This is a great big thank you to the Golden Spike Gem and Mineral Society of Ogden Utah for hosting the Northwest Federation of Gem and Mineral Society’s show and annual meetings on April 10-12. The Golden Spike club has a three day show, with Friday dedicated to having local kids bussed in from the schools. I saw lines of kids waiting for the spin a wheel and other kids-oriented events. Overall the club had a great show that was packed most of the weekend. They also had guest speakers and field trips organized for most of the days. My family and I took advantage of the Sunday field trip to Wendover UT, looking for a plume agate. We have been cutting some of our agate and wish to thank all of the folks that spent time organizing and leading out in the field trips.

I am guessing that most of you have never been to an NFMS annual business meeting and don’t know exactly what goes on at this meeting. Because of this, I thought I would give you a little information about it. The meeting happened on Friday of the show and is lead by the president and other officers of the NFMS. The attendees include the individuals that make up our committees that you see listed on the inside of your newsletter and on our website. These committee members are volunteers from different clubs that are in charge of the services of the NFMS, such as the newsletter, website, library, retreat, field trips, directory and supplies to name a few. The attendees also include the NFMS delegates and assistant delegates from each of our 68 member clubs. This year we had 46 delegates from 25 clubs. We also had many past NFMS presidents and some past AFMS presidents attend as well as Marion Roberts, who is the current American Federation President.

At the top of our agenda this year, we were going to recognize all of the juniors in our clubs who had completed the Junior Achievement application and would be eligible for cash prizes. Sadly, we did not receive one Junior application this year. Please encourage your juniors to apply, so next year is much better and we can recognize them at the meeting.

Each of the officers and committee members give a report and update the rest of us on what is happening with the duties of which they were in charge. We voted on the new budget for 2015-2016 year. During these updates we often need to vote on new business items that come up. For instance, this year, our NFMS librarian Darrell Watkins, mentioned that our video library was mostly in the outdated VCR format and made a motion that was passed to purchase a machine that could transfer this video data onto a CD. This would accommodate the technology that most clubs have.

One of the important business items each year is to elect new officers. This begins with the immediate past NFMS president recommending an outstanding individual for the position of NFMS Second Vice President. This year, Tom Fisk recommended Keith Fackrell from the Timpanogos Gem and Mineral Society. The other Vice Presidents move up in order, so Hidemi Kira, will be president, Jim Bosley, first vice president, Judi Allison, secretary and Lyle Vogelpohl, treasurer. These names were nominated and passed and will begin serving new positions on September first of this year.

Our stamp chair person, Hermina Kolski, has been collecting stamps for 26 years for the NFMS which has earned $6,320.30 towards cancer research. She announced that she would like to retire someday, but will still assist the new person. So if you love stamps and would like to help in this important endeavor, please contact me or Hermina.

We also had an editors’ breakfast on Saturday morning, where we give out awards for outstanding newsletters and articles. We had the past presidents lunch, that is meant as a fun social re-connection time. On Saturday night we had the Awards Banquet, which is a formal time of recognition and great food. We gave awards for the best competitive display cases and had a swearing in ceremony for the new officers. Evelyn Cataldo, our NFMS honoree of the AFMS Scholarship foundation, named two students that she selected to receive scholarships toward their master’s degree in an earth science degree. One added treat this year was a talk and slide show from Bob Jones, contributing editor from Rock and Gem Magazine.

One of the things that happen at these NFMS shows is that we get to know our fellow club members from across the great Northwest and many new friendships develop. A lot of fun and socializing happen along with the business of the NFMS. Next year the NFMS will be a combined AFMS Show and will be in Albany OR, July 29-31, 2016. I would encourage you to mark your calendar today and plan to attend and be involved in another great show and convention.
SHOW COORDINATOR: Pat Lambert, Lakeside Gem & Mineral Club, 26106 S. Oak, Kennewick, WA 99357, palmartber@ charter.net

STAMPS: Hermitage Gem & Mineral Club, Club-at-Large, 208 Riverview 2 East, Great Falls, MT 59404-1534, (406)231-0620

SUPPLIES: Paul Amos, Mt. Hoard Rock Club, 15523 NE 215th Ave., Brush Prairie, WA, (360)892-3716, packrats2@msn.com

WAYS & MEANS: Evelyn Van Curra, Willamette Agate & Mineral Society, Inc., 3448 NW Covey Run, Corvallis, OR 97330 (541) 753-2401, jvancurra@msn.com

WEBMASTER: Brad Larson, Owyhee Gem, Mineral Society, 4112 E. Park Ridge Dr., Nampa, ID 83467, (208) 465-1920, nfms.webmaster@gmail.com

SHOW COORDINATION. Your Federation provides a free service for NFMS members by listing your show in this Newsletter, on the NFMS website, two magazines (“Rocks and Minerals” and “Mineral and Gem”) and the on-line calendar from “Lapidary Journal”. Please provide the date and time for the show, the club name and show title (if applicable), the location of the show, and most important a contact person’s address, e-mail address and/or phone (e-mail is preferred). Please send your show information four to six months in advance to show the Coordination Chairperson. If you see an error on your show is listed, or if your show is not listed, contact the Newsletter Editor.

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 used to support Cancer Research. The collected stamps can be sent to the Stamps Committee, brought to the NFMS Annual Show or given to your Federation Director in your area.

ATTENTION CLUB TREASURERS
Where to send your money
To NFMS Treasurer for:
1. Donations in general
2. Donations for Memorial contributions
3. Donations to AFMS Scholarship Fund
4. Donations to AFMS Scholarship

Send to: Lyle Vogelpohl, see Treasurer’s page.

