



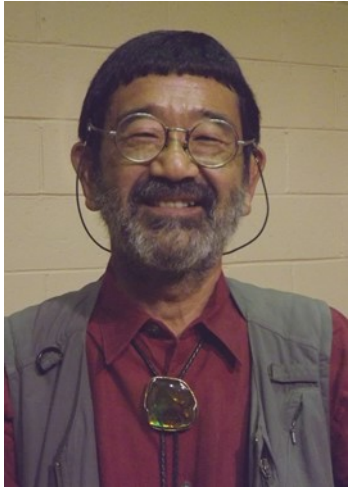
NORTHWEST NEWSLETTER



TIME SENSITIVE MATERIAL

Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies
Tom Burchard, Circulation
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VOLUME 56, NO. 8 Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies AUGUST 2016



Hidemi Kira, President

Hello to All,

The NFMS/AFMS Combined Convention and Show held in Albany, OR was a great success! The Show was one of the best shows I have seen and I have received compliments from the AFMS President, Matt Charsky and members of the other Federations. There were close to 180 display cases including over 20 competitive cases and all the cases were absolutely gorgeous. I am sure everyone who set up their cases brought their very best. And there were several wonderful special displays, which made the Show even better. There were daily lectures, demonstrators, silent auction, kid's corner, field trips to the nearby Holleywood Ranch and 42 dealers. And events as Meetings, Junior Cracker Barrel, Award Banquet, Officers Lunch, and Oral Auction were held during the Show.

The Show Chair, Janice Van Cura and her husband Joe of the Willamette Agate & Mineral Society (WAMS) had started to plan for this event 3 years ago and worked very hard together with their club members to make sure it would be a great show. Mt. Hood Rock Club, Sweet Home Rock & Mineral Society and North America Research Group (NARG) brought their loaner cases and Portland Regional Gem and Mineral Show Association brought their tables for the cases in addition to their WAMS cases and tables in order to be able to have that many cases displayed. And many members helped by setting up their beautiful cases and special displays, demonstrating, helping the silent auction, donating material for the silent and oral auction, purchasing at the both auctions and in many other ways. The silent auction did very well and may have hit a record sale for an NFMS Show. Thank you to Ron of WAMS for preparing and running the silent auction and to the NFMS members who helped.

Also a special thank you to the CFMS President, John Martin. He took pictures of the award winning cases and set up a slide show to be presented during the Award Banquet. As each person was given their award, a slide of their case was shown. He is hoping this will eventually be a standard for Federation Award Banquets as it is nice to see which case has won the particular award.

And I would like to congratulate again all the winners of the awards for the Competitive Cases, Special Awards, Junior Achievement Awards and Awards for the Newsletters and Articles. I hope more members will participate in these areas in the future. I would like to give a big thank you again to the Show Chair Janice, Joe, all the WAMS members and all the NFMS members who helped to make this event very successful. Janice and those who helped this event made the NFMS look really great!!

Right after the Show, the Multi-Federation Field Trip was held in Prineville, Oregon coordinated by the Field Trip Chair (NFMS & AFMS), Doug True. Doug did a great job as he always does. The headquarters was at the Crook County Fairgrounds and the sign-up started on August 2nd. There were several trips per day from August 3rd to the 6th and we had one more trip and a swap on the 7th. The potluck and the oral auction were moved from the original schedule and were held on the 4th and everyone had a very good time. The collecting sites were FEE diggings at Alex McDonald's Ranch (Angel Wing, Thundereggs, and Petrified Wood), Friend's Ranch (Thunderegg) and Richardson's Ranch (Thunderegg and etc.). And FREE diggings at Hampton Butte (Wood Replacement), White Fir Springs (Jasper bed and Agate bed Thundereggs), Bear Creek (Petrified Wood) and Glass Butte (Obsidian).

There were over 150 members signed in and it was very nice to have other Federations' members attending. The trip leaders were Joe Van Cura (WAMS), Frank Forbes (WAMS, President), Don Esch (WAMS, VP) and Dick Parks (Mt. Hood Rock Club). They had checked the conditions of the digging sites prior to the trips, so they must have left right after the Show. These are the same members who worked to the very end of the tear down of the Show and I was amazed at their energy and generosity. I had a super fun time and the best part was I did not hear of any accidents or injuries during the trip! I would like to again thank Doug and all the leaders, members who brought items for the auction to support the NFMS and all who participated.

As wrote in the previous newsletter, I will be combining the NFMS Newsletter articles for "Growing the Club" and sending it to the NFMS Clubs via email for distributing to your members. The last article I asked for should be in this issue. If you have changed the contact person for your club after the publication of the 2015-2016 NFMS Directory, please let me know the person's name and email address. I would like to thank again the members who wrote the great articles and hope they will give you some ideas of how to grow your club. I myself learned many things from those articles and hope other clubs or individuals will continue to write about their success stories to grow together.

This will be my last article for the newsletter as the president. My term will end on August 31st and I will officially be a member of the "Has Been Club" from September 1st. It was a great honor and pleasure to serve as the NFMS president and I would like to thank all the Executive Board members, Committee Chairs, each Federation Directors and all who have worked hard for the NFMS and thank all who have supported the NFMS and myself. And special thank you to our Treasurer, Lyle Vogelpohl and Secretary, Judi Allison. Both helped and supported me so much in many ways. I am sure the new President, Jim Bosley, 1st VP, Keith Fackrell, new wonderful 2nd VP, Ronna Watkins and the Board members will lead the NFMS to make this wonderful Federation even better!

Thank you very much to ALL!!

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NEWSLETTER DEADLINE:

September Deadline: September 15th

For deadlines and to submit articles
contact

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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.asp](http://www.amfed.org/nfms/newsletters.asp) and click on the month
you want to see.

