



NORTHWEST NEWSLETTER



TIME SENSITIVE MATERIAL

Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies
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President Ronnie Watkins

One of the important things I want to do as I assume the role of presidency of the NFMS is to thank Keith Fackrell for his service to our organization. Many good changes occurred over his years as an officer. Hidemi Kira, Jim Bosley, and Keith made a steady path going forward after the passing of our dear friend, Jon Spunaugle, for the continued assurance of fiscal stability of the NFMS with the collaboration of Jim Brain and Jack Edwards. This was the beginning of the proposal that put into motion the ability of the NFMS to refund \$1 per adult member dues back to our clubs. He also supported the move to the availability of the electronic Northwest Newsletter. I am honored to stand beside him and follow in his footsteps.

Another important thing I need to do is recognize the many that have served so long in so many ways.

Hidemi and his wife, Tomoko, are still serving the NFMS and have been helping and filling in for our Ways and Means Chairman, Janice Van Cura, raising funds at the NFMS show's silent auctions. They have had help, too, In an email Hidemi writes about the 2018 show: "It was a pleasure to work with Jerry (Wickstrom) at the Silent Auction... Jerry brought a lot of material and there were several other donations from clubs and individuals. Ken Zahn donated lots of material from Montana. And, others were Clackamette Club, Everett Club, Jerry Northrup (Lewiston Club), and also, we ourselves brought some material... And as usual, Roger Beck (Eureka Rock and Gem Club) was a great help. He is so knowledgeable!!" There are so many people to thank for pulling together for our organization, and for the sharing of materials for all rockhounds.

I would be neglectful not to mention Doug and Jeanette True for their contributions to our organization. One of the most amazing rockhound field trips I have ever been on was several years ago in Central Oregon outside of Post. Snow and mud did not stop everyone from having a great time at this event arranged by Doug. Doug has, also, ran the live auction raising funds and spreading around the materials and equipment of our hobby while Janette manned their booth. Now he serves us as President of the AFMS and in the Montana Council and, just as importantly, is a strong voice for ALAA. We want to thank the Trues for sharing Tex Rex with us at our last two Federation shows, too. What a lot of work it is for them to share this awesome attraction with us.

I want to recognize Dee Holland, Lauren Williams, Evan Day, and Bob Gibson for their service as Judges and Competitive Exhibits Chairmen. They were involved in the process of creating an AFMS' Division J for Meteorite rules, and they have ensured that comparative displaying continued and was supported and that recognition has been given to our talented artists and our members that share their beautiful items at our shows. And, we are thankful to them that competitive displaying is still available in the NFMS.

I want to thank Lyle Vogelpol for his 20 years of service to the NFMS as Treasurer and for his contributions to our organization and hobby and I couldn't be more honored that he stands beside me for another term. And, I thank his wife, Audrey for her enthusiasm while she held the Junior Chairman seat. She started the Junior Cracker Barrels that brings our Junior Rockhound leaders together during our annual shows for the healthy exchange of ideas and encouragement. She has ensured that the Junior Achievement Award contest honored our young outstanding rockhounds, and inspired us all by moving to bring Darryl Powell to our 2018 show. I thank her as she continues to serve the NFMS as our Resolutions Chair.

I must thank Dale and Clara Walker, Carol Willey, Pat Lambert, and Evelyn Cataldo for all they have done for the NFMS. If you don't know what these individuals do and have done over the years for our organization, you should wake up and smell the roses! Our organization runs smoothly with the help of these individuals and I can't thank them enough.

Now you wouldn't even be reading this if it wasn't for the following individuals: Tom Burchard, Beth Heesacker and Brad Larson. All year long these rockhounds help us stay informed and entertained. Thank you so much!

There are many others I have yet to mention, but I will continue to appreciate and show my gratitude for what you each do for our organization and for the rockhounds of the Northwest. But, before I close I have to thank my friend, Judi Allison, for all she has done and for all she continues to do for all of us. The time and attention she gives us is invaluable. Thank you.

