



# NORTHWEST NEWSLETTER



**VOLUME 64, NO. 4 Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies  
JULY/AUGUST 2024**

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**NEWSLETTER DEADLINE:**  
**The editor will send out a reminder in time for all committees to respond.**  
**Estimated Deadline - AUGUST 1**  
**For deadlines and to submit articles**

**Contact:**  
**Editor—Jessica Himple**  
[\*\*NFMSEditor@outlook.com\*\*](mailto:NFMSEditor@outlook.com)



**NFMS Website:**  
[\*\*http://NorthwestFederation.org\*\*](http://NorthwestFederation.org)  
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Newsletters.asp\*\*](http://NorthwestFederation.org/Newsletters.asp)  
**and click on the month you want to see.**

## Letters From Our Committee Officers:

### **Jennifer Haley - President**



It's that time to say my goodbyes to you all as your NFMS president. I have really enjoyed the opportunity you have given me this past year, and I'm hoping you have felt the same in what I have been able to give to you.

The NFMS has so many wonderful and talented people. Being wonderful people comes naturally to rockhounds, and that is one of the reasons why I have always treasured our hobby together. That first rock club meeting I went to 20 years ago made me fall in love with the people and the hobby immediately. For generations you have not only kept this quality, but shared it with so many others. It is rare to meet someone for the first time and feel like you have known them your whole life, but it is not a rarity among our rockhound community of clubs and the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies (AFMS).

For the new members that come into your life, continue to teach them your skills of all the rockhound arts and crafts, of your knowledge and experience, and the AFMS Code of Ethics. Take the time to familiarize them about the larger family they are now a part of, the NFMS and the AFMS, and the large assortment of opportunities as members they can enjoy and be a part of. The formality of club and federation meetings is equally as important as much as all the fun you have together. Because, it gives a sense of structure and the gift of esteemed admiration for all those involved as your volunteers as officers, chairmen, and of course those of your membership.

**Letters From Our Committee Officers Continued:**

This also sets a good precedence for your guests and newest members to see and understand what matters to you as a functioning club.

A warm welcome to club guests and new members makes a huge lasting impression. Take the time to personally introduce them to your officers and chairmen. Introducing them to some of your long-time members and to those who love wearing what they've made, is a really nice thing to do. All of these gestures will help people get to know each other better, and helps everyone feel right at home.

I want you to know that you have a very good NFMS executive committee coming in for the 2024-2025 fiscal year, and with Lora Hall as your new president. They have been so great to work with this past year because we've worked together so well. I want to especially thank Jim Brain, Darrell Coyle, Larry Hulstrom, Evan Day, Janel Lacey and our newest chairmen for the extra work they have been putting into the federation this past year, along with their excellent insights and advice for which our federation will be all the better for.

I don't know what the NFMS would do without our Judi Allison- NFMS Secretary. She is the "wonder woman" of your federation with her labor of love not only in her experience and wisdom, but with working with people. Often working behind the scenes on many things, and always an integral member of every executive committee year after year, I don't know what our federation would do without her. She's a good cook too, and if you missed out on her cowboy beans and chicken sa-lade during the show, then I think I probably ate more than my fair share and enjoyed them immensely. Thank you so much, Judi!

Many thanks to Mike Filarski-2024 Show Chairman and the Hermiston Hatrockhounds for hosting this year's NFMS Annual Show. They did a beautiful job all around from the warm welcome at the door, to all the details of creating an enjoyable experience at the show for all. You could really tell the public was having a good time.

Many thanks to Teddy Bunch who was a natural at making the dino puppet come alive, as he showed it off at Hermiston. This travelling puppet has been passed onto the Lakeside Gem and Mineral Club, and then will make its next debut at the

NFMS Annual Show hosted by the Marcus Whitman Gem and Mineral Society in September 2025.

Once again Doug True held a great Live Auction, this time at Hermiston to benefit the NFMS. Every time people hear he's doing an auction, they know Doug will make it fun, the quality will be superb and the material will always be something special. Additionally, we all learn a lot interesting information about the history and uniqueness of the material. Thank you, Doug!

Last but never least, you can't put a limit on the value of working together with BLM and other public land management where there is collecting. Between all the states who are members of the NFMS, there is a lot of territory where our hobby could use more good people who can get involved to help build similar relationships as Susie and the OCRMC have done and are doing. Working together really is working out well, so don't be afraid of exploring what you or your club can do to help recreational rockhounding stay in good standing on public lands. Rock and gem clubs have always been big on education, for their members and offering programs at schools.

I think helping to educate public land management and offering to help them with public programs and projects, is another valuable aspect of the education we can provide. Don't wait to be involved until there is something to fear or something to lose. You can have enjoyable experiences creating ways to build positive relationships with management. There's a lot we can accomplish together. The future of recreational rockhounding really is up to rockhounds being involved. By the way, I don't know who helped create this success happening, but the BLM of Central Oregon in their excellent rockhounding brochure map, has been including the AFMS Code of Ethics in its entirety in that brochure since 2016. I would love to see our "code" used more throughout other Public Lands' educational information.

A lot of "thank-yous" in my parting message, but all of them well deserved. To all of you, keep up the good work and continue to create wonderful times together. I've always enjoyed the many aspects of being a volunteer for our federation. I think you will too, if you take the plunge. Enjoy your summer and happy rockhounding!

*Jennifer Haley*

*Continued on page 3*

**Letters From Our Committee Officers Continued:****Lora Hall - 1st Vice President**

It was great seeing everyone at the Annual Show in Hermiston, and I want to extend a very heartfelt Thank You to the Hatrockhounds Gem and Mineral Club for being A+ hosts. I came home with some

awesome thundereggs from the silent auction table. Well to be fair, I haven't had time to cut them yet so I guess I should say, I came home with some "potentially" awesome thundereggs. I tried to make it to most of the events, but I had to leave early on Sunday. (Sorry, not being retired, I still have a "day job" I had to get home to.)

Of all the awards given out, it was especially uplifting to hear that after a "dry spell" we had not one, not two, but seven NFMS Junior Achievement Scholarships awarded. I had the privilege of serving on the judging committee and in reading through the applications, I was amazed by the talent and commitment of our junior members. Some of them have overcome huge obstacles at school, at home, and in life to participate in this hobby. If one of these winners is in your club, please take a moment to shake their hand and thank them for their dedication. I can't say it enough, these members are not our future, they are our here and now! They are full-fledged members of the NFMS that just happen to be under the age of 18.

As the AFMS Junior Programs Chair, every month I hear of at least one club that excludes juniors on field trips, asks that they not attend "adult" meetings and lectures, prohibits them from participating in clinics or seminars, and even bars them from helping at club shows. And yes, I have heard every excuse in the book from OSHA regulations to the grumpiness of older members. The best one recently was, "they are a tripping hazard." Really! Maybe if you bored them to death and they fell asleep on the floor. For gosh sakes, wrap them in hazard tape if you have to, but do not exclude them.

