is not super difficult. We need people to step up and do it.

**Safety – Kathy McLean** She stated there was a report in the packet and also offered a bit of advice. Safety is not an isolated issue. It can affect other things, so please clean up your work areas. Sweep, dust and do advanced care to prevent issues in the future. She fell last spring and broke her toe because she was not paying attention. Be careful! Think ahead. Kathy also mentioned that if members thought of other options you would like her to cover, please let her know. She is planning on discussing poison rocks and chemicals in the future.

**Show Chairman – Pat Lambert** In the Packet

**Slides/Videos – Darrell Watkins** In the Packet

**Stamps – Chuck Sonnor** Chuck stated that his report was in the packet and added that he hopes he can do what he did last year in generating funds. He felt he should be able to match last year. He is hoping that if folks have stamps at Big Piney, someone will be able to gather them. Beth asked about a gentleman from the Eastern Federations that was attempting to contact Chuck. She thought he might have stamps they were willing to

donate. It appears that the gentleman was searching for information of how to regenerate the stamp program their federation once had. Chuck said he will write to the gentleman to give him ideas. He mentioned how small companies still often use stamps. If anyone knows someone working in such a place, asking if they can be saved is a good way to get stamps. \$547 was generated last year for research by 'stuff people just throw in the trash.'

**Supplies – Patty Amos** In the Packet

**Scholarship – Mary Lou Northrup** The Hells Canyon Club donated \$450 for a member who had passed: David Dabritz

**Ways and Means – Janice Van Cura** Janice said now that April 15 is past she will work on getting the review of the Treasury transition done. She also let folks know that the Prineville Show is June 17-20 and WAMS is planning for the weekend of August 22.

**Website – Brad Larson** In the packet

**ALAA – Open – No report**

### **ADDITIONAL BUSINESS**

Beth asked Judi to speak to the Annual Meeting. Judi informed the assembly that she has been in contact with Jack Edwards, Show Chair of the Marcus Whitman Club. Pending board approval (which will meet on April 20<sup>th</sup>) and the fairgrounds allowing a rock show to be held, he has offered the use of their clubhouse (which is out of town) for the annual meeting. The dates of the show are September 11-12. He stated the club would not be able to "host" a show or accommodate any additional space. He felt they could probably allow some space for competitive displays, and stated there is some limited space for "overnighters". Judi added that she is willing to set up a venue somewhere in Walla Walla to have a banquet and also some place for an editor's breakfast, if people were interested. The general consensus was that of interest. Judi will pursue such. In the event, the Marcus Whitman Show is disallowed by state mandates, the Federation will still have a meeting. Hells Canyon Club has suggested the possible use of the Red Barn at their fairgrounds. There show is October 16-17.

Beth then pointed out **we are needing hosts for the 2022 and 2023 Shows**. The 2023 Show will be in conjunction with the AFMS. Please consider taking the suggestion back to your club. The Federation can help with getting you going with ideas for a proposal, can give assistance with some tried and proved wisdom and you can probably even find some physical helping hands in the bunch. Remember, it doesn't have to be a grandiose affair. Extras can be tacked on to your regular show.

Beth gave an overview of the survey relative to the use of Zoom Sixty-one emails were sent, and there were fifteen responses. As Beth said, about par for a survey. She expressed her satisfaction with such a venue, as she has had the opportunity to meet folks on the east coast in a variety of venues. The use of hybrid meetings is also great. Chris stated she was willing to write an article for the newsletter relative to "Zoom questions". She would also be willing to host a "Zoom tutorial", but it would be awhile because of her schedule. Ken discussed the problem of their club having nobody to volunteer to take the lead on a zoom meeting. Their club's in person meetings have been small because of the restrictions. Chris agreed that it does take diligence and practice. Evan said he had stepped in as host at one of their meetings and found it was very easy; simple. The basic version will allow a forty minute time frame, then it shuts off. It can be agreed beforehand that everyone will get back on and resume where they left off. Darrell Coyle mentioned that one can change their name on the screen so both first and last name will help with identification. He also added as an aside that perhaps Big Piney might be a place to meet and trade property if anyone needs to pass on inventory.