Just a few announcements:

1. There will be an organizational meeting at the 2018 Hell's Canyon Gem Show in Lewiston, ID, October 20th, at 2 pm. That is at the Nez Perce County Fairgrounds. There is camping at the fairgrounds and if you wish to attend hotels tend to fill up, so make your reservations soon. The Red Lion has been recommended. This is an informal meeting, and all chairman and directors are welcome (A Mid Year Meeting is still in its planning stages and should be announced soon). Come out and enjoy this wonderful show!

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NEWSLETTER DEADLINE:

The deadline for issues is the 15th of the month for the following month's edition.

For deadlines and to submit articles contact

Linda Barlow

Email: nfmseditor2018@gmail.com

NFMS Website:

<http://NorthwestFederation.org>

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

go to

<http://NorthwestFederation.org/Newsletters.asp> and click on the month you want to see.

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NFMS EXECUTIVE OFFICERS 2017-18

PRESIDENT: Ronna Watkins, Yakima Rock and Mineral Club, POB 635, Tieton, WA 98947, (509)673-0085, 4ronna@gmail.com

1ST VICE PRESIDENT: Kenneth Zahn, Bozeman Gem and Mineral Club, 146 Canyon Meadow Rd., Bozeman, MT 59718, 406-582-8752, kc Zahn@littleappletech.com

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

NFMS STANDING COMMITTEES

BUDGET: 1st Vice President (see above)

BULLETIN AIDS: Vacant

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RULES AND AWARDS CHAIR: Dee Holland, Golden Spike Gem & Mineral Society, PO Box 23, Tendoy, ID, 83468, 208-756-2394

JUDGING DIRECTOR: Bob Gibson, Bitterroot Gem and Mineral Society, 326 Snow Goose Ct., Hamilton, MT 59840, 406-361-0871, gibcott@gmail.com

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NFMS Club-at-Large: 1st Vice President (see above)

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NFMS SPECIAL COMMITTEES

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

ROCKHOUND OF THE YEAR: Laurie Ellis, Hatrockhounds Gem and Mineral Society, PO Box 3326, Irrigon, OR 97844, 541-626-3131, 65shark@gmail.com

WEBSITE CONTEST: Cheri George, charig1946@yahoo.com

AFMS COMMITTEES (NFMS Representatives)

AFMS 5TH VP & AFMS FIELD TRIP – Doug True

ENDOWMENT FUND - Judi Allison

EDITORS HALL OF FAME-OPEN

NEWSLETTER EDITOR - Linda Barlow

NFMS CLUB BULLETIN AIDS - OPEN

ROCKHOUND OF THE YEAR - Judi Allison

ALL AMERICAN AWARD - OPEN

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS - OPEN

JUNIORS PROGRAM - Gayle Butler

PROGRAM COMPETITION - Darrell Watkins

PUBLIC RELATIONS - OPEN

SAFETY - Chuck Sonner

SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION- Mary Lou Northrup

SUPPLIES AND PUBLICATIONS - Patty Amos

JUDGE TRAINING COMMITTEE - Dee Holland

UNIFORM RULES - Lauren Williams

WAYS AND MEANS- Lauren Williams (chair)

& Janice Van Cura

WEBSITE- Brad Larson

WEBSITE CONTEST – Cheri George

THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW

The **AMERICAN LANDS ACCESS ASSOCIATION**

(**ALAA**) is a 501(c)(4) organization. Its purpose is to promote and ensure the right of amateur hobby fossil and mineral collecting, recreational prospecting and mining, and the use of public and private lands for educational and recreational purposes; and to carry the voice of all amateur collectors and hobbyists to our elected officials, government regulators and public lands managers. Your annual individual/couple membership fee is \$25 which helps support their activities. Club membership is \$50 per year. Send to Treasurer, P.O. Box 54398, San Jose, CA 95154. Make checks payable to: American Lands Access Assn. Applications can be downloaded at: www.amlands.org on the left side of the page. For more information contact: 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 ce-bar62@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 3,500 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 or
<http://northwestfederation.org/>

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)

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2. This will be the last newsletter edited by Beth Heesacker, as she starts her term as our 2nd VP. From this point on, please send your NFMS Northwest Newsletter submissions to Linda Barlow who has graciously stepped up as interim bulletin editor. Chairman should be sending their reports and announcements to be published by at least the month before the intended publication. I invite all members to contribute to our bulletin. Anything hobby related would be wonderful and could make our newsletter interesting and fun. The email address to use is nfmseditor2018@gmail.com.

