Welcome to Lewis County, Washington

The NFMS Annual Meeting
Chehalis, WA
July 29-31, 2011

It is now time to think about the NFMS Annual show. The show site is in Lewis County, Washington. The show is called a COMMUNITY EXPERIENCE. The Federation web site will give you a link to views and attractions in our county.

What is different about this show? Lewis County at one time was home to five rock and gem clubs. Now we have none. With all the collecting sites available and people who enjoy the hobby, why not. The Federation is putting on the show to bring those people together. We hope to find enough individuals to create a new club. This club should be able to work with the local land owners to keep sites open.

About the show: The location is the Southwest Washington Fairgrounds, 2555 N National Ave, Chehalis, WA 98532. We will be using the 9,000 sq. ft. Blue building. The show will open on Friday, July 29th at 10am and close at 6pm. Friday is also the annual meeting day. The pre-registration starts at 5pm with the annual meeting at 6pm. A map will be available at the show. For camping and motels, check web site and click on accommodations.

Junior Club Seminar

What makes a junior club work? Gary wrote several articles for the NW Newsletter. What we hope to do is add to this knowledge. Saturday at noon will be a meeting for junior clubs. We would like the Junior clubs to send one or two of their members, more if you like, to talk about what works for them. We will have someone take notes so this information can reach our web site and newsletter.

Rock Auction

WE NEED MATERIAL. The show committee will supply some of the material for the events. What we need is for those Federation members attending the show bring a bucket or two. If you have something that you don’t want to give away, we will have long term auctions running each day. These auctions will work on a 60/40 split with the NFMS making 40%. The oral auction also needs material. All members making donations to the oral auction will receive a receipt for the amount of the bids.

It is the show committee’s belief that the community will enjoy what we have to offer and understand what our hobby is all about. We should not have a problem in finding community members interested in developing a club.

(Information continued on page 3)

Note that Display, Pre-registration and Credentials forms are on pages 7 and 8 in this issue
NFMS EXECUTIVE OFFICERS 2010-2011

PRESIDENT: Fritz Mack, Everett Rock & Gem Club, 10619 Holy Dr., Everett, WA 98204, 425.513.0115, Cockengem_mack@comcast.net

1st VICE PRESIDENT: Judi Allison, Hatrockhounds Gem & Mineral Society, 1701 NW 11th Ave., Hermiston, OR 97838, (541) 720-4950, jall@eotnet.net

2nd VICE PRESIDENT: Edna Nelson, Lakeside Gem & Mineral Club, 26106 S. Oak, Kennewick, WA 99337, 509.783-6210

TREASURER: Chuck Ragus, President, 14 Debertin Drive, Orofino, Idaho, 83544, (208) 756-2394, chuckagate2@yahoo.com

SECRETARY: Rose Alene McArthur, Rose Alene McArthur, 5400 W. 26th Ave., Kennewick, WA 99338, (509) 783-6210

BOARD OF DIRECTORS: Del & Clara Walker, 8810 37th Ave. SW, Seattle, WA 98126-3617, dcwalker@embarqmail.com

CREDENTIALS: Del & Clara Walker, 8810 37th Ave. SW, Seattle, WA 98126-3617, (206) 932-3292, nfmstreasurer@comcast.net

NEWSLETTER EDITOR: Beth Heesacker, 4145 NW Heesacker Rd., Forest Grove, OR 97116, (503) 357-8804, nfmstreasurer@comcast.net

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

CUSTODIAN: Kathy Moedl, Idaho Gem Club, 14 Debertin Drive, Orofino, Idaho, 83544, (208) 756-2394, beauholland@centurytel.net

SAFETY: Tim Hoff, Butte Mineral & Gem Club, 1016 Lakeside Avenue, Billings, MT 59101, 406-491-3587, timhoff@bresnan.net

STAMPS: Hermina Kolski, Club-at-Large, 208 Riverview Drive East, Great Falls, MT 59404-1534, 406-231-0620

SUPPLIES: Tim Hoff, Butte Mineral & Gem Club, 1016 Lakeside Ave., Billings, MT 59101, 406-491-3587, timhof@bresnan.net

WWEANS & MEANS: Janice Van Cura, Willamette Agate & Mineral Society, Inc., 3448 NW Covey Run, Corvallis, OR 97330, (541)753-2400, jnvancura@charter.net

COVERAGE: Shrilleyleeson@cox.net or chuckagate2@yahoo.com

WEBSITE COMPETITION: Beau Holland, 302, Glyndon, MD 21071-0302

NFMS SPECIAL COMMITTEES

FIeld TRIP CHAIRMAN: Chuck Ragus, Billings Gun, Billings Club, 2622 Broadwater, Billings, MT 59102, 406.670.0500, dttruefoise@yahoocom

LONG RANGE PLANNING: Bryan Schroeder, Skagit Rock & Gem Club, 135 Spring St., Richland, WA 99354, (509) 47-7826, dcwalker@embarqmail.com

endowment fund: Edna Nelson, Mt Hood Rock Club, 6630 Maple Crest Rd., Deer Island, OR 97054, (503) 397-5284, nfmstreasurer@comcast.net

OPEN, SAFETY-ALL AMERICAN AWARD-ROKCHHOWN OF THE YEAR-

OPERATIONS PROCEDURE UPDATE: OPEN

ROCKHOUND OF THE YEAR: Viola Jones, Skagit Rock & Gem Club, P.O. Box 2841, Mt. Vernon, WA 98273, (509) 424-8340, rocks151vsi@frontier.com

WEBSITE COMPETITION: OPEN

NEWSLETTER AD REPRESENTATIVES

NFMS NEWSLETTER AND WEBSITE ADVERTISEMENT

Members, Non-members, clubs, etc. can advertise in the Northwestern 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, gift, shows, etc.). Ads for the Northwest Newsletter are $1.50 per square inch. See for additional advertisement.