Larry gave an update on his work to help Brad get the website updated. Larry had gone through the site and noted missing items and/or mistakes. Judi provided some of the current information to Brad for inclusion in the site. She is also acting as the point person for all the Clubs to update their information. Please go to the website, check your club's information and send any changes to her. Larry stated there were some things that still need some tweaking. He found that the listing of scholarship honorees and awards had fallen off. There appeared to be no listings for the last ten years. He is continuing to work on finding it.

Beth reported on the choice for NFMS Scholarship honoree. Mr. Nick Zentner, Professor Lecturer is from the Central Washington University. He in turn chose two recipients for the AFMS Scholarship Awards; Lourde Garcia and Josh Stone.

*Jim Brain again pointed out that there is a need for a President and Secretary for the endowment fund. There is not a lot of work to it and not much business at the moment. He said there are two or three things in the works. There is no place in the Operating Procedures that explains how we carry the 4% mentioned from one year to the next. It is more of a paperwork issue that should be addressed.*

*A bigger issue is the priority of the use of the endowment funds to benefit the majority of the Federation.*

- 1. There is a commitment at the moment to continue to offset the dues by a \$1.00 per adult member through 2023.*
- 2. There has been discussion about the possibility of using some funds to help with updating the slide programs.*
- 3. Another possibility could be to help offset extraordinary costs to host the Annual Meeting. Perhaps that could be a carrot for some club to host a show.*
- 4. Relative to the annual budget, there has always been the option using some funds to supplement the cost of operation.*

*Please let Jim know a priority with these four items is, then how to spend on such. He would appreciate any feedback.*

*A discussion then ensued. Evan applauded the creation of the fund. He was at the original meeting in 1984. He also applauded all the ideas presented. Jim mentioned that the fund is at a point where we are on the verge of being able to spend 10,000-12,000 a year. Judi stated that she felt it would help clubs step up to the plate if it was common knowledge that the Federation might be able to step in and help with "extraordinary costs". Jim added that it could be voted on at an annual meeting to use some funds for a show. Evan reminded the membership that a resolution would not be needed since it falls under operating procedures. But he also cautioned that it is good policy to let people know at least thirty days in advance. Jim thanked folks for giving suggestions now. He will write an article for newsletter detailing the discussion and ask for further suggestions. Larry felt that upgrading the video programs would be of good use since some are already degrading and essentially no one uses slides any more. Ken spoke in support of the conversions. He also felt support for the shows could be beneficial. Jim suggested that we can always look back on our decisions. We are locked in on the dues offset for the next three years, so at least half of the funds has been committed for such. Darrell W. gave an overview of the slide program and the progress with the conversion. He said he had looked into having it done commercially in order to preserve such things as videos and slides which cover material and areas we can no longer reach such as John Day and Clarno. His biggest concerns are the time and the cost. He has been working with a person to convert the slides. There are three steps. First the slide has to be converted to digital. Second, the audio cassettes need to be converted. Third, the two need to be put together. It is time consuming, but the format should last into the foreseeable future. The gentleman is offering a 30-35% discount, but the two hours to edit each tacks on an additional amount. With the discount, the cost per program would run approximately \$250. Considering there are around 200 programs, that is a big chunk of change. Darrel will draft an article for the newsletter. Chris suggested perhaps we could get college students to help to reduce the cost. But she pointed out it might also be lower quality. She also suggested the possibility of saving them with Youtube. They could be used as a self-promotion for the Federation. Although Darrell purchased the machine for conversion, it is a tedious, slow process. Only four slides can be done at a time, and he doesn't know how to edit the presentations to sync the sound. Chris offered help with that aspect, but, as Ronna pointed out, it is still a time issue. Beth asked Darrell to prepare a list that can then be prioritized. They are historical items that are worth saving. It appears it will be a project that will last several years.*

*Evan spoke to the clause in the Endowment Fund bylaws that states "must benefit entire Federation". He told of a past request by the Golden Spike Club to purchase an air abrasion tool at a cost of around \$500. The idea was dismissed because of the above clause. He felt it was tough to come up with items that "benefit the total Federation." Jim pointed out that before the clause was put into place, in one year there were twenty-five requests. Evan suggested perhaps there could be a percentage of the fund that would prioritize support for some other activities.*