To NFMS Endowment Fund Treasurer for:
1. Donations to Endowment Fund
2. Memorial contributions
3. Make check payable to NFMS Endowment Fund, Send to Treasurer, P.O. Box 8810 37th Ave SW, Seattle, WA. 98126-3617

To NFMS Scholarship Chairperson for:
1. Donations to AFMS Scholarship Fund
2. Memorial contributions to AFMS Scholarship
3. Make check payable to AFMS Scholarship Fund.
4. Send to: Evelyn Catlar@ (see Scholarship Chairperson’s page)

To NFMS Endowment Fund for:
1. Donations to Endowment Fund
2. Memorials
3. Send to: See AFMS Newsletter page

To ALAA Treasurer for:
1. Memberships, new and renewals
2. 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

NFMS NEWSLETTER AND WEBSITE
ADVERTISMENT
Members, Non-members, club, etc., can advertise in the Northwest Newsletter. This service is provided to help defray the cost of printing and mailing the newsletter and is encouraged by the Federation. The only criteria for the ad is that it be hobby related (e.g. rocks, equipment, grits, shows, etc.).

Ads for the Northwest Newsletter are $1.50 per square inch. Example: A 4" x 4" is 16 inches x $1.50 = $16 per square inch of the Newsletter

For an additional 50% of the cost of the Newsletter ad, you can have the same ad placed on the NFMS website for the same length of time. The Newsletter ad must be purchased to receive this additional advertisement.

Do not send ads on colored paper because the background will look gray in the ad. The Editor will send a billing statement to the customer which will include instructions to make payment to the NFMS Treasurer.

For more information questions, call, e-mail or write the Newsletter Editor.
The NFMS Annual Meeting and Show in Ogden, UT (April 10 -12) was a great success and we would like to thank the host club, Golden Spike Gem & Mineral Society, for their hard work. The NFMS Annual meeting, ALAA Meeting and other programs went very smooth. Special thank you to Evan Day, Show Chair Deborah Blake and Co-Chair Richard Gabel. They worked very hard from the beginning planning stages and coordinated the show very well. The show had quite an attendance and lots of school kids were there on Friday. The Spinning Wheel was so popular that the line was covering up the Silent Auction area most of the morning hours. I heard later that their Spinning Wheel is their very good fund raiser. One of the highlights was Bob Jones (Contributing Editor of Rock & Gem Magazine) as the guest speaker at the Awards Banquet, which was very enjoyable. I have been reading lots of his articles over the years, but it was a great pleasure to finally meet him in person. And there were several other events such as field trips, lectures, tours and etc. I am sure those who attended had a good time.

I was helping the Silent Auction area most of the time together with my wife Tomoko where the Mt. Hood Rock Club was in charge. Dick Parks and Patty Amos were the leaders and the knowledgeable Roger Beck (Eureka Rock & Gem Club) was there to help most of the time. All the rocks we couldn’t identify were brought to him. Troy and Lenora (MT. Hood Rock Club), Jim & Linda Bosley (Idaho Falls Gem & Mineral Society), Keith & Jerry Fackrell (Timpanogos Gem & Mineral Society) and several other members were helping there. It was a very unique situation that the 1st VP, 2nd VP and the 2nd VP Elect of the NFMS were working together in the same auction area together for quite a while. It was a very good opportunity to get to know each other. The Auction on Friday was a little slow, but picked up later and did pretty well. Thank you to all who donated the material!

The day after the show, we headed out to Delta to visit a rock shop that owns the Dugway Geode claim. We went together with our club members Art & Carolyn Hess and planned to meet Jerry & Marylou Northrup from the Hells Canyon Gem Club in Idaho at the shop. We arrived around noon and got together with the Northrups and first checked out the rock shop. The claim owner family was very nice and permitted us to dig for the rest of the day plus the next day for a single fee. The fee is $30 per family from the same address. They also allowed us to camp at the site. We paid and did the paper work at the shop, but the arrangement and payment could be done prior to arriving via the internet. The rock shop is named “The Bughouse” and could be easily found through the internet and you can ask for the information via email. They gave us a map to the site, but it was pretty simple and it was hard to find. I am glad Tomoko brought the little map she made 12 years ago. The map was made during the drive on a bumpy road and was hard to read, but gave us an idea of where it could be. Tomoko always writes down the routes when we go rockhounding and it does help. We arrived around 3 pm and started to get into the new hole where they were working and dug along the fresh tailings. There were many whole geodes and lots very beautiful broken ones. It was so exciting that the very strong wind with the dust didn’t bother too much. We usually stay in a motel, but were not confident enough to get back to town and come back the next day. The couple from Idaho kindly offered us to stay in their trailer and even prepared the meals for us. We cannot thank them enough for their hospitality.

The next day we dug until around noon and collected much more than we expected. The matrix of the Dugway Geodes has interesting patterns and will take a good polish, so it will look very nice when cut and polished. Then we headed to Vernon for Wonderstone and stayed a little while in the strong cold wind. The Vernon Wonderstone has a very pretty pattern, but not hard enough to take a good polish. Our friend was taking rocks we couldn’t identify were brought to him. Troy and Lenora (MT. Hood Rock Club), Jim & Linda Bosley (Idaho Falls Gem & Mineral Society), Keith & Jerry Fackrell (Timpanogos Gem & Mineral Society) and several other members were helping there. It was a very unique situation that the 1st VP, 2nd VP and the 2nd VP Elect of the NFMS were working together in the same auction area together for quite a while. It was a very good opportunity to get to know each other. The Auction on Friday was a little slow, but picked up later and did pretty well. Thank you to all who donated the material!

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After we left this site, we were to head to Wendover, but due to the snow and strong wind, I-80 was closed and got stuck. We had to stay in Tooele just south of Exit 99. The next day we almost gave up getting to the Wendover Agate site, but it was so clear that we decided to check it out. A member of the Golden Spike club kindly drew us a map of the site and we were able to get to the digging site. We could not find the Plume, but found enough pretty agates and had fun in a short period of time. Then we headed to Jackpot (NV) and stayed one night. Next day we went to the Rabbit Springs Geode site just a little north of Jackpot. It is on the Idaho side of the border and we dug for the geodes which the chalcedony inside fluoresces green. We collected some Desert Roses, which were also floating around. From there the three families had lunch together and all headed home. It was a very fun trip!

