



NORTHWEST NEWSLETTER



TIME SENSITIVE MATERIAL

Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies
Tom Burchard, Circulation
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Warren Rood President

Whether it's a church choir, the Humane Society, or your rock club, every volunteer organization or club needs a few reliable people to keep it running smoothly. The Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Society is no exception. We have many responsible, hard working people who love their jobs and help our organization offer all of the services that we offer. So I thought it appropriate to take some time to thank them for all they do. I firmly believe that when somebody volunteers for a job, the only pay they want is a big thank you. After all, it is the only pay they receive.

As a president or vice president, we make some large decisions and do our part, but as you can see we could not do it without the many wonderful volunteers that make our organizations strong.

At the top of my list of people to thank is our historian, Shirley Leesen who has been a faithful and ardent supporter of the NFMS for years as well as the fearless leader of ALAA. She has served as past presidents of NFMS, AFMS and CFMS. She has worked tirelessly for our public lands to be preserved for future generations. Her husband, Dee Holland, has also worked hard as our competitive display judge and past presidents for NFMS and AFMS. It is now time for others to step forward and fill their shoes as they are retiring from their positions due to health reasons. Details will be inside on page 5 about the NFMS historian position that is open.

Also on my list are two important people that put in many hours each month to keep us running smoothly. Our treasurer, Lyle Vogelpohl receives the dues from each club, compiles membership reports, sends out a bi-monthly financial report to the officers and prepares a full report for the two yearly NFMS meetings. Thank you Lyle. Beth Heesecker, writes for and produces our newsletter. Beth never misses a deadline, is creative, flexible and very nice to work with. Thank you Beth.

A big thank you to Brad Larson who built and maintains our website and has recently started a Facebook page for the NFMS. Thanks also to Tom Burchard who maintains our mailing list, Hermina Kavolski for the years of collecting stamps that have raised money for cancer research. Thanks to Chuck Sonners for taking over the stamp position and to his wife Tanya, for filling the safety position. Thanks to Audrey Vogelpohl for leading out in the very important juniors program. Thanks to Judy Allison for her many hours in taking notes at our meetings, typing up those minutes and sending them out. She helps to keep us all organized. Thanks to Carol Willey for the many hours of putting together our NFMS directory that is handed out to delegates at our annual meetings. Thanks to Clara and Del Walker for handling the credentials aspect of our two meetings each year. Thanks to Darrell Watkins for time spent storing, organizing and mailing our video library to clubs and his wife Ronna for her time leading out in the editors meetings at our annual meetings.

Thanks to Lamar Tilgner for his good work in coordinating the yearly rockhound retreat at camp Hancock and to all of the excellent instructors at the retreat. Thanks to Doug True for leading field trips and to Patty Amos for taking the supplies job. Thanks to Lauren Williams, Joe slouber, Carol Cimmolino and Evan Day for their work as competitive judges at our shows. Thanks to Edna Nelson and Jon Spunaugle for their financial expertise. Thanks to Ben Odum for keeping us advised on public lands and Fred Burton for checking any upcoming resolutions presented at our meetings and to Janice Van Cura for her work on Ways and Means. Thanks to Evelyn Cataldo for being in charge of the Past President's council, which gives their consent to NFMS show proposals, and other important proposals. Evelyn also chose the NFMS Scholarship recipient for this year. Thanks to Cheri George for her work on the website contest and Bev Bockman for volunteering to coordinate the Rockhound of the year award. Thanks also to Pat Lambert for her work in getting the news about our shows in the Rock and Gem and the NFMS Newsletter.

We could not do it without each of you. Thank you for your tremendous contributions.

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NEWSLETTER DEADLINE:

August Deadline: August 15th

For deadlines and to submit articles contact

Beth Heesacker

Email: nfmseditor@coho.net

NFMS Website:

www.amfed.org/nfms

To see this newsletter in living color and to see it usually by the first of the month

go to

<http://www.amfed.org/nfms/newsletters.a>

sp and click on the month you want to see.

NFMS Organizational Meeting Notice

October 9th, 2015

10 am – Noon

Rice Northwest Museum of Rocks and Minerals
26385 NW Groveland Drive, Hillsboro, OR 97124

(Details will be coming up in later NFMS Newsletters)

NFMS EXECUTIVE OFFICERS 2014-15

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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: Bev Bockman, Rock Rollers Club, P.O.Box 1326, Post Falls, ID 83577, (208) 773 5384, bockbb@aol.com
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AFMS COMMITTEES (NFMS Representatives)

AFMS 5TH VP & AFMS FIELD TRIP –Doug True,
ENDOWMENT FUND- Chris Blickfeldt, **EDITORS HALL OF FAME**-Open, **NEWSLETTER EDITOR**-Beth Heesacker, **NFMS CLUB BULLETIN AIDS**-Ronna Watkins, **ROCKHOUND OF THE YEAR**-Evelyn Cataldo (chair) & Bev Bockman, **CONSERVATION & LEGISLATION**-Darlene Posthuma, **ALL AMERICAN AWARD**- Sean Heitpas, **INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS-OPEN, JUNIORS PROGRAM**-Audrey Vogelpohl, **PROGRAM COMPETITION**-Darrell Watkins, **PUBLIC RELATIONS-OPEN, SAFETY**-Chuck Sonner, **SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION**-Dee Holland (chair) & Evelyn Cataldo, **SUPPLIES AND PUBLICATIONS**-Tim Hoff, **JUDGE TRAINING COMMITTEE**-Dee Holland, **UNIFORM RULES**-Larry Hulstrom, **WAYS AND MEANS**-Lauren Williams (chair) & Janice Van Cura, **WEBSITE**-Brad Larson, **WEBSITE CONTEST** – Cheri George.

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: Lauren Williams, acting-President at: president@amlands.org or P.O. Box 23, Tendoy, ID 83468

The **AFMS NEWSLETTER** is published monthly except Jan-Jul-Aug by the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies. Each NFMS member **club** 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 (\$4.50 per year). Contact: AFMS Central Off., Steve Weinberger, P.O. Box 302, Glyndon, MD 21071-0302 cebar62@aim.com Make checks payable to "AFMS".

