



NORTHWEST NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 66 NO. 6 JUNE 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.

**If you don't receive a brief reply confirming that I've seen your email, please reach out again. There has been an issue with spam filtering and the arbitrary flagging of incoming emails.

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NFMS President Michael Rhodes

I recently returned from the AFMS/CFMS with the annual meeting held in St Charles, IL in conjunction with the annual Chicagoland Gem and Mineral show. NFMS was well represented, the current AFMS President is Ronna Watkins, an NFMS member and former NFMS President, we had good representation at the Rules Committee meeting, the Annual meeting and the Scholarship meeting. At the banquet we had one full table of NFMS representatives and their spouses.



The AFMS has created a new award for the federation with the largest membership increase over the previous year, NFMS won that award and it is beautiful. The Executive Board is considering putting it in the Past Presidents showcase where it can be viewed by all who attend our annual meeting. This award belongs to all of you who

have shared the love of rock, gem, mineral, and fossil collecting with your friends, bringing them to your club meetings. Part of this increase is due to the number of Juniors who have joined the federation through their local clubs in the past year. I want to add my personal thanks for each member of the NFMS who helped grow our federation in 2025. It would be nice if we continue to grow as a whole new generation gains an appreciation for the beauties found in nature. We are planning an organizational meeting in Portland, OR for October 3. Since most of our annual meetings are now in the spring, this will replace the Mid-year meeting that was historically held in the spring, This meeting will be held at the same venue as the Portland Area Gem and Mineral Show, but it is not sponsored by that organization. This will, however, give you the chance to attend their show. We are working on setting up remote online

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attendance for this meeting. While we encourage your personal attendance, we understand that the cost of travel has increased considerably over the past year and value your club's input through your NFMS Directors and Delegates.

Summer is fast approaching, with the increased opportunity to participate in field trips. Go out, enjoy the association with other "rockhounds" and increase your own collections. As always a reminder to avoid dangerous critters, wear sunscreen, keep hydrated, be safe and most of all ROCK ON!!!

Michael Rhodes
President, NFMS

NFMS 1st VP

Jennifer Haley

I just returned from the AFMS Annual Show & Convention, hosted by the Midwest Federation of Mineralogical and Geological Societies. We had a very good meeting, a quorum and a great in person attendance from every federation in the country, and additional Zoomers. This event was hosted by 5 clubs working together. As AFMS Directors representing the NFMS at the annual AFMS event this year, Michael Rhodes as president and I as 1st VP, we are each allowed to vote on AFMS business on behalf of our NFMS clubs.

The following was voted on, or discussed:

AFM logo ad hoc committee-granted 1 more year, to discuss if a new logo should be created for the AFMS. Currently there are 2 logos being used for different purposes since the beginning of the AFM's foundation. One logo is for the AFMS lapel pin, the other logo with the microscope, crystal, etc., which is used for more formal needs, like the AFMS newsletter, website, awards of trophies, certificate, etc. There has been little input to create a new logo design since last year. The more formal logo with the microscope covers the aspects of AFMS Federations combined as one.

AFMS Newsletter Editor- approval for updated OP's.

AFMS Bylaws Revisory-approval to eliminate International Relations Committee due to lack of interaction on its own, but to combine it into AFMS Public Relations Committee.

AFMS Photography Committee- Recommended each Federation create their own photography committee, to cover the annual AFMS show and conventions when they host the AFMS annual event. Committee to discuss how best to keep historical records of future photos.
Nominations for 2027-2028 Officers- approved.

AFMS Program Contest- granted one year to decide if this committee is valuable to keep as a standing committee, as there has been poor interest over the years for entries. AFMS Media Director reimbursement approved. He's doing a great job.

AFMS Scholarship Fund-scholarship gifts have been in the amount of \$4,000 per student for many years. Possible increase in the amount for year 2027, and forward.

AFMS Bulletin Contest-new categories are being added for juniors and adult entries. Entry due dates will be improved to give more time for judging and manufacturing of the awards.

AFMS Judges Training Revision-I will let Larry and Josh Hulstrom explain the details. Approval making it easier for federations to develop and create new exhibit judges, which is wonderful.

2027 Annual AFMS Show & Convention- to be held at Huntsville, Alabama. Most likely held at the Paleontology and Space Center.

2028 AFMS Annual Show & Convention - to be hosted by the Rocky Mountain Federation in Arizona. Big show, organized by 4 clubs.

