





VOLUME 49 NO. 4

Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies

March 2009

2009 NFMS Mid Year Meeting April 18, 2009



The 2009 NFMS Mid Year Meeting will be held in Kennewick, Washington in Building #5 at the

Benton County Fairgrounds, 1500 S. Oak Street (see below for directions). This is the same location as the past three years. Once again this weekend happens to coincide with the Lakeside Gem and Mineral Club Annual Gem and Mineral Show which is held at the same location.

On Saturday, April 18th, the mid year meeting will begin at 10 AM with registration starting at 9:30 AM. There will be a food vendor available for lunch and dinner that day in conjunction with the ongoing Show. Hours for the Show on Saturday are from 10 AM to 5 PM and on Sunday from 10 AM to 4 PM.

RV camping is available at the Fairgrounds with electricity and water available for \$10/night. If you plan to use these facilities, please send an email to Larry Hulstrom at larryhulstrom@live.com prior to April 5th indicating date of arrival and duration of stay so an accurate count can be kept and space can be planned. Payment will be collected upon arrival at the Fairgrounds. There are a number of motels throughout the immediate area in Kennewick. Information about a few of these has been provided below.

The members of the Lakeside Gem and Mineral Club would like to extend a warm invitation to join us for the NFMS Mid Year meeting and encourage you to stay over on Sunday to attend our show. In addition to 12 dealers, we will have about 50 displays, a fluorescent mineral display, a silent auction, a Kid's Corner, demonstrations and door prizes. On Sunday morning from 9 AM to noon there will also be tailgating outside the show building for anyone interested. In addition to our show there is also another show in Yakima that same weekend, only 90 miles to the west at the Central Washington State Fairgrounds. The Rockhounds POW WOW Club of America is also holding an outing that same weekend near Mattawa, WA to look for Saddle Mountain petrified wood and diatomaceous opal near George, WA. Come join your fellow rockhounds for a weekend of fun and fellowship and take in the sites that the area has to offer.



Coming into the Tri-Cities area from the south on Highway 395 turn right (east) onto 10th Ave (the third stop light coming into town). Follow this about 3 miles. The fairgrounds will be visible on the right side just past and behind a park. Once at the Fairgrounds gate you will see the Show building to the right in Building #1. RV camping will be available near that building or in an adjacent area. Walk over to the show to obtain more specific directions for parking. Ask for the RV Camping Coordinator. The Mid Year Meeting will be held in Building #5 which is about 150 yards from Building #1.

From anywhere else coming into Kennewick it would be best to find your way to Highway 395 and take the turn east onto 10th Avenue and then follow it down to the Fairgrounds.



The following motels below are available within 5 miles of the Benton County Fairgrounds. Visit the Tri-cities webpage at http://www.visittri-cities.com/, or call the Tri-Cities Visitor and Convention Bureau at 509-735-8486

Best Western Kennewick Inn. 1-800-528-1234 Laquinta Inn & Suites, 509-736-3326 Econo Lodge, 1-800-722-8277 Days Inn, 509-735-9511 Kennewick Inn Travelodge, 509-735-6385

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

YOUR EDITOR HAS A NEW EMAIL ADDRESS:

nfmsnews@gmail.com or NFMSNEWS@GMAIL.COM

EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY.

All electric RV spaces are full at the AFMS/NFMS show site; we still have room for dry campers. Check the Website for other camping.

NEWSLETTER ARTICLES DUE: MARCH 15, 2009

> NFMS WEBSITE www.amfed.org/nfms

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societie Bryan Schroeder, Editor 153 Spring Street Richland WA 99354-1651

Permit No. 9

PRESIDENT: Paul Heesacker, Clackamette Gem & Mineral Corp., 4145 NW Heesacker Rd., Forest Grove OR, 97116, (503) 357-8804, heesacker@coho.net

1st VICE PRESIDENT: Evelyn Cataldo, Lakeside Gem & Mineral Club, 99509 Brandon Dr., Kennewick, WA 99336, (509) 628-0170, ecataldo@cbadams.com

2nd Vice President: Fritz Mack, 10619 Holly Dr., Everett, WA 98204, 425.513.0115, rockngem_mack@netzero.net

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY: Joan Day, Golden Spike Gem & Mineral Society, 509 Highland Blvd., Brigham City, UT. 84302 (435) 723-3830, joanday@sisna.com

TREASURER: Lyle Vogelpohl, West Seattle Rock Club, 8810 37th Ave. SW, Seattle, WA 98126-3617, (206) 932-3292, nfmstreasurer@comcast.net

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NFMS Club-at-Large: 1st Vice President (see above) NOMINATING CHAIRMAN: Patty Amos, Mt. Hood Rock Club 15523 NE 215th Ave, Brush Prairie, WA 98606, (360) 892-3716, packrats2@msn.com. Members: TBD OPERATIONS REVIEW: OPEN

PAST PRESIDENTS COUNCIL: Chuck Sonner, Southern WA. Mineralogical Society, 165 Tingle Rd., Winlock, WA. 98596, (360) 785-3909, chuckagate2@yahoo.com

PUBLIC LANDS ADVISORY: Andy Johnson, Lakeside Gem & Mineral Club, P.O.Box 3251, Pasco, WA 99302, (509)547-7625 washatonian@hotmail.com

SLIDE/ VIDEO LIBRARIAN: Quita Perry, Southern Washington Mineral Society, P.O. Box 819, LaCenter, WA 98629, 360-263-3075, NFMSProgramLibrary@TDS.net

RESOLUTIONS: Betty Luke, Butte Mineral and Gem Club, P.O.Box 254, Harrison, MT 59735, (406) 685-3694, ramblers@3rivers.net

RULES & AWARDS CHAIR: Joe Slouber, Butte Gem & Mineral Club P.O. Box 427, Butte MT., 59703-0427, (406) 494-3034, RockHound@in-tch.com

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SHOW CHAIRPERSON 2009: Doug True, 2622 Broadwater, Billings, MT 59102, 406.670.0506, dtruefossils@yahoo.com SHOW COORDINATION: Judi Allison, Hatrockhounds Gem & Mineral Society, 1701 NW 11th #A, Hermiston OR. 97838 (541) 720-4950, jall@eotnet.net

STAMPS: Hermina Kolski, Billings Gem & Mineral Club, 208 Riverview #2E, Great Falls, MT 59404, (406) 231-0620

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tttinker9742@bigskyhsd.com WAYS & MEANS: Janice Van Cura, Willamette Agate & Mineral Society, Inc.3448 NW Covey Run, Corvalis, OR 97330

(503)753-2401 jvancura@peak.org WEBMASTER: Jack Eads, Kitsap Mineral & Gem Soc., 5169 E. Hillcrest Drive, Port Orchard, WA. 98366-8101, (360) 871-2445, jacke@silverlink.net

NFMS WEB SITE: www.amfed.org/nfms

NFMS SPECIAL COMMITTEES 2009

FIELD TRIP CHAIRMAN: Keene Clay, Mt Hood Rock Club, 19473 SE Foster, Boring OR 97009, (503) 558-8500, clavken@comcast.net

NORTHWEST ROCKHOUND RETREAT (Hancock): Lamar Tilgner (Chair), Mt. Hood Rock Club, 200 SE Olvera Ave., Gresham, OR 97080, (503) 666-2905, LSTILGNER@aol.com CLAIMS COMMITTEE: Rocky McCall, Marysville Rock & Gem club, 8330 272nd St. NW, Stanwood, WA 98292-7430 (360) 629-2515, rm711@tgi.net **OPERATIONS PROCEDURE UPDATE: Open**

ROCKHOUND OF THE YEAR: Viola Jones, Skagit Rock & Gem Club, P. O. Box 2841, Mt. Vernon, WA. 98273, (360) 424-8340, rocks1x1vi.george@verizon.net

AFMS COMMITTEES (NFMS Representatives)

AFMS THIRD VICE PRESIDENT-Lauren Williams, ENDOWMENT FUND- Edna Nelson, EDITORS HALL OF FAME-Open, NEWSLETTER EDITOR-Bryan Schroeder, NFMS CLUB BULLETINS-Darlene Denton, ROCKHOUND OF THE YEAR-Viola Jones, CONSERVATION & AWARD LEGISLATION-Darlene Posthuma, EDUCATION-ALL AMERICAN AWARD- Jim & Libby Spencer, INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS-Bill and Janet Smith, JUNIORS PROGRAM-Gary Buhr, PROGRAM COMPETITION-Quita Perry, PUBLIC RELATIONS-OPEN, SAFETY-Dean Arrasmith, SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION-Dee Holland & Rose MacArthur, SUPPLIES AND PUBLICATIONS-Tim Hoff, JUDGE TRAINING COMMITTEE-Dee Holland, UNIFORM RULES-Dee Holland (Director) & Barbara Jacobsen, WAYS AND MEANS-Glenn Lee (chair) & Janice Van Cura, WEBSITE-Jack Eads.