The **NORTHWEST NEWSLETTER** is the official publication of the Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies (NFMS) and is usually published ten (9) times per year. This publication is brought to you through your club membership in the NFMS. The purpose of the Northwest Newsletter is to keep all NFMS members informed of activities and events pertaining to the business and services of the Federation. The Newsletter is printed and mailed to approximately 3500 homes in six states by Oregon Lithoprint in McMinnville, Oregon.

For matters related to the Newsletter (i.e. content, advertising, etc) contact the Newsletter Editor. For matters 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, 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, 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 used (cancelled) 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. Dues 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

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: Evelyn Cataldo (see Scholarship this page).

To AFMS Endowment Fund for:

1. Donations to AFMS Endowment
2. Memorials

Send to: See AFMS Newsletter

To ALAA Treasurer for:

1. Memberships, new and renewals
2. Donations
3. 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

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 \$1.50 per square inch.

Example: 3" x 4" ad = 12 inches

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 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**



OFFICERS' REPORTS

Hidemi Kira 1st Vice President



Hello to All,

I hope you all survived the extraordinary heat and enjoying the summer.

In this issue, I have to start with sad news. Our Historian Chair, Shirley Leeson is resigning from her position together with all of her other duties including the president of ALAA and others. She has been working so hard over the years and contributed so much not only for the NFMS, but AFMS, CFMS (she is the past president of AFMS and CFMS) and other organizations. We had lots of help from her and I am sure she will still keep on helping us in many ways with her broad knowledge and experience. Our president, Warren will be writing about recruiting the new Historian in this issue, so please consider taking this position if you are able to do so.

Writing about Shirley, she has been suggested building up a strong relationship with the neighbor Federations. And for the first step, she suggested we create a special relation with the CFMS by inviting each other's president to their Federation's Convention & Shows. This matter has not been officially discussed, but I thought I should check out the possibility by attending the CFMS's Convention. And I also thought this would be a very good opportunity to check out how other Federations do things. This year's CFMS Show was held in Lodi, CA (near Sacramento), which was not terribly far away from where I live and our Circulation Chair, Tom Burchard happened to be the current CFMS's president, so it was a preferable situation for me and my wife Tomoko to attend.

Here is the brief report. The Show was held at Lodi Grape Festival & Harvest Grounds from June 12 to 14. At the Show, I should have counted, but there were many dealers (mostly jewelry, mineral specimens probably because of many tourists in the area) set in two large halls. Display Cases, Demonstrations, Kids Activities, Rock Identification Corner, Silent Auction and others were located in another large hall, which were all connected. There were a few club booths outside the building setting up in the triple digit heat, but I guess they have developed some kind of immune system to the heat. There were close to 80 display cases including 23 competitive cases. There were three cabochon cases from North, Central and South California set up in the corners among the regular 4' Federation Standard cases. I later learned during their meeting that each of the three regions has a person in charge to collect the cabochons from the clubs in the region for the display case and use it as a Traveling Case to set up at their CFMS Shows. It was very impressive, but seems like it takes a lot of effort. It would be nice if we can do something similar.

The Cracker Barrel was held on Friday evening after the show and there was quite a good crowd. Some fund raising activity, discussions were done in a very casual atmosphere along with some food and beverages. I was given the opportunity to introduce myself and to advertise the NFMS/AFMS Show in Albany next year.

Meeting and the Banquet were both held on Saturday. The meeting was pretty much similar to what we do, but everyone who makes a comment or question stepping up to a microphone and mentioned their Club Number and names. I heard that each club has their own number. I assume it will be helpful for keeping the records of which club made the comments. Also learned there is an award called Golden Bear Award given to the person who contributed most to the CFMS and heard it is the highest award in the CFMS. This may be an idea we may consider as there are many great people in the NFMS who deserves this kind of recognitions.

The Award Banquet had around 100 people probably almost same as we did in Ogden. When handing out the awards for the competitive cases, the picture of the display case which won the award was shown on a big screen. I thought this was a great idea. It would be nice if we can do something similar.

We attended one of the field trips which was on Sunday (one trip was cancelled due to the heat). It was in Valley Springs close to the Snyder Ranch where there used to be a big rock show. I hesitate to mention this, but thanks to the drought, the lake bottom was completely exposed and we were able to collect Dumortierite. I think many people are familiar with its blue color, but what we found there was reddish to maroon. It was only for collecting on the surface, but we found a decent amount in a short time. The heat was in the triple digits so we were glad we got some in that short period.

Overall, the CFMS Show was great and the most precious treasure I received were the new friends I made in the CFMS. Building the relationship with the neighbor federation is a great idea. However, CFMS is my next door, but next door of the East side of the NFMS would be Rocky Mt. Federation. So there will be more to be studied to make this work. In the meantime, it will be great if you can attend other Federation's meetings and make friends to exchange good ideas and learn from each other.

Be safe and keep enjoying the summer!

Hidemi Kira

Field Trip – 2016 By Doug True



It is time to start planning for 2016, the Multi federation trips will be in conjunction with the 2016 AFMS show in Albany, Oregon, July 29th - 31st. Two days later more trips will begin from Prineville, Oregon. We plan to have 4-6 trips per day, more if needed, leaving in all directions.

Thunder eggs, petrified wood, jaspers and agates

will be on the menu. We will have a balance of free and fee sites for 4-5 days.

The base camp will be at the Crook County Fairgrounds in Prineville, Oregon. Camping with water and electricity, dump station and motels are in town. Potlucks are planned and I working on having some programs, Lots of collecting and get together fun

Watch for further updates.

Doug True dtruefossils12@yahoo.com



Beta Diamond Products, Inc.
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OFFICERS' REPORTS



Rockhound of the Year

Hatrockhounds of Hermiston, Oregon nominate Janet Judd-Fahey as their Rockhound of the Year. As our new President, she is always of a bubbly, positive frame of mind. Her focus is to bring more Junior members into our club. Janet shares her enthusiasm and love of the hobby with everyone. One can't help but be excited by the idea of a pretty rock with "Rockin' Janet" around.

"Lapidary of the Month" Articles Sought for *Rock & Gem Magazine*

By Jim Brace-Thompson, *Rock & Gem* Contributing Author



Rock & Gem is the officially sponsored hobby magazine of the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies—our official magazine! They and Senior Consulting Editor Bob Jones have done much to promote rockhounding and rock clubs like those to which you and I belong. As you may know, I'm a regular contributing author, as well, mostly with articles for their "Rock & Gem Kids" section. Recently, *Rock & Gem* Managing Editor Lynn Varon has asked my help soliciting articles from within the ranks of the regional and national Federations for their "Lapidary of the Month" feature.