The NFMS has been a member of the AFMS for many decades. I want you to know that it is worth the partial travel reimbursement the AFMS and NFMS budgets provide for our annual NFMS president, 1st VP, and Rules & Awards committee, to attend the AFMS' Annual Show & Convention. This has been standard since the AFMS was founded in 1947. Each of the 7 Federations work with their officers and committees all year and are in communications with the AFMS officers and committees. It's a wonderful work in tandem together, on behalf of the NFMS and other Federations clubs as a whole.

It may not seem like many new approvals, as I wrote above, but it involves more than that. There are committee and officer reports from every federation and the AFMS in attendance. This means it is a fantastic learning experience for all involved to come home with, on behalf of our clubs. We learn so much from each other and make plans for our future not only for our home federation, but together as part of the national organizations as the AFMS, which benefits every club in the country. The AFMS Code of Ethics is opening doors when clubs work together with public land management. The "code" since its creation, has beautifully set the tone and public image of AFMS affiliated club members for generations. The AFMS which was founded by Federations is recognized as the highest national standard for our responsibility in the field of collecting, enjoyment of our hobby and in our leadership.

NFMS Secretary

Judi Allison

Hi all Rockhound friends! I hope you are out enjoying the hobby in the field, or at least taking the time to do some creative activities. I have been working on getting over a cold, getting ready to take in my oldest great grandson's high school graduation, a trip to southern Oregon to visit friends, a swing by the Prineville Rockhound Pow Wow and planning a two and a half week trek through Northeastern Canada, so my brain has been a bit preoccupied. I do want to encourage folks to take in such excursions as the Pow Wow, the Madras Show and the Federation Field trip to Teepee Canyon, South Dakota coming up soon. These all include some fun outings for rockhounding. Check with Doug True at [dtfossils12\(at\)yahoo.com](mailto:dtfossils12(at)yahoo.com) for details on the Teepee Canyon trip. The others can be accessed with any search engine.

As our summer winds die down and we float into fall, why not plan on taking in the Portland Regional Show October 2-4. The Federation will be having an organizational meeting October 3 in conjunction with the show. The show is always a winner and you can come by the meeting and learn more about the Federation and give input. Any member of the Federation is encouraged to attend. You certainly don't have to be a director or delegate to attend, so plan on it.

The Lakeside Club in the Tri-Cities, Washington is busily working to bring together a great NFMS Show April 16-18, 2027. They are working on building in some field trips and we are working together to provide the best experience for the membership that can be had. There are a number of options being explored, so keep your eyes and ears open. And consider hosting a show sometime in the future. I realize there is some extra work, but the rewards can outweigh the work. Gone are the old days with specific prescribed requirements. We will work with you to provide the best experience and outcome for your club. We would love to come to your area! And, remember, we are all part of the Federation. Let's make it shine!

AFMS Historian

Jennifer Haley

During the St. Charles, IL, AFMS Scholarship Fund auction, one of the items up for bid was an American Federation of Mineralogical Societies logo on metal. No one was familiar with what it was. AFMS Past President-JC Moore, was given it about ten years ago, by someone who didn't know what it was. Being the AFMS historian that I am, even though there were beautiful gems and jewelry for bid, I wanted this object, rust and all. And, I was the highest bidder! I did some research when I got home. It looks like it probably is what is called a car badge. In the early 1900's and until the 1970's, car badges were popular. A lot of clubs had a car badge for members to attach to their vehicle grille or bumper. Can you imagine the cars, pickups and campers driving up to various Federation and AFMS events with one of these on it. It would have been very cool!

Please contact me if any of you have more knowledge about the history of this car badge: year the AFMS created them; if they were created for a fundraiser, or just for fun for advertising AFMS clubs, etc. I would love to know more. Since one of these badges showed up, I'm hoping it's likely there's another one out there or more. There was one other person who was bidding on the badge, and I would love to find another one so she can have one too. Do any of you have one? Please let me know!