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 membership fee of \$25.00 helps support their activities. Contact: Dr. Robert Carlson, ALAA President, 1585 Los Pueblos, Los Alamos, NM, 87544, 505.662.5534, drobertcarlson@yahoo.com

The AFMS NEWSLETTER is published monthly except Jan-Jul-Aug by the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies. Each NFMS member club 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 (\$4.50 per year), write to: AFMS Central Off., Steve Weinberger, P.O. Box 302, Glyndon, MD 21071-0302. Make checks payable to "AFMS". Email: cebar62@aim.com

The NORTHWEST NEWSLETTER is the official publication of the Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies (NFMS) and is usually published ten (10) times per year. This publication is brought to you through your club membership in NFMS. The purpose of the Northwest Newsletter is to keep all NFMS members informed of activities and events pertaining to the business and services of the Federation. The Newsletter is printed and mailed to approximately 3500 homes in six states by Burley Reminder in Burley ID. For matters related to the Newsletter (i.e. content, advertising, etc) contact the Newsletter Editor (printed elsewhere on this page). For matters related to the Newsletter circulation (new members, address changes, etc.) contact the Circulation Chairperson (located elsewhere on this page).

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, 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 (printed elsewhere on this page). If you see an error once your show is listed, or if your show is not listed, contact Newsletter Editor (printed elsewhere on this page).

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

ATTENTION CLUB TREASURERS Where to send your money

(See this page for address, phone, or e-mail)

- To NFMS Treasurer for: 1. Dues and supplies
 - 2. Donations for the general fund
 - 3. Donations to Junior Achievement
 - 4. Advertisement in this Newsletter
- Send to: Lyle Vogelpohl, 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.

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: Rose Alene Mc Arthur (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

Send to Joyce Hanschu, ALAA Treasurer, 6607 Sturbridge Ln; Canton, MI 48187-2638

NFMS NEWSLETTER 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: $3'' \times 4'' = 12$ inches

12 inches x \$1.50 = \$18 per issue of the

Newsletter

Do not send ads on colored paper because the back-ground will look gray in the ad. Following the placement of 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 Editor (printed elsewhere on this page.)

DEADLINE

for YOUR SUBMISSIONS TO the next NORTHWEST NEWSLETTER is March 15th

For the April 2009 Issue 509 371 1572 BRYAN SCHROEDER NFMS NEWSLETTER EDITOR nfmsnews@gmail.com

COMMENTS, THOUGHTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Challenge of the Month by Evelyn Cataldo, 1st Vice President

Fellow Rockhounds,

I challenge you to share your talents with other Clubs and the public. Whether it be leading a field trip, giving a program at a Club meeting, sharing your hobby with school children or scout troops, or teaching one of our lapidary arts to beginners, these events will promote our hobby and strengthen our organizations.

This challenge comes as a result of my experiences in 2008. In reminiscing about the past year, I realized there were some special Club members throughout the Federation that enriched my local Club.

Tom Robertson and members of the Willamette Agate & Mineral Society of Salem invited myself and members of my Club to share a field trip to Succor Creek. Although the weather didn't cooperate for the entire long weekend, we were able to share two pleasant evenings and a wonderful, sunny day collecting jasper. New friends and new rocks – a true joy!

Eileen Paul from the Rock & Arrowhead Club of Klamath Falls traveled to the Tri-Cities and taught myself and other Club members how to make glass beads. She shared not only her skills but her enthusiasm for lampwork. She made the entire day a fun-filled learning adventure. I have ten glass beads, hand made by me, as a result of the day! I now have a set-up in our basement for future bead-making projects!



Carol Cimolino, from the Marysville Rock & Gem, Club traveled to the Tri-Cities and taught myself and other Club members how to do intarsia. I believe there were 19 beginners that took advantage of this learning opportunity. In the picture above, I am grinding one of my pieces down to a flat surface prior to gluing all the pieces together. Much to my surprise, my class project came out exceedingly goodlooking! I am proud of it.

Chris Blickfeldt, from the Idaho Gem Club of Boise, traveled to the Tri-Cities and presented a weekend of beginning silversmithing. It was a fantastic opportunity to learn from a talented individual. Although I was not able to participate in this class, I heard many good comments from the students.

In conclusion, follow the lead of the above Federation members and share your talents. Not only will other

Federation members benefit from your knowledge and expertise, but I believe that you will find the experience rewarding.



Dee Holland, NFMS Rules Committee

Are you home in your easy chair with your feet up? Or are you at work in your basement, getting your competitive exhibit ready for

the Northwest Federation's coming show?

We in the Northwest will be hosting the American Federation Show and Convention in Billings, Montana this year (2009). I hope everyone wants to put their best foot forward and show the rest of the country that we in the Northwest are capable of putting on the best darn show and convention around. We can't do this without YOU. Competitive exhibiting in many of the other regions has gone away. There aren't any competitive exhibits to speak of anymore except in the Northwest and California Federations.

With that said, if there is anything I can do to help you with the rules, deciding which class and division to exhibit in, and what you need to compete, please contact me. While I can't come and personally help you, I know we can answer most of your questions via email. You will have to make the choice of entering as a novice, advanced, or master. This can't be changed once we are at the show. But the division and class can be changed if you've put the wrong information down and it is felt you can be better accommodated in another division or class.

You can go to the Northwest website and download the competitive exhibits form there. Fill it out and return it to me as soon as possible. The show committee would love to have an idea as to how much space the competitive area will need at the show.

Let's show the rest of the Federations what the Northwest Federation is all about. Show off our exhibits, let everyone know how it's done. The Northwest has beautiful material, let's show the rest of the country. Maybe we can even get some of those Congressional people to attend and see what is found in this wonderful country of ours....

Dee Holland P.O. Box 23, Tendoy, ID 83468 beauholland@centurytel.net or shirleyleeson@cox.net

Public Lands Advisory by Andy Johnson

Have you been affected by this discovery?

The recent hurricanes and gasoline issues are proof of the existence of a new chemical element. A major research institution has recently announced the discovery of the heaviest element yet known to science. The new element has been named Governmentium. Governmentium (Gv) has one neutron, 25 assistant neutrons, 88 deputy neutrons, and 198 assistant deputy neutrons, giving it an atomic mass of 312. These 312 particles are held together by forces called morons, which are surrounded by vast quantities of lepton-like particles called peons.

Since Governmentium has no electrons, it is inert; however, it can be detected, because it impedes every reaction with which it comes into contact. A minute amount of Governmentium can cause a reaction that would normally take less than a second to take more than four days to complete.

Governmentium has a normal half-life of 4 years. It does not decay, but instead under goes reorganization in which a portion of the assistant neutrons and deputy neutrons exchange places. In fact, Governmentium's mass will actually increase over time since each reorganization will cause more morons to become neutrons, forming isodopes.

This characteristic of moron promotion leads some scientists to believe that Governmentium is formed whenever morons reach a critical concentration. This hypothetical quantity is referred to as critical morass. When catalyzed with money, Governmentium becomes Administratium...an element that saps just as much energy as Governmentium since it has half as many peons but twice as many morons. Author Unknown

Now the Rest of the Story

All kidding aside. Let me just say that as we approach the end of the first decade of a New Millennium, it is important for us to remember that our Public Lands belong to all of us. And in spite of our willingness to entrust the management of our lands to designated agencies and or entities, it is incumbent upon each of us as citizens and as a collective body of hobbyists and professionals interested and involved in our lands to be diligent in preserving, protecting and promoting the rights we have in pursuit of the happiness and enjoyment associated with the varied uses provided by our public lands.

Recently, the Secretary of the Interior, Dick Kempthorne stated that "our Public Lands constitute an invaluable recreational, cultural, economic and environmental legacy for the nation. And yet, those who own these lands – The American People – remain largely unaware of their critical importance to our quality of life, their value to present and future generations, or even the purpose for which these lands are preserved in public ownership."

Take for example the BLM which manages roughly 258 million acres of land located primarily in the 12 western states, including Alaska. With a billion dollar budget, the BLM is the nation's largest governmental property management agency which also administers 700 million acres of sub-surface mineral rights on behalf of the public throughout the country. The BLM's present multiple-use mission is to sustain the health and productivity of our Public Lands for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations of Americans.

Let us always remain watchful and let our concerns be voiced, our questions spoken, our voices heard and our actions made known when it comes to the integrity and character of our Public Lands and those charged with its wise use and utilization. In reality "UNDER ALL IS THE LAND."