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

To NFMS Endowment Fund Treasurer for:
1. Donations to Endowment Fund
2. Memorial contributions
Make check payable to NFMS Endowment Fund, send to Endowment Treasurer.

To NFMS Scholarship Chairperson for:
1. Donations to AFMS Scholarship Fund
2. Memorial contributions to AFMS Scholarship
Make check payable to NFMS Scholarship Fund.

To NFMS Endowment Fund Treasurer for:
1. Donations to NFMS Endowment Fund
2. Memorials

To NFMS Scholarship Chairperson for:
1. Donations to AFMS Scholarship Fund
2. Memorial contributions to AFMS Scholarship
Make check payable to NFMS Scholarship Fund.

To NFMS Scholarship Chairperson for:
1. Donations to AFMS Scholarship Fund
2. Memorials

To See Newsletter in living color and to see it by the first of the month go to http://www.amfed.org/nfms/newsletter2.htm and click on the month you want to see.
Meals

We will be using the Lewis County Senior Center for our Awards Banquet, Editor’s Breakfast and Past President & Committee members Luncheon. This building is next door to the fairgrounds and within 100 yards of our show. The Editors Breakfast is Saturday the 30th at 8am. The menu will be breakfast casserole, fresh fruit, juice, coffee, bread and pastries. The Awards Banquet will start at 6pm on the same day, Saturday the 30th. Complementary local wines will be available. Dinner will be served at 7pm. Menu will be choice of roast beef or roast turkey, Mashed potatoes and gravy, mixed vegetables, salad, rolls, homemade desserts, ice cream, lemonade, iced tea and coffee. The Past Presidents Luncheon will be at noon Sunday the 31st. The menu is meat loaf, mashed potatoes & gravy, carrots, salad, lemonade, iced tea & coffee. The senior center has great cooks and gets their seniors involved. We are looking forward to a great time.

Directions

The fairgrounds are on the east side of I5 between exits 79 & 81. Coming south bound, exit 81 and turn left (east.) This will be Mellon Street. Go approximately 7/10 of a mile to Pearl Street. This will be a one way street heading south. Follow it over the viaduct. At this point the street becomes National Ave. Go another one miles until you see the Fairgrounds on the right. We will be at the south end of the Fair. Signs will lead the way. Coming north bound on I5, you will exit 79 and turn right. Follow Chamber Way until the ‘T’ intersection (100 yards). Turn left and follow National Ave. It will turn into a one way street heading north called Kresky Rd. Follow Kresky for about 6/10th of a mile. Turn left at either Scott Johnson Rd of Fair Street. Both will lead to National Ave and the Fairgrounds. Remember, we are at the south end between the Fair Office and the Senior Center.

Judi Allison
1st VP

Isn’t being a member of an organization a fun and rewarding thing? We get to meet new people, have a say in what is going on and enjoy taking part in activities that are of interest to us. But, along with the joys of membership, come responsibilities. We have rules and guidelines to follow. We have meetings to be set up and run, activities to be planned and prepared and the expectation of participation.

We may become frustrated when only a few participate or when others don’t view a point in the same manner that we do. We might attempt to continue making an issue of something that has been resolved or be completely resistant to change. As humans, we have all most likely experienced these things from others or ourselves.

As a preschool teacher, I find it interesting how cyclical our lives are. Preschoolers are learning to become members of social groups. They are developing the ability to take on responsibilities and discovering that their preference may not always be what is chosen. They are learning to adapt and compromise. In so doing, they are becoming valuable and valued members of society.

As adults, we have presumably learned all these lessons about being part of a group, but we sometimes have a tendency to forget and believe our agenda is the correct one. We may belabor a point that is of little importance to most. Or we may feel that a rule or guideline is unjust, so we need not follow it. We may want to “pick up all our marbles, go home by ourselves and pout.”

Let’s all take a lesson from the preschoolers instead, and learn to share, use our words and play nice.

Note: I wrote this earlier in the month, so I just want to add that we had a nice mid-year meeting with members remembering their preschool lessons. It was great to see all who were there, and I look forward to seeing everyone at the show and convention in Chehalis in July. Take care, everyone.

Kathy Moedl
2nd VP

Kathy was unable to attend the NFMS Mid-Year Meeting. Her husband Grant Moedl is still missing. Continue to keep them in your prayers and good thoughts.
Rockhound of the Year Nomination

The Lakeside Gem and Mineral Club of Kennewick, WA is proud to name THORA TRUMBO, our Junior Club Leader, as our Rockhound of the Year. Thora’s background in education provides the juniors with valuable learning experiences in creative hands-on projects, i.e., plate tectonics using orange peels; sands, rocks and water to teach mountain formation; marsh-mellows and pretzels to demonstrate crystal formation. Juniors are rewarded by Thora for choosing a mineral and then giving a monthly written and oral report during club meetings.

