



NORTHWEST NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 66 NO.2 - FEBRUARY 2026
NORTHWEST FEDERATION OF
MINERALOGICAL SOCIETIES



REMINDER:

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

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NFMS 1st Vice President Jennifer Haley

Happy New Year to everyone as we enter the 2nd month of this new year together. There are lots of fun things to think about, creative projects to work on for your clubs and for your federation as a whole. Whatever my volunteer job responsibilities are, I really do look forward to them in the doing of the work involved. Being on the executive board and helping with committees, meeting you at the federation meetings, is a good way to get to know you all.

Usually, my mind is always working on what more can we do for the members of our clubs, for our federation and the AFMS. Usually, I think a lot of people think the AFMS is off in the distance, so they don't give much thought about them. But each of your clubs are also members of the AFMS too. If you need more information about them, you can always contact me or go to their website. Their newsletters are going digital this month, so just like how we send out the NFMS newsletter now, that's how their newsletter will arrive to you too.

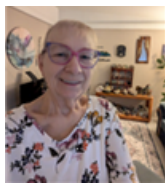
I love creative projects, and those cover everything from the work I do for the NFMS, AFMS and my lapidary arts and crafts at home. I am hoping to have a new bola tie I am currently working on done in time, so I can wear it at the Hellgate Mineral Society's hosted NFMS annual show in March. I'm one of those people who wakes up each morning all excited about each day being a new day to look forward to, no matter what's on my to do list. I hope my personal enthusiasm will inspire you this year.

Continued on Page 2

We'd love to put photos your lapidary arts and crafts work in the NFMS newsletters. Just send them to Jessica- our NFMS editor by the 25th of each month. These will be fun for everyone to see. It would be great if you would also write up a little something about it and include your name and what club you belong to. The invite is for everyone, adults and juniors, NFMS chairmen and officers too.

Traditionally we always have wonderful people who bring donations of rocks to benefit the NFMS Silent Auction. Did you know you are welcome to make lapidary arts and crafts to donate for it too? Those kinds of items can make the table extra special for people to bid on too.

Past President-Lora Hall came up with a fantastic rockhound slogan for tee-shirts this year which will be for sale at the NFMS-Hellgate March event. These will put a big smile on your face when you see them and be fun to wear. Many thanks to her for making this such a fun project!



NFMS Secretary
Judi Allison

Wow! It is almost here! The 2026 NFMS Show, Meeting and activities. I am anxious to get to the show so I can purchase one of the new NFMS T-Shirts. Colors to choose from are red or blue. I've seen photos and they are pretty cool! Remember that if you are a director for your club and are attending the meeting, you can request a ticket for the banquet on Saturday evening. We will also be having a live auction again this year, many thanks to Doug True as our auctioneer and a perpetual supplier of materials. I know that I am taking several slabs that were purchased by our club from a member's estate. Perhaps your club has something to add to the auction, or to the ongoing silent auction which will also be taking place. One of the things I really enjoy about attending the Federation Shows in different areas is the opportunity to see dealers and materials from different places. Of course, meeting up with old friends and new is also a bonus. There is just something about a Federation Show that adds that special flavor. I hope lots of you will be able to attend! In this newsletter you will find a request for credentials for your Directors and Delegates. There is also an article by the AFMS Scholarship recipient Russell Krantz from our Federation. I am old enough to remember the onset of the information in his article.

I am guessing I am not the only one who will recognize firsthand what he is talking about. In an effort to help members understand all the opportunities the Federation has to offer, I have started revisiting all the committees and will continue to work through information for each one. You will find the initial installment in this newsletter. One other thing I would like to point out is the information about the Bulletin Aids Contest. Hopefully, the breakdown will help simplify things so that more will take advantage of the opportunity.

I want to let everyone know that if you have questions or just want to touch base about anything, feel free to reach out to me at nfmssec@gmail.com. It seems I am the one with the most "whiskers" on the board, since I have been in the position since 2014. It certainly doesn't mean I know everything, but I sure am willing to help. I hope all are staying healthy and warm and enjoying our hobby.

NFMS Treasurer (Pro Tem)

Judi Allison

Yes, I guess I am writing this once again. I know Adam is anxious to get going, but we are still having some hangups with the bank. . .frustration overload. Since any transfer would fall during the collection of dues, we are working through that process before officially handing him the reins. Speaking of dues, remember, if your club has not submitted theirs, now is the time. Thanks to all who have already taken care of this process. And, next month I am officially assigning Adam the task of writing something from the Treasurer. . .so be ready, Adam.



NFMS Safety Chair

Kathryn Larson

Post Holiday Safety

Hello my fellow rockhounds. I hope everyone has had a wonderful and restful holiday. We certainly did. It's so nice to be with family and friends, eating too much, staying up too late and just enjoying the sights and sounds of the season.

Now it's January and time to restart our health regime. Ugh. I gained 5 pounds. So, it's time to stop eating all those sweets and it is so hard to give it up. So, what should I do? Go extreme? All protein? All vegan? Liquids? Fast?? The choices are many.

I've found what works for me is moderation. 3 meals a day, no snacking between meals and no eating after dinner. Drink at least 8 glasses of water a day. I'm trying to drink 100 ounces. It sounds like a lot, but I have a 30-ounce water jug that I just need to fill 3.5 times. I feel good when I do it. And I'm not hungry when I'm drinking water.

Exercise? I can't go extreme with that either. My body just doesn't recover like it used to when I was in my 30s and 40s. I have to ease into exercise. Try to add a little extra activity each day. Walk a little further and a little faster each time. Maybe add some music to my walks. How about playing some music and dancing around the house?? If I can do those things then maybe I can get myself back to the gym.

