President
Larry Hulstrom

I hope this finds you all happily recuperating from all of the holiday festivities with family and friends. I also hope that many of you have gotten your vaccinations and booster shots. This is the only way that we will be able to reach the other side of this pandemic and get back to some sort of normalcy. This newsletter may look a little bit different but I am happy to announce that this is the first edition put together by our new newsletter editor, Kathy Larson, fellow Lakeside Gem & Mineral Club member. Please plan to start sending in updates to Kathy and any news that you would like to get into the newsletter so we can resume communicating with everyone.

The Executive Board continues to search for new members of committees that have been previously discussed. Some progress has been made but there are still areas where we need your help. We have successfully twisted the arms of a couple of philatelic rockhounds (yes, look up that word to find out more). There is also more on this elsewhere in the newsletter. We have also found two members for the Rules and Awards Committee and one for the Endowment Fund Committee and continue to seek someone that would like to be the NFMS Historian or the Directory Chairperson. Your help would be much appreciated by all.

I am extremely pleased to announce that the Portland Regional Gem and Mineral Show Association have submitted a bid to host the NFMS meeting in 2022. Their show dates are September 30 through October 2, 2022 (Friday through Sunday). You’ll be hearing more about this in future newsletters, but mark those dates on your new 2022 calendars (or on your phone). I attended the 2021 show in Hillsboro at the new facility where it will be held and it has the makings for being a really great show. Much more detail will be coming in in the near future.

Elsewhere in this newsletter you will find information concerning plans to hold a judges training class during the weekend of the Mid-Year meeting in May of 2022 in Kennewick WA. This will be held in conjunction with the 25th Anniversary show of the Lakeside Gem & Mineral Club. If you would like to learn more about how to judge cases at local club shows and at the annual NFMS meeting and show, and to help improve the skills of your fellow club members and artisans who like to create and display the things they love, then consider becoming a qualified judge.

As a reminder, information regarding dues for 2022 was sent out via email to club contacts at the end of November. This included instructions for updating your club roster and calculating how much you would send to the NFMS Treasurer. This needs to be completed in January so that we can move forward with production of the 2021-2022 Directory.

NFMS Mid-Year Meeting in 2022

Saturday, May 21, 2022
Kennewick, WA
During the Lakeside Gem & Mineral Club
25th Anniversary Show

By mid next year we should all be in a better place! Since we have not been able to gather for the past 2 years at annual meetings let’s come together for this Mid-Year meeting to be held in conjunction with the 25th Anniversary Show of the Lakeside Gem & Mineral Club in Kennewick, WA. The Mid-Year meeting will be held from 1-3 pm on Saturday May 21. Mark this on your calendars. More details will be coming later.
BULLETIN AIDS: Kat Koch Cascade Mineralogical Society, 4762 Whitworth Pl. S, Unit P104, Reataon, WA 98055 (425) 765-5408, bulletinaids(at)comcast.net

CIRCULATION: Tom Burchard, Golden Spike Gem & Mineral Society, 875 E 4500 S, S. Ogden, UT 84403, (801) 479-4226, rschroed(at)gmail.net

CREDENTIALS: Del & Clara Walter, Central Oregon Rock & Collectors Club, 42377 SE Davis Ln, Pinole, OR, 97754; (503) 812-6545, edwalter(at)q.com

CUSTODIAN: 2nd Vice President: (see above)

DIRECTOR: Carol Willey, Tualatin Valley Gem Club, P.O. Box 598, North Plains, OR 97133, dgrgr191(a)gmail.com

EDUCATION: OPEN

ENDOWMENT FUND: CHAIRMAN: Vicki Johnson, Southern Washington Mineralogical Society, P.O. Box 611, Kelso, WA 98626, (360) 751-8031, vickijohn(at)msn.com

SECRETARY: OPEN

TREASURER: Larry Hulstrom, 5409 W 26th Ave., Kennewick, WA 99338, (509) 863-3292, larrycbutler(at)gmail.com

FINANCIAL ADVISOR: Jim Brain, Spokane Rock Collectors, 6410 W Sundance Dr., Spokane, WA 99208, (509) 863-9883, jbrain233(at)outlook.com

HISTORIAN: OPEN

JUNIORS CHAIR: Gayle Butler, Central Oregon Rock Collectors, 9821 SW Equestrian Place, Crooked River Ranch, OR 97704, (503) 405-5706, afmseditor(at)gmail.com

NEWSLETTER CHAIR: Kathryn Larson, Lake George Memorial and Mineral Club, 4102 S Auburn St, Kennewick, WA 99337, (509) 405-5706, nfmsemail(at)gmail.com

NFMS CLUB-AT-LARGE: 1st Vice President (see above)

NOMINATING CHAIRMAN: OPEN

NORTHWEST ROCKHOUND RETREAT (Hancock): Walter Butler, 8821 SW Equestrian Place, Crooked River Ranch, OR 97706, (503) 762-5743, walterbutler(at)comcast.net

PAST PRESIDENTS COUNCIL: Men, non-members, clubs, etc. can advertise in the Northwest Newsletter. This service is provided to help defray the cost of printing and mailing the newsletter and is encouraged by the Federation. The only criteria for the ad is that it be hobby related (e.g. rocks, equipment, grit, shows, etc.).