The annual meeting in Hermiston went extremely well and I am already looking forward to next year's show in Walla Walla, WA. I want to stress the headway we are making on a number of issues. A big one for me, as incoming president, was presenting one of the first balanced budgets in a several years. The balanced budget was made possible by switching to an electronic newsletter, reducing the size of the

directory (which is also a step forward in protecting membership privacy), and the return to our regular membership fee structure. For the first time in years, we can again fund projects that will benefit all members of the NFMS! Folks have already been kicking around ideas including a travel exhibition and a mobile education center.

In closing, when I was first elected as the 2nd VP, I was asked to provide a photo. So, I chose something mundane but now that you all know me better, I am changing to a photo more in keeping with my true nature.

Sincerely yours,

Lora Hall

1st VP NFMS

**Michael Rhodes - 2nd Vice President**

Another annual meeting has come and gone. Thanks to the Hatrockhound Gem and Mineral Society for hosting the meeting. It was good to see many of you and some progress was made in moving our federation forward, particularly moving to a digital federation newsletter, removing private information from the NFMS Directory and reducing the size of the directory.

I enjoyed the participation of society directors and delegates in these discussions. There are always opportunities to help the federation by serving on (or chairing!) one of the many standing committees. Let us know where you would like to help.

And now it is...

**SUMMERTIME**

A time to go looking for rocks and minerals. A time to be with friends and family, A time for travel and vacations. Perhaps a time to combine one or more of the preceding,

As I write this, I am currently doing all of the above, I have been visiting family and looking for rocks.

**Letters From Our Committee Officers Continued:**

Our daughter and her husband took us to an amazing lapidary museum in Oak Brook, Illinois, the Lizzadro Lapidary Museum has one of the largest collections of carved jade I have ever seen, along with other carved stones. I mention this because, as you travel, you may find museums and rock shops in unexpected places.

One of my favorite rock shops in Michigan is also a furniture store, an interesting combination. The owner has a great supply of slabs, cabs, handmade jewelry and some rough material, again not a place you would expect to find such treasures.

We have been walking along the beaches of southern Lake Michigan and have found some small pieces of jasper and agate hidden in the sand. I look forward to looking for Petoskey Stones and other fossils as we go further north and hope to even find some Lake Superior agates as we walk the pebbled beaches of the Upper Peninsula,

If you are able, get out and find some treasures this summer- at Gem and Mineral Shows, rock shops, or just in the ground. Go out with your local club on field trips, buy a guidebook for your state and take the family out into nature.

It is good to get out and enjoy nature, always be aware of possible hazards, rattlesnakes, cliffs, dehydration, etc., but don't let these keep you from going out, just be cautious.

Be safe, have a good summer, and, as always, ROCK ON!

**Meet the People – a few more**

Hopefully you have been enjoying learning about some of our volunteers. This month we have a special “double take”. Our current newsletter editor, Kathy Larson will be leaving to take up grandma duties. She was scheduled to be part of the last couple of papers, but she managed to omit it because she needed the space (or an excuse-perhaps she is a bit shy-just kidding) At any rate, I wanted for you to have the opportunity to get to know her and thank her for her volunteerism.

I said “double take” because we have a special person who raised her hand, stepped forward and said, I would like to create the newsletter. Our “soon to be” newsletter editor, Jessica Himple will be taking up the reins after the August/September issue. We thank Kathy for her tutelage and Jessica for her enthusiasm!

Also featured this month is our Historian, Robert Dalton. I want you to know that Robert has had some hardships this past year (which he doesn't mention in his story) but he continues to step forward with a positive mindset.

Since we will have additional room in our newsletters because of the electronic delivery, I am hoping to broaden “meeting the people” to members in the individual clubs. Let me know if this is something you are interested in. You, as readers could help in that process by writing up something about one of your members (Be sure it is okay with them before you send it for publication.) If you don't already know, there are many types of entries for newsletter contests, so you might even qualify to win recognition for your submission.

So, without further ado, I present our “Meet the People.”- Judi Allison



*Continued on page 5*

**Meet The People - Continued:****Kathryn Larson**

I was born in Washington but grew up in northern California. I took some geology classes at our junior college and discovered a whole new world. I learned about volcanoes and fossils and plate tectonics and diamonds and minerals and so much more. I've always loved rocks but I'm not a dedicated rockhound. I can walk along a creek bed for hours looking at rocks. But I didn't know about the inside of rocks until I joined a rock club. Who knew how amazing mother nature could be.

I'm retired now but I spent several years working in construction. It gave me the perfect opportunity to satisfy my rock habit. Lunchtime would find me walking along the riverbank looking for another rock to add to my collection.

My husband is a dedicated rockhound and a skilled cabochon maker. His collection is amazing. We have rocks everywhere. On the dining room table, in the front room, along the driveway and along the fence. Our garage is full of rocks and equipment. His hobby has enabled me to meet many wonderful people who are all artists in their own way. We've sat up many late nights with friends having discussions centered around rocks.

I do like to create beauty with rocks. I have sandblasted rocks and recently I am dabbling with painting rocks. That probably sounds awful to a rockhound. Painting on a rock that can be cut into cabochons, imagine that!

We started spending our winters in Arizona about 5 years ago. The Tri-City weather in January gets so cold and dreary that it's a blessing to see the bright sunshine and feel the warm temperatures. We joined the Apache Junction rock club and have been able to participate in the many field trips offered. Arizona has so many rocks! We've been on field trips for onyx, Apache tears, azurite, malachite, jasper and Arizona diamonds which are crystals. A field trip is coming up soon where we will go look for fire agate.

We have a 3-year-old granddaughter. I hate leaving her during the winter. She is SO cute and smart. I'm not sure how much longer I will be able to leave her behind. Did I tell you that she's a rockhound? She's been picking up rocks since she started walking. I think her Papa being a rockhound has something to do with it.

I volunteered to be the newsletter editor 3 years ago. I was looking for a challenge and something to stretch myself a bit. This position has definitely done both. Before this, I admit I just skimmed the newsletter to see if there were any interesting fieldtrips or tidbits of useful information. Now I have learned how much valuable information there is available and how hard these people work to run the Federation. Some of our people hold multiple positions because of the need and the lack of others to fill those positions. Please think about volunteering. We need you.



**Meet The People - Continued:****Jessica Himple - Editor**

Hello reader! I will be your new editor for the Mineralogical Society Northwest Newsletter!

I live a bit outside of Seattle, in Everett Washington. I have lived here my whole life as well as my husband, our daughter (7), and our son (3), and we love everything the PNW has to offer. My family loves to go on hikes, visit tide pools, and go to beaches. My kids especially love going to the beach to see what kind of rocks they can find and adding to our ever-growing “beach rock” collection that currently resides in a 5-gallon bucket.

I just graduated college in December with a degree in Elementary Education and Special Education from Western Washington University. I am currently substituting and looking to find a school district to call home for the upcoming school year. I've known that I wanted to be a teacher since I was 10 years old, and it is very surreal to finally see my dream coming true.