Anyway, stay safe and healthy. It will soon be time to go rock hounding again.

Coming to a show near you!

Lora Hall

NFMS T-shirts in your choice of Garnet Red or Sapphire Blue will be available at the NFMS Annual Meeting and Hellgate Mineral Society Gem and Mineral Show. There will be a limited number available so be sure to get yours early. These 100% cotton T-shirts have the NFMS logo on the front, and You might be a Rockhound if... on the back. Proceeds will go to the NFMS Endowment Fund.



ALAA President's Message

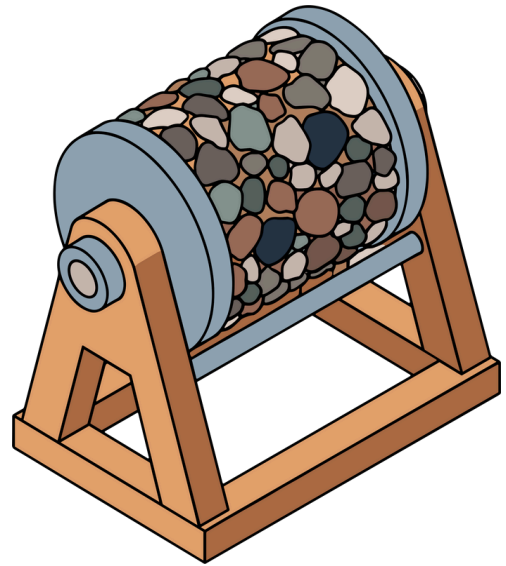
Jennifer Haley

Dear Recreational Rockhounds,

There isn't much to report at this time. It's been pretty quiet on the western front, although we are keeping an eye on things for further developments. For those of you in the more eastern public land areas, we'd love to hear from you and about any updates you may have. You are the eyes and the boots on the ground for that part of rockhounding America, who can really help keep everyone well informed on upcoming rockhounding issues out there.

At ALAA, we are known for helping with access issues across the country, normally known as the problems with access. We are also about preventative ways to help you work on preventing these problems. Whether there is a current access issue or not in your area, one thing we all have in common is how much we enjoy the rocks, geology, fossils, lapidary arts and crafts together. We have a strong heritage of enjoyment that has been in existence for generations, which we've always shared with others, and who are overjoyed when they discover your clubs. Let's get going on sharing the beauty of that rock you found on one of your adventures, so that mixed in with "the issues," we can share your inspiring finds, lapidary creations, and that glow on your face when you found that wonderful find. Send us your photos and we'll share them in our newsletters with everyone. As rockhounds, we all like to see what's in the other areas of the country.

Wintertime is different depending on where you live when it comes to the weather conditions. If you are stuck in the house, it's a good time to sort through your rocks and lapidary workshops to find good material or to make things to donate towards your federation, club and AFMS silent auctions and Endowment fundraisers. There are still lots of people who don't know about our clubs.



Cutting and polishing a rock and turning it into a piece of jewelry or a paperweight for a community fundraiser, is another good way to advertise your club for new memberships. If there is an interesting history or an old mining photo about the location of the rock, include that too with information about the piece, and of course information about your club. People love that!

ALAA could use representatives in more states to help keep a better eye on your local areas. We are looking for a new Membership Officer, which all that entails is sending out a "warm welcome" and an acknowledgement we received someone's renewal or new membership. You don't have to handle the money. We do have a couple other positions available, so if you are interested, please contact us and I'll be glad to talk to you.

Have a good time this winter season in your lapidary workshops, and if you have the luck of the weather for outdoor collecting, good tidings to you!

Bolo Ties Are Here to Stay

Jennifer Haley - AFMS Historian

The first time I saw a bolo tie was when I joined my first AFMS rock and gem club. Many of the men would wear one to the club's monthly meetings, and for more formal rockhound events. The club presidents if they were men, always wore one. They made their bolo ties with the esteemed silversmithing skills which they learned from members in the club, and with the rock they had collected in the field, along with cutting and polishing the stone to their liking. During the breaks for refreshments and at potlucks, were the good times to ask about the personal story behind each piece. And of course, everyone likes to listen in to a good rockhounding story when they're all sitting around at the tables.

Each bolo did have a good story to tell, especially because there was so much of a person's real-life experience that went into creating such a piece of jewelry. I do think this is one of reasons why we still value the bolo tie today, and why this particular type of jewelry has so much presence.

I never saw women wearing them back then, but one day I bought one from a good friend with the intension of wearing it. Jerry Whitaker was his name and had been a member of the club for over fifty years when I met him. I loved the story and history of the stone, the color of the stone, and because it was made by him. The stone is called Myrickite, and was from the Manhattan Mine in Napa County, California, where he hand-collected the rock years prior to the mine closing. Combined with his good memories that went into making that bolo tie and combined with mine from everything he taught me about rockhounding skills, and our wonderful friendship, I will always be fond of that bolo.

When I began looking up the history of bolo ties, I found references with different dates in time for the same aspects of the tie, even to when the state of Arizona named the bolo tie as their, State Neckwear. What we do know is that the bolo tie has its history deeply woven into the Western, Southwestern and Native American jewelry culture for quite some time. In 1959, a silversmith named Victor Emanuel Cedarstaff patented the slide clasp design for the tie which is still in use today.

Traditionally men have always been the ones seen wearing the bolo ties, but that doesn't mean women can't enjoy wearing them also. Leather and woven cord companies in the United States now sell all kinds of wonderful colors for bolo tie making, along with different leather weaves that are made exceptionally well. Perhaps, those of you with Kumihimo braiding skills would like to take up the challenge of making your own bolo cording to

go with a specific stone, and with certain colors in your wardrobe. I can see a lot of creativity using lost wax casting, metal clay or gorgeous dichroic glass as the tie's focal point.