*Beth then asked for any additional comments or business. She recapped that Jim would write an article and Darrell W. would create a list.*

*She then asked if there were any announcements. Ken Zahn moved to adjourn with Ronna Watkins seconding the proposal. Meeting adjourned at 12:38 pm, Pacific Daylight Time.*  
*Secretary, Judi Allison*

## **REPORTS FOLLOW**

### ***NFMS President – Beth Heesacker***

Our Executive Board has been very busy with a variety of items. One of which was the retirement of our long-time Treasurer Lyle Vogelpohl. We thank him and wish him a long and healthy retirement. We found out how hard it is to replace a vital member of our Board. We thank Linda Harvey for volunteering to take up this huge responsibility.

Our NFMS Newsletter editor pro-tem, Ronna Watkins, also retired. We also want to thank her for her help to the NFMS in this vital service. Paul Heesacker volunteered as the new Newsletter Committee chair. Thank you to him and his committee.

Next, our past President, Kenneth Zahn, is working on our By Laws to bring them in line with the AFMS. Each of the members of the Bylaws Revisory Committee has received an electronic copy of the current bylaws in order to review such and add suggestions. A virtual meeting will be forthcoming so the members can further discuss and suggest possible changes and updates, especially relevant to the possible need of conducting official business meetings via electronic means. The updates will be voted on at the Annual meeting later this year. First Vice President Larry Hulstrom and Secretary Judi Allison are reviewing and working on updates to our website.

As of this writing, we will be having our Mid-Year Meeting using Zoom on April 17<sup>th</sup>. We are still in the process of scheduling our Annual Meeting taking Covid into consideration.

I have chosen Nick Zentner of Central Washington University as the Honoree professor. The two students have been selected and all the information has been forwarded to the AFMS.

We have lost clubs this year. The pandemic has placed a heavy burden on some clubs since they have not been able to build their budgets by hosting rock shows. We do have one new club that has requested membership. As of 8/31/2020 we had 68 Clubs, 5813 Adults and 688 Juniors. As of 3/17/21 we have 49 clubs, 3570 adults and 500 juniors.

Our Endowment Fund is healthy with a 3.15% gain last year.

I just recently emailed out a questionnaire concerning the use of Zoom by our member clubs and the possibility of continued use after we can meet again in person. Inviting long distance presenters to clubs and shows via Zoom could enrich all our meetings. Board meetings could be held via Zoom even after we can have our in-person general meetings to save time and travel cost for Board members. My report on the questionnaire was in the latest NFMS Newsletter.

### ***Secretary –Judi Allison***

Even though, or perhaps because, we have had the pandemic to contend with, the Executive Board has been hard at work behind the scenes. As you can see from Beth's report, we continue to work to keep the wheels turning. And the collection of Executive Officers we have now are really keeping me on my toes. They are a very dedicated bunch of folks who are just like many of you with your dedication within your clubs. The Federation needs some of your dedication to fill the vacant positions. Keep in mind that many of the positions don't take up too much time, but the closer association with the Federation can reap some real rewards. .

.especially in gaining some great friendships. Many are hesitant because they think of the Federation as a bigger, more official entity. We are all just hobbyists with a passion for what we do. I know you share that passion because you are a member of your club. We sure would love to see you share some of that passion by filling a committee position. I am very happy to personally speak with anyone who would like to know more about any of the workings of the various positions. I might even talk your ear off.

### ***Treasurer – Linda Harvey***

As Lyle reviewed and purged his files, records that have to be retained have filled four Banker Boxes, three notebooks, one box of bank statements, the Treasurer's brief case and the one drawer metal filing cabinet. I spoke with Lyle and I will be going North to retrieve the items to bring home. It will be after Bill gets his second shot around the 13th of April and depends on Lyle's availability at the time. Treasurer's records will be relocated and appropriately stored at my house in April.