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ENDOWMENT FUND- Judi Allison

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NFMS CLUB BULLETIN AIDS-Ronna Watkins

ROCKHOUND OF THE YEAR-Evelyn Cataldo (chair) & Bev Bockman

CONSERVATION & LEGISLATION-Darlene Posthuma

ALL AMERICAN AWARD- Sean Hietpas

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JUNIORS PROGRAM-Audrey Vogelpohl

PROGRAM COMPETITION-Darrell Watkins

PUBLIC RELATIONS-OPEN

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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: Doug True, Billings Gem & Mineral Club, 2622 Broadwater, Billings, MT 59102, 406.670.0506, dtruefossils12@yahoo.com

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, 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 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:

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

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

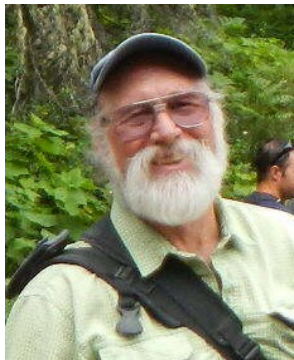
For an additional 50% of the cost of the Newsletter ad, you can have the same ad placed on the NFMS website for the same length of time. The Newsletter ad must be purchased to receive this additional advertisement.

Do not send ads on colored paper because the back-ground will look gray in the ad. The Editor will send a billing statement to the customer which will include instructions to make payment to the NFMS Treasurer. For more information or questions, call, e-mail or write the **Newsletter Editor**

**See the NFMS on Facebook**

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/NFMS1>
(for the desktop/laptop/tablets)

<https://m.facebook.com/groups/NFMS1>
(for mobile devices like phones)



Jim Bosley 1st Vice-President Bugs, Bugs and More Bugs

Summer is in full swing and the mosquitos, wasps, bees, ticks and fleas are out in full force. This last weekend a couple members of my local rock club received stings from wasps while rockhounding. One person was wearing shorts and was stung on the back of the calf and the other was wearing a tank top and was stung on the back of the shoulder. Many of the areas where we rockhound are also used for grazing sheep and cattle. Ticks and fleas can be a problem in the spring and fall when there is more moisture from rain. Bees and wasps are a problem when it gets hot and dry. They are attracted to sweat, drinks and food and can be quite aggressive. Mosquitos are in areas with stagnate water and are at their worst in the evening.

Bug bites and stings usually are just annoying, causing temporary discomfort and pain, with no serious or lasting health problems. But sometimes, they can cause infections that require treatment and allergic reactions that can be serious, even fatal. Rockhounds should inform others in their group if they have a history of allergic reaction to certain types of bites and what to do in the event they react to a bug bite or sting. Adding antihistamine and cold compresses to your first aid kit will go a long way in reducing the effect of bug bites and stings.

The following information is from <http://patient.info/health/insect-bites-and-stings-leaflet>

Preventing insect bites and stings

The following measures are recommended to reduce the risk of stings and bites:

Wear light-colored clothing, avoid bright colored clothing which attract insects.

Avoid strong fragrances, perfumes, cosmetics and highly scented shampoos.

Wear shoes and cover your body with long sleeved shirt and long pants and a hat.

Avoid drinking out of opened drink bottles or cans to prevent being stung inside the mouth.

Wash hands after eating or handling sticky or sweet foods outdoors (especially children).

Keep uneaten foods covered, especially when eating outdoors.

Use gloves while moving rocks.

Rub an insect repellent on to exposed areas of skin. Use an insect repellent with at least 10% to 30% DEET for protection against bites and stings in kids older than 2 years, always carefully following the directions for application.

After rockhounding, check your skin and hair for ticks — especially the scalp, behind the ears, around the neck, and under the arms.

Generalized Allergic Reaction

The venom can cause your immune system to react more strongly. A generalized reaction will usually develop within 10 minutes of a sting. It can be fairly mild - for example, a generalized itchy rash and some mild facial swelling.

This may cause one or more of the following:

Itchy skin in many parts of the body, followed by an itchy blotchy rash that can appear anywhere on the body.

Swelling of your face which may extend to the lips, tongue, throat and upper airway.

A sense of impending doom.

Tummy (abdominal) cramps and feeling sick.

Dilation of the blood vessel, which can cause:

General redness of your skin.

A fast heart rate.

Low blood pressure, which can make you feel faint or even cause you to collapse.

Wheezing or difficulty in breathing due to an asthma attack or throat swelling.

If any symptoms of a generalized allergic reaction develop then:

Call an ambulance immediately.

If you are not in telephone range transport immediately.

If you have been issued with an adrenaline (epinephrine) pen, use it as directed straightaway.

Local Allergic Reaction

A small local skin reaction - most cases

Most people will be familiar with the common local skin reactions caused by insects. An insect sting- typically causes an intense, burning pain. This is quickly followed by a patch of redness and a small area of swelling (up to 1 cm) around the sting. This usually eases and goes within a few hours. An insect bite- you may not notice the bite (although some can be quite painful, particularly from a horsefly). However, saliva from the insect can cause a skin reaction such as:

1. Irritation and itch over the site of the bite.

2. A small itchy lump (papule) which may develop up to 24 hours after a bite. This typically lasts for several days before fading away. Sometimes some redness (inflammation) surrounds each papule.

3. A wheal is a red, slightly raised mark on the skin which is often itchy but temporary. It may develop immediately after being bitten. A wheal lasts about two hours but is often followed by a small itchy solid lump which develops up to 24 hours later. This can last for several days before fading away.

A localized allergic skin reaction

Some people have an allergic reaction to the venom in a sting. A localized reaction causes swelling at the site of the sting. This becomes larger over several hours and then gradually goes away over a few days. The size of the swelling can vary but can become many centimeters across. The swelling may even extend up an entire arm or leg. The swelling is not dangerous unless it affects your airway. However, if it is severe, the skin may break out in blisters.