COMMENTS, THOUGHTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS



b. May 13, 1948.....Long Beach, California d. January 16, 2009.....Aurora, Oregon

Family and friends of Dean Arrasmith were stunned by his passing on January 16, 2009. Dean was the NFMS Safety Director, member of the Clackamette Mineral and Gem Club and Federation Director for CMGC.

Dean left us much too early, but he will not be forgotten by the many persons who benefited from his kindness and support and his lust for knowledge and teaching. Dean coached by questions, his were always insightful, even piercing questions. His goal, of course, was to encourage people to think and question themselves, their thoughts and their methods and their motives. Dean was a big man, in stature, in personality, and mentally. Trying to meet him as an equal was a wonderful challenge! A challenge I can honestly say I never achieved, but enjoyed the chase none the less. In all the other wonderful people I know or have known, there are only a few, less than a handful, who could match Dean's mental capacity and agility or even his quest for knowledge and insight. Yes, he was a very big man. He was a gentleman who made all of our lives richer by far, simply by knowing him. And in my case, at least, there was the pursuit of a goal to be a little more perfect because I learned to challenge myself, my thoughts, my methods and my motives.

The above tribute was written by his wife BettyAnn Arrasmith.



N.F.M.S. ROCKHOUND NOMINATIONS FOR 2008 & 2009

Bozeman Gem & Mineral Club of Montana nominates their 2009 Rockhound(s) of The Year-- RICHARD and

IRENE WENDEL, who have provided leadership and hard work since they joined the club in 1997. Dick and Irene have displayed at all shows, provided slide programs, represented the club at the NFMS level and Montana Council level, and have been active in providing tumbled rocks and grab bags for children. They continue to be valuable leaders for the club--Dick serving as President, and Irene editing the club bulletin and handling the stamps for the club. Their combined efforts have been a truly valuable asset to our organization. Submitted by Jackie Edens, Federation Director

Hell's Canyon Gem Club of Idaho honors RICK WESTERHOLM as their 2009 Rockhound of The Year. Rick has been President, Field Trip Leader and is a staunch and loyal supporter of our club. He designed and manages our club Web Site and has held many offices. He is always helpful to new members, works hard during shows and demonstrates his lapidary and silversmith expertise by designing and building equipment, then shares his designs and ideas with other rockhounds. Here's to a real Rock! Submitted by Rose A. McArthur, Federation Director.

Dr. Dean G. Arrasmith The Rock Rollers of Spokane, Washington, have great pleasure in recognizing LEON AGEE as their 2008 Rockhound of the Year. Leon has given over twentyfive years of service to this club including Club President, Show Chairman, Show Judge and Lapidary Judge. The American Golden Topaz on display in the Smithsonian Museum was cut by Leon. This topaz weighs 10.1 pounds and has 172 facets. He is an awesome jeweler and lapidary and is truly a remarkable man. Submitted by Vic Cooper, Federation Director

> The Rock Rollers of Spokane, Washington, have great pleasure in recognizing JIM COTANT as their 2009 Rockhound of the Year. Jim has given over thirty years of service to this club including Federation Director, President, Show Chair and other elected positions. He teaches lapidary at the club twice a week and demonstrates lapidary at local schools. The Rock Rollers realize what a 'gem' they have with Jim's hard work over the years. Submitted by Vic Cooper, Federation Director

To Field Trip Chairman

I am Glen Ripper from the Puyallup Valley Gem & Mineral Club plus a few others that are no longer around. I have been a rockhound for over 30 years. One of my passions is Obsidian. I have collected all over the westen United States for

Obsidian. I read in the Northwest Newsletter about the Inter-Regional

Rockhound Rendezous in May. I have dug all that area for many years, mostly at Lassen Creek for the Electric

Blue. I would suggest that in your next article you remind people that the altitude is about 7,000 feet and can get below freezing at night. I have been there in mid June and had snow on the inter roads between Lassen Creek and Davis Creek. If you are in a tent, it can get pretty cold, so bring a heavy duty sleeping bag.

I plan on being there and will have maps of the whole area with all of the inter roads, where to go for what material they want to dig. Also, I can show people who want to dig at Lassen the best method for digging there. I would suggest that the number one tool be a pry bar followed by a mattock or a trenching tool and the usual shovel, hammers and chisels.

I am also sending you an article I wrote on Orientation of Sheen Obsidian with some photos. You can use them in your next newsletter or not up to you. I just thought that it might generate more people to come out. This is a great area to hunt in, and you can get lots of material.

I am looking forward to meeting everyone and sharing my knowledge that took me many years to learn.

Happy Rock hunting.



Photo to the left is Rainbow obsidian from Davis Creek



Photo to the left is polished Electric Blue from Lassen Creek;

Editor's note: Unfortunately the photos of obsidian are not very impressive in black and white. For a color version go to the website.





All American Club (Urgent Response Needed)

By Jim & Libby Spencer Education Chairs

As new education co-chairs for the NFMS, we have been charged with promoting the All-American Club "Yearbook" Award. This article will give you a brief overview of the

award, its intent and the application process. We think that the All-American Club Award is a wonderful opportunity for clubs to share their exciting activities and achievements. "The All American Club Award was established to encourage clubs to share their activities and expertise with other clubs within their respective regions and with the clubs of the America Federation of Mineralogical Societies. It was also meant to provide an organized approach to an historical record of a club's activities, and provide a means for national recognition of these exceptional clubs. (www.amfed.org)"

The application for the Award can be downloaded from the AFMS website (www.amfed.org). The application is pretty straightforward and while giving clubs an opportunity to share what they are doing, it is also an opportunity for evaluation, discussion and improvement of club programs. "This is not a competition between clubs, but rather a competition of each club against a 'national standard', established by a committee of judges and regional chairmen. (www.amfed.org)"

The applications for the All American Club Award should be submitted to us by **March 15, 2009** for forwarding to the AFMS chairman. This is a good time to get started. Starting now will give your club plenty of time to gather the required information, discuss, assemble and submit your award application. The form is divided into six sections. Over the past year, the AFMS newsletter has contained a series of articles highlighting the Award and discussing the different sections of the application. If you're interested, the newsletters can also be found on the AFMS website. By way of summary, however, this is what you'll find:

<u>Section 1</u> is short and simply asks for contact information and a few facts about your club (number of members, meeting location, mission statement, etc.) <u>Section 2</u> is your opportunity to describe what your club offers to its members and guests. For example, you will tell about your general meetings, board meetings, social events, field trips and shows, and any other special activities. This is a chance to really look at all the things that make your club special. It's also a chance to think about things you could do differently or better.

In Section 3, tell about your publications and the ways you publicize club activities. Do you have a newsletter? A website? How do people find out about your mission and activities? You will want to attach copies of your club newsletter, fliers and any media coverage that's been collected.

How does your club support your regional federation, AFMS and other clubs? <u>Section 4</u>, is your opportunity to share about how you reach beyond your local community to learn from and support rock hounds and mineral enthusiasts outside of your own group. This could be by involvement of your club members in the NFMS or AFMS or simply by participation in joint field trips (with other clubs) or attendance at shows. Again, you will want to attach copies of documentation such as photos, news articles, letters or reports.

Section 5 asks about your club involvement in your community. Does someone in your club give talks at local schools? Do you have a display you set up in a public site such as a community fair? Do you donate materials to schools or community groups or get involved in local affairs and activities? This is a chance to highlight those activities and don't forget to attach any pictures, thank you letters or reports. The final section, section 6, is the most difficult for some clubs. It won't be, though, if your club is active in governmental affairs. Do you have someone that serves on a government committee or makes comments on legislative or agency proposals that affect club interests? Do you support lobbying activities that protect collecting site availability? Tell about your efforts and attach the requested materials.

One final note--neatness counts. Of the total 100 points possible, 15 are attributed to overall format and presentation. You'll want to make sure your submission is neat, well organized and checked for spelling and grammar.

Last year, only one club in the NFMS submitted an application. Let's make this year a much different story. We know there are more clubs in the Northwest that are running wonderful, interesting programs. We'd love to hear about them and we'd love to show the AFMS what's going on out west! Send your completed packet to: Jim and Libby Spencer, PO Box 250, Gladstone, OR 97027. If you have questions, we can be reached at: 503 657 5290 or the_spencers@comcast.net.

2009 AFMS Webmaster Contest is Off and Running By Phyllis George

Webmaster Contest Chair

This contest exists to help the various webmasters enhance their club Web sites in an effort to increase the interest of the general public in the gem and mineral hobby, to gain new members, and to serve as a source of current club information for their members. Through this contest the judges assigned to the seven regional federations—Mike Baldwin, Stephen Douglas, Dan Imel, Wes Lingerfeldt, Al Pennington, Win Robertson, and Don Shurtz—are serving as mentors for these various clubs by giving



the webmasters encouragement and friendly constructive criticism on what they are doing right and where they need to improve.

