President
Beth Heesacker

Hello everybody. I hope that you are all staying safe and healthy. We are starting a new year with hope of vaccines and maybe we will be able to meet in-person before the end of the year.

Our NFMS Mid-Year meeting will be using Zoom and is scheduled for April 17th at 10 am. More info, including the link will be emailed out by Judi Allison, NFMS Secretary, closer to the date.

The AFMS Annual meeting has been re-scheduled for June 17-20 in Big Piney, Wyoming. This will be an in-person meeting in conjunction with the Rocky Mountain Federation Annual Meeting and the Sublette County Rock Hounds.

The NFMS is in the planning stages for an Annual Meeting in-person this fall. We hope and pray that this will work out for us.

All NFMS club Presidents, or another contact person, should be on the lookout for a questionnaire on using the internet for meetings, which will be emailed out for me by Albert Whitehead, President of the Chugach Gem and Mineral Society in Alaska. He is currently putting together the email list for all clubs. I am interested in finding out what your meeting experiences have been. Do you plan on continuing using the internet meeting programs after you can meet in-person? Have you been able to have meeting programs that would not have been possible, such as program presenters from other parts of the world?

Personally, I have been able to attend monthly meetings on the east coast and in Australia. I have also offered to make presentations to some of those groups too. This interaction would not have been possible without the use of the internet. Another group I belong to was able to have their Symposium last Fall using Zoom.

After we can get together in person, maybe we can have hybrid meetings and invite people from around the world to make presentations at our in-person meetings without the extra cost of travel. The possibilities are remarkably interesting.

Our changeover to our new Treasurer is almost complete. There were a few hiccups at the bank but if clubs are worried that their dues checks have not been deposited, they will be shortly.

On another topic that has been affected by the lack of in-person meetings, the Stamp Committee needs your postage stamps. I hope that you have been continuing to collect them. If you personally have some or your club has some and can afford to ship them to Chuck Sonner, please do. His address is: Chuck Sonner, 165 Tingle Rd., Winlock, WA 98596.

I want to give standing ovation for the members of the NFMS Board. We have had a couple of situations requiring a lot of coordination behind the scenes and the Board has been so immensely helpful, especially our NFMS Secretary, Judi Allison. I could not hope for a more helpful and supportive group. Thank you from the bottom of my heart.

I hope to see many NFMS members either in-person or on Zoom at our meetings in the near future. Stay safe and healthy!
NOMINATING CHAIRMAN: NFMS CLUB
EDUCATION: DIRECTORY: Carol Willey
CIRCULATION: Tom Burchard
BULLETIN AIDS: Kat Koch
BUDGET: 1st Vice President
PRESIDENT: Walter Butler,
Gem and Mineral Club, 146 Canyon Meadow Rd., Boring, OR 97009, (503) 577-2095, coward(at)gmail.com
WALTER BUTLER,
Gem and Mineral Society, 1701 NW 119th Ave., Wilsonville, OR 97070, (503) 785-3909, chuckagata2(at)yahoo.com
SUPPLIES: Patty Amos, Mt. Hood Rock Club, 15523 NE 21st Ave., Brush Prairie, WA 98660, (360) 892-3716, packratt2(at)atq.com
WAYS & MEANS: Janice Van Curra, Willamette Agate & Mineral Society, Inc., 3448 NW Covy Run, Corvallis, OR 97330, (541) 755-2021, jvcurra(at)pea.org
WEBMASTER: Brad Larson, Owyhee Gem and Mineral Society, 6010 W. Cremen St., Boise, ID 83704, 208-465-1920, nfms.webmaster(at)gmail.com

FSM SPECIAL COMMITTEES
BYLAWS REVISORY CHAIRMAN - Kenneth Zahn, Bozeman Gem and Mineral Club, 146 Canyon Meadow Rd., Bozeman, MT 59718, 406-582-8752, kezahn(at)littlepete.com
FIELD TRIP CHAIRMAN: Doug True, Billings Gem & Mineral Club, 103 College Ave., Billings, MT 59102, 406.670.0590, dtruefossils12(at)yahoo.com
ROCKHOUND OF THE YEAR: Laurie Ellis, Hatrockhounds Gem and Mineral Society, PO Box 3326, Irigon, OR 97844, 541-626-3131, 6shark(at)gmail.com
WEBSITE CONTEST: Cheri George, char1946(at)yahoos.com
SHOW CHAIR: OPEN

SHOW CHAIRPERSON: OPEN
SHOW COORDINATION: Your Federation provides a free service for NFMS members by listing your show in this Newsletter on our web site, 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, plus the show title (if applicable), the location of the show, admission price, and most important a contact person with address, phone and e-mail (if preferred). Please send your show information four to six months in advance to the Show Coordination Chairperson. If your show is not 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 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. Donations to Endowment Fund
2. Memorial contributions
3. Make check payable to NFMS Scholarship Fund.

