Hidemi Kira
President

Hello to All,

We had a very good Mid-Year Meeting in Kennewick on April 16, 2016 during the Lakeside Club’s Annual Show. I would like to thank again the Lakeside Club for hosting the meeting and to thank all the members who attended. There were approximately 54 members and 28 clubs present. The officers and committee reports were either in the packet or had oral reports and I hope you have received the Minutes from Judi Allison, which was recently sent to the contacts of each club. When you receive the minutes, please take the time to go through them and if you have any questions or suggestions, please let me know at hkira@spiritone.com.

During the Mid-Year Meeting, Secretary Judi Allison again emphasized the need for Directors, Delegates and Contacts to be certain she has your current email address. This is so important that I have copied below the whole report Judi had in the packet. You may not receive the Minutes if you do not give Judi your email contact. Please read this portion if you have not given your contact information to Judi.

Secretary’s Report - Judi Allison

Hopefully, everyone who should is getting a copy of the various reports, agendas, and minutes I send out. To save on paper and mailing costs, I have done all this via email, using the addresses listed as contacts or Director or Delegate given in the NFMS Directory. So, please, if you are a Director or Delegate and not receiving information from me, ask your club contact if they are receiving the information and request a copy. Remember that as your club’s representative you are committing to being the link between the Federation and your club. As such, it is your responsibility to report to your club. If you are not receiving the information, it is very difficult to give a report. That being said, if you do not have any other way of receiving information, I can send a hard copy. Again, I much prefer to use the computer, as it is much faster and much more economical. So, I again ask that you PLEASE let me know if you are not receiving NFMS information and if so, please provide me with an email that will get the information to you or a snail mail address.

I have been asking members of the growing clubs to write an article for the NFMS Newsletter about how and what they have done to increase their membership. It seems like the great articles in the previous newsletters have covered a wide range of the methods. I asked one of the growing clubs to write and had a response that there was nothing to add to the articles that were in the recent newsletters. I couldn’t find someone to write for this issue, so I decided to write some things we did in our club to grow our membership. You will find this in a separate article. I have been writing about this in my previous articles here and there, but thought it should be consolidated in one article so that it could be used when combining all the other articles for future use. I am sure you will not remember what I wrote in the past as I cannot remember very well what I wrote. So, it may look a little fresh although there are some duplication with the other articles.

I know there are many clubs that do wonderful things and it would be nice if they were shared with other clubs regardless of the growth of their clubs. So, it is not just about growing the club. If your club does something special, it will be wonderful if you could share with all of us. Please consider sharing your story in the NFMS newsletter.

The NFMS/AFMS Show in Albany is coming closer and below is a copy of the Competitive Exhibits Report at the Mid-Year Meeting. We would like to see many Competitive Cases and this will be the best opportunity to compete at the AFMS level if you are in competition. The AFMS Convention comes to the NW only once in seven years! Rules & Awards Report – Lauren Williams, Chairman
For your Competitive exhibits mail your forms to Dee Holland. It is OK to compete in more than one Class or Division at the same time and at the same show. Albany is also the AFMS show so if you score 90 or higher you will automatically fly-up to compete at the AFMS level. If you have any questions concerning competition feel free to ask any of us on the Competitive Exhibits Committee. Make sure that you have read and followed the latest AFMS Rules Book and you can download that from the AFMS home page www.amfed.org.
It is important to list all children’s names separately on membership rosters. If they enter competition and move up to the AFMS, their name must be found in the paperwork. If you are competing READ THE RULES. Competitive entries are sent to Dee Holland. Non-competitive entries go to the host club.

It seems like the non-competitive cases still have some room left, so please submit your application form as soon as you can, so you don’t miss your opportunity to show off your rocks!
SHOW CHAIRPERSON: Janice Van Cura, Willamette Agate & Mineral Society, Inc., 3448 NW Covey Run, Corvallis, OR 97339 (541)753-2401, jvancur- ra@peak.org

SHOW COORDINATOR: Pat Lambert, Lakeside Gem & Mineral Club, 26106 S. Oak, Kennewick, WA 99337, pa- lambert@charter.net

STAMPS: Chuck Sonner, Southern WA. Mineralogical Society, 165 Tangle Rd., Winlock, WA. 98596, (360)785- 3909, chuykatg2@yahoo.com

SUPPLIES: Patty Amos, Mt. Hood Rock Club, 15253 NE 214th Ave., Brush Prairie, WA98606, (360) 902-2116, packrats2q@q.com

WAYS & MEANS: Janice Van Cura, Willamette Agate & Mineral Society, Inc.,3448 NW Covey Run, Corvallis, OR 97339 (541)753-2401, jvancura@peak.org

WEBMASTER: Brad Larson, Owosho Gem and Mineral Society, 4112 E. Park Ridge Dr., Nampa, ID 83687, 208- 465-1920, nfms.webmaster@gmail.com

AFMS SPECIAL COMMITTEES

FIELD TRIP CHAIRMAN: Doug True, Billings Gem & Mineral Club, 2622 Broadwater, Billings, MT 59102, 406.670.0506, drufoolls12@yahoo.com

ROCKHOUND OF THE YEAR: Bev Bockman, Rollers Rock Club, P.O.Box 1326, Post Falls, ID 83857, (208) 773 5384, rockhobbyrolls@outlook.com

AFMS COMMITTEES

AFMS VP & AFMS FIELD TRIP – Don’t forget to check out the AFMSVP & AFMS Field Trip, May 20-21 at the McMenamins Elks Club, 500 Main St., Pendleton, OR. See event details on the website.

EDUCATIONAL COMMITTEE:

For questions regarding the Newsletter (i.e., content, advertising, etc.) contact the Newsletter Editor.