If there is a localized allergic reaction (swelling around the site of the sting) then:

1. Take an antihistamine table as soon as possible. You can buy these at pharmacies, or obtain them on prescription. Antihistamines block the action of histamine, which is a chemical that is released by certain cells in the body during allergic reactions.

2. Use a cold compress to ease pain and to help reduce swelling. For example, use a cold flannel or an ice pack.

3. Painkillers such as ibuprofen can help to ease the pain.

4. Continue with antihistamines until the swelling eases. This may be for a few days.

5. See a doctor if the swelling is severe. Your doctor may prescribe a course of steroids to counter the inflammation.

If there is no allergic reaction (most cases) then:

1. A cold compress will ease any pain and help to minimize any swelling - for example, use a cold flannel or an ice pack.

2. A painkiller such as paracetamol or ibuprofen may help if you have any pain.

3. If it is itchy, you may not need any treatment, as itching often soon fades. However, sometimes an itch persists for hours or days. No treatment will take the itch away fully but the following may help:

- Anti-itch ointment (which you can buy at pharmacies) is soothing when rubbed on to itchy skin.

- A steroid cream may be useful - for example, hydrocortisone which you can buy at pharmacies or obtain on prescription. A doctor may prescribe a stronger steroid cream in some cases.

- Antihistamine tablets may be useful if you have lots of bites. In particular, a sedative antihistamine at night may help if the itch is interfering with sleep. A pharmacist can advise on which types of antihistamine are sedative and can help with sleep.



Keith Fackrell

2nd Vice President

If you were unable to attend the Gem & Mineral Show in Albany, Oregon, July 29, 30 & 31, 2016, you missed a GREAT SHOW! This was the 2016 NFMS/AFMS 78th Annual Gem & Mineral Show, hosted by Willamette Agate and Mineral Society. The Show chairman was Janice Van Cura, flanked by her very capable Show Committee. It appeared that everyone did a super job.

Besides the abundance of dealers, and the lunch at noon one could buy, the Willamette Show members brought in lots of show Cases filled with beautiful rocks and minerals and other beautiful show displays. There were even two dealers who are in our own Timpanogos Gem & Mineral Society show, Klaus Clement and Don DePue.

My wife, Jerrie and I were not going to be able to attend several days of field Trips in the Prineville, Oregon area so we were the high bidders on some of the rocks at the Oral Auction held at the end of the show.

During the show Jerrie and I had the privilege of spending some time with a long time friend, Debbie Muhlestein, now living in the area. Debbie had not had the privilege of playing with rocks at rock shows. First thing she said to Keith when she saw us was, "I haven't been involved with rocks and gems before, so I want you to tell me everything you know about them!" Right! In just a few hours! We showed her around, which she enjoyed then told her we had one more place to show her - the Silent Auction! She was a little hesitant to bid on rocks at first, but once she got the hang of it, she had a ball! We had to leave her for a meeting we had to attend, but she didn't mind at all, she had fun at the Silent Auction!

When we got home Jerrie was showing me the great rocks she had gotten at the show. One of the rocks she had purchased at the Silent Auction was a white rock with broad stripes through it. You guessed it, Banded Calcite. Another rock she bought at the Silent Auction was a tan and white rock with beautiful swirls. . . Yep! Opalized Jasper. We had a good laugh when I told Jerrie these two rocks were two that we had taken from our own stash and had donated to the Albany Silent Auction.

When we were preparing to leave for Albany, we needed to get someone to take care of some of our own TGMS responsibilities, which included pulling a trailer with buckets of rocks to put into the grab bags our members help sew. [TGMS Club members help fill the grab bags at the three monthly meetings we hold up the Canyon and also the members help to create Wheel of Fortune items for our Rock and Gem Show we hold at the third Week of March each year in Spanish Fork, Utah.] Now, back to finding Club members to help with our own TGMS responsibilities so we could attend the NFMS/AFMS meetings in Albany, Oregon. We needed to have someone reliable to pull the trailer to Kelly's Grove and have it there by 4:00 PM. Jessie and Marla Hathcock got the trailer up on time, then had to return home to take care of a potential serious electrical problem. They then went back to Kelly's Grove by the time the meeting was over and returned the trailer to the designated place. This is what I call "DEDICATION!" It is a pleasure to have them in our club and I thank them for a JOB WELL DONE, for following through with what they agreed to do even when having unexpected personal problems.

Having dedicated members like this and all others who spend their time helping with the show, field trips, and monthly meetings in our organization is what makes Timpanogos Gem & Mineral Society an enjoyable place to work and have fun! The more who help, the better the club.

Juniors Win !

By Audrey Vogelpohl, NFMS Junior Chair



First of all, I want to congratulate the 7 Junior members who entered the 2016 NFMS Junior Achievement Awards Contest, with all of them earning monetary awards, which were presented at the Annual Meeting.

Hatrockhounds G&M Society:

Alexander Lopez (age 8-11)

Marysville Rock and Gem Club:

Christian West (age 12-15)

Johan West (age 16-18)

West Seattle Rock Club:

Odessa Durante (age 8-11)

Atticus Ryan (age 8-11)

Zoe Ryan (age 8-11)