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
Aug 8th & 9th	Maplewood Rock and Gem Show	Maplewood Rock and Gem Clubhouse	Michele McGraw
Sat 10 - 5		8802 196th St. SW	shows.maplewoodrockngem(at)gmail.com
Sun 10 - 5		Edmonds, WA 98026	info(at)maplewoodrockclub.com

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



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

NFMS EXECUTIVE BOARD OFFICERS

2025-2026

PRESIDENT: Michael Rhodes, Golden Spike Gem & Mineral Society, 317 E 200 S, Brigham City, UT, 84302-2621, (435) 230 0403 [mrmbrhodes0\(at\)gmail.com](mailto:mrmbrhodes0(at)gmail.com)

1ST VICE PRESIDENT: Jennifer Haley 2490 Spring Mountain Rd. St. Helena, CA 94574 541-660-1832 [ladybuglane\(at\)napablogger.com](mailto:ladybuglane(at)napablogger.com)

2ND VICE PRESIDENT: June Dorning Yakima Rock and Mineral Club, 590 CulDorn Drive, Yakima, WA 98903(509) 930-1323, [dorningjune\(at\)gmail.com](mailto:dorningjune(at)gmail.com)

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY: Judi Allison, Hatrockhounds Gem and Mineral Society, 1701 NW 11th. St., Hermiston, OR, 97882, (541) 720-4950, [nfmssec\(at\)gmail.com](mailto:nfmssec(at)gmail.com)

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)

NFMS STANDING COMMITTEES

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)

CREDENTIALS: Del & Clara Walker, Tualatin Valley Gem Club, 12377 SE Davis Loop, Prineville, OR, 97754, (503) 812-6540, [cwalk12377\(at\)gmail.com](mailto:cwalk12377(at)gmail.com)

CUSTODIAN: 2ND Vice President: (see above)

DIRECTORY: Janel Lacey, Marcus Whitman Gem and Mineral Society, 43618 SW McKay Dr, Pendleton, OR, 97801, (541) 215-2839, [jclawl6461\(at\)gmail.com](mailto:jclawl6461(at)gmail.com)
*** Clubs need only to send contact info for their board members. Contact clubs directly to reach out to specific members.**

Education/All American Club Award :
Lora Hall Hellgate Mineral Society, PO Box2095, Frenchtown, MT 59834, [Silvertipminis \(at\) msn.com](mailto:Silvertipminis (at) msn.com)

ENDOWMENT FUND:

CHAIRMAN: Vicki Johnson, Southern Washington Mineralogical Society, 1574 Mt. Pleasant Rd., Kelso, WA 98626 (360) 751-8031, [vickijrocks\(at\)msn.com](mailto:vickijrocks(at)msn.com)

Secretary/Treasurer:
Mikki Richard, Marysville Rock and Gem Club, Inc., 7608 85th Place NE, Marysville, WA 98270 425-387-4591, [mikki.richard\(at\)adp.com](mailto:mikki.richard(at)adp.com)

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HISTORIAN: Ronna Watkins, Yakima Rock and Mineral Club, PO Box 635, Tieton WA 98947, (509) 673-0085 [nfmsronna\(at\)gmail.com](mailto:nfmsronna(at)gmail.com)

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Michael Rhodes, Golden Spike Gem & Mineral Society, 317 E 200 S, Brigham City, UT, 84302-2621, (435) 230 0403 [mrmbrhodes0\(at\)gmail.com](mailto:mrmbrhodes0(at)gmail.com)
ROCKHOUND RETREAT (Hancock): Walter Butler, 8821 SW Equestrian Place, Crooked River Ranch, OR 97760, (503) 702-5743, [waltercbutler\(at\)comcast.net](mailto:waltercbutler(at)comcast.net)

PAST PRESIDENTS COUNCIL: 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)

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RESOLUTIONS: Audrey Vogelpohl, West Seattle Rock Club, 8810 37th Ave. SW, Seattle, WA 98126-3617,

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

RULES AND AWARDS COMMITTEE:

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)

JUDGING DIRECTOR : Charise Ash, Mount Hood Rock Club, 2331 N Mist Dr, Vernonia, OR 97064, [charisemarie\(at\)gmail.com](mailto:charisemarie(at)gmail.com)

EXHIBITS REGISTRAR: 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)

SAFETY: Kathryn Larson, Lakeside Gem and Mineral Club, 4102 S Auburn St, Kennewick, WA 99337 [misaique \(at\) hotmail.com](mailto:misaique (at) hotmail.com)

SCHOLARSHIP: Mary Lou Northrup, 1623 Powers Ave, Lewiston, ID 83501, (208) 743-6944, [mlandjl\(at\)yahoo.com](mailto:mlandjl(at)yahoo.com)

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)

SUPPLIES: OPEN
WAYS & MEANS: OPEN

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

AFMS COMMITTEES (NFMS Representatives)

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
Donations
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/>