



NORTHWEST NEWSLETTER

Volume 65 No. 3 - March 2025
 Northwest Federation of
 Mineralogical Societies



Letters From Our Committee Officers:

Lora Hall - President



Spring is in the air here in Western Montana and we are quickly approaching our NFMS mid-year meeting on Saturday, April 26 from 1:00-

3:00 in conjunction with the 28th Annual Show of the Lakeside Gem & Mineral Club in Kennewick, WA. In addition to the meeting, the show is shaping up to be a blast with 19 dealers, 40 displays, a fluorescent mineral display, a silent auction, a Kid's Corner, demonstrations, and door prizes. On Sunday morning from 8 AM to noon there will also be tailgating across from the show building for anyone interested. The meeting and the show are a short walk across the Benton County Fairgrounds. There will be a food vendor available for lunch and dinner in conjunction with the 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 rockhound132@charter.net prior to April 12 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.

A huge thank you to the Larry Hulstrom and the Lakeside Gem and Mineral Club!

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Letters from Committee Officers	1-3
Chairperson's Articles	4
AFMS Show Info/ Ticket Info	5
Mid - Year Meeting Information	6 - 8
Scam Alert	8
Interview Pt.2 - Provenance	9
Traditions Article	10
In Memory of Hidemi Kira	10
Hosting a NFMS Show Article	11
NFMS Annual Show Information	11 - 14
NFMS Club Shows	15 - 19
Rock of the Month	20
NFMS Executive Officers Info	21 - 22
Updated NFMS Bylaws	23 - 33

Continued on page 2

Letters From Our Committee Officers Continued:

With Faith Farley ready to take over as our new NFMS Treasure, we are on the hunt for a new show chair. Faith has everything set up for easy "take over". The main duties are receiving information from clubs on their upcoming shows, checking the data, and then forwarding it onto Jessica to be published in the newsletter and to Rock & Gem Magazine. For those that travel, this is a position that can easily be done on the road with an internet connection and takes only a few hours a week. Faith will be happy to talk with anyone who is interested, earth-mother169@gmail.com. This position is critical to all of us that host annual shows and is a great "turn key" opportunity for anyone wanting to volunteer. Faith is also more than willing to work side by side with the new person for as long as they need.

Well, that's about all for now. Be sure to stop in and say HELLO if you are attending Hellgate Gem and Mineral Society Show in Missoula, MT on March 15 & 16. Yes, this is a shameless plug.

Lora Hall

NFMS President

**Michael Rhodes - 1st Vice President**

Spring is coming this month and with it the opportunity to get out of the house and into the great outdoors. It is also, for many Gem and Mineral Societies, time to hold their annual shows, The Calendar lists 15 different club shows over the next two months, including the NFMS midyear meeting in conjunction with the Lakeside Gem and Mineral Club Show on the last weekend of April. If you are able to attend the Mid Year meeting, there is a lot happening with the federation that needs the input from Federation Directors and Delegates. Hopefully, you are willing to get out and help with your local club's show. I know what it takes to set up, staff, and take down an annual show, and at least for the Golden Spike show, the call is for "all hands on deck!" It is an exciting time to work shoulder to shoulder with members of the club to make the event a success. We are working on the NFMS annual show coming in September at Walla Walla, WA. I hope you are making plans now to attend the annual

meeting. We have some exciting changes coming for the year ahead and we really look forward to input from all of our local societies. We are looking for clubs to host the annual meeting and show for the years ahead, so if you are willing to sponsor one of these shows, please let a member of the Executive Committee know. With the coming warmer weather, get out and look for gems and minerals to add to your collection (my wife, a quilter, refers to her fabric collection as her stash!) Be safe, stay hydrated, and as always ROCK ON!

**Gary Warren - 2nd Vice President**

Happy March to all! Hope this message finds you all well, and looking forward to spring. As part of my job as 2nd Vice President, I have been asked to prepare an inventory of

the items and supplies owned by the club. I know this is not usually due until later, but I would like to get an early start on this. I am having eye surgery the end of this month and may be down for some time depending on the success of the surgery. Because of this, it may be more difficult for me to prepare this, so if anyone has any items that need to be inventoried, I would appreciate it if you could send me a list and pictures of the items. I would also like to know if the items are something that we actually need and use. I know that this does not apply to all of you but for those who are involved, I would be grateful if you would start helping me with this project. Thank you for your support in this. I hope you all have a good and healthy March and hope to be able to meet with you in our May meeting.

Thanks again and best wishes,

Gary Warren

Rockhunter1946@gmail.com

If you have any questions, text me at 435-720-1775

Letters From Our Committee Officers Continued:

**Judi Allison -
Secretary (Treasurer
Pro Tem)**

Secretary's Report

Hi folks. Spring is coming and along with that comes the excitement of renewed anticipation of getting out in the field. But before we do that, we have some business to take care of. Our mid-year meeting is coming up on April 26th in Kennewick, Washington along with the Lakeside Gem and Mineral Show. If you need directions, I believe that the show chairman, Larry Hulstrom has included the information in this newsletter along with his welcome to the show.

As you know, all organizations function with a set of "dos and don'ts" also known as by-laws. As time goes by, things change, and our by-laws should keep up with the changes. With this understanding Past President, Darrell Coyle and Endowment Fund Financial Advisor, Jim Brain have taken on the task of updating our NFMS By-Laws. You will find a copy including the proposed changes in this newsletter. Please take some time to read through the document, as it will be a topic of interest at the mid-year meeting. Darrell and Jim have worked diligently to update these by-laws which need the approval of the assembly of directors to become official. We wanted to get the information to you early enough so that by the time there is an official vote at the annual meeting in Walla Walla, Washington on September 5th you will have had the opportunity to thoroughly read and understand the changes and the reasons behind them. Directors will also be receiving the copies via email at least ninety days prior to the annual meeting as required.

Darrell also spent many hours going through the operating procedures to make corrections in grammar and typos and making the terminology and format consistent throughout. His work on the operating procedures does not require a vote, as no content

was altered. They were simply "cleaned up".

I personally want to thank both Darrell and Jim for taking on this involved task. Their dedication shows more of the behind the scenes work that goes on to keep our Federation running smoothly.

Treasurer's Report

We are FINALLY getting all the "ducks in a row" so that our volunteer, Faith Farley can take over the duties of Treasurer. Although most of the year is simple with the writing and recording of a few transactions, I want you all to know that the gathering of the annual dues is no small task. One needs to be certain the correct and complete information is received for the Directory and that the payments are processed. As a matter of reporting, there is the recordkeeping for the number of societies and members in each along with the money taken in.

Most societies have been good about getting their dues to the Federation in a timely manner, but there are always stragglers who make it frustrating. As our by-laws state, "dues shall be due and payable to the Treasurer on the first day of each calendar year". "Should any member Society fail to remit its dues for the current year by February 15, such Society shall not be considered in good standing..." "Any Member Society failing to pay its dues by June 1st shall be dropped from the roll."

Since it is now past February 15, it should be evident why stragglers are frustrating. One more plea from me, as I don't want to hand off stragglers to our new Treasurer. If you happen to know your club fits in the "straggler" group, please help the powers that be with some urging and kind reminders.

Remember, together we have strength in our numbers. Together we can continue to enjoy our hobby and what our Federation has to offer.

- Judi

Safety Chair Article

By: Kathryn Larson

The season for Field Trips is almost here. It's time to think about what to do, where to go and what to take with you.

- water
- snacks
- first aid kit
- cellphone
- skin screen lotion
- hiking boots
- comfortable clothes
- tools
- duct tape

Let someone know where you are going and when you will be back.

Before the trip, study information about the location and review any rules or regulations related to the land or forest area you plan on visiting. Travel with others. Don't go alone.

While there, stay aware of your surroundings. Be alert for uneven surfaces, slippery areas, wildlife or even traffic. Stay in communication with others in your party. Let them know where you are going to be. Drink plenty of water to stay hydrated. Follow the rules and regulations. We want others to welcome rock hounds.

When you're ready to leave, take your trash with you. Fill the digging sites in. And most importantly, have a fantastic time!

NFMS Nominating Committee Chairman

By: Jennifer Haley

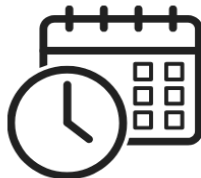
Your federation needs your help in finding a person from your club to be nominated for NFMS 2nd VP. If you are an individual interested in being 2nd VP don't hold back, please let us know. It doesn't matter if we receive more than one nomination between now and up to 60 days before the 2025 NFMS Annual Meeting in Walla Walla, because we can keep a list of names for the following year. Nominations for all elected officers of the NFMS must be in good standing of a recognized NFMS Club, and must be a permanent resident within the boundaries of the NFMS.

The 2nd VP is a position for one year, and is a three-year commitment as you go up the ladder to 1st VP and President. 2nd VP is also NFMS Custodian Chairman which is an easy job, because all you need to do is check in with each of the NFMS officers and chairman to see if there have been any changes in the inventory in their keeping and make note of it. Following being NFMS President, you become NFMS Nominating Committee chairman for one year, as I am this year.

It's very rewarding being on the executive committee, and I can tell you that from my experience being on these boards over the years in two different federations. I am so grateful for that experience and all I learned, with help from people all along the way.

