



Reminder: All newsletter submissions must be received by the 25th of each month to be included in the following issue.

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Letters From Our Executive Board Officers:



Michael Rhodes - President

Happy New Year to one and all. I hope that each of you had a good holiday, filled with friends, family, and of course, your favorite rocks and minerals! This month begins the new fiscal year

for the Northwest Federation. This will align our year with the calendar and make it much easier for our treasurer to get the taxes aligned with the requirements of the IRS. It will, however, make it a long time between our annual meeting and the assumption of office for new officers. It will be interesting to see how these changes work out. Our next annual meeting will be held in conjunction with the Hellgate, MT Show in March. I am looking forward to meeting NFMS Directors and Delegates from each club in the federation. While there are no big changes proposed for the annual meeting, it is still good to meet and discuss the needs of the federation. I hope that each of you had the opportunity to fill out the endowment fund survey sent to the clubs in November. The survey needs to be completed and submitted by January 31. The results will help us discuss opportunities for the use of endowment fund monies for the benefit of federation members. I hope you have plans to get out and enjoy our hobby in the weeks and months ahead. If we, as an Executive Board can be of help, or answer any questions please let us know, Our contact information is at the end of this newsletter. As always, ROCK ON!!!!

Continued on page 2

Letters From Our Committee Officers Continued:**June Dorning - 2nd Vice President**

Happy New Year, I hope everyone is doing well. I am not much of a writer, so usually my input is very little. But because this is my first time submitting to the newsletter, I would like to introduce myself. My name is June Dorning, I have been a member of the Yakima Rock & Mineral Club since 2015. I help out with our annual rock & mineral show, I am currently the Vice President and become President at our January meeting. I am also a long-time gold prospector. I have been a secretary and Vice President for the Yakima Prospector association; I also have been secretary and V.P. for the Yakima Rock & Mineral Club.

I attend several gold shows a year and I have been actively working in getting the rock & mineral clubs involved in these shows because I firmly believe that they should represent each other because they are all minerals and it opens up more ground to our hobby.

June Dorning, 2nd V.P.

**Judi Allison - Secretary (Treasurer Pro Tem)****Secretary Report:**

Hello everyone. It is hard to believe that we are already into the new year! I have noticed that as I age, those years do actually seem shorter. I guess if you look at it statistically, the percentage I have in front of me compared to the percentage behind is a lot smaller. But I still plan to be around for a bit longer.

Although you may not see results overtly, we have accomplished a lot this last year. Just changing the fiscal year to coincide with the actual calendar year is going to be a real boon. We had a great show and meeting in Walla Walla with some productive input. The Endowment Fund Committee has managed to find a means to reach all the Federation by the volunteerism of Anna McKinney of the Marysville Club (and others) in creating an online Google survey. She even set it up so that members who don't have computer access, or who are not comfortable with the process can do a hard copy. You have until the 26th of January to give your input. Keep in mind that the infor-

mation gleaned from this survey will drive the direction the Endowment Fund Committee goes in using the expendable monies from the Endowment Fund. So, if you participate in the survey, you are having a say in what is happening in our Federation on a personal basis.

The 2026 NFMS Show in Missoula, Montana will be here before you know it! March 20-21 is rapidly sneaking up on us. Be sure to get your reservation in. And, if you want to put in a display, there are forms to complete. We can use some rocks for the silent auction, as the Federation will gain the proceeds from such. We also need bodies who are willing to work at the silent auction. I know that our Federation Silent auction go-to person, Roberta Hanson, and sidekick, Susie Koppert will be there doing all they can to help. But their bodies are like mine-becoming more frail with age. Some brawny men would be a very welcome addition.

You will want to attend the show so you can grab one of the really cool NFMS T-shirts that were designed by our own Education Chair, Lora Hall. There is a limited number, so you will want to be in line early. As you can see, there are some exciting things on the horizon. You can access information for the show in our newsletter, or on the northwestfederation.org website. Find the title "Federation Show" on the right-hand side of the front page and click on it. Or you can go directly to the Hellgate Mineral Society's website. Simply go to hellgatemineralsociety.org and click on the link 2026 Gem and Mineral Show. You will find all the forms and information you need to get ready to attend. Whether you have been there before or not, take this opportunity to visit Montana. It is a big, beautiful, diverse state.

I also want to remind folks that there is still time to enter the bulletin aids contest. Remember, newsletter editors, you can enter your bulletin, an article or poem or something else written by a member. If you are not sure what to do, feel free to reach out to our BEAC chair, Priscilla Hall-Ford or me for some guidance. Let's showcase all the great work editors do on their club's bulletins!

