



# NORTHWEST NEWSLETTER



TIME SENSITIVE MATERIAL

Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies  
Tom Burchard, Circulation  
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VOLUME 63, NO. 1 Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies JANUARY 2023



PRESIDENT

Darrell Coyle

Welcome to 2023 and I hope everyone has enjoyed the different Holidays, company of friends and family and hopefully good health. This is going to be a busy year for the Northwest Federation. We are working on having an In Person Mid Year Meeting in late April in Conjunction with the Lakeside Show in Kennewick. As many of you are already aware this years Annual Convention and Show will be in Billings Montana 3-6 August 2023. It will also be the AFMS Annual Meetings. Followed by several field trips.

Hopefully all the clubs have received the email from our Treasurer and have sent their payment and club information forward. It is important to have this done so that your club and members are included in the list for the Newsletter. I have received a couple of inquiries from Clubs as to why they should be members of the Northwest Federation. I will be writing something up for inclusion in the Newsletter. As time goes by old members leave and new members have not been told the importance of this. I would ask that Federation Directors make a point of speaking at a club meeting about the benefits of NFMS/AFMS membership.

Well I might as well jump right into this one. Social Media, Technology, Websites and Newsletters. I noticed that the Billings Club is using a site called Geology365.com. I have looked at it briefly. What it does is provide Clubs with Facebook and Website services for free. The club can manage membership and emails, etc . If your club has an old website that is expensive and not user friendly you may want to look into this. Individuals can also join and use templates for creating labels and a catalog for their collections.

Also Facebook Pages and Groups are useful ways to reach out and recruit new members and are a source for free advertising for your show. There has been discussion on going electronic with our Newsletter. There would be many details to work out to do this. It will be on the Agenda for the Mid Year Meeting. The main motivation to do this would be in cost savings. I know I am old fashioned but some of these tools and services can make for less work for us.

If your Club has a Show coming up, be sure to send the information to Pat Lambert. See page 2 for info.

Thank You to the Portland Regional Mineral Societies for sponsoring the 2022 Annual Show. Your hard work is greatly appreciated.

## Welcome to Our New Exhibits Registrar Chair

My name is Charise Ash. I live in Vernonia, Oregon and am a member, field trip and communications chair, and past-president of Mt. Hood Rock Club, as well as a member and faceting instructor for the Columbia Willamette Faceters' Guild. I love rockhounding and lapidary, completed judges' training this past Spring in Kennewick and am excited to be getting involved with the Federation in a direct role. Outside of rockhounding I am a Kindergarten teacher and graphic designer, a city council member and I also love backpacking, gardening, foraging, and sewing. I look forward to getting to know everyone!

Charise Ash, Exhibits Registrar Chair

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**NEWSLETTER DEADLINE:**  
The editor will send out a reminder in time for all committees to respond.  
Estimated Deadline - February 11th

For deadlines and to submit articles  
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NFMS Website:  
<http://NorthwestFederation.org>

To see this newsletter in living color go to

<http://NorthwestFederation.org/Newsletters.asp>

and click on the month you want to see.

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**OPEN**

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**AFMS COMMITTEES (NFMS Representatives)**

**AFMS 3rd VP - Ronna Watkins**  
**ENDOWMENT FUND - Judi Allison**  
**PROGRAM COMPETITION - DeLane Cox**  
**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; and to carry the voice of all amateur collectors and hobbyists to our elected officials, government regulators and public lands managers. Your annual individual/couple membership fee is \$25 which helps support their activities. Club membership is \$50 per year. Send to Treasurer, P.O. Box 54398, San Jose, CA 95154. Make checks payable to: American Lands Access Assn. Applications can be downloaded at: [www.amlands.org](http://www.amlands.org) on the left side of the page. For more information contact: Frank Mullaney, 408-266-1791, cell: 408-691-2655, [Rockyfiv\(at\)aol.com](mailto:Rockyfiv(at)aol.com)

The **AFMS NEWSLETTER** is published monthly except Jan-Jul-Aug by the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies. Each NFMS member society should have three people (usually the Pres, Secretary and Editor) receiving the AFMS Newsletter. If they are not, or if anyone else wants to subscribe (\$5 per year). Contact: Suzanne Webb, 9895 Kerrydale Court, Reno , Nevada 98521-4401, [AFMSeditor\(at\)AMFED.org](mailto:AFMSeditor(at)AMFED.org) 775-624-8446. Make checks payable to “AFMS”.

The **NORTHWEST NEWSLETTER** is the official publication of the Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies (NFMS) and is published at least six times per year. Each member is entitled to receive a mailed copy of this publication with their membership. Please check with your club membership person to assure you are receiving this means of keeping you informed of the activities and events pertaining to the business and services of the Federation. Club membership points of contact are encouraged to forward names and addresses of new club members, soon after they join, to both the Directory Chair and Circulation Chair, so that newsletter distribution by mail to them can be started as soon as practical. The newsletters are also posted to the Federation website electronically and archive there for members to review or download.

**For matters related to this newsletter (i.e. content, advertising, etc.) contact the editor. For matters related to this newsletter distribution (new members, address changes, etc.) contact the Circulation Chair.**

**SHOW COORDINATION. Your Federation provides a free service for NFMS members by listing your show in this Newsletter, on the NFMS website, two magazines (“Rocks and Minerals” and “Rock and Gem”) and the on-line calendar from “Lapidary Journal”. Please provide the date and time for the show, the club name and show title (if applicable), the location of the show, admission price, and most important a contact person with address, e-mail address and/or phone (e-mail is preferred). Please send your show information four to six months in advance to the Show Coordination Chairperson. If you see an error once your show is listed, or if your show is not listed, contact the Newsletter Chair.**

**SAVE STAMPS PROGRAM.** NFMS members are encouraged to use and save commemorative stamps. The money generated from the sale of these used (cancelled) stamps is then donated to Cancer Research. The collected stamps can be sent to the **Stamps Chairperson**, brought to the NFMS Annual Show or given to your Federation Director in your club.