SLIDE/VISUAL LIBRARIAN: Darrell Watkins, Yakima Rock and Mineral Club, P.O. Box 635, Tieton, WA 98947, (509) 673-0085, darrell84(at)gmail.com

AFFILIATE SCHOOLS: Seattle University, Kansas State University, Montana State University, University of Idaho, Ukrainian School, Russian School

AFMS NEWSLETTER AND WEBSITE ADVERTISEMENT

1. Donations to AFMS Endowment Fund
2. Memorials contributions
3. Memorials contributions for AFMS Scholarship Make check payable to AFMS Endowment Fund, Endowment Fund Treasurer, 8810 37th Ave SW, Seattle, WA 98126-5617

SCHOLARSHIP: Mary Lou Northrup, 1623 Powers Ave, Lewiston, ID 83501, (208) 763-6994, mlndland(at)yahoo.com

SHOW COORDINATOR: Pat Lambert, Lakeside Gem & Mineral Club, 2624 NE 170th St., Kennewick, WA 99337, palambert(at)charter.net

STAMPS: Aaron Currier, Willamette Agate & Mineral Society, P.O. Box 1026, Salem, OR 97305, (503) 385-5649, fonce@cat5erraphics.net

SUPPLIES: Patty Amos, Mt. Hood Gem and Mineral Club, 1552 NE 214th Ave., Brush Prairie, WA 98606, (360) 892-3716, packrats2(at)atq.com

WAYS & MEANS: Janice Van Cura, Willamette Agate & Mineral Society, Inc., 3408 SW Covey Run, Corvallis, OR 97330 (541) 753-2401, jvancura(at)peak.org

WEBMASTER: Brad Larson, Owyhee Gem and Mineral Society, 6010 W. Crusan St., Boise, ID 83704, (208) 465-1920, nfmsemail(at)gmail.com

AFMS COMMITTEES (NFMS Representatives)

AFMS 3rd VP - Ronn Watkins

ENDOWMENT FUND - Judy Allison

PROGRAM COMMITMENT - Darrell Watkins

SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION - Mary Lou Northrup

THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW

The AMERICAN LANDS ACCESS ASSOCIATION (ALAA) is a 501(c)(4) organization. Its purpose is to promote and ensure the right of amateur hobby fossil and mineral collecting, recreational prospecting and mining, and the use of public and private lands for educational and recreational purposes. The AMAL mission is to carry to the voice of all amateur collectors and hobbyists to our elected officials, government regulators and public officials.

For an additional 50% of the cost of the Newsletter ad, you can have the same ad placed on the NFMS website for the same amount.

Tuesdays and Wednesdays, 12 inches x $1.50 = $18 per issue of the Newsletter

For an additional 50% of the cost of the Newsletter ad, you can have the same ad placed on the NFMS website for the same amount.

For matters related to this newsletter (i.e. content, advertising), contact the editor. For matters related to this newsletter (i.e. content, advertising), contact the editor.
Hello all, hope this finds everyone snug and warm. It looks like winter has the entire Pacific Northwest. Not having a crystal ball I am not sure what our President is going to cover in his article. But I can tell you he has been a very busy guy. He has been working with the clubs that have stepped up for both the 2022 and 2023 Federation Shows and Annual Meetings. Also recruiting and welcoming new folks into Committee positions. Not all of the positions are filled. I will once again ask for someone to volunteer into the Rules and Awards Committee as it looks like we will have Competitive Displays to judge this coming year. The Chair position is still open and it will only require a one year commitment. An individual with experience in Competitive Display and the AFMS Rules would be ideal. However anyone with a desire to help can easily learn what is needed. We need to look ahead and get someone ready to step into the Committee for 2023 as it will not only be a Federation Show but also an AFMS meeting and Competition. I am really looking forward to the 2023 Show as the Billings Montana Club does a great job. There should be some good field trips depending on the date.

The next year should be a busy and productive year for the NFMS. If it wasn’t for email and Zoom meetings doing business would be difficult. But we have adapted and continue to take care of business pretty well. I am hoping for things to settle down and people feel they can travel and attend meetings safely. I always enjoy seeing people and putting a face to a name. I have made many friends by being involved in the NFMS.

All year, we as club members work like elves, busily preparing for our meetings, making sure everyone has a good time, ensuring we have club and federation business covered, planning for our shows. Enjoying what we do comes easy for rockhounds. One of the first things one notices when they attend a club for the first time is that rockhounds are warm and welcoming, and really love what they do in all the aspects that make our clubs so good for people.