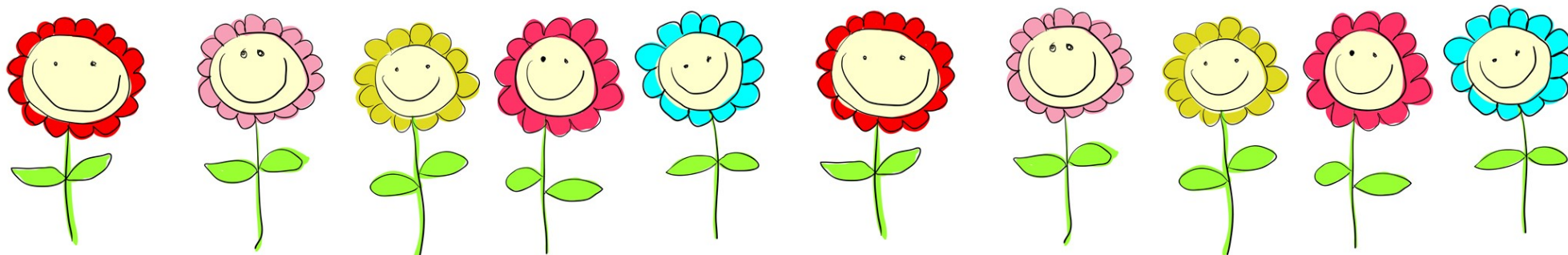
Washington Agate and Mineral Society

Zoe Tolbert (age 12-15)

Presented at the Banquet, was the Lillian Turner Award to Zoe Tolbert. Lillian Turner was a benefactor who was intent in promoting interest in rocks, minerals, and lapidary arts to youth of the community. The case judged to be best in the show (1st place) is presented with the cash award. Zoe's 2 competitive cases earned 99 and 100 points which also won awards from both the NFMS and AFMS.

At the Editors' Breakfast Odessa Durante's Original Article "Odessa Meteorite Crater" in the West Seattle Petroglyphs March 2015, (page 6) won NFMS 1st Place for Juniors Under 12; and won AFMS 4th Place for Juniors Under 12.

Congratulations to the advisors, mentors, and clubs that are taking an interest in keeping their programs growing. After all, Juniors are our Future.





JUDGES REPORT ALBANY 2016 By Lauren Williams

I would like to thank Ron Carman, who will be the 2017 AFMS President, for all of his hard work of getting all of the paper work and score cards in order to get the judging going and making sure that the right trophy number was awarded to the right division class and posting the score cards on the cases.

We had 26 entries. 20 were Masters. 2 were Juniors. 1 was a Society case. 12 were Direct Entry into the AFMS Division. 8 of the NFMS cases scored 90 or above so that they were immediately flown up and judged at the AFMS level. I thought that it was a good competition and there were not that many cases with scores below 90.

Now is the time to start thinking about and planning for next year in Hamilton. When you fill out your entry form for next year at Hamilton, Please do not just scribble out your address, which includes the zip code. The judges need to be able to read your complete address and zip code because that is how your awards are mailed to you from our engraver in California. Why California? If you want the NFMS logo on your Plaque, he is all set up to make the NFMS, AFMS, and California logos.

NFMS Meeting Report By Judi Allison, NFMS Secretary

Hi all. For any and all people who would like to get in touch with me via email, please use this address: nfmssec@gmail.com. My internet service provider "divorced" me. They said I had too many trees between me and their towers, so I was forced to seek a new provider. The email address I had before was attached to the provider, so please make a note about the change.

I will be getting the minutes of the NFMS Annual Meeting off to the directors/delegates/contacts for each of your clubs before too long. . hopefully within a week or two. Be certain to ask about the meeting and what went on there. Your representative can give you a rundown, or even share the minutes, if you are so inclined.

Being involved in the "workings" of the Federation has given me more insight, much pleasure and a wealth of new friendships, so consider "getting involved."

Thanks to the Willamette Agate and Mineral Society, all the extra worker bees, dealers and everyone else involved for putting on a great show!



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Gem & Mineral SHOW

Enjoy many displays of jewelry, minerals, rough material, slabs, and used machines. Plenty of demonstrations, a bountiful silent auction, hourly door prizes plus a great kids' section.

September 10-11 10AM-5PM

**WALLA WALLA FAIRGROUNDS
WALLA WALLA, WA**



Congratulations **NICE GOING!**
GREAT! Way to Go!
 Yea! **FELICITATIONS**
CHEERS Take A **BEST**
BOW! **WISHES!**

AFMS/NFMS Display Case Winners

By Lauren Williams

NFMS Trophy Winners

Open Class - Janice Van Cura, Willamette Agate and Mineral Club
 Cabochons I - John Wozniak, Tualatin Valley Rock and Gem Club
 Cabochons II - Steve Gustafson, Mt Hood Rock Club
 Educational - Zoe Tolbert, Washington Agate and Mineral Club
 Fossils - Joshua Hulstrom, Lakeside Gem and Mineral Club
 Beading - Anthony Fender, NFMS At-Large

AFMS Trophy Winners

Open Class - Janice Van Cura, Willamette Agate and Mineral Club
 Cabochons I - Steve Gustafson, Mt Hood Rock Club
 Cabochons II - Steve Gustafson, Mt Hood Rock Club
 Petrified Wood - Lakeside Gem and Mineral Club (Society case)
 Junior Educational - Zoe Tolbert, Washington Agate and Mineral Club
 Masters Educational - Zoe Tolbert, Washington Agate and Mineral Club
 Petrified Wood - Bill Mitzel, Mt. Hood Rock Club
 Special Lapidary - Jeremy Giard, Hell's Canyon Gem Club
 Fluorescent Minerals - Albert Liebetrau, Central Oregon Rock Collectors
 Beading - Antony Fender, NFMS At-Large
 Fossils - Joshua Hulstrom, Lakeside Gem and Mineral Club

Lester Zeihen Trophy - Albert Liebetrau, Central Oregon Rock Collectors (UV Case)

John "Ted" Hedin Trophy - Lakeside Gem and Mineral Club (Petrified Wood Society Case)

Isabelle Mattison Award - Zoe Tolbert, Washington Agate and Mineral Club (Junior)