To NFMS Endowment Fund Treasurer for:
1. Donations to Endowment Fund
2. Memorial contributions
3. Make check payable to AFMS Scholarship Fund.

To NFMS Scholarship Chairperson for:
1. Donations to AFMS Scholarship Fund
2. Memorial contributions
3. Make check payable to AFMS Scholarship Fund.

To NFMS Alumni Council for:
1. Contributions to Alumni Council
2. Memorial contributions
3. Make check payable to Alumni Council.

To NFMS Treasurer
1. Donations not otherwise specified
2. Donation in memory of a deceased member
3. Make check payable to: American Federation of Mineralogical Societies, Inc., PO Box 52, Corvallis, MT 59828.

To NFMS Endowment Fund
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1st Vice President
Larry Hulstrom

Start planning your summer field trips! It’s a good way to practice social distancing, see your rock collecting friends, and get some fresh air after being cooped up all winter. Be sure to bring your face coverings and wear them when appropriate.

Vaccination sites are being set up so there’s no excuse not to get your shot, especially if you are in the over 65 years old group like myself. It’s take a bit of effort to get it scheduled, but keep with it. You and everyone around you will ultimately benefit from us all getting our shots.

The NFMS Executive Board has been staying in touch and planning for a virtual Mid-Year meeting scheduled for April 17 as noted elsewhere in this newsletter. We are also attempting to locate a club willing to host the annual show and meeting later this summer or fall. Let’s hope that things have opened up sufficiently by then so that we can all get to shows again and start meeting in person.

I would also like to personally thank Linda Harvey for accepting the position as NFMS Treasurer when Lyle Vogelpohl decided it was time to retire from that position. As noted in the last newsletter there are still some positions open. If you are willing to get involved please contact one of the Executive Officers listed. We can always use your help, and the experience you will have will be a great one. After all you will be working with fellow rockhounds, and I don’t know of a better group of people!

2nd Vice President
Darrell Coyle

Hello All, I want to address something that has happened a couple of times since I became involved with the NFMS. I recently received an email from an individual pretending to be the NFMS President. They have asked me to send prepaid debit cards for veterans or they had an emergency. I knew this was a scam as the email address it originated from did not match our President’s. Secondly you will not ever receive any personal emails requesting money from any of our Officers or Committee members. When we elect new Officers and appoint Committee Members their names and contact information are posted to public websites. Notably the NFMS and AFMS sites. Unfortunately there are dishonest people out there.

As many of you know I retired from the military and dealt with classified documents and information covered by the Privacy Act. So I feel strongly about protecting private information. I would encourage clubs and individuals to shred, burn or otherwise destroy any documents containing personal information such as directories and membership rosters rather than dispose of them in the garbage.

As a reminder the yearly inventory of NFMS property is to be conducted prior to the mid year meeting. Please respond to me at coyled@bresnan.net with any changes or transfers of property.

I sincerely hope everyone is staying healthy and safe. Here’s hoping that we can be getting back to having shows and meetings like we used to.

RULES AND AWARDS COMMITTEE
By Darrell Coyle

It looks like we may have some competitive cases in September if some ideas on the board come to fruition. So where am I going with this? We are still in need of two members on the Rules and Awards Committee. I can assure you these positions do not take a lot of time to learn or to fulfill.

The Registrar receives the registration forms and fills out a card and judging sheet for the case. At the show he/she meets with the Club Registrar to locate the competitive cases. Very simple. The judging Director supervises the judging and collects the completed sheets then gets together with the Chairman to determine Awards. Each year the members rotate to the next position as per the NFMS By Laws. As the sole member of the Rules and Awards I also have duties as the Second Vice President, so the need for volunteers is urgent. I cannot walk up and look you in the eye and ask for help which is considered the most effective way of recruiting, so I will continue to ask via this venue.

