



NORTHWEST NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 66 NO. 2 - MAY 2026
NORTHWEST FEDERATION OF
MINERALOGICAL SOCIETIES



REMINDER:

All newsletter submissions must be received by the 25th of each month to be included in the following issue.

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NFMS 1st Vice President Jennifer Haley

As I write this, my mind is preparing for the AFMS Annual Convention, taking place this year in St. Charles, IL. It's a time for celebration in many ways, a time to reflect on the work of these past 7 months (AFMS' fiscal year begins Nov 1st), and a time for looking forward with short-and long-term planning for all our member clubs across the country.

Committee members and officers from other federations get a chance to meet each other, sharing ideas. It's always great to see long-time friends who have always been at the heart of the AFMS and our club's values, for years. It's a good year's work dedicated to you as club members, and to honor your work in the contests.

Last but never least, it is fun to see and learn from the exhibits and vendors in other parts of the country. I have to admit, whenever I am at rock and gem club's show, I feel what I would call a "natural rock high," just being around so many rocks in one place.

One thing I've always noticed about the rockhounds I meet and work with, is we are a very happy crowd. We tend to thrive in this hobby, love what we do, and what we are able to give of ourselves to each other. It's a wonderful commitment from everyone involved, and I really cherish what we do, in all the ways we do it.

Although we had our big annual meeting in March, the NFMS officer's and committee work is ongoing throughout the year. Summer has begun for many of you, and on its way for others. Happy hunting!

Bozeman Gem & Mineral Show & Gallatin County Fairgrounds

May 9th & 10th
Buildings 1 & 2

**Featuring: 23 Vendors
Silent Auctions
Raffle Items
UV Fluorescent Tent
Spectacular Display Cases
Kids Games & Activities**

Food & Drinks Available

**Saturday 10am-6pm \$5
Sunday 10am-4pm \$3**

Kids 12 & Under Are Free



**NFMS Secretary
Judi Allison**

Hi folks. I believe May has sneaked up on us. But along with the "sneakiness" we get to experience the warmer weather. And that means we can dust off our rock hammers and put on our hiking shoes and hit the fields again. I know many of you spend a good deal of time during the cooler months out scrounging the hills for booty, but for those of us more faint at heart (and colder blooded) we enjoy the summer sunshine. We just need to remember to apply our sunscreen and use common sense when we are out and about.

With that in mind, I hope some of you have managed to add the trip to the Blue Forest to your plans for May. You will find the details and instructions again in this newsletter, as well as in the April edition.

Be sure to check the calendar for rock shows in your area so you can take in a few. And remember, as well as entering your information about your show to our Show Coordinator, Faith Farley you can also now send our editor, Jessica Himple a show flyer that will be posted somewhere in the newsletter free of charge. Look for the minutes of the annual meeting that took place on March 20th in this issue. This meeting was the one official business meeting where voting could take place for this year. We will have an Organizational meeting at the Portland Regional Show on Saturday, October 3rd to share information, update folks on Federation business and discuss issues and ideas for the future. So mark your calendars for that. It's a double bonus. You can attend the meeting and take in a great extensible show.

We have a break from the newsletter next month, so go rockhounding and we'll see you in July.

Judi



WAMS Olympia Presents 2026 Rock Rendezvous

July 24-26 Fri. – Sat. 9:00 A.M. - 6:00 P.M.
Sun. 9:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.

Where: Tenino City Park
309 Park Avenue East, Tenino, WA 98589

20+ Rock and Mineral
Vendors, Artisan
Jewelry, Lapidary
Demonstrations, Raffle

FREE ADMISSION



Join us for fun and
excitement discovering
the marvel of rocks and
minerals

Website: wamsolympia.com

Email: wamsolympia@gmail.com

2026 ROCK & GEM SHOW

Nature's Treasures Under Foot

SILENT AUCTION All Day, Every Day!
KIDS CORNER Games & Fun Prizes!

SATURDAY MAY 9
10am - 6pm

SUNDAY MAY 10
10am - 4pm

ATM Available on-site

EASTERN OREGON TRADE & EVENT CENTER
EOTEC - New Fairgrounds Facility
1705 E Airport Rd, Hermiston, Oregon

\$5 per person
Ages 12 & under FREE with adult.

HOSTED BY:
HATROCKHOUNDS
Gem & Mineral Society
www.hatrockhounds.org

BOTH DAYS: DOOR PRIZE DRAWING (Every 1/2 hour)
SUNDAY ONLY: SPECIAL DRAWING FOR ALL MOMS

Non Profit 501(c)(3) EIN# 930672803

AFMS Historian

Jennifer Haley

1956 Camp Handcock, Oregon Inspiring Youth to Become Scientists

In 1951 the Oregon Museum of Science and Industry (OMSI) created a camp for teenage students. Their hope was that it would inspire youth to become future scientists, which the country needed at the time. The Atomic Age began in July 1946, and America knew it was in their best interest to keep ahead of the rest of the world in science. The best way to do that was to engage its young people to fall in love with the various sciences.