Our heritage with our home Federation, the NFMS, and the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies with their combined attributes, has created a wonderful foundation of kinship across the nation that wouldn’t be there, otherwise. Even though each club and territory is unique, we share a common ground in our connection with each other.

There are many important factors which sets the AFMS societies apart from rock clubs who aren’t affiliated with the AFMS. One of the most important is the AFMS Code of Ethics. The “code” is one of the strengths in our solid foundation as NFMS and AFMS members. The “code” is our standard of being an AFMS recreational rockhound. The “code” represents our character, and teaches our standards to the new members joining our clubs. Because of this standard, we as NFMS and AFMS club members have earned the esteem we have. That doesn’t mean we take it for granted. We are the rockhounds who practice it, live by it, teach it to others. The AFMS Code of Ethics is our grace, which comes naturally to us because it represents who we are as individuals, and as a whole as clubs.

The other rock and mineral clubs don’t mention they have a standard. Working together on our future is just as important as all the other details that make a club, fantastic. We need to work with the officials of public lands in our communities and within our territories if you haven’t done so already. Create building those positive relationship with them. There are so many fun programs and teaching opportunities we can offer to field officers and park rangers the public would love, and it can bring in new members to join your clubs.

Since the pandemic, news media and public land management have reported a huge surge in people visiting public lands. Think of the opportunities that await us, if more of us will step out of our comfort zone and become more involved in a bigger way of letting the public know we exist. Another plus is, we represent an organization of specific rockhounds with ethics. Not enough management knows about us. The timing couldn’t be more right for NFMS and AFMS rockhounds to create inspiring relationships with public land management.
How the AFMS Rockhounds & ALAA Took the Johnny Horizon Outdoor Pledge Under their Wing
by Jennifer Haley ALAA 1st VP

In 1968 the Department of the Interior’s, Bureau of Land Management (BLM), created a fictional character to use in advertising for their anti-litter campaign on public lands. The BLM printed cards for Americans to sign in support of the then word of honor, “I pledge to help clean up America for our 200th birthday.” Americans saw Johnny Horizon on TV ads and supported by celebrities Carol Burnett, Red Buttons and Burl Ives, and followed up by sending letters to the BLM expressing their support for the project and promising they would participate.

At the 1969 AFMS Convention in Salt Lake City, Utah, the BLM awarded Jack R. Cox who was managing editor of Gems & Minerals Magazine, the first Johnny Horizon National Award for anti-litter efforts. Jack and the magazine were acknowledged for their outstanding service for leading the campaign to encourage rockhounds to become involved in anti-litter efforts on public lands.

Through Jacks efforts and with full support of the AFMS rockhounding community, the chief of the BLM at that time, John Mattoon, recognized how responsible the AFMS rockhounds were and validated their exceptional role in helping to keep public lands clean. At that time the BLM noted the AFMS had 60,000 members nationally.

After 1976 the BLM decided to retire the campaign, but to this day AFMS member societies continue their commitment to carrying on their long-standing tradition of leaving all collecting areas devoid of litter, regardless of how found.

Since 1992 when the American Lands Access Association (ALAA) was formed by the AFMS rockhounds, ALAA has been dedicated to the education of others to help keep America’s public lands litter free. ALAA organizes an annual clean up in Quartzsite, and annually checks in on the Hauser Geode Bed per its MOU agreement with BLM, which helps keep the collecting area open for the future of recreational rockhounding. All members of ALAA and rock and gem clubs are encouraged to build positive working relationships with their public lands officials with organizing clean ups.

The BLM’s 1968 visitor to the public lands pledge:
I pledge to:
Keep the land clean and free of litter,
Respect and treat the land as my own,
Leave gates and fences as I find them,
Obey state game and fish laws,
Be careful with fire.

For more information about (ALAA) and becoming a member http://amlands.org/
Jennifer Haley: vice_president@amlands.org

2022 Annual Meeting Announcement

It is with extreme pleasure that I get to announce that the Portland Regional Gem and Mineral Show Association has put forth a bid to host the 2022 NFMS Annual Meeting. The Past Presidents’ Council and the NFMS Executive Officers are reviewing the bid. Show setup will begin on Wednesday September 28 and Thursday September 29. The 3-day show will run from Friday September 30 through October 2. The meeting and show will be held at the Wingspan Event and Conference Center, 801 NE 34th Ave., in Hillsboro, OR, 97124 (across from the Hillsboro airport). More details regarding the show, registrations forms, non-competitive and competitive display applications, and the schedule of meetings, activities, field trips, etc. will be forthcoming in future newsletters.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW TO HOLD THESE DATES.
Larry Hulstrom
President NFMS
As I am writing this, I am looking out my window to the snowy, cloudy landscape. But, before we know it, the snow will be melting and the outdoors will be calling us to “come enjoy all we have to offer”. I think we are all ready for that to happen. And, I think we are ready to seek the air of normalcy in our everyday lives. Things may never be “as they were”, but we can go forward with an anticipation of better things to come.