3. I am still in search of a few people to fill some important chairman seats. They are the Bulletin Editor Aids, Educational, and the Northwest Newsletter Editor. If you are interested in joining us in leadership of the NFMS you can find job descriptions in the operating procedures posted on our web page. Here is the address: http://northwestfederation.org/documents/ArticlesOfIncorporationAndByLawsAndOperatingProcedures_2009.pdf

4. Please welcome our newest chairpersons

Gayle Butler has volunteered to be our Juniors Chairman. She will run the Junior Achievement Awards program, so please encourage your club's young rockhounds to submit their applications to her.

Katherine Cramer has volunteered to be our Public Land Access Chairperson. Please send her any land access actions information you are aware of and attend your local land management organizations' meetings so you can represent recreational rockhounds and keep her advised.

In closing, I would like to thank everyone for coming to and helping with the 2018 NFMS 80th Anniversary Convention and Show in Yakima. We had a really good turnout to the annual meeting of directors and delegates and the show was a huge success. Now as the last months of good hunting have arrived, go out and have a safe and fun fall!



1st Vice President Kenneth Zahn

A new member of a local club? -- or even a new member to the rockhounding hobby? Or possibly a seasoned rockhound, but one who has never been to the world-famous "Tucson Show" (minerals, fossils, gems, jewelry, beads, rocks, equipment, science and photography, symposia, displays, carvings, publications, wholesale and retail, etc., etc.), because of the winter travel difficulties or expensive room rates there in February? NEWS FLASH: This year, you might try considering attending the 2nd-largest show in the U.S., the "Denver Show" in September. Well — rooms are still a bit pricey (though much less than in Tucson), but your attendance-experience will be astoundingly educational. Try carpooling to Denver; you'll get to know your accompanying club-mates pretty well by the time you return.

The annual September "Denver Show" is — like the larger "Tucson Show" in February — really a conglomerate of separate venues (some in stadia/coliseum buildings, some in hotels/motels, and some in outdoor tents or at parking lot tables) in the west-Denver, Colorado, area. This year's "Denver Show" stretches from Friday, September 7th, through Sunday, September 16th. For an overview of one of the larger concentrations of venues (though there are also others), see the map at: <http://www.coliseumshow.com>, and then scan the list of the 500+ dealers and their booth layouts for 5 buildings straddling Interstate I-70 in this "Coliseum and National Western Complex" area at website <http://www.coliseumshow.com/dealer-list/>. I particularly like the outside tents and booths, and the smaller dealer tables at several local-area hotel/motel venues as well, as prices seem to be a bit less than at similar spots in Tucson. Once you get there, you'll figure out how to navigate the Interstates and local roads between the main concentrations of hotel-related, Coliseum, and Expo/Mart venues. Hotel-related hot spots include shows at the Denver West Marriott (in Golden), the Crown Plaza (in Aurora), the Quality Inn Western Denver, and the CO Independent Warehouse (in Lakewood) — (OK, I know the last one is not a hotel !!). A map that correlates the relative locations and date-schedules of these various centers of activity can be accessed at <https://xpopress.com/showcase/profile/2/denver-gem-mineral-fall-showcase#> or at <https://xpopress.com/showcase/shows/2/denver-gem-mineral-fall-showcase>, and a pdf copy of last year's "EZ Guide" for general reference is also on those websites for review. Altogether, over 900 dealers and exhibitors are represented at the Denver-area's 11 show spots (the 2018 EZ Guide update will be available online soon and at venues in Denver).