"Lapidary of the Month" is usually the very first article appearing in each issue of the magazine. In it, a lapidary artist (amateur or professional) describes a relatively simple project with a photo and step-by-step procedures for others to follow. For an example, see page 8 of the July 2015 issue. We would like to encourage *you* to write such a contribution! Here are the specifications:

- A 500-word description telling step-by-step how you crafted your lapidary project from start to finish, saved as a document file.
- At least one close-up digital color photograph of the finished project (with camera set for high resolution, i.e., 300 dpi at 4 inches by 5 inches, minimum).
- Send your document file and digital photo (.tif or .jpg) as attachments in an email to editor@rockngem.com with the subject line "Lapidary of the Month."
- Include your name and a street address (not a PO Box) for prize delivery should your entry be selected for publication. (Only winners will be notified.)

Authors of articles selected to appear in "Lapidary of the Month" receive a two-speed Dremel Model 200 N/40 MultiPro kit and a wall plaque in recognition of their creativity and craftsmanship. (Thus the need for a street address.)

For questions or further submission details, please contact Lynn Varon at *Rock & Gem*, 5235 Mission Oaks Blvd. #201, Camarillo, CA93012, phone (972) 448-4626, email editor@rockngem.com. Here's to good projects and good writing—and to seeing *you* as a Lapidary of the Month!



Having Fun: Juniors Activities "Spotlight on Juniors" Articles Requested for *Rock & Gem Kids* By Jim Brace-Thompson, AFMS & CFMS Juniors Program Chair

I write monthly articles for the "Rock & Gem Kids" section of *Rock & Gem* magazine. Most often, these introduce kids to a mineral or fossil or to some interesting aspect of rocks (gemstone lore, official state rocks and fossils, minerals with special effects like asterism or fluorescence, etc.). But I've also run several articles about especially outstanding juniors. I'd like to do more such profiles but despite various calls in the past, no one has sent me suggestions recently.

Do you have a kid in your society who is "rock crazy" and over-the-top enthusiastic? Please contact me with names and details about kids who deserve special recognition as inspirational role models for other kids, and I'll be happy to do a write-up on them for "Rock & Gem Kids." A great starting point might be any kids that your local society has named "Junior Rockhound of the Year" via the regional and national Federations' member recognition programs or kids who have won any other Federation or school-sponsored awards related to our hobby, such as kids who have earned trophies in competitive exhibiting or who have participated in a local science fair.

I'll need enough details that will allow me to craft an article ranging 250 to 300 words. What is the junior member's name and what club or society is s/he affiliated with? What especially noteworthy accomplishments has s/he notched up related to our hobby? How might this child serve as a role model to others? See page 43 of the July 2015 issue of *Rock & Gem* for an example with the article entitled "Spotlight on Juniors: Liliya Starts a Rock Club!"

In addition to info about the kids you nominate, I'll need a couple of photos, preferably showing the kids engaged with the hobby. These should be digital color photographs with camera set for high resolution (i.e., 300 dpi at 4 inches by 5 inches, minimum). As with any photos of children intended for publication, I will need a photo permission and release form signed by the parent or guardian.

For further information—and to get a copy of the photo release form—please contact me at jbraceth@roadrunner.com. That's the email address, as well, for sending info about your outstanding junior and for sending photos and release forms as electronic attachments. Here's to recognizing our very best and most enthusiastic juniors and to acknowledging their efforts in a hobby that's fun!

OFFICERS' REPORTS



NFMS Historian Needed By Warren Rood

As announced in the President's message on the cover of this newsletter, Shirley Leeson is retiring from the position of NFMS historian. We are looking for somebody to take her place. This job will include retrieving and storing a filing cabinet and plastic totes that is stored at Dee Holland's house in Tendoy, ID. These are full of an inventory of historic documents including our "NFMS articles of Incorporation" and NFMS newsletters. As historian, you would collect current documents, newsletters and minutes of meetings. If you love history and this organization and this sounds interesting to you, please contact Warren Rood or one of the other officers.

Inventory for the Historian:

1 4-drawer file cabinet, 1 large pink plastic tote box (NFMS Yearly Directories), 4 early bound volumes of NFMS History, 2 large binders of NFMS History, 2 large binders of NFMS Past Presidents, 1 large binder of NFMS Scholarship honorees and recipients, 1 binder of NFMS at AFMS Conventions, Copy of "NFMS Articles of Incorporation", Papers on NFMS Incorporation, NFMS Newsletters, Minutes from Mid-year & Convention from 1976 (earlier minutes were thrown away), Mineralogist Magazines.



Federation Field Trip September 16 – 21 So Start Packing!

Four experienced local field trip leaders from the Owyhee area will lead us to several nice locations where we will find burnt wood, colorful wood, moss agate, plume agate, jasper and blue opalized thunder eggs. We will be traveling to Graveyard Point, Succor Creek, Grassy Mountain and Hoodoo Basin.

Wednesday September 16 is a travel day. Wednesday night will be registration and sign up time for the different trips. Thursday through Sunday we will run one or two field trips each day. Thursday night we will

have a large potluck, Friday night a rock swap, so bring extra food and swap material. You could leave Sunday night or Monday morning. More details will follow in the next edition.

New All American Committee Chairperson Sean Hietpas

Greetings to my fellow rock hounds!

I am excited to be the head of the All-American club committee. I hope the clubs out there overwhelm me with yearbooks to send to the AFMS. I am learning much about what it takes to have an award winning yearbook. It would be nice to let the American Federation know how active we are here in the Northwest. The world offers so many choices at a rapid fire pace these days. It is so inspiring to know there are other rock hounds who choose to enjoy the simple pleasures of our shared hobby.

Thank you for having me as your committee chair. May God Bless and keep you.



From the Editor's Rockpile By Beth Heesacker

WOW ! The summer is going rapidly. The kids will be back in school in just over a month. I hope the heat cools somewhat by then since most of our schools in the area do not have air-conditioning. I also hope that the kids have been getting out and getting some exercise but also reading a few books over the summer to keep their sun baked brains from meltdown.

