





Ogden, UT 84403-2913

eration of Mineralogical Societies , Circulation

TIME SENSITIVE MATERIAL

VOLUME 64, NO. 1 Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies JAN/FEB 2024



NFMS PRESIDENT Jennifer Haley

I thought it would be a bit of fun to do the math on the gift of reduced dues the federation has been giving to all our clubs for the period of five years. This gift has been to help support the clubs as we all were trying to navigate through uncharted territory during uncertain times without shows.

For a club of 200 adult members this will add up to \$1,000 that you haven't had to spend on dues. For a club of 40 members this will add up to \$200. This project was created by the NFMS Executive Committee before I came on board. When I think about this gift, it warms my heart to realize how much the leadership of the federation wanted you all, to all be ok. The five-year reduced dues period will come to an end on August 31, 2024. I am truly grateful our federation was able to do this, when other federations weren't able to do this for their clubs.

We've had to do some creative thinking and adjustments each year to make everything work, and admittedly it's been very tight. We've had to reduce the publication of the NFMS Newsletter to 6 issues instead of 12, and we've looked where we could tighten up expenses even with some expenditures going up like postage, among other things. Working with the NFMS Endowment Fund Committee has been truly wonderful. They have been working right along closely with us to help figure things out with creating the annual budget, and following along as we go through the year.

And we have all those to thank, many who are no longer with us, who since the beginning of our federation have contributed to the Endowment Fund with their donations. Without them, we wouldn't have been able to give the gift of the reduced dues to you all.

NFMS Juniors Achievement Fund. This fall with the advice from our NFMS Endowment Advisor, our new NFMS treasurer found two CD's to put the majority of these funds into. This is such good news, because now this fund is earning fantastic interest instead of sitting in an unprofitable savings account.

I'm already thinking about the fun of us being together at the NFMS Annual Show and Meeting, May 10-12, 2024 and I hope you are too. This year it will be in Hermiston, Oregon hosted by the Hatrockhounds. It's going to be a great show, and I know the club members are working away on creating a wonderful event for everyone.

I want to welcome our new NFMS Bulletin Aids chairwoman, Priscilla Hall-Ford, from the Oregon Agate and Mineral Society. I hope many of you join in this year to enter the various AFMS Bulleting Contests. I look forward to this contest every year for our members. I've read many of your articles and your bulletins and you have talent, so please enter the contests and show everyone what you've got!

We have a lot to be grateful for as a federation because it is such a great federation in so many way, which also means we have a lot to also celebrate!

Jennifer Haley, NFMS President

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NEWSLETTER DEADLINE: The editor will send out a reminder in time for all committees to respond. Estimated Deadline - Feb 10th

It's Auction Time at the Show

Get your pocket money and checkbooks ready for the NFMS Annual Show & Meeting, hosted this year by the Hatrockhounds Club in Hermiston, Oregon, May 10-12, 2024. There will be a Silent Auction and a Live Auction. This is a primo fossil starfish which will be auctioned at the event.

The fossil in matrix is an Asteroidea Starfish from the Ordovician period, (about 488 million years old). Measuring 12"x14", the starfish itself measures 4.5"x4.5". It's a real beauty!

The starfish was donated as an extra perk to say thank you to the Hatrockhounds for hosting the show, and the proceeds of this fossil will be split 50/50 between the club and NFMS. Value: \$200.

For deadlines and to submit articles Contact: Editor—Kathryn Larson <u>http://NFMSeditor@hotmail.com</u>

NFMS Website: http://NorthwestFederation.org

<u>To see this newsletter in living color go</u> <u>to</u>

http://NorthwestFederation.org/ Newsletters.asp

> and click on the month you want to see.