### ***1<sup>st</sup> Vice President – Larry Hulstrom, Budget***

This past year has been a struggle for us all in many ways. Covid-19 has stopped all of the activities that we love to do; shows and meetings were cancelled; fellow club members went into isolation; loved ones were lost. As a result clubs have lost members, have lost income from not being able to host shows, members have decided it was time to step back from activities that supported others, retirements have occurred early as priorities have shifted. The next couple of years for the NFMS are going to be a struggle as we attempt to recover and get back to whatever the new normal is going to look like. Face coverings, social distancing, and vaccinations are going to be a part of that new normal in our everyday lives.

From the business perspective of the NFMS our revenue from dues will likely be down, the annual directory may or may not be produced, the status of the NW Rockhound Retreat (and its subsequent income) is pending, and the status and possible income from the annual show and meeting for 2021 is still in limbo (if we find a host club). We are working on it with the hope of being able to meet in person in the fall.

The NFMS Executive Board is weighing all options to continue staying in touch with members via things like the mid-Year meeting (via Zoom), emails, and the Newsletter, and are working to identify solutions to all of these potential issues as best we can, given the restrictions that Covid protocols have placed on all of us.

The proposed budget for the 2021 - 2022 fiscal year to be prepared for review and approval at the annual meeting in the fall will be hopeful in the thought that things will return to a more normal scenario that we have experienced in years past. We need your help to get us all through to better times. We have a number of positions currently open where your talent and skills could be put to use. Beth has discussed these openings in the Newsletter and we welcome discussions with anyone that is interested in helping us move forward. Stay safe and healthy. Get your vaccinations at the appropriate time. I look forward to the future when I can see all of your smiling faces.

### ***2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President – Custodian Report***

#### ***March 29, 2021 UPDATE***

*There is little change to the last report as there have been n in person meetings. Pending transfers will be noted. Submitted by Darrell Coyle NFMS 2<sup>nd</sup> VP*

#### **NFMS INVENTORY SUMMARY, 2021 ANNUAL REPORT**

*March 29, 2021*

#### **NFMS OFFICERS**

**PRESIDENT:** *Beth Heesacker – the following items are pending transfer from Past President Kenneth Zahn to the current president: 10 NFMS pins for transfer to the Supplies chairperson; leather case with Mini Flags and gavel.*

**1<sup>st</sup> VICE PRESIDENT:** *Larry Hulstrom – No items.*

**2<sup>nd</sup> VICE PRESIDENT:** *Darrell Coyle – No items (related to this position)*

**EXECUTIVE SECRETARY:** *Judi Allison -- 5 Estwing Rock Hammers, 1 Pyle Speaker Assembly with 2 wireless microphones, 3 Reams NFMS letterhead paper, 25 NFMS Envelopes, 4 Old Tie Tacks, Archived Minutes from Past Meetings, 1 four-drawer File Cabinet.*

**TREASURER:** *Lyle Vogelpohl (Resigned)– One 1-drawer filing cabinet and one calculator. Multiple boxes of records. Pending transfer to Linda Harvey (New).*

**PAST PRESIDENT:** *Ronna Watkins – Box containing display items for Past President's case and a small suitcase of cabochons from the NFMS 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary display. To be transferred from Ronna Watkins to Past President Kenneth Zahn. See list at end of this report provided by Ronna Watkins. Verified 27 Feb 2021*

#### **NFMS COMMITTEES AND AFMS REPRESENTATIVES HOLDING FEDERATION EQUIPMENT OR OTHER ITEMS**

**HISTORIAN:** *Linda Barlow (Resigned) Need to arrange transfer of custody– Same as previously listed. Inventory items listed on 27 typed pages in one 4-drawer file cabinet, one 2-drawer file cabinet, and four 18-gallon plastic-lidded bins. One two-drawer file cabinet obtained this year through donation. Items include:*

- *Minutes of Annual Conventions and Mid-year meetings.*
- *Correspondence through the years of Officers and Committee chairpersons.*
- *Mineralogist Magazines.*



- NFMS Manuals.
- NFMS Directories.
- NFMS Binders: (Past Presidents, Scholarship Awards, NFMS at AFMS Conventions, Bulletin Editors Hall of Fame Books I & II, NFMS Show history).
- VHS Video: (Conversion to DVD prohibited by copyright law).
- Monthly Historian Articles for NFMS Newsletter.