**ATTENTION CLUB TREASURERS**

**Where to send your money**

To NFMS Treasurer for:

1. Dues (new and renewal) and supplies
2. Donations for the general fund
3. Donations to Junior Achievement
4. Advertisement in this Newsletter

Send to: see Treasurer this page.

To NFMS Endowment Fund Treasurer for:

1. Donations to Endowment Fund
  2. Memorial contributions
- Make check payable to NFMS Endowment Fund, send to Endowment Fund Treasurer, 8810 37th Ave SW, Seattle, WA 98126-3617

To NFMS Scholarship Chairperson for:

1. Donations to AFMS Scholarship Fund
2. Memorial contributions to AFMS Scholarship

Make check payable to AFMS Scholarship Fund.  
Send to: Mary Lou Northrup (see Scholarship this page).

To AFMS Endowment Fund for:

1. Donations to AFMS Endowment
2. Memorials

Send to: See AFMS Newsletter

To ALAA Treasurer for:

Memberships, new and renewals  
Donations  
Make check payable to ALAA ( American Lands Access Assn) Treasurer, P.O. Box 54398, San Jose, CA 95154

NFMS WEB SITE: [www.amfed.org/nfms](http://www.amfed.org/nfms) or  
<http://northwestfederation.org/>

**See the NFMS on Facebook**

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/NFMS1>  
(for the desktop/laptop/tablets)  
<https://m.facebook.com/groups/NFMS1>  
(for mobile devices like phones)

**NFMS NEWSLETTER AND WEBSITE ADVERTISEMENT**

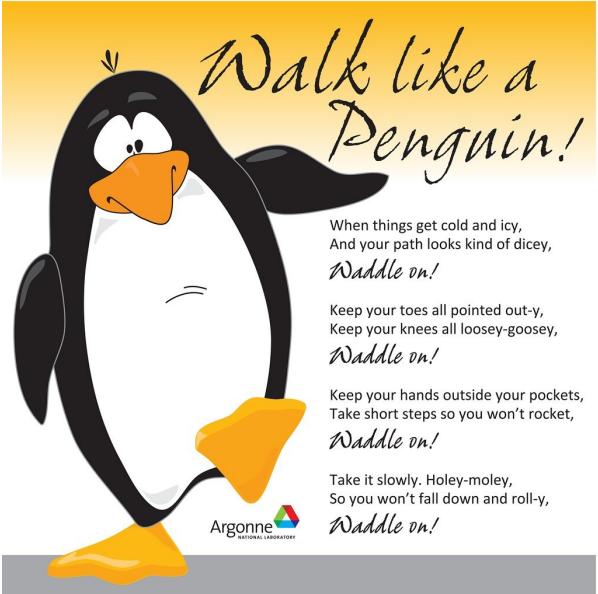
Members, Non-members, clubs, etc. can advertise in the Northwest Newsletter. This service is provided to help defray the cost of printing and mailing the newsletter and is encouraged by the Federation. The only criteria for the ad is that it be hobby related (e.g. rocks, equipment, grit, shows, etc.).

Ads for the Northwest Newsletter are  
\$1.50 per square inch.  
Example: 3” x 4” ad = 12 inches  
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 length of time. The Newsletter ad must be purchased to receive this additional advertisement.

Do not send ads on colored paper because the back-ground will look gray in the ad. The Editor will send a billing statement to the customer which will include instructions to make payment to the NFMS Treasurer. For more information or questions, call, e-mail or write the **Newsletter Chair**





## Jennifer Haley , 1st Vice President



Happy New Year Everyone!

A big thank you to those of you who stepped up to fill open NFMS chairmen positions for this year. It really matters and makes a wonderful difference. I am looking forward to all of us enjoying working together. As an NFMS officer, and I know I can speak for the others as well, our doors are always open to listen to whatever ideas you might have for our federation, and even any problems you might see. You might even have some good ideas you’d like to present to the AFMS through our NFMS Representative to the AFMS. You don’t have to wait until the next federation meeting when we all get together.

I wanted to recommend to you as NFMS chairmen, and as officers and chairmen in your clubs, to take the time to read other federation newsletters that are online. There is much to be gained by seeing what other people are doing and thinking about on behalf of their membership.

The AFMS/NFMS show and convention in Billings-Montana, August 3-6, 2023 is going to be much to look forward to. I love Montana and will be there, and hope to see many of you there, so mark your calendars! It’s never too early to think about and play around with an exhibit you’d like to bring with you. Please don’t forget about making a donation of an item to be raffled on behalf of the AFMS Endowment Fund, and buying your tickets in advance for a chance to win one of many great items.

ALAA will holding their annual meeting at the event along with having a big auction, and we all know how much fun those auctions are with the quality of items to bid on.

I want to point out that it looks like there may be a possibility of one or two new national monuments in the making. We are hearing this through the grapevine but nothing concrete, yet. We have no idea if these will affect collecting areas. In my experience and in seeing the success other rockhounds have had in keeping their collecting sites when this happens, is prepare now whether or not these monuments happen. I’ve been following and involved in the Mojave Trails National Monument planning since 2016 even though I no longer live in that territory, because rockhounds matter to me no matter where you all live.