And what a camp this was! It was the only camp of its type in America back then. In 1952 there were 25 students attending a two-week long camp. By 1956 their enrollment increased to 90 students, so they added two more, two-week long camps. The camp is located in the heart of what was known at the time, as the richest fossil beds on the west coast. Just about an one hour's hike away, are the Clarno mammal beds which were discovered by Alonzo Hancock during 1953. Very close by were the fossil nut beds where one could find excellent specimens of petrified dates, figs, nuts and other fruit fossils. Only professional paleontologists were allowed to dig in the mammal beds. The teenage students were only allowed to dig in the nut beds.

What was a typical day like at the teenage camp? At 6:30 a.m. the American flag was raised. Breakfast was announced with a whistle blowing at 7:00 a.m. Hotcakes described as being big as blankets were served with syrup and jam, along with oatmeal, applesauce and fruit juice. At 8:00 a.m. the students filled their canteens with water, and were off to explore the many sciences the camp provided, geology, paleontology, biology, astronomy and basic nature studies.

By 1:00 they arrived back to camp to rest, and have lunch to tide them over until dinner. Early afternoons the students attended lectures on the sciences. Then it was off to the John Day River, which was the camp's swimming hole just two miles away.

Early evening the weather would cool down, from what could be 100 degrees during the days. This is when the attendees played an array of sport activities, ping pong, volleyball or softball.

At nighttime the students and instructors met around a campfire to sing songs, with guitar music played by biologist Bob Reinmiller. On some camp nights the students were told wild animal stories by Hancock, who jokingly said he had lived alongside the Amynodons and Brontotheres for so long as he dug the mammal beds, that he could speak their language. He would bring them back to life with snorting and wallowing sounds. The camp even had a volunteer doctor at the camp, Dr. Arthur Jones, from the University of Oregon Medical School. He was known for his tenor singing voice, and would close the evening before everyone went to bed, leading everyone with the camp song, Sixty-Million, to the tune of Clementine. The song was sung for five rounds like this:

“In a canyon in the Clarno,
Sixty million years ago
Lived a big Titanother, the
Biggest of that ancient show.
Sixty Million, sixty million
Sixty million years ago-
Horse and rhino had it fine-oh
Here's their bones, it must be so ...”

If you were late for dinner, you were given the penalty of having to sing a solo around the campfire in front of all. This amounted for the “late for dinner” singers, turning the penalty into something humorous for their audience. Just before bed, everyone was treated to watermelon, a refreshing treat after a hot day.

The studies at camp were highly recognized for the level of science the students learned. Many students were known to receive scholarships or passed first year sciences with flying colors, based on their learning experience at Camp Handcock. Students even expressed they learned more at camp compared to what they learned during their first year at college.

The building of the camp's shelter was created with the help of a logging contractor, Richard L. Rice. He donated cedar posts and bolts, and volunteered his time and equipment to build it. The Oregon Agate and Mineral Society, member of the NFMS, chipped in with extra helping hands and materials.

The fee to attend a two-week session was \$65 for room, board, instruction and medical care. The students were known to love their camp experience, and would often venture back out into the field before nightfall to explore more.

Today, the Northwest Federation of Mineralogy rents the facility for their annual Camp Hancock-Rockhound Camp. To learn more about the OMSI today, click on the link: [Home | Oregon Museum of Science and Industry](#)

~~KID'S CORNER~~

Hello, everyone!

I am so excited to bring you news of some cool things with the NFMS Juniors! The first will be showing you our new NFMS Junior Patch! The next thing is announcing the awardees of the NFMS Junior Achievement Award! And of course, I am including names of kiddos who have earned badges and patches in the Future Rockhounds of America program.

I am also very excited that summer is almost here! This is a great opportunity to get the kids out and explore the outdoors, gather specimens, and make great connections!