As at the huge "Tucson Show," the local-area clubs/organizations sponsor a 3-day "Main Show" with amazing displays and many great dealer booths at the Expo Hall of the Denver Mart (near the 58th Avenue/exit 215 from I-25). This year's show is Friday, September 14th, through Sunday, September 16th, and the show's theme is "Minerals of Mexico." It is at this venue that world-class speaker presentations will be given. Open the tabs shown at website <https://www.denvermineralshow.com/dealers> for details on directions and the hundreds of dealers, exhibits, speakers, and displays scheduled there.

At 82, and not having grown up with either typing or computer-skill genetic adaptations spliced to my birth genome, I still prefer to read from PAPER COPY and write on paper with an "INK-PEN," so I include all these website citations above to entice those of you who HAVE these genetic adaptations to go to the digital version of our Federation newsletter (at <http://northwestfederation.org/newsletters.asp>) where you can simply click open each of the web addresses for your quick scans of what the Denver Show is all about.

Finally, if this paper copy of the Newsletter gets to you too late to make a fast dash for at least the last 4 days of this year's Denver Show, keep it in mind for next year's planning. Denver should be a "must see" at least once for us Northwest Federation rockhounds — especially if you can't make it to Tucson. Hope to see you there.



2nd Vice President Beth Heesacker

Well, what an awesome responsibility. I am thankful for the faith you have placed in me by electing me to this office. I have chosen as my focus for my term on office, volunteerism. I hope to write articles that not only encourage volunteerism but also give clubs ideas on how to recruit members to volunteer their time and talents to their clubs.

Since we are volunteer societies, but we all seem to have trouble getting members to volunteer, this seems like a good topic to review.

First I think that it would be a good idea to define "volunteer" and "volunteerism". Merriam Webster defines a volunteer as "a person who voluntarily undertakes or expresses a willingness to undertake a service". Volunteerism is defined by "the act or practice of doing volunteer work in community service". Since there seems to be a bit of using a word to define itself, I had to dig deeper.

I won't bore you with all the leads I checked out but it seems like the definition of the word "voluntary" encapsulates the point I am trying to make. The definition includes "proceeding from the will or from one's own choice or consent" and "acting or done of one's own free will without

valuable consideration or legal obligation". It seems like the main point is that someone decides freely to act without payment.

Seems clear enough. A volunteer volunteers because they want to. The problem seems to be that many do not want to for a variety of reasons. Some may not have the time. We lead busy lives. Some may feel that they do not have an ability or talent that is useful. How do we convince our members that it is important, and valuable to the club and to themselves, to make the time to volunteer or that they do have talents that are needed and can be developed by volunteering? We will be exploring these and other topics concerning volunteerism as time goes by.

V♥lunteers Are the Heartbeat of Y♥ur Club!



Past President Keith Fackrell

Greetings to everyone. I hope you are having a fantastic Summer.

By the time you read this newsletter we will be into the last of August or maybe the first part of September, 2018, and I will be close to, or already be a has-been. I would like to take this opportunity to thank each of you for the great support in your many North West Federation of Mineralogical Societies. Thanks to all of the members of the Executive Board for the great job you have done. Thanks for helping to build NFMS to where it is today.

We have great, enthusiastic, hard working people that will do their part in the upcoming positions in leading this organization. The NFMS Executive board for the year, September 1, 2018 to August 31, 2019, consists of President - Ronna Watkins, 1st Vice President - Ken Zahn, 2nd Vice President - Beth Heesacker, Treasurer - Lyle Vogelpohl, and Secretary - Judi Allison. This group of officers has great knowledge of the operations of NFMS and will do a exceptional job of taking care of business this year,

There are also about 29 Active Committees who each work on different Categories to help keep NFMS operating. They do a super job for NFMS. I thank each Committee Chair Person and all who assist them in their responsibilities.

There are also Directors and Delegates from each club/society. They are the wheels that transport any changes from their local clubs/societies to the Mid Year Meeting and the Annual Meeting. The delegate from the sponsoring club/society will present the proposal. If a quorum of delegates is in attendance, the business at hand will be voted on.

Thanks to the delegates for attending these meetings, and thank you for all you do for your club/society and NFMS. Without you it could not happen. I also thank all of the member clubs/societies for making it possible for your delegates to attend these very important convention/meetings.