My rock obsession began when I was little when my dad gave me the box of rocks he had collected throughout his life. I would add to it sporadically, but my passion truly ignited a few years ago. I realized there was a world of minerals beyond what I could find on a beach. From that point, I started collecting everything that looked interesting (dangerous route to go, I know), and eventually narrowed my focus and realized my love for fluorite, as I'm sure many of you can relate to. Every time I look at cubic fluorite, my mind goes to that old quote, “There are no straight lines or sharp corners in nature”, and I always think about what other “impossibilities” are left to be discovered.

I have spent a lot of my studying time researching how to identify minerals and the locations they are from. Although I am no expert, I feel like I have honed my identification and locale abilities fairly well. I hope to take this hobby on the more academic route in the future, and potentially teach it to high school or college students.

I look forward to joining the team and working with everyone to bring the newsletter to you all. I'm very grateful I've gotten the opportunity to help our community and to do my small part in keeping us all connected.

**\*\* Please remember going forward to email me at [nfmseditor@outlook.com](mailto:nfmseditor@outlook.com). I kept it as similar to the previous editor's email as I could to make the change easy. However, please take note that it is now an Outlook email address.**

**Also, I'd love to feature specimens from your collections in the newsletter! Please send me some pictures that you have taken, or have the copyright for, so we can show them off! \*\***

**Meet The People - Continued:****Robert Dalton - Historian**

Greetings to all!

I am **Robert Dalton**, and I am your NFMS Historian and have been for about a year and a half, or is it two and a half? My how time flies when you are having fun!

I was born and raised in the Portland Metro area. Joined the Navy in high school through delayed entry program and went active duty after I graduated high school. I spent two fun years of shore duty in Naples, Italy. After the service, I came home, married, had kids, and divorced. Then for thirty years I lived in different states, my last twenty-five being in Kentucky.

In Kentucky, I found out my family back home became interested in rockhounding. My father, Darrell Dalton, became NFMS President during 1993-1994. Hearing his stories got me interested in the hobby so I became a rockhound myself and joined a club in Lexington, Kentucky. My first field trip was an outing during the clubs' annual show and we explored a nearby stream in Irvine. What a fun time trudging through the spring-time stream looking for Kentucky Agate.

After an accident at home, I was not able to be as active as I wanted to, so I cut back on the rockhounding and spent more time working around the house or with the American Legion. Though I was not active, rockhounding still had not completely left my blood. By then, my father had passed away from cancer and I was remarried. Home life, civil service work with the Kentucky Employment Office and American Legion activities kept me busy.

In 2020, the stars aligned, and my wife of twenty years and I sold our home and moved to Oregon. Ah, back home for me! God's country! It was heavenly to be living in an area where the humidity was not higher than the ambient temperature, though at the time, the whole state was on fire.

Once we settled, and COVID outbreaks lessened, I was able to join my parents' old alma mater you might say, the Tualatin Valley Gem Club in Forest Grove. Oh, my eyes sparkled while ogling over polished rocks and limb casts thinking, "I want that! And that! And that!" Too many choices to make!

Now I have dual membership with TVGC and Clackamette Mineral & Gem Club in Oregon City. I have been afforded the opportunity to be CMGC Newsletter Editor and Program Director. Being editor allowed me to continue an old passion of mine: writing. I was editor of a small newsletter and then editor of our command newspaper while in the Navy. In Kentucky, I was able to draft articles for the Kentucky American Legion Press Association, even becoming President one year.

I know I have tested my wife's patience over the years. I enjoy doing volunteer work, especially for fellow veterans. In Kentucky, I was Finance Officer for my post for around eight years. During that time, rolling out a new state law that allowed charitable gaming at our post. I also served as District Vice Commander, District Commander, and with Sons of the American Legion as Area B Commander. I was Finance Officer with our neighborhood association and a member of the Lexington Parks Citizen Board. Here in Oregon, I have been part of the Portland Regional Gem and Mineral Show as a Vice President; Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary, Senior Vice and District President. I also sit on the Washington County Aging and Veteran Services Advisory Council as a member and standby. I have always enjoyed my time giving back to the community and doing my part to make it better for everyone. It has been a blessed experience over the years, and it has been especially funny to hear my wife exclaim after returning from a field trip, "More rocks?!" Some of you know what I am talking about.

**Meet The People - Continued:****Vicki Johnson - Endowment Chair**

I volunteered to be the Endowment Chairman a couple years ago not knowing what I was getting into. Thank goodness Jim Brain was there keeping an eye on our money and how it should be invested. He has done an excellent job and leaves very little for me to do!

My husband and I joined the local rock club 32 years ago when our 3 children were young. It was a great adventure for our family and has turned into a lifelong adventure.

We have gone to Quartzsite the past few years to see the shows and enjoy some warmer weather than Washington has. Unfortunately, this year we were in the snow and freezing rain that followed us down there! It made for an exciting trip! Once at the shows we met up with my brother and sister n law and also my cousin. The weather was beautiful and sunny and we took a few trips on our own out to explore using an old map book. We were very successful following the old maps and found dumortierite, fire agates and beautiful large desert roses! The 2<sup>nd</sup> week we visited a friend in Bouse, and I think we ended up getting all the rainfall for the year in a few days! Took in the bi-monthly craft show at Bouse while we were there. If you haven't been there you should go! Last year we visited a ghost town northeast of Quartzsite. Here I am with our dog Snoopy.

I am retirement age but still work as a Realtor! Keeps me busy! When I am home you will find me outside if the weather is warm enough working in the flowers or vegetable garden. I also cook almost everything from scratch and can, freeze & dry my vegetables and fruits!

Vicki Johnson/President/Editor/Archivist/Field Trips  
Some of the hats I wear!



## Help! Help! (Plight of the Numerically Challenged)

Are numbers your game? They could be your claim to fame. This is a plea from someone who cringes at the sight of a Sudoku puzzle! Throw some letters in there instead, and I'll be fine. Numbers and I are simply incompatible. Don't get me wrong, I do manage my checkbook-but not to the penny. I'll give up a few cents for the sake of sanity. I can see some of you cringe at that statement, because you are whizzes at math and everything must match in your logical world. So, perhaps one of you numbers folks could rescue me (and our Federation.)

As you most probably know, tragically, we suddenly lost our Treasurer, Andrew Lacey, in April. He was a crackerjack whiz at numbers and was able to put to rights my paltry stab at keeping our treasury going after losing our previous treasurer the prior year. Well, here I am, holding the bag again. Do you really want this numerically challenged individual messing around in our treasury for an extended period of time?

I will admit that the position is a fairly big job, especially at the end of the year when dues come in and during the time of the annual meeting. But, as with any good "numbers person" if your books are straight and up to date, it is simply a matter of adding and subtracting.

Please consider taking up this position and let me concentrate on my letters and words rather than cringing at the thought of the numbers. It really is fun to volunteer for the Federation, and you get to know a lot of cool people. If you think you might be interested in this position, any of the executive committee would be happy to discuss it with you. We are all in this together and we are here to help each other. As quoted from Let's Make a Deal, "Come on down!"