Jennifer Haley, NFMS President

NFMS EXECUTIVE OFFICERS 2022-2023

- PRESIDENT: Jennifer Haley, Springfield Thunderegg Rock Club , P.O. Box 324, Murphy, OR 97533, (541) 660-1832, ladybuglane(at)napablogger.com
- 1ST VICE PRESIDENT: Lora Hall, Hellgate Mineral Society of Missoula, MT, PO Box 1095, Frenchtown MT 59834 silvertipminis(at)msn.com.
- 2ND VICE PRESIDENT: Michael Rhodes, Golden Spike Gem & Mineral Society, 317 E 200 S, Brigham City, UT, 84302-2621, (435) 230 0403 mrmbrhodes0@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: Andrew Lacey, Marcus Whitman Gem and Mineral Society, 43618 McKay Dr, Pendleton, OR, 97801, (541) 215-2850, awl1904(at)gmail.com

NFMS STANDING COMMITTEES

BUDGET: 1st Vice President (see above)

- BULLETIN AIDS: Priscilla Hall-Ford Oregon Agate & Min- ROCKHOUND OF THE YEAR: Laurie Ellis, Hatrockeral Society, P.O. Box 818, La Center, WA98629 (360) 518-7829. Rockhounder2019@comcast.net
- CIRCULATION: Tom Burchard, Golden Spike Gem & Mineral Society, 875 E 4500 S, S. Ogden, UT 84403, (801) 479-4286, Roxhund(at)aol.com
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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

EDUCATION/ALL AMERICAN CLUB AWARD : OPEN

ENDOWMENT FUND:

- CHAIRMAN: Vicki Johnson, Southern Washington Mineralogical Society, P.O.Box 611, Kelso, WA 98626 (360) 751-8031, vickijrocks(at)msn.com SECRETARY: OPEN TREASURER: Lyle Vogelpohl, West Seattle Rock Club, 8810 37th Ave. SW, Seattle, WA 98126-3617, (206) 932-3292, lrvogelpohl(at)comcast.net FINANCIAL ADVISOR: Jim Brain, NFMS Club-At-Large, 6410 W Sundance Dr., Spokane, WA 99208, (509) 863-9883, jrbrain233(at)outlook.com
- HISTORIAN: Robert Dalton, Clackamette Mineral and Gem Club, 18485 SW Pacific DR Unit 92, Tualatin, OR 97062 (859) 533-0026, Robert.dalton1960(at)gmail.com
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NFMS CLUB-AT-LARGE: 1ST Vice President (see above)

- NOMINATING CHAIRMAN: Darrell Coyle, Bitterroot Gem and Mineral Society, PO Box 52, Corvallis, MT 59828, (406) 274-6874, coyled69(at)spectrum.net
- NORTHWEST ROCKHOUND RETREAT (Hancock): Walter Butler, 8821 SW Equestrian Place, Crooked River Ranch, OR 97760, (503) 702-5743, waltercbutler(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

- 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

hounds Gem and Mineral Society, 57462 Clarks Canyon Rd, Heppner, OR 97836, (541) 626-3131, nfmsroy(at) gmail.com

SHOW CHAIR 2023: Mike Filarski, Hatrockhounds Gem and Mineral Society, PO Box 502, Irrigon, OR 97844, (541) 571-2593, stonemorlin1(at)netscape.net

WEBSITE CONTEST: Kat Koch Cascade Mineralogical Society, 4762 Whitworth Pl. S, Unit P104, Renton, WA98055 (425) 785-5408 bulletinaids(at)gmail.com

AFMS COMMITTEES (NFMS Representatives)

AFMS 2nd VP - Doug True 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

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 (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 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.

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/

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: $3^{"} \times 4^{"} \text{ ad} = 12$ 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



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: OPEN**

SAFETY: OPEN

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

SHOW COORDINATOR: Faith Farley, Bitterroot Gem and Mineral Society, 392 Market St S, Corvallis, MT 59828-9190, (406) 961-3347, Farley.faith(at)yahoo.com

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.



NFMS 1st Vice President Lora R. Hall



By January, most clubs have elected and installed new officers and committee chairs. In addition to president, vice president, secretary, or treasurer your club may have a new field trip leader, newsletter editor, or historian. But chances are if your club is like mine, there are still empty positions. In some clubs, there are A LOT of empty positions. Having just come through a season of thanksgiving, joy, celebration, and renewal, maybe it is time to find a way to share your skills to teach, lead, write, photograph, organize, talk, crunch numbers, navigate social media, recruit, or simply welcome new members. We can all take small steps to help our clubs.