I have been having a great time this summer inside my house, for the most part. I was able to purchase 2 estates of micro-minerals this summer. One already in perky boxes (small plastic boxes in which these small minerals are mounted) and the other one in pretty much the rough-rock state. The first collection will be easy to enter into my database since it is all mounted and labeled. The second is a whole other situation.

It was in cardboard flats, egg cartons and boxes in a shed. Now sheds always invite critters and this one was no exception. While moving one box a mouse ran up my neck, across my ear and up the side of my head before I could knock it away. Everyone was proud that I did not scream or run. We all had a good laugh. There were, of course, many spiders also. We loaded up a whole pickup with flats, boxes, and critters (except the ones that escaped into other parts of the shed) and brought it home.

I made the first sort outside. This sort was to separate the rocks and minerals from the critter homes and hideouts. The hardest part of this sort was to make sure that what was left of any labels and documentation was saved and stayed with the correct minerals. The flats, egg cartons and such were then stored under cover outside just in case it rained. ☺

Next was a first pass, slower sort to choose out which specimens to keep and which to share with others. I am not an expert at identifying minerals so this sort was based on the "Sesame Street" song "One of these things in not like the other, one of these things just isn't the same". I kept anything that looked different under my microscope or if the mineral just looked so perfect for photographing that I could not part with it.

I know what I will be doing this winter. These specimens will need to be closely examined (again under the microscope) trimmed to expose the crystals and show them off to their best advantage, mounted and catalogued. I hope to also begin to photograph my collection using stacking of images on my computer to get a greater depth of field through the microscope.

These purchases will more than double the size of my micro-mineral collection. I already have over 8,000 specimens catalogued and you just do not know how much a pickup load of minerals is until you sort pieces that are so small you need a tweezers to pick them up. ☺

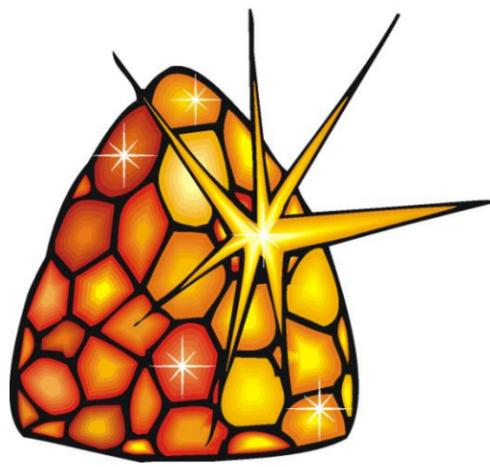
OFFICERS' REPORTS



SAVE THE DATE !!!

The next Federation show will be held July 29th - 31st, 2016 in Albany Oregon at the Linn County Fair and Expo building Hosted by the Willamette Agate and Mineral Society (WAMS). AMFS meetings will be held on Thursday July 28th. There will be displays, speakers and a local fieldtrip during the show. This will be an opportunity for the NFMS to show the rest of the Federation what we are lucky enough to have in the Northwest. Please consider bringing a display that shows off what is available in your area of the Federation. As we

get closer we will provide additional information in the newsletter or check out WAMS website www.wamsi.org or facebook page. We are currently signing up dealers and hope to have all spaces filled by the end of September. If you are interested in being a vendor or demonstrator at the show please contact the showchair, Janice Van Cura, jvancura@peak.org



Let the Northwest Shine!!

By Judi Allison

I just thought I would write a little note about the fact that our Northwest Federation will be hosting the combined AFMS/NFMS Show and Convention in Albany, Oregon this coming July 29-31, 2016. That being said, it would be great if we can show the other Federations how we can shine. Let's take a little extra effort to enter your club newsletters in the Newsletter Editor competition, websites in the Website competition, special publications in the Bulletin Aids competition, and nominate a Rockhound of the Year from your individual club.

Consider taking part in developing a competitive display or have your club work together to produce an All American Yearbook. Have your Juniors put in for the Junior Achievement Award and perhaps display competitively. These are all opportunities each and every club has available to them through the Northwest Federation Of Mineralogical Societies, so let's take advantage of them and let others know about our great organization and our even greater collection of rockhounds here in the Northwest. See you in Albany in 2016 with all your sparkles!!! Let us shine!!!



See the NFMS on Facebook

<https://m.facebook.com/groups/NFMS1>

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Idaho Recliner

IF ONLY I HAD REALIZED WHAT THEY WERE FOR!
I feel like an idiot; I've been using mine wrong for all these years!

If I had figured out how to use them correctly, I might have qualified to be a city worker.

P.S.
[Home Depot is having a sale on Idaho Recliners...](#)



FOR BULLETIN EDITORS AND A TRIP REPORT

First Impressions

by Mark Nelson, BEAC Chair

When I was an apprentice air conditioning mechanic one of my instructors told a story of an older building with two rooftop air conditioning units. The service company had two mechanics who each had an hour to perform preventative maintenance one of the two old, faded, air conditioning units and the employer wanted to make an impression on the building owner. The first mechanic spent the hour tightening the belts, oiling the motors, cleaning the coils and such - until it worked perfectly! The second mechanic spent the hour smoking, drinking coffee and painting the outside cabinet of the unit - never bothering to check the operation of the unit. When the owner came to check on the work of the two mechanics he looked to see the first unit, old, faded and a little rusty. Then he saw the second unit - bright and shiny! He fired the first mechanic and gave all of his business to the second mechanic! My instructor explained that it is not enough to give care to what is unseen, but also to what is visible to the first impression, and I've carried this analogy with me ever since.



This is a lesson that we, as editors, can use! We need to use a "first impression" reaction of our bulletins to our advantage. As we compose our bulletins, let us think - "What can I do to make the visual impact of this bulletin better than last year's - or last month's?". Here are six easy-to-do ideas.

Impact of the first page (cover). This is your most important page. This is what is going to determine whether a reader opens it and gets interested, or sets it aside. Use color and make it not only interesting, but a teaser to what is to be found inside!

Impact of the last page (address page) is the first page that readers see when the mailed bulletin arrives at the members' home - and nearly as important as the cover page. Make it one they will want to open and read. Use the return address section (above the fold) to add a photo to highlight a gem or item that is inside. Use the area below the fold for a calendar or other interesting piece.