As announced at the NFMS meeting, there was no Mid-Year meeting, so there will be an Organizational Meeting on October 9th (10 am) at the Rice Museum in Hillsboro. Details will be coming up later and we hope many can attend.

Hello to All,

Hidemi Kira
1st Vice President

OFFICERS’ REPORTS

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Federation Fieldtrip
July 2-5
Vale, Grassy Mountain and Hoo Doo Basin

Save the date for this year’s federation field trip in eastern Oregon. This will be in the Vale, Grassy Mountain and Hoo Doo Basin areas. GREAT Petrified wood. The permit process for this area will take some time. Watch for updates and if you would like to help with this one, contact Doug True, dtruefossils12@yahoo.com
All American Club Award Chairperson

We have an opening for an NFMS committee chair for the All American Club Award. This is a new position from the American Federation of the Mineralogical Society (AFMS) and replaces the education chair. This position is to encourage clubs to assemble a "yearbook" or record of the activities and accomplishments they have done in the past year. Awards are given to clubs. The committee chair writes an article or two for our NFMS paper to encourage the clubs. The clubs send in the book or digital form to the committee chair, which then sends the entries to (AFMS). The AFMS November Newsletter has more details and forms which you can find on their website. Please contact Warren Rood if you can help by filling this opening. Thank you!

Ogden-Gram #8 By Evan Day

By all accounts, “Gemstone Junction 2015” in Ogden was Golden Spike's best show in many years. Attendance was up significantly, largely due to the attraction of the NFMS meetings and exhibits. Due to Dick Parks, Patty Amos and the Mt. Hood crew, the Silent Auction income was TRIPLE last year's amount. In addition to our own publicity efforts, Brad Larson (NFMS Webmaster) and Beth Heesacker (Newsletter editor) did a superb job of keeping the Federation membership up to date. We much appreciated the individual club editors copying information and entry forms into their own bulletins.

The ALAA meeting on Friday was well attended, and Casey Snider from the staff of Chairman Rob Bishop (U.S. House Natural Resources Committee) gave an excellent presentation on the intriguing “Public Lands Initiative” by Mr. Bishop. The NFMS Annual meeting went smoothly, and a new slate of officers is ready to take office in September. The Bulletin Aids breakfast meeting had 21 editors and webmasters, some of who receive awards, and all were entertained by Bob Jones, Editor of “Rock & Gem” magazine. The Officers and Past Presidents' luncheon was very convivial event; 31 old timers were there. Highlight of the Awards Banquet was Bob Jones describing his adventures in visiting the caves in Mexico containing those enormous selenite crystals. That was after a supper of “Million Dollar” scalloped potatoes, spicy chicken and BBQ ribs. The number of competitive exhibits was up from last year, and even “First Timers” managed to garner Master trophies from Joe Slouber, Lauren Williams, and Dee Holland.

Field trips to Topaz Mountain, Eureka, and Wendover were led by our sister clubs: Mineral Collectors of Utah, Cache Rock & Gem, and Timpanogos Gem & Mineral Society. It was a joy to see one lady from the Topaz trip come bubbling into our Hospitality room at the Comfort Suites Hotel, proudly showing off her hoard of amber topaz! On Saturday morning it was fun to hear Garry Warren of the Cache club describe how he edited the book “Rockhounding Utah”. Later that day, Dr. Paul Bybee gave a great talk on the latest findings in Dinosaur research. Sunday was the day for a tour of Eccles Dinosaur Park and Museum by Director Casey Allen.

NOW, EVERYONE COME TO ALBANY FOR THE 2016 AFMS/NFMS SHOW!!!!!!

Bulletin Aids Chair Report

By Ronna Watkins

What a wonderful time we had in Ogden! My family arrived Wednesday and we spent time with our Utah family; my sons set-up their competition cases on Thursday; then, we attended the NFMS Annual Meeting Friday night, and Saturday morning enjoyed the Annual Bulletin Editor’s Breakfast. We, also, enjoyed the Awards Banquet and a tour at Ogden’s George S. Eccles Dinosaur Park, where we were invited into the paleo lab for a very fascinating presentation by a very enthusiastic volunteer, Larry. The whole weekend was awesome! The show was big and well run, the food was delicious, and our hosts and company were warm, welcoming, and a lot of fun.

This year at the Editor’s Breakfast, we were honored to have lifetime hobbyist and Carnegie Award winner Bob Jones speak. We, also, hosted the NFMS webmaster’s awards presented by the Website Contest Chairman, Cheri George, and I was honored to present the awards for the 2015 Bulletin Editors Contest. This year’s recipients are:

Jon A Methaney - First Place Adult Written Feature - “Succor Creek Field Trip 2014” - The Clackamette Gem; June Issue
Hidemi & Tomoko Kira - Second Place Adult Written Feature - “Show Displays at the Milwaukie Senior Center and Wilsonville Library” - The Clackamette Gem; October Issue
Sean Heitpas - Third Place Adult Written Feature - “Boring Lava is Not Boring” - The Clackamette Gem; November Issue
Duane Flachus - First Place Drawn Feature - “Hard Luck Harry…” - The Clackamette Gem; May Issue

Congratulations to our 2015 winners!