This Show and Tell session gives them experience in public speaking and they get to keep the mineral. Thora also arranges field trips, engages guest speakers and craft sessions for juniors--encouraging Scout troops and home schoolers to participate. She supports the AFMS Future Rockhounds of America badge program. The Annual Show Kid’s Corner is fun and educational for juniors and Thora makes sure there are lots of polished rocks for activities.

Thora goes above and beyond for our juniors and is our Rockhound of the Year nominee for 2011.

Submitted by Pat Lambert, Membership Chairman

National Rockhound and Lapidary Hall of Fame

It’s time to nominate the artist that has spent a life time sharing their talents with others. That special person with outstanding metal craft or lapidary skills, is there a person in your club or federation that is worthy of and is nationally known and has been involved in the earth sciences or lapidary arts for at least fifteen years.

- To make a nomination: List Name, Address, Phone Number and E-mail (if Known) of your nominee
- Choose a category: Minerals, Lapidary, Metalcraft, Fossils, Education or Tribute (deceased)
- Include the name of a contact person as well as his or her address, phone number and e-mail.

- Mail to Steve Weinberger, P.O. Box 302: Glyndon, MD 21071-0302
  Or e-mail to escrystals2@verizon.net
- Include as much information as possible about the nominee and the reasons he/she should be inducted into the National Rockhound and Lapidary Hall of Fame
- Nominations may be made at any time
- Balloting on the nominations will generally be in the spring of each year. Any nomination that is submitted too late for the current year will be included the following year

If you have any questions or need more information please call or email me: email to: dtraefossils@yahoo.com
Doug Truc (Northwest) (406) 670-0506
Hall of Fame Consultant

Notice to Bulletin Editors:
By Peggy Blickfeldt

A note to all editors; I would really appreciate it if you would send me your email addresses as it would make my life so much easier when trying to relay information to each of you. I have a special email address for Bulletin Aids. It is pblick@ymail.com Please send all correspondence to this address.

Also, there will be an editors’ breakfast at the Federation Show in July. I will be doing a program on the bulletin aid contest. I will also be passing out the awards. More information about date, time and place later and on the NFMS website under Show.

From the Editor’s Rockpile
By Beth Heesacker

Many thanks for all the prayers and good thoughts during my knee replacement surgery. All went very well. I am already walking with a cane with occasional short excursions without any added support, and up and down stairs. I look forward to lots of rockhounding this summer.

The snow is leaving the hills and passes. Still a bit in the mountains which helps to make sure we have enough water though the summer. The rains are washing off the rocks the winter freezing has broken loose. The stage is set for a summer of fun. Time to clean and check-out the tools you did not get to last fall. Make sure everything is in good shape and safe to use. Let’s have a safe and fun summer.

And a Happy Mothers’ Day to all my fellow Mothers.

Please note that there will be a combined June/July Issue of the Northwest Newsletter which will be printed in June. Deadline for submissions is May 15th.

There will not be an issue in July.

The August edition will come out a bit later in August and include any follow-up on the NFMS Annual Meeting. The deadline for articles will be August 3rd.

Please plan your articles and announcements accordingly.
RALEIGH, NC—A coalition of geologists are challenging the way we look at global stone reserves, claiming that, unless smarter methods of preservation are developed, mankind will eventually run out of rocks.

"If we do not stop using them up at our current rate, rocks as we know them will be a thing of the past," renowned geologist Henry Kaiser said at a press conference Tuesday. "Igneous, metamorphic, even sedimentary: all of them could be gone in as little as 500,000 years."

"Think about it," Kaiser added. "When was the last time you even saw a boulder?"

The scientists warned that, although people have long considered the world's rock supply to be inexhaustible, it has not created a significant number of new rocks since the planet cooled some 3.5 billion years ago. Moreover, the earth's rocks have been very slowly depleting in the last century due to growing demand for fireplace mantels, rock gardens, gravel, and paperweights.

Kaiser claims that humanity has "wreaked havoc" on the earth's stones by picking them up, carrying them around, and displacing them from their natural habitat.

"A rock can take millions of years to form, but it only takes a second for someone to skip a smooth pebble into a lake, and then it is gone," Dr. Kaiser said. "Perhaps these thoughtless rock-skippers don't care if they leave our planet completely devoid of rocks, but what about our children? Don't they deserve the chance to hold a rock and toss it up and down a few times?"

Continued Kaiser, "We are on a collision course to a world without rocks."

Geologist Victoria Merrill, who has been at the forefront of the rock conservation battle since 2004, said there are simple steps people can take to reduce their rock consumption.

"Only take as many rocks as you absolutely need," said Dr. Merrill, author of the book No Stone Unturned: Methods For Modern Rock Conservation. "And once you are finished with your rocks, do not simply huck them into the woods. Place the rock down gently where you found it so that others may look at the rock and enjoy it for years to come."

Merrill went on to point out that, even if there were some "magic hole" in the earth's crust that could miraculously spew out rocks every 10 years or so, modern society's obsession with rocks means that we would still run out of them far more quickly than they could be replenished.

"Just look at the pet rock craze: In 10 years, millions upon millions of rocks were painted, played with, and discarded like trash," Merrill said. "Looking back, mankind's arrogance and hubris is startling."

But critics of the movement have already begun to surface, claiming that Kaiser and his colleagues are simply preying on people's fears of losing rocks.

While acknowledging that we should reduce our dependence on foreign rocks, many have argued that the current rock supply could easily last for the next 2 million years, by which time technology will have advanced enough to allow for the production of endless quantities of cheap, durable basalt.