The Webmaster Contest also has its own logo! Ron Gibbs, editor and webmaster for the Charlotte Gem & Mineral Club of Charlotte, North Carolina, is also a graphic artiste extraordinaire. Ron donated his time and expertise to design and develop our logo. Thank you to Marty Hart for steering me to Ron and his skill.

I've received e-mails telling me that the judging information and guidelines published for the contest have already helped some of the webmasters who want to improve their sites.

Dan Alfrey, webmaster of Lake George Gem & Mineral Club, Lake George, Colorado wrote: "We've had a lot of fun with our site. This contest truly has motivated our club to update our site and make sure everything is fully functional! We sincerely appreciate the guidelines and scoring references in order to help make the site more informative and complete!"

Bob Loeffler, webmaster of North Jeffco Gem & Mineral Club, Arvada, Colorado wrote: "I think this contest is a great idea because it might help push clubs to create a Web site (if they haven't already done so) or keep their existing Web site updated with fun and relevant info to help educate the public."

All the entries submitted to this brand new contest from the various regional federations are now in the hands of their assigned judges. Two judges are assigned to each region, but none of the judges is from the regions they are judging. Each contestant's combined scores from the two judges will be averaged to determine his or her final placement in their region.

No trophies will be awarded at the regional level. The original plan was to award a trophy to the first place winner in each regional federation. I just learned that the regional federations have not had an opportunity to vote on whether they support the Webmaster Contest, so no regional first place plaques can be awarded this year. However, we will be awarding certificates for each of the top ten places and for honorable mention. I apologize to everyone who is disappointed about this, but the contest will be running for at least two more years, so maybe the policy can be changed going forward.

So, there will not be a plaque awarded to the first place regional federation winners, but I think they will receive something far better than a plaque. The first place winners will each have their entries forwarded to Bob Keller, the man who is judging at the AFMS level.

Bob is the first rockhound webmaster to have a presence on the World Wide Web—the Internet. Bob put the first rock shop up on the Internet in March 1995, and he called it Bob's Rock Shop. It began as a home page with eight or so images of rocks from his own collection. It is still called Bob's Rock Shop and is still at www.rockhounds.com, but it is now far more than that.

Bob will give the regional first place winners the benefit of his wisdom, his extensive Web experience, and his knowledge of what works and what doesn't. He will analyze each of the sites forwarded to him, and he will give useful feedback on what is being done well and how each site can be improved. Thank you, Bob, for agreeing to participate in our contest, for giving our first place regional winners the benefit of your hard-won wisdom as the world's premier rockhound webmaster, and for helping us achieve our goal of having rock and gem club Web sites that are as good as they can be.

All the contestants at the AFMS level will receive a certificate signifying their rank, and the first place winner will also receive an AFMS first place plaque.

The results of the various regional Webmaster Contests will be announced at the annual meetings of the regional federations during their Bulletin Editors' Breakfast. The results of the AFMS Webmaster Contest will be announced at the NFMS/AFMS joint Show & Convention in Billings, Montana on August 1 during the Bulletin Editors' Breakfast.

NFMS/AFMS NON-COMPETITIVE ENTRY FORM 2009 Earth & Sky Treasures Show & Convention July 30 – August 2, 2009	Application Deadline for Non-Competitive Exhibits is July 5, 2009	NameAddress	Phone Number E-Mail	Junior Exhibit (Y/N)	Type of Exhibit (Fossils, Minerals etc.)	If you need a case, please make your reservation as soon as possible, you will need to bring your own liners and risers.	You may set up your case between 12:00 noon and 8:00 P.M. on Wednesday, 29 July 2009 or between 8:00 A.M. and 10.00A.M., Thursday 30 July 2009. Exhibits may not be removed	before 5:00 P.M. Sunday, 2 August 2009. Security will be provided during set-up and during the four days of the show. Should you need to open your case during the show, you must have a member of the show committee present while exhibit is open.	The Billings Gem and Mineral Club, NFMS, AFMS assume no responsibility for any loss or damage to any exhibitor's property. SECURITY WILL BE FURNISHED	TWO GUEST PASSES PER EXHIBITOR WILL BE PROVIDED LIABILITY: It is mutually agreed that the Northwest and American Federation of Mineralogical Societies and the Billings Gem & Mineral Society shall not be liable to any Exhibitor in whole or part. This includes the property of the exhibitor or the injury to their	person resulting from any cause. Submitting this signed application for entry constitutes acceptance of these rules and regulations. Signature		Mail NON-COMPETITIVE Exhibit application before July 5, 2009 to:	Debbie MacDowall 6125 Link Circle Shepherd, Mt. 59079
AFMIS/NFMIS SHOW & CONVENTION July 30-August 2, 2009 <u>ADVANCE REGISTRATION (Deadline: July 10, 2009</u>)	Name:	Address:	Your Local Club/ or Federation Affiliation:	Please CIRCLE all that apply: AFMS/NFMS Officer* Past President Director/Delegate Alt Director/ Delegate AFMS/NFMS Officer* Past President Director/Delegate Alt Director/ Delegate Committee Chair (if so, what position) Judge* Clerk Demonstrator Commertitive Exhibitor* Noncommertitive Exhibitor*	DAILY RATE DAYS TOTAL COST \$5.00 \$15.00 \$ \$5.00 \$ \$ Free \$ \$	<u>Note: All food events require reservations</u> . If you plan to attend a no cost event please, CIRCLE THE EVENT NAME. Location codes: C=Cottonwood Room, M = Missouri Room or Ballroom, & B = Bitterroot Room	TUESDAY, July 28, 2009 - Rules & Awards Meeting (C)	WEDNESDAY, July 29,2009:8 a.m 4 p.m AFMS Annual Meeting (C)8 a.m 4 p.m AFMS Scholarship Meeting (C)4 p.m 6 p.m.	FRIDAY, July 31, 2009: - NFMS Registration (M)4 p.m NFMS Annual Meeting (M)5 p.m AFMS Cracker Barrel (M)7:30 p.m.	SATURDAY, August 1, 2009 - AFMS/NFMS Past Pres & Committee Chair Luncheon (B) - Social Hour (M) 5-7 p.m. - Social Hour (M) 6-7 p.m. - AFMS Awards Banquet 7 p.m.	SUNDAY, August 2, 2009 - AFMS/NFMS All Editor's Breakfast (B) 8-10 a.m. \$13.00 \$ - All Editor's Symposium (B) 10-Noon	Total Due & Enclosed \$	Make check payable to: 2009 AFMS/NFMS Show Committee Return this registration form, with check or money order to:	Debbie MacDowall 6125 Link Circle Shepherd, MT 59079

NFMS JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENT AWARD PROGRAM Updated November, 2006 by Gary Buhr

A.) The NFMS Juniors Committee Chairman shall promote this Award, including the past and present winners, throughout the entire year at every appropriate opportunity.

- Official announcement of the upcoming contest along with the rules and application will be published during February (Whoops) and March in the Northwest Newsletter and on the NFMS Website Juniors Page. The rules and application will remain all year on the NFMS Website Juniors Page and applications can be downloaded.
- Completed applications and resumes will be due each year with a postmark deadline on the first day of April. This will be the same date each annual cycle.
- After receiving the applications and resumes, the Juniors Committee Chairman shall make copies and send with score sheets to the NFMS President, 1st VP, and 2nd VP, to be judged and returned by April 15. The Juniors Committee Chairman shall also judge each application. After all judged applications are returned, the scores will be tallied and winners determined by the Juniors Committee Chairman.
- Juniors Committee Chairman will notify the Junior Achievement Award Winners and their parents/guardians by the first day of May. This will be the same date each annual cycle. Thence, allowing time to plan for the Awards Banquet at the NFMS Annual Show and Convention where the Awards are to be presented.
- Junior Achievement Award Winners and their families can attend the Awards portion of the Banquet without dining and buying a Banquet ticket or they can purchase Banquet tickets in advance like other Award Winners of the evening and enjoy the full evening of dining and Awards. If the Winners do not attend, the Juniors Committee Chairman will make sure they receive their Awards.