For members related to the Newsletter circulation (new members, address changes, etc.) contact Circulation.

SHOW COORDINATION. Your Federation provides a free service for NFMS members by listing your show in this Newsletter, on the NFMS website, in the magazine, “Rocks and Minerals” and “Rock and Gem” and the on-line calendar from “Lapidary Journal”. Please provide the date and time for the show, the club name and show title if applicable, the location of the show, admission price, and most important a contact person with address, e-mail address and/ or phone (e-mail is preferred). Please send your show information four to six months in advance to the Show Coordination Chairperson. If you see an error once 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 (canceled) stamps is then donated to Cancer Research. The collected stamps can be sent to the Stamps Chairman, brought to the NFMS Annual Show or given to your Federation Director in your club.

ATTENTION CLUB TREASURERS

Where to send your money

To NFMS Treasurer for:

1. Donations and Supplies
2. Donations for the general fund
3. Donations to Junior Achievement
4. Advertisement in this Newsletter

Send to: Lyle Vogelpohl, see Treasurer this page.

To NFMS Endowment Fund Treasurer for:

1. Donations to Endowment Fund
2. Memorial contributions to AFMS Scholarship Fund
3. NFMSScholarship Chairperson

Make check payable to AFMS Scholarship Fund.

Send to: Evelyn Cataldo (see Scholarship this page).

To NFMS Scholarship Chairperson for:

1. Donations to AFMS Scholarship Fund
2. Memorial contributions to AFMS Scholarship Fund

Make check payable to AFMS Scholarship Fund.

Send to: Evelyn Cataldo (see Scholarship this page).

To NFMS Endowment Fund for:

1. Donations to Endowment Fund
2. Memorial contributions to AFMS Scholarship Fund

Send to: See NFMS Endowment.

To ALAA Treasurer for:

1. Membership fees, new and renewals
2. Donations:
   Make check payable to ALAA (American Lands Access Association), P.O. Box 54396, San Jose, CA 95154

NFMS WEB SITE: www.amfed.org/nfms

NFMS NEWSLETTER AND WEBSITE ADVERTISEMENT

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

Ads for the Northwest Newsletter are $1.30 per square inch.

Example: 3" x 4" = $18.18

12 inches x $1.50 = $18 per issue 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 back-ground 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 or questions, call e-mail or write the Newsletter Editor

See the NFMS on Facebook

https://groups.facebook.com/nfmsetti (for the desktop)
https://m.facebook.com/groups/NFMSFI (for mobile devices like phones)
Spring is in the air and the rock hounds I know are getting ready to hit the hills, streams, and valleys in pursuit of the elusive perfect gem, mineral or fossil. They will climb the highest mountain, drive the steepest trails or enter the deepest holes to find their special rock. Now is a good time to start planning for the 2016 field season and I want to encourage you and your friends and family to reduce your risk of injury as you pursue your hobby.

Reduce your Level of Accepted Risk means we need to change our attitude toward the risks we accept in our everyday life. In order to reduce the risk in our lives we first have to admit we take risks and identify the risky behaviors that have become part of our normal routines. Let’s look at my lapidary hobbies with their potential risks.

Personal Health – Illness or medicines can affect how alert we are for driving or operating machinery and tools. It is easy to overdo it when digging, prying, and carrying rock resulting in injuries to your heart, back, arms, and legs.

Cabling Machine, Slab or Trim Saw, and Tumbler Condition – Worn or frayed electrical cords can result in an electrical shock; an exposed drive belt creates a pinch point that can cut off a finger; exposed shaft end can result in clothing getting caught resulting in an injury to your arm; and less than adequate water for dust suppression can result in silicosis. In addition a damaged or worn wheels or blades can cut fingers or hands. Hearing loss occurs when exposed to noise from cutting or grinding rock.

Rockhounding Field Trips – This presents a wide variety of risks and the greatest need for planning for risk reductions whether you are going by yourself or with a group. This can be broken into the following categories.

Travel Hazards – Towing a 4-wheeler trailer and an ATV trailer with under-inflated tires or overloaded trailers can lead to a blowout creating the potential for a wreck or damage to the trailer. In addition, poor weather conditions can affect the safety of the trip; it is not uncommon for snow to fall in June or July in the mountains of Idaho.

Rock Collecting Location – Many collecting sites are in remote locations and present the risk of getting lost, personal injury, equipment breaking down or getting stuck resulting in delays in receiving help. Personal injury can result from exposure and dehydration while you wait for help. Collecting around old mines can result in death or injury from rocks falling from the ceiling of the mine workings or the walls of open pit mines, rocks can roll down waste piles, the air in the underground mine might not have enough oxygen in it to allow you to enter and exit the mines safely. Many mines have shafts both internally and on the surface in to which a person can fall.

ATV, OHV, UHV – The equipment is great for getting places you can’t get into with your pickup, but they give you a false sense of security and can result in injury if they roll or tip over when operated on steep roads, hillsides or through inattention.

Hand Tools – Injury can result from flying rock chips causing cuts to hands, face or eyes. Damaged tools can fail resulting in cuts, falls and broken bones.

To summarize, why do we take risks? It is because we have a past history of getting away with the risky behavior. For example, our personal history of driving a car tells us that we can speed and not get a ticket or we can drift over the center line and not have a wreck. We can use a chair instead of a ladder to change a light bulb and not get hurt. We can use a ladder that is too short for the job and not fall.

You can reduce your risk of injury by:

Knowing your physical limits and get help with heavy lifting and carrying. Remember you are not 19 anymore.

Know, inspect, and repair your lapidary equipment before use. Ensure belts are guarded.

Know and inspect your pickup, trailer, ATV and rock hounding equipment (hammers, chisels, and bars) before you leave home to ensure they are in good condition.