NEWSLETTER: Editor: Paul Heesacker – No property to report.

NORTHWEST ROCKHOUND RETREAT: Walter Butler – No items.

RULES AND AWARDS: Darrell Coyle - 1 - metal box with histories and forms about judging; 1 - box of ribbons to be awarded for judging; 1 - box of supplies - pencils, clip boards, erasers, scissors, stapler, etc.; 2 - boxes of plaques to be awarded, should last two more years; 1 - large society plaque; 1 - small society plaque 21-Award Plaques

SLIDE AND VIDEO LIBRARY: Darrell Watkins – No changes to current inventory shown in the directory. (Update 11/14/20 – An Epson Perfection V600 Scanner was purchased to convert slide to digital programs.) Verified 27 Feb 2021

STAMPS: Chuck Sonner – Fourteen stamp sets and 5 pounds of stamps left to sell. Updated 5 Feb 2021

SUPPLIES: Patty Amos – No report submitted.

1 extra Large Gray Tub containing the following:

T-Shirts

Small: 5 Light Blue, 6 Orange, 3 Yellow, 8 Red, 6 Beige, 7 White

Medium: 2 Orange, 3 Red, 3 Beige, 2 White

Caps: 1 Green, 20 Black

NFMS Show Pins 38 2005 Albany, OR; 12 2006 Longview, WA; 09 2014 Hermiston, OR

**NFMS COMMITTEES AND AFMS COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVES HOLDING NO FEDERATION EQUIPMENT OR OTHER ITEMS**

BUDGET: 1st Vice President: Larry Hulstrom – No items.

BULLETIN AIDS: Kat Koch - No items.

BY LAWS REVISORY: Kenneth Zahn - No items

CIRCULATION: Tom Burchard - No items.

CREDENTIALS: Del & Clara Walker – No items.

CUSTODIAN: 2nd Vice President: Darrell Coyle – No items.

DIRECTORY: Carol Willey – One printer cartridge.

EDUCATION: Vacant.

ENDOWMENT FUND: Jim Brain - No items.

FIELD TRIPS: Doug True – No items.

JUNIORS: Gayle Butler – No items.

LONG-RANGE PLANNING: Vacant.

NOMINATING: Immediate Past President (Ken Zahn) – No items.

OPERATIONS REVIEW: Vacant.

PAST PRESIDENTS' COUNCIL: Jim Bosley – No items.

PUBLIC LAND ADVISORY: Susie Koppert – No items.

PUBLIC RELATIONS: Vacant.

RESOLUTIONS: Vacant – No items.

ROCKHOUND OF THE YEAR: Laurie Ellis – No items.

SAFETY: Kathy McLean.

SCHOLARSHIP: Mary Lou Northrup – No items

SHOW CHAIRPERSON 2021: Unknown at this time – No items.

SHOW COORDINATION: Pat Lambert – No items.

WAYS & MEANS: Janice Van Cura – No report submitted.

WEBMASTER: Brad Larson – No items.

BULLETIN EDITORS' ADVISORY (AFMS): Vacant.

BULLETIN EDITORS' HALL OF FAME (AFMS COMMITTEE-OF-ONE): Vacant.

CLUB ROCKHOUND OF THE YEAR (AFMS): Laurie Ellis - No report submitted.

CONSERVATION AND LEGISLATION (AFMS): Vacant.

ALL AMERICAN (AFMS): Vacant.

PUBLIC/INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS (AFMS COMMITTEE-OF-ONE): Vacant.

JUNIOR ACTIVITIES (AFMS): Gayle Butler - No items.

PROGRAM COMPETITIONS (AFMS): Darrell Watkins. No report submitted.

SAFETY (AFMS): Vacant.

SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION (AFMS): Mary Lou Northrup. No report submitted.

SUPPLIES (AFMS): Patty Amos: No report submitted.