Use color! Many of our clubs both mail and email their bulletins. In either format, bulletins are more interesting if they are in color! Even if you print them in black and white, the color photos will be a nice gray-tone, while the emailed versions will be in great full color!

Print for impact. If you print and mail your bulletins, print your bulletins on 80 lb gloss paper and watch your articles and photos jump!

Make it easy to read. Print your bulletins on 11x17 paper. It is easy to read and to print. You won't need to staple stitch the issues as you assemble the pages.

Put Your Stamp On It. - Finally, use an interesting commemorative stamp to mail your bulletins. Choose an interesting stamp and take advantage of the event the stamp commemorates - the Civil War, Minerals, or use an interesting stamp that is attractive of itself!

Tip: Did you know that Office Max offers non-profit groups special rates for photocopying? These rates are significant and available for the asking! Debbie Berresford, of the Victor Valley Gem and Mineral Society, shared this tip at the 2015 S.C.R.I.B.E. meeting in Quartzsite, Arizona. Thanks for the tip, Debbie!

Via the AFMS Newsletter, June-July, 2015

A VISIT TO THE PEROT MUSEUM OF NATURE AND SCIENCE

by: Dena Roberts

On April 27, 2014, I took my parents, Paul and Margaret Good to the Perot Museum of Nature and Science in Dallas. I wanted to show them the Lyda Hill Gems and Minerals Hall. After purchasing our tickets we rode up the escalator to the 4th floor. The escalator itself is an interesting ride. Part of it is made of glass and as you go up, you can see downtown Dallas. It's quite a sight. The escalator is an integral part of the architecture of the building. As you drive up, you can see people ascending the escalator through the glass.



The escalator

After arriving on the 4th floor, we took the elevator down to the 3rd floor where the Lyda Hill Gems and Minerals Hall is located. There you can experience an earthquake and touch a tornado. We headed straight for the floor to ceiling arch of golden cubes representing crystals of pyrite as we entered the Gems and Minerals Hall to find sparkling cases of mineral masterpieces. Many were on loan from private mineral collectors. The minerals are from countries all over the world -- China, Mexico, Brazil, the United States and Canada to name a few. I was amazed with how large these specimens were and the beautiful colors of them.



Paul Good Entering the Gem and Minerals Hall. Cubes representing crystals of pyrite.

Another enjoyable part of the exhibit was seeing specimens from a few places that I had been rock hunting with my family when I was growing up.

The highlight of the hall is a 5 foot high, 1.5 ton amethyst geode from Uruguay, which named it the "Grape Jelly" Geode. The geode can be opened and closed by visitors using a large hand-wheel. It sparkles purple everywhere! Here is a link to see a video of a visitor to the museum enjoying the geode. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4B-MtHFKyc> The geode is even more amazing in person.



Via the South Central Federation Newsletter, May-June, 2015



Editor's Note: The above article was written by one of the SCFMS Juniors. I invite our NFMS Juniors to contribute articles for the NFMS Newsletter. Write about a rockhounding trip you took, a rock museum that you visited, a favorite rock that you own, etc. Email the articles to me at heesacker@coho.net. Thank you.



FIRST AID KIT FOR FIELD TRIPS

SAFETY: STARTING A FIRST AID KIT FOR FIELD TRIPS

by Mark Nelson, EMT - Safety Chairman



How does my club put together a first aid kit? What does the box or bag look like and where do I get one? What things should go inside of the kit?

There are many different kits and cases available for treating medical emergencies. In the office, it may be a small box in the supply room. In our lapidary shops, as in a warehouse or fabrication facility, it is generally a steel case hanging on a wall. In construction it will be in the job shack or forman's truck. The cases carried by those who treat injuries outside of a fixed location generally use a soft-sided case that can be carried to the injured person. It is this type of bag that I recommend for use on field trips. In this article we will look at one manufacturer's bag - not as an endorsement, but only as an example.



The Ace 3 First Response Medical Cab Bag is the type used by first responders bag. This bag features a rubberized waterproof bottom panel, Velcro handle closures, a shoulder strap, three rows of elastic loops sewn into the lid, and reflective strips for added visibility. Internal padded and adjustable Velcro dividers can be used to create up to 10 padded compartments to custom fit medical supplies by the category you desire. Two exterior pockets with Velcro-attached removable pouches feature a clear vinyl see-through window and multiple elastic loops to help further organize your equipment - and includes a shoulder carrying strap.

adjustable Velcro dividers can be used to create up to 10 padded compartments to custom fit medical supplies by the category you desire. Two exterior pockets with Velcro-attached removable pouches feature a clear vinyl see-through window and multiple elastic loops to help further organize your equipment - and includes a shoulder carrying strap.

Recommended First Aid Supplies

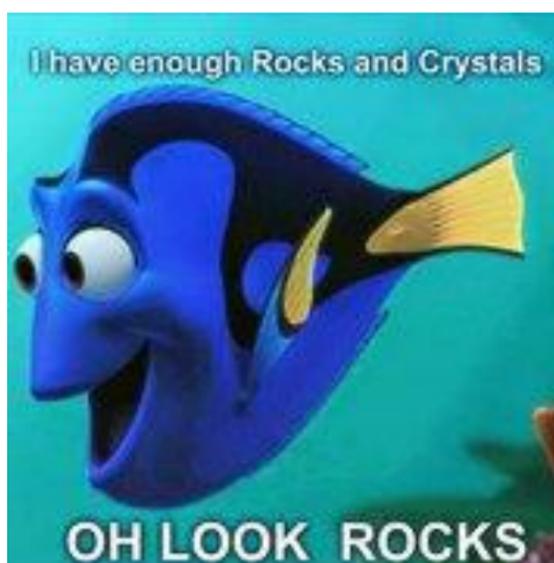
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 - CPR mask w/one-way valve 1 - 5½" Bandage Scissors 1 - Diagnostic Penlight 1 - Rescue Blanket 1 - Instant Cold Pack 1 - 2" x 2" Burn Dressing 1 - 4" x 4" Burn Dressing 1 - Wire or Cardboard Splint 1 - Finger Splint 1 - Tourniquet 16 - 4" x 4" Sterile Gauze Pads 10 - 1 x 3" Sheer Bandages 10 - 3/4 x 3" Sheer Bandages 10 - 2 x 4 ½" Bandages 10 - Fingertip Bandages 10 - Knuckle Bandages 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 - 2" Stretch gauze Roll 2 - 3" Stretch gauze Roll 2 - 6" Stretch gauze Roll 2 - 5" x 9" Surgical Dressings/ Abdominal pads 1 - Multi-Trauma Dressing 10 - Alcohol Prep Pads 10 - PVP Prep Pads 4 - Oval Eye Pads 2 - 1" Cloth Tape Rolls 4 - Triangular Bandages w/Pins 20 - Ammonia Inhalants 4 - Sting Pads 1 - Liter of Water of Saline First Aid Handbook
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There are a multitude of internet sites that sell the emergency response bags and the supplies to put in them. If you give a list to local businesses, they may be interested in providing these to you and putting their name on the bag as having donated the supplies to your club.