The easiest part of being prepared is making sure someone in your club writes down the directions to your collection sites and areas. Now that other rockhounds have a lot of experience of how to deal with these matters and they’ve been successful, it makes the road so much easier to navigate for other rockhounds in the future. It’s a lot of work, but it’s worth it.

## Lora R. Hall, NFMS 2<sup>nd</sup> VP



When the new AFMS Junior's website launched in January 2022, part of that was a new way for clubs to sign up for Future Rockhounds of America (FRA) using an online form. The point of the online form wasn't to cut down on paperwork, was designed to be a way of gathering information into a spreadsheet and searchable database. This all may sound a little fancy, but the idea is that now that we have a database of clubs across the NFMS and across the AFMS what does that mean for you if you are a president, vice president, or club officer of any kind. It means we can tell you how many juniors are in your state or region including the club’s name the contact person along with their phone number, mailing address, email address, and the number kids they have.

We know that there are many clubs out there who have junior and youth programs that have never signed up for Future Rockhounds of America which means they are not in our new database, and we want to change that. So, if you are in a club that has a youth program and you're not signed up for Future rockhounds of America we encourage you to go to the website, follow the link, and sign your club up. There's no need to worry that you might already be signed up and be considered a legacy because the database makes it very easy to find duplications and simply keep the most current information. The AFMS Juniors Committee feels this will be a game changer in communicating with all the clubs out there running junior's programs so that we can share information in real time. We have always felt that one size does not fit all when it comes to a junior’s programs. Not every club wants to use the badge program and that's fine. But what we're finding is sharing information is what is critical. If one club has a junior’s program that works for them, then more than likely that same junior's program will work for another club.

We recently sent out a series of 166 emails based on email addresses we had dating back to 2004 asking if they still had a junior's program. If you received one of these emails and you haven't responded, we strongly encourage you to do so even if the answer is you no longer have a junior's program. That information is equally valuable to us. It might also a great opportunity for you to say, “No we suspended our junior's program but would really like help restarting it”. As of today, we have 63 active junior’s programs with over 500 kids across the federation that we know of, and we are sure there's more out there. If your club doesn't have a junior’s program and you're interested in starting one, I am only a phone call away or you can visit the new website that is chocked full of ideas on how to get started. You can even find PowerPoint presentations that will walk you through the process of starting a junior's program or using the badge program.

One question I'm often asked is why should our club care about a junior's program? And not surprisingly these are some of the same clubs whose membership is dropping and they're in danger of folding. So, I'm going to give you one reason why you should have a junior's program and that's to increase your membership. As many of you know, Boy Scouts of America rebranded itself a few years ago into Scouts USA and at the same time included girls across the board in all levels of programming. I was involved in Scouts at the time, and I can tell you that one of the main reasons they did this was to accommodate busy families. Boy Scouts found that it didn't work for Jack to be going off to boy scouts once a week and Jill to be going off to girl scouts and they needed something that the whole family could do together. Families simply do not have time for girl scouts, boy scouts, soccer, piano lessons, 4-H, and everything else that's available to busy families. A rock club’s junior program can do the same thing. It can turn your club into something the whole family can participate in, including Grandma and Grandpa. Think about it, most clubs are very diverse. You have people who like fossils, people who like minerals, those who just like going on field trips, those who like creating things from the treasures they find, or those who like participating in lapidary classes. Your club most likely already has something everyone in a busy family is interested in.

So, my message this month is, if your club doesn't have a youth program consider starting one and the new website is a great place to start. If your club had a junior's program and you had to put it on hold and you need help restarting it, reach out and we'll be glad to pair you with someone who can walk you through a restart.

Website link is: [www.juniors.amfed.org](http://www.juniors.amfed.org)

Future Rockhounds of America link is: [www.juniors.amfed.org/fra](http://www.juniors.amfed.org/fra)

Lora Hall

NFMS 2<sup>nd</sup> VP

AFMS Junior Programs Chair



Past President  
Larry Hulstrom



**Report of Trip to AFMS Annual Meeting in New Orleans LA October 13 – 16, 2022**

After arrival and registration at the convention center on October 13, both myself (as NFMS President) and Josh (as NFMS Judging Director) attended the Uniform Rules Meeting. The AFMS Uniform Rules have not been updated since 2018. A discussion was held with regard to making the Rules more user friendly as a means of encouraging competitive displays at shows. A name change to “Display Competition Uniform Rules” was also discussed. A decline in competition has been noted over the years. Recognizing the rise in use of social media and on-line forums a subcommittee was formed to look at repackaging the Rules into online files specific to each competitive Division. It was also reiterated that one of the purposes of judging is to encourage and teach competitors how to improve their skills and displays, not to criticize and downgrade them. Having competed for many years both Josh and I volunteered to work on this subcommittee.

There were only two competitive displays entered at the show to be judged at the AFMS level. One was an Educational case (Division E) on how to do gem trees, while the other was a Division A display of gem trees. Both Josh and I assisted with judging of both cases, both of which were entered by one individual. (Sadly, we learned on 10/26 that Barbara Sky, the woman we assisted with judging, had passed away that day. She was 92.)

Both Josh and I attended the AFMS Scholarship Foundation meeting during which it was noted that over two million dollars have been given out to worthy students since the Foundation’s inception. The Honorees and Students for 2022 were acknowledged for each regional Federation. The minutes from the 2021 meeting in Big Piney WY (which I attended) and the proposed budget for 2022 were voted on and approved. Updates to the By-Laws and Operating Procedures proposed in 2021 to include electronic communication and voting were also discussed and approved.