Share a good story about bolo ties with your Juniors, and they'll want to get involved in making them too. Depending on their individual skills, even the simplest task of gluing a bolo clasp onto the back of a cabochon, and gluing base metal tips to the ends of the cords, will turn a fun project into something they'll want to wear.

When you wear a bolo tie, you will be noticed, or more likely your bolo will be noticed. They are a good conversation pieces, and can create an assortment of good teaching skills too.



Bulletin Aid Contest Info

Bulletin Aids- What's That? - Some Answers and Guidelines

First, I did mention this Committee in the article, "Know Your Federation", but I will go into detail here.

The Bulletin Aids Contest uses guidelines and rules from the American Federation (AFMS), but contests are conducted first on a regional basis. So, things are submitted first to the NFMS Committee Chair, Priscilla Hall-Ford to be judged by individuals in our Region. The items with the highest scores are then passed on to the AFMS for judging there. The bulletin editors of the individual clubs are the ones who submit various entries. But there is no reason the people who wrote the article can't help completing this process, because, frankly, it appears a bit onerous. That is why I am going to try to wade through the process of things to make it simpler to understand and accomplish.

As stated before, the AFMS Rules lay the groundwork for submissions, BUT when one initially goes to the information on the AFMS website it appears overwhelming. Thus, I will try to break it down to something simpler.

First, here are some basics. The submissions must come from the previous year's publications. So, this year things would be pulled from 2025. The basic categories are Adult Article, Adult Poetry, Junior Article, Junior Poetry and Special Publications. Things are further broken down on the website, so that one can find a specific category something might fit into: for example, field trip reports, a researched article on a gem or such, drawings, poetry, etc.

There are Templates for each of the categories-both fillable and printable. These templates will help one see the guidelines of what qualifies in a particular category. (There are forms that tell the requirements of each, but in essence, they are repeated in a simpler format on the templates.) There are instructions about filling out the template. The person submitting the form is only filling out the top part. The balance is used by the judges to score and give input.

As I stated before, you could help your editor decide on a category your article fits in and complete the top of the form. Your editor must be the one to submit it, but if you know you wrote something you would like judged, that would be the time to step in and help get things ready to submit.

Bulletin Editors, please also note that not all your work is for others. You are also allowed to submit your entire bulletin into the contest. Choose the one that you feel best reflects your work and submit it.

All, take note that only one of anything can be submitted by individuals. However, if you wrote an article and created a poem, both could be entered as they fall into two different categories. Following is the URL for the rules, guidelines and forms. Please don't become overwhelmed by all that you see. Simply try to find the information I have highlighted here and work with those things. I think that will give you basically everything you need. The AFMS website is www.amfed.org Once you get there find the bars on the left that will provide a drop-down menu. Look under Contests and Awards for Bulletins and Special Publications. There you will find much more information than you may have ever wanted to know.

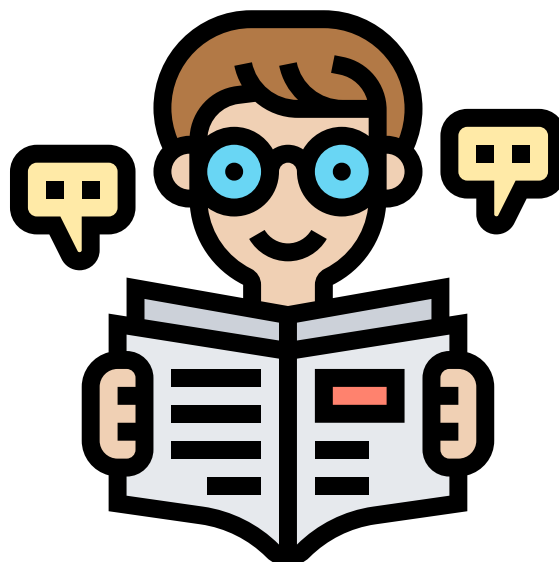
But, please don't be discouraged. Just find the basics you need and go from there. If you got the wrong category, I am guessing it will get judged for the Regional contest anyway, even if it might not qualify for the AFMS segment.

Here's hoping that you, as members, work with your editors to get some things submitted and as editors, you enter your own bulletins into the contest. One of the things to keep in mind when entering a bulletin is that there are four categories: New Editor, Mini 6 or less pages, small 7-11 pages and large 12+ pages.

Our BEAC (Bulletin Editors Aids Chairperson) will take submissions until March 5th. That will give enough time to have things judged for the March 20th Editors/Webmasters meeting in Missoula. (You don't have to be present to enter.) Let's see lots of entries!

SEND ALL ENTRIES TO

PRISCILLA HALL-FORD AT rockhounder2019@comcast.net.



Know Your Federation

Judi Allison

I developed a “Rock Jeopardy” game for our local club a few years ago. The category they found most difficult to answer was “Federation”. So I started a “Federation 101” tutorial in our newsletter. The “answers” I used in the game were all related to the listings on the “Committees” page.

It occurred to me that my members may not be the only group remiss in some of the fundamentals of the Federation, thus, I decided to share a bit here. I first started this several years ago, but I decided perhaps it was time to revisit things. I have included seven committees here, but if you look at the “Committees” page you will see several more. I will work to explain what they entail in future newsletters. Keep in mind that if you don’t know what something is, please ask. We want everyone to be informed so they can take advantage of all the Federation has to offer.