Every rock, gem and lapidary club should be prepared for emergencies. Treating the common injuries sustained during the practice of our hobby is not difficult and

everyone over the age of 12 years can become proficient with proper instruction and refresher training every couple of years. Basic first aid instruction can be obtained through the office of your local Red Cross, American Heart Association or Sheriff's Search And Rescue Team - frequently at little or no cost to the club. Get several clubs together and share any expense. Make it a community event and get other civic organizations together! Red Cross or American Heart Association certification cards are often available for additional cost.

Via the California Federation Newsletter,
June, 2015



Via Golden Spike News, June 2015

Report on New Fossil Collecting Rules



ROCKHOUND SOAP BOX

JOHN MARTIN

CONSERVATION AND LEGISLATION COMMITTEE

afmsclc@antelecom.net

FOSSIL COLLECTING IN NATIONAL FORESTS

Rules and Regulations for the collecting of fossils on USFS managed lands have had a significant change for the Rockhound and Casual Collector effective May 18, 2015. The final ruling by the US Department of Agriculture for the National Forest Service has been released and is now listed in the Federal Register. This rule making process has been in work since the passage of the Omnibus Public Land Management Act on Paleontological Resources Preservation. Below is a summary of the USDA/USFS Final Rule:

“The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA or Department) is implementing regulations under the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009 paleontological resources preservation subtitle (the Act). This rule provides for the preservation, management, and protection of paleontological resources on National Forest System lands (NFS), and insures that these resources are available for current and future generations to enjoy as part of America's national heritage. The rule addresses the management, collection, and curation of paleontological resources from NFS lands including management using scientific principles and expertise, collecting of resources with and without a permit, curation in an approved repository, maintaining confidentiality of specific locality data, and authorizing penalties for illegal collecting, sale, damaging, or otherwise altering or defacing paleontological resources.”

Included in the Final Rule are definitions important to Rockhounds and *Casual Collectors* of fossils on USFS Managed Lands. Some of these new definitions from the federal register and the Final Rule are as follows:

*“The term **casual collecting** restates the definition contained in 16 U.S.C. 470. To be considered **casual collecting**, the activity means all of the following: Collecting of a reasonable amount of common invertebrate or plant paleontological resources for non-commercial personal use, either by surface collection or the use of non-powered hand tools, resulting in only negligible disturbance to the Earth's surface and other resources. The Department considers that in establishing the term “**casual collection**” rather than “amateur collection” or “hobby collection” or “recreational collection”, the Act intended that **casual collection** reflect the commonplace meaning of “casual”. The commonplace definition of casual includes the elements “happening by chance; not planned or expected”, “done without much thought, effort, or concern”, and “occurring without regularity” (“casual” Merriam-Webster.com.2014.*

*http://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/casual (4 March 2014)). Consequently, the Department considers that **casual collecting** would generally be happenstance without intentional planning or preparation. Development of criteria for reasonable amount and negligible disturbance reflects, in part, the view of **casual collecting** as an activity that generally occurs by chance without planning or preparation. Further, the Act has established that an individual engaging in casual collecting activity in accordance with applicable conditions, in an area which has not been closed to casual collection, does not require a permit or other approval from the Department. Consequently, it is clear that the lack of Department decision space concerning such casual collection performed by an individual reflects that the Act intended that reasonable amount and negligible disturbance criteria established for casual collecting would be below levels that would otherwise require an evaluation under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). Collection of amounts and/or land disturbance at levels that would require a NEPA evaluation would require a permit”. “The term **common invertebrate and plant paleontological resources** clarify the types of paleontological resources that may be casually collected in accordance with the Act and these final regulations. This final definition incorporates the plain meaning of common, which means plentiful and not rare or uniaue. The final definition also*

Report on New Fossil Collecting Rules (cont.)

incorporates a geographical factor of widespread distribution, which means that the resource is distributed over a relatively large geographical area. This final definition also clarifies that not all invertebrate and plant paleontological resources are common; some are not common because of their context or other characteristics and, therefore, are not eligible for casual collection. The determination of whether invertebrate and plant equivalent venue, or not common will be made by the Authorized Officer using scientific principles and methods in accordance with § 291.9(c)."

"The term **fossil** means any remains, traces, or imprints of organisms that have been fossilized or preserved in or on the Earth's crust. In informal usage, the term fossil tends to be used interchangeably with the term paleontological resource. However, under 16 U.S.C. 470 and these final regulations, a fossil may not necessarily be a paleontological resource. Remains, traces, or imprints of organisms (that is, fossils) are only considered paleontological resources under the Act and these final regulations if they are: (1) Fossilized, (2) of paleontological interest, and (3) provide information about the history of life on earth. Therefore, paleontological resources are fossils that have paleontological interest and provide information about the history of life on earth. An example of a fossil that may not be a paleontological resource because it lacks paleontological interest and provides negligible information about the history of life on earth would be an isolated, unidentifiable fragment of an otherwise common invertebrate fossil that was eroded from its native geologic occurrence and subsequently found in a stream bed far from its point of origin."

"The term **fossilized** as used in the definition of paleontological resources means preserved by natural processes, such as burial in accumulated sediments, preservation in ice or amber, replacement by minerals, or alteration by chemical processes such as permineralization whereby minerals are deposited in the pore spaces of the hard parts of an organism's remains. This definition is adapted from the definition of fossilization in the American Geological Institute's Glossary of Geology (Fifth Edition, 2005, ISBN 0-922152-76-4)."