Continued on page 6

Treasurer Report

First, I am only writing this to give Adam a chance to get his feet wet, as I will charge him for coming up with some clever or enlightening missive for the February newsletter. We still have not heard officially, but barring any additional holdups, he should be able to start taking care of

business soon. I have been turning the information for the membership numbers over to him, as he can keep track of them without the need of the bank account. Since I needed to start the process of collecting the dues, I will finish that process, so it will be more seamless. Adam is going to get the privilege of doing all the spreadsheets for the accounting information. You should all be happy that it will be out of my hands, since my accounting methods are a bit like the game of horseshoes. Close can still earn you a point, right? I know Adam will do a great job, and he assured me he wouldn't jump ship any time soon. So, I am holding him to it.

Thanks to all the clubs that have paid their dues. Hopefully, even though we don't have electronic payments, the ability to send in your information via email will make the process simpler. Treasurers, if you have not received a notice about your club's dues, please reach out to me at nfmssec (at) gmail.com. Remember that if you don't get your dues in early enough, your information will remain the same as last year in the Directory. I haven't spoken to her yet, but barring any issues on Janel's side, they should be ready to be picked up at the annual meeting. Remember that these Directories are a helpful tool to contact other clubs and should be used as such. I do know there has been some talk about putting the Directory in an online format and simply having a digital copy. I think there has to be some research on how to keep that information secure, but I am quite certain that can be accomplished. If folks have ideas or suggestions, feel free to contact me with them.

I know that Micheal, our 2026 President added the purchase of the equipment to facilitate using Zoom for meetings. This will make it easier for more folks to join in even if they are physically unable to come. I do want to add, though, that there is nothing more rewarding than actually being physically at a show. One gets to see old friends, meet new ones, survey how the host club does things and enjoy material from different locations. It is a "feel good" situation. If you are a director, hopefully, your

club has some sort of reimbursement for your services. So, let's meet in Missoula! I'll be there! I hope to see you!

NFMS Safety Chair Articles - Kathryn Larson:

It's wintertime and it's cold out there. Brrrrrrrr! When the wind starts blowing it becomes even colder. The other day it felt like the wind was blowing directly off a mountain of snow. And as we age our bodies lose heat more quickly than they used to.

When you go outside, wear multiple loose layers of clothing. Wear hats, gloves, warm socks. I usually stay warm, but I really like wearing gloves. I try to keep a pair in my coat pockets. I also try to remember to wear sturdy slip-resistant boots or shoes for traction. It's very easy to slip when everything gets coated with ice. Landing hard on a sheet of ice is a good way to break a bone.

Limit your exposure outside when it's really cold and drink plenty of liquids. We may not feel thirsty, but we still need to drink water. I like drinking hot water with slices of lemon. It's refreshing and not loaded with sugar or caffeine. Even though we're stuck inside we still need to stretch occasionally and move around. And remember to check on your neighbors, especially the older ones.

Hang in there. Spring is coming.

EYE SAFETY

Most of us work around rocks daily. Our eyes are a valuable commodity. We use them to spot flaws in our stones, look for scratches in our cabochons and enjoy the beauty of our rocks. Over 125,000 eye injuries occur every year. Up to 20% of these injuries cause temporary or permanent vision loss.

When you are out in the field digging, hammering or chiseling rocks, use safety glasses to protect your eyes from flying chips. Air-blown dust and sand can get into your eyes and causes scratches on the outermost layer of your eye, the cornea. Wear goggles while working in the shop grinding, sanding or polishing stones. Wear your safety goggles anywhere there is a chance of flying pieces. Wildfire smoke can cause red, burning, itchy eyes. Keep eye drops on hand to wash out any debris. Be careful of others around you watching you work.

If any injuries occur, contact your doctor for advice. The doctor may suggest flushing your eye with sterile water before coming to see him.

You only have one set of eyes. Protect them.

Attention: Newsletter Editors (and Creative Members)

If you are a newsletter editor, we need you! You are the individual who will submit some of the work that folks have done for your newsletter to the bulletin aids contest. Did you have a club member make a clever poem that you published? Did someone write about a field trip? Did someone share about their rockhounding vacation. These are all things that can be entered in the bulletin aids contest. Material from 2025 will be what is entered into the current contest. If you are a member who submitted something to your newsletter, encourage your editor to enter it into the contest. Maybe you can even research the category to help with the process. To do this, you can go to www.amfed.org/contests and find bulletin aids contest. There are many categories and score sheets. You find the one that fits your member's submission and enter the correct information at the top. Do this for each item

you want to submit. They will be sent to our BEAC Chair Priscilla Hall-Ford and she will take care of the judging process. Think about how your member will feel when he/she finds out they were recognized by the NFMS for submitting something to the newsletter. Remember, you can also enter your newsletter as an item for the contest. I know all the information can be a bit overwhelming but just reach out to someone for help. I will be the first to admit I don't know everything about the process, but you can be assured that if you contact me, you will at least get an answer from me, and I will try to help you in any way possible. So, let's show off our members' creativity. The deadline will be coming up soon, so get prepared.



