NFMS Annual Meeting

I would like to thank the Bitterroot Gem and Mineral Society for hosting the NFMS Annual Meeting/Show on May 19, 20 and 21 in Hamilton, Montana. The Bitterroot Society did an excellent job planning and executing the meetings, awards banquet, speakers and show which resulted in a great time being had by all that attended. Steve Vieth (Show Chair) and Faith Farley (Hospitality Chair) and all the members of the Bitterroot Gem and Mineral Society thank you for your hard work.

Keith Fackrell, (Timpanogos Gem and Mineral Society) was elected NFMS President for the 2017-2018 year and will take office on September 1, 2017. Keith’s officers are; Ronna Watkins (Yakima Rock and Mineral Club) 1st Vice President and Kenneth Zahn (Bozeman Gem and Mineral Club) 2nd Vice President, Lyle Vogelpohl (West Seattle Rock Club), Treasure and Judi Allison (Hatrockhounds Gem and Mineral Society) Secretary.

Key Take Aways from the Annual Meeting:

1) There are 3 committee chairs positions that we need to fill, Endowment Fund, Juniors and Public Lands Advisory. Please contact me or Keith Fackrell if you are interested in helping the NFMS by filling one of these positions.

2) We need a society to host the NFMS Annual meeting in 2019. Please ask your society to consider hosting the show.

3) There were fewer competitive show cases this year than in the past. I would encourage you or your society to plan a show case for next year in Yakima. It is an opportunity for you, your juniors and/or your society to show case their work. The process of preparing and showing will improve your skills and make you a better lapidary artist. The rules for competitive show cases are found on the AFMS website.

The NFMS directors approved for the 2017-2018 year are refunding 1 dollar/per member of the dues sent in by the Northwest gem and mineral societies. Any short fall in the NFMS revenues will be made up by using interest income from the Endowment Fund.

AFMS Annual Meeting

I attended the AFMS meeting in Ventura California on June 8-11, 2017 hosted by the Ventura Gem and Mineral Society. Sandy Fuller (Mid-West Federation) will take over as AFMS President in November 2017 and Doug True (NFMS/Billings Gem and Mineral Club) will become the AFMS President Elect. 78 competitive show cases were entered. This is the largest number of competitive showcases entered for an AFMS competition. It was fun to look at the variety and type of lapidary work presented and to read the judges comments. The show was held at the Ventura County Fairground with the ocean literal a block from the exhibits. For a boy from the desert it was great fun to walk on the beach and watch the waves roll in. Diane Cook and her team provide a wonderful time at the show.
For matters related to the Newsletter (i.e., content, advertising, etc.) contact the Newsletter Editor. For matters relating to the Federation (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, and in the Northwest Newsletter. On your next show, please make sure you title it “Lapidary Journal”. Please provide the date and time for your show when you send your show title (if applicable), the location of the show, admission price, and most important a contact person with address, e-mail, web page (if applicable). 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 (cancelled) stamps is then donated to Cancer Research.

ATTENTION TREASURERS TO WHOM IT MIGHT CONCERN

To NFMS Treasurer for:
1. Donations to Endowment Fund
2. Memorial contributions
Make check payable to NFMS Endowment Fund Treasurer. To NFMS Treasurer:
1. Donations to Endowment Fund
2. Memorial contributions
Make check payable to NFMS Endowment Fund Treasurer. To NFMS Scholarship Chair:
1. Donations to NFMS Scholarship Fund
Make check payable to NFMS Scholarship Fund Chairperson. To NFMS Newsletter Editor:
1. Shows
2. Memorial contributions
Make check payable to NFMS Endowment Fund Treasurer. To NFMS Newsletter Editor:
1. Shows
2. Memorial contributions
Make check payable to NFMS Endowment Fund Treasurer. To NFMS Scholarship Chair:
1. Donations to NFMS Scholarship Fund
Make check payable to NFMS Scholarship Fund Chairperson.

NFMS NEWSLETTER AND WEBSITE ADVERTISEMENT

Ad Rates for the Newsletter are $1.50 per square inch. Example: 3” x 4” ad = $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 background will look gray in the ad. The Editor will send a billing statement to the customer which will include instructions to make payment to the NFMS Treasurer. For more information or questions, call, e-mail or write the Newsletter Editor

See the NFMS on Facebook https://www.facebook.com/groups/NFMS1 (for the desktop/laptop/tablet) https://m.facebook.com/groups/NFMS1 (for mobile devices like phones)
It is definitely spring and all my friends have gone to the Pow Wow in Prineville, OR. The months are flying by. It seems like the NFMS Convention and Show went zooming by.