Judi Allison, NFMS Secretary

(and reluctant pro tem Treasurer)

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## NFMS 2024 Show in Hermiston, OR

Only 1 competitive case was entered at the show in May. Priscilla-Hall Ford, from the Oregon Agate & Mineral Society entered her cabochons case (more than one material) as a master's level entry and won Trophy #17 with a score of 96.5. Following the NFMS Show, she took the case to Ventura, CA for the AFMS annual meeting and received a score of 96, where she was one of 55 competitive entries at the show. Great job, Priscilla!

Please, consider entering a competitive case at the 2025 NFMS show which will be held in Walla Walla, WA on September 12 – 14. Start planning now, and practice by entering the case at your local club show, or one in your area between now and next September. If you have any questions, feel free to contact me.

Josh Hulstrom  
NFMS Rules & Awards Chair

## Editor's Awards Winners:

May 26<sup>th</sup> 2024 the AFMS Bulletin Editors Awards Breakfast began. The room was decorated with jelly fish and mermaids. (Seaside Gems, the theme of the Ventura Show). Soon the head table was covered with plaques and certificates. As we all tried to enjoy our breakfast, you could feel the excitement and anticipation as we anxiously awaited for the awards to be announced. Before I list all our winners from Northwest Federation, I would like to take this opportunity to thank each one of you who participated in the Bulletin Editors Contest. I understand that the deadline to get in your entries was earlier than the previous year, but you all stepped up and sent them in. With this being my first time chairing this, I feel you all did a great job. It was exciting to hear your names called and to go up in front of everyone and except your award on your behalf. I will do my best to encourage each of you and hopefully more, to participate again next year.

So, without further ado. A Big round of Applause and Congratulations go to,

### **Adult Articles**

Honorable Mention; Jim Cerezie from Cascade Mineralogical Society, Giving an Old Rock Saw a Facelift.

Honorable Mention; Jim Urbaniak from Oregon Agate and Mineral Society, An Ocean at the Top of the World

### **Adult Articles Advanced**

9<sup>th</sup> Place; Kat Koch from Cascade Mineralogical Society, Is the Secret to Losing Weight to Move to the Canadian Tundra?

### **Drawn Features**

4<sup>th</sup> Place; Keith Morgan from Cascade Mineralogical Society, If you hold a fossil shell up...

5<sup>th</sup> Place; Duane Flackus from Clackamette Mineral and Gem Corp, Hard Luck Harry.

### **Written Features**

Honorable Mention; Richard Gunsolus from Clackamette Gem and Mineral Corp. Field Trips

Honorable Mention; Karli Cook from Hatrockhound Gem & Mineral Society. Red October II. Field Trip

Honorable Mention; Roger Danneman from Cascade Mineralogical Society, Field Trip Report for Biggs Junction.

### **Special Publications**

2<sup>nd</sup> Place; Kat Koch from Cascade Mineralogical Society, Cascade Gem & Mineral Show Brochure.

### **Large Bulletins**

3<sup>rd</sup> Place; Keith Morgan from Cascade Mineralogical Society, Junes issue of The CMS Tumbler

### **Jr. Bulletins**

1<sup>st</sup> Place; Jim Urbaniak from Oregon Agate and Mineral Society, Nov/Dec issue Rockhound Jr.

### **New Editors**

3<sup>rd</sup> Place; Robert Dalton from Clackamette Mineral & Gem Corp, The Clackamette Gem.

As some of you may have noticed the Jr. Bulletins category. That is new this year. I noticed there was a category for Jr's who write newsletters for their Jr program. Then there was newsletters written for adults (by adults). But nothing for the Jr Chairman of your club who writes a newsletter for their Jr's. After bringing this up, it was decided to introduce this new category. So, for any of you that have a Jr program in your club and the chairman writes them a newsletter, you can enter one of those newsletters into this Bulletins Editors contest next year.

Again, Congratulations to all of you for a job well done. Keep those stories coming!

May you never be at a loss for words and may your pen never run out of ink.

**Priscilla Hall-Ford  
Oregon Agate and Mineral Society  
BEAC for NFMS**



## **Thanks for the Memories - Natures Treasures Underfoot**

On behalf of the Hatrockhounds, I want to give a thank you to all who came and participated in the NFMS Show and meetings in Hermiston, Oregon. I spoke to a number of folks, and they said they enjoyed themselves. We were happy to host all of you. And the experience was an eye opener for some of our members. One member, who had been hesitant about the whole process of taking on the Federation show, continued to marvel for days about what a great, nice bunch of folks were involved in the Federation activities. That's the kind of reaction I like to see!

I want to give a special thanks to all who attended the various meetings and activities, to all the Hatrockhound members who spent many hours helping to create the show, to the dealers, the demonstrators and the special Federation folks who stepped up and helped in every way. And our show chairman deserves an extra thanks for his willingness, dedication and hours of toil-Thanks Mike Filarski!

With that said, I want to urge each one of you to consider hosting an NFMS Show. Our club consists of approximately fifty members with from twelve to twenty-five regular attendees. So, you see, it doesn't take a lot of folks to put on a good show. And the Executive Committee will work with you in planning for some creative ideas to help make things happen. Perhaps the Awards Banquet could take on a different flavor. Maybe instead of a banquet, have a dessert bar or an appetizer evening. Things are always open to negotiations. As examples, the split in proceeds can be negotiated. You can host the Federation at the same time as your usual annual show. Perhaps your venue only allows for two days of show-maybe there is a way for you to have the meetings prior to the show at your regular meeting place. (This is going to happen in Walla Walla in 2025, so we will have a historical example of how it worked.) One year the Federation Executive committee was completely in charge of arranging for the banquet, its registration and execution.

Step up and join the fun! We need you! It would be great to have commitments for the next three or four years. And, look at all the time you would have to plan! Pulling off a great show would be a breeze. And it will be fun! ☺



People enjoying the banquet



The delicious food about to be served



Table centerpieces and favors



The show in full swing

## Some Fun From The Show:



Welcome Sign Into The Show



People Enjoying The Show



Teddy Bunch Entertaining With A Dinosaur



Hello From Kid's Corner



Kid's Corner Sand Art



President, Jennifer Haley gifting Secretary, Judi Allison with two dozen roses.



Kid's Corner Activities



Kid's Corner Activities



Roberta Hansen and Judi Allison Enjoying a Meal After Counting the Money from the Silent Auction



Oregon Council of Rock and Mineral Clubs, Inc. Display



Editor's Breakfast Attendees

Face painter at the junior's area, Laurie Ellis-NFMS  
Rockhound of the Year chairman

Editor's Breakfast Attendees



Gem Tree on display by Mickee Madden



Installation of Officers by Darrell Coyle



NFMS Cabochon Display Case.