Labor Day - September 5th



9/11 Remembrance -

September 11

A Few Photos from the AFMS/NFMS Meetings

By Beth Heesacker



Janice and Joe Van Cura - show chairs



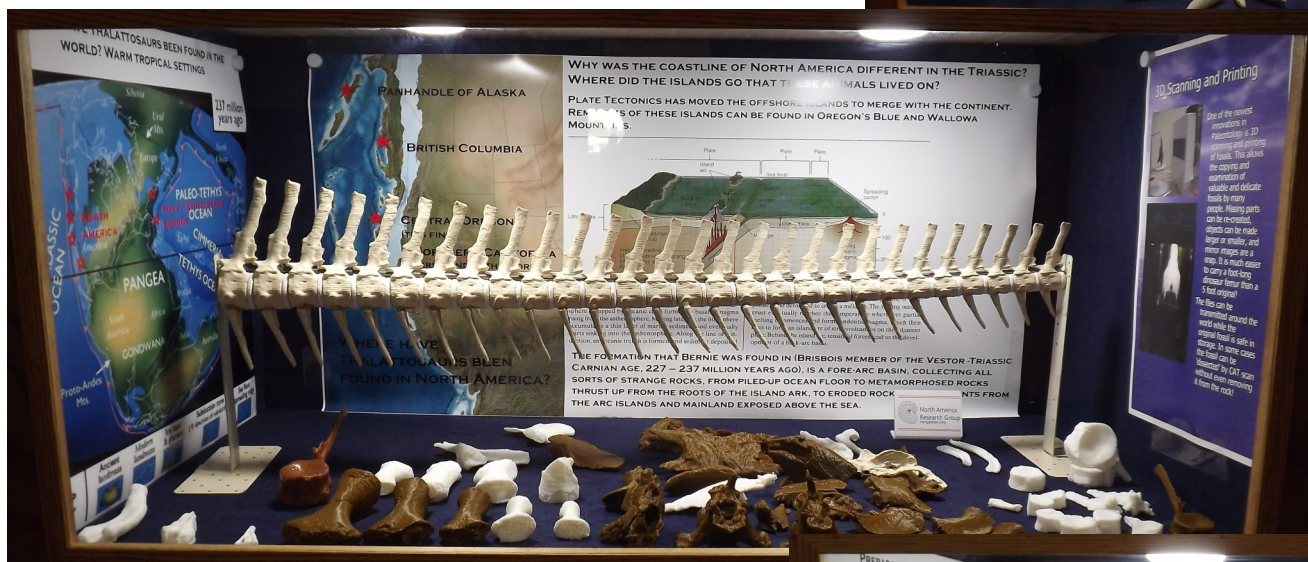
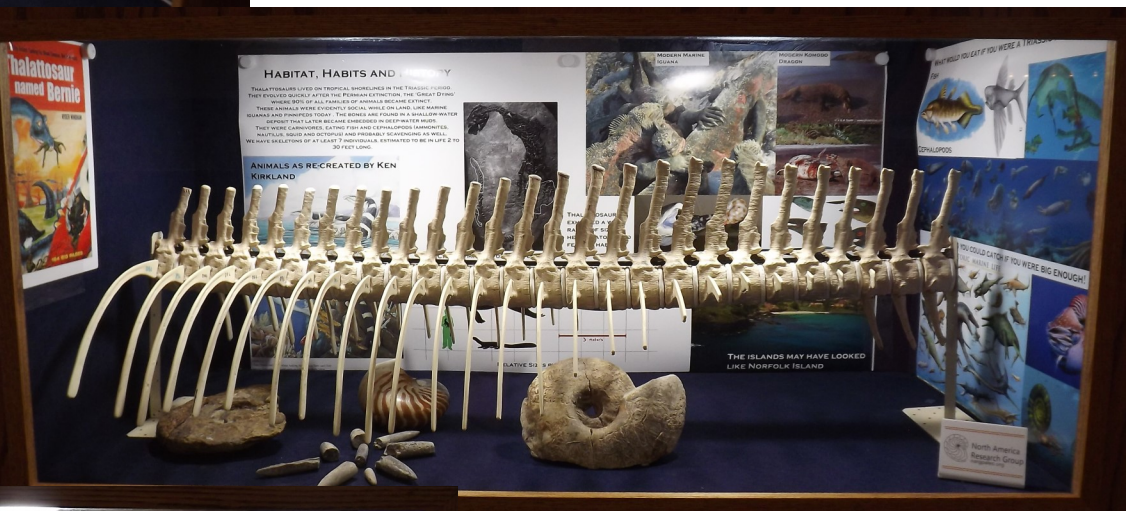
The wonderful venue



Hidemi Kira , NFMS President at the AFMS meeting



My favorite set of cases by NARG - a life size thalattosaur





A Few Thoughts on Growing A Rock Club in the 21st Century

By Ronna Watkins, Yakima Rock & Mineral, Inc.

What did our club do to increase membership?

It has been exciting to see our club, Yakima Rock & Mineral, Inc., grow from 35 members in 2007 to the 160 members we have today. Below are just a few of the things we have done that have helped us to grow.

We started up community outreach at a few small community events. This did three things. First, it gave us direct contact with the public and the elusive unassociated rockhounds. Second, it gave our members an opportunity to sell their lapidary art and various materials. Third, it allows our club to sell materials that we have in abundance in order to allow us to purchase materials to give our members a better variety of rock to work with.

Having a booth has been fun and has given our members a chance to get together outside of meetings and to get to know each other better. Members that wish to sell items must be in the booth to peddle their wares, and they sell with their own change leaving no responsibility to the club.

The club simply secures the booth and it pays for itself as a very effective form of advertising for our club.