At the annual Board of Directors meeting I stated that my report from the NFMS was in the packet. I did note that during the pandemic and the past year the NFMS had lost 57 fellow Rockhounds. Names of all of the individuals that we have lost will appear in a future AFMS newsletter. I did make a comment that almost all of the remaining NFMS Executive Board members were attending the meeting virtually. Darrell Coyle was present, as were Jennifer Haley (AFMS Historian), Lora Hall (AFMS Junior Program chair), and Judi Allison (AFMS Club Rockhound of the Year). It was good to see everyone join in.

A welcome dinner was held at a local restaurant and the conference attendees practically filled the entire restaurant. The awards banquet was held on Saturday evening during which awards were given to the competitor that had entered the gem tree related cases. On Sunday afternoon both Josh and I attended the ALAA annual meeting during which a discussion was held with regard to the definition of “rockhounding” which will be provided to managers of the BLM Mojave Trails National Monument and to the Federal CFR Title 43. This is the only national monument where rock collecting is allowed. It is important that Rockhounds have a voice in this. Jennifer Haley (NFMS 1<sup>st</sup> VP and ALAA Vice President) has been following this subject and can provide us all with more information on how to be involved.

Following the ALAA meeting the ALAA live auction was held. Doug True provided a lot of material to bid on and we thank him for hauling back home the materials that Josh and I successfully bid on. There was no way to fit all of it in our suitcase for the trip home. We will pick it up from Doug when we attend the 2023 NFMS/AFMS Annual meeting and convention August 3 – 6 in Billings, MT. Doug is planning to have a lot of field trips scheduled for the week after the show, so start planning now and put these dates on your calendar.

Submitted by Larry Hulstrom, NFMS Past President  
and Josh Hulstrom, NFMS Judging Director

**NFMS Winners at the 2022 AFMS Endowment Fund Raffle in New Orleans**

The NFMS region had three winners at the Endowment Fund raffle held in New Orleans as part of the annual meeting in October. Susie Koppert of the Mt Hood Rock Club in OR (and NFMS Public Lands Advisory committee lead) won a sterling silver wrapped pendant featuring a cabochon made of Seraphinite, a part of the Charoite group of minerals from Siberia. It was donated by AFMS Past President Richard Jaeger and his wife Linda.

MaryLou Northrup of the Hells Canyon Gem Club in Lewiston ID (and NFMS Scholarship committee lead) won another Seraphinite pendant donated by Cheryl Neary (now AFMS President) and a hand crafted silversmith arm bracelet containing a heart shaped agate and two sunstones.

Josh Hulstrom of the Lakeside Gem & Mineral Club of Kennewick WA won a bag of assorted rough materials including some petrified wood from Holbrook AZ.

Congratulations to the winners. Funds from the raffle support federation activities such as the AFMS website, the Junior badge program, judges training, and many other worthy efforts. Watch for more details when the 2023 Raffle begins!

Submitted by Larry Hulstrom, NFMS Past President

**ALASKA PEBBLE PATTERN—SAFETY**

Nothing in life should be taken for granted, whether it is health, wealth, or opportunities to find interesting minerals or fossils. Each of these aspects provides enjoyment and keeps our minds interested with a myriad of natural wonders. At the beginning of each field season, reminders are sent out by both the Mat-Su or CGMS club members to make safety a priority. In fact we are also reminded to keep an eye out for fellow rockhounds working with hammer and chisel next to us, or lifting that 4-foot Ammonoid, and so we should. As we approach Christmas holidays, lets also remain vigilant in the home. Whether cooking, repairing something, using snow-blowers, or spending time on ski-slopes or walking through the woods on a snowy afternoon, remember to brush up on good safety practices. It wouldn’t hurt to refresh our memories with Driver’s Education Rules of the Road either. It seems, many drivers now a days have forgotten safe and courteous driving practices. One of my safety priorities this season, is to not overeat!

Chris Teutsch, Chugach Gem & Mineral Society





ROCHHOUND OF THE YEAR (ROY) NOMINATIONS

Hatrockhounds Gem and Mineral Society

**Gordon Weber** has been a member of **Hatrockhounds Gem and Mineral Society** for a number of years. Although one rarely sees him in the forefront, he is often quietly in the background contributing to the good of the society. Gordon has created some very visible signage for our show and he is always front and center to help with all the tasks in getting the show ready. At the meetings, whenever his name is chosen for a door prize, he re-gifts it to a Junior or a visitor. Whenever we have a picnic or potluck, we can always count on Gordon to bring the ice cream. Yum! Thanks, Gordon for all you do.

Submitted By Executive Committee

**Hatrockhounds Gem and Mineral Society** of Hermiston, Oregon, wish to nominate **Teddy Bunch** as our AFMS Junior Rockhound of the Year. Teddy is a busy Junior with the support of his Mom and Grandma. He is an active participant in our Junior meetings and helps in the kids’ corner at our annual show. This year, Teddy refined his educational display case on “Rocks of the World” and entered it in competition at the NFMS Gem and Mineral Show. He received a blue ribbon, a trophy from the Regional Club, and two plaques from the NFMS for his efforts! We are very proud of Teddy and so very happy to have him as one of our members. Way to go, Teddy!!!