I thoroughly enjoyed my experience on the NFMS executive committee. There is good help to help you learn the ropes, and wonderful people to work together with, so please do seriously think about becoming your NFMS' 2nd VP. Please send resumes of nomination to me. You can also call me. We have a wonderful future to look forward to together, and I look forward to hearing from you soon.

AFMS FEDERATION SHOW DATES



Shows in 2025:

- AFMS/EFMLS Hickory, NC**
March 27 - 30
- Midwest Federation Lincoln, NE April 5-6
- Northwest Federation Walla Walla, WA
Sept 5 - 7
- Rocky Mountain Federation Grand Junction,
CO Sept 19-21

Shows in 2026:

- Midwest Federation St. Charles, IL.
May 23-24

GET YOUR TICKETS NOW!

I have tickets for the AFMS Endowment Fund Drawing to be held at the AFMS Show in Hickory, North Carolina March 27-30. They are \$5 each or five for \$20. Just your name and phone number are fine for the information. Remember that the AFMS Endowment Fund helps support, among others, such things as the judges training, Junior Badge Program and provision of winning programs to each Federation. Prizes have a value of at least \$75. You can view a list of the items in the AFMS Newsletters. You can also donate something to the cause. To get your tickets send your check to Judi Allison, 1701 NW 11th Street, Hermiston, OR 97838. I need to receive your entries by March 24 to be certain you are entered into the drawing, so send your request soon. Thanks for supporting the AFMS Endowment Fund.

Mid - Year Meeting Information & Directions

2025 NFMS Mid Year Meeting Saturday April 26, 2025

The NFMS will hold a Mid-Year meeting in conjunction with the 28th Annual Show of the Lakeside Gem & Mineral Club in Kennewick, WA. The Mid-Year Meeting will be held from 1:00 - 3:00 pm on Saturday April 26 in Building #16 at the Benton County Fairgrounds, 1500 S. Oak Street. The Lakeside Show is being held in the adjacent Building #2, a short walk from Building #16.

Registration will start at **12:30 PM**. 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 rockhound132@charter.net prior to April 12 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.

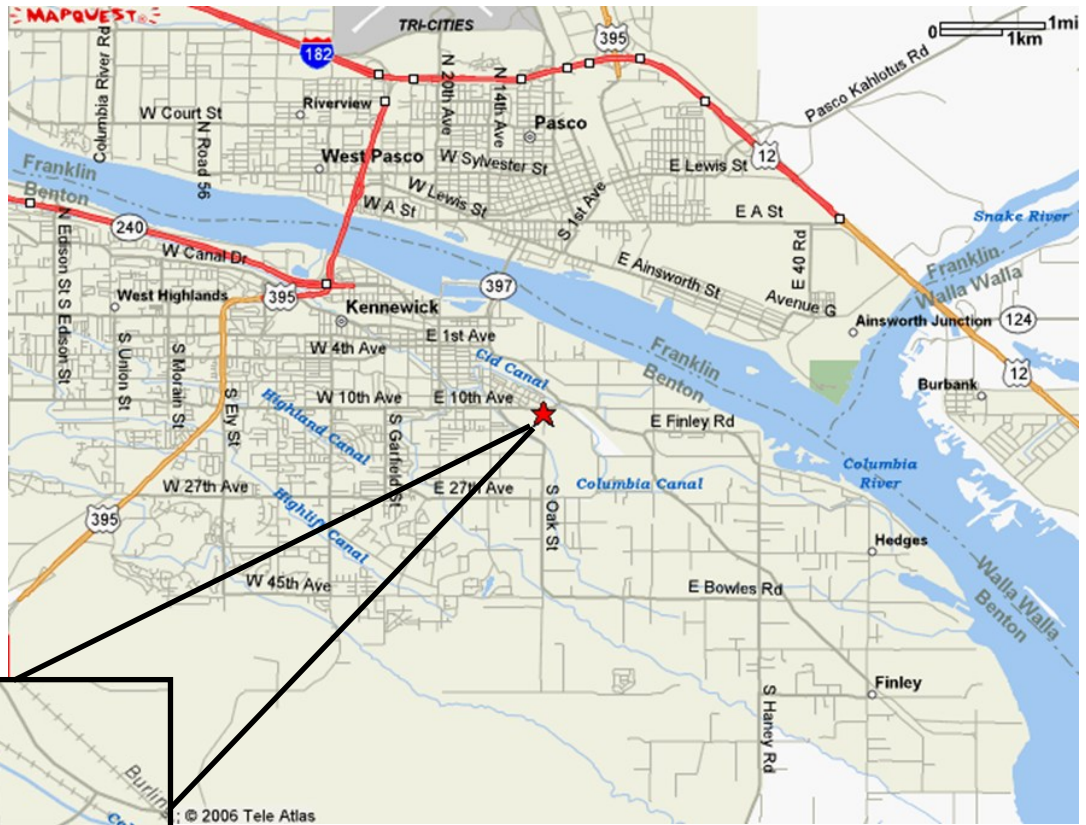
The members of the Lakeside Gem and Mineral Club would like extend a warm invitation to join us for the NFMS Mid Year meeting and encourage you to stay over to attend our annual show. In addition to 19 dealers, we will have about 40 displays, a fluorescent mineral display, a silent auction, a Kid's Corner, demonstrations, and door prizes. On Sunday morning from 8 AM to noon there will also be tailgating across from the show building for anyone interested. 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 26, 2025

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 #2. 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 #16 which is across the way from Building #2.

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.

*** Please see the provided maps on the following page. You may select the specific pages and print them out for easy use!**



Accommodation information for the Mid-Year Meeting

The following motels 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 or 800-254-5824 for more information.

Best Western Plus Kennewick

4001 W. 27th Ave
Kennewick, WA 99337
509-586-1332 or 1-800-528-1234

Baymont Inn & Suites

4220 W. 27th Pl
Kennewick, WA 99337
509-736-3326

LaQuinta Inn & Suites

2600 S. Quillan Pl
Kennewick, WA 99337
509-736-3656

Hampton Inn Kennewick at Southridge

3715 Plaza Way
Kennewick, WA 99338
509-820-3023

Comfort Suites

3703 Plaza Way
Kennewick, WA 99338
509-579-0897

Motel 6/ Studio 6

2811 W. 2nd Ave.
Kennewick, WA 99337
509-735-9511

Kennewick Suites

321 N. Johnson
Kennewick, WA 99337
509-735-6385



SCAM ALERT!

Spring is here and with it a new budding group of scammers. The NFMS has recently been hit with a bloom of them. SO, just a reminder... No one from the NFMS will ever email you asking for money, gift cards, wire transfers, or access to your PayPal or Venmo accounts. Scammers are getting very slick by using our names and position titles which their AI has stripped from the newsletter, website, or even group emails. The most recent scam actually mentions Judi by name. It is best not to open any curious emails and if you do, close and delete them. Most do not carry computer viruses, but I highly recommend we all use a good virus protection program on our personal computers, phones, and electronic devices. SO, when in doubt, don't open them and never, never respond to requests for money or access to your personal accounts and financial information. Judi wants me to remind everyone that ALL federation transactions are completed the old fashion way via paper. If you fall victim to a scam, contact your bank, PayPal or Venmo immediately. They may be able to reverse the charges or stop payment. We all need to stay vigilant as scammers abound.

Lora Hall
NFMS President

Preserving Provenance: Why It Matters in Mineral Collecting

Part 2 of “An Interview with Chad Kaatz, owner of C.K. Fine Minerals”

(Instagram: @C.K.fine_minerals)



Preserving Provenance: Why It Matters in Mineral Collecting

In the world of mineral collecting, the importance of preserving provenance — the detailed history of a specimen's origin and ownership — cannot be overstated. Provenance not only enhances the scientific and historical value of a mineral but also helps to maintain the integrity of the hobby itself.

While mineral collecting has seen a surge in popularity in recent years, particularly in the United States, the tradition of meticulously documenting a specimen's history traces back to Europe. Countries like Germany and Austria have long been at the forefront of this practice, with collections dating back centuries.

"Traditional mineral collecting, as we know it, really originates in Europe," says Chad Kaatz. "I have pieces from the late 1700s — one German fluorite dates back to around 1789. I even have a specimen from the 1880s that's currently being analyzed in Italy. As far as I know, it's one of only three in existence."

For many collectors, historical pieces hold a special allure. Specimens from notable finds decades or even centuries ago carry stories that connect them to specific locations, miners, or previous owners. However, without proper documentation, those stories can easily be lost.

"So much of my collection consists of historical pieces from before I was even born," Chad explains. "But if I can't provide people with information about where a piece came from or its associated minerals, how do we truly know what it is? If that information isn't passed down from owner to owner, the specimen's identity becomes harder to verify."

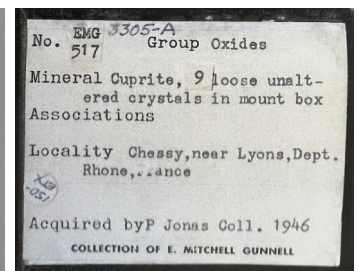
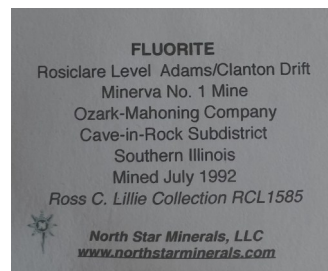
The issue of lost provenance is particularly prevalent with minerals like Illinois fluorite. The fluorite mines of Hardin County, such as the Cave-in-Rock district, Denton Mine, and Annabelle Lee Mine, produced world-renowned specimens. However, when ownership changes hands without proper records, the exact origin of a piece can become uncertain.