Another thing we've done was to create literature about our club. We never had a membership application and when people asked about joining the club they were just told to come to a meeting. Now with the membership form we can get people signed up on the spot, or they can send it in the post. Another piece of literature we developed is a membership brochure. It lets those interested in the club know our purpose, a bit about our activities, when and where our meetings are held, and has a simplified membership form in it. We have these available to the public in a pocket at our Chamber of Commerce (Our chamber has been very helpful in advertising for our club-worth every penny!)

Connecting with the public is a big job and we have a Communications Committee whose sole purpose is to "Put a Face on Our Club". The committee meets, as needed over lunch, and does the publicity; including, but not limited to, the website, Facebook page, email, answering the club's Google Voice phone, and show publicity.

The internet provides wonderful tools that take some up-keep that is too big of a job for one person but that can be done easily by a committee, and are well worth the effort when you see how many members join through these forms of media.

Another great season of fieldtrips, club picnics, and geology vacations is coming to an end and soon we will be back to club meetings with new material and projects to share. Our club will again head up an exciting Juniors Program using the AFMS Merit Badge Program in both our satellite groups and during our Third Friday meetings. A strong Juniors' program can definitely breath some life into a club. I know it did ours. We have, also, already received phone calls from teachers requesting presentations at our local schools. This is fun and does not require much more than sharing rocks and rockhounding with the children. Committing time to presenting to school groups is important and builds membership in our Juniors' Program and good will in our community.

Did I mention meetings? How many guests and new members will attend your September meeting? Did your members invite other people interested in rocks to come to club while out and about this summer? How many of these new people will you personally reach out to greet? Does your club make a point to acknowledge guests at the beginning of your meetings? Do you have members that just clump together with their buddies? How about encouraging them to go over and introduce themselves? As Social Chairman of our club I make a point to introducing myself and find out what brings these visitors and new members to our club. After listening and answering their questions, I work on getting new members "plugged in".

Our club has a Greeter, too. She welcomes everyone and gets them in the door prize drawing of the night. This is your first contact when you come to one of our meetings: A nice lady with a warm smile that wants you to give you a prize! The prizes are nice lapidary pieces made and contributed by members. The prize is awarded early in the meeting creating wonderful excitement and fun.

Excitement and fun: That is what rock club is supposed to be! Fellowship, laughter, and sharing makes a club night to look forward to. Of course, we must not forget to have effective streamlined business meetings, great programs. and...yummy snacks; but, let us not forget our club is about people...and rocks...but, it is made of relationships and community.

A strong leader, enthusiastic sharing, or a simple smile can go a long way. Big or small there are many ways to create a more positive and personable club environment.

Our club has a Sunshine Chairman. We must remember members have lives outside of rock club projects, goals and mission. When a member misses a couple of meetings someone might call and find out why. A Sunshine Chairman should call and let members know they were missed. Maybe they are having a difficult time. Do you know why "Jim" hasn't been to club lately? Build a support system around your members. It's right and good to ask, "How's the family?", "How have you been feeling lately?", or "How's the truck running?"

Our clubs should also create events that promote collaboration. Our club has work days with lunch and bag filling days with desert. We, also, get together to sell raffle tickets and promote our club outside the supermarket. Everyone is invited and I am always pleased to see the camaraderie and good attendance. (And why wouldn't there be? Members want to be involved or they wouldn't join a club. They could just stay home and play with their rocks!) Be sure to thank all that contributed and let everyone know you appreciate them showing up. Don't forget your contributors!

Some of this may seem to you to be what you might call "a no-brainer", but it is good to constantly reevaluate and check the temperature of the environment your club is creating. Hold firm on your club's mission and values, and create enthusiasm and excitement at every chance you get!



2016 Bulletin Editors' Contest Award Winners Announced

Ronna Watkins; NFMS Bulletin Editors Aides Chairman



Once again, I have had the honor to award the winners of the 2016 Bulletin Editors' Contest at the NFMS Annual Editors Breakfast. I would like to thank the clubs that entered, and congratulate the following winners of the 2016 Bulletin Editor's Awards Contest:

- ♦ **Odessa Durante**, 1st Place Junior Article, "Odessa Meteorite Crater", March, West Seattle Petroglyphs, West Seattle Rock Club
- ♦ **Judi Allison**, 1st Place Mini Bulletin, "Hatrockhound Gazette", July, Hatrockhounds Gem and Mineral Society
- ♦ **Michael Wall**, 1st Place Small Bulletin, "West Seattle Petroglyphs", March, West Seattle Rock Club
- ♦ **Judi Allison**, 1st Place Special Publications, "Got Rocks?", Hatrockhounds Gem and Mineral Society

Honorable Mentions were awarded to [ineligible to win a placement award since they had won 1st place less than 3 years ago]:

Duane Flackus, Drawn Feature, "'Hard Luck Harry", Clackamette Gem, June, Clackamette Mineral and Gem Club

Beth Heesacker, Large Bulletin, "Clackamette Gem", January, Clackamette Mineral and Gem Club



From the Editor's Rockpile

By Beth Heesacker

What a wonderful show. I know, you have been hearing that from the beginning of this newsletter, but I do not think it can be said more often or loud enough. Janice VanCura and her team from WAMS did a wonderful job! Thank you to them and to all the people from other clubs they got to help them.

I also want to thank the AFMS for the honor that they gave me. I have been inducted into the Bulletin Editors' Hall of Fame for my work on the NFMS Newsletter and on the Clackamette Gem. Thank you so much.

This summer is going fast. Already nearing the end of August. Kids will be going back to school, the leaves on the trees are starting to fall and I am busy ramping up the preparations for the Clackamette Mineral and Gem Show in October (I am show chair). I am also looking forward to the Pacific North West Friends of Mineralogy Symposium in October featuring copper minerals, the Portland Regional Show and so many other shows and events. So much to do before winter. If you read the Farmer's Almanac or gauge the winter by the over-abundance of fruit that is breaking limbs on the trees right now, we are going to have a doozy of a winter. Plenty of time for me to catalog the many minerals I have acquired this summer or work on a few art pieces.