JUDGES TRAINING (AFMS COMMITTEE-OF-ONE): Margaret Kolaczyk – See NFMS RULES AND AWARDS COMMITTEE above.

UNIFORM RULES (AFMS): Margaret Kolaczyk – See NFMS RULES AND AWARDS COMMITTEE: above.

WAYS AND MEANS (AFMS): Janice Van Cura – No items.

WEBMASTER (AFMS): Brad Larson – No items.

WEB SITE CONTEST (AFMS): Cheri George – No items.

**Bulletin Aids -Kat Koch**

**Circulation -Tom Burchard**

**Credentials -Clara & Del Walker**

Nothing to report at this time. Hopefully, we can participate in the zoom meeting.....horrible internet out here in the country!

***Custodian-2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President-Darrell Coyle (See Above)***

***Directory - Carol Willey, OPEN after June 1***

*Carol has been working on the Directory as Items come in to update. She can only update the information given her, and to do that, it needs to come through the Treasurer so that the club rosters remain current. So if you have forgotten to pay your dues, please do so. Then your club information will be up to day in the Directory. (A Comment for Carol by Secretary, Judi Allison as conveyed through emails)*

***All American Club Award - OPEN***

***Endowment Fund - Jim Brain***

(Omitted from the Web per NFMS Protocol)

***Field Trip - Doug True***

***Historian - OPEN (Report From Linda Barlow)***

NFMS HISTORIAN Mid-Year REPORT April 2021

The NFMS Newsletter have been transferred to the Historical files as received. All material received of historical nature pertaining to the NFMS has been maintained and preserved including the Annual Show, copies of the NFMS Annual Meeting Agendas & minutes, the Endowment fund meeting reports, the Junior Achievement contest results, the updated directories, the by-laws and operation procedures, and any special committee reports.

Due to 2020 NFMS annual and mid-year meeting cancellation, there were only no materials of NFMS meetings and conventions received have been gathered and maintained.

Due to lack of materials from previous years in the historical files, there will be no Historian Display Case at the annual meeting. There will be a Past President's set of display cases at the annual meeting provided by Keith Fackrell. The Past President collection was not loaned to any museum or at the AFMS Show this year. This year the NFMS Museum list was updated and provided to NFMS Webmaster for publication on our website. As a representative of NFMS, I traveled via RV to Alaska via Canada, the Alaska Highway (Alcon), and visited with the Chugach Gem & Mineral Society. My companion and I attended both routine monthly meetings in July that this society holds: the business meeting and the potluck. This is the only society in Alaska belonging to the NFMS. The members verified the Museums on the list and added another place not a museum, the Alaska Geologic Materials Center, which provided us a private tour.

There were no inquiries this year necessitating historical research.

I have kept NFMS members informed of NFMS Historical related activities or information by submitting articles to the NFMS Northwest Newsletter for each publication. These articles were (1) President's Message 1976, (2) Dr. Henry C. Dake, First NFMS President, (3) Portland Oregon Convention 1941, (4) Hell's Canyon Gem Club's 1973 Letter of Invitation to NFMS Annual Show, (5) Historian Facebook summer adventures a & AFMS Woodruff Trophy Runoff Contest 1961, second place by the Rice's of Hillsboro, Oregon, (6) Alaska State Gem story.

There has been no budget or expenditures this year.

***Juniors - Gayle Butler***

***Newsletter - Paul Heesacker***

The NFMS Newsletter Committee has been performing admirably. Smooth communication between all members. Officers have submitted their reports in a timely manner. Tom Burchard (Circulation Chair) has been right on time. Pat Lambert (Show Coordinator) has submitted show updates so that the schedule of shows is kept current. The printer has done an excellent job in getting our publication out in a very rapid manner after the file is submitted. Thanks to all.