I am going to start by addressing Credentials. This committee (currently Clara and Del Walker) is in charge of being certain that each club’s directors/delegates have sent in their names and carry credentials for the annual meetings. These credentials allow them to vote at the meeting: the only assemblage during the year where voting takes place. That is why it is important to send your club’s representative to the meetings. That is one of the main ways your club has a say in what happens in the Federation. Of course, your directors/delegates need to communicate to the club the Federation business in order for this to happen. Each of your club directors will receive via email an Agenda for the Annual Meeting about a week in advance. The agenda will also include reports from the committees.

You will find a form for credentials in the newsletter with instructions. In essence, you tell the credentials individuals you will be representing your club, then you bring the properly completed form with you. (If you accidentally forget the form, you can still represent your club by being approved by those who remembered their forms. -So, remember your credentials form.)

If you have paid attention to the list of shows at the end of your Northwest Newsletter, thank the Show Coordinator for their appearance. This person (who at present is Faith Farley) receives information from the clubs about their shows then sends it to, not only the newsletter, but other publications she has found to help advertise our individual shows. If a club doesn’t send in their information to the show coordinator, they have lost out on a free, painless process of advertising for the show. (Please note that you need to submit your information 4-6 months in advance. That way, it is assured that the magazines that require early submission will advertise your show.)

Another Committee I chose to highlight in this publication is Stamps. What do stamps have to do with rockhounding, you say? Well, as a nonprofit, we need to be an educational and helping entity. Many years ago, some people with the idea of helping with some aspect of cancer research started this committee. They had members from all the different clubs save the stamps off their letters,

then turn them in to them. They in turn, went through the stamps and sold them to a broker for stamp collectors. The money gained was given to cancer research. The process has changed a bit over the years, as the funds now go to the Junior’s program. Our current stamp chairpersons, Ed Anderson and Aaron Currier are hobby collectors, so they know where and how to get the best money for the stamps. Do keep in mind that if you are collecting stamps, the common ones with the flags really don’t have resell value.

The Scholarship Program is another entity listed on the Committees Page in every newsletter. Our current Chairperson, Mary Lou Northrup works to encourage clubs to submit donations-perhaps as memorials or for other reasons – to the Scholarship fund. The money received is forwarded to the AFMS Scholarship Treasurer to be added to that fund. Six of the seven AFMS Federations take part in contributing to this fund. In turn, each year two graduate students in each of the participating Federations receive a scholarship. The method for choosing the recipients works like this. The immediate Past President chooses an individual to be its Federation’s Honoree. The

honoree in turn chooses a school and professor to help with the selection of two worthy students. The honoree then receives a plaque at the Regional Awards Banquet (this year held in Missoula, Montana on March 21) from the AFMS for their service in the process.

The Northwest Rockhound Retreat is basically a stand-alone entity. The funds taken in for the camp are used to run the camp. The chairperson. Walt Butler solicits applications for the camp in the spring, and it takes place the week following Labor Day. The camp is held at Camp Hancock, Oregon Museum of Science and Industry field station in the remote area in Central Oregon. Attendees can try and learn about many aspects of the hobby, such as basic cabochon creation, intarsia, silver smithing to name a few. Meals are provided as part of the registration fee, and there are cabins for sleeping. Keep an eye out in the Newsletter for when registration opens if you have an interest.

Another listing under Committees is Education. Our immediate Past President, Lora Hall, has recently taken on this position. She is already full of ideas and beginning to have them develop to fruition. Look for good things to come. If you can get to Missoula, one of the things you will see will be an NFMS Rockhound T-shirt. The front displays the logo and the back states “You might be a Rockhound if. . .” These T-shirts help us educate others about our Federation when we wear them. They will be selling for the nominal fee of \$15.00. Any profit will be given to the Endowment Fund.

Additionally, Bulletin Aids is listed as a Committee. It really doesn’t say anything about what that really entails. I will be writing a more detailed bit elsewhere in the Newsletter to help out our chairperson, Priscilla Hall-Ford. But, to clarify a bit, every year there is a contest relevant to the Club’s Newsletters. The editors of their newsletters are to choose articles, poems, drawings, field trip reports, etc. that members have written and submit them to the contest. The editors are also allowed to submit their entire newsletter for the contest. The submissions are judged with comments and suggestions about the submissions. Those who have submitted receive an award at the Bulletin Aids Breakfast held at the Annual Meeting.

Hopefully, this has helped explain some of your opportunities in the Federation. I will continue with more committees next month. Until then. . .Judi



A Word From Our Scholarship Recipients:



The following are articles from our two scholarship recipients from the Northwest Federation. The scholarships are provided through the American Federation and go to two postgraduate students for the following year. Our scholarship honoree, Darrell Coyle, contacted a professor at Montana State University who in turn submitted the names of worthy candidates. Russell and Amelia are the two candidates that have been chosen.

Mapping Groundwater Net Exchange and Quality in the Upper Clark Fork River

Russell Krantz

Mining began in the Upper Clark Fork Basin in the mid-1800s. By the late-1800s Butte, Montana became known as “The Richest Hill on Earth”, producing over 26% of the world’s supply of copper by 1896. Mining operations in the Butte, MT area generated massive amounts of tailings and slag enriched with heavy metals (largely copper, arsenic, lead and cadmium). Deposition of tailings in the Silver Bow Creek and Clark Fork River channels and floodplains had substantial effects on the water quality of groundwater and stream water, particularly after the 500-yr flood of 1908 redistributed these tailings throughout the floodplain from Butte to the Milltown dam east of Missoula, MT. Federal Superfund remediation began in 1983 and much of the remediation has yet to be completed.