Or maybe we will take off for Quartzsite this winter. It has been a few years. Maybe take in the Pacific Micromount Conference in Redlands, California and do a bit of rockhounding along the way. So much to do, so much to see. And it is so much easier with our class B motorhome. A bit more crowded than the 5th wheel but so easy to stop or turn around if an interesting road cut or quarry is seen. We love it.

Keep in mind the next NFMS meeting is in Hamilton, Montana, May 19-21, 2017. It is never too early to put it on your calendar. Advanced info is in this newsletter. I hope they build a Golden Corral there before the show. :-)) May have to take a long drive some evening to Billings or Great Falls otherwise. Also a trip down to the Gallatin National Forest and the Storm Castle area is a must for us. Beautiful!

Then the NCMA mineral meeting in June. Well, that is enough for now. As you can see the excitement at the Heesacker household never ends. I hope all your plans work out and I meet up with some of you as we cross paths in life.



NFMS Public Lands Advisor Introduction

Hello, I'm Ben Odum, your Public Lands Advisory for the NFMS.

As we all know, we are losing access to our public lands at an alarming rate. To combat this ever growing problem, we all need to be vigilant.

I implore to each member, in each club that's in the NFMS to assist me in this vigilance. In order to accomplish this, we need to be knowledgeable of all that is going on when it comes to our public lands.

One method of being in the information circle is by visiting websites belonging to the agencies that are managing your local area. Click on their Notices/Proposals tab and subscribe to email updates pertaining to what they are working on in your area.

Take the information you learn from those websites as well as any information you already have on past locations that you have already lost for rockhounding. Email me the information that you have gained. My email for those issues is nfms_public_lands@yahoo.com

Happy hounding!

Ben Odum

It is never too Early to Mark Your Calendars!

NFMS Show

May 19-21, 2017



ADVANCE HOTEL REGISTRATION: Townhouse Inn, only 30 rooms available due to another convention in town. Please call as soon as possible. When making reservations, please tell the front desk clerk the Group Block Name: "BR Gem & Mineral Show" to insure the group rate of; \$ 79.99 Plus Tax.

Arrival Date: May 17th 2017 - May 22nd 2017. Guests can reserve dates before and after the date indicated. Check in is after 2:00 p.m. and Check out is 11:00 a.m. You will be responsible for your own payment and the room must be reserved with a credit card. **The last day or (cut-off date) to make reservations in the group block is January 1st, 2017**

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Fax Number (406) 363-564

MOTEL 6 with 32 rooms available at \$66 per night with kids free and pets allowed. It is a nice motel. Please contact 406-363-2142 for reservations and payment.

Camping at Fairgrounds with Electric only \$15.00 per day. Contact Chris at 363-3411 for reservations and Payment, OR Black Rabbit RV Park at 363-3744 OR Anglers Roost at 363-1268 for reservations and Payment.

* For those who like to really plan early Registration and Display Case forms can be found at (they will be published in the NFMS Newsletter later this year): ravalligemandmineralclub.org

If you have any questions at all, please contact: Faith Farley at 406-961-3347 or Steve Vieth at 406-381-7597.



NFMS Meeting VIPs
Outgoing Board

Lauren Williams
swearing in the
Incoming Board



Lyle Vogelpohl, Judi Allison, Ronna Watkins, Keith Fackrell, Jim Bosley

Public Lands Update By Ben Odum, NFMS Public Lands Advisory



Hello to all of you wonderful Rockhounds!

This is Ben Odum from the Spokane Rock Rollers Club. I'm your Public Lands Advisory for the NFMS. For those of you that attended either the mid-year or the annual meeting for the Federation, you heard me talk about a proposal that I feel will help all of us in keeping tabs on issues relating to public lands access.

I have found that the majority of people, (including myself), have a hard time keeping track of things, unless it's right there and "In your face" where you're actively able to see it. This it seems, is a real problem when it comes to us rockhounds losing our beloved rockhounding locations.

When it comes to issues with citizens accessing their public lands, one obstacle occurs by how an individual only thinks about it when it is directly affecting them at that particular moment. Then, as that person goes about the regular routines of their life, it goes onto the back burner. Problem is....that issue is still going on and not getting better if its on the back burner.

There are a plethora of land access issues going on ALL OVER. However, individuals seem to only focus on their immediate area, (again...I'm guilty of this as well), due to those other areas not directly affecting them right then and there. But....those issues most definitely will affect them if they were to travel to that area one day only to find that they are already locked out.

My proposed plan is two pronged. The first prong is to establish a comprehensive list of access issues pertaining to our public lands. This is where all of you come into play. I'm only one person. I cannot possibly follow all of the issues out there or even have knowledge of them as they develop in an area that's outside my home range. It is much more efficient and effective to have clubs focus on their immediate rockhounding areas (remember that whole "In your face" statement mentioned earlier?)

To establish a comprehensive list, I would ask that every club in the NFMS spend just a couple of minutes during their monthly meeting each month to ask all attending members if they know of any active land access issues going on in their local area. In addition, ask about public lands that they know of that have already been closed off and affecting them as rockhounds. On the flip side to the negative land access issues, also ask about positive actions/proposals that the local agencies are looking to conduct that will be of help to the rockhounds.

To facilitate communication, assign a person to be that club's Public Lands representative. That person can then take down that information and communicate it back to me. Additionally, I ask that this person also visit the websites to the local agencies in their area and click on their Notices/Proposals section where they can subscribe to updates on any particular action that agency is currently working on in that region. This is actually very crucial in keeping up on what's going on because government agencies tend to avoid making their proposed actions or public meetings blatantly apparent.