"When I first started selling, I would buy “Cave-in-Rock” lots where we didn't know if they were from Denton, Minerva, or Annabelle Lee — we just knew they were from within the district. Without that information, we can only label them as “Cave-in-Rock”, which affects both their scientific value and their monetary worth."

Collectors are increasingly becoming sticklers for provenance, recognizing its role in protecting the authenticity and legacy of specimens. Detailed records, including mine locations, discovery dates, and previous owners, not only add value but also preserve the rich history tied to each mineral.

"When we have really high provenance, it makes the specimen that much more special," says Chad. "It connects us to the story of where it came from and the people who cared for it before us. That's something worth protecting."

As the mineral collecting community continues to grow, emphasizing the importance of provenance will help ensure that future generations inherit not just beautiful minerals, but the stories that make them truly irreplaceable.



Here are two great examples of mineral tags, showing how previous owners documented key details about the specimen's history. Most tags include the mineral name, locality, and former owner. Always keep tags with your minerals, and consider making your own for pieces in your collection! It doesn't have to be a professionally done tag, a simple note on paper can preserve valuable information for the future.

The Tradition of Our Traditions

If you have been a recipient of an award or have been a participant in deciding who will receive an award, you know our Earth Science and Lapidary Arts & Crafts awards are always something unique and special to all of us. We cherish these annual awards, and look forward to celebrating the awards with the people who receive them.

There are certain things we do as a Society, a Federation and the AFMS that are traditions which are a big part of who we are. We've been doing them for generations, and it is part of our heritage which makes us who we are apart from other types of organizations. From the first time I met one of our rock and gem societies, I've always felt together we are something very special. It is our traditions which have and still are such an important part of us.

We value our Robert's Rules of Order and our bylaws, to guide us in our meetings and throughout the year. We have our committee chairmen, officers and our membership who are very valuable so there's always room for lots of fun and order. We have the AFMS Code of Ethics which makes us stand apart in our good outdoor manners, adding to the stature and public image of AFMS rockhounds everywhere.

At the monthly society meetings, along with the normal business, some have a potluck or refreshment time. There are silent auctions, and some give a door prize for one of their club members, a guest and a junior. One club I know of gives a five-gallon bucket of rocks to welcome each new member in.

Some clubs invite neighboring clubs to a field trip or their annual BBQ or Christmas Dinner. Some help their neighboring society with the work of putting on their annual show, and providing skilled members for the demonstration section of the show. Some societies have included selling plants for rock gardens which has been very successful for them.

Most societies sew up grab bags for the kid's section of the shows, and some even have a sewing contest for who can sew up the most bags for their annual show. I've even heard of a member who loves sewing grab bags so much that she makes more than the club can use each year, so she gives them to other clubs. We have the tumbler people who help provide the rocks for the bags, and the members who bring in donations for the various auction tables. We have fun show-and-tells, programs and wonderful field trips.

We have the lunches, cracker barrels, breakfasts and banquets at the Federation and AFMS annual events, and we do those as times to celebrate enjoying being together, honoring other's contributions and to say a heartfelt, thank you.

Last but never least, we carry on the skills we have learned from each other in the Lapidary Arts and Crafts.

We are quite the wonderful organization of people sharing what we enjoy celebrating and working on together, which makes what we do all year so worthwhile. So, keep up the good work because traditions and even adding new ones has always been an important key for our legacy into the future.



In Loving Memory of Hidemi Kira

It is with great sadness to report the passing of Hidemi Kira Monday, February 3. Hidemi served as President for the Northwest Federation from 2015-16. He and his wife Tomoko spent several years enthusiastically overseeing the silent auctions for Federation Shows. Their positivity and charm helped bring bidders to the tables as they tirelessly kept the merchandise rolling. Hidemi served as Oregon Council vice president for many years and was instrumental in organizing the Hampton Butte reclamation project and the Council's display case. He also filled important positions in many Portland area clubs. He and his wife Tomoko were highly skilled lapidary artists and thoroughly enjoyed rockhounding, fishing and mushroom collecting. Hidemi's enthusiasm, lapidary skills, willingness to help and good-natured personality will be sorely missed. He made things better for all who knew him. Please keep Tomoko in your thoughts and prayers as she moves through this difficult time.

We Need You!
By: Judi Allison

We are in search of a club that will take up the challenge of hosting the 2026 (and years beyond) NFMS Gem and Mineral Show and Convention. Historically, the job has seemed onerous for many with few rewards. It is time that we work together to help clubs decide there are rewards and benefits to hosting a show. With that in mind, I have rewritten and condensed the "Guidebook to Hosting an NFMS Show" from 24 pages to 8 pages. Following is the introduction to the booklet:

**Guidebook for Hosting an NFMS Show
 Suggestions and How to Booklet
 Revamped to be User Friendly by Judi Allison, Feb. 2025**

There was a time when clubs would clamor for the privilege of Hosting the NFMS Convention. At that time, there were many requirements that have since been set aside. Many have become archaic, but most required additional effort and time on the part of the Hosting Society. Those days have gone by the wayside. With the advent of more costly venues and our busier lifestyles, the Federation has come to realize we must change our expectations to have clubs willing to step up and host the NFMS Convention.

- ◇ Gone is the specific requirement for the host club to fork over 50% of its net proceeds. Negotiation is now the name of the game.
- ◇ Gone is the requirement to host on Labor Day weekend. Keep your normal show schedule and simply add a few things.
- ◇ Gone is the onerous Guidebook for Hosting an NFMS Show, as this short "suggestions and how to" booklet will give you all the information you need to successfully host a Federation Show.

Please don't get me wrong: There are extra requirements, but one of the things I have heard most after a club hosted a Federation show is how much they have learned about the Federation and what a positive experience it was to be involved at the Federation level. Why not try it out. You may like it.

(At a Glance) The basic additions to your regular show

- ◇ A third day of the show (Friday) If possible, at your venue. If not, availability of a place for meetings
- ◇ Accommodation for meetings
- ◇ Accommodations for meals – Editors' Breakfast, Past President-Committees luncheon
- ◇ Accommodations for an Awards Banquet – It has been customary for the host club to supply centerpieces and individual favors (But not a requirement)
- ◇ An advanced registration setup
- ◇ Coordinating with Executive Board of NFMS
- ◇ Coordination with Rules and Awards Committee for Competitive Displays

I personally am willing to talk to any club entertaining the idea of hosting a show. If feasible, I will arrange to speak in person at a meeting. I will be asking our webmaster to replace the current booklet with this shortened version, so you can peruse at your leisure. I've given you the challenge and the tools to accomplish the task. So, let's hear an "Aye! We can do this!"



Additional Information for the Marcus Whitman Gem and Mineral Society's NFMS Rock Show

Vendors, We are excited to announce that the Marcus Whitman Gem and Mineral Society in Walla Walla, WA, will be hosting this year's NFMS Rock Show. We are planning on expanding our vendor opportunities by offering outdoor spaces for vendors to showcase their products. If you are interested in one of these outdoor vendor spaces, please don't hesitate to reach out for information. We would love to have you join us! For inquiries and to get on our vendor mailing list, please contact:

Dennis English Vendor Chairman Email: dennisenglish@gmail.com Phone: 206-890-3903



Marcus Whitman Gem & Mineral Society
marcuswhitmangem.com
info@marcuswhitmangem.com
Walla Walla, Washington

87th Anniversary Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies Show & Convention 2025

Walla Walla, Washington September 5-7, 2025
Hosted by the Marcus Whitman Gem & Mineral Society

We are excited to combine our Annual Gem Show with the NFMS Convention and welcoming all to Walla Walla. As we look forward to September, we must let you know that this is, quite possibly, the busiest week of the year. In addition to the Gem Show and Conference, there is an Annual Car Show, Aviation Show, and Fall Release for wine lovers. With that being said, we highly recommend getting a head start on booking your stay with us.

Here are various links to lodging options within the valley:

- Bed & Breakfast Lodging: <https://wallawalla.org/lodging/bed-and-breakfast/>
- Hotels & Motels: <https://wallawalla.org/lodging/hotels-motels/>
- RV/Campgrounds: <https://wallawalla.org/lodging/camping-campgrounds/>
Walla Walla Fairgrounds: <https://www.wallawallafairgrounds.com/p/plan-your-event/grounds-camping>
- Vacation Rentals: <https://wallawalla.org/lodging/vacation-rentals/>

Stay tuned for the full conference program coming soon. We look forward to having you in Walla Walla.



NFMS Competitive Exhibit Entry Form
Deadline: August 1, 2025
Hosted by Marcus Whitman Gem and Mineral Society
Walla Walla Fairgrounds, Walla Walla, WA
September 6 and 7, with September 5 setup



Exhibit Set Up Rules:

All competitive exhibits must comply with the AFMS/NFMS rules updated in January 2024. For a complete rule book or update go to: www.amfed.org.