Know the rock hounding site, the route to get there, and have a map of the area. Always have someone not on the trip know where you are going (share your map of the area), roads and trails you are going to use and when to expect you to return.

Call that person when you arrive home safely.

Don’t go alone; it is good to have another person there in case help is needed.

Operate your equipment safely.

Sooner or later you or someone you know will have an accident doing a risky behavior. Don’t let it be you, eliminate the risks in your life.
Greetings to everyone!

I hope you are all enjoying the great Spring we are having, getting out and having some good rock trips, and also attending this year’s Super Rock Shows that are available. To date, Jerrie and I have had the opportunity to attend five Shows and we have enjoyed each one of them. It is fun to see all the different items offered for sale and to observe and talk to the dealers and demonstrators. We also got the chance to meet Rock Hounds from many different areas.

In April we attended the Mid Year Meetings in Kennewick, Washington. The meetings were very informative. I was able to meet people face to face who I have only been able to know through email and phone contact. It is great! Lakeside Gem & Mineral Club also arranged for the meeting room for the Federation Meetings. A big “THANK YOU” to each of you who helped in any way to make the weekend a great success. You did a super job.

I did learn one thing that I did not think was possible. An Old Dog can be taught new tricks. After returning home and checking my e-mail on my home computer (which was the only one I had) I found that I had missed an important meeting, which I am very sorry about. I decided I needed to get a Smart Phone so I can be contacted wherever I may be. My daughter Susan told me that she could help me out. She would let me have her old phone that she was replacing. I thought that would be great!

The day came to make the Change. We went to the store to get the data changed from my old phone to the Smart Phone. Susan took the phone out and laid it on the counter. . . And Guest What . . . I saw a very nice, well kept, bright PINK phone. It is old enough that new covers are out dated, but it is usable.

Now if any of you men have a problem with a man carrying a pink phone, I will discuss the problem with you. I can be recognized as an older man carrying a bright Pink Smart Phone, and carrying a BIG STICK. Now if I can only learn to use it I will not miss any more important meetings.

Have a fun and safe Summer and Keep on Rockin!

Keith Fackrell
2nd Vice President

Greetings to everyone!

I hope you are all enjoying the great Spring we are having, getting out and having some good rock trips, and also attending this year’s Super Rock Shows that are available. To date, Jerrie and I have had the opportunity to attend five Shows and we have enjoyed each one of them. It is fun to see all the different items offered for sale and to observe and talk to the dealers and demonstrators. We also got the chance to meet Rock Hounds from many different areas.

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Have a fun and safe Summer and Keep on Rockin!

Keith Fackrell
2nd Vice President

From the Editor’s Rockpile
By Beth Heesacker

I guess I am going to have to repeat myself once again.

DO NOT SEND ME NEW MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION.
THAT GOES TO TOM BURCHARD, CIRCULATION CHAIR
AND TO THE DIRECTORY CHAIR.
See their email addresses on the 2nd page of this newsletter.

Ok, I have gotten that off of my chest again. Now I feel better (until the next email or snail mail list arrives on my doorstep).

We have a very busy summer planned. Lots of rock shows and especially mineral shows. Also a geology trip with friends.

We traded in our huge pickup and 5th wheel combo on a class B motorhome. A bit of downsizing in order to make it possible to travel lighter. I guess that fits in with my change in focus to micro-minerals. I don’t need as much room when I collect them. :-)

Now we have to decide if we want to purchase an atv so we can get to less accessible places. Paul and I just passed our Oregon ATV Safety test so when we decide we will be prepared. Of course that means pulling another trailer, smaller of course, behind the class B, but that also I can bring home a little bit of rock too.

Now if I can just remember to duck in order to miss the edge of the cabinets in this much tighter space.

When sending your club’s rock show press release to Pat Lambert, NFMS Show Coordinator, please include your admission charge.
Rock and Gem magazine requires this information. Thank you!
2016 AFMS Annual Meeting
Date: Thursday, July 28, 2016
Time: 9 am
Place: Linn County Fair & Expo Building
Albany, Oregon
(before the Willamette Agate and Mineral Society’s Annual Show)

NFMS Annual Meeting
Date: Friday, July 29, 2016
Time: 4pm
Place: Linn County Fair & Expo Building
Albany, Oregon
(During Willamette Agate and Mineral Society’s Annual Show)

What is the first rule?
By Tanya Sonner, Safety Chair

Be prepared. Just what does that mean? The answer for most organizations is to have people trained in first aid and CPR. I know in our club the lessons learned have been used several times. I believe this is true for most clubs. The more people we have trained the better off our clubs will be in the future. This also means having an updated first aid kit at all club events.

Our new program director came up with an idea. Find someone in your area that is an EMT. They can give a presentation on just what you can do and cannot do with your first aid training. This would be a good time to ask question about situations you might find on field trips and situations that could occur at your show or meetings.

I would like ideas from our members for future articles. If you have something, please email me at chuckagate2@yahoo.com.

In Loving Memory Of
JON MERRITT SPUNAUGLE
September 6th, 1938 – March 5th, 2016

He lost his battle with cancer surrounded by his children Anna and Eric and his grandchildren Jaenae, Nathan, Lindsey, Tommy, Sarah and Michael. And his only great granddaughter Ellie. We will be celebrating his life on Saturday May 21st, 2016 at 2pm. At the Lakeside Chapel 701 1st Street, Kirkland, WA 98033. If you plan to attend please R.S.V.P. by email at alstraub63@hotmail.com.

Postage Stamp Report
By Chuck Sonner

Thanks to the clubs and members that brought stamps to the mid-year meeting. I am sorting and getting them ready for sale. All stamps are appreciated, both foreign and US. The proceeds from the sales go to fund cancer research.