Please step up and help out. Thank you!
Multi-Federation Field Trip
Third Weekend in May
Blue Forest, Wyoming and Fish Fossils

2021 AFMS Video Slide PROGRAM
By Darrell Watkins

With all of us having cameras and cell phones that can make movies, I think that we should start filming field trips, shop techniques, and other items of interest concerning our hobby to share with our membership. The AFMS has a Programs competition every year that anyone can enter.

Here is what it is about: The purpose of this competition is to recognize and reward authors of presentations about the Earth Sciences and to make winning programs available to affiliated Clubs across the country.

AWARDS

A $200 cash prize for the highest scoring program scoring 95 and above, and a $100 for a score of 94-90 points in Classes 1-4. In addition, winners receive national recognition. A copy of each winning program is given to each AFMS Regional Program Library; thus winning programs are available to clubs across the country. Each program is judged on its own merits. Entrants will receive a composite score sheet with comments / score (Winners may be asked to make some changes based on judges’ comments before final version is produced for duplication.).

Here is what you need to know to enter: All digital presentations or videos relating to the Earth Sciences are eligible. Submit entries in one of the four amateur classes (See below).

WHO MAY ENTER: Any Club, Society, or members there of, with 2020 dues paid to the NFMS may enter.

Judging Form and "Tips for Good Programs" are available on AFMS website (www.amfed.org), or from me.

CLASSES FOR ENTRIES:
Class I Educational - About geology, minerals, gems, fossils, etc.
Class II Field Collecting - Showing site(s), specimens, with some geology, collecting methods and other aspects of interest.
Class III "How To Do It" - Techniques/equipment for fossil preparation, jewelry, metal work, carving, faceting, other lapidary, etc.
Class IV Just for Juniors - Any of the above for/by youngsters.

“Excellence in Education” Class is for “commercial” Presentations (entries are judged separately).

JUDGING:

Judges look for:

- accuracy of information / educational value
- quality of photographs / visuals completeness of story, but not “too much” information
- narration that moves well from one image to the next
- presentations that explore an area of interest or demonstrate ideas/techniques which viewers may try.
- title, credits and “The End” “slides” For CD, DVD or VIDEO entries

For CD, DVD or VIDEO amateur entries do no send in a DVD format for judging. Submit a copy preferably in PowerPoint or similar format on a flash drive instead of CD, without author’s credits, for anonymity. Entries may be ‘live action’ or static “slides”. Integrated audio is preferred but not required for judging (audio will be added for final version). Please include a typed script if there is no audio 35mm SLIDE PRESENTATIONS can be considered.

Please contact me before submission.

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: DECEMBER 1, 2021

DIRECT QUESTIONS AND ENTRIES TO:
NFMS Program Competition Coordinator, Darrell Watkins 509-673-0085, PO Box 635, Tieton WA 98947 email: AFMSprograms@gmail.com

2021AFMS /Slide PROGRAM ENTRY FORM

I / we submit __________________________________________________________(Presentation title)
In [circle one]
Class 1 Class 2 Class 3 C lass 4

"EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION" (for programs produced ’ ” for sale’ ”
Producer(s)__________________________________________________________
(your name(s) (include your Office if Club entry)

Parents (if junior entrant)____________________________________________

Member of __________________________________ (Club name)
Address: ___________________________________________________________

[city] [state] [zip]____________________________________________

Preferred contact(s)
phone ______________________________ Best time to call: daytime / evening
e-mail ______________________________

IS THIS PROGRAM FOR SALE? No _____ Yes _____ Cost: $ __________
ATTENTION WEBMASTERS!! WEBMISTRESSES!!

By Cheri George, NFMS Website Contest Chairmen

GET YOUR WEBSITES TUNED UP! It's time for the 2021 Website Contest. I am apologizing for my lack of attention to trophies and certificates for 2020, as we all know California is one of those states keeping everyone from doing most things. I will get the IOUs mailed out within the next week, my sincere apologies to Denise and Mark.

I am going to be accepting your Website entries for 2021, until February 28. The forms may be found on the AFMS Website. Please download the required forms, fill out and forward to me at cherig1946@yahoo.com for judging.

NFMS 2021 Bulletin Contest Winners ! !