Exhibit setup: Friday September 5, 12pm -8pm

- ◆ All entries must be ready for judging by Saturday, September 6 at 8am
- ◆ Exhibits may NOT be removed before Sunday September 7 at 5 pm.
- ◆ Cases will be assigned space on display tables approximately forty inches high.
- ◆ Display cases will not be allowed to be opened during the show without a Committee member of the NFMS Rules Committee present.
- ◆ Exhibitors will receive a free 2-day pass.

Entry forms: One per case

Please complete all information on the entry form and mail or e-mail to Larry Hulstrom 5409 West 26th Ave. Kennewick, WA 99338, email: rockhound132@charter.net

Liability:

It is mutually agreed that the Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies and the Marcus Whitman Gem and Mineral Society shall not be liable to any Exhibitor in whole or in part. This includes the property of the exhibitor or injury to their person resulting from any cause. Submitting this signed application constitutes acceptance of these rules and regulations.

Exhibitor Signature: _____

Print name: _____



NFMS Non-Competitive Exhibit Entry Form
Deadline: August 1, 2025
Hosted by Marcus Whitman Gem and Mineral Society
Walla Walla Fairgrounds, Walla Walla, WA
September 6 and 7, with September 5 setup



Exhibit setup: Friday September 5, 12pm -8pm

- ◆ Exhibits may NOT be removed before Sunday September 7 at 5 pm.
- ◆ Cases will be assigned space on display tables approximately forty inches high.
- ◆ Display cases will not be allowed to be opened during the show without a show Committee member present.
- ◆ Exhibitors will receive a free 2-day pass.

Entry forms: One per case

Please complete all information on the entry form and mail or e-mail to Warren Rood, 243 E Birch St., Walla Walla, WA 99362 or warrenrood@yahoo.com

Liability:

It is mutually agreed that the Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies and the Marcus Whitman Gem and Mineral Society shall not be liable to any Exhibitor in whole or in part. This includes the property of the exhibitor or injury to their person resulting from any cause. Submitting this signed application constitutes acceptance of these rules and regulations.

Print name: _____

Exhibitor Signature: _____

Date: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Exhibit Description: _____

Are you bringing your own case? _____ Size: Width _____ Height _____ Depth _____

Do you have your own liner? _____

Junior exhibit: (Y/N) _____



Feb 22 nd & 23 rd		Midtown Mall	Paul Burger
March 1 st & 2 nd	Chugach Gem and Mineral Society Show	3 Large Show Rooms!	cavemonpaul@hotmail.com
Sat 10 - 6		600 E. Northern Lights Blvd.	
Sun 10 - 5		Anchorage, AK 99514	
March 1 st & 2 nd	Owyhee Gem and Mineral Society	O' Connor Field House	Paul Deveau
Sat 10 - 6		2207 Blaine Street	devidaho66@outlook.com
Sun 10 - 5		Caldwell, ID 83605	208-994-8025
March 1 st & 2 nd	E. King Co. Rock and Gem Show	Pickering Barn	Kim Villines
Sat 10 - 6		1730 10th Ave. NW	earthlightgems@aim.com
Sun 10 - 5		Issaquah, WA 98027	425-828-3872
March 7 th - 9 th	Oregon Agate & Mineral Society	OMSI (Oregon Museum of Science and Industry)	Rose Cohen
Fri 10 - 4		1945 SE Water Ave.	nwcohenfamily@gmail.com
Sat 10 - 4		Portland, OR 97214	
Sun 10 - 4			
March 7 th & 8 th	Panorama Gem and Mineral Club	NE Washington Fairgrounds & AG Center	Johnie Pitman
Sat 9-5		317 W. Astor Ave.	509-684-8887
Sun 9-5		Colville, WA 99114	jgpitman@outlook.com
March 7 th - 9 th	Tualatin Valley Gem Club	Forest Grove National Guard Armory	Gordon Hale
Fri 10 - 5		2950 Taylor Way	gordanhale@comcast.net
Sat 10 - 5		Forest Grove, Oregon 97116	
Sun 10 - 5			



March 14th - 16th Fri 10-7 Sat 10-7 Sun 10-5	Timpanagos Gem & Mineral Society Show	Spanish Fork Fairgrounds 475 South Main St. Spanish Fork, UT 84660	Jerry Davis 801-830-9228 carpetman405@gmail.com
March 15th & 16th Sat 9 - 6 Sun 10 - 5	Hellgate Mineral Society 30th Annual Show	Hilton Garden Inn 3720 North Reserve St. Missoula, MT 59801	Neil A. Maier nam56@yahoo.com 406-546-6013
March 22nd & 23rd Sat 9 - 6 Sun 10-4	NW Mt. Rock Chucks - Rock & Gem Show	Kalispell Fairgrounds Kalispell, MT 59901	Judy Pettersen 406-250-1936
March 22nd & 23rd Sat 9 - 6 Sun 10 - 4	Flathead Chucks Gold Gem and Mineral Show	Flathead County Fairgrounds (Expo Building) 265 N. Meridian Rd. Kalispell, MT 59901	Lloyd Fager - oldgreyelf@sbcglobal.net 608-436-0400 nfmsrockchucks@gmail.com (club email)
March 29th & 30th Sat 10 - 6 Sun 10 - 5	Sweet Home Rock and Mineral Club	Sweet Home Highschool - Activity Gym 1641 Long St. Sweet Home, OR 97386	Joe Cota ela4rocks@gmail.com 541-451-2740
March 22nd & 23rd Sat 10 - 5 Sun 10 - 5	SE Idaho Gem & Mineral Society	Bannock County Event Center 10588 Fairgrounds Pocatello, ID 83201	Joe Rodriguez rodrider@msn.com
March 29th & 30th 2025 Sat 10 - 5 Sun 10 - 5	Mount Baker Rock and Gem Club	Pioneer Pavilion Community Center 2007 Cherry Street Ferndale, WA 98248	Candi Gerard candisjewelry@gmail.com www.mtbakerrockclub.org



April 11th - 13th 2025 Fri 9 - 6 Sat 10 - 6 Sun 10 - 4	Golden Spike Gem & Mineral Society	Golden Spike Event Center Weber County Fairgrounds 1000 N. 1200 W. Ogden, UT 84401	Margie Miller (385) 205-9187 goldenspikegem.org FB: Golden Spike Gem & Mineral Society
April 19th & 20th Sat 10 - 6 Sun 10 - 5	Idaho Gem & Mineral Society	Bonneville County Fairgrounds 1542 E. 73rd South Idaho Falls, ID 83404	Tom Strong wildlandlapidary@gmail.com www.ifrockhounds.com
April 25th - 27th Fri 10 - 4 Sat 10 - 5 Sun 10 - 4	Yakima Rock and Mineral Club	Modern Living Building @ Central Wa. State Fairgrounds 1301 South Fair Ave. Yakima, WA 98901	Marti Sondgeroth marthams@g.com 509-910-3484
April 26th & 27th Sat 10 - 5 Sun 10 - 4	Lakeside Gem and Mineral Club Show	Benton County Fairgrounds 1500 S. Oak St. Kennewick, WA 99336	Larry Hulstrom rockhound132@charter.net lakesidegemandmineralclub.com
May 2nd - 4th Fri 10 - 5 Sat 9 - 5 Sun 10 - 3	Mt. Hood Rock Club	Kliever Memorial Armory 10000 NE 33rd Drive Portland, OR	Roberta Hanson mhrcdc@gmail.com 503-449-3543 mthoodrockclub.com
May 3rd & 4th 2025 Sat 10 - 5 Sun 10 - 5	Everett Rock & Gem Club 70th Annual Show	Evergreen State Fairgrounds, Weikel Event Center 18359 Cascade View Drive Monroe, WA 98292	everettrockclub@hotmail.com



<p>May 3rd & 4th</p> <p>Sat 9 - 5</p> <p>Sun 10 - 4</p> <p>Dealer/Demo Contact:</p>	<p>Umpqua Gem & Mineral Club</p>	<p>Douglas County Fairgrounds</p> <p>2110 Frear Ave.</p> <p>Roseburg, OR 97470</p> <p>Jason Jakubos 541-580-7584</p>	<p>Jay Thomas</p> <p>jrthoms2@gmail.com</p> <p>503-400-2090</p> <p>rockandwool@gmail.com</p>
<p>May 10th & 11th</p> <p>Sat 10 - 5</p> <p>Sun 10 - 4</p>	<p>Hatrockhound Gem & Mineral Society</p>	<p>Eastern Oregon Trade and Event Center</p> <p>1705 East Airport Rd.</p> <p>Hermiston, OR 97838</p>	<p>Mike Filarski</p> <p>stonemorlin1@netscape.net</p> <p>Hatrockhounds.org</p>
<p>May 10th & 11th</p> <p>Sat 10 - 6</p> <p>Sun 10 - 4</p>	<p>Bozeman Mineral and Gem Club</p>	<p>Gallatin County Fairgrounds</p> <p>901 North Black, Bldg. 1</p> <p>Bozeman, MT 59715</p>	<p>Linda Johnson</p> <p>bozemangemandmineralclub.com</p> <p>bgmcmnt@gmail.com</p>
<p>May 17th & 18th</p> <p>Sat 9-5</p> <p>Sun 10 - 4</p>	<p>Butte Mineral and Gem Club</p>	<p>Butte Civic Center - Main Arena</p> <p>1340 Harrison Ave.</p> <p>Butte, MT 59701</p>	<p>Jerry D'Arcy</p> <p>406-491-2054</p> <p>jkdudding@gmail.com</p>
<p>May 31st & June 1st</p> <p>Sat 9 - 5</p> <p>Sun 10 - 4</p>	<p>North Idaho Mineral Club's 64th Annual Show</p>	<p>Kootenai County Fairgrounds Jacklin Building #25</p> <p>4056 N. Government Way</p> <p>Coeur d'Alene, ID 83815</p>	<p>Mike McConnell</p> <p>nimcshowchairman@gmail.com</p>
<p>June 13th - 15th</p> <p>Fri 10 - 5</p> <p>Sat 9 - 5</p> <p>Sun 10 - 4</p>	<p>Lower Umpqua Gem and Lapidary Society</p>	<p>Reedsport Community Center</p> <p>451 Winchester Avenue</p> <p>Reedsport, OR 97467</p>	<p>Bambi Darling</p> <p>reedsportrockshow@gmail.com</p> <p>541-420-8014</p>