I was very excited to host the Annual Bulletin Editor’s Breakfast. I love that, the hard working, month-after-month deadline meeting, creative editors of the NFMS can get together, share ideas, receive awards, and have some fun at this once a year event. I am honored to be among these talented individuals, who are the core of communications for their clubs. I encourage every editor that is able to attend this breakfast to make plans to be in Albany, Oregon, July 30, 2016. I certainly will!
COMMITTEE REPORTS

NFMS Meeting and Golden Spike Show
Ogden, Utah
Pictorial Report

Displays
Photos by Beth Heesacker

Septarian Nodules and Horn Coral

Thumbnail Minerals

More minerals

Dugway Geodes
Plume Agate

Coprolite
(Dino poop)

The Gems of Utah

Dinosaur Park in Ogden Utah
COMMITTEE REPORTS

NFMS Meetings and Banquet
Photos by Brad Larson

NFMS Meeting

Editor’s Breakfast

Awards Banquet

Display Case on the Restoration of Fossils
Photo by Beth Heesacker
COMMITTEE REPORTS

Dealer Offerings
Photos by Beth Heesacker

And just for fun –
The Dinosaur Man
NFMS TROPHY WINNERS
Ogden, Utah – April 11, 2015
By Joe Slouber, Rules Chair
Lauren Williams, Judging Director; Evan Day, Registrar

There were 10 applications submitted for Competitive Competition at the NFMS show held in Ogden, UT on April 10, 11, 12. The result of the Competitive Competition is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Category</th>
<th>Display</th>
<th>Entrant</th>
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<td>BT-1</td>
<td>Thumbnail Minerals</td>
<td>Ed Gage, Master</td>
<td>Trophy</td>
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<td>UV-3</td>
<td>Ultra Violet</td>
<td>Ed Gage, Master</td>
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<tr>
<td>BU-1</td>
<td>Minerals Unlimited</td>
<td>Jerry North, Master</td>
<td>Trophy</td>
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<td>DST-6</td>
<td>Wire-wrapped Jewelry</td>
<td>Wendy North, Master</td>
<td>Trophy</td>
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<tr>
<td>F-1</td>
<td>Fossils</td>
<td>Nicholas Watkins, Advanced</td>
<td>Plaque</td>
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<tr>
<td>BU-1</td>
<td>Minerals Unlimited</td>
<td>Kent Johnson, Novice</td>
<td>Ribbon</td>
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<tr>
<td>G-10</td>
<td>Petrified Wood</td>
<td>Walter Watkins, Novice</td>
<td>Ribbon</td>
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<tr>
<td>C-2</td>
<td>Geodes</td>
<td>Randy Thompson, Novice</td>
<td>Ribbon</td>
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<td>G-2</td>
<td>Polished Petrified Wood</td>
<td>Randy Thompson, Novice</td>
<td>Ribbon</td>
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<tr>
<td>CC-2</td>
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<td>Steve Holmes, Novice</td>
<td>Ribbon</td>
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</table>

SUPPLEMENTAL TROPHIES

Hedin Petrified Wood | Randy Thompson
Smith – All New Material | Joe Slouber
Zeichen – Minerals | Jerry North
Sweepstakes | Jerry North

I want to thank everyone who put in a Competitive Case. You had a great selection of material.

Next year the NFMS Show will be in Albany, Oregon and the AFMS is coming to town. If you want an AFMS trophy then those of you who entered in Ogden need to correct what the judges told you to fix before entering them in Albany. If you want to enter competition for the first time, in Albany, then you need to enter in the Master Class and will have to get a NFMS score of 90 or above in order to fly up to the AFMS level where the AFMS will judge your case again.

AFMS Judges Training
By Barbara Sky and Donna Moore

The MWF is hosting an AFMS Judges Training session at the Greater St. Louis Association of Earth Science Clubs Show in St. Louis, Missouri, on August 14-16, 2015. Jay Bowman will be teaching the class which will be held at The Lodge Hotel, then judging will take place at the show on Sunday, August 16.

Anyone who would like to become an accredited judge is welcome to participate in this training class. It has been approved as the AFMS training for this year. Your cost will be for your room, meals and travel. This is open to anyone from any federation, not just the MWF.

The class site motel is The Lodge Hotel, which is actually in Bridgeton, Missouri, but not far from the show site. If you are interested in attending the training class, please contact Barbara Sky, so she will be able to give the hotel an idea of how many rooms we need to reserve. She can also get back to you with the details. You will actually make your own reservations at the motel by using the code “Judges Training”. Phone number for the motel is 314-298-0388.

Jay’s class is two days of classroom sessions, which involve going over the AFMS Uniform Rules, which can be downloaded from the AFMS Website www.amfed.org then a day of practice judging. It is a time commitment, but if your federation is like the MWF, the number of trained judges has dwindled.

Barbara Sky, MWF Uniform Rules Chairman, can be reached by e-mail at bsky@swbell.net, by phone 636-207-8766 or by mail at 25 Roland Ave., Winchester, MO 63021-5259. Or, Donna Moore, MWF Secretary, can be reached at mwfsecretary@gmail.com or by phone 309-231-2116, if you cannot reach Barbara.
Enjoy your spring

Enjoy your Summer

Editor’s Note: Due to the weird weather I am not sure which it is. But enjoy it anyway.
Tis the time of year that we have all been waiting for. The 12th annual Northwest Rockhound Retreat is just around the corner and most of us can hardly wait for it to happen. We will be continuing with our 8 Regular Workshops this year, Lapidary, Silversmithing, Casting, Intarsia, Faceting, Wire-wrapping, Beading, and Doublets & Triplets.

This year we will be having a preview of things to come in an evening program on Chain Mailing. It will be put on by Chris Sorenson. We are still looking to get Knapping in but will continue to try to get schedules together so it can happen.

We are continuing with our great group of instructors so you can count on getting the type of instructions that will expand your pleasure. Thirty people are registered so if you want in do not wait too long. Registration is a first come, first served situation based upon the post mark date on your registration.

I look forward to seeing all of you at the Retreat on Labor Day Week

NOTICE

Due to the fact that this property is in the middle of a National Monument, we are subject to much closer scrutiny than other properties. We have gone through a lengthy process and here are the parameters that we will work with this year. Our group is the only one that is allowed to bring RV’s on the property so we have a privilege no other can get.