ABOUT SAFETY

Remember: School is or will soon be open. This means many more pedestrians will be walking along and crossing the highways. Small children are very hard to see especially in the early morning and late evenings. Please slow down and drive smart, yield the right of way. Give someone a BRAKE!

Wild Fires: There have been a large amount of wildfires in many areas of the western states. Some of these have been caused by lightning strikes. There is not much that can be done to prevent these fires. However many of the fires are caused by carelessness, which may include improper campfires, fireworks and high powered firearms using improper ammunition, to name a few. I think that I have been careful about the possibility of accidentally starting a wild fire. Most vehicles have a catalytic convertor and they do get hot. I park in areas which is clear of grass & weeds. Well, I drove into our yard on a hot day and decided to park on the lawn in the shade. The next day as I backed onto the drive, I noticed a large brown spot in the lawn. After investigating I found the brown spot was under the car, under the catalytic convertor. If I had parked in dry grass or weeds the outcome could have been much different,

Please be careful while you are out having fun. Use good judgement in all you do and enjoy each day.



Yakima Rock Club Jewelry Class Report By Jim Landon

On Saturday, May 5, 2018 members of the Yakima Rock Club had an opportunity to participate in a silversmithing class at Highland High School. Teresa Brooks the art teacher at Highland High School graciously allowed us to use her room for the event. The class was offered by Chris and Peggy Blickfeldt who's fame is well known for the classes they offer each fall at the Hancock Field Station in Oregon. The Blickfeldts' had held a class the previous

Saturday and Sunday (April 27-29) when the Yakima club hosted the Northwest Federation Show. They agreed to stay an extra week so that club members who were involved with the show would have an opportunity to take the class.

Chris and Peggy are an amazing and very knowledgeable couple. They travel far and wide in their large diesel school bus that contains every tool and piece of equipment necessary for offering a wide variety of courses. In no time at all they had set up the classroom for the 9:00 AM start. For a nominal fee they provided all of the tools and materials for the students to produce a silver pendant. Ten members of the club participated in the event. Chris and Peggy are so well organized and they work together like a well oiled machine. Each participant received personal attention as they proceeded through each of the steps to measure, cut, and then solder the pieces to their pendants. Some of the steps needed to be repeated several times as

the rookies toiled to master the details of the process while Kris and Peggy offered suggestions and encouragement. They are great teachers.

At the end of the six hour class each club member had successfully completed their pendant and headed out the door happy campers. My thanks and appreciation go out to the Blickfelds, Teresa, and the Highland School District for the opportunity to hold the class. Hopefully we can work out something for them to return next year. Thanks guys!



HERE'S SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT

**By Shirley Leeson
ALAA Director,
deep in the heart of Texas**

Each year, for any number of reasons, our public lands diminish. If you look deeply in to it you'll find people/organizations who want to 'save our land for our children'. Have you ever wondered what they mean? It's a code word for 'take away your rights.' In some cases the states take away public lands for their own purposes, like wind farms, solar fields, and what better place but public lands, who's going to complain, or who cares.....

I hope I am speaking to the choir when I say 'we need YOU, to help us keep public lands for multi-use, as it was originally intended. Those of you who live in the east and only visit the great states west of the Mississippi, don't have the time or inclination to keep up with what is taking place in collecting areas out in the west. It's only when you include a famed collecting site to your vacation itinerary that you find the area has been closed. Then you're interested, but it's too late.

Our ALAA Newsletter is only as good as the people who put forth facts on what is currently going on. We've worked closely with off road people over the years because they are interested in keeping public land roads open, and many times those roads lead to our collecting sites. We're asking for your help in keeping us informed on what is going on in your state. There are many publications both nationally and locally you can subscribe to free to keep abreast of situations occurring in your area – when you do, please contact one of us and let us know – we can rally the troops, so to speak, and get you help....our collecting sites are relying on you.