NFMS CLUB SHOWS 2025

<p>June 21st & 22nd</p> <p>Sat 10 - 6</p> <p>Sun 10 - 5</p>	<p>Bitterroot Gem and Mineral Society</p>	<p>Ravalli County Fairgrounds Event Center</p> <p>100 Old Corvallis Rd.</p> <p>Hamilton, MT 59840</p>	<p>Amber Tyree</p> <p>amber406142@gmail.com</p> <p>bitterrootgemandmineral.org</p>
<p>July 25th - 27th</p> <p>Fri 9-6</p> <p>Sat 9-6</p> <p>Sun 9-5</p>	<p>Washington Agate and Mineral Society</p>	<p>Tenino City Park</p> <p>300 Park Ave. W</p> <p>Tenino, WA 98589</p>	<p>Doug Shank</p> <p>wamsolympia@gmail.com</p>

A special thank you to Mark Kochan for sending in these pictures from the Tucson Gem and Mineral Show!



Rock Of The Month: Garnet

Garnet, a group of silicate minerals known for its rich colors and crystal forms, has captivated mineral collectors for centuries. While commonly associated with deep red hues, garnets can also appear in shades of green, orange, yellow, and even rare blues. Collectors prize garnet for its well-formed dodecahedral and trapezohedral crystals, which can range from tiny grains to large, gem-quality specimens. Notable localities for high-quality garnet crystals include the famous garnet mines in New York, the Jeffrey Mine in Canada, and the Spessartine garnets from Namibia. Its durability and striking beauty make it a standout addition to any mineral collection.

Historically, garnet has been used as both a gemstone and an industrial mineral. The ancient Egyptians, Greeks, and Romans carved garnets into jewelry and talismans, while medieval European warriors wore garnet-studded armor, believing the stone offered protection in battle. Beyond its decorative use, garnet's hardness and abrasive properties have made it valuable in sandpaper and waterjet cutting tools. For collectors, garnets with vibrant color, transparency, and sharp crystal faces are especially desirable, with certain varieties like green demantoid garnets commanding high prices in both mineral and gemstone markets.

Garnet's diversity and accessibility make it a favorite among both novice and experienced collectors. While small almandine garnets can be found in riverbeds worldwide, rarer varieties like spessartine or uvarovite require more effort to obtain. Specimens with perfect crystal shape, deep color saturation, or unusual inclusions are especially sought after. Garnet's combination of beauty, history, and variety ensures that it remains a staple in the world of mineral collecting, offering endless possibilities for those seeking both aesthetic and scientific value.

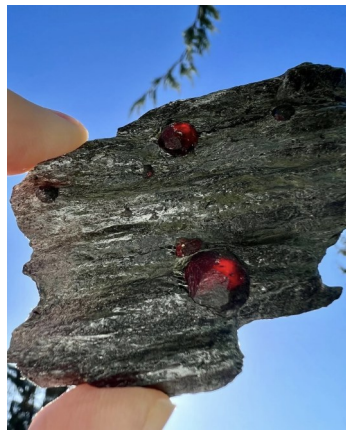
Jessica Himple
Everett Rock and Gem Club
Editor for NFMS Newsletter

Specimens from my personal collection:

*Send in photos of your own specimens for a chance to have them showcased in the newsletter!



Tsavorite Garnet - Merelani Hills, Tanzania



Almandine Garnet in Graphite - Massachusetts, USA



Demantoid Garnet - Baltistan, Pakistan

NFMS EXECUTIVE OFFICERS 2024-2025

PRESIDENT: Lora Hall, Hellgate Mineral Society of Missoula, MT, PO Box 1095, Frenchtown MT 59834 sil-vertipminis@msn.com

1ST VICE PRESIDENT: Michael Rhodes, Golden Spike Gem & Mineral Society, 317 E 200 S, Brigham City, UT, 84302-2621, (435) 230 0403 mrmbrhodes0@gmail.com

2ND VICE PRESIDENT: Gary Warren, Golden Spike Gem & Mineral Society, 317 E 200 S, Brigham City, UT, 84302, (435) 720 - 1775 rockhunter1946@gmail.com

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY: Judi Allison, Hatrockhounds Gem and Mineral Society, 1701 NW 11th. St., Hermiston, OR, 97882, (541) 720-4950, nfmssec@gmail.com

TREASURER: VACANT

Judi Allison (pro tem), Hatrockhounds Gem and Mineral Society, 1701 NW 11th. St., Hermiston, OR, 97882, (541) 720-4950, nfmssec@gmail.com

NFMS STANDING COMMITTEES

BUDGET: 1st Vice President (see above)

BULLETIN AIDS: Priscilla Hall-Ford Oregon Agate & Mineral Society, P.O.Box 818, La Center, WA 98629 (360) 518-7829. Rockhounder2019@comcast.net

CIRCULATION: Golden Spike Gem & Mineral Society, 875 E 4500 S, S. Ogden, UT 84403, (801) 479-4286, Roxhund@aol.com
* Clubs need only to send contact info for their board members. Contact clubs directly to reach out to specific members.

CREDENTIALS: Del & Clara Walker, Tualatin Valley Gem Club, 12377 SE Davis Loop, Prineville, OR, 97754, (503) 812-6540, cwalk12377@gmail.com

CUSTODIAN: 2ND Vice President: (see above)

DIRECTORY: Janel Lacey, Marcus Whitman Gem and Mineral Society, 43618 SW McKay Dr, Pendleton, OR, 97801, (541) 215-2839, jlclaw16461@gmail.com
* Clubs need only to send contact info for their board members. Contact clubs directly to reach out to specific members.

EDUCATION/ALL AMERICAN CLUB AWARD : OPEN

ENDOWMENT FUND:
CHAIRMAN: Vicki Johnson, Southern Washington Mineralogical Society, 1574 Mt. Pleasant Rd., Kelso, WA 98626 (360) 751-8031, vickijrocks@msn.com

SECRETARY: OPEN

TREASURER: Faith Farley, Bitterroot Gem and Mineral Society, 392 Market St S, Corvallis, MT 59828, (406) 961-3347 earthmother169@gmail.com

FINANCIAL ADVISOR: Jim Brain, NFMS Club-At-Large, 6410 W Sundance Dr., Spokane, WA 99208, (509) 863-9883, jrbrain233@outlook.com

HISTORIAN: Robert Dalton, Clackamette Mineral and Gem Club, 18485 SW Pacific DR Unit 92, Tualatin, OR 97062 (859) 533-0026, Robert.dalton1960@gmail.com

JUNIORS CHAIR: Jennifer Fitch, Hellgate Mineral Society, 21148 Old US Hwy 93, Florence, MT, 59833 (517) 281-7461, Fitchs4god@aol.com

NEWSLETTER EDITOR: Jessica Himple, (425) 622-3504, nfmseditor@outlook.com

NFMS CLUB-AT-LARGE: 1ST Vice President (see above)

NOMINATING CHAIRMAN: Jennifer Haley 2490 Spring Mountain Rd. St. Helena, CA 94574 541-660-1832 ladybuglane@napablogger.com

NORTHWEST ROCKHOUND RE-TREAT (Hancock): Walter Butler, 8821 SW Equestrian Place, Crooked River Ranch, OR 97760, (503) 702-5743, waltercbutler@comcast.net

PAST PRESIDENTS COUNCIL: Larry Hulstrom, Lakeside Gem and Mineral Club, 5409 W 26th Ave. Kennewick, WA 99338, (509) 308-8312, rockhound132@charter.net

PUBLIC LANDS ADVISORY: Susie Koppert, Mt. Hood Rock Club, 135 SE Marsh Rd., Sandy, OR 97055 susiekopper@mail.com

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

RULES AND AWARDS COMMITTEE:
RULES AND AWARDS CHAIR: : Joshua Hulstrom, Lakeside Gem and Mineral Club, 5409 W 26th Ave., Kennewick, WA 99338, (509) 306-0385, josh_hulstrom@hotmail.com