The Clark Fork River and surrounding floodplain from Warm Springs to Deer Lodge have seen extensive remediation, yet the impacts of heavy metal contamination are still apparent. Tailings and slag are still distributed in the soil where they have been exposed to precipitation, chemical leaching and weathering for over 100 years (Fig 1). Fish populations remain well below expected carrying capacity, adult fish exhibit high mortality rates, and non-native trout, which have a greater tolerance to heavy metals, now dominate the fish assemblage.



Figure 1. Example of a “slicken” of deposited mining tailings/slag along the Upper Clark Fork River.

To understand how groundwater flow may still be affecting this reach, it is crucial to identify where groundwater is entering the Upper Clark Fork and at what rates, as well as its chemical quality. This knowledge will help us understand if groundwater is either positively or negatively affecting the river ecosystem over time and identify if and where further remediation efforts are needed. Significant knowledge gaps exist in our understanding of these interactions between groundwater and the Upper Clark Fork, along with the evolution of water chemistry post-remediation along this reach.

In this project, we are “fingerprinting” the chemical signature of the groundwater entering the river, then using computer modeling to estimate the groundwater quality, and determine where it is flowing into the river and in what amounts. Water samples were collected from the Upper Clark Fork River from Warm Springs to downstream of Garrison, MT (Fig 2). Sampling was completed during three distinctive flow conditions: spring high flow, low flow during

summer irrigation, and true baseflow after seasonal irrigation. These results will allow us to evaluate whether shallow groundwater sources are affected by contamination and whether deeper groundwater provides a source of uncontaminated water.

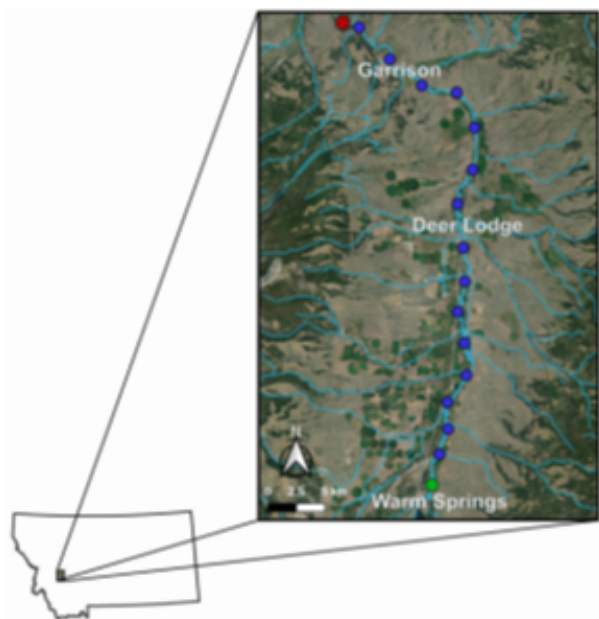


Figure 2. Map of the field area of the Upper Clark Fork. Samples were collected in the river every 5km.

Distinguishing between these scenarios will allow for more accurate/efficient remediation planning along the Clark Fork River. In addition, our research will advance understanding of the evolution of water chemistry post-remediation, along with the hydrological processes that affect water management and ecosystem health. The methods established here can be applied to other river ecosystems in need of greater understanding.

Preliminary results show increased contributions of heavy metals (copper, arsenic and lead) to the Upper Clark Fork during spring high flow, when river flow is predominantly snowmelt driven. During this seasonal period, snowmelt enters the river by flowing through shallow soils to the

river, potentially allowing for increased groundwater transmission through shallow soils that may still be contaminated by heavy metals. During this time deeper groundwater still enters the river, but it is diluted by shallow groundwater.

During later summer and fall low flow, river flow is largely supported by deeper groundwater, and results show lower heavy metal concentrations. Additionally, other chemicals associated with positive water quality (calcium, sodium, potassium and magnesium) are present in the Upper Clark Fork at higher concentrations at low flow than spring high flow. These findings suggest that deeper groundwater may be of higher quality than shallow groundwater and the role of groundwater on stream chemistry may change seasonally.

Controls on Early Diagenetic Mineralization in the Green River Formation, Uinta Basin

Amelia Fullwood – University of Montana

In the Uinta Basin of northeastern Utah, the Green River Formation (GRF) preserves one of the most complete lacustrine, or lake deposit, records of the Early Eocene Epoch (~50 Ma) (Fig. 1). Deposited within the long-lived ancient Lake Uinta, the formation records shifting environments that ranged from river and delta deposits to organic-rich deep lake deposits, in response to climate and tectonics. This unique depositional setting allowed for the preservation of organic material, making the GRF a major oil and gas reservoir and a critical resource for American energy security.

Given the GRF's economic significance, the depositional framework has been thoroughly studied. Facies relationships, which record how sedimentary deposits change with lake levels, are well understood across the basin. In contrast, the physical and chemical changes that sediments undergo after deposition, a process known as diagenesis, remain poorly understood, even though they strongly influence subsurface reservoir properties.

Sedimentary rocks experience multiple phases of diagenesis as they are buried. Early diagenetic minerals form near the sediment–water interface, while later phases develop during deeper burial. This study centers on early diagenetic processes within the GRF, which are shaped by sediment type, lake water chemistry, pore space, and environmental factors such as



Figure 1: Uinta Basin location map showing both the extent of the basins and ancient lakes (Johnson, 2014).

climate. Early diagenesis can either create or destroy porosity within a reservoir, thereby controlling fluid flow and influencing the formation of later diagenetic minerals.