Here's the possible consequence if you don't.... you can go to back yard sales of old rockhounds and find material there, you can go to local or regional or national shows and buy material from venders who are finding material from the US harder to get, and are now relying on overseas distributors, or you can go on any of the social medias and buy material...BUT, what will happen when all this material is gone. will our beloved hobby cease to exist?

Here's something YOU can do right now....go to the ALAA website and click on the left side and begin looking through all the material we have put there for your enlightenment.

The website is full of information on individual states, and currently what is going on there, but we can't do it alone....we need you to update and keep us informed. It has people to contact, places to visit on line, pending problems that need resolution, but it can't happen without YOU. I hate to say it, but rockhounds do not have the time or interest in what is going on, unless something immediate to them happens and then they ask us, why didn't you do something.

Remember: we, ALAA, do not have a staff of hundreds or big bucks to keep our public lands open. But the environmentalists have been working for years to close public lands under various organizations like Sierra Club, Center for Biological Diversity, Defenders of Wildlife, and so many others.

I spend each day going through material sent from those organizations and others because I want to know what they are up to next. I'm not asking you to do the same, but when you run across one of these, always asking for money, go to their website and see what they are about.

I am not on the front lines any more, having moved to the great state of Texas, but I can still help and do my part....will you, please.

“RECREATIONAL ROCKHOUND”

**By Shirley Leeson
ALAA Director,
deep in the heart of Texas**

We are asking you to help us re-brand our name, who we are and what we do....

Currently, Rockhound. What does that word mean?

When the general public sees us:

- someone who sees huge holes left where rockhounds dug out rocks.
- someone who found their gates open because of rockhounds, and this could be a property owner, or a company owner who has granted you access to something they consider useless, but is of real interest to a rockhound.

When we ask to have public lands areas kept open for multi-use, how does Washington, DC look upon us?

- the environmentalist who see you as 'stealing natural resources' and wish them left in the ground, or
- a governmental employee who sees you taking a truck load of material off public lands only to put it up for sale on social media.

As a 'rockhound', what does that word bring to mind to you? A grandfather or uncle taking you on a collecting trip for pretty rocks? A teacher opening up the wonders of the environment by showing you rocks, minerals and fossils in their classroom setting? A rockhound visiting a school and bringing rocks that have been cut and polished to show the inside of a very plain rock? A rockhound club putting an exhibit of gems, minerals and fossils in the library or the entry to a public building? A rockhound club inviting you to their show and showing you what collecting rocks is all about. A demonstrator showing you how a gemstone is cut. A county fair where there is a gem and mineral department showing you all the joyous things about being a rockhound.

Here's the problem, our image has been tarnished by some. What can we do to restore it to a good image – a good brand?

ALAA has tried to change the image, we're asking you all to begin to use the term, 'recreational rockhound' like 'recreational off-roading' -- that implies we are on public lands as a recreational occupation and using it as a teachable moment, a pleasant experience for those attending....maybe for the first time.

We're asking you to look around and see what you can do personally to making recreational rockhounding a noble occupation once again, please.and just maybe, when we attend management meetings for the BLM or Forest Service, they will look upon us as 'recreational rockhounds'. Don't forget, most recreational rockhounds belong to a society or club regionally, and nationally we have a code of ethics....let's follow them.



NFMS PLACEMENTS @ AFMS

Congratulations to these NFMS members for their AFMS 2018 Editors Contest Awards!

SMALL BULLETINS:

7th place, The CMS Tumbler,
Cascade Mineralogical Society
Keith Morgan, Editor

9th place, Hatrockhound Gazette,
Hatrockhounds Gem & Mineral Society
Judi Allison, Editor

LARGE BULLETINS:

5th place, The Clackamette Mineral & Gem Club
Beth Heesacker, Editor

8th place, Grindings, Idaho Gem Club
Linda Barlow, Editor

ADULT ARTICLES:

HONORABLE MENTIONS:

What are Mineraloids? Kay Koch, Author
Cascade Mineralogical Society
Keith Morgan, Editor

Seattle Rocks—North Wind's Weir
Audrey Vogelpohl, Author
West Seattle Rock Club
Michael Wall, Editor

ADULT ARTICLES ADVANCED:

HONORABLE MENTION:

Longwave UV LED Flashlights & Fluorescent Minerals by Phillip Neuhoff, Author
Idaho Gem Club
Linda Barlow, Editor

JUNIOR ARTICLES (ages 12-17)

6th place, Mineral Cosmetics in Ancient Egypt
Odessa Durant, Author
West Seattle Rock Club
Michael Wall, Editor

WRITTEN FEATURES:

HONORABLE MENTIONS:

China Hollow Field Trip, Bob Carson, Author
Hatrockhounds Gem & Mineral Society
Judi Allison, Editor

Escaping from the Pacific Northwest Cold & Ice
Beth Heesacker, Author
Clackamette Mineral & Gem Club
Beth Heesacker, Editor

DRAWN FEATURES

1st place, Mr & Mrs Rockhound
Keith Alan Morgan, Author
Cascade Mineralogical Society
Keith Morgan, Editor

2nd place, Hard Luck Harry
Duane Flackus, Author
Clackamette Mineral & Gem Club
Beth Heesacker, Editor



2018

WILLAMETTE VALLEY GEM, MINERAL & JEWELRY SHOW

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September 3 from 9 am – 4 pm

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CRYSTAL, TURQUOISE, BERADS, GOLD & SILVER, JEWELRY – NATIVE AMERICAN AND
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I Can't Help But Ruminare

By the unofficial NFMS Poet Laureate

Bert Kae-Je'

It's still three, now two months away and
It is present in my tendons, even my alveoli,
Now even more often in my bones, and dreams,
It's getting closer and more in my conscience it seems.

But I can't go there yet, there's a lot to do first,
Yet I can't, really can't, quell my thirst...
Inside I think I'm getting ready, ready to go!

Stay Focused, Stay Focused, I tell myself,
It'll be here soon and you've yet to get ready,
Time will come, I'll still be burning the last minute,
Lots to do and much to get ready,

Clients to see, Psych Evaluations to do, let alone
Finding the Varicite, the Lapis and Azurite,
Hunt's book on stone carving to read,

All those things you want to take with you,
But other jewelry to fabricate and finish now,
U-Tubes to look at, stones to gather,
The rocks you want to slab, and flasks to ready.

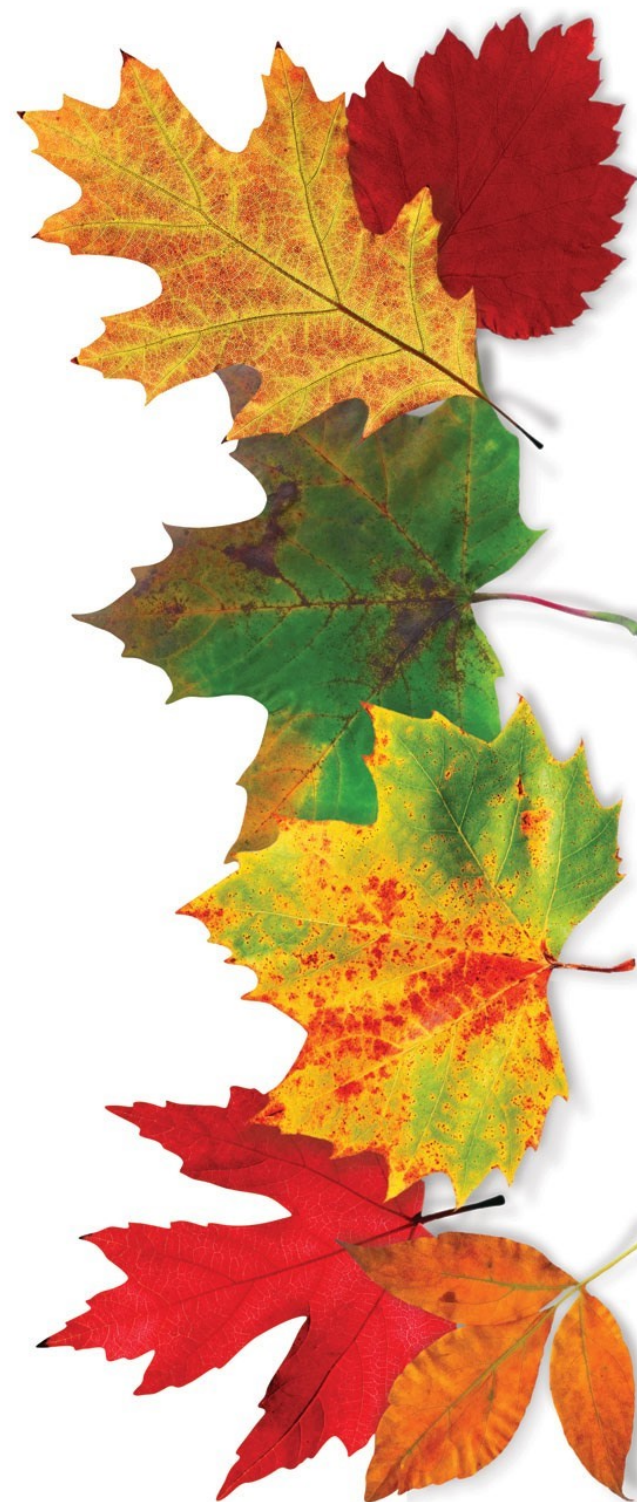
Maybe loose a couple pounds,
Gather allergy pills, and cool rags to wear,
A cushion mattress, some towels and hair-brush,
Camera, beads, and an intarsia piece to finish.