B.) The NFMS Junior Achievement Award Trust Fund was established in 1989 for the purpose of providing at least one monetary award to the Junior whose submitted resume/outline rates highest in the opinion of the judges. Your age determines whether you enter the age 12 and under category or the age 13 to 18 category. The applicant must not have had an eighteenth birthday prior to the date of application, because then the applicant would no longer be defined as a Junior, but the applicant can turn 18 between application and presentation of the Awards. The judging panel consists of the NFMS President, NFMS 1st VP, NFMS 2nd VP and the Juniors Committee Chairman. Judging is based on the judges' subjective interpretations of the relevant quality of the applicant's resume/outline. The Award is presented to a Junior applicant who is a member in good standing with a Rock Club affiliated with the Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies. The Junior applicant should be active in our hobby, education & school, community and work related achievements. The primary Award Winner will receive a certificate, a check, a pen set and his/her name on the legendary plaque. More than one Award Winner is possible, depending on the entries and ages of participants. Each participating Junior MUST personally author their written resume/outline. Your application, score sheet and resume/outline MUST BE POSTMARKED by the first day of April.

C.) Here are your three EZ steps:

- 1. Write or type a short summary (resume/outline) about what your achievements are, regarding Sections I, II, III & IV from the SCORE SHEET below.
- 2. Photocopy the SCORE SHEET and APPLICATION from the Northwest Newsletter or download them from the NFMS Website Juniors Page. Fill out the APPLICATION and have your Rock Club representatives sign their spaces.
- 3. Mail your summary (resume/outline), the SCORE SHEET and completed APPLICATION to the NFMS Juniors Committee Chairman, postmarked by April first to the following address:

Gary Buhr, Junior Chairman 1242 State Ave., PMB 157,#1 Marysville, WA 98270-3672

D.) SCORE SHEET (judges fill this out) Section I. HOBBY RELATED (45 Points)

Club involvement (field trips, committees, show participation) 20 points possible______

Hobby Craft involvement (faceting, lapidary, metals, collecting) 20 points possible

Competitive involvement (display, articles, promotion, awards) 5 points possible_____

Section II. EDUCATIONAL ACHIEVEMENT (25 Points)

Scholastic (honor roll, advanced classes, improvement of grades) 15 points possible_____

Extracurricular (sports, drama, debate, drill team, music) 10 points possible_____

Section III. COMMUNITY ACHIEVEMENT (20 Points) Events involvement (charity, volunteer, donation programs) 10 points possible_____

Scouts, Campfire, 4H-Club, Other community groups 10 points possible_____

Section IV. WORK RELATED (10 Points)

Employment, Home Chores, Neighborhood Work, Business 10 points possible_____

TOTAL SCORE SHEET POINTS_

E.) APPLICATION--Junior Achievement Award (confidential info) Applicant Name_____

Rock Club Name		
Date of Birth	Age	
City	State	Zip Code
Phone or Email		
Your Federation Dir	ector Name	
Federation Director	Signature	
Your Rock Club Pre	esident Name	
Club President Sign	ature	
Applicant Signature		



NFMS/AFMS COMPETITION ENTRY FORM (Continued) (AFMS RULES)	NAME	ADDRESS	PHONE EMAIL	SOCIETY	This display is to be entered in (check one)NFMS orAFMS Direct	EXHIBITOR GROUP: MASTER ADVANCED NOVICE JUNIOR SOCIETY JUNIOR SOCIETY	EXHIBIT DIVISION: EXHIBIT CLASS:	If JUNIOR, give birth date:	If Direct Entry, indicate when and where eligibility was earned	Do you have your own case? <u>Size: Width Height Depth</u> Do you want to borrow a case? Cases will be available on a limited basis. Basic size: 4 ft x 2 ft x 2 ft. Liners or risers not available.	CERTIFICATION FOR EXHIBITORS 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 was completed by me. I have read the current rules and agree to abide by them. Exhibitors Signature	PRINT NAME:	Exhibitor's Society:	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.	Signature:	If this is sent email, we need the officer's email	Title Date: Date: BOTH SIDES MUST BE SENT BACK	Be sure and make a copy for your records
Con POLO	SI,	13100 A C	GICAL Y	y 5, 2009	ßpm., Or Thurs. July deine by 8:30am.	ıst 2, 2009. All	OVIDED.	Exhibits are limited to	xtension cord to reach	form and mail or nd acknowledgement. nd @centurytel.net	DLINE: JULY 5,	Contact your regional	for clarification of		ederation of not be liable to any or the injury to their centry constitutes				
NFMS/AFMS COMPETITIVE ENTRY FORM	Earth and Sky Treasures	Η	July 30 – August 2, 2009	COMPETITIVE EXHIBIT ENTRY DEADLINE: July	All entries may be set up beginning Wed July 29, 2009 from 10am to 8pm., Or Thurs. July 30, 2009 between 6am and 8:30am. All entries must be ready for judging by 8:30am.	They may not be removed prior to the close of the show Sunday, August 2, 2009. All exhibits must be removed by 8pm Sunday.	SECURITY WILL BE FURNISHED TWO GUEST PASSES PER EXHIBITOR WILL BE PROVIDED.	Cases will be assigned space on tables approximately 40 inches high.	150 watts of power per case, and exhibitor must supply a three prong extension cord to reach the power supply under the tables. (Normally 10 feet)	Please complete all information on the entry form and the certification form and mail or email to the competitive exhibit registration chairman for acceptance and acknowledgement. Mail to: Dee Holland, P.O. Box 23, Tendoy, ID 83468. or beauholland @centurytel.net	You must fill out a separate application for each entry. ENTRY DEADLINE: JULY 5, 2009	for Competition.	If you are uncertain as to the correct class or group you should enter or the maker of the more correct DEC Box 33 Transaction December 10 83468	Email: beauholland@centurytel.net or shirleyleeson@cox.net	LIABIL/TY: It is mutually agreed that the Northwest and American Federation of Mineralogical Societies and the Billings Gem & Mineral Society shall not be liable to any Exhibitor in whole or part. This includes the property of the exhibitor or the injury to their nerson resulting from any cause. Submitting this signed application for entry constitutes	und regulations.			
	_ /	A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A	VGICAL SOU	COMPETIT	All entries may be set up b 30, 2009 between 6am and	They may not be removed prior to the clos exhibits must be removed by 8pm Sunday.	TWO GUEST	Cases will be assigned spa	150 watts of power per cas the power supply under the	Please complete all inform email to the competitive ey Mail to: Dee Holland, P.(You must fill out a separa 2009	Refer to the AFMS Rules Updated to January 2009 Supply Chair for updated rules, or go to: amfed.org	If you are uncertain as to the most of the	Email: beauholland@cent	LIABILITY: It is mutually Mineralogical Societies an Exhibitor in whole or part.	acceptance of these rules and regulations.	Sionature		

YON

MINERALO

Field Trip Interrupted (Continued from last Month) by Beth Heesacker, Clackamette Mineral and Gem Club



Around Socorro we were able to collect manganese and psilomelane along with some other interesting rocks but many places we could not find, or if we found the place we could not find anything of interest. We did spend a few days in the Caballo Lake area and found banded rhyolite, quartz crystals, snowflake rhyolite, and lots of agate and jasper where the creek almost made the road to the crystal area impassable. The washout uncovered lots of beautiful specimens.

We found Rincon jasper and barite but not the place to collect coral. The road was too washed out to travel far enough up

the hill so we headed on to Hatch. One warning about that town. You can smell it from miles away in the fall. It is not called the Pepper Capital for nothing.

We traveled on to Radium Springs to try to find the owner of a rainbow onyx mine. It took a while but we did find his place but he was not home. We did locate his mother who showed us some of the onyx from the mine which made us want to give it a try anyway. The owner would not be back though until too late for us to stay so we found the mine, chose our samples carefully according to the information in the book and headed back out the long road. By the time we got back out the owner was home, we paid him his fee and had a very friendly conversation with him. I am really looking forward to polishing up some of that onyx. It is quite beautiful in the rough.

Deming has an interesting attraction for rockhounds. The state has formed a Rockhound State Park. We did not collect there due to the long walk required to get to the areas but they were having a native plant sale so I bought some cacti that I hope will be a constant, pointed reminder of our trip.

Near Lordsburg we ran into a rockhound from Maine and we traded rocks. He gave us a piece of Lipidilite from Maine and we gave him some Oregon opal. Despite the fact that one mine in the area is open and has the roads gated, we were able to find malachite, azurite, chrysocholla and peacock ore in the other mine dumps there.

Next we were off to Arizona. In the Tucson area we visited both the east and west Saguaro National Parks and searched for fossils near Peppersauce Campground (not very successfully). North of Phoenix we spent a few days in the Cave Creek area and loaded more agate, jasper and onyx on our already overloaded pickup and trailer. At the onyx mine we disturbed some very large golden wasps and had to high-tail it out of there fast. Interruption #4. We did get some nice onyx but did not want to irritate those wasps any more than we had. I think they have a warning system of some sort. Every time we stopped in the area we were surrounded by more wasps. They must have warned all the wasps in the whole area of our presence.