As we jump into 2024, we can all say, this is the year I'm going to (______). Fill in the blank with one small thing you can do to preserve and share our hobby. How about,

- Inviting a friend to join the club.
- Write a letter to your elected representatives supporting rockhound related issues. Continued access to federal and state public land for rockhounding is not guaranteed.
- Share social media or Facebook posts promoting club events. This only takes 3 seconds and is as simple as hitting "like".
- At club meetings, bring extra specimens you collected to share with members that can't travel or navigate rough terrain. "An extra rock in your bucket only makes it heavier. Putting it in a friend's empty bucket makes both lighter." Anonymous Rockhound
- Volunteer at your club show. Many clubs have half day or less shifts and it is a great way to make new friends.
- Collect responsibly and encourage others to do the same.
- Or my favorite, bake cookies for a club meeting.

None of these require a long-term commitment but they all help ensure our hobby is here in 2025 and beyond.

Lora Hall NFMS 1st VP AFMS Junior Programs Chair

NFMS 2nd Vice President

Michael Rhodes



Happy New Year to our fellow rockhounds. I hope your holidays were great and you are each looking forward to new opportunities in this coming year.

These past few months have been a learning experience for me. Although I have been the President of an NFMS member club, and am now an officer in the NFMS, I haven't really understood the what and why of a federation.

A club member asked me what the advantage is to being a member club in the NFMS, or any federation, and I couldn't give this individual an answer, so I reached out to other members of the Executive Committee, and have learned a lot, some of which I want to pass on.

The federation was formed to give strength to the rockhounding community. Individual clubs wanting to share information and work together to protect our rockhounding opportunities banded together to form the federation. There are 7 different geographically organized federations under the umbrella of the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies (AFMS). As a member of the NFMS we are also members of the AFMS.

If you are in a club that has a Juniors Program (Future Rockhounds of America), badges, patches, pins, etc are all provided by the AFMS to federation members clubs. There are also Juniors contests throughout the year.

The federation maintains a library of programs that are available to be checked out at no charge other than return mail. These programs are listed on the NFMS website <u>northwestfederation.org</u> and are available in various formats including powerpoint and DVD.

The federation publishes a directory of all 67 clubs in the federation, with a list of club members, and information about the club meeting locations and times. The directory also includes a copy of the federation By-aws and Operating Procedures, a listing of federation officers and a

listing of all federation standing committees. Each club receives a copy of the bulletin, so ask your club president for a chance to borrow the directory to learn more,

The federation has helps for bulletin/newsletter editors, and also has a competition for bulletins for those editors who wish to compete for recognition, There is also a breakfast for editors and webmasters at the Annual Meeting.

There are numerous opportunities to learn more about our hobby including the opportunity to enter a competitive display case at the annual show, a Rockhound Retreat the weekend after Labor Day, and the annual NFMS show, which will be held in Hermiston Oregon this May in conjunction with the Hatrockhounds annual show.

There are lots of reasons to belong to a federation, and I have only scratched the surface. If you check out the NFMS website there is a lot of information to be found. I am just beginning to learn and appreciate a lot more as I serve as an officer in the federation and am grateful for the members of the Executive Committee who have shared some of these insights with me,

Attend a Federation Show, attend an annual meeting, attend the awards banquet, read the newsletters, and if you feel so inclined, volunteer to serve on a standing committee or even run for federation office, we need people willing to share their love of this hobby of ours! And, last but not least, ROCK ON!

Michael Rhodes 2nd VP NFMS Meet The People: Continued (I had lined up a number of folks "to meet", but it appears some are shy about writing about themselveswe'll keep trying. Judi)

Meet Your Circulation Chair

Hello! My name is Tom Burchard and I've been your Circulation Chair since 2006.