Rock Home Created by Judi Allison

**NFMS EXECUTIVE OFFICERS 2022-2023**

**PRESIDENT:** Jennifer Haley, 2490 Spring Mountain Rd., Saint Helena, CA 94574 (541) 660-1832 (NFMS Club Member At Large), [ladybuglane@napablogger.com](mailto:ladybuglane@napablogger.com)

**1<sup>ST</sup> VICE PRESIDENT:** Lora Hall, Hellgate Mineral Society of Missoula, MT, PO Box 1095, Frenchtown MT 59834 [silvertipminis@msn.com](mailto:silvertipminis@msn.com)

**2<sup>ND</sup> VICE PRESIDENT:** Michael Rhodes, Golden Spike Gem & Mineral Society, 317 E 200 S, Brigham City, UT, 84302-2621, (435) 230 0403 [mrmbrhodes0@gmail.com](mailto:mrmbrhodes0@gmail.com)

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

**TREASURER:** VACANT

Judi Allison (pro tem), Hatrockhounds Gem and Mineral Society, 1701 NW 11<sup>th</sup> St., Hermiston, OR, 97882, (541) 720-4950, [nfmssec@gmail.com](mailto:nfmssec@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. [Rockhound2019@comcast.net](mailto:Rockhound2019@comcast.net)

**CIRCULATION:** Golden Spike Gem & Mineral Society, 875 E 4500 S, S. Ogden, UT 84403, (801) 479-4286, [Roxhund@aol.com](mailto:Roxhund@aol.com)  
\* Clubs need only to send contact info for their board members. Contact clubs directly to reach out to specific members.

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

**CUSTODIAN:** 2<sup>ND</sup> Vice President: (see above)

**DIRECTORY:** Janel Lacey, Marcus Whitman Gem and Mineral Society, 43618 SW McKay Dr, Pendleton, OR, 97801, (541) 215-2839, [jclawl6461@gmail.com](mailto:jclawl6461@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 :** OPEN

**ENDOWMENT FUND:**  
**CHAIRMAN:** Vicki Johnson, Southern Washington Mineralogical Society, P.O.Box 611, Kelso, WA 98626 (360) 751-8031, [vickijrocks@msn.com](mailto:vickijrocks@msn.com)

**SECRETARY:** OPEN

**TREASURER:** Lyle Vogelpohl, West Seattle Rock Club, 8810 37th Ave. SW, Seattle, WA 98126-3617, (206) 932-3292, [lvogelpohl@comcast.net](mailto:lvogelpohl@comcast.net)

**FINANCIAL ADVISOR:** Jim Brain, NFMS Club-At-Large, 6410 W Sundance Dr., Spokane, WA 99208, (509) 863-9883, [jrbrain233@outlook.com](mailto:jrbrain233@outlook.com)

**HISTORIAN:** Robert Dalton, Clackamette Mineral and Gem Club, 18485 SW Pacific DR Unit 92, Tualatin, OR 97062 (859) 533-0026, [Robert.dalton1960@gmail.com](mailto:Robert.dalton1960@gmail.com)

**JUNIORS CHAIR:** Jennifer Fitch, Hellcat Mineral Society, 21148 Old US Hwy 93, Florence, MT, 59833 (517) 281-7461, [Fitch-s4god@aol.com](mailto:Fitch-s4god@aol.com)

**NEWSLETTER EDITOR:**  
Jessica Himple, (425) 622-3504, [nfmseditor@outlook.com](mailto:nfmseditor@outlook.com)

**NFMS CLUB-AT-LARGE:** 1ST Vice President (see above)

**NOMINATING CHAIRMAN:** Darrell Coyle, Bitterroot Gem and Mineral Society, PO Box 52, Corvallis, MT 59828, (406) 274-6874, [coyled69@spectrum.net](mailto:coyled69@spectrum.net)

**NORTHWEST ROCKHOUND RETREAT (Hancock):** Walter Butler, 8821 SW Equestrian Place, Crooked River Ranch, OR 97760, (503) 702-5743, [walterbutler@comcast.net](mailto:walterbutler@comcast.net)

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

**PUBLIC LANDS ADVISORY:** Susie Koppert, Mt. Hood Rock Club, 135 SE Marsh Rd., Sandy, OR 97055 [susiekopper@mail.com](mailto:susiekopper@mail.com)

**RESOLUTIONS:** Audrey Vogelpohl, West Seattle Rock Club, 8810 37th Ave. SW, Seattle, WA 98126-3617, (206) 932-3292, [avogelpohl@comcast.net](mailto:avogelpohl@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@hotmail.com](mailto:josh_hulstrom@hotmail.com)

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

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

**SAFETY:** OPEN

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

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

**SLIDE/ VIDEO LIBRARIAN:** Ronna Watkins, Yakima Rock and Mineral Club, PO Box 635, Tieton WA 98947, (509) 673-0085 [nfmsronna@gmail.com](mailto:nfmsronna@gmail.com)

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

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

**SHOW CHAIR 2023:** **Mike FilarSKI,** Hatrockhounds Gem and Mineral Society, PO Box 502, Irrigon, OR 97844, (541) 571-2593, [stonemorlin1@netscape.net](mailto:stonemorlin1@netscape.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](http://www.amlands.org) on the left side of the page. For more information contact: Frank Mullaney, 408-266-1791, cell: 408-691-2655, [Rockyfiv@aol.com](mailto:Rockyfiv@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@AMFED.org](mailto:AFMSeditor@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 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: Mary Lou Northrup (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:**

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](http://www.amfed.org/nfms)  
or  
<http://northwestfederation.org/>

**\*Due to changing to an electronic newsletter, clubs are no longer required to send contact information throughout the year for members who are added or removed from their roster. Directory will now only require the contact information for the board members of each club. If you would like to contact a specific person in another club, please contact their club.**

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING- NFMS Annual Meeting May 11, 2024, Hermiston, Oregon**

**Mike Filarski**, Show Chairman gave a welcome to the membership and a “Thanks for Coming.”

The meeting was officially called to order by **President, Jennifer Haley** at 1:12 pm with a **pledge to the flag**. She then introduced the **officers**: Lora Hall, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, Michael Rhodes, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President and Judi Allison, Secretary.

**Lora Hall** introduced the Past Presidents who were present: Darrell Coyle, Larry Hulstrom, Ronna Watkins and Judi Allison.

**Michael Rhodes** asked the remaining individuals present to introduce themselves: Jim Brain-Club at Large, Vicki and Emmet Johnson-Southern Washington, Evan Day-Golden Spike, Darrell Coyle-Bitterroot, Janel Lacey-Marcus Whitman, Dennis English-Marcus Whitman, Mike Rose-North Idaho, Bill Johnson-North Idaho, Margaret Meyer-Far West, Josh Hulstrom-Lakeside, Larry Hulstrom-Lakeside, Michael & Lynn Richards-Hellgate, Sue Stewart, Daniel & Dianna Stevens-Kent, Candra & James Burkhardt-Everett, Elizabeth Ford-Oregon Agate, Priscilla Hall-Ford-Oregon Agate, Jerry & Mary Lou Northrup-Hells Canyon, June Dorning-Yakima, Ronna Watkins-Yakima, Mel Lambert-Hatrockhounds, Margie & Rod Miller-Golden Spike, Bill Harvey-Tualatin Valley, Ed Moser-Owyhee, Don Diron-Owyhee, Debbie Mitchell- Idaho Gem Club, Gary Warren-Golden Spike, Clara & Del Walker-Pow Wow, Jennifer Fitch-Hellgate, Maureen Williams-Oregon Council.

