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.

Directions to the Mid Year Meeting in Kennewick, Washington at the Benton County Fairgrounds on April 18, 2009

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
NORTHWEST FEDERATION EXEC. OFFICERS 2008-2009

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

1ST VICE PRESIDENT: Evelyn Caitalo, Lakesides Gem & Mineral Club, 9950 Brandon Dr., Kennewick, WA 99336, (509) 628-0170, ecaitalo@chadahms.com

2nd Vice President: Fritz Mack, 10619 Holly Dr., Everett, WA 98204, (425) 513.0115, rm711@tgi.net

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY: Joan Day, Golden Spike Gem & Mineral Society, 509 Highland Blvd., Brigham City, UT. 84302, (435) 723-8300, jday@sinmar.com

SCHOLARSHIP: Rose Alene McArthur, P.O. Box 302, Canton, MI 48187-2638, (360) 785-3909, cebar62@aim.com

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: Audrey Vogelpohl, West Seattle Rock Club, 8810 37th Ave. SW, Seattle, WA 98126-3617, (206) 932-3292, nfmstreas@comcast.net

NWS SPECIAL COMMITTEES 2009

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

SAFETY: Dean Arrasmith, RockHound@in-tch.com, Mineral Club P.O. Box 427, Butte MT., 59703-0427, (406) 494-7251

RULES & AWARDS CHAIR: Joe Slouber, ramblers@3rivers.net

RESOLUTIONS: Betty Luke, wshatonian@hotmail.com

EDUCATION: Jim & Libby Spencer, Spencers@comcast.net

HISTORIAN: Shirley Leeson, shirleyleeson@cox.net

FEDERATION OFFICES—509 Highland Blvd., Brigham City, UT 84302, 801-479-4286, RockHound@in-tch.com

CREDENTIALS: Mary Bolton, 2nd Vice President, 15740 SE Brooklyn, Portland, OR 97236, (503) 760-5176, philmary@comcast.net

CUSTOMI: Fritz Mack, 2nd Vice President (see above)

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

EDUCATION: Jim & Libby Spencer, Clackamas Gem & Mineral Society, 660 Commercial St. NW, Cladon, ID 83468, (208) 756-2394, snelson@ados.net; TREASURER: NFMS Treasurer (see above)

EXHIBITS REGISTRAR: Dee Holland, Intermountain Facetors Guild, P.O. Box 23, Tendery, ID, 83468, (208) 756-2394, shirleyleeson@cox.net

FINANCIAL ADVISOR: Jon Spurnagle, 4841 Doctor El dendge Dr., Wasonah, WA 98671, 360.624.7604, jonsp@comcast.net

HISTORIAN: Shirley Leeson, Intermountain Facetors Guild, P.O. Box 23, Tendery, ID, 83468, (240) 610-6129 or (208) 756-2394, shirleyleeson@cox.net

JUDGING DIRECTOR: Rocky McCall, Marysville Rock & Gem club, 8330 272nd NE, Stanwood, WA 98292-7430, (425) 629-2515, rm711@tgi.net

JOINTS CHAIR: Gary Buhr, Everett Rock & Gem Club, 124 State Ave., PMB #157, Everett, WA 98207-3672, (360) 659-7776 (work), (425) 356-7696 (cell), gemmut@hotmail.com; AK- Steve Jensen, ID-Barbara Nash, MT-open, OR-Janine Owens UT-7776 (work), (425) 356-7696 (cell), gemmut@hotmail.com

NEWSLETTER EDITOR- Darlene Denton, Lakeside Gem & Mineral Club, 153 Spring St., Richland, WA 99354, (509) 397-5284, rmdent@msn.com

NFMS Club-at-Large: 1st Vice President

NFMS SPECIAL COMMITTEES 2009

THE AMERICAN LANDS ACCESS ASSOCIATION (ALAA) is a 501(c)(4) organization. Its purpose is to promote and ensure the rights 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 before our elected officials, government regulators and public land 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, drobercarlson@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: Darlene Denton, BOX HEDD, c/o AFMS, 10700 E. Foothill Blvd., Fontana, CA 92335

JUDGE TRAINING- Quita Perry, PUBLIC RELATIONS- OPEN, SAFETY-Darlene Arrasmith, SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION- Rose Alene McArthur, SUPPLIES AND PUBLICATIONS-Tim Hoff, JUDGE TRAINING COMMITTEE-Darlene Denton, UNIFORM RULES-Darlene Denton (Director) & Barbara Jacobson, WAYS AND MEANS-Gunn Lee (chair) & Janice Van Cura, WEBSITE-Jack Eads

THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW

Ad for the Northwest Newsletter are $1.50 per square inch. Example: 3” x 4” ad = 12 inches $1.50 x 12 = $18 per issue of the Newsletter

The AFMS NEWSLETTER is the official publication of the Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies (NFMS) and is usually published ten (10) per year. This publication is brought to you through your club membership in NFMS. The purpose of the AFMS 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).