All I ask is if you trim the stamps, leave about a quarter of an inch around the stamp. Damaged stamps are discarded.

I will be at the NFMS Show in Albany. I will be happy to collect what you have at the annual meeting.
AFMS/NFMS Combined Show/Meetings Updates

Field Trips! Field Trips! Field Trips!!!
Potlucks!! Swap and Auction!!

After the NFMS/AFMS Meetings
Prineville, Oregon
August 3-7, 2016

By Doug True, NFMS Field Trip Chair

Make your plans around August 3rd through 7th, Four days of fieldtrips and a day of swap and live Auction (on Sunday morning)

Because of August being fire season and we never know what will be open or closed, NO specific trips are setup in advance. Trips will leave on August 3, 4, 5 and 6th. There will be a number of locations looking for Agate, Petrified Woods and Thunder eggs. Trips will go to Richardson Ranch, Alex McDonalds Ranch, Friends Egg Beds (has been closed for awhile) Hampton Butte, Bear Creek, Maury Mountain and several other locations. Several locations will be fee collecting and some will be free. All collectors will have to sign a liability waiver to attend the trips.

Base camp will be at the Crook County Fair Grounds, you will need to call (541) 447-6575 and make arrangements for RV camping or Dry Camping.

We will try and have several potlucks. Bring items you would like to sell or swap, setup Sunday morning the 7th. Bring something for the live auction, to benefit the NFMS, which will be held after the swap.

If you have any Questions call (406) 670-0506, or email dtruefossils12@yahoo.com . On 5 June I will be traveling to Spain and Portugal for a month, I will return on the 5th of July. I WILL NOT RESPOND DURING THIS TIME. Thanks

AFMS Meetings and Other Business

AFMS RULES MEETING
The AFMS Rules Meeting will be Wednesday the 27th of July at 3:00pm. You will have to ask where the meeting will be when you get there. I have not been able to verified this time and date at the time of this writing.

AFMS SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION MEETING
The AFMS Delegate’s meeting starts Thursday the 28th of July at 9:00am. The Scholarship Foundation meeting will start immediately after the AFMS annual delegate meeting. I will spend some time on the Foundation’s fund’s and the choosing of Gene Maggard as the new Treasurer for the Foundation.

ALAA MEETING
The main topic for discussion will be how the three new National Monuments impact rockhounding in southern California. A lot of you are snowbirds there so this will impact you. The ALAA meeting will start at 1:30 on Saturday July 30th.

COMPETITIVE DISPLAYS
Get your Competitive Display forms to Dee Holland as soon as possible. The deadline is June 20th. If you score 90 or higher you will automatically be judged again at the AFMS level. So it is possible for you to get both a NFMS and a AFMS trophy.

ENDOWMENT FUND
Bring your money so that you can buy tickets for the AFMS Endowment Fund drawing. The prizes that are won by the tickets that are drawn are very, very good.

AFMS and NFMS

Deadlines:

AFMS/NFMS Case Registration: June 29, 2016
AFMS/NFMS Meeting Registration: June 30, 2016
A REMINDER AND REQUEST FROM THE CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE

CREDENTIALS FOR ANNUAL MEETING
Clara & Del Walker, Committee Chairpersons, must receive the NFMS Credentials (the NAMES only), of Club Directors and Delegates, as soon as possible (ASAP) for planning purposes for the meeting.

The annual meeting will be held in Albany, OR, on Friday, July 29th, at 4 pm in the Linn County Fair & Expo Building.

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.

Give us the name(s) (not the credentials forms) at least two weeks prior to the meeting.

Call, email, or send to: Clara & Del Walker
12377 SE Davis Loop
Prineville, OR  97754
Call  503-812-6540 or email to cdwalker@q.com
(note email address is new…..and that is a "Q" not a "G")

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AFMS/NFMS Show

July 29 - 31, 2016

Albany Oregon

By Janice VanCura, Show Chair

We are really looking forward to having all of you coming to the show. Whether it is for just a day or the entire show. To help you plan your trip here is a recap of when the major meetings are. The Judges start us off with a meeting on Wednesday then Thursday morning at 9 the AFMS meetings kick off and run through mid-day. Thursday is also the day that the displays and dealers will be setting up. Friday we kick off the actual show. There will be speakers during the day and the NFMS Delegate meeting is at 4. Saturday starts with the editors breakfast at 8 with the S.C.R.I.B.E. meeting following, then the ALAA meeting is at 1:30 with a guest speaker and the evening banquet festivities start at 5. Sunday continues with more speakers throughout the day and various Committees of the NFMS meeting. All meals and events are held in the same building as the show on the Linn County Fairgrounds in Albany.

In addition we will be providing a fieldtrip each day Friday through Sunday to Hollywood Ranch near Sweet Home, for petrified wood. Just a short half hour away from the show. This is a fee dig. But it has produced some nice pieces of wood. We will meet in the parking lot and leave at 8 a.m. to take a caravan out to the ranch.

If you are planning to attend the delegate meeting or any of the meals please remember that reservations are required by June 30th. The registration form is available on the NFMS website. WAMS, regretfully has had a major problem with our website that necessitated the club in setting up a new one. This meant that our website has a new address we are now: wamsi.net. By the time this newsletter is published our site should be up and have forms and information there as well.

Or if you have any questions you can contact me at jvancura@peak.org or 541-753-2401

AFMS/NFMS Show Meeting Schedule

Please note: information gathered from various sources. Please verify dates and timing with your group since there seems to be at least one possible conflict on Thursday.

All meals and meetings held in the same building as the show

Wednesday, July 27
Rules Meeting, 3 pm
Judges Meeting, ??