Our Federation has managed to weather through this time, even though there have been bumps and bruises. We continue to have a core of very dedicated individuals who believe in the strength of our collective and work toward, not just maintaining our Federation and the interrelationships of our hobby, but also improving and broadening our scope. There are so many folks working behind the scenes to keep things going. Just take a look at the list of names and the Committees on the second page of your newsletter. Each of those individuals is volunteering to do a service which adds to the success of the Federation. The Executive Committee is the one most consider, as they are most visible, but there are so many more people involved in our collective hobby.

Kat Koch takes care of soliciting for entries to the Bulletin Aids contest which gives accolades to our club editors and those who provide submissions for their newsletters. Did you know that if you write an article, a poem or maybe even draw a cartoon it could get entered in the contest and you could get Federation recognition for such?

As Circulation Chair, Tom Burchard works behind the scenes to coordinate getting the newsletter to all of you. Just imagine; he has a data base of all the households and addresses for receipt of the newsletter and coordinates with the printer to get each issue mailed to you.

Ronna Watkins and Josh Hulstrom have joined the Competitive Exhibits Committee. As Registrar and Director, they are looking for a third person to complete the committee’s function. This committee is responsible for taking care of all things related to competitive displaying. Look for more information in your newsletters about the opportunities to take part in this. (And, thanks, and kudos to Ronna and Josh for stepping forward.)

Claire and Del Walker, our longtime Credentials folks, have been instrumental in being certain all Directors and Delegates and their respective clubs are counted for the Annual Meeting. This important function insures that each club has a say in the workings of the Federation.

Our Directory Chair, Carol Willey, would like someone else to take over her position. She has served a number of years, compiling all the information that goes into the Directory so each club has one. In case you didn’t know, your club has one. This Directory contains the names of all the Clubs and their members, as well as, the Bylaws and a collection of the Video Library available for clubs to use for meetings.

We may have an individual to fill our Education position. More to come on that. . .

Members of the Endowment Fund Committee, including Jim Brain as Financial Advisor, Lyle Vogelpohl as Treasurer, and thanks to new member, Vicki Johnson as Chairperson (A Secretary is still needed) are in charge of keeping tabs on our Endowment Funds. The unrestricted funds are what help us be able to run our Federation. The $1.00 per adult member waiver of dues has come from this fund.

Our Historian position is lacking a Chairperson. If you are interested in history and this position, we would love to hear from you.

As Junior Chair, Gayle Butler assures our youth have the opportunity to take part in the Junior Achievement Award.

Thanks to Kathy Larson, we will continue to have a Newsletter for all to enjoy. She has volunteered to take on the duties for Newsletter Editor; a vital position for keeping us informed.

This year’s Nominating Chairperson, Larry Hulstrom, has been busy with his committee members soliciting for nominees for the 2022-2023 year’s Executive Committee.

Walt Butler, Northwest Rockhound Retreat Chair has kept tabs on Camp Hancock in order to coordinate the opportunities for 2022. Hopefully, it will be a “happening” this year. If you don’t know about the Retreat, you will want to find out, as it is an opportunity for you to spend a great week of learning from rockhounds for rockhounds.

Ken Zahn has agreed to act as Chair of the Past Presidents’ Council. In that capacity, he is charged with soliciting for Federation Shows and passing on the proposals to the Past Presidents’ Council for approval.

Our Public Lands Access Chairperson, Susie Koppert, has been very busy attending many zoom and in person meetings relative to our public lands. She strives to keep abreast of what is going on relative to our hobby. As everyone knows, things are not static. Our bylaws don’t always reflect exactly what might be going on in practice or what we would like to see happen. Resolutions can be brought forth by clubs to add to, correct or change a bylaw. Once a resolution is written, Audrey Vogelpohl, our Resolutions Chair will review it and work with the writers to create a well written resolution for submission to the membership.
The Year Is New, It’s 2022 continued:

Pat Lambert, Show Coordination Chair, makes certain your show information gets into the newsletter as well as additional publications. She advises if your show is a possible conflict with others.

Slide and Video Librarian, Darrell Watkins is working toward preserving some of our older works by converting them to more modern media. It is a big job, but will give us the opportunity to save some valuable programs.

Kathy McLean, Safety Chair is charged with presenting articles that keep our membership informed about safety.

Mary Lou Northrup, Scholarship Chair will happily receive your donations. A donation to the scholarship fund can be a good way to honor someone.

Each year the Host Society chooses someone to be Chairperson for the Federation Show. That individual works to coordinate between the Federation and their club.