We then headed to the Mogollon Rim area and the towns of Strawberry and Pine. The small, colorful towns are down in a very deep valley in a wonderful evergreen forest. Here we collected very interesting fossils of crinoids and shells in a few different areas.

The Petrified Forest National Park drew us next. Wow, what an experience. The Painted Desert area of the park, the geological formations and the amount and size of the logs was one of the high points of our trip. While at the park we talked to one of the rangers about places to legally collect petrified wood. It turns out that she is also a rockhound and told us about her favorite place. We took her advice.

There is a road near, but outside of the park, that is regularly graded. This brings up more wood all the time. We got out of the pickup and were able to collect our limit of wood (it is BLM land) fairly quickly. The only problem is that it was pouring down rain and was blowing it almost horizontally. We changed tactics and opened the window of the pickup on the side opposite of the wind, drove down the road close to the ditch and jumped out when we saw anything interesting. We still got soaked but found a wonderful collection of petrified wood pieces. We did not count this as an interruption, just a slow down. Sunset Crater National Park was our next place on the map. Here the lava flows and the Native American ruins were somewhat interesting but it would not be rated high on our list of places to stop.



The Grand Canyon is, of course, a must stop if you are in the area. Many of you have probably been there and seen the wonderful geological formations and experienced the grandeur. You also have probably stopped at many of the Native American shopping stalls along the highway. We bought a few souvenirs, were given a large piece of turquoise and bought another large piece of Sleeping Beauty turquoise.

In southern Utah there are 4 parks within a few miles of each other. The Grand Staircase, Zion, Red Canyon and Bryce Parks are again must stops. The views and the geological forces that produced them are some of the highlights of the trip.

The Grand Staircase is just north of the state border. The park is managed by the BLM and has a great visitors' center. One of the geologist-paleontologists that works in the area is also a park ranger. He was very informative and wonderfully friendly. He gave us an ammonite plate and moqui marbles he had found. We asked if there were places to collect outside the park and he told us to just drive across the highway and a mile up the road. We were able to find fossil plates in the shale on what is called Utah Trust Land where it is ok to dig.

There is a wonderful rock shop in Kanab. Looks like a high-end place but the prices were quite reasonable, especially the 50% off corner. Another rock shop in Orderville, called The Mine, had a wonderful selection and good discounts. We purchased a medium sized matching set of amethyst cathedrals from their discount table that are very nice. They form the entire vug when closed together. The owners of the shop gave us some information on how to find septarian nodules. We found some pieces but no whole ones. Evidently they also find large ammonites in the area too. We were shown one they had recently discovered and by the time we got back from rockhounding that day I had decided I wanted to purchase it. Of course the shop was closed by then. Well, I called them the other day and purchased it. Hope to receive it any day in the mail.

Zion Park was the most magnificent place we visited. I am still in awe of the wonderful colors and formations. The drive in was a bit scary with the very tight switchbacks and the need to pay for traffic to be stopped in order to get our trailer into the park through a very narrow and very long tunnel. It was very much worth this extra effort. Red Canyon Park and Bryce Park were also awesome places to see.

We now come to interruption #5. We had planned to head east in Utah on Highway 70, then retrace our steps and head east on Highway 50 and come back to central Utah before continuing north. But while at Bryce we heard that snow was expected the next day. We left that evening and headed down off of the Colorado Plateau and west toward Nevada to beat the snow.

One of the geological features in Nevada is the Basin and Range. Stretching of the area has caused a series of deep valleys formed by dropping blocks of the earth's crust separated by ranges of mountains. This area is <u>really</u> different. Climb up, then down, climb up, then down, etc. We stopped in Ely but we were not fast enough to escape the snow. In the morning we woke up to snow on the ground. Not wanting to wait for it to get deeper, we left and had about 70 miles of snow storms and snow on the road to drive through until we were far enough north to get out of the bad weather. Interruption #6.

We decided we needed to get home before winter really set in, so up Nevada to Idaho and home. Six thousand four hundred miles from the start we were home. Glad to be home but we are already starting to plan how we can get back to the areas we missed due to all the interruptions.



Juniors Chairman

Gary Buhr

It seems unbelievable that twenty five percent of 2009 is going,

going, gone! In order to keep up with the Rockhounding events that interest you, pull out the calendars of future months or your NFMS Newsletter and mark the dates so you can savor the moments as they come and go. Besides the circled dates, it is always astute to begin saving some dollars every month so you can enjoy full participation, even though our cash flows, allowances, and incomes have slowed with the American and related global economies. Just imagine how educational and empowering it will be for you to walk through the sparkling aisles of the 2009 AFMS/NFMS Annual Show and Convention in Billings, Montana during July 30, 31 and August 1, 2, plus the Moon Rock, Dinosaurs, Yogo Sapphires and world-class Field Trips following the Show.

Has your Junior Rock Club started planning to participate in your Rock Club Annual Show? First meeting this year, sixteen Everett Rookie Rockhounds were abuzz about what they were going to display and how they each wanted to help at the KIDS CORNER events at their Annual Rock Show last weekend of February. As Juniors Advisor, it is imperative that you create enthusiasm for participation, lead your group by being a good role model and develop continuity by putting "fun zones" into place, which are simple, reproducible, and sustainable on a year to year basis because those are primary elements of familiarity for kids to feel safe and secure. Ever notice that McDonald's, Burger King or Wendy's establishments are "fun zones" of familiarity? Remember to check out all the helpful resources available on the Juniors Page of your NFMS Website. Please give your Webmaster Jack Eads a great big "Thank You" next time you see him! Also you are invited to email GB if you have specific questions about launching or sustaining success within your Junior Rock Club activities.

The most immediate BIG DEAL is that of the 2009 NFMS Junior Achievement Awards. If you are a super achiever and like to excel in this hobby, school, community activities and work related activities then you should definitely consider entering the 2009 NFMS Junior Achievement Awards. You are invited! Rules, criteria and applications are all published in this issue of your NFMS Newsletter or can be downloaded anytime from the Juniors Page of your NFMS Website. Winners receive cash, a personalized pen set, a Certificate of Achievement and First Place Winners have their name added to a Legendary Plaque for each of the two age categories. If you decide to enter, your Application and Resume MUST be postmarked by April 1, 2009. All Winners will be notified by phone way before the presentations at the Awards Banquet during your NFMS Annual Show and Convention in Billings, MT this summer.

For the past few years we have really missed the passion and presence of legendary Toby Cozens of West Seattle Rock Club at the NFMS KIDS CORNER because of her historic and educational perspectives of how to get things done successfully. Last Fall another great legend of NFMS passed into a heavenly place; NFMS Past President Carroll Dillon of Skagit Rock & Gem Club, North Puget Sound Faceting Guild and Intermountain Faceters Guild always supported Junior Rockhound activities, was the man who introduced GB to NFMS in the early 1980's, and clearly could be considered the greatest Northwest Federation "PR" Agent in history! "Can-do" Carroll Dillon exuded eternal optimism and always had something to contribute every time there was a problem to be solved successfully. We miss the legendary greats of NFMS, but if you miss our Annual Show and Convention where the great legends gather to participate, then how will you "carry the ball" when it is your opportunity to become great? Fortunately, we already have some Junior Rockhounds who enjoy great participation at Regional NFMS events. Will you be there to carry your hobby into the future?

We have good news from 2009 NFMS Annual Show and Convention Chairman Doug True about very generous accommodations for the 2009 NFMS KIDS CORNER. There will be reserved space, tables and a good location for everyone to enjoy throughout the weekend of fun. GB and "van-go" travel troupe will drive more than 800 miles during our travel day to arrive at the Big Show this July. My main mission there is to set up and facilitate the 2009 NFMS KIDS CORNER. This fun zone goes through hundreds of pounds of rock prizes during the weekend and we cannot transport it all plus the KIDS CORNER props in the one van. So it is time to begin begging for donations! Please make a donation of nice prize material such as polished agates or jaspers, petrified woods, fossils, geodes, thundereggs, single crystals, small crystal specimens or anything you believe a Junior Rockhound would like to win when spinning the four foot Wheel of Fortune or Gem Panning in dry sand. Any kind of craft item is very welcome for the table of Critter Making. Finally, we will need at least 20 quality prizes for the Junior Achievement Trust Raffle that is a BIG part of the KIDS CORNER activities. Raffle donations can be lapidary work, Rockhound tools, books, nice specimens, jewelry or again, what you think would be a superb prize for a winning Raffle Ticket. The Raffle Drawing is always held on Sunday afternoon before the Show closes. Each year we nearly need to put up the "sold out" sign because of the volume that goes out of the KIDS CORNER. Your generosity will be genuinely appreciated by all of the Junior Rockhounds and customers that enjoy this part of the Show, which really benefits the education, excitement and fun that creates positive memories for each to go home with. Another BIG need we will have is dependable Junior Rockhounds to operate the KIDS CORNER who can count change, are friendly, well behaved, and can interact successfully with peers or customers that are both adults and kids. If interested or questions, please send an email to GB (gemnut@hotmail.com), so we can plan ahead for everyone that wants to PARTICIPATE in the fun zone of 2009, Billings, MT.