It was a great show in Hamilton this year hosted by the Bitterroot Gem and Mineral Society. It was wonderful to see everyone and to make some new friends, too. Thank you and congratulations Bitterroot on a great show!

One of the best parts of a rock show are the displays. I really enjoy the beautiful items and I like, also, to discover things I have never seen or known before. That's what makes the displays so very important. Discovering beautiful things and wanting to know more about them is just human nature. Did you know there are people that have never been to a rock and gem show? Won't you find someone to invite that has never been to a show before? Once you show them around and share with them some of the fascinating things about our hobby, you will have done a great thing for them. Their lives may never be the same.

So, back to the displays: The displays at the show were very interesting and well executed. The competition cases were excellent. I was disappointed that there were not more participants in competition. It would have been nice to see some Junior Rockhound displays, also. Our children's leaders could start now to help prepare their Juniors for next year's competition. Have fun with it.

Another favorite thing I enjoy about the NFMS Annual Convention is the Editors Breakfast. It is always fun and good to recognize those that put together our club bulletins and those that write for them. Awards are, also, given for the Best Web Sites at the Editors Breakfast. Congratulations to all of this year's winners.

We had the most exciting trip to the beautiful Bitterroots and on our way home we had a detour to Clarkia, ID for some fossils. It was really fun sitting in the mud splitting rocks for leaf fossils. It's on my list of favorite things to do.

Have a fun and safe rockhounding season.

Rockhound Retreat Update

At this point in time, the Retreat has room for 6 more People. The Carving Class and the Faceting Class are full. If anyone is interested they had better get in touch soon.

If you need additional info, please call Lamar Tilgner at 503-666-2905 or Email at lstilgner1@frontier.com for more information and for a registration form.
NFMS HISTORIAN NOTES
By Linda Barlow

By definition, history is in the past so now I look back upon the 2017 NFMS Annual Meeting presented by Bitterroot Mineral & Gem Society. WOW! What a great Annual Meeting!

The display cases were informative and exciting to see. Did you see the winning display case that goes to the AMFS Meeting for competition nationally? Great display and great ideas for displaying necklaces. The Montana Agates display case was very informative. The past presidents case was unique. I especially loved the house, my favorite! It was my first year displaying at NFMS and look forward to developing another display for next year. I learned so much from having Evan Day, a judge, discuss the category of how I could have entered for competition and that less is better! The other judges were great in assisting others in understanding how to make a better displays.

The speakers were outstanding and down to earth with their presentations so anyone could understand and go rockhounding in the areas discussed! I unfortunately was not able to make it to all of the speakers as meetings conflicted for me.

I enjoyed the meetings and understanding the inner workings of our NFMS. I attended the Endowment Fund meeting and learned about investing our funds in the past and now and in the future (I correlated this with the knowledge I get from my own broker to comprehend more clearly about investing). I also attended the Sunday morning Bulletin Editors Breakfast and S.C.R.I.B.E. meeting, respectively, where awards were passed out and then we discussed how to make it easier for all of us to enter our Bulletins and articles into competition as the online directions are difficult. Also the benefits of belonging to the association for editors (S.C.R.I.B.E). Thanks to Beth Heesacker for stepping up and volunteering to help those of us who are new to understanding the ins and outs of the AFMS rules under which NFMS operates. I also attended the Junior Advisor’s Meeting to bring home ideas for my club and be aware of what other clubs are doing to infuse the excitement of rockhounding in their youth.

The 3 hour Annual Meeting was so interesting to hear from all the chairpersons and listen to their reports of what the NFMS had been doing. My addition was: I now have the Historian Files and can work from home developing a digital file. I requested that the other clubs send me any memorabilia from 2016 annual meeting to add to our files. Also, I want to update our museum list this year; therefore, I am requesting all the NFMS clubs to send me a list of any museums in their boundaries that are applicable to Rockhounding.

The fun part of the Bitterroot Mineral & Gem Society Show was the 2 dinosaur displays and watching the children and adults hunt for garnets! There was a flint napping display continually which reminded me of scuba diving in Florida many years ago and finding arrowheads that the Native Americans had napped!