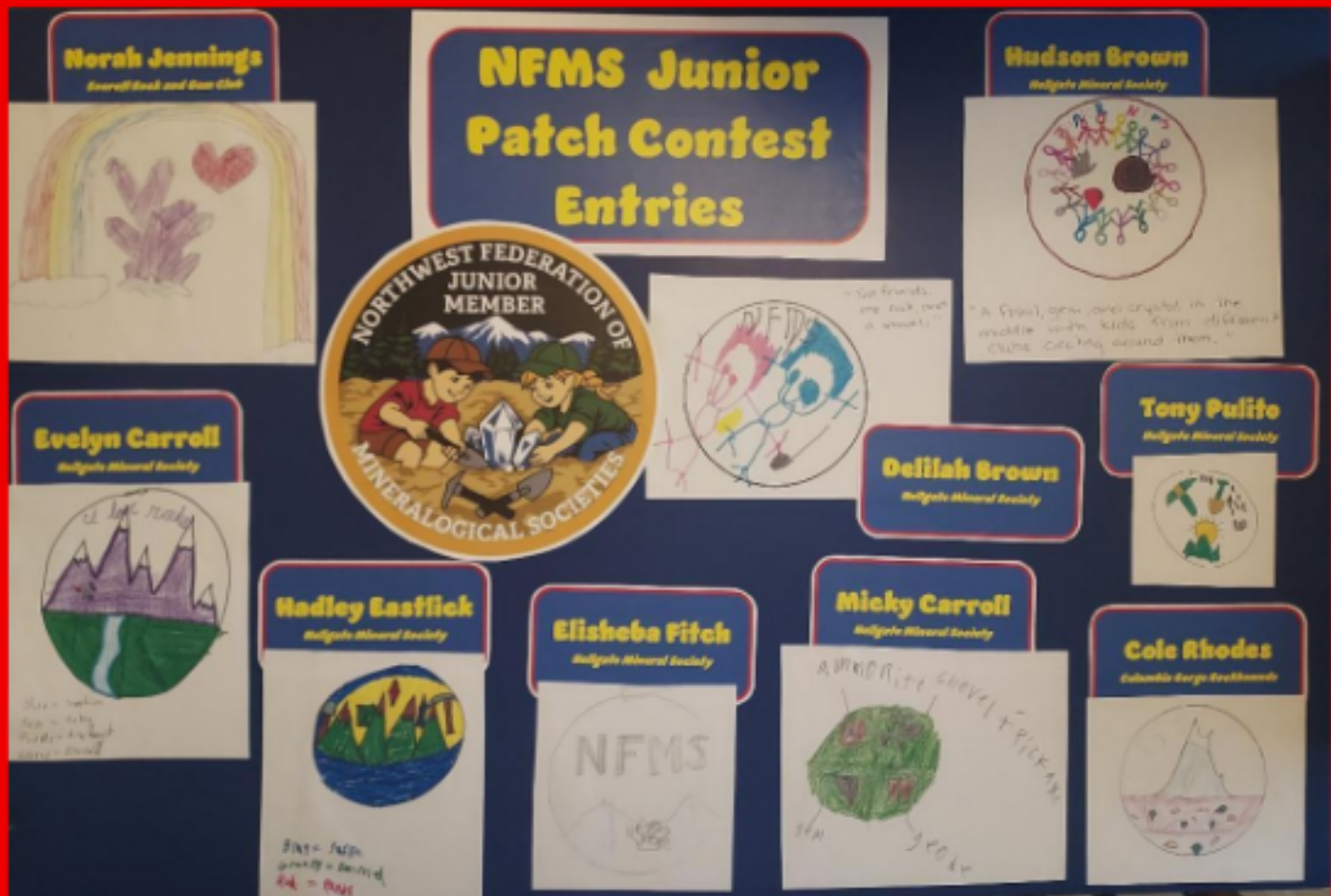
*Enjoy a beautiful springtime,
Jennifer Fitch
NFMS Junior Chair*

Joke of the month

***What did the diamond say to its friend,
copper?***

Nothing, silly...minerals don't talc!

NFMS Junior Patch Entries



Shown above are the entries for the NFMS Junior Patch. We loved all of them, so it was hard to pick. In the end, Delilah Brown's design was chosen as the winner! Delilah was 4 years old and belongs to the Hellgate Mineral Society of Missoula, Montana. Since we had a hard time choosing, we decided to use some of everyone's design in the finished product.

Thank you to all who entered!

Below is a photo of the new patch. Junior leaders for all the clubs in the NFMS can contact me to get a patch for each of your juniors.



NFMS Junior Achievement Award

Here are the awardees of this year's NFMS Junior Achievement Award!
Good job to all who entered. I truly loved reading your entries!
You kiddos are amazing!

AHZIAH MALLERY

Lakeside Gem and Mineral Club
Kennewick, WA

AXLE BATES

Willamette Agate and Mineral Society
Salem, OR

ELISHEBA FITCH

Hellgate Mineral Society
Missoula, MT

GABRIEL MURPHY

Hellgate Mineral Society
Missoula, MT

ADDY LEAVITT

Willamette Agate and Mineral Society
Salem, OR

ALEX MURPHY

Hellgate Mineral Society
Missoula, MT

AUTUMN VEZINA

Hellgate Mineral Society
Missoula, MT

EVELYN CARROLL

Hellgate Mineral Society
Missoula, MT

HARPER VEZINA

Hellgate Mineral Society
Missoula, MT

HUDSON BROWN

Hellgate Mineral Society
Missoula, MT

MICKY CARROLL

Hellgate Mineral Society
Missoula, MT

TONY PULITO

Hellgate Mineral Society
Missoula, MT

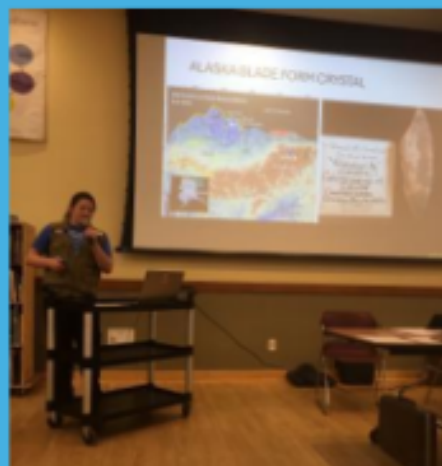
Article about one of our NFMS kiddos doing cool things! ~~Great job, Addy!~~

AFMS Badge Program Lights A Fire In Young Junior

For twenty minutes some two hundred members of the Willamette Agate and Mineral Society (WAMS) of Salem, Oregon listened intently to an in-depth discussion of the enigmatic mineral ikaite and its calcite pseudomorph, glendonite. What was of particular note about the February presentation was that it was led by recently-turned 12 year old Junior member Addy L! Springboarding from her display case entry in the WAMS annual rock and gem show in 2025, where she highlighted Siberian minerals and the Rockhound code of ethics, she landed in the middle of a year long investigation into one of the most misunderstood minerals of the last 200 years. In her 2025 display (which helped her earn the Showmanship Badge) were two Siberian glendonites which she had come to understand were formed near glaciers. But she didn't know why that was the case, so over the next year, Addy L. learned all about the host mineral ikaite and how it pseudomorphed into calcite and became known as a glendonite.