ADVANCE REGISTRATION

Submission Deadline: February 20, 2025

**Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies
and Hellgate Mineral Society Present**

Treasures of the Northwest

**Hilton Garden Inn 3720 N. Reserve St. Missoula, MT 59808
March 21-22, 2026**

NFMS Meetings on Friday, March 20



- **Complete Page 2 of this Advance Registration Form, one form per attendee**
- **Submit Page 2 and check as directed on Page 2.**

Friday March 20, 2026 - First Lutheran Church, 2808 South Ave W, Missoula, MT 59804

- 8:30 AM – 9:00 AM: Start the day with Coffee and Pastries
- 9:00 AM – 10:00 AM: Editors/Webmasters Meeting
- 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM: Editors, Officers, Committee Chairs, etc. Brunch & Social Time
- 12:00 PM – 1:00 PM: Officers/Committee Chairs, Judges/Clerks, Past Presidents Meeting

Friday March 20, 2026 - @ Hilton Garden Inn, Salon A

- 2:00 PM – 4:00 PM: NFMS Annual Meeting

Saturday, March 21, 2026 – Hilton Garden Inn, Salon A

- 9:00 AM – 10:30 AM: Juniors Cracker Barrel
- 11:00 AM – 12:30 PM: Presentation (Topic to be determined)
- 1:00 PM – 2:30 PM: Presentation (Topic to be determined)
- 3:00 PM – 4:30 PM: Presentation (Topic to be determined)

Saturday, March 21, 2026 - First Lutheran Church, 2808 South Ave W, Missoula, MT 59804

This is a Non-Alcohol Event and Setting

- 6:00 PM – 9:00 PM: Awards Banquet

There is a maximum of 75 banquet tickets, first come, first served.

- The NFMS is pleased to offer "Free Admission" to the first 40 NFMS Society Directors to register.
- Contact Steve Stiff to confirm availability of "Free Admission" prior to submitting an Advanced Registration.
- A Society Director's name and society will be taken to confirm and issue a "Free Admission".
- **Any issued Society Director "Free Admission" not claimed will be back-billed to that Society by NFMS.**



ADVANCE REGISTRATION
Submission Deadline: February 20, 2025
Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies
and Hellgate Mineral Society Present



Treasures of the Northwest
Hilton Garden Inn 3720 N. Reserve St. Missoula, MT 59808
March 21-22, 2026
NFMS Meetings on Friday, March 20

- **Complete one form per attendee.**
- **Meals will be provided for individuals with Advance Registration only.**

NAME _____ *(please print legibly)*

PHONE _____ EMAIL _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY, STATE ZIP _____

HOME SOCIETY _____

Attendee Federation and/or Club Affiliations (check all that apply):

NFMS Officer Past President NFMS Committee Chair Society Director/Delegate Judge
AFMS Officer Presenter/Lecturer Competitive Exhibitor Non-Competitive Exhibitor
Other _____ (significant other, spouse, child, etc.)

2-DAY SHOW PASS (daily rate of \$5.00 x 2 days): \$10.00 \$ _____

- *Competitive Exhibitors admitted free.*
A copy of the NFMS Competitive Exhibit Entry Form Page 1 must accompany this form.
- *Children under 12 admitted free when registration is accompanied by an adult registration.*

Friday March 20, 2026 - First Lutheran Church, 2808 South Ave W, Missoula, MT 59804

• **10:00 AM – 12:00 PM: Brunch: \$10.00** \$ _____

Saturday, March 21, 2026 – First Lutheran Church, 2808 South Ave W, Missoula, MT 59804

This is a Non-Alcohol Event and Setting

• **6:00 PM – 9:00 PM: Awards Banquet: \$35.00** \$ _____

ADVANCED REGISTRATION TOTAL \$ _____

Make check payable to: Hellgate Mineral Society

Mail completed ADVANCE Steven Stiff
 REGISTRATION form(s) and check(s) 4013 Thomas Place
 to: Missoula, MT 59803

Contact Information: email: steven.stiff@bresnan.net
 text/phone: 406-529-2671

Treasures of the Northwest

Hello from the mountains of Montana and welcome to the Hellgate Mineral Society (HMS) Annual Gem and Mineral Show, the ***Treasures of the Northwest***, and the 2026 Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies (NFMS) Convention. The show is set for Saturday and Sunday, March 21-22, 2026.

The show is being held at the Hilton Garden Inn, 3720 N Reserve St, Missoula, MT 59808, Phone (406) 532-5300. The Hilton Garden has set aside ten rooms for NFMS members and vendors on a first come, first served basis.