"News Flash March 2009"

"Pictured are example of top helpers at the KIDS CORNER, left to right are SKYLAR VAN DER PUTTEN, 2007 NFMS Junior Achievement Award Winner COLIN ROWE, JILLIAN BERG, 2005 NFMS Junior Achievement Award Winner LAURA CIMOLINO, and VERONICA MOREAU, will you be there to help in 2009?"

Field Trip Interrupted (Con't)

Other small interruptions included running out of burlap sacks to sort our rock into in order to keep track of where it was collected. A hint for those who want to use burlap sacks is to seek out farm/feed stores to purchase more. They usually have a few empty ones for sale. Another series of interruptions were to rearrange the rock in the back of the pickup and inside the trailer in order to allow us to pack on more rock and to clear the way to hitch up the trailer after a day of rockhounding.

During the trip we did buy a bit of rock from rock shops including mineral specimens and a set of amethyst cathedrals. The cathedrals were sitting on a table with a 50% off sign. We looked but decided against purchasing them. The shop owner then said he would give us 60% off so we went back to look. He followed us out and offered us 65% off. We chose 2 that fit together (the 2 halves of the vug). He did not realize they were a matched set but we showed him that they were. A set that would have cost us \$550 went home with us for under \$200.

We went from our 70 degree weather here at home to 107 degrees in the desert to 20 degrees in the mountains. We went from close to sea level to almost 11,000 feet in elevation. We saw desert with many different kinds of cactus depending on area and elevation, grassland, evergreen forests and deciduous trees in full fall color.

On this 5 week long and magnificent trip I took about 4000 pictures of geological features, flowers and plants. Many of these might be used in my discussions in the Westside Geology Group meetings, some in my art work as resource materials, and some to share with our rock club. All of the pictures, along with the 2 ton of rock we brought back, the many books (about a 5 ft. tower of geology, art and native American art books) and the cactus bed will be wonderful reminders of time spent with my husband having a great rockhounding time. Interruptions and all, it was a trip of a lifetime.

BC GEM SHOW April 17, 18, 19, 2009

Fri 10:00 am - 8:00 pm Sat 10:00 am - 6:00 p.m. Sun 10:00 am - 5:00 pm

CFV Fairgrounds, Ag-Rec Bldg. 32470 Haida Drive, Abbotsford, British Columbia Close to the USA Border

THIS YEAR'S FEATURE Sculptures by Cathryn Jenkins Using B.C.stone to create animals of the Northwest

ADULTS \$6.00 STUDENTS \$2.00 CHILDREN UNDER 6 (Free w/Adult). <u>A show for the family</u>

Inter-Regional Rockhound Rendezvous and Field Trip May 20 – 25, 2009 Davis Creek/Lassen Creek, CA

The Northwest and California Federations of Mineralogical Societies are hosting an Inter-Regional Rockhound Rendezvous and Field Trip to Davis Creek/Lassen Creek, over Memorial Day Weekend 2009 for **OBSIDIAN**!! And all AFMS society members and guests are invited.

Directions: From the south - Take your favorite route to Alturas, CA in the far northeast corner of California. From Alturas, go north on US Route 395. Approximately 22 miles from Alturas is the small town of Davis Creek. Continue another 11 miles to FS Access Rd. 30. **From the north** – Take your favorite route to Lakeview, OR in south central Oregon. From Lakeview go south on US Route 395 approximately 22 miles to FS Access Rd. 30. Here you should see the first orange paper plate with arrows that direct you to camp. Turn and follow this road and the orange paper plates 5.5 miles. Turn right and cross the small bridge. After you cross the bridge you will see the Lassen Creek Campgrounds on your left, turn left into the campground.

Facilities: The campground is a large meadow with some large pine trees and two small streams. This is a "dry camping" area with one very nice pit toilet. It can accommodate all sizes of motorhomes and trailers and is also very good for tenters. At Davis Creek there is gas and some groceries, and a great place to get ice cream on a hot afternoon. At Alturas and Lakeview there is gas, food, motels, RV Parks and medical facilities.

Collecting Trips: The organized collecting trips will start on Thursday morning using the schedule below

Schedule:

Selle dalet	
Wednesday, May 21	Arrive at camp.
Thursday, May 22	Daily Field Trips
	Welcome potluck dinner & get together
Friday, May 23	Daily Field Trips
	Tailgate displays
Saturday, May 24	Daily Field Trips
	Tailgate displays
	All Rendezvous Potluck Dinner
Sunday, May 25	Daily Field Trips
Monday, May 26	Break camp to head for home or other adventures

Plan on several potluck dinners, and daily happy hours. Bring firewood for evening campfires. We plan on having a good time and collecting some good material.

Please notify one of the Federation leaders early, but no later than May 16, if you plan to attend. E-mail (or call) if you have questions or need more information. This will be a great opportunity for rockhounds from all over to meet one another to share stories and information about collecting in their home areas. Be sure to bring material from your favorite collecting sites to show and share.

Dick Parks Northwest Federation packrats2@msn.com 360-892-3716 Richard Pankey California Federation dickpankey@juno.com 925-439-7509

General Information

Davis Creek/Lassen Creek is the premier California obsidian collecting area with an abundance of a great variety of beautiful obsidian. This area is noted for sheen obsidian: multi-colored rainbow, electric blue, green, mahogany-gold, silver, gold and pink sheen. Also to be found is mahogany, lace, double flow and needle obsidian. This area is located on Buck Mt. in the heart of the Modoc National Forest. The altitude ranges from 5000 to 7000 feet. A free permit is required for collecting which will be available at camp. In addition to the daily collecting trips we will have potluck dinners, happy hours, speakers, evening campfires, knapping demonstrations, tailgate displays, map exchange, and a great rockhound gettogether.

This trip is open to all members of the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies and their guests. This trip is hosted by Northwest and California Federations of Mineralogical Societies. Everyone who agrees to adhere to the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies Code of Ethics, abide by the direction of the field trip leaders, and practice safe rockhounding is welcome to attend.

Safety Note: Obsidian is Mother Nature's glass and like glass it shatters and is extremely sharp. Goggles or safety glasses, long sleeve shirts and gloves are strongly recommended.

Daily Field Trips:

- All trips will leave at 8:30 AM, **SHARP**, from the campgrounds. Assemble at 8:15 for details and instructions for each day's trip. High clearance vehicles recommended to collecting areas.
- All participants are requested to read and sign a Waiver of Liability.
- We will collect at 4 to 6 different sites for sheen obsidian: multi-colored rainbow, electric blue, green, mahogany-gold, silver, gold and pink sheen. Also to be found is mahogany, lace, double flow and needle obsidian.
- We will divide up into small groups, each group going to a different site each day. Everyone will be able to collect at least once at each site. There will be a signup sheet each day for each site.
- There is float collecting and digging. Bring the following tools: rock bags, rock hammer, shovel, small picks, hoe, rock scoop, spray bottle, safety equipment and whatever else you usually bring.
- High clearance vehicles highly recommended to collecting sites. We will help arrange rides for those who need them.
- 1. There are full hook-up RV parks in Alturas and Lakeview. There are motels in Alturas and Lakeview. E-mail Dick Pankey for names and phone numbers.
- 2. We will have a welcome potluck dinner on Thursday evening and the All Rendezvous Potluck dinner on Saturday evening. Bring food to share and your own plates, eating utensils, tables and chairs. Bring your favorite beverages and snacks to share for Happy Hour each afternoon. We will try to have a campfire each evening so bring firewood.
- 3. Bring rocks and specimens, etc. from your favorite home collecting area to show and swap at the tailgate display. This will be a good time to swap maps, GPS readings and information about your favorite home collecting areas.
- 4. There are a lot of other rockhounding opportunities within 100 miles of our Rendezvous site: sunstones, opal, petrified wood, other obsidian sites, geodes and more. The Rendezvous is a good way to start your summer collecting tour.

Attention Federation Directors, Field Trip Leaders and Bulletin Editors: Please announce this trip at your meetings and publish it in your newsletters. Please make copies of this flier and give it to interested club members to get the word out early so people can start planning for this special field trip and get together.