The circulation Chairperson (located elsewhere on this page). If you see an error or item 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 (canceled) stamps is then donated to Cancer Research. The collected stamps can be sent to the STAMPS Chairperson (printed elsewhere on this page), brought to the NFMS Annual Show or given to your Federation Director in your club.

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

ATTENTION CLUB TREASURERS

To send your money (See this page for address, phone, or e-mail)

To NFMS 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 NFMS Scholarship Fund
2. Memorial contributions

Make check payable to NFMS Scholarship Fund, send to Rose Alene McArthur (see Scholarship page).

To NFMS Endowment Fund Treasurer for:

1. Donations to Endowment Fund
2. Memorials

Make check payable to NFMS Endowment Fund, send to Jack Eads, 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. For the specific criteria, please e-mail the Newsletter Editor (printed elsewhere on this page.)

To NFMS Treasurer for:

1. Dues and supplies
2. Donations to Endowment Fund
3. Donations to Junior Achievement
4. Advertisement in this Newsletter

Send to: Lyle Vogelpohl, see Treasurer page.

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NORTHWEST FEDERATION NEWSLETTER is the next NORTHWEST FEDERATION NEWSLETTER is March 15th
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 a field trip to Succor Creek. 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 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!

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COMPETITIVE EXHIBITS, WE NEED YOU…

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 I 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 undergoes 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 Administratorium…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 subsurface 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 their wise use and utilization. In reality “UNDER ALL IS THE LAND.”
Dr. Dean G. Arrasmith
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 Betty Ann Arrasmith.

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 western United States for Obsidian. I read in the Northwest Newsletter about the Inter-Regional Rockhound Rendezvous 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.

The Rock Rollers of Spokane, Washington, have great pleasure in recognizing LEON AGEE as their 2008 Rockhound of the Year. Leon has given over twenty-five 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

N.F.M.S. ROCKHOUND NOMINATIONS FOR 2008 & 2009
Bozeman Gem & Mineral Club of Montana nominates their 2008 Rockhound 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.
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:

Section 1 is short and simply asks for contact information and a few facts about your club (number of members, meeting location, mission statement, etc.)

Section 2 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.

Section 3 tells 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.

Section 4 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 Lingerfieldt, 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 Jefco 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 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.
AFMS/NFMS SHOW & CONVENTION
July 30-August 2, 2009

ADVANCE REGISTRATION (Deadline: July 10, 2009)

Please one form per person. Form may be duplicated. Payment may be combined for families.

Name: _____________________________________________________________________________________

Address: ___________________________________________________________________________________

E-Mail: ___________________________________________ Phone: _________________________________

Your Local Club/ Federation Affiliation: _______________________________________________________

Please CIRCLE all that apply:
AFMS/NFMS Officer* Past President Director/Delegate Alt Director/ Delegate Committee Chair (if so, what position ___________________) Judge* Clerk Demonstrator Competitive Exhibitor* Noncompetitive Exhibitor*

SHOW ADMISSION

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Note: All food events require reservations. 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) 1 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, July 29,2009:
- 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) 12-1 p.m. $15.50 $___________
- Social Hour (M) 6-7 p.m. No Host
- AFMS Awards Banquet 7 p.m. $29.00 $___________

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/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

Name __________________________________________

Address _________________________________________

Phone Number ______________________ E-Mail ______________________

Junior Exhibit (Y/N) _________

Size of Exhibit if not standard NFMS 2’ high x 2’ deep x 4’ wide

Type of Exhibit (Fossils, Minerals etc.) ______________________

I will bring my own display case, (Y/N)__________

I would like to borrow a case (Y/N) _____________

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
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. Hence, 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)

- Employment, Home Chores, Neighborhood Work, Business  
  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

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 Director Name________________________

Federation Director Signature________________________

Your Rock Club President Name________________________

Club President Signature________________________

Applicant Signature________________________
NFMS/AFMS COMPETITIVE ENTRY FORM

Earth and Sky Treasures
HOLIDAY INN GRAND MONTANA CONVENTION CENTER
July 30 – August 2, 2009