Daily admission is \$5.00 per person, with children under 12 free when accompanied by a paying adult. The show will be offering exhibitions on wire wrapping, flint knapping, silver smithing, gold panning, and fossil prepping. Fun activities include raffles for rock-hounding paraphernalia, hourly door prizes of vendor-donated gems and minerals, the sale of grab bags of rock and mineral specimens, a silent auction, and a Spin-to-Win. Fun activities for the younger crowd include a mineral dig, geode cracking and a kids-only silent auction.

As the show is in March, and the show is in Missoula, the ability to have field trips is sharply curtailed. So, new this year, we are offering the opportunity participate in “onsite field trips” where attendees can sift for sapphires, sift for garnets, sift for sunstones, and pan for gold.

The HMS show is hosting eighteen vendors. There are also three club tables with six club members (three on Saturday and three on Sunday) displaying and selling their wares.

Please check out the Hellgate Mineral Society on Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/HellgateMineralSociety/> and online at <https://hellgatemineralsociety.org/>

For show information, please contact:

Neil Maier, show co-chair and club president, nam56@yahoo.com 406-546-6013

Ange Laridon, show co-chair and club secretary, angeange@msn.com 406-370-6318

Steve Stiff, NFMS coordinator and club vice president, steven.stiff@bresnan.net 406-529-2671

For information on Missoula and the surrounding area, please check out the following:

<https://destinationmissoula.org/where-to-stay>

<https://destinationmissoula.org/hotels-motels>

<https://destinationmissoula.org/bed-and-breakfasts>

<https://destinationmissoula.org/cabins>

<https://destinationmissoula.org/campgrounds>

<https://destinationmissoula.org/guest-ranches>

<https://destinationmissoula.org/lodges>

<https://destinationmissoula.org/pet-friendly>

<https://destinationmissoula.org/rv-parks>

<https://destinationmissoula.org/resorts>

<https://destinationmissoula.org/vacation-homes>

Steve Stiff
Vice President, Hellgate Mineral Society
NFMS Show Chair 2026



NFMS Competitive Exhibit Entry Form
Submission Deadline: February 20, 2026
Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies
and Hellgate Mineral Society Present
Treasures of the Northwest
March 21-22, 2026

Hilton Garden Inn 3720 N. Reserve St. Missoula, MT 59808



EXHIBIT SET-UP RULES:

All competitive exhibits must comply with the AFMS/NFMS rules updated January 2024. For complete rules and updates go to: <https://www.amfed.org>.

EXHIBIT SETUP: FRIDAY MARCH 20, 2026, 12:00 PM – 8:00 PM

- All entries must be ready for judging by Saturday, March 21 at 8:00 AM.
- Exhibits may **NOT** be removed before Sunday, March 22 at 5:00 PM.
- Cases will be assigned space on display tables approximately 30 inches high.
- Display cases **WILL NOT** be opened at any time during the show without a member of the NFMS Rules Committee present.
- **Competitive Exhibitors receive a free 2-day pass.**
- ***There is no entry fee for a competitive exhibit.***

ENTRY FORMS:

- Complete one **two-page** entry form per display case.
- Please provide all information requested on the **two** pages of the **NFMS Competitive Exhibit Entry Form**.
- For Junior Exhibits, the Society Officer certifying the exhibit completes Page 1.
- For Society Exhibits and Junior Society Exhibits:
 - The Society Officer certifying the exhibit completes Page 1.
 - Each Exhibitor completes Page 2.
 - Submit Page 1 and all Page 2s together.
- Mail or e-mail the completed pages to:
Larry Hulstrom, 5409 West 26th Ave., Kennewick, WA 99338
E-Mail: rockhound132@charter.net

Liability:

It is mutually agreed that the Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies and the Hellgate Mineral Society shall not be liable to any Exhibitor in whole or in part. This includes the property of the Exhibitor and/or injury to their person resulting from any cause. Submission of this signed entry form constitutes acceptance of these rules and regulations.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF EXHIBITOR RULES AND LIABILITY (PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY):

Name: _____

Signature _____ Date: _____

Exhibit Title: _____

Exhibit Description: _____

COMPETITIVE EXHIBIT ENTRY FORM – PAGE 2

(PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY)

EXHIBITOR:

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY, STATE ZIP: _____

PHONE: _____

E-MAIL: _____

SOCIETY/JUNIOR SOCIETY: _____

EXHIBITOR GROUP: (check one)

MASTER ADVANCED NOVICE JUNIOR
 SOCIETY EXHIBIT JUNIOR SOCIETY EXHIBIT

EXHIBIT DIVISION: _____ EXHIBIT CLASS: _____

For JUNIOR entry, date of birth: ____ / ____ / ____ (mm/dd/yyyy)

DISPLAY CASES:

Display cases are required. Display cases will be available on a limited basis, first come, first served. The basic case size is 4 ft. x 2 ft. x 2 ft. Liners and/or risers may or may not be available.