Darrell Coyle then gave a shout out for the **New Director Guide Book** that can be found on the NFMS website. It tells what you are supposed to be doing as a Director for your club.

**Pastor, Evan Day** gave an invocation, asking that our meeting go well.

**President, Jennifer Haley** read the names of those who have passed in the last year, adding

Ralph Luther, Greg Tacket, Kay Berry and Patsy Bethel to the list. She then asked for a moment of silence in remembrance.

**Credentials Chairs, Clara and Del Walker** reported there were 26 members from 16 clubs who had credentials. Clara introduced the additional six from four clubs and asked for a motion to include them as approved directors. Emmett Johnson made a motion and Larry Hulstrom seconded. With a raise of paddles, they were accepted. The final count was then 31 members representing 20 clubs.

President, Jennifer spoke to her report reiterating that where would no longer be a hard copy of the NFMS Newsletter. She had found that many in the Federation were not receiving a hard copy. She explained that ten years ago the Federation changed printers and we just recently received information about their process. They admitted they had been lax in reviewing and following through with mailing issues. In addition, clubs often have not updated their information. The circulation chair had not weeded out old recipients nor received all the new information. Only ten of the sixty plus clubs sent in updates. The information of the Treasurer, Directory and Circulation were not matching, which was creating a major issue. With an electronic copy sent to key individuals in each club the issues should be eliminated. We will also be able to create a larger, more colorful newsletter with the maximum ten issues allowed instead of keeping it at a minimum of six to preserve costs.

Maureen Williams suggested that both a doc and PDF be attached. Janel Lacey suggested a PDF, as not all programs can open a doc, while PDFs are more universal. Darrell Coyle pointed out that with this method the paper will be available to all. Emmett Johnson stated their club had voted for a hard copy. “Now we have to tell our members no. What do we do?” It was pointed out that clubs could opt to print copies for their membership. Janel Lacey suggested that we move on.

Judi passed around a clipboard with the names of the clubs and contacts she has, requesting contacts from those who had not given a name and email.

The next item for discussion was the Directory. Jennifer explained that in the past there have been too many printed. We tried to cut down and still had more than thirty remaining. The cost has consistently risen. Every members name and information is listed in the directory - even Juniors. With the push toward privacy, rising costs and a need to be more aware of vulnerabilities the Executive Committee and Chair of the Directory felt there was a need to reconsider how the directory is put together. In their discussion it was suggested that the directory only contain the key information of each club - Officers and key people, meeting time and place and business address. With that suggestion, Darrell Coyle moved to remove the names of individual members and list only pertinent information of officers and key individuals. Michael Richards seconded the motion. Clara Walker asked how it would be known if clubs were reporting the correct number of members if they weren't listed. Judi Allison stated "Honesty. We have to have trust in our clubs, and we know that even with reporting names, there have been clubs that have failed to include membership payments for all. There was additional discussion explaining how the directory will work. The vote was then called for with a repeated reading of the motion. Motion passed by a strong majority.

Jennifer announced that she would hold a Cracker Barrel meeting Sunday after the ALAA meeting for folks to discuss anything they would like and air or clarify issues.

Judi Allison offered tickets for the AFMS Endowment fund drawing to be held in Ventura the end of May. Thanks to those who purchased tickets and good luck.

Lora Hall discussed how she had arrived at the budget for the next year. She looked line by line at the categories. In some areas the amount of budget have been changed to reflect our mission and vision to do things. In the end, the proposed budget is balanced with a surplus. Jerry Northrup moved to approve the budget with the ability to reallocate funds as needed within the budget. Sue Stewart seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Priscilla Hall-Ford spoke about her new position and the work she has done as Bulletin Aids Chair. The submissions have been judged and sent on to AFMS. There will be a breakfast tomorrow morning to announce the winners.

Michael Rhodes thanked all the committees who responded to his request for verification of their holdings in order to update the custodial records.

Janel Lacey stated that the information relative to the Directory was in the bulletin. She also emphasized that even though all the information will not be in the directory (individual names) send in your information (and dues) ON TIME. Maureen Williams, who has had experience soliciting for the Oregon Council suggested that a request needs to go out early with a reminder about the benefits and accomplishments-what the Federation does for you. Jim Brain emphasized that a club is paying for the PREVIOUS year when sending in dues. The NFMS pays dues to the AFMS, which must be submitted by a specific date. It was suggested that a manual on process for paying dues would be helpful to the clubs. Jim Brain added some information to his report on the Endowment Fund. He stated in the last ten days the account increased by \$5000. The market is quite volatile, but it appears that things will continue to increase by at least a bit. There should be from \$10,000 to \$12,000 for use for special projects to benefit the Federation.

Jennifer pointed out that there could be some fun projects and she encouraged clubs to come up with ideas. Jim added that if you suggest a project, have someone for a lead. The Endowment committee can fund a worthwhile project, but cannot be the one to implement it. Evan Day made a point to give accolades to the Endowment Committee for all their work.

Although he was in route and unable to attend, Doug True asked that it be announced that the Blue Forest field trip would be May 18-20.

**Jennifer Fitch** gave an overview of some of the things she has been working on as the new **Junior Chair**. After reaching out to other Federations she has created a goody bag for all the Junior leaders who attend the meeting tomorrow. She spoke of promoting the Rock Exchange Program and asked for additional ideas on contests for kids. There was also mention, as a source, of Jim Urbaniak of the Oregon Agate and Mineral Society who writes a Rockhound Junior newsletter. The submission due date for the **Junior Achievement Award** has been changed to a set date each year. The new date is to be **postmarked by February 15<sup>th</sup> of each year**. This will allow for getting things judged no matter when the Annual Show takes place.

The winners of the awards were announced:

#### Age group 1: up to 7 years old

Jacob MacFarlane, Marysville Rock and Gem Club (Washington)

Hudson Brown, Hellgate Mineral Society (Montana)

#### Age group 2: ages 8 through 11 years old

Gabe Murphy, Hellgate Mineral Society (Montana)

#### Age group 3: ages 12 through 15 years old

Christian MacFarlane, Marysville Rock and Gem Club (Washington)

#### Age group 4: ages 16 through 18 years old

Graecilyn Wykes, Marysville Rock and Gem Club (Washington)

Jacob Haneberg, Marysville Rock and Gem Club (Washington)

Congratulations to all!

**Kathy Larson** is retiring as **newsletter editor** to spend more time with her granddaughter and to continue her snowbirding to Arizona. We are fortunate that a volunteer has stepped forward and will be working with Kathy for the next couple of issues to learn the ropes and continue on with the newsletter as it launches into the virtual world. Our thanks to **Jessica Himple** of the Everett Rock and Gem Club! Darrell Coyle gave an overview of the Nominating Committee's process for selection of the nominees. He introduced Gary Warren as the candidate for 2nd Vice President for the coming year. He also offered Lora Hall as President, Michael Rhodes as 1st Vice President and Judi Allison as Secretary. Sadly, because of the sudden and recent loss of Andrew Lacey, we are searching for a Treasurer candidate. After introductions, Darrell called for additional nominations from the floor. Having no challengers, the slate of officers for the 2024-2025 year was approved by acclamation.