By Kat Koch, NFMS Bulletin Aids Chairman

I know we have all been concerned about holding our clubs together during 2020 and now going into 2021.

I put in a lot of effort to email every club in the NFMS. I had hoped I would get submissions from multiple clubs acknowledging everyone's hard work in 2020. I am very sad to say, I received less submissions this year than I did last year.

Congratulations to the following clubs!! The winners for 2020 are:

1st Place Monthly Bulletin – Small: Cascade Mineralogical Society, Kent, WA
Keith Morgan, Editor

1st Place Monthly Bulletin New Editor: Clackamette Mineral & Gem Club, Oregon City, OR
Lily Oaks, Editor

1st Place Article – Category A Informational: Cascade Mineralogical Society, Kent, WA
“Silverton Colorado – A Silver Mining Town and My Family History, author Kat Koch”

2nd Place Article – Category A Informational: Clackamette Mineral & Gem Club, Oregon City, OR
“The Story of Dietrich” author Denise Harrison

1st Place Article – Category B Collecting Localities: Clackamette Mineral & Gem Club, Oregon City, OR
“Focus On: Opal & Sunstone Field Trip, author Ene Sokk”

2nd Place Article – Category B Collecting Localities: Cascade Mineralogical Society, Kent, WA
“Recent Government Activities, author Bob Pattie”

1st Place Article – Category D Science: Cascade Mineralogical Society, Kent, WA
“New Evidence When Humans Came to North America, author Kat Koch”

2nd Place Article – Category D Science: Clackamette Mineral & Gem Club, Oregon City, OR
“Around the World: Places to Dig, author Jim Urbanik”

1st Place Article – Category F Cartoon: Cascade Mineralogical Society, Kent, WA
Drawn by Keith Morgan

1st Place Article – Category H Puzzle: Cascade Mineralogical Society, Kent, WA
Created by Keith Morgan

NOTE: There were no additional submissions in the categories where there are no 2nd Place, 3rd Place, or Honorable Mention awards listed above.

ADDITIONAL NOTE: Submissions were judged by independent judges that had no affiliation with any of the clubs that made submissions.

The above winners will now move on to compete in AFMS contests. The AFMS winners will be announced at the AFMS/RMFMS 2021 Annual Convention & Show, Big Piney, WY, June 17-21, 2021.

I feel every club should take a more active interest in acknowledging their volunteers no matter what capacity of their efforts. The NFMS contests every year are a simple and great way to acknowledge your volunteers that help provide content for the monthly news bulletin plus your club editor. It takes a lot of commitment and time to be a club news bulletin editor or for writers to provide articles for the bulletins. It is also a simple way to get publicity for your club.

Let's make next years contest more competitive and have more clubs make submissions!
Hi Folks. Now that we have a time scheduled for our midyear meeting, I want to remind you about any club that may have a resolution to submit. Resolutions need to be submitted to the Secretary at least ninety days before the annual meeting so that member societies can review them, discuss them within their society and give their director instructions on how to vote on said resolutions. With all that jargon being said, this is how it works.

As an example, for a number of years “the Circulation Chairman” (the person who keeps track of all the members so the newsletter can be sent out) has been doing a terrific job. At one time this task was handled by the Newsletter Editor, I believe, but the task became too great, so a Circulation Chairman was added and the task was given to that person. The addition of this position never formally made it into the by-laws until the 2019 Annual Meeting. A club, recognizing the large task this actually is, wanted to credit the person responsible for the job he has done over the years; and also wanted to have a viable description of the job for future reference. Thus, the club set about the task or creating a resolution. They wrote the resolution, checked for correct wording and gained suggestions from the Resolution Chairperson, then submitted the Resolution for publication and distribution at least 90 days before the meeting.

At the Annual meeting in Lewiston, Idaho the resolution was passed, so now the Circulation Chairperson is a recognized position under Committees of the Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies By-Laws. Remember to access the By-Laws and Operating Procedures, one only need to look in the back of the Directory that lists all the member clubs and their members. Each club is given one for free, so if you personally haven’t seen it and would like to educate yourself, ask an officer if you can borrow the copy.

So, if you have a brainstorm, or great idea, or think there is some omission in the by-Laws, consider having your club sponsor a resolution. It’s the proper way to get things done.

(Just to note, in order to amend an operating procedure, the process can simply be done at an annual meeting. But, it is nice to write up a resolution so that the membership is aware of what is being proposed.)