About Myself: I was born and raised in California. Fifth generation. I retired after 15 years as a paramedic. I was not a 'rockhound' until my 40's, though it seems I was predestined to become one. My paternal Grandfather was a surveyor for the U.S.G.S. and was the first to survey the Grand Canyon with the 1923 Birdseye Expedition. My maternal Grandfather worked in the Southern California oil fields his whole career. This was when they pounded holes in the ground, before rotary drill bits were invented. My maternal Grandmother was a lifetime rockhound, desert rat and lapidary. My Mom went to work for the U.S.G.S. when all her kids had moved out of the house. When she retired she joined a local S.F. Bay Area rock club. I ended up being her chauffer when she was having night vision problems and couldn't

drive to the winter meetings. I'd never been around a 'group' of rockhounds and immediately fell in love with these very friendly "salt-of-the-earth" folks. Went to a couple of rock shows and decided to take some classes to have a better appreciation for the beautiful rocks and all of the different ways to present them. I had no idea I would enjoy lapidary as much as I immediately found out. After taking a couple of years learning I was asked to teach some of the classes. Turns out I enjoyed teaching lapidary as much as I did the doing. My skill at teaching was noticed by the CFMS Earth Science Studies Committee and I was invited to teach Cabochon Making. I've been teaching for the ESS at Camp Zzyzx and Camp Paradise since 2001. I am moving back to California but will continue

my membership in the NFMS and duties as Circulation Chair.



Photo at the Golden Spike Demonstration Meeting

Meet Your Endowment Fund Financial Advisor -- Jim Brain

I am a lifelong resident of the Pacific Northwest. I was born in 1941 in Centralia Washington and lived in Chehalis, Olympia, Puyallup, and Federal Way growing up. After graduating from Federal Way High School in 1959 my folks told me I was going on to college. Since I had no relatives or immediate family friends who had ever gone to college, I was at loss as to how to choose a field of study. I knew I liked to be outdoors, to camp and fish so while looking though the University of Washington class catalog I saw you could get a degree in Forestry or Fisheries which would allow a person to continue to enjoy the outdoors. I flipped a coin, and it came up forestry. I enrolled at the University of Washington and graduated with a degree in Forest Management in 1963. During my summers I worked seasonally for the U.S Forest Service on the Okanogan National Forest and was fortunate enough to get a permanent job there as a forester immediately after graduating from college.

My Forest Service career spanned 34 years and included assignments in Okanogan, Wenatchee, Prineville, Seattle, and Portland. I retired in early 1997 as wildfire operation staff specialist for the Pacific Northwest Region, headquartered in Portland.

Until I married my current wife Su Meredith (also a retired Forest Service employee and UW forestry grad) in 2005, all rocks were leverrights. Su had grown up in a rockhounding family, so we spent a lot of time combing the Oregon beaches for agates. Su says that Jim passed the rockhound test in 2007 on a field trip to a dig area along the Columbia near Wishram, WA. They were about 50 feet below the road at the top of the steep slope that drops toward the Columbia River. He found a large piece of agatized material that contained numerous small limbs and other organic debris that had petrified. He started carrying it down the slope toward the vehicle, but the weight was too much to safely carry down the hill. So rather than leaving his find behind, he just gave it a push and it rolled to the bottom of the hill where he picked it up and put it into the truck. They still have that piece sitting in their front yard in Spokane.

I joined the Marcus Whitman Gem and Mineral Society in Walla Walla in 2006 shortly after Su and I were married. Immediately after joining the club and being a firm believer that if you join any organization you should participate in the running of the organization if they need your help, I volunteered to be the newsletter editor, a position I held for the 10 years I was in that club. I worked closely with the club treasurer to serve as club membership chair; served on the club's board of director; and was president for a couple of years. After moving to Spokane in 2016 I transferred membership to the Rock Rollers Club. This past year after that club decided to drop its membership in the federation, I joined the At Large Club of the NFMS so I could participate at the federation level.

I have two sons from my first marriage, Greg (also UW grad) and family who lives in Spokane and Matt (a Linfield grad) who lives in Seattle. My hobbies in addition to rockhounding include camping and cooking, especially when I can combine both using my Dutch Ovens. The only activity that takes precedent over these hobbies is attending UW home football games. I have had season tickets for almost 60 years and we rarely miss a game in Seattle.