Do you need a display case? Yes NoIf **NO**, what is the size of your display case? Height _____ Width _____ Depth _____**EXHIBITOR CERTIFICATION:**

I hereby certify that all material in competition by me is my own property, or if Society, all material belongs to members of the society. All work except minor findings or where otherwise allowed by the rules were completed by me. I have read the current rules and agree to abide by them.

Signature _____ Date: _____

OFFICER CERTIFICATION:

I certify, as an officer of the above-named Society, that the exhibitor is a member in good standing of that society, and to the best of my knowledge, is eligible to exhibit in the stated classification according to the rules.

Name: _____

Title: _____

Signature _____ Date: _____

E-Mail: _____



NFMS Non-Competitive Exhibit Entry Form

Submission Deadline: February 20, 2026
 Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies
 and Hellgate Mineral Society Present
Treasures of the Northwest
 March 21-22, 2026

Hilton Garden Inn 3720 N. Reserve St. Missoula, MT 59808



Exhibit Setup: Friday March 20, 2026, 12:00 PM – 8:00 PM

- All entries must be ready for judging by Saturday, March 21 at 8:00 AM.
- Exhibits may **NOT** be removed before Sunday, March 22 at 5:00 PM.
- Cases will be assigned space on display tables approximately 30 inches high.
- Display cases will not be opened at any time during the show without a member of the NFMS Rules Committee present.
- **Non-competitive Exhibitors DO NOT receive a free 2-day pass.**
- ***There is no entry fee for a non-competitive exhibit.***

Entry Forms:

- One entry form per display case.
- Please complete all information on this entry form and submit via mail or email to:
 - Mail: Steven Stiff, 4013 Thomas Pl., Missoula, MT 59803
 - Email: steven.stiff@bresnan.net

Liability:

It is mutually agreed that the Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies and the Hellgate Mineral Society shall be liable to any Exhibitor in whole or in part. This includes the property of the Exhibitor and/or injury to their person resulting from any cause. Submission of this signed entry form constitutes acceptance of these rules and regulations.

Exhibit Information (*please print legibly*):

Adult Exhibit (Y/N) _____ Junior Exhibit (Y/N) _____ Society Exhibit (Y/N) _____

Exhibitor Printed Name: _____

Exhibitor Signature: _____ Date: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Exhibit Title: _____

Exhibit Description: _____

Banquet Menu

Served Buffet Style

Starters (6:00 PM)

- **Fresh Vegetables & Dip**
- **Fresh Fruit**

Entrée (6:30 PM)

- **Georgia Chopped Pork**
- **Country-Roasted Chicken**
- **St. Louis-Style Spareribs – Original Style**
(take 2 please)
- **Creamy Coleslaw**
- **Wilbur Beans**
- **Buttered Corn Niblets (corn off the cob)**
- **Corn Muffin (take 2 please)**

Dessert:

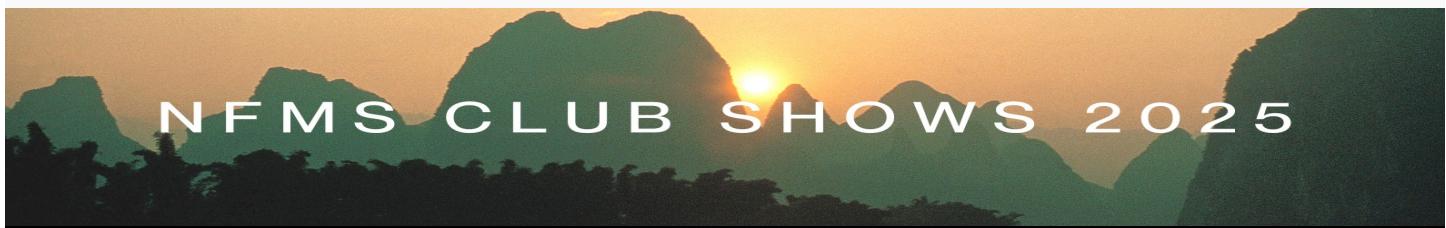
- **Fresh-Baked Chocolate Chip Cookies**
- **Chocolate Chip Brownie Bites**

Refreshment:

- **Coffee**
- **Tea**
- **Lemonade**
- **Water**

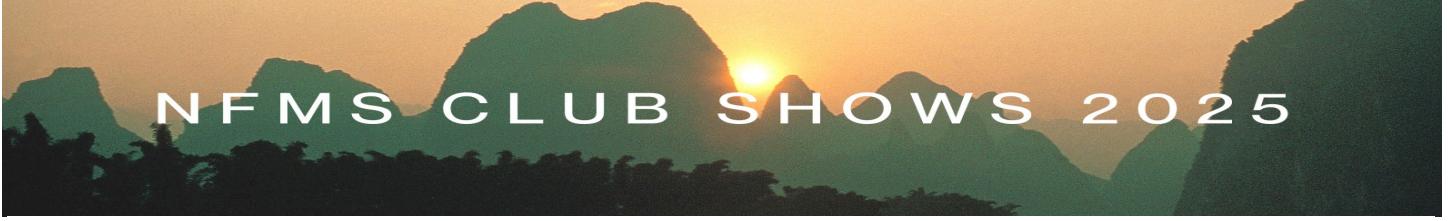
**Catered by Famous Dave's Bar-B-Que
Missoula, Montana**





Feb 14th & 15th		Oak Harbor Senior Center	Victoria Lovett
Sat 9 - 5	Whidbey Island Gem Club	8851 SE Jerome St.	Vick o rama (at) hotmail.com
Sun 9 - 5		Oak Harbor, WA 98277	info@maplewoodrockclub.com
Feb 28th & March 1st		Midtown Mall	Paul Burger
Sat 10 - 6:30	Chugach Gem and Mineral Show	600 E. Northern Lights Blvd.	
Sun 12 - 5:30		Anchorage, AK 99514	cavemonpaul(at) hotmail.com
March 13th & 14th		NE Washington Fairgrounds & AG Trade Center	Johnie Pitman
Fri 9 - 5	Panorama Gem and Mineral Club	317 W. Astor Ave.	(509) 684 - 8887
Sat 9 - 5		Colville, WA 99114	Jgpitman (at) outlook.com
March 13th - 15th		Forest Grove Natl. Guard Armory	Gordon Hale
Fri 10 - 5	Tualatin Valley Gem Club	2950 Taylor Way	gordonhale (at) comcast.net
Sat 10 - 5		Forest Grove, Oregon 97116	
Sun 10 - 5			
March 14th & 15th		Twin Falls County Fairgrounds	Sandy Hansen
Sat 9 - 5	Magic Valley Gem Club	215 Fair Ave.	3toadfrog (at) gmail.com
Sun 10 - 4		Filer, ID 83328	Magicvalleygemclub.org
March 21st & 22nd		Hilton Garden Inn	Neil A. Meier
Sat 9 - 5	Hellgate Mineral Society	3720 North Reserve St.	(406) 546 - 6013
Sun 10 - 5	2026 NFMS Show	Missoula, MT 59801	
March 28th & 29th		Vern Burton Community Center	Mitch Fox
Sat 9 - 5	Clallam County Gem and Mineral Assn.	308 East 4th Street	Fox.mitch (at) gmail.com
Sun 10 - 4		Port Angeles, WA 98292	Sequimrocks.org

March 28 th & 29 th Sat 10 - 6 Sun 10 - 5	Mt. Baker Rock and Gem Club	Pioneer Pavillion Community Center 2007 Cherry St. Ferndale, WA 98428	Candi Gerard candisjewelry (at) gmail.com Mtbakerrockclub.org
April 10 th - 12 th Fri 10 - 5 Sat 9 - 5 Sun 10 - 3	Mt. Hood Rock Club and Gem Show	Jackson Armory 6255 NE Cornfoot Rd. Portland, OR 97218	Roberta Hanson (503) 449-3543 Shane Gerrard (971) 322-6263 mthoodrockclub.com
April 10 th - 12 th Fri 9 - 6 Sat 10 - 6 Sun 10 - 4	Golden Spike Gem and Mineral Society	Golden Spike Event Center Weber County Fairground 1000 N. 1200 W. Ogden, UT 84401	Margie Miller (385) 205 - 9187 goldenspikegem.org
April 18 th & 19 th Sat 9 - 6 Sun 10 - 4	Lakeside Gem and Mineral Club	Benton County Fairgrounds 1500 S. Oak Street Kennewick, WA 99336	Larry Hulstrom rockhound132 (at) charter.net Lakesidegemandmineralclub.com
April 24 th - 26 th Fri 10 - 4 Sat 10 - 5 Sun 10 - 4	Yakima Rock and Mineral Club	Modern Living Bldg. Central Washington State Fairgrounds and Event Center 1301 South Fair. Ave Yakima, WA 98901	Marti Sondgeroth marthams (at) myct1.net (509) 910 - 3484
April 25 th & 26 th Sat 10 - 5 Sun 10 - 5	West Seattle Rock Club	Alki Masonic Temple 4736 40th Ave SW West Seattle, WA	Annette Nelson show@westseattlerockclub.org westseattlerockclub.org
April 25 th & 26 th Sat 10 - 5 Sun 10 - 4	Gray's Harbor Rock and Gem Club	Gray's Harbor County Fairgrounds 43 Elma-McCleary Road Elma, WA 98541	Gary Emberley (360) 533 - 6196 Melissa624 (at) Hotmail.com