***Nominating - Ken Zahn***

***Northwest Rockhound Retreat - Walt Butler***

The registration for the 2021 NW Rockhound Retreat held at OMSI's Hancock Field Station has been delayed. Gov. Brown has not released a date for the resumption of non-family gatherings of greater than 50 people and OMSI is not able to confirm that Camp Hancock will be available. OMSI has applied for and received a grant to replace the NW Restrooms (men's toilets and showers). They will demolish the existing facilities and rebuild from new plans. The OMSI does not have approved plans, permits nor construction contracts for the work. They hope to have the work done by September, but a number of planning items have to be completed. Until the construction and all associated work is completed all of the surrounding cabins will be unavailable. OMSI hopes to be able to determine if the Camp is a go by June 1st, 2021. At that time I will make the decision to Start Registration or Cancel the NW Rockhound Retreat for 2021. Thank you for your patience, and look forward to seeing you back this year.

***Past Presidents Council - Jim Bosley***

***Public Lands Advisory - Susie Kopert***

It has been a challenging year for us all. I will be so grateful to be able to meet in person with everyone once again.

I would have never been able to keep in touch with others at meetings, with Rock clubs, and the Departments of Forestry, Bureau Of Land Management and the USDA had it not been for Zoom meetings. The efforts put forth from all the individuals who organized the meetings is commendable.

The information I am sharing is from the meetings with the Departments of Forestry, Bureau Of Land Management and the USDA Oregon offices.

There was an overwhelming record number of people using the outdoors for recreation in part due to the COVID restrictions. This was recorded nationwide.

Over one million visitors came to the Prineville, Oregon area in 2020. This includes the Ochoco National Forest. Over 4.2 million visitors came to the Deschutes Oregon area making an increase usage of over 90%. And an increase of 98% in the John Day Oregon area.

The various types of recreation in these areas were, camping, boating, fishing, off road vehicles, biking, and rockhounding.

I was so excited to hear that rockhounding was mentioned. My excitement was short lived when I saw the reports of the condition of many collection areas.

Giant holes and pits unfilled, trees and sagebrush damaged and destroyed. I was asked if rock clubs have any rules and regulations and I told them that there was a Rockhound Code of Ethics established and new members were usually given a copy of it when they joined. Then a thought came to mind that several people have joined clubs during the COVID outbreak with no public meetings. Are our new members even aware of the Rockhound Code of Ethics?

I encourage us all to talk with all our new members and those who are interested in the hobby about the code of ethics to help inform and educate them.

I carry several copies with me on my outings even when I collect on my own to pass out to people who are interested in a copy and the hobby. You would be surprised at how many people are unaware about filing in the holes when they are done digging.

You folks are a wonderful bunch. I'm looking forward to seeing as many of you as I can in the next coming months.

***Public Relations - OPEN***

***Resolutions - Audrey Vogelpohl***

***Rockhound of the Year - Laurie Ellis***

***Rules & Awards - Darrell Coyle***

***Safety - Kathy McLean***

I just got back from taking my neighbor to his doctor appointment. It reminded me of how much our actions [or lack of action] affect and continue to affect others. Like one domino knocking down the next, an accident usually doesn't affect just one person.

Back in February, my neighbor slipped on the ice and fell – breaking his arm. He now has a metal plate and 6 screws holding his arm together. He and his partner have had to pretty much put their lives on hold for the last 10 weeks while he recuperated. Covid had pretty much shutdown his business and he's not been allowed to drive until his arm heals. His partner works outside the home and has been the sole income. Though that pays most of the bills, they've had to ask for help from the family and neighbors [spreading the effects of the trauma even more.] Hindsight is usually 20/20. This accident is the third time that he has slipped and fallen on the ice in this spot and they are finally putting plans in place to prevent them from falling at this spot again –including using deicer and installing a hand rail.

It only takes a few moments to think about and plan some safety improvements. Money and time constraints may delay some improvements, but there are a few things that can be done now to improve the safety while working in your hobby area. Some of those piles of rocks, boxes, buckets, equipment, cords, rugs, and more can be moved out of the traveled way to prevent tripping on them. Adding hand rails on stairs, additional lighting to improve visibility, and even [gasp] sweeping up debris on the floor and dusting could improve the safety and enjoyment in your work area. Repair or replace eye protection, breathing protection, and hand/foot protection. It does no good if you use them as decorations on your workbench. Use them for what they are meant for-for keeping you as safe as possible! A few moments to think about safety could prevent a domino effect. Your partner and friends should thank you, but most likely you will be an unsung hero! Thank you HERO!