- **NO PETS.** Exceptions will be made for service animals, but they must be registered with me 45 days prior to the event so that I can notify the camp Manager within 30 days. No animal waste may be left on the OMSI or NPS property. Animals may not be allowed to run loose.
- **Smoking is prohibited.** If a group participant chooses to smoke they need to first check in with the Manager to find a designated space, and the smoker is responsible for cleaning up and packing out all cigarette butts.
- **Alcohol.** Alcohol is permitted, but must be consumed in moderation and under control. Guests must dispose of all alcohol containers offsite from Hancock Field Station.
- **Earliest arrival time is 3pm.** Hancock Field Station staff are cleaning and preparing the site from the previous group and are not able to accommodate early arrivals. Because of this, group participants arriving before 3pm will be asked to leave and come back at the appropriate time.
- **Parking** is allowed in designated areas only. The camp manager is responsible for all parking management and any issues or concerns that arise. Group participants must follow the direction and decisions of the camp manager. There is no parking or waiting allowed on the National Park Service Road that connects Hwy. 218 to the Hancock Field Station. There is also no parking or waiting on the Hancock Driveway which is also a designated fire lane. These roadways are required by State and Federal guidelines to remain open to allow emergency vehicles access to Hancock Field Station. Once at Hancock guests are not allowed to drive over drainage ditches in order to park a vehicle on the other side.
- **Housing and RV’s.** OMSI will provide privacy curtains for use in the larger a-frame cabins upon request. There is a maximum of 10 partial hookups for RVs. Six will be used by Instructors leaving only 4 RV,s for use by participants and those must be under 26 feet.

This means that if you plan on bringing an RV, the first 4 under 26 feet will be allowed. All others will be assigned cabins for the program.

We are all back at work and putting the pieces in place to make our Retreat at “Hancock Field Station” West of Fossil, Oregon, become a bigger and better annual event. The timing is the same as last year, starting on Monday September 7, 2015, and ending on Sunday September 14, 2015. The cost to the attendee will be $282.00 for room and board, $45.00 for workshop fee and if you desire a guided one day trip to the Fossil Beds, it will cost you $35.00. If you take the full package, that will be $362.00 for a one week vacation. What a deal. You should not miss this.

The Agenda outline looks like this:

**Monday, Arrive after 3PM** and get settled in your temporary home, then join a Spaghetti Feed at 6:30PM.

**Tuesday,** All day in the Workshop of your choice and an evening program.

**Wednesday,** Trip to Fossil Beds or Workshop activities with an evening Swap Session, no selling.

**Thursday,** Workshop activities all day with an evening program session.

**Friday,** Workshop activities all day with an evening program session.

**Saturday,** Workshops all day with an evening session of feedback from you as to what you want next year. A “Show and Tell” session from the Workshops and concluded with an oral auction of donated items.

**Sunday morning,** Have breakfast, clean your cabins and give fond farewells till next year.

Workshops available - based upon signup:

- **Lapidary**
- **Basic Faceting – (Maximum of Six)**
- **Silversmithing – (Maximum of Eight)**
- **Basic Intarsia – (Minimum of Four)**
- **Wirewrapping**
- **Beading**
- **Casting – (Maximum of Six)**
- **Doublets & Triplets**

If you need additional info, please call Lamar Tilgner at 503-666-2905 or Email at lstilgner1@frontier.com
**COST FOR “RETREAT” REGISTRATION**

**Registration** - Cost includes Breakfast and Evening Dinner with a Sack Lunch, sleeping quarters in an A frame cabin, (Bring your own bedding and pillow) (Mattress provided), or Dry Camping for an RV. No hookups available. If electric hookups are needed, they will cost $15.00 for the week. Tenting is the same price as RV or A frame.

6 Day Total = $282.00 +$15.00 for RV Electric plus Workshop fee of $45.00  Meals furnished.

*If you can’t stay the full time we can break it down by the day.* This would mean $57.00 per day, plus the Workshop Fee to take advantage of this great program.

**Trip to Fossil Bed and Museum** – Trip will be in Vans.
Cost will be $35.00 per person. We need at least 10 to make this trip a go. You will get a tour of the Fossil Beds, see the country and visit the new museum.

**Workshop Cost:**  
$45.00 for Workshop (One fee covers all) – Choose Primary and Secondaries.

- **Lapidary** - Provide your own rough or purchase ours at nominal fee from instructors.
- **Faceting** - Provide your own rough or purchase ours. Bring your own machine if you want.
- **Silversmithing** - Fee per project to instructor. Provide your own stones if you want.  
  All Participants must provide eye wear for safety purposes.
- **Wirewrapping** – Bring your own wire or buy from inst., provide your own stones or purchase from instructor. If you have your own tools, please bring them. We will have some available.
- **Intarsia** – Per Project cost provides full kit with materials from instructor.
- **Beading** – Components and kits can be purchased from instructor.
- **Casting** – Covering multiple casting methods and building wax models. Check new agenda for 2015.  
  All Participants must provide eye wear for safety purposes.
- **Doublets & Triplets** – How to cap and or back, plume, moss and opals or anything else. Purchase supplies from Instructor or bring your own.

*When moving to a new Workshop, Confirm with incoming Instructor for available space.*

We must have a minimum of 20 people register to make it all happen with a maximum of 52. Please send registration in as soon as possible because we must let the camp know by June if we have enough to go. That means at least 20. Help us keep this great activity going. Registration is first come, first served.

The “Swap Session” is a place to swap materials, arts, crafts, rocks or anything that someone else might want. No money will change hands, just goods.

**LAPIDARY WORKSHOP**

(Plan to bring your own good quality slabs, or purchase from instructors)

We will be teaching beginning cabochon making and also advanced cab making to those qualified cabbers who wish to learn how to make free-form cabs or just learn to be a better cabochon cutter. We can help you if you plan on participating in competition.

We have multiple workstations utilizing both diamond and carborundum, High Speed Sanders, 18” slab saws, small trim saws, a large flat polisher, and leather with Optical Cerium Oxide polishers.

Instructors are Master Cutters.