Stamp Committee exists to acquire and disperse stamps to gain income which is donated to aid in some aspect of Cancer cure. Thanks to two gentlemen, Aaron Currier and Ed Anderson, we now have two avid stamp collectors who have volunteered to take up this position.

Patty Amos has spent a number of years as Supply Chair. Souvenir hats and tee shirts, as well as Federation pins are part of the supplies held by this position.

Janice VanCura, as Ways and Means Chair has conducted yearly reviews of the Treasury to assure that all is in alignment with the Federation.

Webmaster, Brad Larson, created and maintains the current website, adding and correcting information as it is made available to him.

Website Contest Chairperson solicits for entries to the Website Contest and serves on the AMFS Website Competition Committee. We are in need of a new Chairperson for this Committee.

There are also a few special committees: Bylaws Revisory, Ken Zahn; Field Trips, Doug True, Rockhound of the Year, Laurie Ellis; and the list can go on . . .

My purpose in detailing each of these committees is to give awareness to you, the reader and credit and a big thank you to all who work to make our Federation a going concern. One last mention and thank you I would like to make is to each of the Directors and Delegates of the individual Clubs. You are the lifeblood between your clubs and the Federation.

Let’s forge forward into a new year holding promise of better things to come.

Lamar Tilgner

It is with very deep sadness that we announce the passing of Lamar Tilgner.

Lamar was born in 1934 and passed away peacefully in 2021. Lamar and Merlia joined the Mt Hood in 1972 and were coming up on their 50 anniversary with the club. Over the years Lamar served in countless officer and committee duties.

Lamar was directly responsible for the creation of the Portland Regional Gem and Mineral Show Association in 1980. This group of Portland and Vancouver Gem and Mineral Clubs puts on the biggest Gem and Mineral Show in the Pacific Northwest in October every year.

Lamar also participated in the OMSI Parents weekend. From this 3 day event he created the Northwest Rockhound Retreat at OMSI Camp Hancock. The first year he had 16 campers. It has grown to maximum capacity of 50 campers and over 15 instructors, The camp was started in 2005 and is held every year on the Labor Day Week Monday thru Sunday.

Lamar has participated in building the art of Lapidary for many years. He has won numerous awards and trophies over the years. In 2009 he was awarded the AFMS Rockhound of the Year for his many years of service in the Lapidary Arts. Lamar enjoyed teaching, judging, and helping beginners.

He will be missed by all whose lives the touched.
Hello and Greetings from Montana,

It has been a busy year for the Juniors Ad-hoc Committee but we are pleased to announce the launch of the new AFMS Juniors Website! Volunteers from across the federations came together in a team effort to make this happen. A special shout out goes to Lori Carter from the Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies for patiently teaching us how to build this site and answering late night calls for help when we broke something.

The website features a contact form for new clubs wanting to sign-up for Future Rockhounds of America (FRA) and a contact form for clubs and societies wanting to participate in the Rock Pal Rock Exchange. The annual 2022 Poster Contest is highlighted on the Awards, Contests, and Scholarships page along with a brand new program for Junior Volunteers. Leaders can also find tips and hints for starting a youth program including the badge program. The streamlined process for requesting badges, patches, and pin can be found on the FRA Badge Program page. And last but not least, the Partnerships page gives leaders suggestion for reaching out and joining forces with other organizations.

As we say on the Home page, “You will frequently see the warning, Website Under Construction, but it takes on new meaning for this website. This site will always be under construction as it grows, shifts, morphs, and adapts to the needs of our juniors and youth leaders. It is a place to come for current news and events from across the AFMS. So when we say, Check Back Frequently, it is a good idea to do just that!”

We hope the website will become a place for leaders across the county to share ideas. If there is something you would like to see us add or if you have an activity others may find helpful, please let us know.

The website can be reached by following the link on the AFMS website, http://www.amfed.org, or you can access it by going to http://www.juniors.amfed.org.

Lora Hall
AFMS Juniors Program Chair
youth@amfed.org

Judges Training - The Federations Need You!

We continue to have a need for AFMS-certified Judges to evaluate and critique the competitive display cases at our annual shows. This is an important function that enables us to continue support for our members, and to improve their skills as exhibitors. All of other Regional Federations throughout the AFMS desperately need more certified judges. This will be a great opportunity for members to “step up” and become a highly valued judge to help our exhibitors grow and be competitive at the AFMS level. You need not be an expert in all the sub-fields of the hobby/ craft; you will be training on applying the AFMS standards and procedures to the judging process.

Plans are in the works to hold AFMS-certified training classes in conjunction with the Lakeside Gem and Mineral Club 25th Anniversary Show and NFMS Mid-year meeting next year in Kennewick, WA. The training takes 4 days and would start 2 days before the Kennewick show and continue throughout the show. The dates are May 19 – 22, 2022. The plan is to have classroom training in a building on the grounds of the Benton County Fairgrounds on May 19-20, practice judging at the show on Saturday May 21, and a review/debrief on Sunday morning, May 22.