Thursday - July 28
AFMS Meeting, 9 am
AFMS Scholarship Foundation, following the AFMS meeting
Display and Dealer Setup

Friday - July 29
Field Trip to Hollywood Ranch, 8 am
Show opens
Speakers throughout the day
NFMS Meeting, 4 pm

Saturday - July 30
Field Trip to Hollywood Ranch, 8 am
Editor’s Breakfast, 8 am with SCRIBE Meeting to follow
ALAA Meeting, 1:30 pm
Banquet, 5 pm

Sunday, July 31
Field Trip to Hollywood Ranch, 8 am
Show continues
Speakers throughout the day
NFMS Committee meetings

Wednesday - Sunday, August 3-7 - Field trips out of Prineville

ROCK SALE

June 16-19, 2016
11am - 4 pm daily
During the Prineville Pow Wow

Agates, Jaspers, Petrified Wood, Etc.
Rough and Slabs Some bucket sales
4-5 tons of rock New material daily
3 Arizona wood round sections
Also cabs and wire wrapped jewelry

Juniper Canyon Storage East
2521 NE 3rd St. (Highway 26) Unit #5
Prineville, Or
East on Hwy 26, past Bi-Mart and Ford.
Park outside fence and walk in from gate between fence and building.

No early sales Watch for signs
Steve and Edna Nelson 503-397-5284
Growing and Sustaining Membership
Clackamette Mineral & Gem Club
By Hidemi Kira, Past President and Board Member
(NFMS President)

Using the data of the membership list starting in 2007, our Clackamette Club’s membership had reached a high point in 2014 and we are now experiencing a little decline, but still has grown 288% in total members as of end of 2015 compared to 2007. The total count of members in 2007 were 72 and has grown to 207 in 2015.

I am sure there are many things that other clubs do already and there may be some duplicates from the other great articles in the NFMS newsletter, but the following is some of what we have done and keep on doing.

How we try to recruit new members.

Our Annual Show is where we get many of the new members and I assume every other club is the same. We will give out information about our Club to the visitors by having available Membership Application Forms, having members available to explain what we do and answer any question the visitors may have. And to have as many visitors as possible, advertising the Show is a very important part. We set up show cases in local libraries, put up and hand out many flyers, contact the media for advertisement and so many other things that I cannot list them all.

And to attract many visitors, we have a large Silent Auction area and Slab Sales area that you will not see often at other shows. And we have Bargain Rock corner where we sell rocks in 3 or 1 gallon pots and sell large rocks which do not fit in pots for a very reasonable price. And we have the normal areas such as Show Cases, Kid’s Korner, Demonstrations, Dealers and etc. like you will see in most of the club shows.

There another thing we do to recruit new members at our Annual Show. We have a “Guess the Weight” corner, where we ask the visitors to guess the weight of the rock (usually around 100#) to win that rock as a prize. We use a sheet (1/2 of a letter size) for them to write down the guessed weight along with their name and address, phone number and email address. On the same sheet, we have a questionnaire to ask how they found about our show and we ask if they are interested in joining a Rock Club. We use boxes where they can simply check “Yes” or “No”. Right after the show, the first thing we do is to make a list of the visitors who checked “Yes” as interested in joining a club and send emails or call if they do not have emails, notifying them of the next meeting time and ask if there are any question. If they don’t show up at the next meeting, we will follow up after the next meeting. If the person does not live near our club, we give out information about their closest club for them to consider joining. We don’t get too many new members this way, but it is way better than not doing anything and it works. We once had a cash prize for answering the questionnaire during our 50th Annual Show, but this did not make a significant difference in response as we usually get quite a few responses even without any extra incentives. The sheet also gives us information about how our advertisement is working since we ask about where they heard of the show.

Our club occasionally helps our older members or people who contacted our club to ask for help selling their rock collection. We usually help by washing the rocks if necessary, sort, price and help during the sale. During the sale, we often find people who are interested in rocks and do not belong to a rock club. We talk about our club to those people and invite them to our meeting. This has been pretty successful. We usually have a supply of flyers for our show and cards including meeting information and how to contact us at these sales. As a result of helping, we often get the leftovers for a very reasonable price or sometimes been donated to the club.

Not really a club activity, but I usually wear a kind of oversized pendant I made (or my wife made for me) and my wife wears some unique designed pendants anywhere we go (some of you may have seen them…). We occasionally get attention and are asked about the piece we are wearing. If the person has interest in making jewelry or rocks and lives near our club, I hand out the small club card, which has the information about the meeting and how to contact us. At least it works for starting a rock related conversation.

Just before our 50th Annual Show, our club was interviewed by a local newspaper. My oversized Druzy Quartz pendant got a little attention from the reporter and the picture of my wife holding the huge pendant ended up to be on the cover page covering almost half of the page. The article was a good advertisement for the show and the club and also good opportunity to show that Rockhounders are still active. And it did draw in some new members.

How we try to sustain our members.

We have good programs throughout the year during the meeting with the fantastic effort of our Program Chair. We often invite outside speakers and few years ago, we decided to pay a certain amount for those guest speakers in order to have higher quality lectures and demonstrations. And we also have regular activities as a Picnic and Christmas Party as most clubs do. We always have an “Equipment Night” at the meeting following the Show so that the new guests see how the rocks can be cut, polished and made into jewelry. Members will bring all kinds of equipment to show how it will work. Unfortunately, our meeting place does not allow operating the machinery, so we just show the equipment. If we were able to operate them, it would have more impact.

We have a Silent Auction during each monthly meeting except on several special occasions. This is for education and for giving an opportunity to get rocks at a reasonable price (if the bid doesn’t go up too high) mainly for the newer members. We try to select the rocks we can identify and their locality and condition, set them on one or two tables. It creates an active atmosphere and also works a little bit as a fund raiser for the club. The majority of the rocks are provided by the club, but some will be from personal donations.