Larry Hulstrom, as Chair of the Past Presidents Committee, stated that the bid for the show next year has been approved. The Marcus Whitman Gem and Mineral Society will be hosting the 2025 NFMS Show September 12-14, 2025 at the County Fairgrounds in Walla Walla, Washington. Meetings will be at their club house on Friday with the show taking place on Saturday and Sunday. Janel Lacey stated that it is a busy weekend in Walla Walla and suggested people plan on getting their accommodations now. If you are interested in camping, check with her. Thank you to the Marcus Whitman Club for stepping forward to host the Show. We need hosts for future shows. The Federation can tag on to your regular show date and many things can be negotiable. We understand the rising costs and work of putting on a show and are willing to work with clubs to help ease and facilitate the process.

Jennifer reported that there may be a possible candidate for Chair of Public Relations.

Judi reminded attendees at honoring a member of their club as **AFMS Rockhound of the Year** is a simple process. Every club can be selecting an **adult and Junior member each year**. Consider giving accolades to your unsung heroes of the year.

Speaking for Show Coordinator, Faith Farley, Darrell Coyle reminded clubs to get their show information in early-at least four months.

**Ronna Watkins** stated that digitizing and creating power points from many of the slide shows is in the works. Check the information on the web site and read the instructions on obtaining programs from the **library**. Be sure to request an item early, as media travels through the mail slowly. Remember that it is the club's responsibility to pay for and return the borrowed item. Ronna stated that the media checked out this last year all received rave reviews. So, remember, if you are looking for a program, perhaps there is a presentation waiting for you.

**Ed Anderson and Aaron Currier thank folks for the donations of stamps.** This year there were many sent on to them, thanks in large part to the Owyhee club. There was also donation of a personal collection. Remember that Ed and Aaron have chosen the Junior members as the recipients of the funds from stamp sales. The money goes into a separate Junior fund.

Ronna stated she has membership applications for **ALAA**. Clubs or individual members can join. ALAA-American Lands Access Association is independent of the rock hobby clubs, as they were formed to be a lobby group and keep abreast of issues pertaining to rockhound access to sites. Consider joining and supporting the cause.

**Ronna also spoke as the 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President of the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies (AFMS).** She will be traveling to the AFMS Show in Ventura, California May 22-26 where the annual meeting will be held.

Speaking as Junior Chair for the AFMS, Lora

Hall stated that her job is done, as her job was to get the NFMS a dynamic Junior Chair. She offered Jennifer's presentation as proof that it has been accomplished.

Mary Lou Northrup reminded members that giving to the scholarship fund can be a way to honor members who have passed, or simply honor an individual. Or one can just give. Our Federation benefits each year by giving two graduate students the opportunity to receive a scholarship. Ronna also mentioned that creating a memorial case for a member can be a nice gesture. **Darrell Coyle** mentioned that there was one additional item that he would like to bring up. The **NFMS Fiscal Year** currently falls from September 1 to August 31. It can get confusing when annual meetings and things such as Camp Hancock fall into two different fiscal years, but need to be billed to a specific year. The bylaws state the current fiscal year, so in order for it to be changed, a motion to amend the bylaws is needed. Such motions must be sponsored by an entity and be presented to the membership at least ninety days prior to an annual meeting. So if a club or entity feels that changing the fiscal year to the same as the calendar year would be beneficial, please consider submitting a motion for such. The executive committee or Darrell would probably be able to get you started.

With no further business to present, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 3:40 pm.

NFMS Secretary, Judi Allison

**Junior's Newsletter:****Future Rockhounds of America**

I hope everyone is excited for the nicer weather having rolled around! Nicer weather permits field trips which provide opportunities for the juniors of the federation to collect new specimens. Enjoy your summer!

*Jennifer Fitch  
NFMS Junior's Chair*

**Badges Earned****Fossils****Maplewood Rock and Gem Club**

Antha H.	Maddox D.
Debbie W.	Powell KJ.
Nico S.	River KJ.
Dorian B.	Leo B.
Dalton M.	

**Fluorescent Minerals****Maplewood Rock and Gem Club**

Antha H.	Maddox D.
Debbie W.	Powell KJ.
Nico S.	River KJ.
Dorian B.	Leo B.
Bekah J.	

**~2024 NFMS Junior Achievement Award~**

Every year, the NFMS likes to give kiddos the chance to tell everyone about who they are and what they do. They fill out and send in an application along with a detailed resume. These are sent through a panel of judges where each judge evaluates the entrant's resumes and then assign points to each of the categories given. The judges also give productive feedback. The children are then awarded according to their point values, usually with a monetary prize. This is announced at the annual Northwest Federation Show. This year, we had six applicants, and I would like to take time to honor each one!

Age group: up to 7 years old

**Jacob MacFarlane**

**Marysville Rock and Gem Club**  
Washington

Age group: up to 7 years old

**Hudson Brown**

**Hellgate Mineral Society**  
Montana

Age group: ages 8 through 11 years old

**Gabe Murphy**

**Hellgate Mineral Society**  
Montana

Age group: ages 12 through 15 years old

**Christian MacFarlane**

**Marysville Rock and Gem Club**  
Washington

Age group: ages 16 through 18 years old

**Graecilyn Wykes**

**Marysville Rock and Gem Club**  
Washington

Age group: ages 16 through 18 years old

**Jacob Haneberg**

**Marysville Rock and Gem Club**  
Washington

**Be on the lookout for instructions for the 2025 Junior Achievement Award in the next newsletter!**

## Junior's Newsletter Continued:

# Do you like insects, spiders, and things that crawl? Then this contest is for you!

**This is a contest for all the kiddos of the NFMS!**

Design a "bug" from rocks, come up with a cool name for your critter, and send me a photo with the following information: name, age, club, and of course, the name you created for your "bug".

*You may send it by either snail mail or email.*

*Jennifer Fitch, NFMS Junior's Chair*

*21148 Old US Hwy 93*

*Florence, MT 59833*

*-OR-*

*jfitch2711@yahoo.com*



Photos by Jennifer Fitch from the internet

Your "bug" can be a re-creation of a real version of a creepy crawly, or a totally fictional one that you made up on your own.

It can be created from one rock, crystal, or fossil, or it could be from several. You can make it using rocks along with anything crafty like glues, paint, pipe cleaners, etc.

You can create a beautiful piece of lapidary work using a cabbing machine or tumbler. The possibilities are endless. Use your imagination!

The only requirement is that YOU create it YOURSELF! There will be age divisions similar to that of the Junior Achievement Award.