Tickets, Tickets, Get ‘Em While They’re Hot!
By Judi Allison

Time to buy one, two or even five tickets for the AFMS Endowment Fund Raffle. The drawing will be held at the AFMS Show in Big Piney, Wyoming in June. NFMS is guaranteed at least one prize, as a ticket is drawn from each federation before mixing them all together.

Tickets are $5 each or 5 tickets for $20. I haven’t sold too many because of the inability to meet, so that gives you a better chance to win...and help with funding the Junior Rockhound Program or the Video Library Program. Prizes have a starting value of $75, so if you win a prize you are ahead in the game. You can purchase your tickets by submitting your check made out to AFMS Endowment Fund to me, Judi Allison, 1701 NW 11th Street, Hermiston, OR, 97838. I will send you your stubs and be certain your entry tickets get into the drawing. (Judi – NFMS Chair for AFMS Endowment Fund Raffle)
Remember to save your postage stamps for the NFMS!

Please send bags and boxes of postage stamps to

Chuck Sonner
165 Tingle Rd.,
Winlock, WA. 98596
Please note that due to the Covid-19 virus, schedules may be changed. Please check with the show contact for any updates.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Show Name</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Contact</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>March 13 &amp; 14</td>
<td>Northwest Montana Rock Chucks</td>
<td>Flathead County Fairgrounds, Expo Building (next to grandstands), 265 North Meridian Road Kalispell MT</td>
<td>Lloyd Fager <a href="mailto:oldgrayelf@sbcglobal.net">oldgrayelf@sbcglobal.net</a> 608 436 0780</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 27 &amp; 28</td>
<td>Sweet Home Rock and Mineral Society</td>
<td>Sweet Home High School Gym 1641 Long Street Sweet Home OR</td>
<td>Joe Kota 541 451 2740 or Ed Anderson 541 451 1577 <a href="mailto:ela4rocks@gmail.com">ela4rocks@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 27 &amp; 28</td>
<td>South East Idaho Gem and Mineral Society</td>
<td>Bannock County Fairgrounds 10588 Fairground Dr. Pocatello ID 83201</td>
<td>Val Wuthrich 208 720 8239 <a href="mailto:valwuthrich@gmail.com">valwuthrich@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 17</td>
<td>NFMS Mid-Year Meeting</td>
<td>10 AM Via ZOOM</td>
<td>More information to come later.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 23, 24, &amp; 25</td>
<td>Yakima Rock and Mineral Club</td>
<td>Central Washington State Fair Park Modern Living Building 1301 South Fair Avenue Yakima WA 98901</td>
<td>Marti Sondgeroth evening 509 248 6401 (leave a message); daytime cell 509 910 3484; <a href="mailto:marthams@q.com">marthams@q.com</a> 2013 South 4th Avenue, Yakima, WA 98903 <a href="http://www.yakimarockclub.com">www.yakimarockclub.com</a> <a href="http://www.facebook.com/YakimaRockandMineralClub">www.facebook.com/YakimaRockandMineralClub</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 1 - 2</td>
<td>Billings Gem and Mineral Club</td>
<td>Al Bedoo Shrine Auditorium 1125 Broadwater Avenue, Billings MT</td>
<td>Doug True, <a href="mailto:show@billingsgemclub.com">show@billingsgemclub.com</a>, (406) 200-8778</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 5 &amp; 6</td>
<td>North Idaho Mineral Club</td>
<td>Kootenai County Fairgrounds, Jacklin Building #25 4056 North Government Way, (Kathleen &amp; Gov’t Way) Gates C &amp; D, Coeur d’Alene, ID</td>
<td>Mike Rose <a href="mailto:NIMCshowchairman@gmail.com">NIMCshowchairman@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
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<td>June 17-20</td>
<td>AFMS Meeting</td>
<td>Big Piney, WY</td>
<td>More information to come later.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 11 &amp; 12</td>
<td>Clallam County Gem and Mineral Association</td>
<td>Vern Burton Community Center 308 East 4th Street, Port Angeles WA</td>
<td>Kathy Schreiner 360 460 0827 <a href="mailto:kmsjes@olypen.com">kmsjes@olypen.com</a> PO Box 98 Sequim WA 98382</td>
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</tbody>
</table>