The best part for me was (1) the continuous checking the silent auction for treasurers, (2) learning about the rocks from the long time members, and (3) acquiring rocks from around the area. The acquisition of knowledge part of the whole weekend once again put me in touch with the earth and her treasurers. I now have a way of identifying my rocks after taking them home and this is great better than my memory!

I enjoyed seeing members from around the northwest and new country for me, Hamilton, Montana. THANKS TO BITTERROOT FOR A WONDERFUL MEETING AND SHOW.

Summer Solstice
June 20th

Please submit all membership and address changes to Tom Burchard, Circulation Chair, and to Carol Willey, Directory Chair.

Their contact information can be found on the second page of this newsletter.

You MUST submit all show information (including admission charge) to Pat Lambert, Show Coordinator. FUTURE SUBMISSIONS MADE DIRECTLY TO THIS EDITOR WILL BE IGNORED!

Pat’s information can be found on the second page of this newsletter.

THANK YOU.
From the Editor’s Rockpile
By Beth Heesacker

As the other reports in this newsletter reported we also had a wonderful time in Hamilton, Montana at the NFMS show. It was great to meet and great all our old and new friends. Great job, Bitterroot!!!

We also traveled to the Bozeman show the weekend before Hamilton and found another fine show. I was even able to pick up a few more minerals for my collection.

The weather was very interesting while we were in Montana, snow flurries to white-out blizzard. Heavy snow covered the trees as we crossed the Continental Divide.

After Hamilton we headed south to the Northern California Mineralological Association (NCMA) Show in El Dorado California. It was the second time we have attended this symposium and it was good to again see many like-minded mineral collectors and to enjoy elbow-rubbing with people who have minerals named after them. What a change in weather though! The temperature was in the high 80’s and up into the 90’s. It is hard for this old body to adapt so rapidly but we enjoyed the sunshine.

The NCMA again had a wonderful array of give-away minerals brought by the attendees and also $1 mounted specimens for sale by the group. Those, and the silent and oral auctions, help them to pay for their activities. We spent most of our time looking through microscopes at micro-minerals and the beauty of these very tiny crystals. The presentations on mines, new minerals and photography of minerals were excellent also.

We had hoped to go to Ventura, California for the AFMS show but our son and grandson who live in Italy were coming for a visit and we needed to come home to spend time with them.

Having been to the Yakima show and seen the excellent work that the Yakima club does I am looking forward to next year’s NFMS show. See you in Yakima!!
Living Beyond Breast Cancer
Audrey Vogelpohl, Federation Director
West Seattle Rock Club, Inc.

NFMS’s Operating Procedures on Stamps begins by stating that the chairman is to “arrange for the collection of such postage stamps as may be of value in contributing to cancer research, or other charitable use”. For years the NFMS has donated the money from the sale of stamps to various cancer research facilities. I presented the following idea to Chuck Sonner to which he agreed, but wanted a consensus from the annual meeting of delegates.

At the NFMS Annual Meeting in Hamilton, Montana, there was discussion and 100% consensus on supporting a group of volunteer knitters forming in the Seattle area. Volunteer knitters (and those who crochet) provide free comfortable prosthetics as an alternative to commercial breast prosthetics for breast cancer survivors. And we have a group of volunteer knitters in my local Seattle area who would like to become involved in helping to make a difference in thousands of women’s lives, survivors of breast cancer.

I am told that prosthetics used after mastectomies are usually expensive, heavy, sweaty and uncomfortable, besides having to wait months for the area of surgery to heal. They typically require special bras or camisoles with pockets.

Special handmade breast prosthetics ... knitted knockers ... can be worn much sooner. They are soft, comfortable and when placed in a regular bra they take the shape and feel of a real breast. Volunteer knitters are offering them as a free gift to cancer survivors. Anyone that asks, gets them free ... all sizes and all colors. Some groups work with medical clinics and doctors to provide the free knitted knockers. Supporting with patterns and resources, all of these individual groups (over 200) in all 50 states and many countries, is Knitted Knockers Support Foundation, aka knittedknockers.org .

The yarn used for knitted knockers is very important as they are to be worn against scarred, sensitive skin. They are handcrafted, made of soft, non-wool, washable yarn and filled with PolyFiberFil. And this is where our monetary donation is needed. A skein of yarn makes an average of 3 knockers (1-1/2 sets). The cost of a skein of this soft yarn runs from $8.00 to $13.00.