The good news is that today the doctor has given him permission to drive again. He's now working on putting together his "new normal".

Be safe out there!



### ***Scholarship - Mary Lou Northrup***

Hello all, A new year is here and hopefully it finds all of you well and happy and ready to dig some new treasures. The scholarship program has been slow this year. Remember the Northwest federation receives two \$4000 scholarships each year so if your club is looking for a place to donate this is a worthwhile cause. Send me your donation and I will make sure it gets to the appropriate place. This year the only donation I have received is a \$450.00 donation from Hells Canyon Gem Club of Lewiston, Idaho. This was a memorial donation in honor of David Dabritz, a longtime member who passed away this spring. Happy digging to all of you. Mary Lou Northrup Scholarship Chairman.

### ***Show Coordination - Pat Lambert***

A reminder that I need your show information at least 4 months before your show date to ensure that the information makes it into the print copy of the magazines. I would also like to remind you what information I need to submit your show information for publication. 1. The dates of the show. 2. Show hours each day. 3. Show name if there is one. 4. Host Club. 5. Show site. 6. Address of show site (street address and city). 7. Admission prices. 8. A sentence or two about what is happening at your show (raffle, demos, club cases, junior activities, auction, etc.). 9. Contact person. 10. Two (2) methods to contact the contact person (phone, email, address). 11. Club/show website.

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 (if a phone number is included), 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.

### ***Slide/Video - Darrell Watkins***

I purchased the Epson Perfection V600 Scanner to convert slide programs to preserve and convert these historical and educational programs to digital formats that can be used by our societies. This process is slow at only 4 slides converted at a time. It is very time consuming and still does not include the audio of the

programs. Some of the cassette tapes are in bad shape and also need to be preserved. With the digital files and scripts, PowerPoint presentations can be done, but it would be much better to have the slide shows converted to DVD's for "ease of use" to societies and for future conversions to the most up-dated formats (such as jump drives and uploads).

Input is being requested as to which slide presentations should be preserved for historical, as well as educational purposes. A list can be found on the NFMS website under the "Library" tab.

Due to the tragedy of the lock down, no programs were requested over the last year.

***Stamps - Chuck Sonner***

I want to thank all of those clubs and individuals that sent stamps in over the last year. The Federation raised over \$547.07 this last fiscal year. I will be doing a more comprehensive article for the NFMS newsletter. I just had cataract surgery and still can't see what I am saying.

***Supplies - Patty Amos***

Judi my report hasn't changed I do not have hats or tshirts sorry not much to give you Patty

***Ways & Means - Janice VanCura***

We are currently in the process at looking at the prior treasurer records and helping provide a smooth transition to the new Treasurer. Other than that I have nothing to report.

***Webmaster - Brad Larson***

Hello All,

We have had a steady increase in persons coming to our website since March of last year.

The top countries that have visited our site are: Total = 5730 persons viewing our site.

The top states that have visited our site are:

Country	Total users connected
USA	4862
China	165
Canada	54
United Kingdom	46
Nigeria	35
France	36
Germany	34
United Arab Emirates	26
India	25

State	Total user viewed
Washington	1612
Oregon	808
Illinois	517
Idaho	367
California	267
Montana	210
Kansas	131
Utah	122
Texas	103

The top pages on the site are:

Page Name	Total times viewed
Main Page	4060
Clubs WA	1344
Newsletters	615
Clubs OR	588
Clubs ID	475
Clubs MT	324
Federation Show	323
Main Show Page	242

That is about it.

I hope everyone is safe and healthy. Brad Larson, Webmaster

***Website Competition - Cheri George, OPEN after June 1***

I have truly enjoyed Serving as your NFMS Website Contest Chairman since 2009, I have met a lot of wonderful people. But as I started this year I realized that I wouldn't be able to continue. So I have offered my resignation to our President as of 1 June 2021.

This year our only entry was from Cascades mineralogical Society, it has been sent to the judges.

***ALAA - OPEN***