**SILVERSMITHING WORKSHOP**

A Maximum of 8 students. Each Student must bring Safety Glasses (Required), and Opti-Visor if needed for close work. All tools and supplies are provided by the Instructor; and a minimal fee will be charged for each project. They will charge you for all Silver and stones that you take from the Instructor’s supply. The tools are for your use based on the per project Fee. This is a basic class with a lot more information available for those that learn fast.

**FACETING WORKSHOP**

We are limited to 6 machines for this workshop; therefore 6 students is our limit. Again we are addressing the basic level or novice cutter. The Instructor is a Master Cutter so advanced information is available to those type cutters.

**WIREWRAPPING WORKSHOP**

Again we are addressing the needs of the beginning wrapper but will also be teaching advance techniques such as double units and bracelets. Instructor will have Wire available for you to buy for your projects as well as stones. It would be nice if you brought your own stones to wrap and your own tools. The Instructor, Darlene Wozniak, will try to contact you prior to the Retreat, but if you need more info, e-mail her at jwozniak@spiritone.com.

**BEADING WORKSHOP**

The beading class will be held along with the Wirewrapping so that you can learn various beading techniques and learn how to work them in to blend with Wirewrapping. This is a unique opportunity to develop some new techniques to create a new and different style of jewelry. There will be a variety of techniques explored such as various methods of bead stringing cabs – some cabs are available to purchase or bring your own. Topics covered will be bead stringing and application of crimp beads, knotting beads with small holes, basic seed bead stitches such as Peyote, Brick Stitch, Right Angle Weave, Herring Bone and others. Some beads will be available to purchase or bring your own.

**INTARSIA WORKSHOP**
The Instructor will have a kit for your first project that you must purchase. If you have brought your own material, you may use it after finishing the first project. If you do not have your own material, the Instructor will have a limited amount available at a reasonable price. There will be enough equipment to handle at least 10 people. This class will last for a maximum of 2 ½ days so that a second class can be done within the week. Advanced would be available if so desired.

CASTING

A maximum of 6 students: Student must bring their own Safety Glasses (Required). Opti-Visor if needed for close work, and bring their own silver for casting. For Silver type and amount contact the Instructor. There will be a minimal material charge for each project based upon materials used. You will learn to carve wax to create models. Learn about investments and how to use them. Learn Vacuum, Steam and Centrifugal Casting. Learn multiple casting techniques using a variety of methods and materials.

All of this will take most of the week, so expect to spend most of your time in this shop. The agenda for 2015 has been organized into the following schedule.

Tue. & Wed. – Casting (Carving, Burnout & Pouring Finishing) & Cuttlebone casting.
Thur. – Metal Folding - - - Bracelet.
Fri. – Setting Faceted Stones with tube set and prong set. Prerequisite is our silver class. INDIVIDUAL MUST KNOW HOW TO SOLDER WELL.
Sat. – Brooch casting, Rolling mill texture and Reticulation.

NOTE – Silver class students may join the Friday Faceted Stone setting.
Instructor: Chris Blickfeldt  grumpies@q.com  208-345-8774

DOUBLETS & TRIPLETS

In this class you will learn the art of capping an opal with optical quartz to create a fine gem stone. This will also give you the ability to use quartz caps for other stones and also how to back a stone with colored material to give a stunning background and better show a plume or moss agate, Instructor will be charging for Quartz caps and for cost of Glue or you can purchase kits for a complete project.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2015 REGISTRATION</th>
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<tr>
<td>NORTHWEST ROCKHOUND RETREAT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 7th thru 13th, 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sponsored by The Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies (One Registrant per form, Please.)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Name: ____________________________________________
Address: ____________________________________________
City: ______________________ State: ____  Zip: ________  Phone: ____________________________

Are you a member of a related Club? _____
Name of Club: __________________________

Your E-Mail address: ____________________________

Registration Fee: $282.00   Fossil Beds Trip: $35.00   Work Shop Fee: $45.00
RV Electric Hookup: $15.00 for the week   (Place fee on 1st choice)
Note: These costs must be paid at registration; Daily Rate: $57.00

Material costs will be paid to Workshop Instructor.

Do you need a cabin? __________ Do you need an RV Parking Place? __________
If you are in a cabin, is there another registrant you want in the same cabin? Please identify them.

Instructions: On the right, check which activities you wish to participate. Place the amount on the line to the right. Total the right hand column and send a check with this form to: Lamar Tilgner  200 S.E. Olvera Ave.  Gresham, OR  97080  503-666-2905  lstilgner1@frontier.com

| X | Registration Fee: $282.00 |
| RV Electric |
| Fossil Beds Trip: |
| Lapidary Shop: |
| Basic Faceting: |
| Silversmithing |
| Wirewrapping: |
| Intarsia: |
| Casting |
| Doublets & Triplets |
| Beading: |

**NOTE:** Make check payable to Lamar Tilgner

Only pay Workshop fee once - Show Workshops you plan to work in and number preference. Remember, there are 28 plus hours of Workshop time, so you can register for multiples and divide your time

TOTAL

* It has been requested that if you take Faceting that you allot full time to that effort.

**NOTE:** If you have any special dietary needs, please note them on entry form so we can get them to the cook.
Is It Still Good?
By Chuck Sonner, Safety Chair

At times it is hard to come up with a new idea. At times it is easy. I mentioned in another article about the need to carry two spare tires when you are rock collecting off road (more if you are off roading at Glass Butte). This is especially true when you are alone.

What I did not think about was the age of your tires. Several of our club members went to Quartzite for the jamboree this year. One couple took their motor home to a local tire dealer to have their tires checked. They were told the tires were ok to make the round trip. As you can guess, they were only 200 miles into the trip when one of the front tires blew out.

Tires have a used by date. I had a chance to talk to a tire store manager. He told me that new tires were delivered to him that were already several years old. Tires have a life span that is about 10 years. Mercedes-Benz & Nissan say you should replace after 6 years no matter how much tread is left. A good tire dealer will tell you when the tires were made.