Others who oppose the rock-loss theory claim that rocks were put on the earth to be used by humans in marble statues or kitchen countertops as they see fit.

"Take the Rocky Mountains, for example: There's plenty of rocks right there," Colorado resident Kyle Peters said. "It's our right as Americans to use as many rocks as we need for whatever purposes we decide, and no scientist is going to scare me into thinking otherwise."

"This country was built on rocks," he added. "Remember that."
AFMS / EFMLS combined Convention and the Syracuse Gem & Mineral Show
“Gems and Minerals along the Erie Canal”
July 6 – 10, 2011

July 6
12:00 pm Convention Registration. Ramada Inn, 1305 Buckley Rd. Syracuse
2:00 PM AFMS Uniform Rules Meeting - Ramada Inn

July 7th
8:00 am – Convention Registration - Ramada Inn
Set up for AFMS meeting
9:00 am AFMS Annual Meeting - Ramada Inn
AFMS Scholarship Foundation Meeting follows - Ramada Inn
12:30 PM Presidents’ Luncheon - Ramada Inn
4:30 pm Cracker Barrel (social hour) - Erie Canal Park Camillus

July 8th
8:00 am Convention Registration – Ramada Inn
10:00 am show set up at fairgrounds
6:30 PM Sign in for EFMLS Annual Meeting – Ramada Inn
7:00PM EFMLS Annual Business Meeting – Ramada Inn

July 9th
10:00 am “Gems Along the Erie Canal - 45th Gem, Mineral, Fossil, and Jewelry Show” opens at the NYS Fairground
2:00 pm EFMLS Endowment Fund Auction - Fairgrounds
6:00 pm EFMLS/AFMS Awards Banquet – Ramada Inn
7:00 pm Awards Banquet

July 10th
8:00 am Breakfast With the Editors and Webmasters - Ramada Inn
10:00 am – 4 pm Show at New York State Fairgrounds

If You Have Questions, please contact Cathy Patterson, Show Chairman, 315-638-8817 (home) or 315-480-8907 (cell)
cathypatterson@verizon.net
For registration form answers please contact Lou Budell
315-673-1891 loubudell@gmss.us

All forms can be found on the AFMS website
http://www.amfed.org/show2011.htm

Stamps for Cancer Research
By Hermina Kolski
NFMS Stamp Chair

Over the past 17 years, we have had extreme good luck with our stamp dealer. This past year, he has retired and the new dealer has requested that we hold any future shipments until they can reorganize.
Meanwhile, we will continue to gather stamps so we can have a shipment ready when they contact us. So, please keep saving stamps for cancer research.

We will be at the mid-year meeting in Kennewick, April 16th, and in Chehalis, July 29 & 30, but must start back then. We can’t stay for Sunday.

We now have collected $5429.30 so far and hope to add more soon. Thank you all for your help.

Mark Your Calendars:

AFMS Annual Meeting
July 7–10, Syracuse, NY

NFMS Annual Meetings
2011 – July 29-31, Southwest Washington Fairgrounds, Chehalis, WA
2012 – May 18-20, Benton County Fairgrounds, Kennewick, WA

Inter-Federation Rockhound Rendezvous
Hampton Butte, OR - Memorial Day weekend, May 27-30, 2011
For more information see the March Northwest Newsletter.

NW Rockhound Retreat
Hancock Field Station, Antelope, OR - Labor Day weekend, September 5-11, 2011
NORTHWEST FEDERATION OF MINERALOGICAL SOCIETIES
2011 Annual Show
APPLICATION FOR DISPLAY SPACE

Displayer’s Name: _________________________________
Address: _____________________________________________
City: __________________________ State: __________ Zip: __________

PLEASE CHECK THE FOLLOWING:
I have my own case [   ] I need a loner case [   ]
Case size:  4’ [   ] 6’ [   ] 8’ [   ]

Display Description: __________________________________________________________

Note: We have 4’ cases to loan which includes liners but no risers.
We do not have any 6’ or 8’ loaners.

Liability: It is mutually agreed that the Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies
shall not be liable to any Exhibitor in whole or in part. This includes the
destruction or loss of any properties of said Exhibitor.

Security: Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies will provide security
during setup, take down and the duration of the show.

Show Hours:
Friday, July 29th and Saturday, July 30th 10 A.M. to 6 P.M.
Sunday, July 31st 10 A.M. to 5 P.M.
SETUP THURSDAY July 28th 3 P.M. to 8 P.M. &
FRIDAY July 29th 8 A.M. to 10 A.M.

Show location: Southwest Washington Fairgrounds Blue Pavilion
2555 North National Ave, Chehalis, Washington 98532

Return to exhibits chair:
Tanya Sonner
165 Tingle Road, Winlock, Washington 98596
Phone; 360 785-3909 e-mail: csonner2011@gmail.com

Exhibitors Signature : _______________________________________________________

Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies
2011 Annual Show
Pre-Registration Form
[ one form per individual ]

Show hours are Friday the 29th of July 10am to 6pm, Saturday the 30th of
July 10am to 6pm & Sunday the 31st of July 10am to 5pm.

Admission for Adults (17 and under free):
Daily $2
Three day pass $5

Meals:
Editor’s Breakfast (Saturday 30th – 8am) $6.00
Banquet (Saturday 30th -6pm) Adult $17.50
Junior (17 and under) $12.50
Meal choice (Please check) Beef______ Turkey______

Past Presidents Luncheon (Sunday 31st 12pm) $8.00

Misc:
Show Pins (Show price $3.00 ) $2.50 ea

Total

Please check all of the following if they apply: NFMS Executive Board* ___
Dealer * ___ Exhibitor* ___
AFMS or Regional Federation Executive Board* ___
*If you check any of the above, admission to the show is free.