COMPETITIVE EXHIBIT ENTRY DEADLINE: July 5, 2009

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. Exhibits are limited to 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

Refer to the AFMS Rules Updated to January 2009 for Competition. Contact your regional Supply Chair for updated rules, or go to: amfed.org

If you are uncertain as to the correct class or group you should enter or for clarification of the rules, contact DEE HOLLAND, P.O. Box 23, Tendoy, ID 83468. Email: beauholland@centurytel.net or shirleyleson@cox.net

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______________________________________________________________

NFMS/AFMS COMPETITION ENTRY FORM (Continued)
(AFMS RULES)

NAME______________________________________________________________

ADDRESS___________________________________________________________

PHONE_________________ EMAIL__________________________________

SOCIETY___________________________________________________________

This display is to be entered in (check one) _____ NFMS or _____AFMS Direct

EXHIBITOR GROUP: MASTER___ADVANCED___NOVICE___JUNIOR___
SOCIETY___JUNIOR SOCIETY___

EXHIBIT DIVISION:_________EXHIBIT CLASS:______________________

If JUNIOR, give birth date:____________________

Do you have your own case?________ Size: Width_______ Height_______ Depth_______

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: ________________________________________________

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______________________________________________________________

IF this is sent email, we need the officer’s email________________________

Title___________________________________________Date:________________

BOTH SIDES MUST BE SENT BACK

Be sure and make a copy for your records
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, chrysocolla and peacock ore in the other mine dumps there.

Next we went 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 but did not want to irritate those wasps any more than we had. I think they have a war on for some reason. 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 mosqui 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 mug 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. I 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 really 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.

Continued on page 10
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. 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.

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 11 pounds of rock we brought back, the many books (about a 5 ft. tower of geology, art and native American art books) and the cacti/wood carvings 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
Scultures 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)  A show for the family
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 tents. 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:
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 to rockhound 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 get-together.

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.

Dear 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 flyer 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.

Roxy Ann Gem & Mineral Society's 54th Annual Show
Gem, Jewelry & Mineral Show
Treasures Underfoot

Saturday: April 4: 9 AM - 5:30 PM
Sunday: April 5: 10 AM - 4:30 PM

FAMILY FUN
Exhibits - Demonstrations - Lectures
Door Prizes - Silent Auction - Raffles

KID'S STUFF
Carving * Wheel of Fortune
Free Rock & Gem Identification

FOOD
Gems * Jewelry * Gifts
Fossils * Minerals

Medford Armory
1701 S. Pacific Highway

Adults $3.00
Students age 12-18 $1.00
Children under 12 FREE

Proceeds provide scholarships at SOU and Crater High School and help maintain The Crater Rock Museum

DISCOUNT COUPON
50¢ off Adult Admission
One Admission Only

www.craterrock.com

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Club/Show Name</th>
<th>Show Location</th>
<th>Contact Person</th>
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<tr>
<td>Apr 13-14</td>
<td>Idaho Gem &amp; Mineral Show</td>
<td>Idaho Falls, ID</td>
<td>Steve or Jeanne Hammond</td>
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<td>Apr 18-19</td>
<td>Idaho Gem Club Annual Show</td>
<td>Idaho Falls, ID</td>
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<td>Apr 24-26</td>
<td>Montana Gem &amp; Mineral Show</td>
<td>Billings, MT</td>
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<td>May 1-3</td>
<td>Tualatin Valley Gem Show</td>
<td>Canby, OR</td>
<td>Richard Sargeson</td>
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<td>May 1-3</td>
<td>Portland Rock &amp; Gem Show</td>
<td>Portland, OR</td>
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<td>May 9-10</td>
<td>Oregon Coast Agate Club Annual</td>
<td>Newport, OR</td>
<td>Michael Foster</td>
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<td>May 16-17</td>
<td>Combined Show hosted by</td>
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<td>May 30-31</td>
<td>Oregon Coast Agate Club Annual</td>
<td>Newport, OR</td>
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<td>Jun 6-7</td>
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**Rockhound Stickers Again**

Remember the article in the last issue of this newsletter? Well, here's the rest of the story. Contact Frank Mullaney, 5705 Begonia Dr., San Jose, CA 95124: 408-266-6281. You can get: Large Stickers, Small Stickers, Patches, Caps, Buttons, Coffee Mugs, Coasters, Travel Mags, Key Rings, License Plate Frame, Lapel Pins, T-shirts, Mouse Pads. Maybe someone will buy 100 decals (stickers) and sell them at the AFNMS show.