**Due date is September 15, 2024**

## Rock Of The Month: Fluorite

While I could go with the usual birthstone article, what kind of collector would I be if I didn't pick my favorite mineral as the rock of the month?

Fluorite, also known as fluorspar, is a mineral composed of calcium fluoride ( $\text{CaF}_2$ ). It has been known and used by humans for centuries. The name "fluorite" is derived from the Latin word "fluere," which means "to flow," because fluorite was used as a flux in smelting processes. The use of fluorite dates back to at least the 16th century, and it was crucial in the study of crystallography and the understanding of crystal symmetry. Fluorite was very popular amongst ancient civilizations, likely due to its impressive color range and its ability to be carved. The Egyptians carved it into statues, while the Romans used it to make vases and other decorative items. In the 18th century, it became a significant industrial mineral used in steelmaking, aluminum production, and the manufacturing of hydrofluoric acid.

### **Fun Fluorite Facts:**

- Fluorite's vast range of colors has been a contributing factor in its popularity throughout the ages. One can find fluorite in pink, blue, purple, yellow, green, and colorless, along with many variations in between, with some crystals presenting multiple colors. These color variations come from impurities and radiation.

- Some of fluorite's, many uses include the production of products we regularly use, such as toothpaste and Teflon (fluorine) and optical lenses for telescopes and microscopes,

- One of the most intriguing properties of fluorite is its fluorescence. When under ultraviolet light, many fluorite specimens glow with various colors, usually blue or purple and sometimes red. This property is where the term "fluorescence" came from.

Jessica Himple  
Everett Rock and Gem Club  
Editor for NFMS Newsletter

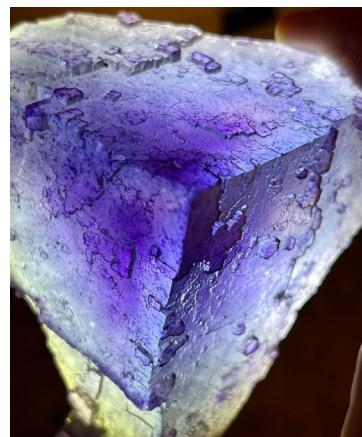
### Specimens from my personal collection:



Lead Hill Mines, Lead Hill, Cave-In-Rock Mining Sub-District, Hardin County, Illinois



Minerva No. 1 Mine, Ozark-Mahoning Group, Cave-In-Rock Mining Sub-District, Hardin County, Illinois



Denton Mine, Harris Creek Mining Sub-District, Hardin County, Illinois

## NFMS Club Show Schedule -- 2024

Jul 20 <sup>th</sup> & 21 <sup>st</sup> 2024  Sat 10 - 5  Sun 10 - 5	Darrington Rock and Gem Club	Mansford Grange Hall  1265 Railroad Ave (behind IGA)  Darrington WA 98241	Ed Lehman  (425) 334-6282  <a href="mailto:wemced@gmail.com">wemced@gmail.com</a>
Jul 26 <sup>th</sup> 27 <sup>th</sup> & 28 <sup>th</sup> 2024  Fri & Sat 9 - 6  Sun 9 - 5	Washington Agate & Mineral Society	Tenino City Park  300 Park Ave W.  Tenino WA 98589	Doug Shank  <a href="mailto:wamsolympia@gmail.com">wamsolympia@gmail.com</a>
Aug 2 <sup>nd</sup> 3 <sup>rd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> 2024  Fri & Sat 10 - 5  Sun 10 - 4	Far West Gem and Lapidary Society	Mill Casino (Salmon Room)  3201 Tremont Ave  North Bend, Oregon 97116	Debbie McPherson  <a href="mailto:mcdeb1111@gmail.com">mcdeb1111@gmail.com</a>
Aug 16 <sup>th</sup> 17 <sup>th</sup> & 18 <sup>th</sup> 2024  Fri & Sat 9 - 5  Sun 10 - 4	Willamette Agate & Mineral Society	Polk County Fairgrounds  520 S Pacific Hwy  Rickreall OR	Ken Stubenrauch  <a href="mailto:wamsriverofgems@gmail.com">wamsriverofgems@gmail.com</a>
Sept 7 <sup>th</sup> & 8 <sup>th</sup> 2024  Sat 10 - 5  Sun 10 - 4	Southern Washington Mineralogical Society	Longview Fairgrounds Cowlitz County Event Center  1900 7th Ave  Longview, WA 98632	Crystal Show & Dealer Chairman  <a href="mailto:swmineralogicalsociety@gmail.com">swmineralogicalsociety@gmail.com</a>
Sept 21 <sup>st</sup> & 22 <sup>nd</sup> 2024  Sat 10 - 5  Sun 10 - 4	Billings Gem and Mineral Club	Eagle Seeker Community Center  1125 Broadwater Ave  Billings, MT 59102	Doug True / Nancy Watkins  (406) 200-8778  <a href="mailto:infor24@billingsgemclub.com">infor24@billingsgemclub.com</a>
Sept 21 <sup>st</sup> & 22 <sup>nd</sup> 2024  Sat 9 - 5  Sun 10 - 4	Clallam County Gem & Mineral Assoc	Vern Burton Community Center  308 East 4th Street  Port Angeles WA 98292	Kelly Hagood  <a href="mailto:kmhagood@gmail.com">kmhagood@gmail.com</a>  <a href="http://www.sequimrocks.org">www.sequimrocks.org</a>

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Oct 4 <sup>th</sup> 5 <sup>th</sup> & 6 <sup>th</sup> 2024  Fri & Sat 10 - 6  Sun 10 - 5	Portland Regional Gem & Mineral Show	Wingspan Event & Conference Center at the Westside Commons  801 NE 34th Ave  Hillsboro, OR 97124	Roberta Hanson prgmsa.president@gmail.com  <a href="https://portlandregionalgemandmineral.com">https://portlandregionalgemandmineral.com</a> <a href="http://www.facebook.com/groups/prgms">www.facebook.com/groups/prgms</a>
Oct 5 <sup>th</sup> & 6 <sup>th</sup> 2024  Sat 10 - 5  Sun 10 - 5	Marysville Rock & Gem Club	Evergreen Fairgrounds (Bldg 500)  14405 179th Ave SE  Monroe WA 98272	Brian Murril bmurril@aol.com  (425) 346-9313  <a href="http://www.marysvillerockclub.com">http://www.marysvillerockclub.com</a>
Oct 5 <sup>th</sup> 2024  Saturday 10 - 6	Idaho Falls Gem & Mineral Society	Bonneville County Fairgrounds  1542 E. 73rd South  Idaho Falls, ID 83404	John Nicklas  <a href="mailto:cfnopal219@gmail.com">cfnopal219@gmail.com</a>  <a href="http://www.ifrockhounds.com">www.ifrockhounds.com</a>
Oct 19 <sup>th</sup> & 20 <sup>th</sup> 2024  Saturday 10 - 5  Sunday 10 - 4		Hells Canyon Gem Club	Nez Perce County Fairgrounds  * Admission - \$5, 17 and under are free with an adult  1229 Burrell Ave.  Lewiston, ID 83501