Name: _______________________________ Address: _______________________
City: __________________________ State: ______ Phone: ______________________
The Show Committee needs help in the following areas: Silent Auction, Junior Activities
and Security. If you are able, please let us know which and what days:
_____________________________________________________________________

Make payment out to the Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies at return
form and payment to: EDNA NELSON P.O. BOX 1549, ST. HELENS, OR 97051
A REMINDER AND REQUEST FROM THE CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE

The NFMS Credentials Committee Chairpersons, Clara & Del Walker, must receive the names (only) of Club Directors and Delegates as soon as possible (ASAP) for planning purposes of the meeting. The annual meeting will be held at 6:00 p.m. on July 29, 2011. Registration is open one hour prior to the meeting at the SW Washington Fairgrounds, Chehalis, WA. The Credential forms below must be completed by the designated director/delegate, signed by the Club President and Secretary, and BROUGHT BY THE DIRECTOR AND DELEGATE to the annual meeting. Or, this should be done by the alternate delegate(s), if necessary. Send the name(s) (not the credentials forms) at least two days prior to the meeting to:

Clara & Del Walker
12377 SE Davis Loop
Prineville, OR 97754
Phone: 541-447-7826 (cell: 503-812-6540) or email to dcwalker@embarqmail.com

NFMS DIRECTOR’S CREDENTIALS

Name of Director___________________________________________________________
Name of Club_____________________________________________________________
City, State_______________________________________________________________
Club President Signature___________________________________________________
Club Secretary Signature___________________________________________________
Date________________________

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

NFMS DELEGATE’S CREDENTIALS

Name of Delegate___________________________________________________________
Name of Club_____________________________________________________________
City, State_______________________________________________________________
Club President Signature___________________________________________________
Club Secretary Signature___________________________________________________
Date________________________

Must be completed and signed to be seated with voting rights at the Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies Annual Meeting
Finding Our Way to a Club Lapidary Shop

By Jack L. Edwards
Past President 2004 - 2005

One of the goals of our Marcus Whitman Gem and Mineral Society has been to have a Lapidary Shop. It has been a long road, but now we have a place for members to learn the lapidary skills. We have been looking at all the normal options for a shop; renting, buying land and building, etc. none of which worked out.

Finally our Club Past President Warren Rood (who I might say was determined to succeed) found the way. It happened like this: Warren is working for the Walla Walla Community College part-time. He talked with people who support the Over 50 Quest Program, and Community Education Program. They were interested in a program that could teach lapidary and other rock related skills. So being Warren he offered to teach the courses, and spent much time negotiating with the College. The final outcome is that we have formed a partnership with the College. They will provide the space for the shop and classes; Our Club will provide the equipment and materials. He was able to insure that the Club could use the facility several times a week. Three of our members (Frank, Olan, and Vern) provided their experience in ordering parts, and material, planning, overhauling the equipment, and installation.

Warren will now teach two classes for the college each week. Both classes filled immediately with a standby list for future classes. Warren will also teach a five week class to Club members who do not have equipment experience. Supervision of the Club nights will be provided by experienced Club members.

I want to thank the NFMS Rock Hound Retreat instructors who have dedicated their time and experience to teaching lapidary skills. A few of our members have attended for several years. Now our new members will benefit from what they have learned. The Rock Hound Retreat continues to be a very valuable part of the NFMS. I hope our future Officers will continue to give it your full support.

Program Librarian Address Correction

I am sorry to say there is a mistype of the address of the Program Librarian (Page 3 of 155) in the Standing Committees AND in the Program Library Section of the Directory. The correct address for requesting and returning programs is: Tim and Sharon DeGrie, POB 458, Goldendale, WA 98620. Thank you for making the change in your copy of the NFMS Directory. Their address is correct in the NFMS Newsletter.

NORTHWEST ROCKHOUND RETREAT

Labor Day Week
September 5 through 11, 2011

For a detailed schedule, see the March Northwest Newsletter.

Workshops available - based upon signup:
Lapidary, Basic Faceting (Maximum of Six), Silversmithing (Maximum of Eight), Basic Intarsia (Minimum of Four), Basic Wirewrapping, Beading, Casting (Maximum of Six), Doublets & Triplets

The cost to the attendee will be $270.00 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 $350.00

If you must have an Electric RV hookup (no water or sewer), there will be a $15.00 charge for the week.

If you need additional info, please call Lamar Tilgner at 503-666-2905 or Email at lstilgner1@frontier.com
PUBLIC LANDS ISSUES

Public Lands.............
By Andy Johnson

PACK IT IN – PACK IT OUT

Having just returned from a journey of 3,000 miles, rock hunting through the states of Washington, Idaho, Oregon and Nevada, one thing which has struck me as being all too common to the Public Lands which I visited and rockhounded upon was litter. Yes let’s call this common denominator what it truly is TRASH.

Unbelievably out in the boonies where an encounter with another human is more rare than common I found myself wandering upon the likes of modern day garbage in the form of plastic water bottles and soda containers, plastic bags and in one instance a plastic toothbrush. Bottles and broken glass was quite common as well. Now common sense tells me that the only way that these objects could have gotten where I found them was the result of only one distinct animal, a humanoid devoid of any feelings of stewardship and respect for the environment and the land. In several instances I found myself collecting trash instead of rocks not because I wanted to but because of an innate feeling within that I should and could make a small difference in the environment I was enjoying. There was the satisfaction also knowing that I had done what another had failed to do.