2009 Gem & Mineral Show Calendar

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TING TA T ANNITAO	Charlie Smith, P.O. Box 1264,	Riggins, ID 83711, 208-628-	4002 info@idahogemclub.com	Tom Rogers	lmr_tmr@safelink.net	208-465-5529	Amanda Newnham	dusstyrocks@aol.com	G. Carlson 541-882-8276.	Norma Kikkert	eastkingco@gmail.com		Leigh Klettke	(509) 299-6662		Col Davie 503 357 4054	Cal Davis Jus-Jus-Jus-	ieweledrose@comcast net		Richard	801-648-5060	club@goldenspikegem.org		Harold Waggoner	208-423-9668	rmetts@cableone.net	Bill Allen	sago@theofficenet.com	Dee David	(541) 367-4895	ced@centurytel.net	Marty Rakatansky (208)233-	2538 Vavin Tavlor 208 227 2760		360-384-4209	debnwes@comcast.net	Linda Groah	503-873-6930	danlindagroah@earthlink.net		Steve or Jeanne Hammond	200-121-201-2012 200-122-1211		Dave Westland	(509) 735-9678	Gary Emberly	360 533 6196 melissa624@hotmail.com	
Show Locauon	Expo Idaho	Glenwood & Chinden	Boise, ID	O'Connor Field House	2200 Blaine	Caldwell, ID	Klamath Co. Fairgrounds,	3531 S. 6th St	Klamath Falls, Or	Pickering Barn,	1730 10th Ave NW	Issaquah WA	Spokane County Fair & Expo	Center, N. 604 Havana @	Broadway, Spokane,	Washington	Complex 873 NF 34th Ave	Hillshoro OR		Gemstone Junction	Union Station	2501 Wall Ave	Ogden, Utah	Boys and Girls Club	999 Frontier Road	Twin Falls, ID	Fort Colville Grange Hall,	Colville. WA	1641 Long St.	Sweet Home, Or.		Commercial Building	Bannock County Fairgrounds	F Ocate110, IdallO Bloedel-Donovan Park	2214 Flectric Ave	Bellingham WA	Polk County Fairgrounds	520 S Pacific Hwy (99W)	Rickreall, Oregon	, , , , ,	City Recreation Center	Memorial Drive & B Street	Idaho Falls, ID	Benton County Fairgrounds	Kennewick, WA	Grays Harbor County	Fairgrounds, 32 Elma- McCleary Rd. Elma. Wa	, , ,
Club/Show Name	Idaho Gem Club Annual	Gem, Mineral, Jewelry &	Fossil Show	Owyhee Gem & Mineral	Society, GEMS ARE	FINE FOR 2009	Rock & Arrowhead Club,	Annual Show Wonderful	World of Jasper	Annual East Kingco	Rock & Gem Show		Rock Rollers Club	50th Anniversary show,	"GOLD"	Tuelotin Vollow Com	Tuatatti vaney Uelli Chih 51st Annual Show	"Nature's Desion"	www.tvgc.org	Golden Spike Gem &	58th Annual Show			Magic Valley Gem Club	Rock and Gem Show		Panorama Gem & Mineral	Eree Admission	Sweet Home Rock &	Min. Soc, 61st Annual	Featuring Thundereggs	Southeast Idaho Gem &	Mineral Society 52nd	Mt Baker Rock & Gem	Club. 48th Rock & Gem	Show	Willamette Agate &	Mineral Soc., 54th	Annual River of Gems,	2009 theme "Jasper"	Idaho Falls Gem &	MILLIETAL SOCIELY		Lakeside Gem and	Mineral Club Annual Show	Grays Harbor Gem and	Geology 41 st Annual Earth's Treasures Show	
Date	Feb 28-Mar 1	Sat 10-7	Sun 10-5	Mar 7-8	Sat 10-6	Sun 10-5	Mar 7-8	Sat 9-5	Sun 10-4	Mar 7-8	Sat 10-6	Sun 10-5	Mar 13-15	Fri 10-6	Sat 10-6	Mor 12 15	Eri 0-5	Sat 10-5	Sun 10-5	Mar 13-15	Fri 10-6	Sat 10-6	Sun 10-5	Mar 14-15	Sat 10-5	Sun 10-4	Mar 27-28	Sat 9-5	Mar 28-29	Sat 10-6	Sun 10-4	Apr 4-5	Sat 10-6	Anr 11-12	Sat 10-6	Sun 10-5	Apr 17-19	Fri 9-6	Sat 10-6	Sun 10-4:30	Apr 18-19	Sal 10-0 Sun 10-5		Apr 18-19	Sat 10-5 Sun 10-4	Apr 25-26	Sat 10-5 Sun 10-5	

Date	Club/Show Name	Show Location	Contact Person
Anr 18-19	Lakeside Gem and	Benton County Fairgrounds	Dave Westland
Sat 10-5	Mineral Club Annual	Kennewick, WA	(509) 735-9678
Sun 10-4	Show		
Apr 25-26	Grays Harbor Gem and	Grays Harbor County	Gary Emberly
Sat 10-5	Geology 41st Annual	Fairgrounds, 32 Elma-	3605336196
Sun 10-5	Earth's Treasures Show	McCleary Rd, Elma, Wa	melissa624@hotmail.com
May 9 – 10	Bozeman Gem and	Gallatin County Fairgrounds	Dan Carter 406-586 4552 or
Sat 10 - 6	Mineral Club	Black & Tamarack [exit I-90	Doug Ellis 406-266-4452
Sun 10 - 4	50th Annual Show	@ N. 7th St.] Bozeman, MT	opalcrusher@hotmail.com
May 16-17	Hatrockhounds Gem and	Hermiston Conference Ctr.,	Mike Filarski
Sat 10 - 6	Mineral Society Annual	Highway 395 South	(541) 922-5091
Sun 10 - 5	Show	Hermiston, OR	stonemorlin1@netscape.net
May 16-17	Bitterroot Gem/Mineral	Bitterroot River Inn Conf. Ctr	Steve Vieth
Sat 10 - 6	Society hosts Montana	139 Bitterroot Plaza Drive	406-363-2632
Sun 10 - 5	State Rock & Gem Show	Hamilton, Montana	STEVEVIETH@gmail.com
May 30-31	West Seattle Rock Club	Alki Masonic Temple	Ron Nims
Sat 10-5	43nd Annual Show	4736 40th Ave. SW.	Ron.Nims@Attachmate.com
Sun 10-5	President's Gemboree	Seattle, WA	
June 6-7	North Idaho Rock Club	Kootenai Co. Fairgrounds	Bev Bockman
Sat 9-5	Annual Rock & Gem	Event Ctr, Kathleen & Gov't	208-773-5384
Sun 10-4	Show, Coeur d'Alene, ID	Way, one block E.of Hwy 95	bockbb@aol.com
June 13-14	Butte Mineral and Gem	Civic Center Annex	Pete Knudsen
Sat 10-6	Club Show	1340 Harrison Ave	406-496-4395
Sun 10-5		Butte, Montana	
Jun 19-21	Oregon Coast Agate Club	Lincoln County Fairgrounds,	Juli Dahl
Fri 10-6	Annual Gem & Mineral	633 NE 3rd St	jdahl2@peak.org.
Sat 10-6	Show, "We're Rockin' the	Newport, OR	541-563-7495
Sun 10-5	Coast in Newport"	4	
Jun26-28	Columbia Willamette	Monarch Hotel	Terry Olson or Haden Olson
Fri 5-9 pm	Faceters Guild Faceting	12566 SE 93rd Avenue	(503) 631-3132
Sat 9-5	Conference	Clackamas, OR	mangriff@ccwebster.net
Sun 9-5	www.facetersguild.com		
Jul 30-Aug 2	NFMS/AFMS	Holiday Inn Grand	Doug True
Thur 10-5	Combined Show hosted	Montana	406-670-0506
Fri 10-5	by Billings Gem &	5500 Midland Rd	dtruefossils@yahoo.com
Sat 10-5	Mineral Club, 51 ²⁴ year	Billings MT	
Sun: 10-5			
Oct 2-4	Clallam County Gem &	Clallam County Boys & Girls	Foster Thompson, 360-670-
Fii 10-5	Mineral Society	Club, Carroll C. Kendall Unit	1405 or 360-681-7981
Sat 10-5	Earth's Treasures	400 West Fir Street	Sonia Zachman 360 453 8588
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		Rockhound Stickers Again	gain
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Remember the article in the last issue of this newsletter? Well, here is the rest of the story. Contact Frank Mullaney, 5705 Begonia Dr., San Jose, CA 95124, : 408-266-1791, http://RockyFive.com/ You can get: Large Stickers, Small Stickers, Patches, Caps, Buttons, Coffee Mugs, Coasters, Travel Mugs, Key Tags, License Plate Frame, Lapel Pin, T-shirts, Mouse Pads.

GINNOHS

Maybe someone will buy a 100 decals (stickers) and sell them at the AFMS/NFMS show