JUDGING DIRECTOR : Charise Ash, Mount Hood Rock Club, 2331 N Mist Dr, Vernonia, OR 97064, charisemarie@gmail.com

EXHIBITS REGISTRAR: Larry Hulstrom, Lakeside Gem and Mineral Club, 5409 W 26th Ave. Kennewick, WA 99338, (509) 308-8312, rockhound132@charter.net

SAFETY: Kathryn Larson, Lakeside Gem and Mineral Club, 4102 S Auburn St, Kennewick, WA 99337 misaique@hotmail.com

SCHOLARSHIP: Mary Lou Northrup, 1623 Powers Ave, Lewiston, ID 83501, (208) 743-6944, milandjl@yahoo.com

SHOW COORDINATOR: Faith Farley, Bitterroot Gem and Mineral Society, 392 Market St S, Corvallis, MT 59828, (406) 961-3347 earthmother169@gmail.com

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

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

Ed Anderson, Sweet Home Rock & Mineral Society, 40182 Hilltop Dr, Lebanon, OR, 97355 (541) 451-1577, ela4rocks@gmail.com

SUPPLIES: OPEN

WAYS & MEANS: OPEN

WEBMASTER: Brad Larson, Owyhee Gem and Mineral Society, 6010 W. Cruzen St., Boise, ID 83704

NFMS SPECIAL COMMITTEES

FIELD TRIP CHAIRMAN: Doug True,
Billings Gem & Mineral Club, 2622
Broadwater, Billings, MT 59102,
(406) 670-0506,
dtruefossils12@yahoo.com

**ROCKHOUND OF THE YEAR: Laurie
Ellis,** Hatrockhounds Gem and Mineral
Society, 57462 Clarks Canyon Rd,
Heppener, OR 97836, (541) 626-3131,
nfmsroy@gmail.com

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

WEBSITE CONTEST: OPEN

**AFMS COMMITTEES (NFMS Repre-
sentatives)**

AFMS 1st VP - Ronna Watkins
AFMS Junior Program Chair - Lora
Hall

ENDOWMENT FUND - Judi Allison
PROGRAM COMPETITION - DeLane
Cox

SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION- Mary
Lou Northrup

THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW

The **AMERICAN LANDS ACCESS AS-
SOCIATION (ALAA)** is a 501(c)(4) or-
ganization. Its purpose is to promote and
ensure the right of amateur hobby fossil
and mineral collecting, recreational pro-
specting and mining, and the use of public
and private lands for educational and re-
creational purposes; and to carry the voice
of all amateur collectors and hobbyists to
our elected officials, government regula-
tors and public lands managers. Your an-
nual individual/couple membership fee is
\$25 which helps support their activi-
ties. Club membership is \$50 per
year. Send to Treasurer, P.O. Box 54398,
San Jose, CA 95154. Make checks paya-
ble to: American Lands Access Assn. Ap-
plications can be downloaded
at: www.amlands.org on the left side of
the page. For more information con-
tact: Frank Mullaney, 408-266-1791, cell:
408-691-2655, Rockyfv@aol.com

The **AFMS NEWSLETTER** is published
monthly except Jan-Jul-Aug by the Ameri-
can Federation of Mineralogical Societies.
Each NFMS member society should have
three people (usually the Pres, Secretary
and Editor) receiving the AFMS Newslet-
ter. If they are not, or if anyone else wants

to subscribe (\$5 per year). Contact: Linda
Jaeger, 3515 E 88th St, Tulsa, OK 74137,
AFMSeditor@AMFED.org (918) 630-
6498 or (918) 481-0249. Make checks
payable to "AFMS".

The **NORTHWEST NEWSLETTER** is
the official publication of the Northwest
Federation of Mineralogical Societies
(NFMS) and is sent to each club electroni-
cally in PDF form between six to ten times
per year. It is the responsibility of each
club to forward the newsletter to the mem-
bership. The newsletters are also posted to
the Federation website electronically and
archived there for members to review or
download.

**For matters related to this newsletter
(i.e. content, advertising, etc.) contact
the editor.**

**SHOW COORDINATION. Your Fed-
eration 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 calen-
dar from "Lapidary Journal". Please
provide the date and time for the show,
the club name and show title (if applica-
ble), the location of the show, admission
price, and most important a contact per-
son with
address, e-mail address and/or phone (e-
mail is preferred). Please send your
show information four to six months in
advance to the Show Coordination
Chairperson. If you see an error once
your show is listed, or if your show is
not listed, contact the Newsletter Chair**

SAVE STAMPS PROGRAM. NFMS
members are encouraged to use and save
commemorative stamps. The money gener-
ated from the sale of these used (cancelled)
stamps is then donated to Junior Fund.
The collected stamps can be sent to the
Stamps Chairperson, brought to the
NFMS Annual Show or given to your Fed-
eration Director in your club.

ATTENTION CLUB TREASURERS**Where to send your money**

To NFMS Treasurer for:

1. Dues (new and renewal) and
supplies
2. Donations for the general fund
3. Donations to Junior
Achievement
4. Advertisement in this
Newsletter

Send to: see Treasurer this page.

To NFMS Endowment Fund Treasurer for:

1. Donations to Endowment Fund
2. Memorial contributions
Make check payable to NFMS
Endowment Fund, send to Endowment
Fund Treasurer, 8810 37th Ave SW, Seat-
tle, WA 98126-3617

To NFMS Scholarship Chairperson for:

1. Donations to AFMS Scholar-
ship Fund
2. Memorial contributions to
AFMS Scholarship
Make check payable to AFMS Scholarship
Fund.
Send to: Mary Lou Northrup (see Scholar-
ship this page).

To AFMS Endowment Fund for:

1. Donations to AFMS Endow-
ment
 2. Memorials
- Send to: See AFMS Newsletter

To ALAA Treasurer for:

- Memberships, new and renewals
- Donations
- Make check payable to ALAA
(American Lands Access
Assn) Treasurer, P.O. Box
54398, San Jose, CA 95154

NFMS WEB SITE: www.amfed.org/nfms
or
<http://northwestfederation.org/>

***Due to changing to an elec-
tronic newsletter, clubs are
no longer required to send
contact information
throughout the year for
members who are added or
removed from their roster.
Directory will now only re-
quire the contact infor-
mation for the board mem-
bers of each club. If you
would like to contact a spe-
cific person in another club,
please contact their club.**

**NORTHWEST FEDERATION
OF MINERALOGICAL SOCIETIES
BYLAWS**

ARTICLE I

Basic Information

Section 1. The Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies, hereafter referred to as the Federation, was incorporated in the State of Washington on April 10, 1950. As a Washington corporation the Federation must have a business address and Representative Agent residing in the State of Washington.

Section 2. This document will serve as the current bylaws of the federation and includes changes in the general text as were approved at the Convention of Delegates at the Annual Meeting of the Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies, Inc at Walla Walla, WA on September 5, 2025.

ARTICLE II

General Purposes

Section 1. To bring about closer association of the earth science societies.

Section 2. To hold, through Member Societies, conventions with suitable programs and exhibits for the benefit of the members and the general public. Programs shall be planned that are directed to educational purposes in the form of guest speakers, seminars, demonstrations, etc.

Section 3. To cooperate with the various State Departments of Mines and Mining, in order to promote knowledge of the mineral resources of the different states.

Section 4. To assemble, for exhibition purposes, suitable collections to show at exhibitions.

Section 5. To assist in the preservation of all mineral collecting areas. To become actively involved in locating and obtaining new mineral collecting sites for the use of member clubs. To aid in creating a favorable public image this Federation has pledged itself to the practice of better outdoor manners by adopting the AFMS Code of Ethics. Any use of the AFMS Code of Ethics by the NFMS will include the NFMS insignia. The NFMS, Inc., officially supports the multiple use of our natural resources in a manner that will preserve and protect our public lands for their best use.

Section 6. To cooperate with similar Federations.

Section 7. This Federation is to function on a non-political, amateur basis.

Section 8. This Federation shall be nonprofit in its operation, and its activities shall be directed exclusively to cultural, educational and scientific purposes, the net

income of this Federation shall not insure in whole or in part to any individual or individuals nor shall any distribution of income or assets of the Federation shall be given to other organizations created for the like or similar purposes.

ARTICLE III

Affiliations

Section 1. This Federation is affiliated with the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies, Inc. (AFMS)

a) The President and 1st Vice President will serve as representatives to, and become Directors of the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies, Inc. If the President or 1st Vice President are unable to attend the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies meeting, it shall be the duty of the Executive Board to appoint an alternate voting delegate for that annual AFMS meeting.

b) The Northwest Federation shall annually pay dues, as levied, to the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies, Inc., for dues for each member in good standing in the Northwest Federation.

c) Delegates to the American Federation conventions will be allowed a mileage rate in the amount no greater than the then current round trip economy air fare by the most direct route, or if direct air service is not available, then by current I.R. S. mileage, by the most direct usually traveled route.

d) Selection of the NFMS Representative to the AFMS Executive Board. The NFMS Executive Secretary shall supervise selection of the NFMS Representative to the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies (AFMS) Executive Board in the following manner.

1) Eligibility: The current NFMS President and all Past Presidents in good standing in a Member Society shall be eligible as candidates for this office.