How do you find the age of your tires? Are you driving on ones that are past their ‘use by date’? Answer, go on the internet and GOOGLE ‘how do I check the age of my tires’? Age is great with wine but not the rubber on the road.

From the Editor’s Rockpile
By Beth Heesacker

We are back home from Ogden, Utah. What a great show!!! Lots of things to do and see. Lots of friends to get reacquainted with. If you did not go, you missed a great one.

We did have some excitement on the way home. On Tuesday the forecast was for high winds and they were!! Semi trucks tipped over on I-80 and our trailer did a lot of rocking and rolling at the campground in Wendover. We did go down to Gold Hill that day with just our pickup and found out it is very hard to collect minerals when the winds are blowing so hard. We got sandblasted and I was blown over and rolled across the hill. I guess I did not keep my center of gravity low enough. Luckily I did not land on a cactus or a thorny bush! No damage to me but it will take a while for the sagebrush to recuperate.

On the way home we went cat fishing on the Snake River. We caught 2, one 25 inches long and one that was 21 inches. Paul also came face to face with one 12 inch Gopher snake that wanted to make its home on our pickup’s air cleaner and its 36 inch mother that was under the pickup. He chased them off but not until after they tried to strike at him. I am glad I was not around when he found them.

I hope that all of you will check out the schedule of rock shows on the last page of this newsletter. There are lots of opportunities to see marvelous treasures and meet lots of people sharing our love of this marvelous hobby of rockhounding. Maybe we will meet up at one of them.
We now have 25 members of the NFMS Facebook Group, since announcing it at the annual board meeting.

The link to the Facebook site is at: [https://www.facebook.com/groups/NFMS1](https://www.facebook.com/groups/NFMS1)

The Rice Northwest Museum of Rocks and Minerals Now Affiliated with the Smithsonian Institution

By Lorelle VanFossen

Hillsboro, Oregon, April 17, 2015

The Rice Northwest Museum of Rocks and Minerals has been named as an Affiliate of the Smithsonian Institution. This mark of distinction signifies the achievement of a goal long held by the Rice Museum’s originators, according to co-founder Sharleen Harvey. Her parents, Richard and Helen Rice, “had great respect for the Smithsonian Institution and used their collections as a high standard for quality and beauty when building the Rice Museum collection,” Mrs. Harvey explained. “Being a Smithsonian Affiliate confirms that our museum has the high caliber required to assist our schools and community in earth science education. It assures that visitors and supporters of the museum can have confidence in the quality and content of the exhibits, plus enjoyment in viewing fine minerals, fossils, meteorites, and lapidary specimens.”

“The Smithsonian is very proud of its new Affiliation with the Rice Northwest Museum of Rocks and Minerals,” stated Harold A. Closter, director of the Smithsonian Affiliations program. “The Museum has a well-deserved reputation for engaging generations in earth sciences through its scholarship, exhibitions, and education programs. Our partnership offers the opportunity to underscore the importance of science as a source of inspiration in our daily lives and in the years ahead.”

Established in 1996, Smithsonian Affiliations is a national outreach program that develops long-term collaborative partnerships with museums and other educational and cultural organizations in order to enrich communities with Smithsonian resources. The long-term goal of Smithsonian Affiliations is to facilitate a mutual relationship among Affiliate organizations and the Smithsonian Institution to increase discovery and inspire lifelong learning in communities across the United States.

The new relationship between the Rice Museum and the Smithsonian will bring great things to museum visitors in the Pacific Northwest. Not only will the Rice Museum be able to borrow objects and exhibits from the Smithsonian’s collections, but the Museum will also gain opportunities to collaborate on research projects and to sponsor exciting programs from renowned visiting scholars.

“We expect the Affiliation to serve our community well,” explains Julian Gray, Rice Museum executive director. “It will help us increase awareness of our excellent museum and attract more visitors to the area, allowing more people to experience our own world-class exhibits, events, and educational programs.”

Board President and Intel Senior Fellow (retired) Gene Meieran hopes that “this association will lead to the creation of next-generation collectors, curators, and scientists who will continue to preserve and understand our fascinating and ever-changing natural history.”

The Rice Museum houses a premier collection of rocks and minerals recognized as the finest in the Pacific Northwest and one of the best in the nation. The museum is located in Hillsboro, Oregon, just west of Portland (exit 61 off highway 26). Its educational programs include organized school field trips as well as ongoing educational outreach throughout the community at large. A variety of public and private events are hosted throughout the year as well. The museum is listed on the National Registry of Historic Homes for its unique architectural style and its use of natural stone and extraordinary native Oregon woodwork throughout the building.

For more information about the Rice Northwest Museum of Rocks and Minerals, call (503) 647-2418. Receive updates on museum events by following the Twitter handle @RiceNWMMuseum, on Google+, or the Facebook Page for Rice NW Museum.

More information is available on the Smithsonian Affiliations program and Affiliate activities site.