We need to get some idea of how many people are interested, and which area clubs (or regional federations) are interested in supporting their members that are willing to attend. Costs and details regarding the class, travel, and room and board are still being worked out and may be dependent on number of attendees.

If you are interested in being trained for this vital role, or if you are a Regional Federation interested in sponsoring a participant, please email Larry Hulstrom, NFMS President at rockhound132@charter.net and let me know. I already have a list of names started. If you have questions, get in touch. As details come together, I will keep you posted and forward the registration form to you.

Thank you so much for considering serving in this very important capacity.

Larry Hulstrom
NFMS President
Stamp Committee News
Larry Hulstrom, NFMS President

Welcome to Aaron Currier of the Willamette Agate & Mineral Society, and Ed Anderson of the Sweet Home Rock & Mineral Society. They have discovered that they are both members of the same stamp collectors club in Salem, OR and are willing to take on the duties of the stamp committee. I expect to hear more from them as they establish a process for gathering, reviewing, and selling the stamps that have been collected by NFMS members. Look for more details in future newsletters. Their contact information is shown on page 2 in the committee listing. For now plan to gather what stamps you have been holding onto for some time and get them into the hands of someone that will be attending the Mid-Year meeting next May in Kennewick, WA.

We STILL Need Your Help

The following positions/committee leads are still open. We need your support. More details can be found in the OP Committee Section of the Operation Procedures.

**Historian** – stores historical records and writes reports for the NFMS Newsletter

**Website Contest** – chairs the website contest and writes reports for the NFMS newsletter

**Endowment Committee Secretary** – assists the Endowment Fund committee

**Rules and Awards Committee Rules Chairman** – administers the show Rules and Awards in conjunction with the AFMS Rules

**Education lead** – promotes education within the NFMS and writes articles for the NFMS Newsletter

**All American Club** – coordinates with the AFMS to encourage clubs to submit entries for the annual All American Club Award Program

**Directory** – collects member societies information for publication in the Directory, manages and coordinates publication of the Directory

Please volunteer!

Treasurer’s Message
By Linda Harvey, NFMS Treasurer

It’s hard to believe that it is a new year. With it comes the need to pay your club’s 2022 NFMS membership dues. Just before Thanksgiving information was sent to each club by email (some by postal mail) that included an instruction sheet, a Club Information/Dues Worksheet and your club roster from 2021. Remember that this year, like last year; the dues for adult members have been subsidized $1.00 per adult member by the NFMS Endowment Fund - meaning instead of $3.50 per adult the dues are $2.50 per adult. Juniors remain $1.00 per junior member. If you haven’t already sent in your dues for 2022 (thank you to those clubs that have) please return the worksheet and roster, plus corrections etc., with payment as soon as possible. The roster with corrections is required to update the Directory for 2022.

If your club didn’t receive this information, please contact me at 503.310.3036 and I will resend everything to the appropriate person for your club.

HAPPY NEW YEAR TO YOU ALL!
THE SUPERSTITIONS
By Ken Zahn, Past-President,
Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies

Mazatzal and Four Peaks watch me
Jacob Waltz and full moons call,
For I’ve been lost three days now
As toward LaBarge I crawl.

Sims Ely – can you hear me?
I can’t die like Ruth or Clapp,
Succumbing, strong and 20
Just because of one mishap !!

Yet there are no bitter feelings
For I’ve loved this rugged maze,
Bluff Springs Mountain, Weaver’s Needle
Canyon Lake, the purple haze.

Now it’s coming; I can feel it
As I drag crushed legs along.
Hike alone here at your peril
Or like me ---
--- Oh Hell, I’m gone.

_Penned Dec 14, 1976, after 20 years of great memories of the ‘50s in Arizona._

A bit of background on my memories of time spent in the Superstitions:

In 1953, Sims Ely had written the best book at the time on the legend of the Lost Dutchman Gold Mine of the German prospector Jacob Waltz, which peaked my interest, of course, as I had often seen the hazy outline of the west escarpment of the Superstitions from the highway leading from Tucson to Phoenix as a young teenager starting in 1949.

After devouring all I could find on the mystery, I often spent Easter spring breaks hiking (several days each), in the mid-to-late 1950s (while in college at the University of Arizona) in these mountains searching for the legendary “Lost Dutchman Gold Mine” (along with many resident hermits and other serious seekers). Adolf Ruth was killed in 1932 and Jabez Clapp died -- or was killed -- in 1961 or so.
THE SUPERSTITIONS—continued

Many, many others have died there as well.