2) Nominations. The Secretary, in the year an NFMS Representative is required to be selected to the AFMS Executive Board, shall determine by mail the willingness of each potential candidate to serve.

3) Election: The Secretary shall prepare and mail a written ballot to each eligible member, from part (a), above. A majority vote is necessary for election. If a vote is not reached on the first ballot, a second ballot with the names of the candidates receiving the two (2) highest number of votes shall be prepared and mailed to each eligible member again. The name of the winning candidate shall be submitted by mail to AFMS Nominating Committee.

4) Replacements: In the event that it becomes necessary for any reason, including out of the Northwest Federation, to replace the representative prior to the end of the required AFMS term, replacement shall be made by the same procedure.

Section 5. This Federation may affiliate with other similar organizations upon a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the delegates at any Annual Meeting, PROVIDED that written notice be given each member Society at least four (4) months in advance.

ARTICLE IV

Fiscal Year

Section 1. Effective January 2026 the fiscal year for the Federation shall be from January 1st thru December 31st of each calendar year. The books shall be closed and audited as of December 31st of each year. An interim financial report shall be prepared for the Annual Meeting.

ARTICLE V

Membership

Section 1. Membership in this Federation shall be open to qualified Societies in the states of Washington, Oregon, Alaska, Montana, Idaho, that portion of Utah which lies north of 41 degrees North Latitude, and such Canadian Societies in the provinces of British Columbia, Alberta, and Saskatchewan as desire to affiliate.

The Northwest Federation will not solicit clubs outside those boundaries. Should a club outside these boundaries apply for membership in the Northwest Federation, the Secretary of the AFMS and the secretary of the Federation within whose boundaries that club is located will be advised at least sixty (60) days before that club is considered for acceptance by the Northwest Federation.

Section 2. Membership in the Federation shall be open to all organized amateur mineral, geological and gem societies in the Northwest Federation Boundaries.

Section 3. Adult members are 18 years of age or older. Members who have not reached their eighteenth birthday are Junior Members. Those Junior Members of a Member Society shall constitute the Juniors Club of that Society. Member Societies shall have adult members as Officers.

Section 4. An amateur Society is one which is interested in lapidary, art metalcraft, jewelry, paleontology, geology, archeology or the study and collecting of minerals solely for the pleasure and the educational, social and physical benefits that it derives therefrom.

Section 5. Amateur societies desiring admission to the Federation shall apply, in writing, to the Executive Secretary, giving the name of its president and of its secretary, the number of members and the purposes and objectives of the society.

Section 6. Upon a Society's request for membership in the Northwest Federation, the Executive Officers of the Federation only, shall vote on that Society's tentative admission into the Federation. And upon payment of dues, these Societies shall have the same privileges as other member Societies until the next Convention of Delegates at which time they shall be voted on and accepted or rejected.

Section 7. Any Member Society desiring to withdraw from the Federation, shall make such intention known by written notice to the Executive Secretary, which notice shall be signed by the Officers and Director of the Society. Notice of such withdrawal shall then be sent by the Executive Secretary to each member society in the Federation.

Section 8. Should the attitude or conduct of any Member Society at any time be considered extremely detrimental to the welfare of the Federation, such Member Society may be suspended by a majority vote of the Assembly of Directors at a special meeting called by the President, such suspension to be effective until action is taken by the Delegates at following Annual Meeting. A suspended Member Society may be reinstated or expelled by majority vote by ballot at any Annual Meeting PROVIDED that written notice has been given to the Secretary of the suspended Society, so that its representatives may appear to show cause for reinstatement.

ARTICLE VI

Dues

Section 1. Annual dues of the adult members shall be on the basis of three dollars and fifty cents (\$3.50) per member of the Member Society and the dues of the Junior Members shall be on the basis of one dollar (\$1.00) per member of the Society. Such dues shall be due and payable to the Treasurer on the first day of each calendar year and shall be based upon the membership roster of the Society as of December 31, of the year just closed.

Section 2. New Societies joining the Federation shall pay three dollars and fifty cents (\$3.50) per adult member and shall pay one dollar (\$1.00) per junior member per calendar year, or fraction thereof, with the exception that societies joining the Federation between the close of the annual meeting and the calendar year shall be extended the courtesy of having dues paid during this period be considered as payment in full for the entire following calendar year.

Section 3. Should any Member Society fail to remit its dues for the current year by February 15, such Society shall not be considered in good standing and may not be listed in the Federation directory for that year. Any Member Society failing to pay its dues by June 1st shall be dropped from the roll.

Section 4. Should such Society desire readmission, it shall apply for membership in the usual manner.

ARTICLE VII

Government

Part A. Qualification of Officers, Directors, Delegates and Appointees.

Section 1. All Officers, Directors, Delegates and Appointees shall be adult members of a Member Society in good standing.

Part B. Officers

Section 1. The Officers of the Federation shall consist of the President, 1st Vice President, 2nd Vice President, Executive Secretary and Treasurer.

Section 2. These Officers shall constitute the Executive Board.

Section 3. The Executive Board shall carry out all authorized business of the Federation.

Section 4. Vacancies in office shall be filled by appointment of the President, with approval of the Executive Board.

Part C. Convention of Delegates

Section 1. The Convention of Delegates is an assembly of individuals representing each Member Societies who meet annually to approve actions that affect the overall operation of the Federation as further may be specified in these bylaws.

Section 2. Each Member Society shall be represented at the Annual Meeting (Convention of Delegates) by no more than two (2) individuals who serve as delegates and are the official representatives of their home society. One delegate will also serve as a director and represent their Society as a member of the Assembly of Directors.

Section 3. Individual delegates are to be selected in any manner the Member Society may decide.

Section 4. Each delegate has one vote.

Part D. Assembly of Directors

Section 1. The Assembly of Directors shall consist of the Officers of the Federation, who shall act as Officers of the Assembly, and one (1) Director from each Member Society, to be selected in any manner the Member Society may decide.

Section 2 The term of office of the Society Directors shall be for one (1) year.

Section 3. Each member of the Assembly of Directors shall have only one (1) vote, even though he/she may be representing more than one (1) society.

Section 4. Duties of the Assembly of Directors are specified in other sections throughout these bylaws.

Section 5. One third (1/3) of the Assembly of Directors meetings is needed to constitute a quorum for conducting assigned business.

Section 6. No proxy votes will be accepted.

Part E. Election of Officers

Section 1. Within sixty (60) days after the close of the Annual Meeting, the President, with the approval of the Executive Board, shall appoint, from the qualified members in good standing of any Member Society in the Federation, five (5) persons with at least one (1) from each of the Northwestern states of Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Utah and Washington who shall constitute the Nominating Committee.

Section 2. The Nominating Committee shall act to nominate for each elective office of the Federation for the ensuing year, with the exception of the Office of President, one (1) or more qualified Federation Society members in good standing who have expressed their willingness to accept the responsibilities of the office. For the Office of President, the Nominating Committee shall nominate only one candidate, and it shall be customary to nominate the current 1st Vice President for the Office of President.

Section 3. Such nominations with a list of qualifications of each candidate, shall be mailed to each Federation Member Society at least ninety (90) days prior to the Annual Meeting; copies shall also be available at the Annual Meeting where the Nominating Committee shall make its report. Other nominations may be made from the floor at the meeting. The election of officers shall be by majority vote at the meeting.

Section 4. Elections shall be by ballot except in the case of single nominee, when this rule shall automatically be suspended and the nominee shall be declared elected by the Presiding Officer. The term of office shall be for one (1) year beginning January 1st, or as soon thereafter as new Officers are elected and installed.

Section 5 No person may serve more than one (1) term in sequence as President of the NFMS and it shall be customary, but not mandatory, to promote the current 1st Vice President to the Office of President.

Section 6. No two members of the same family can serve on the Executive Board during any term.

Section 7. Fulfillment of the duties of the Nomination Committee shall be the responsibility of the Nominating Committee Chairman.

ARTICLE VIII

Meetings

Part A. The Convention of Delegates (Annual Meeting)

Section 1. The Executive Board and Convention of Delegates constitute the voting body of the Federation.

Section 2. A meeting of the Executive Board and Convention of Delegates shall be convened at a time chosen by the host society whose bid for the Annual Meeting and Show has been accepted by a majority vote of the Assembly of Directors. (The date of the Annual Meeting and Show shall have no effect on the fiscal or the operations year of the Federation.)

Section 3. All business of the Federation shall be transacted at the Annual Meeting by the Executive Board and Convention of Delegates, except such business as may be specifically assigned to the Assembly of Directors or the Executive Board.

Section 4. Before being seated at any Convention of Delegates, all Delegates shall be required to have on file with the Credentials Committee, authorizations being signed by the President and Secretary of the Society they represent.

Section 5 Delegates present at any Annual Meeting shall constitute a quorum for conducting business and making decisions.

Section 6. No Delegate may represent more than one Member Society.

Section 6. No Proxy votes will be accepted from delegates.

Section 7. Standing Committee Chairpersons may attend and present their committee reports to the Executive Board and delegates.

Section 8. Appointees to special committees may participate in business discussions but not vote.

Section 9 Other individuals who are members of the Federation in good standing may attend to observe.