Submitted By Executive Committee



One happy Junior and his Mom

Judi Allison NFMS Secretary

Lakeside Gem and Mineral Club

The Lakeside Gem & Mineral Club selects Larry Hulstrom and Mike Zinski as the 2022 Rockhounds of the Year for our club. Larry's tireless efforts in support of the Club and the rockhounding hobby really dazzled this past year. Last year, Larry wore multiple hats: NFMS President, our Federation Representative, and annual show organizer. He managed to juggle all three roles with aplomb, organizing and running both the NFMS mid-year meeting and our most successful annual show in recent years. But Larry really shines because his zeal doesn't stop there. He helps organize and show up for events that represent our club, like RiverFest and the Benton County Fair. His passion for the hobby is reflected in award-winning display cases and the numerous rock and gem shows he visits and reports on to the club. For these efforts and too many others to list, we wish to thank you, Larry, for all you do for the Club and our hobby. The Club also recognizes Mike Zinski. Although he has only been a club member for a few years, Mike has been a rockhound and lapidary artist for decades. He brings a wealth of information that he is more than happy to share with anyone who visits his shop, which he generously opened to members to visit and work their stones. His name continually pops up during meetings as members remark "I cabbed this at Mike's last week" or "I faceted my first stone at Mike's shop." He has also hosted several Junior Club meetings, and his enthusiasm has rubbed off on the next generation of rockhounds. Thank you, Mike, for sharing your passion for rocks and gems with the club and enabling many others to pursue their interests.

Submitted by Chris Sorenson and Patrick Donahue

Laurie Ellis ROY Chair

11<sup>th</sup> Annual Idaho Falls Gem & Mineral Society Member Sale

This year, the Idaho Falls Gem & Mineral Society (IFGMS) held our 11<sup>th</sup> annual Member Sale with the addition of an equipment dealer. Most of us organizing and chairing our Member Sale have traveled to the February Tucson shows (I mean, it’s February in Idaho and I am heading south for anywhere not covered in white, frozen water) and had hands on exposure to equipment. Our Member Sale is for members to showcase and sell the items we make. A way to help our members.

What better way to help and benefit our members than to bring an equipment dealer to our city? After discussing equipment dealer options, this year’s chairperson contacted **PepeTools**. They were interested and put us in touch with Chris Anderson, their Field Representative and the proprietor of **Lion Punch Forge**.

At our first member sale we had 24 members sell their material. We rented a building at the County Fairgrounds and had enough funds to take out an ad in the local paper under garage sales plus distribute flyers. We outgrew the County Fairgrounds over the next few years, passed through a hotel conference room, small conference center and returned to a new building at the County Fairgrounds last year. Our first year, we had approximately 400 people from the public attend; this year we had nearly 1,000 attendees.

Club shows within at least a few hours of Idaho Falls do not have equipment dealers at their shows. This year our members and the attending public had the opportunity to see **PepeTools** disc cutters, rolling mills, and ring benders along with **Lion Punch Forge’s** ergonomic Haymaker Jewelry Saw, chain mandrels, basket soldering templates and many more items. It wasn’t just seeing and touching the tools; it was talking and visiting with the creator of some of these tools. Chris provided an amazing education of how to use the tools. I learned to not just listen to the tool name and stop there.

A friend and excellent goldsmith purchased one of the ring benders. He already goldsmiths many rings, so I asked him what he was going to do with the ring bender. My real question was, do I need one of those? His response was, wait for it, bend rings (accompanied by the obvious look of that was a stupid question). Not yet being sufficiently humiliated, I asked Chris the same, but phrased differently, question – what can you do with a ring bender? I believe answer number 58 was, and you can bend rings. Essentially, it is a wire and metal bender (appropriately sized) and Chris began to demonstrate bending components for necklaces, bracelets, rings and yes, the ring shank itself.

Our members flint knapp, cut cabochons, facet, silversmith, goldsmith, inlay, combine wood and rock components, collect and sell mineral specimens, cut opal, bead with seed beads, fabricate knives, bead with gemstones, slab and do about anything you can think of with rocks, gems and metals. This year our sale represented 35 members selling their own goods. When I walk around the sale and look at what the people I know are making, I am absolutely amazed and impressed.

We have two shows each year. Our April show (over fifty years) is what everyone would traditionally think of regarding a show. Our October sale is our members sale. Both of these are our face to the community and each generates new members for our club. While each sale brings new blood and ideas into our club, the April show brings in more individuals that are interested in field trips and the October sale brings in more individuals that are interested in creating something from what they have. The other advantage to two shows a year, I only have to wait six months for the next one.

John Nicklas, member IFGMS

### What Does NFMS Membership Offer?

I would like to point out a few things, so you will be aware of some of what the Federation has to offer. The first thing; and one that I think is so valuable, is the interconnection with others throughout the Northwest Federation. When members take part in Federation activities, they have the opportunity to interact with others who share that same passion. One comes in contact with a wide variety of folks. And, not only is there the NFMS, but as a member of the NFMS one is also a member of the American Federation of Gem and Mineral Societies, which includes six other regional Federations.

I think the key to all of this, though, is to realize that in order to take advantage of what the Federation has to offer, folks must put forth the initiative to avail themselves of the opportunities. As a member club, you are allowed to have one director and one delegate represent your club at our Annual meeting where all official business is conducted. As such, the job of the director and/or delegate is to keep the membership informed of relevant information coming from the Federation. (I keep an email list of the directors and send pertinent information to them throughout the year.) We also have a midyear meeting for sharing of information.