So to help the Seattle volunteer knitters help the survivors live beyond breast cancer, consensus of the delegates was to direct profit from our stamp donations to be used to purchase soft yarn, which would make a big difference in meeting the demand for these soft, comfortable, knitted prosthetics.

As a further note, Paul Heesacker is a quilter and offered to donate extra polyester fiberfill to this Seattle group of volunteers. Thanks everyone!

2017
NFMS Bulletin Contest
Winners

Large Bulletins
1st Place
Beth Heesacker
For “The Clackamette Gem” April Issue

Small Bulletins
1st Place
Gina Acosta
For “Rock-A-TEER” April Issue

Original Adult Article
1st Place
Gary H. Burgess
For “Fossil Hunting in Glendive MT”
2nd Place
Hidemi Kira
For “Thunder-Egg Stravaganza at Rice Northwest Museum of Rocks and Minerals”
3rd Place
Larry Arendt
For “I Remember When”

Adult Feature - Written
1st Place
Brett Lawrence
For “You Know You are Having an Interesting Club Show Experience” December 2016

Adult Feature ~ Drawn
1st Place
Duane Flackus
For “Hard Luck Harry…” October 2016

Special Publications
1st Place
Glen R. Ripper
For “Puyallup Valley Gem & Mineral Club’s Handout/Informational Sheet”

Honorable Mention – Original Adult Article:
“Sunflower Flat” by Michael Brown
“Crystal Healing/Gem Therapy…” by Marjorie Bush
“Rice Museum’s Kids Rock Pile” by David Hanna
“Oregon Council Report” by Sean Hietpas
Of course, lots of Montana agate