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2011 Fee-Free Days Set for BLM-Administered Public Lands

WASHINGTON, DC – The Bureau of Land Management (BLM), in conjunction with other agencies within the Department of the Interior, will waive recreation-related fees for visitors to the National System of Public Lands on the first day of summer, June 21; National Public Lands Day, which is scheduled for September 24; and the Veterans Day Public Lands Day, which is 45 days after the date the agency published its formal call for nominations in the Federal Register. Contacts: Danielle Allen, 907-271-3335 - Thom Jennings, 907-271-3546

Here is an opportunity for our members to make a difference by applying for any of these openings.

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BLM Seeks Nominations to Resource Advisory Councils throughout NFMS states

The Bureau of Land Management in Montana is seeking public nominations for 16 open positions on its Western, Central, and Eastern Montana Resource Advisory Councils, which advise the BLM on public land issues. The deadline for nominations is May 2, 2011. Contacts: Contact Mary Apple 406-896-5258

The Bureau of Land Management in Washington/Oregon has announced that it is seeking public nominations for 14 open positions on its John Day-Snake and Southeast Oregon Resource Advisory Councils (RACs) Contact: Pam Robbins (503) 808-6306

Bureau of Land Management (BLM) in Idaho announced today that it is seeking public nominations for 22 open positions on its four Resource Advisory Councils (RACs), which advise the BLM on public land issues.

The BLM will consider the nominations until May 2, 2011, which is 45 days after the date the agency published its formal call for nominations in the Federal Register. Contacts: Cheryl Zwang (208) 373-4016

Anchorage --- The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is calling for applications for its statewide 15-member Alaska Resource Advisory Council (RAC) beginning today. The 45-day nomination period closes April 30, 2011. The BLM seeks qualified individuals to fill five RAC positions in the following categories. The BLM’s Resource Advisory Councils (RACs), composed of citizens chosen for their expertise in natural resource issues, help the Bureau carry out its stewardship of 245 million acres of public lands. The Bureau, which manages more land than any other federal agency, has 28 RACs across the West, where most BLM-managed land is located. Each RAC consists of 12 to 15 members with an interest in public land management, including such individuals as conservationists, ranchers, outdoor recreationists, state and local government officials, Tribal officials, and academics. The diverse membership of each RAC is aimed at achieving a balanced outlook that the BLM needs for its mission, which is to manage the public lands for multiple uses. Contacts: Daniella Allen, 907-271-3335 - Thom Jennings, 907-271-3546

The Mid-Year meeting was well attended and a fun time was had by all. Many thanks to the Lakeside Club for hosting us again. They have a wonderful show with fantastic displays and dealers.

I got to see my old friends and make some new ones. And the weather was fantastic. It rained on the way there but both Saturday and Sunday were sunny and a very pleasant break from winter.

The resolutions that will be voted on at the Annual meeting were read so that the directors and delegates could take them back to their respective clubs for discussion and direction on how to vote. They concern Bulleting Aids, the Rockhound Retreat, Credentials, and timing of the Mid-Year meeting. Please review the resolutions carefully and be prepared to vote for the best for the NFMS.

Reports from the various committees were made and questions answered. The NFMS is growing. The hobby of rockhounding is growing. But more lands and areas that once were open to hunting are being closed. This does not look good for the future. Please make your voice heard and support groups such as the ALAA.

Remember the Annual Meeting is coming soon, July 29th. Everyone is welcome to join us at the meeting to see what we are doing and to further discussion on what we can do to best support our hobby.

Information on this meeting is elsewhere in this edition.
Field Trip Updates  
by Doug True,  
Inter-Regional  
Field Trip Chair

**WARNING**- The Rules for fieldtrips and collecting are changing on public lands.

Actually these rules are for any organized group using our public lands. The rules are open for interpretation, but most districts are saying that if there is a planned trip by two or more people and the schedule of your trip is published or posted, you must apply for a recreation permit. You must find the local district you are going to collect in, determine if it is run by the BLM or USFS and then request a recreation permit form 2930-1.

In the application you will have to furnish maps (topographical, a written plan of your function, area you are camping and what you are collecting, and the estimated number of attendees. You will also be required to show a certificate of insurance naming the BLM or USFS as insured. In some cases they may require you to supply Porta Potties.

In your report you should indicate the specific areas where you plan on collecting and indicate if you will be digging or surface collecting. You have a much better chance of getting a permit if you plan on surface collecting. If you’re digging, the selected area will be scrutinized by a number of different departments: Archeological, Paleontology, Endangered plants, etc, etc.

After a revue of your proposal, all or part of your request might be turned down. You need to work with the recreation officer and plan your trip together as this gives you a better chance of being successful. In talking with different BLM districts their numbers seem to vary as to what constitutes a group. There will also be a processing fee of around $100 dollars. If you are planning a trip to public lands, please check to see if your group trip is good to go.