My research is focused on integrating diagenesis into the depositional framework to understand how sediment source, depositional environment, and lake water chemistry interact to control early diagenetic mineral formation. I hypothesize that early diagenetic mineralization in the GRF is not random, but instead follows predictable patterns tied to depositional facies. Through fieldwork and detailed petrographic analysis of both core and outcrop samples, I will be able to distinguish early diagenetic minerals from later burial features and place these observations into

the depositional context to see how early diagenesis processes vary across the basin (Fig. 2). Establishing these linkages will improve geological and reservoir models, which may support more efficient drilling

strategies and reduce resource waste while addressing a fundamental challenge in sedimentary geology: understanding the mechanisms that control early diagenetic mineral formation in sedimentary basins.

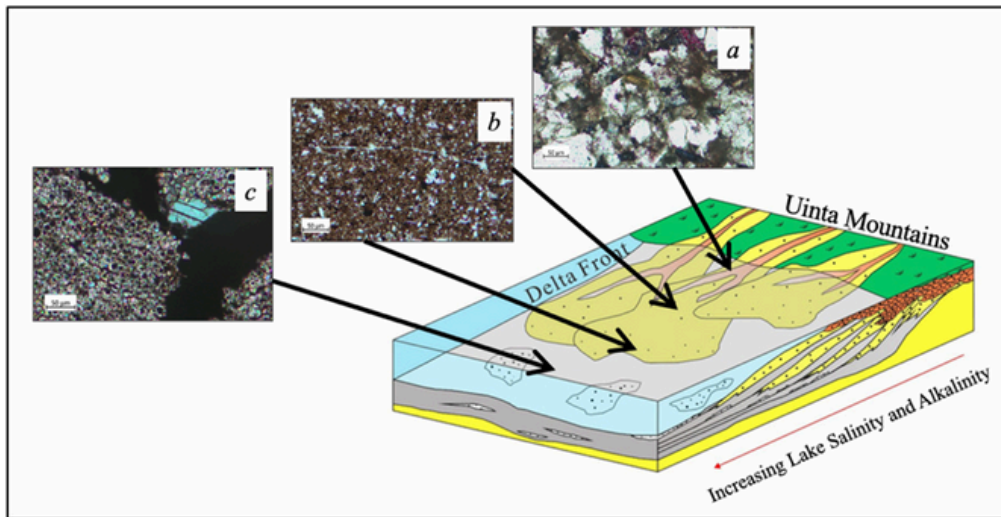


Figure 2: Conceptual model modified from Zhang et al., 2023, showing how diagenetic features change with depositional setting within a lake basin. (a–c) Photomicrographs from a core of the GRF, shown in approximate association with their depositional facies.

KID'S CORNER

Hello to all!

I hope everyone had a great holiday and are excited about planning for the meetings, field trips and shows for the year! There is so much happening in the first few months...the NFMS Junior's Patch, the Junior Achievement Award, the NFMS show! I can't wait to share with everyone...soon!

The deadline for the Junior Achievement Award is coming quickly (Feb 15), so get those entries in ASAP!

Below are the kiddos who have really been working hard and earning badges and patches over the last few months. Congratulations to all of you!

Have a great Valentine's Day! Give a rock to someone you love!

Jennifer Fitch

NFMS Junior Chair

Joke of the Month

What did the obsidian say to the pumice?

I really 'lava' you!

Happy Valentine's Day!

Future Rockhounds of America

Here are patches and badges earned by our junior members of the NFMS! Great job, kids! *(A star denotes a kiddo who has earned this twice.)*



Rockhound Patch

Hellgate Mineral Society

Karis G.



Earth Resources

Willamette Agate Mineral Society

Addy L.
Henry L.



Fossils

Hellgate Mineral Society

Delilah B. Hudson B.
Evelyn C. Micky C.



World In Miniature

Hellgate Mineral Society

Evelyn C. Micky C.
Karis G. Elisheba F. ★



Special Effects

Willamette Agate Mineral Society

Mathew	Chloe	Alejandro
Gavin	Owen	Caden
Oliver	Finn	Melody
Noah	Johann	Theona
Dominic	Athena	Andrew
Abigail	Emily	Henry L.

I would like to take a moment to showcase one kiddo who worked so hard and has finished all these badges at one time. Great job, Axel B. of the **Willamette Agate Mineral Society**! You ROCK!



Fossils



Rocking on the
Computer



Reaching Across
Generations



Stone Age Tools
and Art



Leadership and
Citizenship



World in
Miniature



Rocks and
Minerals



Fluorescent
Minerals



Communication



Maps



Earth Processes



Earth Resources



Earth in Space



Collecting



Gold Panning and
Prospecting



Lapidary Arts



Gemstone Lore
and Legend



Special Effects



Rockhounding
Patch

HELLGATE MINERAL SOCIETY



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.**

HELLGATE MINERAL SOCIETY



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
REGISTRATION form(s) and check(s)
to:

Steven Stiff
4013 Thomas Place
Missoula, MT 59803

Contact Information:

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



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 ☐ No

If **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: _____

HELLGATE MINERAL SOCIETY



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 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.

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: _____

A REMINDER AND REQUEST FROM THE CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE

CREDENTIALS FOR ANNUAL MEETING

Clara & Del Walker, Committee Chairpersons, must receive the NFMS Credentials, **the NAMES (only)** of Club Directors and Delegates, as soon as possible (ASAP) For planning purposes of the meeting. The annual meeting will be held at the Hilton Garden Inn, Salon A, 3720 N Reserve St, Missoula, Montana on Friday, March 20th 2026 at 2:00PM.