When I learned of Clapp’s death almost 2 decades after the fact, I wrote this poem, and 4 more decades later, then donated a letter I had received in Tucson -- from Clapp -- to the Lost Dutchman Museum near Apache Junction, because I had met and spent time with him in the Superstitions and corresponded with him in the late 1950s.

My good friend Dale Rodolff (Mining Engineering student at U of A, and fellow track team member) and I were hiking to the top of a ridge in the western portion of the Superstitions one late-50s spring day when we heard rifle shots from below or across the draw we had climbed out of 10 minutes earlier. Several bullets sang to us as they whizzed overhead and we crouched behind rocks for awhile deciding what to do. We were armed, but had no idea where the shooter was.

Gathering enough courage to finally start carefully retreating to the canyon below, we spotted a deep-green circular pool of water just north of where we had set up camp in the canyon, and headed for it to take a dip before going back to camp to cook steaks (and beans as I recall). Just as we got to the pool, and anticipating a cool dip, we spotted a naked man washing in it with a bar of soap. We introduced ourselves. He replied that he was a prospector and Dutchman Mine hunter Jabez Clapp. We didn’t join him in the pool, but invited him to join us in camp and share our meal.

After eating, and while the fire settled down a bit, Jabez started to talk -- and talk, -- and talk about his theory of how the mine had been covered by Apaches who had, however, left clues to follow that would lead one to it if one could just decipher the clues. He pulled out 2 small spiral-bound notebooks from his shirt pocket and showed me hundreds of entries he had recorded in them. His “database” entries there? -- compass azimuth sightings of main lower arms of saguaro cactus that he believed the Apaches had bent in direction while the cacti were younger. If he could solve the connectivity of directional signals, he felt he might get to the right spot.

After some subtle questioning from me about how sure he was about his theory, he shifted topics to talk of himself. He was 39 (I think) and had been in the Mountains for several years already, living in a nearby “cave” (with a resident rat). He had come to Arizona from New England with some ailments (unspecified) and would hike out about every 2 weeks to the Post Office and store (in the small, red-painted cluster of wooden buildings that was Apache Junction at the time) to pick up and cash a check sent from his mother with which to buy food and supplies, as well as to receive his copies of a couple of camera/photography magazines to which he subscribed.

While he talked on about the latest cameras and accessory equipment, Dale drifted off to sleep and I was fading. Jabez shifted to religion, and sweeping a flat area in the sand with his hand, he began to diagram the lineage of Old Testament book of Kings in the smooth sand with his finger. Now I really faded, but was determined to not fall asleep, as I had no idea if he might be the shooter who fired over us on the ridge earlier. We finally exchanged addresses, agreed to share thoughts by mail on his Dutchman quest, and he hiked off into the night to wherever his cave was.

Several years ago, when I donated (to the museum) that letter I had received 65 years earlier --- in the late-1950’s --- I also learned of his having lived in a tunnel or mine somewhat north of where we had been camped that night.

We had met a legend.

Bittersweet memories for sure.
Often the issue of selling our creations becomes the task. So, while knowing our stuff about lapidary and metalwork may be more consuming, selling demands attention.

**What has helped you in this task of selling your creations?**

**Restored & Renewed**

Some items here may have been around a time or two. How, you ask? Cleaned, mended, or reworked, Parts have been reshaped, removed, or replaced. Everything these days need not be new.

We know that our dimes must go further, so look again. Old is beautiful, valuable, and not to be thrown. In part, that’s what is offered here, so look again. Look twice, choose carefully, and wear proudly.

Other ideas burst forth in new designs, new materials. Gemstones and silver are offered at reasonable costs. Waiting to be chosen, for they’re unique. Waiting to be worn, for they’re more than ordinary.

While sold as-is, they wait for you to choose. New or renewed, waiting to be selected, Waiting to adorn, taken from the shelf and Proudly presented, waiting to be worn.

SOLD…………………. Thank you, see you next time.

*Bert Kae-je*

*Note: Bert is a member of the Lakeside Gem and Mineral Club in Kennewick, WA. It gives her joy to restore an old piece of silver or attractive vintage. However, she is also passionate about creating new and unusual pieces. In the writing shared above, she’s getting ready to sell restored, recycled, and newly created jewelry and décor.*

**Introduction from your new Editor.**

Hello everyone and thanks for giving me this opportunity. I’m new at this but looking forward to learning as much as possible. I’m going to make a few mistakes, some just to see if you’re paying attention. Just kidding!

While I’ve always loved pretty rocks, I’m more interested in the geology side of rocks. It’s fascinating. How can mother nature create so many diverse patterns, shapes and styles? I pick up an ordinary looking rock and wonder, what’s on the inside?

Rock hound people are just as amazing and friendly. You people are so willing to share your knowledge and show me what you know.

At the moment, my husband and I are in Arizona close to the Superstition mountains. For the last couple of years we have been fortunate enough to be able to spend our winters here. We belong to a rock club and are able to participate in many fieldtrips. If you’re in the neighborhood, come look us up.