Other things that clubs and their members can take part in are such things as the Bulletin Aids contest whereby the editor of your club's newsletter can enter an issue, personal poems or original articles published in the newsletter with the possibility of recognition for their efforts. There is also a Junior achievement award for any youth who are paid members of your club. We have a "Rockhound of the Year" award given out through the American Federation. It is a very simple process, as all one needs to do is choose someone in your club who has contributed something special during the year; submit a short paragraph or two and receive a certificate in the person's honor. Their name is also published in The AMFS Newsletter. The Federation offers a Rockhound Retreat the week after Labor Day. The camp provides sleeping facilities and meals, and the member attends and gets to choose what types of endeavors they want to try-possible lapidary, intarsia, wire wrapping, silversmithing and other possible activities offered that year.

Members can enter a competitive display to learn how to improve their techniques and possibly earn an award. As I stated, the opportunities are many as long as one seeks out and takes advantage.

Each member will also receive the Northwest Newsletter published at least six times during the year. The newsletter tells about the aforementioned opportunities as well as giving relevant information about other happenings relative to the rockhound community. Three designated members of the club (usually the President, Secretary and Newsletter Editor) also receives the AFMS Newsletter. The club also receives a Directory of all the member clubs which also includes a hard copy of the Bylaws and a list of video presentations which can be checked out for use at a meeting.

You may want to do a bit of browsing on the website [northwestfederation.org](http://northwestfederation.org). If you look at the right-hand side panel under "Other Items to View" you will find a copy of the Bylaws and minutes of past meetings.

Just a final note: be sure to include names and remit dues for each member of your club, as the individual must be listed under the membership in order to take part in what the Federation has to offer. Our Circulation chairperson will receive the list, as he will create a mailing list for each household. Our Directory chair will also receive the list in order to include the names in the directory, which is used as proof of membership.

Judi Allison, NFMS Secretary

### The Magic Time of Rocks by Jennifer Haley

You have never seen the morning really glisten  
until you’ve seen the magic time of rocks.

These rocks can be as small as tiny bits of sand  
or larger, as if you were holding almonds in your hand.  
They call them Lake County Diamond Rocks.

If you get up bright and early  
surely you will see,  
these sparkling rock stars sitting on the ground or in their vugs,  
smiling up at thee.

From their tiny homes inside the boulders  
created by volcanic times so very long ago,  
they sit, watch and wait,  
timelessly.

For you see, as luck would have it  
only a rockhound can truly see them  
otherwise, they always seem to go unseen.

You have never seen the morning really glisten  
until you’ve seen the magic time of rocks.  
They seem to wake up bright and early to greet the morning sun,  
and dance a jig like most people have never seen.

Upon the dark earthen floor, and under the old walnut trees,  
they sit and wait for a rockhound or a pebble pup to come up and take a peek.  
Like tiny stars they glisten, and tell a story if you listen,  
until the sun goes down, and on another day  
a rockhound gets up bright and early to watch the magic time of rocks.