Via AFMS Newsletter 5/11

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**Having Fun: Junior Activities**  
by Jim Brace-Thompson, Jr. Activities Chair

**Exciting New Developments with our FRA Program!**

I’m pleased to report on many exciting new developments with our FRA program thanks to the suggestions and interest of participating clubs. Last month, I reported how Patricia Egolf of the Gem & Mineral Society of Syracuse suggested we explore a “Rock Pals” program whereby the juniors groups of AFMS-affiliated clubs might collect local rocks, minerals, or fossils, package them in a flat-rate postage box, and exchange them for rocks with other juniors clubs. A half dozen clubs spread out across the U.S. have expressed interest, so I’ll be assisting Patricia in making “Rock Pals” a reality.

In addition, Steve Veatch of the Colorado Springs Mineralogical Society and the Lake George Gem & Mineral Club has suggested we institute a procedure to facilitate communication among youth leaders whereby we could all discuss what we’re doing with the kids in our clubs, what’s working, what’s not, best practices, etc. We’ve decided that establishing a blog might be the way to go, and Steve has volunteered to set one up and maintain it at zero cost to the Federation. Once this is established, Steve and I’ll provide an alert on accessing the blog and how local clubs can participate. Speaking of enhancing communication and sharing best practices, I’ve been invited by the AFMS Show committee in Syracuse to host a “junior activities discussion forum.” Rather than go it alone, I’ve invited Darryl Powell (also known as Diamond Dan) to co-host it with me. Time and room to be announced, but it looks like it may take place 4PM Saturday of the AFMS Show. We invite anyone with an interest in juniors’ activities who will be in Syracuse to share in what we hope will be a lively, informative discussion.

Finally, when I established the FRA Badge Program in 2004, my plan was to update and enhance it every four years. We went from 9 activity badges and the Rockhound badge in 2004 to 15 activity badges in 2008 and a recently added Rock Star pin.

With 2012 quickly approaching, I’ve been surveying clubs using the program. I’ve presented 9 new ideas, asking everyone to vote on their top 3 to 5 choices. With votes still coming in, it’s not official yet, but so far the top vote-getters are Fluorescent Minerals, Special Effects, Honoring Senior Members in Your Club (or Reaching Across Generations), The World of Miniatures, and Maps. Thus, I’ll be presenting a proposal at our July AFMS meeting to fund 5 more badges to provide more challenges to kids who have already earned the 15 existing badges and to provide junior leaders with an every-widening pool of ready-made activities from which to choose in educating kids, while having fun!  