Some dinosaurs

Wonderful displays

NFMS meeting

Swearing in of the officers for 2018
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>July 15 &amp; 16</strong></td>
<td>Darrington Rock and Gem Club</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat – 10 – 5</td>
<td>Mansford Grange, 1265 Railroad Avenue, Darrington, WA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun – 10 – 5</td>
<td>Ed Lehman, <a href="mailto:wmscedj@hotmail.com">wmscedj@hotmail.com</a>, 425 334 6282, (cell 425 760 2786) or Angela Moore, <a href="mailto:angela51726@gmail.com">angela51726@gmail.com</a>, 360 436 2107</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>July 21, 22, &amp; 23</strong></td>
<td>Washington Agate and Mineral Society of Olympia and Tenino Rock Cruisers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri – 9 – 6</td>
<td>Parkside Elementary School, 301 Central Avenue E, Tenino WA 98589</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat – 9 – 6</td>
<td>Daniel De Boer, <a href="mailto:keylock1@live.com">keylock1@live.com</a>, 5107 Brenner Road NW, Olympia WA 98502, <a href="https://wamsolympia.wordpress.com">https://wamsolympia.wordpress.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun – 10 – 5</td>
<td>Don Innes, 541 396 5722, <a href="mailto:doninnes.innes20@gmail.com">doninnes.innes20@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>August 4, 5, &amp; 6</strong></td>
<td>Far West Lapidary &amp; Gem Society</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri – Sat – 10 – 5</td>
<td>North Bend Community Center, 2222 Broadway, North Bend OR</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sun – 10 – 4</td>
<td>Don Innes, 541 396 5722, <a href="mailto:doninnes.innes20@gmail.com">doninnes.innes20@gmail.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>August 12 &amp; 13, 2018</strong></td>
<td>Maplewood Rock and Gem Club</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat – 9 – 5</td>
<td>Maplewood Rock and Gem Club house, 8802 190th ST SW, Edmonds WA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun – 10 – 5</td>
<td>Mary Ann Collins, 206 714, <a href="mailto:collma1@comcast.net">collma1@comcast.net</a></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>September 9 &amp; 10, 2018</strong></td>
<td>Clallam County Gem and Mineral Association</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat – 9 – 5</td>
<td>Vern Burton Community Center, 308 East 4th Street, Port Angeles WA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun – 10 – 5</td>
<td>Kathy Schreiner, 360 681 3811, Kathy Bachman, 360 681 3994, PO Box 98, Sequim, WA, 98382</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>September 9 &amp; 10, 2018</strong></td>
<td>Marcus Whitman Gem and Mineral Society</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat – 10 – 5</td>
<td>Walla Walla County Frernds, Community Center Building, 363 Orchard St., Walla Walla WA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun – 10 – 5</td>
<td>Keith Bacus, 509 520 1248, <a href="mailto:keithbacus@yahoo.com">keithbacus@yahoo.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>September 16 &amp; 17, 2018</strong></td>
<td>SouthernWashington Mineralogical Society</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat – 10 – 5</td>
<td>Castle Rock Fairgrounds, 120 Fair Lane, Castle Rock WA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sun – 10 – 4</td>
<td>Vicki Johnson, 360-751-8031, <a href="mailto:vickijrocks@msn.com">vickijrocks@msn.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>October 7 &amp; 8, 2018</strong></td>
<td>Marysville Rock and Gem Club</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat – 10 – 5</td>
<td>Totem Middle School Gym, 7th Street and State Avenue, Marysville WA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun – 10 – 4</td>
<td>Bill Moser, <a href="mailto:bill-ju@comcast.net">bill-ju@comcast.net</a></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>October 13, 14, &amp; 15, 2018</strong></td>
<td>Portland Regional Gem &amp; Mineral Show Association</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri – 10 – 6</td>
<td>Washington County Fair Complex, 873 NE 34th Avenue, Hillsboro OR 97124</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat – 10 – 6</td>
<td>Linda Harvey, <a href="mailto:lindaharvey2010@gmail.com">lindaharvey2010@gmail.com</a>, Portland Regional Gem and Mineral Show Association, PO Box 5401, Portland OR 97228</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sun – 10 – 5</td>
<td><strong>October 21 &amp; 22, 2018</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat – 9 – 6</td>
<td>Hells Canyon Gem Club</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sun – 10 – 4</td>
<td>Nez Perce County Fair Building, 1229 Burrell Avenue, Lewiston ID</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>October 28 – 29, 2018</strong></td>
<td>Clackamette Mineral and Gem Club</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat – 9 – 6</td>
<td>Clackamas County Fairgrounds, 694 NE 4th Ave, Canby, OR</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sun – 10 – 5</td>
<td>Beth Heesacker, <a href="mailto:heesacker@coho.net">heesacker@coho.net</a>, 4145 NW Heesacker Rd., Forest Grove, OR 97116</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>October 28 &amp; 29, 2018</strong></td>
<td>Bellevue Rock Club</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat – 10 – 6</td>
<td>Vasa Park, 3560 West Lake Sammanian PKWY SE, Bellevue WA 98008</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun – 10 – 5</td>
<td>Bruce Himko, PO Box 1851, Bellevue, WA 98009, <a href="mailto:bellevuerockclub@comcast.net">bellevuerockclub@comcast.net</a></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>November 11 &amp; 12, 2018</strong></td>
<td>Maplewood Rock and Gem Club</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat – 9 – 5</td>
<td>Maplewood Rock and Gem Club house, 8802 196th ST SW, Edmonds WA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sun – 10 – 4</td>
<td>Mary Ann Collins, 206 714, <a href="mailto:collma1@comcast.net">collma1@comcast.net</a></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>November 11 &amp; 12, 2018</strong></td>
<td>Skagit Rock &amp; Gem Club</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat – 9 – 5</td>
<td>Sedro Woolley Comm. Center, 703 Pacific Street, Sedro Woolley, WA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun – 10 – 4</td>
<td>Eric Self, 360 840 8342, <a href="mailto:skagitrockandgem@gmail.com">skagitrockandgem@gmail.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>December 9 &amp; 10, 2018</strong></td>
<td>Maplewood Rock and Gem Club</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat – 9 – 5</td>
<td>Maplewood Rock and Gem Club house, 8802 196th ST SW, Edmonds WA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sun – 10 – 5</td>
<td>Mary Ann Collins, 206 714, <a href="mailto:collma1@comcast.net">collma1@comcast.net</a></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>2018</strong></td>
<td>Rock Rollers Club of Spokane, WA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>March 23-25, 2018</strong></td>
<td>Spokane Fair &amp; Expo Center, N.604 Havana at Broadway, Spokane WA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri – Sat – 10 – 6</td>
<td>Mike Shaw, 509 251, <a href="mailto:showchair@rockrollers.org">showchair@rockrollers.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun – 10 – 4</td>
<td>1574 <a href="mailto:showchair@rockrollers.org">showchair@rockrollers.org</a></td>
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