NFMS Clubs’ Show Schedule -- 2023

Feb 11th & 12th 2023 Sat 9 - 5 Sun 9 - 5	Whidbey Island Gem Club	57th Annual Sweetheart of Gems The Center in Oak Harbor 51 Jerome St, Oak Harbor WA	Victoria Lovett <a href="mailto:vick_o_rama@hotmail.com">vick_o_rama@hotmail.com</a>
Feb 25th - 26th 2023 Sat 10 - 6 Sun 10 - 5	Idaho Gem Club	Expo Idaho 5610 Glenwood Boise ID 83714	Brent Stewart (208) 342-1151 <a href="mailto:rocksbybrent@gmail.com">rocksbybrent@gmail.com</a>
Feb 25th - 26th 2023 Sat 10 - 7 Sun 12-6	Chugach Gem and Mineral Society	Midtown Mall 600 E Northern Lights Blvd Anchorage AK	Paul Burger <a href="mailto:cavemonpaul@hotmail.com">cavemonpaul@hotmail.com</a>
Mar 4th & 5th 2023 Sat 10 - 7 Sun 12-6	Chugach Gem and Mineral Society	Midtown Mall 600 E Northern Lights Blvd Anchorage AK	Paul Burger <a href="mailto:cavemonpaul@hotmail.com">cavemonpaul@hotmail.com</a>
Mar 3rd - 5th 2023  Fri 9:30 - 5:30  Sat 9:30 - 5:30  Sun 9:30 - 5	Oregon Agate and Mineral Society	72nd Oregon Agate and Mineral Society Annual Show  OMSI (Oregon Museum of Science and Industry) Auditorium  1945 SE Water Avenue Portland OR	Sonia Watt  <a href="mailto:sonywatt@yahoo.com">sonywatt@yahoo.com</a>
Mar 3rd - 5th 2023  Fri 10 - 5 Sat 10 - 5 Sun 10 - 5	Tualatin Valley Gem Club	64th Annual Rock and Gem Show Forest Grove National Guard Armory 2950 Taylor Way Forest Grove OR	William Harvey Jr. <a href="mailto:WLHARVEYJR@msn.com">WLHARVEYJR@msn.com</a> <a href="http://www.tvgc.org">www.tvgc.org</a>
Mar 4th & 5th 2023 Sat 10 - 6 Sun 10 - 5	East KingCo Rock Club	Pickering Barn 1730 10th Ave NW Issaquah WA	Kim Villines (425) 828-3872 <a href="mailto:earthlightgems@gmail.com">earthlightgems@gmail.com</a> <a href="http://www.EastKingCo.org">www.EastKingCo.org</a>
Mar 4th & 5th 2023 Sat 10 - 6  Sun 10 - 5	Owyhee Gem & Mineral Society	O'Conner Field House 2207 Blaine  Caldwell ID 83605	Paul Deveau (208) 994-8025 PO Box 1053 Caldwell ID 83605  <a href="mailto:devidaho@q.com">devidaho@q.com</a> <a href="http://www.OwyheeRocks.com">www.OwyheeRocks.com</a>
Mar 10th & 11th 2023 Fri 9 - 6 Sat 9 - 5	Panorama Gem and Mineral Club	Northeast Washington Fairground 317 West Astor Colville WA	Johnie Pitman <a href="mailto:jgpitman@outlook.com">jgpitman@outlook.com</a>
Mar 11th & 12th  Sat 10 - 5 Sun 10 - 4	Magic Valley Gem Club	73rd Annual Rock, Gem, Mineral and Jewelry Show  Twin Falls County Fairgrounds 215 Fair Avenue, Filer ID	Sam Marsh  <a href="mailto:bigdawg66@yahoo.com">bigdawg66@yahoo.com</a> <a href="http://magicvalleygemclub.org">magicvalleygemclub.org</a>
Mar 11th & 12th Sat 9 - 6 Sun 10 - 5	Northwest Montana Rock Chucks	Flathead County Fairgrounds Expo Building 265 North Meridian Road Kalispell MT	Lloyd Fager (608) 436-0780 <a href="mailto:oldgrayelf@sbcglobal.net">oldgrayelf@sbcglobal.net</a>
Mar 18th & 19th Sat 9 - 6 Sun 10 - 5	Hellgate Mineral Society Missoula MT	28th Annual Gem, Mineral, Fossil, and Lapidary Sale  Hilton Garden Inn 3700 North Reserve St., Missoula MT	Neil Maier or Lora Hall  <a href="mailto:info@hellgatemineralsociety.org">info@hellgatemineralsociety.org</a> <a href="http://hellgatemineralsociety.org">http://hellgatemineralsociety.org</a>
Mar 25th & 26th Sat 10 - 5 Sun 10 - 5	South East Idaho Gem and Mineral Society (SEIGMS)	Bannock County Fairgrounds 10588 Fairground Dr Pocatello ID 83201	Joe Rodriguez <a href="mailto:rodrider4@msn.com">rodrider4@msn.com</a>  -
Mar 24th, 25th & 26th Fri 10 - 6 Sat 10 - 6  Sun 10 - 4	Rock Rollers Club of Spokane WA	62nd Annual Gem, Mineral, & Jewelry Show Spokane County Fair & Expo Center 404 N. Havana at Broadway  Spokane WA	Steve Koon, Show Chairman <a href="mailto:silakoondioxide@yahoo.com">silakoondioxide@yahoo.com</a> <a href="http://www.rockrollers.org">www.rockrollers.org</a>  See us on Facebook: Spokane Rock Rollers Gem Mineral & Jewelry show
Mar 25th & 26th Sat 10 - 6 Sun 10 - 5	Mt. Baker Rock and Gem Club	61st Annual Rock and Gem Show Pioneer Pavillion 2007 Cherry St, Ferndale, WA	Wes Gannaway  <a href="mailto:debnwes@comcast.net">debnwes@comcast.net</a> <a href="http://www.mtbakerrockclub.org">www.mtbakerrockclub.org</a>
April 1st & 2nd Sat 10 - 6 Sun 10 - 5	Sweet Home Rock and Mineral Society	73rd Annual Sweet Home and Mineral Show Sweet Home High School Gym 1641 Long Street, Sweet Home, OR	Joe Cota (541) 451-2740 Ed Anderson (541) 451-1577  <a href="mailto:ela4rocks@gmail.com">ela4rocks@gmail.com</a>
April 7th, 8th & 9th Fri 9 - 6 Sat 10 - 6 Sun 10 - 4	Golden Spike Gem and Mineral Society	Golden Spike Event Center Weber County Fairgrounds 1000 N 1200 W Ogden UT 88440	Margie Miller (385) 205-9187  <a href="http://Website: goldenspikegem.org">Website: goldenspikegem.org</a>
April 14th, 15th & 16th Fri 9 - 5 Sat 9 - 5 Sun 10 - 4	Willamette Agate and Mineral Society	WAMS River of Gems 66th annual rock show Polk County Fairgrounds 520 S Pacific Hwy W Rickreall OR 97371	Ken Stubenrauch  <a href="mailto:wams.riverofgems@gmail.com">wams.riverofgems@gmail.com</a> <a href="http://www.WAMSI.net">www.WAMSI.net</a>