Via AFMS Newsletter 5/11

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**NFMS Member Clubs - Gem and Mineral Show Calendar**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>West Seattle Rock Club</th>
<th>Alki Masonic Temple, 4736 40th Ave SW, Seattle, WA</th>
<th>Audrey Vogelpohl, 206-932-3292, <a href="mailto:avogelpohl@comcast.net">avogelpohl@comcast.net</a> <a href="http://www.westseattlerockclub.org">www.westseattlerockclub.org</a></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>April 30 - May 1</strong></td>
<td>Sat 10 – 5, Sun 10 - 5</td>
<td>Gallatin County Fairgrounds 901 North Black, Bozeman, MT</td>
<td>Sally Griffin 406 451 4362 <a href="mailto:griffin830@yahoo.com">griffin830@yahoo.com</a> or Dan Carter 406 586 4552</td>
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<td><strong>May 7 - 8</strong></td>
<td>Sat 10 – 6, Sun 10 - 4</td>
<td>First Interstate Events Center, Ravalli County Fair Grounds, 100 Old Corvallis Road Hamilton, MT 59840</td>
<td>Steve Vieth, 406-369-5489 <a href="mailto:viethsteve88@gmail.com">viethsteve88@gmail.com</a> or Mike McConnell, 406-360-4944 <a href="mailto:micker1949@yahoo.com">micker1949@yahoo.com</a></td>
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<td><strong>May 14 - 15</strong></td>
<td>Sat 9 – 5, Sun 9 - 4</td>
<td>Hermiston Conference Center, 415 S. Hwy 395, Hermiston, OR</td>
<td>Mike Filarski, Show Chairman, email: <a href="mailto:stonemorlin1@netscape.net">stonemorlin1@netscape.net</a></td>
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<td><strong>May 21 – 22</strong></td>
<td>Sat 10 - 6, Sun 10 - 4</td>
<td>Hermiston Conference Center, 415 S. Hwy 395, Hermiston, OR</td>
<td>Mike Filarski, Show Chairman, email: <a href="mailto:stonemorlin1@netscape.net">stonemorlin1@netscape.net</a></td>
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<td>NFMS Member Clubs - Gem and Mineral Show Calendar (cont.)</td>
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<td><strong>June 3 - 5</strong></td>
<td>Puyallup Valley Gem and Mineral Club</td>
<td>Fruitland Grange</td>
<td>Nancy LeMay 253 952 6212 <a href="mailto:bees2knees@att.net">bees2knees@att.net</a> or puyallugemclub.org</td>
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<td>Fri 12 – 5, Sat - 10 - 5</td>
<td>Sun 11 - 4</td>
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<td><strong>June 11 - 12</strong></td>
<td>Butte Mineral &amp; Gem Club</td>
<td>Butte Civic Center Annex</td>
<td>Pete Knudsen, 406-496-4395 PO Box 4492, Butte, MT 59702</td>
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<td>Sat 10 – 6, Sun - 10 - 6</td>
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<td><strong>June 18 - 19</strong></td>
<td>Oregon Coast Agate Club, Rock'n The Coast - 48th Annual Rock and Mineral Show</td>
<td>Yaqina View Elementary School Multipurpose Room, 351 SE Harney St. (just off Hwy 20, south at the light), Newport, OR 97365</td>
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<td>Sat 10 - 6, Sun 10 - 4:30</td>
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<td><strong>July 10</strong></td>
<td>NFMS AND EFMLS ANNUAL MEETING</td>
<td>New York State Fairgrounds, Syracuse, NY</td>
<td><a href="http://www.amfed.org/show2011.htm">http://www.amfed.org/show2011.htm</a> for more information</td>
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<td><strong>July 15 - 17</strong></td>
<td>Lower Umpqua Gem &amp; Lapidary Society</td>
<td>Reedsport Community Building</td>
<td>Bill Hendrickson 541 271 6816 100 River Bend Road, Stp 17 Reedsport, OR 97471</td>
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<td>Fri 10 – 6, Sat 10 - 6</td>
<td>Sun 10 - 4</td>
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<td><strong>July 23 - 24</strong></td>
<td>Washington Agate and Mineral Society</td>
<td>Parkside Elementary School, on Stage Street South (take I-5 exit 88), Tenino, WA 98589</td>
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<td>Sat 9 – 6, Sun 9 - 5</td>
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<td>Sat 10 - 6, Sun 10 - 4</td>
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<td><strong>July 29 - 31</strong></td>
<td>NFMS ANNUAL MEETING AND SHOW</td>
<td>Southwest Washington Fairgrounds, Chehalis, WA 98531</td>
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<td>Fri 10 - 6, Sat 10-6, Sun 10-5</td>
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<td>August 5 - 7</td>
<td>Far West Lapidary &amp; Gem Society</td>
<td>North Bend Community Center 2222 Broadway, North Bend, OR 98045</td>
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<td>Fri 10 – 5, Sat 10 - 5</td>
<td>Sun 10 - 4</td>
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<td><strong>September 10 – 11</strong></td>
<td>Umpqua Gem and Mineral Club &quot;OREGON REALLY ROCKS&quot;</td>
<td>Douglas County Fairgrounds, 1-5 Exit 123, Roseburg, OR 97471</td>
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<td>Sat 10 – 6, Sun 10 - 4</td>
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<td><strong>September 10 – 11</strong></td>
<td>Marcus Whitman Gem &amp; Mineral Society</td>
<td>Walla Walla County Fairgrounds Community Ctr, 9th Street and Orchard, Walla Walla, WA 99356</td>
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<td>Sat 10 – 5, Sun 10 - 5</td>
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<td><strong>September 17 – 18</strong></td>
<td>Southern Washington Mineralogical Society</td>
<td>Castle Rock Fairgrounds, A Street and Cowlitz River, Castle Rock, WA 98611</td>
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<td>Sat 10 – 6, Sun 10 - 4</td>
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<td><strong>September 24 – 25</strong></td>
<td>Hellgate Mineral Society</td>
<td>Ruby’s Inn and Convention Center 4825 North Reserve Street Missoula, MT 59808</td>
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<td>Sat - 9 - 6</td>
<td>Sun - 10 - 5</td>
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<td><strong>October 7 - 9</strong></td>
<td>Clallam County Gem &amp; Mineral Association (CCGMA)</td>
<td>Boys &amp; Girls Club, 400 West Fir Street Sequim, WA 98382</td>
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<td>Fri 10 – 5, Sat 10 - 5</td>
<td>Sun 10 - 2:30</td>
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<td><strong>October 8 – 9</strong></td>
<td>Marysville Rock and Gem Club</td>
<td>Totem Middle School Cafeteria, 7th Street &amp; State Avenue, Marysville, WA 98270</td>
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<td>Sat 10 - 5 Sun 10 - 5</td>
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<td><strong>October 15</strong></td>
<td>Eureka Rock and Gem Club</td>
<td>Senior Citizen Center, 1000 North 3rd East Mountain Home, ID 83641</td>
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<td>Sat - 9 - 4</td>
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<td><strong>October 15 – 16</strong></td>
<td>Hells Canyon Gem Club</td>
<td>Nez Perce County Fairgrounds 1229 Burrell Avenue, Lewiston, ID 83501</td>
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<td>Sat 10 – 6, Sun 10 - 5</td>
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<td><strong>October 22 - 23</strong></td>
<td>Clackamette Mineral &amp; Gem &quot;Rock &amp; Gem Heaven in 2011&quot;</td>
<td>Clackamas County Fairgrounds 694 NE 4th Ave, Canby OR 97013</td>
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<td>Sat 9 – 6, Sun 10 - 5</td>
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<td><strong>October 22 - 23</strong></td>
<td>Bellevue Rock Club</td>
<td>Vasa Park, 3560 West Lake Sammamish Blvd SE, Bellevue, WA. Take Exit 13 off I-90, 1 mile north</td>
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<td>Sat 10 – 5, Sun 10 - 5</td>
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<td><strong>November 11-13</strong></td>
<td>NW Opal Association and The Cascade Mineralogical Society</td>
<td>Expo Hall, Puyallup Fairgrounds Meridian St. 5 and 9th Ave SW Puyallup, WA 98371</td>
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<td>Fri 10 – 5, Sat 10-5</td>
<td>Sun 10-4</td>
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<td><strong>November 19 - 20</strong></td>
<td>Kitsap Mineral and Gem Society</td>
<td>Kitsap County Fairgrounds, President's Hall 1200 NW Fairgrounds Road Bremerton WA 98311</td>
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<td>Sat 10 – 5, Sun 10 - 5</td>
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