At the each meeting, we have a table set up to show the members’ “bragging rocks”, rocks related to the night’s theme for the Program and rocks the members want to be identified. This seems to keep the members interested in the rock world.

We try to have as many Field Trips as possible and our Field Trip Chair constantly looks for places we can go. From spring to fall, there are some kind of trips almost every month or twice a month.

Our email distribution is quite well developed and we able to pass on information in a timely manner to keep our members informed. We have a great monthly club newsletter, but some notices will be needed to be passed when there is no time to incorporate them in the newsletter. Developing and keeping up with the email list is not a pleasant task, but it does work very well to make sure the majority of our members receive timely information and make them feel they are part of the club.

Several years ago, we participated in the All American Award’s Year-Book. This was a great opportunity to see where we were and where could be improved. We got the Bronze Medal the first year and Silvers for the next two years. The best part of this was the process. We had to contact all the members to collect the needed information and it was a very good opportunity to have all the members to work together.

These are some of the things I thought may be factors for having a relatively strong membership. As you have seen in the recent Newsletters, keeping your Club a fun and exciting place is the key to growing your club.

Number of memberships does not always signify the quality of the club, but is very important to have as many members as possible in order to have our voice heard! We have to keep the public lands open for the younger generation.
Due to health reasons Jerry Porter/Porters Rocks/Comet Lapidary (manufacturer of Rogue Saws) we be closing the business and liquidating all equipment. The business includes all the plans, patterns, tanks, hoods, and an assortment of raw materials. Also included are various materials that pertain to the manufacturing of saws.

Equipment sold as is, all sales are final and cash only. For questions and pricing call between the hours of 8:00 AM and 8:00 PM Doug @ 503-910-7498 or Gerald @ 503-588-1586

Also other equipment for sale:

Lapidary Business and Equipment for Sale.

Richard Edward Romack, "Ed", 93, of Idaho Falls and Hailey, Idaho, died on Monday May 2, 2016. Ed was preceded in death by his first wife and mother of his children, Anne Elizabeth Browning Romack, and his second wife Jean Vance Carpenter Romack, and his brother Robert.

Ed was born in Wausau, Wisconsin as were his parents Richard Wesley Romack and Martha Styza Romack. During his childhood, his family moved to St. Louis and Columbia, Missouri where his father worked for the IRS.

He became interested in rocks and gems while taking his children on hikes in the mountains of Idaho. He found his life's passion in cutting colored gemstones of all sizes, most especially 'giant gemstones'. With a group of men who also loved faceting, the 'Dare Devil Facetters', he faceted many giant gemstones that reside in famous museums including the Smithsonian Museum of Natural History and Gemological Institute of America. He was a Master Faceter and judged gemstone cutting in both the U.S. and Australia. He was very generous with his gemstones, giving them to loved ones and friends on many occasions.

Through his love of faceting he met Jean Carpenter at a local rock club. They traveled the world together by air, land and sea. He married her in 2008 and they moved to Hailey to be near his daughter Susy.

Ed is survived by his four children: Greg, of Anchorage, Alaska; Rick (Suzi), Stockton, Calif.; Roxie Evans (Paul), Carmel, Ind.; Susy Boettcher (Steve), Hailey, Idaho; and two grandchildren: Chris Schwartz (Gena); and Taylor McMahon (Dan); and four great-grandchildren: Claire, Maya, Riley and Jacob; and his extended family Chris Dub Brock, Andrew Dub Brock (Autumn) and their children Leora and Will, Fiona Dub Brock, John Grimes and Shonna Grimes.

A funeral service was held on Monday, May 9, at 2:30 p.m. at Buck-Miller-Hann Funeral Home. He was buried next to Anne at Rose Hill Cemetery with Military Honors. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Hospice & Palliative Care of the Wood River Valley, P.O. Box 4220, Ketchum, ID 83340 or at www.hpcwrv.org or the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies Scholarship Foundation payable to “AFMS Scholarship Foundation”, AFMS Scholarship Foundation, c/o Lauren Williams, 957 E Elva St. Idaho Falls, ID 83401.

Ed Romack

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How Rock Collecting Helps Kids: Our Responsibility

by Dr. Gary Lohman, Junior's Chair

Nearly every rockhound I meet is eager to explain how their interest in rocks, minerals, or fossils started when they were young. In fact, prior to the development of an increasingly media-driven society, hobbies like rock collecting were an important part of both personal and social development. With all the time spent watching television, playing video games, and tethered to social media, the sad reality is that many of today's children have never experienced the rewards of a hobby. To be clear, a hobby is not the same as organized, adult-directed, after-school activities such as Little League. Hobbies are an important means of self-discovery and expressions of personal accomplishment that help build self-esteem and resilience. Working on hobbies teaches children how to learn about things, how to set goals, make decisions, and develop a variety of problem-solving skills. Hobbies often mature into lifelong interests and sometimes even careers.

Consider how thirty-plus years ago almost every kid in your neighborhood had some sort of hobby, whether it was trading baseball cards, mounting butterflies, or collecting things like stamps, or rocks. A young colleague recently expressed the financial motivation behind his degree in electrical engineering and his current interest in pursuing a master's degree in business to make him more promotable. This was in stark contrast to another colleague, also with a degree in electrical engineering, who expressed his start in "building radios" as a child and now disserted with a career that increasingly pulls him away from his technical "roots." Similar to the way trees need solid roots to grow tall and stand strong, kids need hobbies to help them develop life-long "roots" as well.

As rockhounds, we already recognize the value of our hobby, so how do we help children today develop and sustain hobbies?