"The term **negligible disturbance** as used in the definition of **casual collecting** clarifies that casual collection of common invertebrate and plant fossils may only result in little or no change to the land surface and have minimal or no effect on other resources such as cultural resources and protected or endangered species.

Disturbance caused by powered and/or large non-powered hand tools would exceed the "negligible" threshold and would no longer be casual collection."

"The term **non-commercial personal use** as used in the definition of casual collecting clarifies the types of use allowed under casual collection, and means uses other than for purchase, sale, financial gain, or research. Research, in the context of these regulations, is considered to be a structured activity undertaken by qualified individuals with the intent to obtain and disseminate information via publication in a peer-reviewed professional scientific journal or equivalent venue,

which increases the body of knowledge available to a scientific community.

Common invertebrate and plant paleontological resources collected for research purposes is not personal use and would need to be authorized under a permit in accordance with §§ 291.13 through 291.20. Exchange of common invertebrate and plant paleontological resources among casual collectors would be permissible as long as such resources were collected in accordance with the Act and the final regulations.

"The term **non-commercial personal use** as used in the definition of **casual collecting** clarifies the types of use allowed under casual collection, and means uses other than for **purchase, sale, financial gain, or research**. Research, in the context of these regulations, is considered to be a structured activity undertaken by qualified individuals with the intent to obtain and disseminate information via publication in a peer-reviewed professional scientific journal or equivalent venue, which increases the body of knowledge available to a scientific community. Common invertebrate and plant paleontological resources collected for research purposes is not personal use and would need to be authorized under a permit in accordance with §§ 291.13 through 291.20. Exchange of common invertebrate and plant paleontological resources among casual collectors would be permissible as long as such resources were collected in accordance with the Act and the final regulations."

"The term **reasonable amount** as used in the definition of casual collecting quantifies the maximum amount of common invertebrate and plant paleontological resources that could be removed from National Forest System lands. **A person may remove up to 100 pounds in weight per calendar year, not to exceed 25 pounds per day.**

Development of this reasonable amount criterion reflects, in part, the view of casual collecting as an activity that generally **occurs by chance without planning or preparation.**"

"On National Forest System lands, the following are not paleontological resources for purposes of the Act or this part:

(1) Mineral resources, including coal, oil, natural gas, and other economic minerals that are subject to the existing mining and mineral laws:

Report on New Fossil Collecting Rules (cont.)

(2) Petrified wood as defined at 30 U.S.C. 611 and managed under 36 CFR 228.62 unless determined under paragraph (b) of this section to be a paleontological resource;

(3) Geological units, including, but not limited to, limestone, diatomite, and chalk beds)."

A paleontological resource may only be collected from National Forest System lands in accordance with the **casual collecting provisions** in §§ 291.11 and 291.12, or in accordance with a permit issued by the Authorized Officer as identified in § 291.13.

Casual collecting is allowed without a permit on National Forest System lands where such collection is consistent with the laws governing the management of those lands, the land management plans, and where the lands in question are not closed to casual collection.

It is the responsibility of the collecting public to ensure that they are **casually collecting** in an area that is open to casual collection, and that the materials they collect are subject to casual collection.

Paleontological resources collected on National Forest System lands, including common invertebrate and plant paleontological resources subject to casual collecting, **cannot be sold**. Sale of these paleontological resources is a violation of 16 U.S.C. 470-5(a)(3) and § 291.27(a)(3) and **may subject the violator to civil and criminal penalties**.

The provisions in §§ 291.28 through 291.35 do not apply to any person with respect to any paleontological resource which was in the lawful possession of such person prior to the date of enactment of the Act.

These are but a few of the new rules and regulations pertaining to Casual Fossil Collecting on Public Lands Managed by the US Forrest Service. The complete set of rules and regulations set forth in the Final Rule can be found at:

<http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2015-04-17/pdf/2015-08483.pdf>

or see the ALAA Website www.amlands.org for more information.

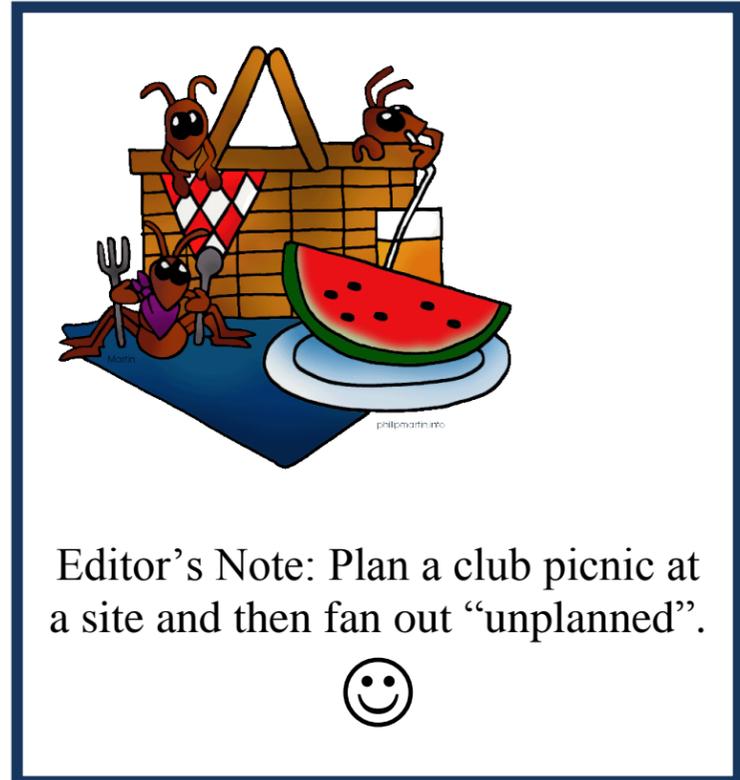
In conclusion the rules have changed. Casual Collecting is allowed, where Casual Collecting is allowed. No permit is required for Casual Collecting. Casual Collecting allows 25 pounds of material per day and 100 pounds of material per year. Casual Collecting allows hand tools only. Casual Collecting allows for minimal surface disturbance, (Fill in any holes when finished). Casual collecting material is for personal use only and may not be sold.