My wife and I are also members of the National Smokey Bear Association. I have served on that organization's Board of Directors in the past.

I have served as the NFMS Endowment Fund Committee's Financial Advisor since 2015. I agreed to take the position without any knowledge of what the job entailed or any experience at the federation level and I thank Lyle and Audry Vogelpohl for tutoring me over the years as to NFMS history and protocols.

My motto is a take-off on John F. Kennedy's famous statement.

"Remember it is not what the organization can do for you, it is what you can do for the organization."

Submitted by Judi Allison NFMS Secretary

JAN/FEB 2024

Meet The People (continued):

Meet Your Credentials Chairs – Del and Clara Walker

Del and I met in 1958. We were supposed to go on a double date (each with a different person). We discovered the two of us had more in common than our dates, so we got together and have been together ever since. We were married in 1964 when Del returned from serving in the Navy, so will be celebrating our 60th wedding anniversary in 2024.

We have always loved the outdoors....hunting, fishing, camping....so when we retired in 2002, rockhounding just came naturally. We were fortunate to meet Russel Snook and Don Kendall, who asked us to join TVGC and became great friends. I was Secretary of the Club for many years. We then met Lyle and Audrey Vogelpohl who introduced us to the NW Federation.

Del is my support system when it comes to rockhounding (everyone needs someone to carry those buckets). Del's hobby is drawing and oil painting and he is very talented. Our grandchildren grew up thinking napkins in restaurants were "drawing paper" because that was what Del used them for.

Those of you who know him, know he is always saying "Can I do anything to help?". That is how we got involved with the Prineville PowWow. We moved to Prineville in 2009 and joined CORC. We are not as active in the hobby as we used to be, but we will never stop loving to meet new people and making new friends.



Submitted by Judi Allison NFMS Secretary

American Federation of Mineralogical Societies

Club News Articles and Bulletins,

Contest for 2024

Ever get that surprise phone call out of the blue you never expected, asking you to join a team of highly respected officers and committee people. Well, I just did! Hello, I am Priscilla Hall-Ford, and I have been asked to be your bulletin aids chairman this year. I am a member of Oregon Agate and Mineral Society out of Portland, Oregon. I was first introduced to rockhounding by my grandparents Bill and Gertrude Hall when I was about 8 years old. So, one could say I've been around rocks all my life. It was a few years after my grandparents and father passed away that my mom wanted to go back to meetings so one night we decided to go, and I was surprised how many people I remembered. After a couple meetings I joined and soon was asked to take on being the newsletter editor and a year later to fill in as the secretary and be the Northwest Federation Director. I never thought all those years ago that I would be caring on a family tradition. Besides rockhounding and making cabs, my daughter and I raise goats. We make goat and sheep milk soap, along with other bath products, to sell at local farmers markets and I sing in a Sweet Adelines woman's barbershop chorus.

Now I get the privilege to be your bulletin aids chairman. This will be something new for me, so please be patient while I learn the ropes. My goal is to learn quickly so that I can be of help to all of you. Trust me, if I don't know the answer to your question, I will find someone who does and get back to you as quickly as possible.

Right now, I need each of you to take a look around your club. Find a bulletin or article published in 2023 that you believe would be a great entry into the AFMS Club News Article and Bulletins Contest. There have been some revisions made to the AFMS guidelines for 2024. Why, you ask. Well #1. We wanted to make score sheets reflect how newsletters are delivered to members. #2. Clarify parts of some score sheets. #3. Change rules for juniors to allow them to enter from their home clubs as well as from their juniors' newsletter, Crack the News. #4. Create a category to include written and drawn items, created by BEACs.

You will need to download the new guideline and forms from **Bulletin Editors' Contest (amfed.org)**

These are all in a new typeface, so it is obvious that you are using the new materials. Due to these changes, using the revised forms are REQUIRED! Only one entry is allowed per author- or- editor, per category, per club. If this rule is not followed, then all entries for that category for your club will be removed from competition. With the exception of the Special Publications category. If a club belongs to more than one Regional Federation, the editor must pick ONE federation contest in which to participate.