Kathryn Larson

NFMS Editor
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<td>The Center in Oak Harbor</td>
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<td>51 Jerome St., Oak Harbor WA</td>
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<td>April 6-19</td>
<td>Harriet Vick, <a href="mailto:harrietvick33@gmail.com">harrietvick33@gmail.com</a>, (360) 720-9199</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 6-19</td>
<td>Paul Deveau, <a href="mailto:deavidaho@q.com">deavidaho@q.com</a>, (208) 994-8025</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 6-19</td>
<td>March 11-12 Panama Gem and Mineral Club, Stevens County Fairground Ag Trade Center, WA</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 6-19</td>
<td>Johnnie Pitrane, <a href="mailto:jepmanni1@outlook.com">jepmanni1@outlook.com</a>, (509) 684-8887</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 6-19</td>
<td>March 13-14 Tualatin Valley Gem Club, Forest Grove National Guard Armory, Forest Grove, OR</td>
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<td>April 6-19</td>
<td>Tiffany Jackson, <a href="mailto:VIPeryludary@gmail.com">VIPeryludary@gmail.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>April 6-19</td>
<td>March 12-15 Magic Valley Gem Club, Twin Falls County Fairgrounds, 215 Fair Avenue, Filer, ID</td>
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<td>April 6-19</td>
<td>Chris Funk, (208) 539-5369</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 6-19</td>
<td>March 12-13 Northwest Montana Rock Chucks, Flathead County Fairgrounds, Expo Building (next to grandstands), 265 North Meridian Road, Kalispell, MT</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 6-19</td>
<td>Lloyd Fager, <a href="mailto:akshenfeld@cyglobal.net">akshenfeld@cyglobal.net</a>, (608) 436-0780</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 6-19</td>
<td>March 18-20 Timpanogos Gem &amp; Mineral Society, Spanish Fork Fair Grounds, 475 South Main Street, Spanish Fork, UT</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 6-19</td>
<td>David Merrill, <a href="mailto:jrmerrell@hotmail.com">jrmerrell@hotmail.com</a>, 512 West 200 South, Payson, UT 84655; Website: <a href="http://www.timrockstubs">www.timrockstubs</a>, weebly.com</td>
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<td>April 6-19</td>
<td>March 26-27 Mt. Baker Rock and Gem Club, Pioneer Pavilion, 2007 Cherry Street, Ferndale, WA</td>
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<td>April 6-19</td>
<td>Wes Gannaway, <a href="mailto:debrwess@comcast.net">debrwess@comcast.net</a>, Website: <a href="http://www.mlbakerrockclub.org">www.mlbakerrockclub.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>April 6-19</td>
<td>March 26-27 South East Idaho Gem and Mineral Society, SEIGMS, Bannock County Fairgrounds, 10588 Fairground Dr., pocatello ID 83201</td>
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<td>April 6-19</td>
<td>Joe Rodriguez, <a href="mailto:joe.rodriguez@idt.idaho.gov">joe.rodriguez@idt.idaho.gov</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>April 6-19</td>
<td>March 26-27 Sweet Home Gem and Mineral Society, Sweet Home High School Gym, 1641 Long Street, Sweet Home, OR</td>
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<td>April 6-19</td>
<td>Joe Cota, (541) 451-2740, <a href="mailto:elahrocksi@gmail.com">elahrocksi@gmail.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>April 6-19</td>
<td>April 8, 9 &amp; 10 Golden Spike Gem and Mineral Society, Golden Spike Event Center, Weber County Fairgrounds, 1000 N 1200 W, Ogden UT 88440</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 6-19</td>
<td>Contact: Margie Miller, 385) 205-9187, <a href="mailto:gemshow@goldenspikegem.org">gemshow@goldenspikegem.org</a>; Website: goldenspikegem.org</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 6-19</td>
<td>April 22-24 Yakima Rock and Mineral Club, Central Washington State Fair Park, Modern Living Building, 1301 South Fair Avenue, Yakima, WA 98901</td>
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<td>April 6-19</td>
<td>Marty Sond senators, evening (509) 248 6401 (leave a message); daytime cell (509) 910 3484; 2013 South 4 th Avenue, Yakima, WA 98903 <a href="mailto:marshaller@q.com">marshaller@q.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>April 6-19</td>
<td>April 23-24 West Seattle Rock Club, Alki Masonic Temple (West Seattle), 4736 40th Avenue SW, Seattle WA</td>
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<td>April 6-19</td>
<td>Contact: Annette Nelson or Sue Fox, <a href="mailto:show@westseattlerockclub.org">show@westseattlerockclub.org</a>, Website: <a href="http://www.westseattlerockclub.org">www.westseattlerockclub.org</a>, Facebook.com: Facebook.com/BillingsRockClub</td>
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