Her journey took her around the world (from the comfort of her living room and a number of rock shops) in search of glendonites from Morocco, Canada, Alaska, Nevada and even Japan. From her exchanged letters with Rudolf W. in Japan, she learned that the former glacier where the glendonite was collected was only 50 miles from his home. From an Alaskan rockhound, she learned that you could almost touch Russia from where he stood on American soil to collect his specimen that he sent to her. And from Australia, she learned that the glendonite that she now holds came from one of the founding members of the New South Wales Mineralogical Society that he personally collected in "Glendon" where glendonites get their name. Eventually, her quest to understand glendonites took her to Sweden, where she exchanged Power Points and letters with arguably the world's foremost geologist and climate scientist specializing in research of ikaite and glendonites---Dr. Madeleine Vickers, who actually photographed the transition of ikaite to calcite.

While Addy L. earned both the Showmanship and Communication badges for her efforts, the lasting rewards of learning so much about the rest of the world, communicating with people from so many different countries and gaining insights into how rocks have so many stories to share, will last a lifetime.



Future Rockhounds of America



Rocks and Minerals

Clallam County Gem and Mineral Association

Douglas A.
Maverick K.
Archer K.
Lou K.
Conrad K.
Scout K.



Field Trips

Clallam County Gem and Mineral Association

Douglas A.
Maverick K.
Archer K.
Lou K.
Conrad K.
Scout K.



Leadership and Citizenship

Clallam County Gem and Mineral Association

Douglas A.
Maverick K.
Archer K.
Lou K.
Conrad K.
Scout K.
Hellgate Mineral Society
Hudson B.



Earth Processes

Clallam County Gem and Mineral Association

Douglas A.
Maverick K.
Archer K.
Lou K.
Conrad K.
Scout K.



Showmanship

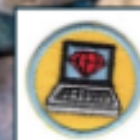
Hellgate Mineral Society

Micky C.
Evelyn C.



Gold Panning and Prospecting

Hellgate Mineral Society
★ Elisheba F.



Rocking on the Computer

Hellgate Mineral Society
Hudson B.



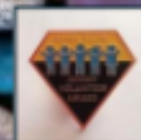
Collecting

Hellgate Mineral Society
Hudson B.



Maps

Hellgate Mineral Society
Hudson B.



Junior Volunteer Award

Hellgate Mineral Society
Hudson B.

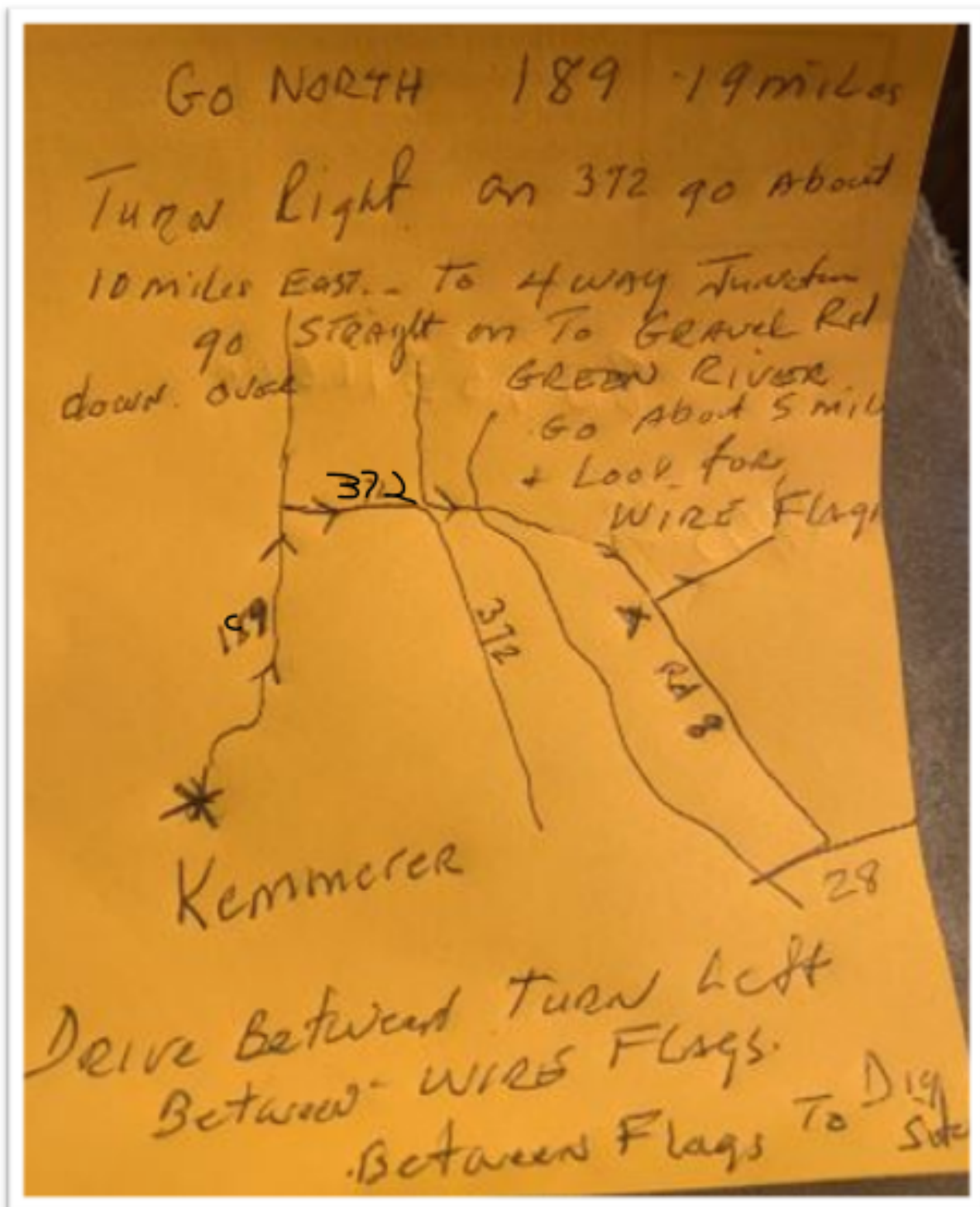
Don't forget...the AFMS by kids and for kids newsletter *Crack the News* needs submissions all the time! Draw or photograph a special specimen. Make a poem about your favorite fossil or crystal. Write an article about a geological fact that you really like. Make a field trip guide to your favorite place to rockhound. The possibilities are endless. Just have your parents go to the AFMS website and fill out the necessary admission form, then upload your entry. It is as simple as that!