Part B. Special Meeting

Section 1. After the Annual Meeting the newly elected President may convene a meeting of

the Assembly of Directors to transact any business assigned to them by the delegates at the Convention of Delegates.

Section 2. The President, or any seven (7) Member Societies may call a Special Meeting of the Assembly of Directors for an emergency.

Section 3. One third (1/3) of the membership of the Assembly of Directors shall constitute a quorum when the Special Meeting is assembled.

Section 4 Special Meetings may be called by the President by mail, for the purpose of transacting any business within the authority of the Assembly of Directors.

Section 5. A majority of the membership of the Assembly of Directors shall constitute a quorum when making decisions when meeting by mail.

Part C. Mid-Year Meeting

Section 1. Mid-Year meetings are for the benefit of the Executive Board and are open to any Federation member.

Section 2. Directors and delegates may attend to present items or issues their home society wants to bring before the Executive Board for discussion.

Section 2. Standing Committees chairpersons are invited to attend to present updates on committee activities.

Section 3. It is an opportunity for open discussions of business related items that may warrant inclusion in the agenda for the next annual meeting.

Section 4. There is no voting on business decisions at the mid-year meeting.

Part D. Organizational Meeting

Section 1. A meeting of the new Executive Board and invited individuals for the purpose of setting schedules, priorities, and organizing the new Executive Board assignments for the term in their position.

Section 2. To be held as soon as possible after the election of new members to the Executive Board at a place designated by the newly elected President.

Section 3. May include resolution of any old unfinished business including any known AFMS considerations.

Continued on page 30

Part E. Rules of Order

Roberts Rules of Order, Revised, unless otherwise provided for in these Bylaws shall govern all meetings of this Federation and its Assembly of Directors

Part F. Parliamentarian

The Parliamentarian shall not be a Delegate or Director of any Member Society.

Part G. Electronic Meetings

All meetings specified by this Bylaw Article VIII, Parts A, B, C & D shall be conducted with Officers, appropriately credentialed Directors and Delegates present in person if possible. However, in case of Emergency declared by Governmental authorities, such as a Public Health Crisis, Natural Disaster, Civil Unrest, or other Disaster, the Executive Board is authorized to conduct such meetings by electronic means. The provisions of Robert's Rules of Order, 12th (or later) Revision, Appendix "SAMPLE RULES FOR ELECTRONIC MEETINGS" pp.635-649 shall apply with special regard to conduct of the meeting, and voting by show of hands or secret ballot as appropriate. The specific Internet protocol and program used to hold such a meeting shall be left to the discretion of the Executive Board.

Furthermore, informal meetings such as those of Committees, Executive Board, or other working bodies of the NFMS may also be similarly held by electronic means at any time when requested by the Chairperson.

Part H. Junior Club Meetings

All Junior Club meetings, outings and field trips must have an Adult Member present. It is strongly recommended that two unrelated adults are present.

All Junior Members that require direct supervision or care must be accompanied by an adult.

ARTICLE IX**Duties of Officers**

Section 1. The Officers shall perform the duties outlined for them in Roberts Rules of Order, Revised, and those detailed for them in the Operating Procedures which are not inconsistent with the Articles of Incorporation and the Bylaws of this Federation.

Section 2. Duties of the Federation Director, a member of the Society he represents, are detailed in the Operating Procedures.

Section 3. The EXECUTIVE BOARD, as defined in these Bylaws, Article VII, Part B, Section 2 shall carry out all authorized business of the Federation. Shall within one (1) month after election, approve a Federation Budget for miscellaneous expenses submitted by the Budget Committee for the year just beginning.

Section 4. ALL FEDERATION EXECUTIVE OFFICERS shall be allowed a transportation allotment in an amount not greater than the then current round trip economy air fare to the Convention, Mid-Year Meetings, and Organizational Meeting by the most direct route, or if direct air service is not available, then by current I.R.S.

mileage, by the most direct usually traveled route. This includes transportation home from the convention for outgoing and the newly elected officers.

ARTICLE X

Committees

Section 1. Qualifications

1. No person shall be appointed Chairman of more than one (1) Committee.
- 2.
3. No member of the Executive Board shall be appointed Chairman of a Committee except that the 1st Vice President, upon election to that office, automatically becomes Chairman of the Budget Committee, and the 2nd Vice President, upon election to the office becomes the Chairman of the Custodian Committee.
- 4.
5. If possible, all appointments must be made within sixty (60) days and notification be given the Member societies within ninety (90) days following the Annual Meeting.
- 6.
7. Notification of the appointments shall be sent to the Federation Director and at least one (1) other Society Officer in each member Society by way of the NFMS Newsletter.
- 8.
9. All Committee Chairmen are to work with the President and submit their reports, with recommendations, if any, at the Annual Meeting.
- 10.

Section 2. Standing Committees

1. Standing Committees shall be: Budget, Bulletin Aids, Credentials, Custodian, Directory, Education, Endowment Fund, Historian, Juniors, Long Range Planning, Newsletter, Nominating, Northwest Rockhound Retreat, Operations Review, Public Land Advisory, Past President Council, Public Relations, Resolutions, Rules & Awards, Safety, Scholarship, Show Coordination, Slide and Video Library, Stamps, Supplies, Ways and Means, Web-Site and Website Contest
- 2.
3. Each Standing Committee Chairman shall deliver to their successors all material pertaining to their Committees work within ten (10) days after their termination of their appointments
- 4.
5. Composition of Standing Committees:
- 6.

BUDGET: The current 1st Vice President shall be the Chairman of the Budget Committee.

CUSTODIAN: The current 2nd Vice President shall be the Chairman of the Custodian Committee.

RULES AND AWARDS: Shall be composed of three (3) members, each serving a three (3) year term with one new member being appointed each year by the President of the NFMS, to replace the retiring member having served three years. The oldest member, in terms of service shall be the Chairman of the Committee. The Second Year member shall be the Judging Director. The incoming member shall be the Exhibits Registrar (Exhibits Registration)

Chairman). The activities of the Rules and Awards Committee shall be governed by the AFMS Uniform Rules, and the NFMS Operating Procedures for the Rules and Awards Committee.

ALL OTHER STANDING COMMITTEES: Shall be constituted as the President deems expedient and their appointment shall be for a one (1) year term which shall coincide with the term of the Federation President, or until their respective successors are appointed and qualify.

1. Standing Committees shall perform the duties specified for them in the Operating Procedures

2.

Section 3. Special Committees

1. Special Committees will be appointed annually, as desired, for a one year term, by the NFMS President to complete a specific task (Further term(s) must be reappointed by succeeding presidents). Operating Procedures that pertain to all committees and the NFMS Operations Manual will define the conduct of any and all Special Committee assignments.

2.

Section 4. NFMS Representatives on AFMS Committees

1. The NFMS President will appoint NFMS regional representatives to serve on AFMS Committees as requested by the AFMS President.

2.

3. Duties will be defined by AFMS Bylaws, OP's or other AFMS document.

4.

ARTICLE XI

OPERATING PROCEDURES

Part A Operating Procedures

The details of operating not included in the Articles of Incorporation or the Bylaws of the Federation that are of a continuing nature, to be mandatory on succeeding administration until amended, suspended or rescinded, shall be authorized by Operating Procedures, upon approval of the Assembly of Directors & Delegates, as outlined in our Operating Procedure System.

Part B Operating Procedure System

Section 1. Suggested Operating Procedures may be submitted by any member in good standing, to the President, the Secretary, or directly at any Annual meeting.

Section 2. Operating Procedures may be adopted or suspended at the Annual Meeting without prior notice, by a majority vote of those present and voting or they may be amended or rescinded, also without prior notice by a two thirds (2/3) vote of those present and voting. After adoption Operating Procedures become mandatory until amended, suspended or rescinded at an Annual Meeting.

Section 3. No Operation procedure is in order that violates this Federation's Articles of Incorporation or its Bylaws.

ARTICLE XII

Official Publication

“The Northwest Newsletter”, a nonprofit bulletin owned and published by the Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies, Inc., shall be the official publication.

ARTICLE XII**Cancellation Clause**

On Adoption of these Bylaws it automatically cancels all previous Bylaws and Amendments thereto, of this Federation.

ARTICLE XIV**Amendments**

Section 1. All amendments to these Bylaws and all resolutions must be sponsored by a member Society in good standing.

Section 2. These Bylaws may be amended at any Annual Meeting by a two thirds (2/3) vote of the Delegates present, PROVIDED, that written notice has been given each of the member Societies at least three (3) months in advance.

ARTICLE XV

Historical Information

Part A: The Organizing Meeting: The Societies which are represented at the organization meeting held in Olympia, Washington, February 5, 1938 whose representative's signatures appear on the original Constitution are designated as Charter Members.

Part B: CHARTER MEMBERS

1. Ray C. Grulke, President, Washington Agate and Mineral Society
2. E.H. Rockwell, President, Oregon Agate and Mineral Society
3. C.G. Springer, President, Deschutes Geology Club
4. Arthur K. Harris, President, Camas Mineral Society
5. Charles O. Fernquist, President, Columbian Geological Society
6. M.F. Reed, President, Gem Collectors Club
7. Floyd A. Holmquist, President, Tacoma Mineral Society

1.

Part C: Original bylaws were approved by Henry C. Dake, President at the first Northwest Federation meeting