All entries can be submitted to me electronically to **<u>RockHounder2019@comcast.net</u>** or you can mail them to me at:

Priscilla Hall-Ford C/O Bulletin Contest P.O. Box 818 La Center, WA. 9862

Please make sure you get your entries into me by February 10th 2024

Together we can make this the Best Year Yet!

Priscilla Hall-Ford

NFMS Bulletin Aids Chair

RockHounder2019@comcast.net 360-518-7829



Howdy from your Secretary and NFMS Chair for the AFMS Endowment Raffle

A new year... time to hit the ground running...as long as we don't get frozen out in the process. We seem to have a tendency this time of the year to slow down-like the hibernating bear or the sloth-thinking "Ah, it's winter---time for activity when the spring arrives." I don't know about you, but I usually end up realizing that those "slow" winter months have gone speeding by as quickly as spring or summer. Imagine that! I am trying to be a bit more proactive this year and do some advance planning and action. Since the Hatrockhounds are hosting the NFMS Show and Meeting, it's an especially good idea for me.



Our AFMS Show and Convention in Ventura, California is coming early this year also-just a short time after our regional affair. That means that tickets for the AFMS Endowment Drawing need to be purchased soon. As you may know, the prizes all have a minimum of \$75 value and each Federation is guaranteed to win something. Besides, you are supporting all the special things like the badges for the Juniors and distribution of the winning programs. Since everything is coming early, I am not going to have the opportunity to reach out at a meeting to sell the raffle tickets. So . . .please support the AFMS Endowment Fund. Tickets are \$5 each or 5 for \$20. You can send your requests to me at Judi Allison, 1701 NW 11th St, Hermiston, OR 97838. (Make your checks out to AFMS Endowment Fund.) Thanks in advance for your support.

Submitted by Judi Allison NFMS Secretary

Name of honoree: Karli Cook Year: 2023 Club: Hatrockhound Gem and Mineral Society Submitted by: Executive Committee



Hatrockhound Gem and Mineral Society recognizes Karli Cook as their American Federation Rockhound of the Year. Karli has been working hard to create and maintain a Junior program and has given of herself and donated much time and effort to this endeavor. When no one else was available, she helped another member set up and conduct a meeting involving wire wrapping hearts. Karli even donated some material for the activity. She tirelessly volunteered during the setup and running of our show. She stepped in and represented our club as Director at the Annual meeting when our director was unable to attend. Karli is a very willing and gracious member of the club, giving of herself to others and acknowledging others input and value. Thanks, Karli, for all you do! Submitted by Executive Committee

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By Jim Brace-Thompson, AFMS 4th VP & Public Relations Chair

Rock & Gem has long been recognized as the officially endorsed hobby magazine of AFMS and, by extension, the seven regional federations and their member clubs. The editor there, Pam Freeman, is offering a special deal to members of local gem and mineral societies affiliated with AFMS. It's a win-winwin deal in that Rock & Gem gets subscribers, we subscribers get a 61% discount, and AFMS gets a 15% commission on each subscription that will go into the Endowment Fund. This deal applies to both new and renewing subscriptions and has been approved and endorsed by the AFMS Executive Board, who designated me to serve as the liaison between AFMS and Rock & Gem. Rock & Gem has produced a "Rock & Gem/AFMS Subscription" flyer/order form we hope to post to the websites of AFMS and the regional federations to ensure that a portion of your payment goes to AFMS. Those preferring to order online can use the QR code included on the flyer that can be scanned with your cell phone. By the way, the same deal applies to any subscriptions you might sell to members of the general public by having copies of the flyer/order form at, say, a take-one table at your annual club show. I can also send this form in pdf format as an attachment; email me at jbraceth@roadrunner.com. Here's to supporting our official hobby magazine as it, in turn, supports us as individuals and as a Federation!