Pertinent information that I would find helpful in creating a comprehensive list of areas already affected or in the process of being affected would include:

1. Type of public land affected.
 - National Forest Service, BLM land, Dept of Fish & Wildlife, State lands, etc
2. Name of the action that has already impacted an area or will impact that area in the near future.
 - Wilderness area, National Monument, Private Industry contracts, etc. (specific names)
3. Specific regions impacted or to be impacted.
 - County/counties/state
4. How this has impacted or will impact rockhounding in your area.
5. Dates
 - If known, dates pertaining to announcement of proposal, closure, pending status, etc
6. Any other info that you feel to be pertinent.

The second prong of my plan is to place all relevant land access issues into one convenient location so that all of these issues are "In your face". Our web master for the NFMS has informed me that they can create a special tab on our website for land access issues. Within this tab, one will be able to view three different lists with corresponding information related to each item listed. The three lists I want inside the tab are:

1. Public lands already negatively affected for rockhounding
2. Public lands with potential to be negatively affected for rockhounding in the future
3. Public lands with potential to be positively affected for rockhounding in the future.

Additionally, a map on our website will be created that shows the above mentioned items with color coding. With both the list and the map, we will be able to have all issues readily "In our face" so that we can tackle them much more efficiently and effectively. As the saying goes.... Knowledge is power!

Keep on Rocking!!!!

Ben Odum
nfms_public_lands@yahoo.com
 Spokane Rock Rollers
 NFMS Public Lands Advisory

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

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

**Please submit all show information (including admission charge) to
Pat Lambert, Show Coordinator.**

Her information can also be found on the second page of this newsletter.

Thank you.



NFMS Clubs' Show Schedule

September 10 & 11 Sat – 9 – 6 Sun – 10 – 4	Clallam County Gem and Mineral Association	Vern Burton Community Ctr., 308 East 4 th Street Port Angeles WA	Jennie Bourassa 360 681 0372 or Kathy Schriener 360 681 3811 PO Box 98 Sequim WA 98382
September 10 & 11 Sat - 10 – 5 Sun – 10 – 5	Marcus Whitman Gem and Mineral Society	Walla Walla Cnty Frngds Community Cntr Bldg., 363 Orchard St., Walla Walla WA	Keith Bacus, 509 529 1248 1829 Howard St Walla Walla WA 99362
September 17 & 18 Sat – 10 – 5 Sun – 10 – 4	The Southern Washington Mineralogical Society	Castle Rock Fairgrounds 120 Fair Lane SW Corner of Highway 411 and Cowlitz River, Castle Rock WA	Nicole Doiron 360 785 4417 raknad@q.com
October 1 & 2 Sat – 10 – 5 Sun – 10 – 5	Marysville Rock and Gem Club	Totem Middle School Gym, 7 th Street and State Avenue, Marysville WA	Dottie Haage gdhaage@gmail.com 425 330 7865
October 15 & 16 Sat – 10 – 6 Sun – 10 – 5	Hells Canyon Gem Club	Nez Perce County Fair Building 1229 Burrell Avenue Lewiston ID 83501	Linn Enger 208 746 4957 engerocks@yahoo.com
October 22 & 23 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 22 & 23 Sat – 10 – 6 Sun – 10 – 5	Bellevue Rock Club	Vasa Park, 3560 West Lake Sammamish PKWY SE, Bellevue, WA	Bruce Himko bellevuerockclub@comcast.net PO Box 1851 Bellevue, WA 98009
November 12 & 13 Sat – 9 – 5 Sun – 10 – 4	Skagit Rock & Gem Club	Sedro Woolley Comm Center, 703 Pacific Street Sedro Woolley, WA	Debbie Frank skagitrockandgem@gmail.com PO Box 244 Mount Vernon WA 98273
November 12 & 13 Sat – 9 – 5 Sun – 10 – 5	Maplewood Rock and Gem Club	Maplewood Rock and Gem Clubhouse, 8802 196 th ST SW Edmonds WA	Don Wilcox tundrafox@earthlink.net 206 226 1868
December 10 & 11 Sat – 9 – 6 Sun – 10 – 6	Maplewood Rock and Gem Club	Maplewood Rock and Gem Clubhouse, 8802 196 th ST SW Edmonds WA	Mary Ann Collins collma1@comcast.net 206 714 3922
March 11 & 12, 2017 Sat – 10 – 5 Sun – 10 – 4	Magic Valley Gem Club	Twin Falls County Fairgrounds 215 Fair Avenue Filer ID	Shirley or Rocky Metts 208 423 4827 rmetts@magicvalleygemclub.org
March 24 - 26, 2017 Fri – 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
April 8 – 9, 2017 Sat – 9 – 6 Sun – 10 – 6	Maplewood Rock and Gem Club	Maplewood Rock and Gem Clubhouse, 8802 196 th ST SW, Edmonds WA	Mary Ann Collins 206 714 3922 collma1@comcast.net
April 29 & 30, 2017 Sat – 10 – 5 Sun – 10 – 5	West Seattle Rock Club	Alki Masonic Temple 4736 40 th Avenue SW Seattle WA	Diane Christensen diane@purns.org 206 582 2267 www.westseattlerockclub.org
May 19 - 21, 2017 79 th Annual Gem and Mineral Show and 2017 NFMS Show Fri – Sat – 10 – 6 Sun – 10 – 4	Bitterroot Gem and Mineral Society	First Interstate Center Ravalli County Fairgrounds 100 Old Corvallis Road Hamilton MT	Steve Vieth, 406 381 7597 viethsteve88@gmail.com
October 7- 9, 2017 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	Julian Gray 503 647 2418 juliangrocks@gmail.com 6034 NE Maidstone Street Hillsboro, OR 97124 Portland Regional Gem and Mineral Show Association PO Box 5401 Portland OR 97228



The AFMS Board