Having participated in events with a variety of displays and demonstrations at a number of venues with children over past years, I am repeatedly reassured that kids still have innate curiosities for which hobbies form a way of tapping into. The child-like curiosity that is still awakened in us as adults through the pursuit of our hobbies is a necessary ingredient. Fortunately, geology remains fashionable among kids. Collecting rocks is interesting and learning how those rocks are geologically related to our planet is even better. Kids love to recognize patterns in nature.

Cultivating a hobby takes "spare time," which is arguably the first casualty of media-driven distractions and tightly-packed schedules of organized activities in today's world. Consider that by age 15, the average child has spent more time watching television than sitting in a classroom. Add to that the addictive-like effects of video games and the tether-like effect of social media and texting, and one quickly recognizes that potential "spare time" is rapidly consumed by a craving for stimulation - even to a point of over-stimulation. Childhood is followed by the adult pressures of making a living with increasingly demanding schedules. If one never learned how to appreciate and make use of "spare time" with hobbies as a child, it's not likely to be an integral part of adult life either. Hence, the first challenge is making room for "spare time."

Un-tethering the child, even for a little while, from his or her media-led environment does not have to involve draconian parental controls accompanied by screaming and door slamming. The key is to (1) set an example by making time ourselves as adults and (2) taking advantage of that time to tap into a shared child-like curiosity. This is where family-oriented events like rock shows, county fairs, STEM expos, etc. can be very important venues to help explore interests together. This is also where it is important for our clubs and their memberships to continue hosting and participating in such events. In today's financially-obsessed world, it is easy to forget that the real "value" of these events is not measured by their profitability in a purely monetary sense. The last STEM expo in which I participated with a 10x10 blackout tent filled with UV lights and fluorescent minerals captivated the interest of children and their parent's innate curiosity alike! Asking questions together, many became interested in the glowing rocks and how they could get involved also. By setting the example as role models and being prepared to provide encouragement and guidance, there is still room for hobbies in today's world. The good news is that activities like this psychologically free kids from being merely glued to computers and cell phones all day! When given the chance, children embrace the opportunity to get back to those interests we used to call "hobbies."