NFMS Clubs’ Show Schedule -- 2023 continued

April 15th & 16th Sat 10 - 6 Sun 10 - 5	Idaho Falls Gem and Mineral Society	Idaho Falls Center Corner of Memorial Drive and B Street 520 Memorial Drive, Idaho Falls ID	Tom Strong (337) 384-6820 <a href="mailto:wildlandlapidary@gmail.com">wildlandlapidary@gmail.com</a>
April 21st, 22nd & 23rd Fri 10 - 4 Sat 10 - 5 Sun 10 - 4	Yakima Rock and Mineral Club	"Sparkling Parade of Gems - 2023" "Celebrating our 60th Show" Central Washington State Fair Park Modern Living Building 1301 South Fair Avenue, Yakima WA 98901	Marti Sondgeroth (509) 910-3484 <a href="mailto:marthams@q.com">marthams@q.com</a> <a href="http://www.yakimarockclub.com">www.yakimarockclub.com</a> <a href="http://www.facebook.com/YakimaRockandMineraClub">www.facebook.com/YakimaRockandMineraClub</a>
April 29th & 30th Sat 10 - 5 Sun 10 - 4:30	Grays Harbor Rock and Gem Club	Grays Harbor County Fair and Event Center 43 Elma-McCleary Road Elma WA	Gary Emberley (360) 533-6196 <a href="mailto:melissa624@hotmail.com">melissa624@hotmail.com</a>
April 29th & 30th Sat 10 - 5 Sun 10 - 4	Lakeside Gem and Mineral Club	Benton County Fairgrounds BLD 2 1500 South Oak Kennewick WA	Larry Hulstrom (509) 308-8312 <a href="mailto:rockhound132@charter.net">rockhound132@charter.net</a>
April 29th & 30th Sat 10 - 5 Sun 10 - 5	West Seattle Rock Club	Alki Masonic Temple (West Seattle) 4736 40 <sup>th</sup> Avenue SW West Seattle WA	Annette Nelson (206) 379-3677 <a href="http://www.westseattlerockclub.org">www.westseattlerockclub.org</a>
May 13th & 14th Sat 10 - 6 Sun 10 - 4	Bozeman Gem and Mineral Club	Gallatin County Fairgrounds 901 North Black Bozeman MT	Linda Johnson (406) 580-3419 <a href="mailto:lindajohnson.montana@gmail.com">lindajohnson.montana@gmail.com</a>
May 13th & 14th Sat 10 - 5 Sun 10 - 4	Hatrockhound Gem and Mineral Society	Eastern Oregon Trade and Event Center 1705 East Airport Road Hermiston OR 97838	Mike Filarski (541) 571-2593 <a href="mailto:stonemorlin1@netscape.net">stonemorlin1@netscape.net</a>
May 19th, 20th & 21st Fri 10 - 5 Sat 10 - 5 Sun 10 - 3	Mt Hood Rock Club	Mt Hood Rock Club's Rock and Gem Show Kliever Memorial Armory 10000 NE 33rd Dr. Portland OR 97211	Darrell Engelhard <a href="mailto:mhrcdc@gmail.com">mhrcdc@gmail.com</a> <a href="http://www.mthoodrockclub.com">www.mthoodrockclub.com</a>
May 27th & 28th Sat 9 - 6 Sun 10 - 4	Clackamette Mineral and Gem Corp	Clackamas County Fairgrounds 694 NE 4th Ave Canby OR 97013	Karen McAllister (503) 351-9918 <a href="mailto:gmaaktmc@gmail.com">gmaaktmc@gmail.com</a> <a href="http://www.clackamettegem.org">www.clackamettegem.org</a>
May 27th & 28th Sat 10 - 6 Sun 10 - 5	Everett Rock and Gem Club	Evergreen State Fairgrounds Weikel Event Center 18359 Cascade View Drive Monroe WA	Fritz Mack (425) 232-0809 <a href="http://www.everettrockclub.com">www.everettrockclub.com</a>
June 16th, 17th & 18th Fri 10 - 5 Sat 10 - 5 Sun 10 - 4	Lower Umpqua Gem & Lapidary Society	Annual Father's Day Weekend Rock and Gem Show Reedsport Community Center/City Hall 451 Winchester Ave Reedsport OR	Bambi Darling (541) 420-8014 (please leave a message) <a href="http://Website:ReedsportRockandGemShow.com">Website:ReedsportRockandGemShow.com</a>
August 3rd - 6th Thur 10 - 5 Fri 10 - 5 Sat 10 - 5 Sun 10 - 4	Billings Gem and Mineral Club	Billings Hotel and Convention Center 1223 Mallowney Ln Billings MT	Doug True <a href="https://billingsgemclub.com/contact-us">https://billingsgemclub.com/contact-us</a> (406) 200-8778
August 18th, 19th & 20th Fri 9 - 5 Sat 9 - 5 Sun 10 - 4	Willamette Agate and Mineral Society	End of Summer Rock Show Polk County Fairgrounds 520 S Pacific Hwy W Rickreall, OR 97371	Ken Stubenrauch <a href="mailto:wams.riverofgems@gmail.com">wams.riverofgems@gmail.com</a> <a href="http://www.WAMSI.net">www.WAMSI.net</a>
Sept 9th & 10th Sat 9 - 5 Sun 10 - 4	Clallam County Gem and Mineral Association	Vern Burton Community Center 308 East 4th Street Port Angeles WA	Kathy Schreiner (360) 460-0827 <a href="mailto:kmsjes@olypen.com">kmsjes@olypen.com</a> <a href="http://Sequimrocks.org">Sequimrocks.org</a>
Oct 6th, 7th 8th Fri 10 - 6 Sat 10 - 6 Sun 10 - 5	Portland Regional Gem & Mineral Show Association	42nd Annual Portland Regional Gem and Mineral Show Wingspan Event Center Building At the Westside Commons 801 NE 34th Avenue, Hillsboro OR 97124	Darrell Engelhard <a href="mailto:mhrcdc@gmail.com">mhrcdc@gmail.com</a> <a href="http://www.mthoodrockclub.com">www.mthoodrockclub.com</a>
Oct 7th & 8th  Sat 10 - 5  Sun 10 - 5	Marysville Rock and Gem Club	The Evergreen State Fairgrounds Display Bldg #500  14405 179th Ave, SE Monroe, WA  (Off Hwy 2, Just west of Monroe, WA)	Christina Morrissey <a href="mailto:cmvw@frontier.com">cmvw@frontier.com</a> <a href="http://Website:http://www.marysvillerockclub.com">Website: http://www.marysvillerockclub.com</a> <a href="http://facebook.com/Marysville-Rock-and-Gem-Club-213484905338173">facebook.com/Marysville-Rock-and-Gem-Club-213484905338173</a>