NFMS CLUB SHOWS 2025

NFMS & AFMS SHOWS FOR 2026



2026 American Federation of Mineralogical Societies Show

ST. Charles, Illinois

May 21-24, 2026

Hosted by the Midwest Federation



Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies (NFMS) Show

Treasures of the Northwest

March 21-22, 2026

(Meetings on March 20th)

Hilton Garden Inn

Missoula, Montana

Hosted by the Hellgate Gem and Mineral
Society

Come Join Us

**NFMS EXECUTIVE BOARD
OFFICERS 2025-2026**

PRESIDENT: Michael Rhodes, Golden Spike Gem & Mineral Society, 317 E 200 S, Brigham City, UT, 84302-2621, (435) 230 0403 **mrmbrhodes0(at)gmail.com**

1ST VICE PRESIDENT: Jennifer Haley 2490 Spring Mountain Rd. St. Helena, CA 94574 541-660-1832 **ladybuglane(at)napablogger.com**

2ND VICE PRESIDENT: June Dorning Yakima Rock and Mineral Club, 590 CulDorn Drive, Yakima, WA 98903 (509) 930-1323, **dorningjune(at)gmail.com**

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY: Judi Allison, Hatrockhounds Gem and Mineral Society, 1701 NW 11th St., Hermiston, OR, 97882, (541) 720-4950, **nfmssec(at)gmail.com**

TREASURER: Adam Pettitt, Willamette Agate and Mineral Society, 2035 Center St. SE, Albany, OR 97322, 971-226-6193, **nfmstreasurer(at)gmail.com**

Judi Allison (pro tem), Hatrockhounds Gem and Mineral Society, 1701 NW 11th St., Hermiston, OR, 97882, (541) 720-4950, **nfmssec(at)gmail.com**

NFMS STANDING COMMITTEES

BUDGET: 1st Vice President (see above)

BULLETIN AIDS: Priscilla Hall-Ford Oregon Agate & Mineral Society, P.O.Box 818, La Center, WA 98629 (360) 518-7829. **Rockhounder2019(at)comcast.net**

CREDENTIALS: Del & Clara Walker, Tualatin Valley Gem Club, 12377 SE Davis Loop, Prineville, OR, 97754, (503) 812-6540, **cwalk12377(at)gmail.com**

CUSTODIAN: 2ND Vice President: (see above)

DIRECTORY: Janel Lacey, Marcus Whitman Gem and Mineral Society, 43618 SW McKay Dr, Pendleton, OR, 97801, (541) 215-2839, **jclawl6461(at)gmail.com**

* Clubs need only to send contact info for their board members. Contact clubs directly to reach out to specific members.

EDUCATION/ALL AMERICAN CLUB

AWARD :

LORA HALL HELLGATE MINERAL SOCIETY, PO BOX2095, FRENCH-TOWN, MT 59834, SILVERTIPMINIS (AT) MSN.COM

ENDOWMENT FUND:

CHAIRMAN: Vicki Johnson, Southern Washington Mineralogical Society, 1574 Mt. Pleasant Rd., Kelso, WA 98626 (360) 751-8031, **vickijrocks(at)msn.com**

SECRETARY/TREASURER:

Mikki Richard, Marysville Rock and Gem Club, Inc., 425-387-4591, **mikki.richard(at)adp.com**

FINANCIAL ADVISOR: Jim Brain, NFMS Club-At-Large, 6410 W Sundance Dr., Spokane, WA 99208, (509) 863-9883, **jrbrain233(at)outlook.com**

HISTORIAN: OPEN

JUNIORS CHAIR: Jennifer Fitch, Hellgate Mineral Society, 21148 Old US Hwy 93, Florence, MT, 59833 (517) 281-7461, **Fitchs4god(at)aol.com**

NEWSLETTER EDITOR:

Jessica Himple, Everett Rock and Gem Club (425) 622-3504, **nfmseditor(at)outlook.com**

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

NOMINATING CHAIRMAN:

Lora Hall Hellgate Mineral Society, PO Box 2095, Frenchtown, MT 59834, Silvertipminis (at) msn.com

NORTHWEST ROCKHOUND RETREAT (Hancock): Walter Butler, 8821 SW Equestrian Place, Crooked River Ranch, OR 97760, (503) 702-5743, **walterbutler(at)comcast.net**