Blue Forest Trip Directions

May 20-24 Out-of Farson, Wyoming

Directions from Farson. Once the collectors cross the Green River (single lane bridge) Go about 5 miles east on Road 8. Watch for a gravel road to the left (yellow standpipes at the north corner). At this point Doug puts out wire flags marking the way in. Collectors just need to stay between the flags.

In Doug's words, : We dry camp on site, have campfires, etc. Motels in Kemmerer are about 40 miles from dig site. There is a camp on the Green River, but there are too many mosquitoes, no snakes. Bring shovels, picks, rock picks, gloves. I have probes. Bring plenty of liquids, come and have fun! (Doug's phone number: 406-670-0506)



Minutes of Annual Meeting of Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies
Hilton Garden Inn, Missoula, Montana
March 20, 2026

President, Michael Rhodes called the meeting to order at 2:00 pm. He then led the pledge of Allegiance. Michael then introduced his fellow officers: 1st Vice President, Jennifer Haley; 2nd Vice President, June Dorning; Secretary, Judi Allison; and Treasurer, Adam Pettitt.

Past Presidents of NFMS were acknowledged: Darrell Coyle, Larry Hulstrom, Ronna Watkins (currently AFMS President), Bill Smith (also past AFMS President), Doug True and Judi Allison.

Additionally, members present representing their respective clubs were Josh and Larry Hulstrom, Lakeside; Evan Day and Nick Bellucci, Golden Spike; Steve Stiff; Hellgate; Janet and Bill Smith, Chugach; Vince Rozzi and Ken Zahn, Bozeman; Bob Graham (with friend Amarah Milan), Willamette (WAMS); Vicki and Emmett Johnson, Southern Washington; Jim Brain, Club at Large; Anna McKinney, Marysville; Ronna Watkins representing Yakima; Maria Holt and Michael Rose, Northern Idaho; Jerry and Mary Lou Northrup, Hells Canyon, Doug True, Billings; Ed Moser, Owyhee; Debbie Mitchell, Idaho Gem; Sean Price, Central Montana; Laurie Ellis, Hatrockhounds; Jon Elmgren, Everett; Don Dixon, Owyhee; Dave Clements, Springfield Thunderegg; Jim Hudspath, Bitterroot; Susie Koppert, Mt Hood, Clara and Del Walker, Prineville PowWow and Jennifer Fitch, Hellgate. Attending online were Dave Clausen, West Seattle and Brian Pollack, Clackamette.

After Pastor Evan Day offered an invocation, President, Michael called for a moment of silence to honor those who have passed in the last year.

Credentials Chairs, Clara and Del gave the count of 16 clubs represented by 25 delegates. Clara made a motion that the five with no credentials be voted in. Larry Hulstrom seconded. With the motion passing, the total number of clubs represented was 21 with 30 delegates.

President Michael stated the committee reports were in the packet. It was announced that our new Treasurer, Adam Pettitt now has an account with the ability to conduct business.