Have a Safe Season of Rockhounding
## NFMS MEMBERS’ SHOW SCHEDULES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>May 2 &amp; 3</th>
<th>Umpqua Gem &amp; Mineral Club</th>
<th>Douglas County Fairgrounds, I-5 Exit 123 Roseburg OR</th>
<th>Sue Woodman 541 391 3347 <a href="mailto:rocksandhorses3@gmail.com">rocksandhorses3@gmail.com</a></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>May 2 &amp; 3</td>
<td>Everett Rock and Gem Club</td>
<td>Everett Comm. College, Student Fitness Ctr, 2206 Tower Street, Everett WA</td>
<td>Fritz Mack 425 232 0809 PO Box 1615 Everett WA 98206</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 12 &amp; 13</td>
<td>Billings Gem and Mineral Club</td>
<td>Al Bedoo Shrine Aud., 1125 Broadwater Avenue Billings MT</td>
<td>Doug True <a href="mailto:dtruefoils12@yahoo.com">dtruefoils12@yahoo.com</a> 406 670 0506</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 9 &amp; 10</td>
<td>Bozeman Gem and Mineral Club</td>
<td>Gallatin County Fairgnds, Building #1, 901 North Black, Bozeman MT</td>
<td>Jerry Hancock <a href="mailto:jaegers@bresnan.net">jaegers@bresnan.net</a> PO Box 11001 Bozeman MT 59719</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 16 &amp; 17</td>
<td>Bitterroot Gem and Mineral Society</td>
<td>Ravalli County Fairgnds, 100 Old Corvallis Road Hamilton MT</td>
<td>Steve Vieth 406 381 7597 <a href="mailto:yveihstev98@gmail.com">yveihstev98@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 5 - 7</td>
<td>Puyallup Valley Gem and Mineral Club</td>
<td>Swiss Park 9205 19th Ave East Bonney Lake WA 98390</td>
<td>Nancy LeMay <a href="mailto:beesbeesees@att.net">beesbeesees@att.net</a> 253 952 6216, PVGMC, % Club Show, PO Box 134 Puyallup WA 98371, <a href="mailto:info@puyallupgemclub.org">info@puyallupgemclub.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 6 &amp; 7</td>
<td>North Idaho Mineral Club</td>
<td>Kootenai County Frgnds., 4056 North Government Way, Coeur d’Alene ID</td>
<td>Joe Slouber 406 494 3034 PO Box 4492 Butte MT 59702</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 17 - 19</td>
<td>Lower Umpqua Gem &amp; Lapidary Society</td>
<td>Reedsport Community Building, 415 Winchester Avenue, Reedsport OR</td>
<td>Bill Hendrickson 541 271 6816 69833 Stage Road, North Bend OR 97459</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 24, 25, &amp; 26</td>
<td>Washington Agate and Mineral Society</td>
<td>Parkside Elementary School, 301 Central Ave E, Tenino WA 98589</td>
<td>Daniel De Boer <a href="mailto:keylock1@live.com">keylock1@live.com</a> PO Box 2533 Olympia WA 98507 <a href="https://www.olympia.wordpress.com">https://www.olympia.wordpress.com</a> Website: <a href="http://www.hellscanyongemclub.com">www.hellscanyongemclub.com</a> <a href="mailto:rockmangem@q.com">rockmangem@q.com</a> <a href="mailto:garnett@email.com">garnett@email.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 3 &amp; 4</td>
<td>Far West Lapidary &amp; Gem Society</td>
<td>North Bend Community Center, 2222 Broadway North Bend OR</td>
<td>Don Innes 541 396 5722 <a href="mailto:dominnes.innes20@gmail.com">dominnes.innes20@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 31 &amp; Aug 1-2</td>
<td>Port Townsend Rock Club</td>
<td>Jefferson County Fairgnds., 4907 Landers St., Port Townsend WA</td>
<td>Garnett Brooks 360 379 5531 <a href="mailto:garnett@gmail.com">garnett@gmail.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>August 14 - 16</td>
<td>Marcus Whitman Gem and Mineral Society</td>
<td>Walla Walla Frgnds., 4097 Landers St., Port Townsend WA</td>
<td>Jack Edwards 509 529 3673 <a href="mailto:jceowards1475@yahoo.com">jceowards1475@yahoo.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 12 &amp; 13</td>
<td>Clallam County Gem and Mineral Association</td>
<td>Vern Burton Community Center, 308 East 4th Street Port Angeles WA</td>
<td>Jennie Bourassa 360 681 0372 or Kathy Schrinr 360 681 3811 PO Box 98 Sequim WA 98382 Website: <a href="http://www.clatskanie.com">www.clatskanie.com</a> <a href="mailto:spuds@clatskanie.com">spuds@clatskanie.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 19 &amp; 20</td>
<td>Southern WA Mineralogical Society</td>
<td>Castle Rock Fairgrounds, 120 Fair Lane, Castle Rock WA</td>
<td>L. Smith <a href="mailto:PortlandRegional.DealerChair@gmail.com">PortlandRegional.DealerChair@gmail.com</a> Portland Regional Gem and Mineral Show Association PO Box 5401 Portland OR 97228 Website: <a href="http://www.portlandregionalgemshow.com">www.portlandregionalgemshow.com</a> <a href="mailto:info@pnycard.com">info@pnycard.com</a> <a href="mailto:Whedman@esin.com">Whedman@esin.com</a> 4165 NW Heesacker Rd., Forest Grove, OR 97116</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 9, 10, &amp; 11</td>
<td>Portland Regional Gem &amp; Mineral Show Association</td>
<td>Washington County Fair Complex, 873 NE 34th Ave, Hillsboro OR 97124</td>
<td>Dan Cease 509 254 1720 <a href="mailto:rockmangem@q.com">rockmangem@q.com</a> Website: <a href="http://www.hellsconwaygemclub.com">www.hellsconwaygemclub.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>October 10 &amp; 11</td>
<td>Marysville Rock and Gem Club</td>
<td>Totem Middle School Café, 7th Street and State Ave., Marysville WA</td>
<td>Brian Murril 425 346 9313 <a href="mailto:bmurril@aol.com">bmurril@aol.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 17 &amp; 18</td>
<td>Hells Canyon Gem Club</td>
<td>Nez Perce County Fair Building, 1229 Burrell Avenue, Lewiston ID</td>
<td>Beth Heesacker, <a href="mailto:heesackercj@comcast.net">heesackercj@comcast.net</a> 4145 NW Heesacker Rd., Forest Grove, OR 97116 Website: <a href="http://www.bethheesacker.com">www.bethheesacker.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>October 24 &amp; 25</td>
<td>Clackamas County Gem and Club</td>
<td>Clackamas County Fairgnds, 609 Ne 4th Ave, Canby, OR 97013</td>
<td>Bruce Himiko <a href="mailto:bellevuerockclub@comcast.net">bellevuerockclub@comcast.net</a> PO Box 1851 Bellevue WA 98009</td>
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