The Credential forms below must be completed by the designated director/delegate, signed by the Club President and Secretary, and **BROUGHT BY THE DIRECTOR AND DELEGATE** to the annual meeting. Or, this should be done by the alternate delegate(s), if necessary. Give us name(s) of attendees (not credentials forms) at least two weeks prior to the meeting. Call, email, or send to:

Clara & Del Walker
12377 SE Davis Loop
Prineville, OR 97754

Call 503-812-6540 or email to cwalk12377@gmail.com

NFMS DIRECTOR'S CREDENTIALS

Name of Director _____
Name of Club _____
City, State _____
Club President Signature _____
Club Secretary Signature _____
Date _____

Must be **completed** and **signed** to be seated with voting rights at the Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies Annual Meeting

NFMS DELEGATE'S CREDENTIALS

Name of Delegate _____
Name of Club _____
City, State _____
Club President Signature _____
Club Secretary Signature _____
Date _____

Must be **completed** and **signed** to be seated with voting rights at the Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies Annual Meeting

Treasures of the Northwest Show Information

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/>

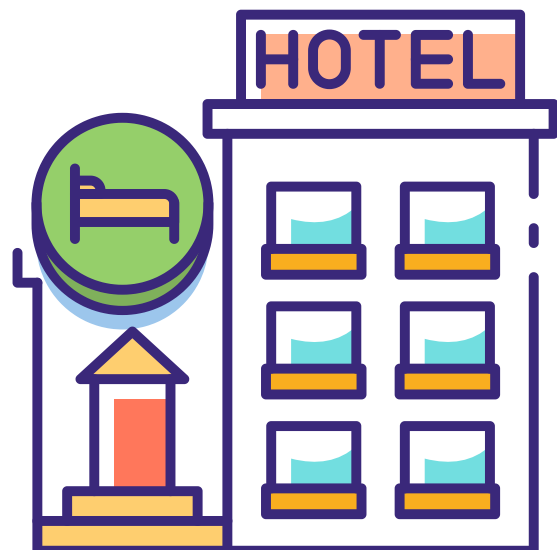
For show information, please contact:

- 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



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

NFMS CLUB SHOWS 2026

Feb 14th & 15th	Whidbey Island Gem Club	Oak Harbor Senior Center	Victoria Lovett
Sat 9 - 5		8851 SE Jerome St.	Vick o rama (at) hotmail.com
Sun 9 - 5		Oak Harbor, WA 98277	info@maplewoodrockclub.com
Feb 27th - March 1st	Oregon Agate & Mineral Society	OMSI (Museum of Science and Industry)	Rose Cohen
Fri 10 - 5		1945 SE Water Ave.	nwcohenfamily(at)gmail.com
Sat 10 - 5		Portland, OR 97214	
Sun 10 - 5			
Feb 28th & March 1st	Chugach Gem and Mineral Show	Midtown Mall	Paul Burger
Sat 10 - 6:30		600 E. Northern Lights Blvd.	
Sun 12 - 5:30		Anchorage, AK 99514	cavemonpaul(at) hotmail.com
March 7th & 8th	E. KingCo Rock and Gem Show	Pickering Barn	Kim Villines
Sat 10 - 6		1730 10th Ave. NW	earthlightgems(at)aim.com
Sun 10 - 5		Issaquah, WA 98207	(425) 828 - 3872
March 13th - 15th	Tualatin Valley Gem Club	Forest Grove Natl. Guard Armory	Gordon Hale
Fri 10 - 5		2950 Taylor Way	gordonhale (at) comcast.net
Sat 10 - 5		Forest Grove, Oregon 97116	
Sun 10 - 5			

NFMS CLUB SHOWS 2026

March 14th & 15th	Magic Valley Gem Club	Twin Falls County Fairgrounds	Sandy Hansen
Sat 9 - 5		215 Fair Ave.	3toadfrog (at) gmail.com
Sun 10 - 4		Filer, ID 83328	Magicvalleygemclub.org
March 14th & 15th	Rock Chucks Gold, Gem and Mineral Show	Flathead County Fairgrounds - Expo Building	Lloyd Fager
Sat 9 - 6		265 N. Meridian Rd.	oldgrayelf(at)sbcglobal.net
Sun 10 - 4		Kalispell, MT 59901	nfmsrockchucks(at)gmail.com
March 21st & 22nd	Hellgate Mineral Society 2026 NFMS Show	Hilton Garden Inn	Neil A. Meier
Sat 9 - 5		3720 North Reserve St.	(406) 546 - 6013
Sun 10 - 5		Missoula, MT 59801	
March 28th & 29th	Clallam County Gem and Mineral Assn.	Vern Burton Community Center	Mitch Fox
Sat 9 - 5		308 East 4th Street	Fox.mitch (at) gmail.com
Sun 10 - 4		Port Angeles, WA 98292	Sequimrocks.org
March 28th & 29th	Mt. Baker Rock and Gem Club	Pioneer Pavillion Community Center	Candi Gerard
Sat 10 - 6		2007 Cherry St.	candisjewelry (at) gmail.com
Sun 10 - 5		Ferndale, WA 98428	Mtbakerrockclub.org