Jennifer Haley presented the proposed budget for 2027 noting that some line items were increased significantly due to costs and the nature of the committees. Juniors was detailed as an example. After the correction of a line item and a request from Jennifer, Anna McKinney moved that the budget be accepted as amended with the ability to move money within the budget as needed. Doug True seconded. With a show of paddles, the budget was accepted.

Credentials Chair, Clara, reiterated the need to inform credentials about your attendance. "Please let credentials know via email who is coming. PLEASE! It would be appreciated."

Jim Brain pointed out that he had a supplement to the Endowment Fund Survey that was not in the original report.

Doug True told of the two Federation Field trips he has set up. One is to Southwest Wyoming over Memorial Day weekend. The second one is to TeePee Canyon, South Dakota to look for agates. It will be later in June. (A map and information for the Blue Forest trip to Wyoming has been sent to the clubs via email.) Additional information will be forthcoming about the South Dakota trip.

Jennifer Fitch asked that folks each take a packet for their Junior leader. She spoke about the fact that it was decided to double the awards for the Junior Achievements, as the previous dollar amount has become archaic. The Junior program continues to thrive and grow. She displayed the new NFMS Juniors patch that the Juniors had a hand in designing.

Josh Hulstrom pointed out that the Rules and Awards commitment is supposed to be for three years: year 1, Registrar, year 2, Judging Director and year 3 Chairperson. He is on his fifth year with Larry stepping in to help him. WE NEED VOLUNTEERS. Please consider taking on the role. (If you read the minutes well, you will find that you can now get mileage for taking part in this vital aspect of competition.)

As Chairperson of the Past Presidents Committee, Larry Hulstrom offered to have the Lakeside Club host the 2027 Annual Show. Doug True moved to approve the offer "before he changes his mind". Anna McKinney seconded the proposal. All voted in favor except Larry, who jokingly voted against it.

Susie Koppert spoke about RAC covering this side of the Rockies. She continues to urge folks to write to their representatives. Letters are counted by volume. The more letters the better. Doug added for people to get with their local BLM and work together with them. They are a skeleton crew.

Laurie Ellis said she has noticed a few more entering their folks for Rockhound of the Year honor. Judi spent some time explaining that it is an honor, not a contest. Anyone can enter a member of their club (one adult or a couple and one Junior) each year. Send a write up and photo, if you can, to Laurie. You will receive a certificate to present to your honoree(s) and the information will be shared with the NFMS and AFMS newsletters.

Mary Lou Northrup thanked the Mt Hood club for their \$25 donation to the scholarship fund which helps fund two \$4000 scholarships for graduate students in the field of science in the Northwest.

Ronna Watkins stated she is “retiring” from the Slide and Video Library position, and that a new person is needed. There are around 100 presentations.

Adam will take the collection of stamps donated to the “stamp guys”, Ed and Aaron.

Jennifer H reported for ALAA that at Wiley Wells Geode Bed the Blue Ribbon organization began a lawsuit against the planning changes that may affect collecting in Willey Wells and surrounding areas. Collection is currently still allowed, so now is the time to do so, as there is a question about its future.

Old Business:

Jim Brain stated that he has served for eleven years as the Financial Advisor for the Endowment Fund Committee and during that entire time he has tried to involve the membership in decisions about how to spend the money. That is why the Google Survey was created. He thanked Anna McKinney for her part in its creation. The results were achieved by participation of about 6% of the membership.

Following is a list of preferences.

1. More Field Trips
2. Rock Talk Package (canned programs)
3. Undergraduate scholarships
4. Blanket Liability (It may be too costly-possibly up to \$50,000 per year.)
5. Camp Hancock

He spoke a bit about the slides and videos being a low priority. Ronna stated that the value is historical. Doug suggested the possibility of some way to put them on the web of all to access.

Jim continued that the survey also included a section asking for volunteers to help with particular projects. He said of those leaving their names, when contacted, only one in four responded. Vicki is spearheading the “Fieldtrip Project” and got a 50% response from her volunteers.

For the Rock talk response, Anna offered to show individuals how to “hack” AI and create a “how on the computer for their show.

Another request from some respondents was for more things to do at the annual show. One has to factor in programs and costs. A split could be considered. (Perhaps a “local expert” could do a hands-on activity with a small charge for the materials. I created a “wire crochet bracelet at a show once.”-Judi’s Comment)

In the end, the Endowment Board is recommending funding three projects.

Field Trips-Allocation of \$4000

Ideas and discussions are being generated by a committee

Scholarships (Undergrad)-Allocation of \$3000

Possibly 3-\$1000, 2-\$1500 or 1-\$3000

Camp Hancock-Allocation of \$4000

Money will be paid directly to camp treasury to help offset attendees cost

The final mode of distribution will be at the discretion of the Board.

Additional discussion about the survey and points of interest continued. Anna suggested that there is a “Foundation Group” (Lawyers who represent non-profits) that might be able to advise about liability insurance. Doug offered that the biggest problem with fieldtrips is that every club has its own “batch” of trips and they don’t want others in “their land”. We need teamwork.