For want of spare time, a hobby may never develop. It takes a village as helping to make that "spare time" reality involves the time and effort of our clubs and its members supporting each other, parents, and children. The reward is that by helping a child to find a hobby, a talent may be born and a life enriched. In future articles, I intend to further explore how to inspire and guide children of different ages within the hobby.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Event Details</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>May 14 &amp; 15</td>
<td>Hilotchkounds Gem and Mineral</td>
<td>Hermiston Conference Ctr 415 Highway 395 South Hermiston OR</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat – 10 – 5</td>
<td>Society</td>
<td>2593 <a href="mailto:steonomori1@netscape.net">steonomori1@netscape.net</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Sun – 10 – 5</td>
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<td>May 21 &amp; 22</td>
<td>Bitterroot Gem and Mineral</td>
<td>First Intermediate Center, Ravalli County Frgnds, 100 Old Corvallis Road, Hamilton MT</td>
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<td>Sat – 10 – 6</td>
<td>Society</td>
<td>Steve Vieth 406 387-7597 <a href="mailto:viethsteve88@gmail.com">viethsteve88@gmail.com</a></td>
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<td>Sun – 10 – 5</td>
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<td>June 3- 5</td>
<td>Puyallup Valley Gem and Mineral</td>
<td>Swiss Park 9205 198th Avenue East Bonney Lake WA 98390</td>
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<td>Fri – 10 – 5</td>
<td>Club</td>
<td>Nancy LeMay <a href="mailto:bees2knees@att.net">bees2knees@att.net</a> 253 985 57/84 <a href="mailto:in-fo@puyallupgemclub.org">in-fo@puyallupgemclub.org</a></td>
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<td>Sat – 10 – 5</td>
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<td>June 4 &amp; 5</td>
<td>North Idaho Mineral Club</td>
<td>Kootenai County Frgnds, 4056 North Government Way, Coeur d’Alene ID</td>
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<td>Sat – 9 – 10</td>
<td></td>
<td>Dean Hutchinson 208 686 9156 PO Box 1643 Hayden</td>
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<td>June 11 &amp; 12</td>
<td>Butte Mineral and Gem Club</td>
<td>Butte Civic Center Annex 1340 Harrison Avenue Butte MT</td>
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<td>Sat – 10 – 5</td>
<td></td>
<td>Pete Krutsens 406 498 4295 PO Box 4492 Butte MT 59702</td>
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<td>June 25 &amp; 26</td>
<td>Oregon Coast Agate Club</td>
<td>National Guard Armony 541 SW Coast Hwy Hwy 101 Newport OR 97365</td>
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<td>Sat – 10 – 6</td>
<td></td>
<td>George Mazaika 415 591 0311 george@/welcome58@gmail.com</td>
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<td>Yachats OR 97498</td>
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<td>July 15, 16, &amp; 17</td>
<td>Lower Umpqua Gem &amp; Lapidary Society</td>
<td>Reedsport Community Building, 451 Winchester Avenue, Reedsport OR 6816 <a href="mailto:ihindabarr@hotms.com">ihindabarr@hotms.com</a></td>
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<td>Fri &amp; Sat – 10 – 5</td>
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<td>July 16 – 17</td>
<td>Darrington Rock and Gem Club</td>
<td>Manford Grange 1265 Railroad Avenue Darrington, WA</td>
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<td>Sat – 10 – 5</td>
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<td>Ed Lehman 9102 20th Street SE Lake Stevens WA 98625 <a href="mailto:wsxmoert@hotmail.com">wsxmoert@hotmail.com</a> 4 25 534 6282 (cell 425 780 2786) or Ange-</td>
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<td>Sun – 10 – 5</td>
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<td>lia Moore <a href="mailto:angelm123@gmail.com">angelm123@gmail.com</a> 360 436 2107</td>
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<td>July 22, 23, &amp; 24</td>
<td>Washington Agate and Mineral Society</td>
<td>Parksidge Elementary School, 301 Central Avenue and Stage St. South Tenino WA 98580</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri – 10 – 6</td>
<td>of Olympia and the Tenino Rock Cruisers</td>
<td>Daniel De Boer <a href="mailto:keylock1@live.com">keylock1@live.com</a> 5107 Brenner Road NW Olymp-</td>
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<td>Sat – 9 – 6</td>
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<td>July 29-31</td>
<td>Willamette Agate and Mineral Society</td>
<td>Linn County Expo Center, Albany Oregon</td>
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<td>Fri – 10 – 6</td>
<td>AFMS and NFMS MEETINGS</td>
<td>Janice Van Cura 415-753-2401 <a href="mailto:ivancura@peoek.org">ivancura@peoek.org</a> , <a href="http://www.wasmis.org">www.wasmis.org</a></td>
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<td>August 5- 7</td>
<td>Far West Lapidary &amp; Gem Society</td>
<td>North Bend Community Ctr., 2222 Broadway North Bend OR</td>
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<td>Fri &amp; Sat – 10 – 5</td>
<td>Society</td>
<td>Don Innes 415 396 5722 <a href="mailto:don-innes20@gmail.com">don-innes20@gmail.com</a></td>
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<td>Sun – 10 – 4</td>
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<td>August 13 &amp; 14</td>
<td>Maplewood Rock and Gem Club</td>
<td>Maplewood Rock and Gem Club-house, 8802 196th ST SW, Edmonds WA</td>
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<td>Sat – 9 – 5</td>
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<td>Bev Ryder 425 338 4184 <a href="mailto:FAMRYD@aol.com">FAMRYD@aol.com</a></td>
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<td>Sun – 10 – 5</td>
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<td>September 10 &amp; 11</td>
<td>Clallam County Gem and Mineral</td>
<td>Vern Burton Community Ctr., 308 East 4th Street Port Angeles WA</td>
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<td>Sat – 9 – 6</td>
<td>Association</td>
<td>Jennie Bourassa 360 681 0372 or Kathy Schriner 360 681 3811 PO Box 98 Sequim WA 98382</td>
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<td>September 10 &amp; 11</td>
<td>Marcus Whitman Gem and Mineral</td>
<td>Walla Walla County Frgnds Community Cnr Bldg., 363 Orchard St, Walla Walla WA 99362</td>
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<td>Sat – 10 – 5</td>
<td>Society</td>
<td>Keith Bacus, 509 529 1248 1829 Howard St Walla Walla WA 99362</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 17 &amp; 18</td>
<td>The Southern Washington Mineralogical Society</td>
<td>Castle Rock Fairgrounds 120 Fair Lane, SW Corner of Highway 411 and Cowitl River Castle Rock WA</td>
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<td>Sat – 10 – 5</td>
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<td>Nicole Doiron 360 785 4417 <a href="mailto:rknad@c.com">rknad@c.com</a></td>
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<td>October 1 &amp; 2</td>
<td>Marysville Rock and Gem Club</td>
<td>Totem Middle School Gym, 7th Street and State Avenue, Marysville WA</td>
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<td>Sat – 10 – 5</td>
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<td>Dottie Haage <a href="mailto:gnhase-ge@gmail.com">gnhase-ge@gmail.com</a> 425 330 7865</td>
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<td>October 15 &amp; 16</td>
<td>Hells Canyon Gem Club</td>
<td>Nez Perce County Fair Building 1229 Burrell Avenue Lewiston ID 83501</td>
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<td>Sat – 10 – 6</td>
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<td>Linn Enger 208 746 4957 <a href="mailto:engerocks@yahoo.com">engerocks@yahoo.com</a></td>
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<td>October 22 &amp; 23</td>
<td>Clackamette Mineral and Gem Club</td>
<td>Clackamas County Fairgrounds, 634 NE 4th Ave, Canby, OR 97013</td>
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<td>Sat – 9 – 6</td>
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<td>Beth Heasacker, <a href="mailto:heasack-er@coho.net">heasack-er@coho.net</a> 4145 NW Heasacker Rd., Forest Grove, OR 97116</td>
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<td>October 22 &amp; 23</td>
<td>Bellevue Rock Club</td>
<td>Vasa Park, 3560 West Lake Sammamish PKWY SE, Bellevue, WA</td>
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<td>Sat – 10 – 6</td>
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<td>Bruce Himko belle- <a href="mailto:vuerockclub@comcast.net">vuerockclub@comcast.net</a> PO Box 1851 Bellevue, WA 98009</td>
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<td>November 12 &amp; 13</td>
<td>Skagit Rock &amp; Gem Club</td>
<td>Sedro Woolley Comm Center, 703 Pacific Street Sedro Woolley, WA</td>
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<td>Sat – 9 – 5</td>
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<td>Debbie Frank skagik <a href="mailto:trockard@ymail.com">trockard@ymail.com</a> PO Box 244 Mount Vernon WA 98273</td>
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<td>Sun – 10 – 4</td>
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<td>Cindy Wright <a href="mailto:cindyk1@hotmail.com">cindyk1@hotmail.com</a> or Beverly Ryder 425 338 4184 <a href="mailto:FAMRYD@aol.com">FAMRYD@aol.com</a></td>
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<td>November 12 &amp; 13</td>
<td>Maplewood Rock and Gem Club</td>
<td>Maplewood Rock and Gem Club-house 8802 196th ST SW Edmonds WA</td>
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<td>Sat – 9 – 5</td>
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<td>MaryAnne Collins 650 383 7625 <a href="mailto:info@maplewoodrockclub.com">info@maplewoodrockclub.com</a></td>
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