NFMS CLUB SHOWS 2026

April 10th - 12th	Golden Spike Gem and Mineral Society	Golden Spike Event Center	Margie Miller
Fri 9 - 6		Weber County Fairground	(385) 205 - 9187
Sat 10 - 6		1000 N. 1200 W.	goldenspikegem.org
Sun 10 - 4		Ogden, UT 84401	
April 10th - 12th	Mt. Hood Rock Club and Gem Show	Jackson Armory	Roberta Hanson (503) 449-3543
Fri 10 - 5		6255 NE Cornfoot Rd.	Shane Gerrard (971) 322-6263
Sat 9 - 5		Portland, OR 97218	mthoodrockclub.com
Sun 10 - 3			
April 17th - 19th	Willamette Agate and Mineral Society	Polk County Fairgrounds	David Smith
Fri 9 - 5		520 S. Pacific Hwy West	rockclubnewsletter(at)gmail.com
Sat 9 - 5		Rickreall, OR 97371	
Sun 10 - 4			
April 18th & 19th	Lakeside Gem and Mineral Club	Benton County Fairgrounds	Larry Hulstrom
Sat 9 - 6		1500 S. Oak Street	rockhound132 (at) charter.net
Sun 10 - 4		Kennewick, WA 99336	Lakesidegemandmineralclub.com
April 18th & 19th	Idaho Falls Gem and Mineral Show	Bonneville County Fairgrounds	Nicole Strong
Sun 10 - 6		1542 E. 73rd South	wildandlapidary(at)gmail.com
Sat 10 - 5		Idaho Falls, ID 83404	www.ifrockhounds.com

NFMS CLUB SHOWS 2026

April 24th - 26th	Yakima Rock and Mineral Club	Modern Living Bldg.	Marti Sondgeroth
Fri 10 - 4		Central Washington State Fairgrounds and Event Center	marthams (at) myct1.net
Sat 10 - 5		1301 South Fair. Ave	(509) 910 - 3484
Sun 10 - 4		Yakima, WA 98901	
Sat 10 - 5	West Seattle Rock Club	4736 40th Ave SW	show@westseattlerockclub.org
Sun 10 - 5		West Seattle, WA	westseattlerockclub.org
April 25th & 26th	Gray's Harbor Rock and Gem Club	Gray's Harbor County Fairgrounds	Gary Emberley
Sat 10 - 5		43 Elma-McCleary Road	(360) 533 - 6196
Sun 10 - 4		Elma, WA 98541	Melissa624 (at) hotmail.com
May 2nd & 3rd	Everett Rock and Gem Club	Evergreen County Fairgrounds - Weikel Event Center	everettrockclub(at)htomail.com
Sat 10 - 5		18359 Cascade View Drive	
Sun 10 - 5		Monroe, WA 98292	
May 9th and 10th	Bozeman Gem and Mineral Club	Gallatin County Fairgrounds	Linda Johnson
Sat 10 - 6		901 North Black Bldg. 1 & 2	bgmcmnt(at)gmail.com
Sun 10 - 4		Bozeman, MT 59715	bozemandgemandmineralclub.com

NFMS CLUB SHOWS 2026

May 9th & 10th	Hatrockhound Gem and Mineral Show	Eastern Oregon Trade and Event Center	Mike Filarski
Sat 10 - 6		1705 East Airport Rd.	stonemorlin1(at)netscape.net
Sun 10 - 4		Hermiston, OR 97838	(541) 571 - 2593
May 16th & 17th	Butte Mineral and Gem Club	Butte Civic Center Main Arena	Jerry D'Arcy
Sat 9 - 5		1340 Harrison Ave.	jkdudding(at)gmail.com
Sun 10 - 4		Butte, MT 59701	(406) 491 - 2054
May 23rd & 24th	Clackamette Mineral and Gem Corp.	Clackamas County Fairgrounds and Events Center	Juanita Whitaker
Sat 9 - 6		694 NE 4th Ave.	cmgcshowchair2026(at)gmail.com
Sun 10 - 4		Canby, OR 97013	clackamettegem.org
July 24th - 26th	Washington Agate and Mineral Society	Tenino City Park	Doug Shank
Fri 9 - 6		300 Park Ave. W.	wamsolympia(at)gmail.com
Sat 9 - 6		Tenino, WA 98589	
Sun 9 - 5			

NFMS CLUB SHOWS 2026

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 [mrbrhodes0\(at\)gmail.com](mailto:mrbrhodes0(at)gmail.com)

1ST VICE PRESIDENT: Jennifer Haley 2490 Spring Mountain Rd. St. Helena, CA 94574 541-660-1832 [ladybuglane\(at\)napablogger.com](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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, Frenchtown, MT 59834, [Silvertipminis \(at\) msn.com](mailto: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](mailto:vickijrocks(at)msn.com)

Secretary/Treasurer:

Mikki Richard, Marysville Rock and Gem Club, Inc., 425-387-4591, [mikki.richard\(at\)adp.com](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:Fitchs4god(at)aol.com)

NEWSLETTER EDITOR:

Jessica Himple, Everett Rock and Gem Club (425) 622-3504, [nfmseditor\(at\)outlook.com](mailto: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](mailto:Silvertipminis (at) msn.com)
NORTHWEST ROCKHOUND RETREAT (Hancock): Walter Butler, 8821 SW Equestrian Place, Crooked River Ranch, OR 97760, (503) 702-5743, [waltercbutler\(at\)comcast.net](mailto: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](mailto:rockhound132(at)charter.net)

PUBLIC LANDS ADVISORY: Susie Koppert, Mt. Hood Rock Club, 135 SE Marsh Rd., Sandy, OR 97055 [susiekopper\(at\)mail.com](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:josh_hulstrom(at)hotmail.com)

JUDGING DIRECTOR : Charise Ash, Mount Hood Rock Club, 2331 N Mist Dr, Vernonia, OR 97064, [charisemarie\(at\)gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:rockhound132(at)charter.net)

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

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

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

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

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WEBMASTER: Brad Larson, Owyhee Gem and Mineral Society, 6010 W. Cruzen St., Boise, ID 83704 (208) 465-1920, [nfms.webmaster\(at\)gmail.com](mailto: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@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, [jclaw16461\(at\)gmail.com](mailto:jclaw16461(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, [Rockyfv\(at\)aol.com](mailto:Rockyfv(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 on above 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 on above 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/>