Fill out the order form below and mail it, along with your payment information, to: EG Media Investments LLC, PO Box 74660, Chicago IL 60675-4660

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About the Northwest Rockhound Retreat



The Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Society rents the facility to hold the Northwest Rockhound Retreat (NWRR). It is held every Labor Day Week (Monday thru Sunday) at OMSI's Hancock Field Station. The camp is owned and operated by the Oregon Museum of Science and Industry (OMSI) 9 months of the year for Outdoor School, Stargazers and Parents & kids Weekend. Camp Hancock is private land surrounded by John Day Fossil Beds National Monument. The National Monument is monitored and protected, no collecting or disturbing of the land is allowed. The address is 39472 Highway 218, Fossil, Oregon 97830.

The Camp was started in the 1950's with a few open-air structures. Berry Hall, where we eat all our meals was eventually enclosed, a kitchen area and women's bathroom and showers were added. The A-Frame sleeping buildings were added as time went on. These buildings sleep from 2 to eight individuals. A new unisex bathroom/shower facility was built in 2021 to replace the old men's bathroom and shower facility.

Each year the retreat is held, registration starts in March, the registration fee provides for food, lodging and instruction. The workshop fee is used to replace parts of the equipment such as grinding wheels, saw blades, sanding belts and other expendable items. The instructors create kits for the various classes ranging from \$20 to \$40 depending on the

materials required. Students usually complete 1 to 3 kits during the week.

In 2024 we are adding a new class, Chainmaille. The class was previously offered in the evenings as an option; however, increased demand has allowed us to offer this during the day. In the class students can make earrings, bracelets and necklaces.

Our Lapidary class is extremely popular. Here you learn to make cabochons from slabs of rock by sawing, grinding, sanding and polishing. These cabs can be made into necklaces, bracelets or earrings in the Silver Working, Metal Working and Wire Wrapping classes. NWRR also offers classes in Soft Stone Carving, Doublets and Triplets, Intarsia and Wire Wrapping/Weaving.

The Silver Working class is also very popular. Here students create jewelry using silver. They learn to saw, bend, and solder silver sheets to make pendants, earrings or bracelets with inset stones.

In Metal Working you work with soft metals using a variety of tools, or enameling to make jewelry.

The Intarsia class used various colored rocks that are cut, sanded then glued together to form a picture.

In the Soft Stone Carving class, you work with hand tools and handheld grinders to create a picture or statue in stone.

The Wire Wrapping/Weaving class teaches how to work with wire to create a bezel around a small stone to create pendants, earrings or bracelets.

We also teach a class in Doublets and Triplets where you sandwich a stone between layers of Quartz and a backing material. We have slices of Opal and other material available in the kits to work with.

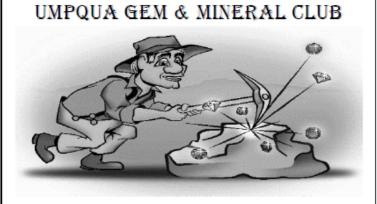
We also offer evening programs with a rock-related swap meet, stump the experts with rock related questions, auction of items made in camp, collected and donated items and show and tell of the things the students have made during the week of camp.

Submitted by Walt Butler **Chair NW Rockhound Retreat**

Kids Korner

Congratulations to the 2023 winner of the Lillian Turner Outstanding Junior Exhibit, Gabe Murphy, junior member of the Hellgate Mineral Society and the Bitterroot Gem & Mineral Society for his Educational Display –Colors of **Obsidian!**

This award is given to a junior whose exhibit is judged best at the national show. The winner receives \$100 and blue ribbon at the AFMS annual Awards banquet.









From AFMS Juniors Webpage

www.juniors.amfed.org

"Just One More Rock"

Saturday, May 4, 2024 – 9am to 5pm Sunday, May 5, 2024 – 10am to 4pm **Douglas County Fairgrounds** I-5 exit 123 · Roseburg, OR Food Concession by Roseburg Elks Lodge 326 FREE ADMISSION – donations greatly appreciated

DON'T MISS THE FUN!

Gem and Mineral Displays Rock and Jewelry Dealers Demonstrators * Door Prizes Silent Auction * Raffle Prizes Kids' Games FREE Kids' Activities Rock Hunts: Sat: 11am * 1pm * 3pm Sun: 1pm * 3pm

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