It looks like Vertebrae Fossils are NOT allowed to be collected on USFS Managed Land. The "Club Fieldtrip" planed to the fossil beds is NOT considered "Casual Collecting" under the new rules and regulations and may require a permit. (Permits are only issued for scientific and educational purposes and to institutions or graduate Paleontologists.)

When Rockhounds and Casual Collectors venture into the National Forest and stumble across a collectable fossil, just remember there are new rules and regulations under which you may pick up that fossil and keep it for your private collection. Also remember these new rules and regulations became law on May 18, 2015.

"Happy Rockhounding and
Enjoy Your Public Lands"

From the American Lands Access Association
Newsletter, April-June, 2015



Editor's Note: Plan a club picnic at a site and then fan out "unplanned".



NFMS MEMBERS' SHOW SCHEDULES

July 31 & Aug. 1-2 Fri & Sat – 10 – 5 Sun – 10 – 4	Far West Lapidary & Gem Society	North Bend Community Center, 2222 Broadway North Bend OR	Don Innes 541 396 5722 doninnes.innes20@gmail.com
August 8 & 9 Sat – 9 – 5 Sun – 10 – 5	Maplewood Rock and Gem Club	Maplewood R&G Clubhouse, 8802 196 th ST SW , Edmonds WA	Bev Ryder 425 338 4184 FAMRYD@aol.com
August 14 - 16 Fri & Sat– 10 – 9 Sun – 10 – 6	Port Townsend Rock Club	Jefferson County Fairgrnds., 4907 Landers St., Port Townsend WA	Garnett Brooks 360 379 5531 garnett@email.com
September 12 & 13 Sat - 10 – 5 Sun – 10 – 5	Marcus Whitman Gem and Mineral Society	Walla Walla Frgrnds., Com. Cntr. Bldg., 363 Orchard St., Walla Walla WA	Jack Edwards 509 529 3673 jcedwards1475@yahoo.com
September 12 & 13 Sat – 9 – 6 Sun – 10 – 4	Clallam County Gem and Mineral Association	Vern Burton Community Center, 308 East 4 th Street Port Angeles WA	Jennie Bourassa 360 681 0372 or Kathy Schriner 360 681 3811 PO Box 98 Sequim WA 98382
September 19 & 20 Sat – 10 – 5 Sun – 10 – 4	Southern WA Mineralogical Society	Castle Rock Fairgrounds 120 Fair Lane, Castle Rock WA	Chuck Sonner chucksnr@yahoo.com 360-785-3909.
October 9, 10, & 11 Fri – 10 – 6 Sat – 10 – 6 Sun – 10 – 5	Portland Regional Gem & Mineral Show Association	Washington County Fair Complex 873 NE 34 th Avenue Hillsboro OR 97124	L. Smith Portlandregional.DealerChair@gmail.com Portland Regional Gem and Mineral Show Association PO Box 5401 Portland OR 97228
October 10 & 11 Sat – 10 – 5 Sun – 10 – 5	Marysville Rock and Gem Club	Totem Middle School Café., 7 th Street and State Ave., Marysville WA	Brian Murril 425 346 9313 bmurriel@aol.com
October 17 & 18 Sat – 10 – 6 Sun – 10 – 5	Hells Canyon Gem Club	Nez Perce County Fair Building, 1229 Burrell Avenue, Lewiston ID	Dan Cease 509 254 1720 rockmangem@q.com www.hellscanyongemclub.com
October 17 & 18 Sat – 10 – 5 Sun – 10 – 4	Hatrockhounds Gem and Mineral Society	Hermiston Conference Center, Highway 395 South, Hermiston OR	Mike Filarski, 541 571 2593 stonemorlin1@netscape.net
October 24 & 25 Sat – 9 - 6 Sun – 10 - 5	Clackamette Mineral and Gem Club	Clackamas County Fairgrounds, 694 Ne. 4th Ave, Canby, OR 97013	Beth Heesacker, heesacker@coho.net , 4145 NW Heesacker Rd., Forest Grove, OR 97116
October 24 - 25 Sat – 10 – 6 Sun – 10 – 5	Bellevue Rock Club	Vasa Park, 3560 West Lake Sammamish Blvd SE, Bellevue WA	Bruce Himko bellevuerockclub@comcast.net PO Box 1851 Bellevue WA 98009
November 7 & 8 Sat – 9 – 5 Sun – 10 – 5	Maplewood Rock and Gem Club	Maplewood R&G Clubhouse, 8802 196 th ST SW, Edmonds WA	Don Wilcox 206 226 1868 tundrafox@earthlink.net
December 5 & 6 Sat – 9 – 6 Sun – 10 - 5	Winter Bazaar Maplewood Rock and Gem Club	Maplewood R&G Clubhouse, 8802 196 th ST SW, Edmonds WA	Mike Collins 206 714 6861
Feb. 13 - 14, 2016 Sat – 9 – 5 Sun – 9 – 4	Whidbey Island Gem Club	Oak Harbor Senior Center 51 SE Jerome Street Oak Harbor WA	Keith Ludemann 360 675 1837 rock9@whidbey.net
March 5 & 6, 2016 Sat – 10 – 6 Sun – 10 – 5	East KingCo Rock Club	Pickering Barn 1730-10th Avenue NW Issaquah WA	Cindy Smith cndysmith@gmail.com PO Box 2203, Redmond WA 98073
March 12-13, 2016 Sat – 10 – 6 Sun – 10 – 4	Magic Valley Gem Club	Twin Falls County Fairgrounds, Merchant Building #1, 215 Fair Avenue, Filer ID	Shirley or Rocky Metts 208 423 4827 rmetts@magicvalleygemclub.org
March 25-27, 2016 Fri – 10 – 6 Sat – 10 – 6 Sun 10 – 4	Rock Rollers Club of Spokane WA	Spokane County Fair & Expo Center, N.604 Havana at Broadway Spokane WA	Vonnie Dillon 509 951 8173 showchair@rockrollers.org
July 29-31, 2016	Willamette Agate and Mineral Society AFMS and NFMS MEETINGS	Linn County Expo Center, Albany Oregon	Janice Van Cura 541-753-2401 jvancura@peak.org , www.wamsi.org

**BE CAREFUL OUT THERE IN THE SUN.
WEAR SUNSCREEN AND SUNGLASSES.
BE SAFE.**