PAST PRESIDENTS COUNCIL: Larry Hulstrom, Lakeside Gem and Mineral Club, 5409 W 26th Ave. Kennewick, WA 99338, (509) 308-8312, **rockhound132(at)charter.net**

PUBLIC LANDS ADVISORY: Susie Koppert, Mt. Hood Rock Club, 135 SE Marsh Rd., Sandy, OR 97055 **susiekopper(at)mail.com**

RESOLUTIONS: Audrey Vogelpohl, West Seattle Rock Club, 8810 37th Ave. SW, Seattle, WA 98126-3617,

(206) 932-3292,
avogelpohl(at)comcast.net

RULES AND AWARDS COMMITTEE:

RULES AND AWARDS CHAIR: :

Joshua Hulstrom, Lakeside Gem and Mineral Club, 5409 W 26th Ave., Kennewick, WA 99338, (509) 306-0385, **josh_hulstrom(at)hotmail.com**

JUDGING DIRECTOR : Charise Ash, Mount Hood Rock Club, 2331 N Mist Dr, Vernonia, OR 97064, **charisemarie(at)gmail.com**

EXHIBITS REGISTRAR: Larry Hulstrom, Lakeside Gem and Mineral Club, 5409 W 26th Ave. Kennewick, WA 99338, (509) 308-8312, **rockhound132(at)charter.net**

SAFETY: Kathryn Larson, Lakeside Gem and Mineral Club, 4102 S Auburn St, Kennewick, WA 99337 **misaique (at) hotmail.com**

SCHOLARSHIP: Mary Lou Northrup, 1623 Powers Ave, Lewiston, ID 83501, (208) 743-6944, **mlandjl(at)yahoo.com**

SHOW COORDINATOR: Faith Farley, Bitterroot Gem and Mineral Society, 392 Market St S, Corvallis, MT 59828, (406) 961-3347 **earthmother169(at)gmail.com**

SLIDE/ VIDEO LIBRARIAN: Ronna Watkins, Yakima Rock and Mineral Club, PO Box 635, Tieton WA 98947, (509) 673-0085 **nfmsronna(at)gmail.com**

STAMPS: Aaron Currier, Willamette Agate & Mineral Society, 2182 Broadway Ct, Salem, OR, 97304 (503) 385-5649, **fossils(at)curriergraphics.com**

Ed Anderson, Sweet Home Rock & Mineral Society, 40182 Hilltop Dr, Lebanon, OR, 97355 (541) 451-1577, **ela4rocks(at)gmail.com**

SUPPLIES: OPEN
WAYS & MEANS: OPEN

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

NFMS SPECIAL COMMITTEES

FIELD TRIP CHAIRMAN: **Doug True**, Billings Gem & Mineral Club, 2622 Broadwater, Billings, MT 59102, (406) 670-0506, [dtruefossils12\(at\)yahoo.com](mailto:dtruefossils12(at)yahoo.com)

ROCKHOUND OF THE YEAR: **Laurie Ellis**, Hatrockhounds Gem and Mineral Society, 57462 Clarks Canyon Rd, Heppener, OR 97836, (541) 626-3131, [nfmsroy\(at\)gmail.com](mailto:nfmsroy(at)gmail.com)

SHOW CHAIRMAN 2026:
Steven Stiff, 4013 Thomas Place, Missoula, MT 59803, [steven.stiff\(at\)bresnan.net](mailto:steven.stiff(at)bresnan.net), 406-529-2671

Janel Lacey, Marcus Whitman Gem and Mineral Society, 43618 SW McKay Dr, Pendleton, OR, 97801, (541) 215-2839, [jclawl6461\(at\)gmail.com](mailto:jclawl6461(at)gmail.com)

WEBSITE CONTEST: OPEN**AFMS COMMITTEES (NFMS Representatives)**

AFMS 1st VP - Ronna Watkins

AFMS Junior Program Chair - Lora Hall

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 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: Linda Jaeger, 3515 E 88th St, Tulsa, OK 74137, [AFMSeditor\(at\)AMFED.org](mailto:AFMSeditor(at)AMFED.org) (918) 630-6498 or (918) 481-0249. Make checks payable to "AFMS".

The **NORTHWEST NEWSLETTER** is the official publication of the Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies (NFMS) and is sent to each club electronically in PDF form between six to ten times per year. It is the responsibility of each club to forward the newsletter to the membership. The newsletters are also posted to the Federation website electronically and archived there for members to review or download.

For matters related to this newsletter (i.e. content, advertising, etc.) contact the editor.

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 Junior Fund. 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

or

<http://northwestfederation.org/>

***Due to changing to an electronic newsletter, clubs are no longer required to send contact information throughout the year for members who are added or removed from their roster. Directory will now only require the contact information for the board members of each club. If you would like to contact a specific person in another club, please contact their club.**