Michael suggested the possibility of being able to go once without being a member: bring a buddy. Anna mentioned that Workplace for nonprofits is a shared drive that all clubs could access. Vicki said their club hasn't had field trips for ten years because of lack of access to land that has been bought up. The committee is looking at private mines and at "big places". Evan pointed out that the mechanism for access to schools for scholarships is in place there are 102 schools within the boundary of the NFMS to offer Geology classes. Bill Smith stated the Board needs to work on that. Jon Elmgren stated if you want to go on a field trip, join the club. Some felt joining multiple clubs could be expensive. Jerry felt maybe a person could go on one without joining.

Before the break, Judi offered tickets for the AFMS Endowment Fund. Tickets were drawn for the three rocks that were offered as door prizes. Members were asked to gather a Directory for their club or as a Chairperson. Additional Directories were available for \$5.00 each.

After a short break we returned to New Business.

Larry Hulstrom, speaking for Rules and Awards Committee requested the elimination of the Lucelle Lindner award as it has not been given out, there is no criteria for distribution, and the initial funds have long been depleted. Item E of Rules and Awards, Special Sweepstakes, Adult and Junior (Clarify, it can be two) Originally offered by Horse Heaven Hills Club (defunct)

Two Traveling Society Awards-Large Clubs (100+) and Small Clubs (-100) exist. They are being identified in the operating procedures for the qualifications.

Larry moved to eliminate the Lucille Lindner award and reinstate the traveling society awards. No second needed. The motion passed.

Larry followed with a second item relative to compensation within the Rules and Awards Committee. Under General Duties, an allowance for all members of the Rules and Awards Committee to be compensated became the topic for discussion. A suggestion was made to allow verbiage for some compensation to those who come to judge and actually do judge. Judges could opt out if they wished. Larry made a motion to include compensation for all members of the committee and for judges. Susie asked for clarification about mileage. At state rate? Yes. Vicki asked how much of the budget would it take for this? Jim offered a hypothetical case. There were thirteen entries this year. An average could be 8-10 depending on location. Anna posed that judges have a unique skill set. If we are asking about a professor, there would not need to be a discussion, we would just pay. Mike Rose asked if the budget could handle this. Jennifer stated that aspect needs further discussion. It is not in the budget. Let's work on more people to exhibit. Put reimbursing judges on hold. Anna suggested encouraging people who are close to the show. Evan Moved to divide the motion into two.

1. Compensate members of the committee at the current state rate for mileage.
2. Consider mileage compensation for judges.

Nick Bellucci seconded the motion, and individual votes were taken on each point. Number one passed with 14 in favor, 7 against and 9 abstaining. The second section failed with only 5 votes in favor.

After the failure of the second part, there was a question about the current wording under judges' compensation. Evan moved to simply delete the word "appropriate" from the verbiage.

Unanimously passed.

Our thanks to the Hellgate Club and the show chairman, Neil Meyers for hosting us with a great show and lots of hospitality.

Lora Hall introduced the slate of nominees for the year 2027:

Jennifer Haley-President

June Dorning-1st Vice President

Steve Stiff-2nd Vice President

Judi Allison-Secretary

Adam Pettitt-Treasurer

She then called for nominations from the floor. With there being none, the slate was accepted by acclamation.

In place of a spring meeting, there will be an Organizational Meeting on Saturday October 3, 2026 in the Wingspan building at the Portland Regional Show. Mark your calendars.

Lakeside Club will host the 2027 show on the third weekend in April.

WAMS (Willamette Agate and Mineral Society) have plans to host in the spring of 2028 Thanks to both clubs for stepping up. Now is not too soon to put in a bid for 2029 and 2030!

Meeting Adjourned at 4:20 pm

Judi Allison, NFMS Secretary

NFMS CLUB SHOWS 2026

Date / Hours	Club / Show	Venue / Address	Contact / Website
May 9th and 10th Sat 10 - 6 Sun 10 - 4	Bozeman Gem and Mineral Club	Gallatin County Fairgrounds 901 North Black Bldg. 1 & 2 Bozeman, MT 59715	Linda Johnson bgmcmnt(at)gmail.com bozemandgemandmineralclub.com
May 9th & 10th Sat 10 - 6 Sun 10 - 4	Hatrockhound Gem and Mineral Show	Eastern Oregon Trade and Event Center 1705 East Airport Rd. Hermiston, OR 97838	Mike Filarski stonemorlin1(at)netscape.net (541) 571-2593
May 16th & 17th Sat 9 - 5 Sun 10 - 4	Butte Mineral and Gem Club	Butte Civic Center Main Arena 1340 Harrison Ave. Butte, MT 59701	Jerry D'Arcy jkdudding(at)gmail.com (406) 491-2054
May 23rd & 24th Sat 9 - 6 Sun 10 - 4	Clackamette Mineral and Gem Corp.	Clackamas County Fairgrounds and Events Center 694 NE 4th Ave. Canby, OR 97013	Juanita Whitaker cmgcshowchair2026(at)gmail.com clackamettegem.org
June 17th - 21st Thurs 9 - 5 Fri 9 - 5 Sat 9 - 5 Sun 9 - 3	Prineville Rockhound Pow Wow	Crook County Fairgrounds 120 S. Main Street Prineville, OR	Jim McCoy 530-999-8045 www.prineville.rocks

NFMS CLUB SHOWS 2026

Date / Hours	Club / Show	Venue / Address	Contact / Website
June 19th - 21st Fri 10 - 5 Sat 10 - 5 Sun 10 - 4	Lower Umpqua Gem and Lapidary Society	Reedsport Community Center 451 Winchester Avenue Reedsport, OR 97467	Bambi Darling (541) 420-8014 reedsportrockshow@gmail.com
July 24th - 26th Fri 9 - 6 Sat 9 - 6 Sun 9 - 5	Washington Agate and Mineral Society	Tenino City Park 300 Park Ave. W. Tenino, WA 98589	Doug Shank wamsolympia(at)gmail.com
Sept 19th & 20th Sat 10 - 5 Sun 10 - 4	Southern Washington Mineralogical Society	Longview Fairgrounds Cowlitz County Event Center 1900 3rd Ave. Longview, WA 98632	Greg Larson swimineralogicalsociety1@gmail.com Chet Chafton 360-600-9830

NFMS CLUB SHOWS 2026



Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies (NFMS) Show

April 17th -18th , 2027

Kennewick, Washington

Contact Person: Larry Hulstrom

rockhound132(at)charter.net

NFMS EXECUTIVE BOARD OFFICERS

2025-2026

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TREASURER: Adam Pettitt, Willamette Agate and Mineral Society, 2035 Center St. SE, Albany. OR 97322, 971-226-6193, [nfmstreasurer\(at\)gmail.com](mailto:nfmstreasurer(at)gmail.com)

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BUDGET: 1st Vice President (see above)

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

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*** Clubs need only to send contact info for their board members. Contact clubs directly to reach out to specific members.**

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206) 932-3292, [avogelpohl\(at\)comcast.net](mailto:avogelpohl(at)comcast.net)

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

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

SLIDE/ VIDEO LIBRARIAN: OPEN

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

Ed Anderson, Sweet Home Rock & Mineral Society, 40182 Hilltop Dr, Lebanon, OR, 97355 , (541) 451-1577, [ela4rocks\(at\)gmail.com](mailto:ela4rocks(at)gmail.com)

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WEBMASTER: Brad Larson, Owyhee Gem and Mineral Society, 6010 W. Cruzen St., Boise, ID 83704 (208) 465-1920, [nfms.webmaster\(at\)gmail.com](mailto:nfms.webmaster(at)gmail.com)

NFMS SPECIAL COMMITTEES

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

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

SHOW CHAIRMAN 2027:

Larry Hulstrom, Lakeside Gem and Mineral Club, 5409 W 26th Ave. Kennewick, WA 99338, (509) 308-8312, [rockhound132\(at\)charter.net](mailto:rockhound132(at)charter.net)

WEBSITE CONTEST: OPEN

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AFMS 1st VP - Ronna Watkins

AFMS Junior Program Chair - Lora Hall

ENDOWMENT FUND - Judi Allison

PROGRAM COMPETITION - DeLane Cox

SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION - Mary Lou Northrup

THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW

The **AMERICAN LANDS ACCESS ASSOCIATION (ALAA)** is a 501(c)(4) organization. Its purpose is to promote and ensure the right of amateur hobby fossil and mineral collecting, recreational prospecting and mining, and the use of public and private lands for educational and recreational purposes; and to carry the voice of all amateur collectors and hobbyists to our elected officials, government regulators and public lands managers. Your annual individual/couple membership fee is \$25 which helps support their activities. Club membership is \$50 per year. Send to Treasurer, P.O. Box 54398, San Jose, CA 95154. Make checks payable to: American Lands Access Assn. Applications can be downloaded at: www.amlands.org on the left side of the page. For more information contact: Frank Mullaney, 408-266-1791, cell: 408-691-2655, [Rockyfiv\(at\)aol.com](mailto:Rockyfiv(at)aol.com)

The **AFMS NEWSLETTER** is published monthly except Jan-Jul-Aug by the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies.

Each NFMS member society should have three people (usually the Pres, Secretary and Editor) receiving the AFMS Newsletter. If they are not, or if anyone else wants to subscribe (\$5 per year). Contact: Linda Jaeger, 3515 E 88th St, Tulsa, OK 74137, [AFMSeditor\(at\)AMFED.org](mailto:AFMSeditor(at)AMFED.org) (918) 630-6498 or (918) 481-0249. Make checks payable to "AFMS".

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

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

SHOW COORDINATION. Your Federation provides a free service for NFMS members by listing your show in this Newsletter, on the NFMS website, two magazines ("Rocks and Minerals" and "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 Chair

SAVE STAMPS PROGRAM. NFMS members are encouraged to use and save commemorative stamps. The money generated from the sale of these used (cancelled) stamps is then donated to Junior Fund.

The collected stamps can be sent to the Stamps Chairperson, brought to the NFMS Annual Show, or given to your Federation Director in your club.

ATTENTION CLUB TREASURERS

Where to send your money

To NFMS Treasurer for:

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

Send to: see Treasurer on above page.

To NFMS Endowment Fund Treasurer for:

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

To NFMS Scholarship Chairperson for:

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

To AFMS Endowment Fund for:

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

To ALAA Treasurer for:

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

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