None the less, I fancy myself with rumination,
And my thoughts turn to the past 10 years @ Hancock Station,
A roommate with whom I'll have time to share,
And colleagues, friends and Instructors who'll be there.

But hoping the same old ditch by Bore's- Head Cabin isn't still there.
And the precarious steepness is mended by Rosehip.
There may be bugs on the screens, spiders, ants, and frogs in the shower,
I don't care, I'll manage, just let me go.

I'm ready, my bones are ready, and my spirit is ready,
My stones are packed, and I anticipate
But I have to concentrate, and focus, focus here...
Then soon, soon I can go. Focus!

F) Poem 2018 7/16/18



LOTS OF SEPTEMBER HOLIDAYS TO OBSERVE

SEPTEMBER 3 - LABOR DAY

SEPTEMBER 9 - GRANDPARENT'S DAY

SEPTEMBER 10 - ROSH HASHANA (JEWISH NEW YEAR)

SEPTEMBER 11 - PATRIOT DAY

SEPTEMBER 23 - EQUINOX

SEPTEMBER 28 - NATIVE AMERICANS' DAY

SEPTEMBER 30 - GOLD STAR MOTHERS' DAY



Bob Gibson Judging Director, Competitive Exhibits



AWARD	SCORE	GROUP	DIVISION	CLASS	DISPLAY
Brenna Barker Yakima, WA 98902 Yakima Rock and Mineral Club T28 Trophy	98	Blue Ribbon Junior	E	EIC-1	Mineral
Jim Landon Cowiche, WA 98923 Yakima Rock and Mineral Club T32 Trophy	93	Blue Ribbon Novice	F	F-8	Fossils from One Locality
Jim Landon Cowiche, WA 98923 Yakima Rock and Mineral Club T15 Trophy	94	Blue Ribbon Novice	A	A-2	Lapidary Polished Flats
Jim Landon Cowiche, WA 98923 Yakima Rock and Mineral Club Red Ribbon	85	Novice	B	BF-1	Personally Collected Minerals
Jim Landon Cowiche, WA 98923 Yakima Rock and Mineral Club Red Ribbon	80	Novice	E	EGC-5	Education General
Alecia Fish Selah, Washington 98942 Yakima Rock and Mineral Club T-26 Trophy	91	Blue Ribbon Novice	E	D-9	Jewelry Lapidary Mixed Stones
Denise Harrison Oregon City, OR 97045 Clackamette Mineral and Gem Club T-22 Trophy	97	Blue Ribbon Master	G	G-3	Cabochons Any Style Not Mounted

SPECIAL AWARDS

I would like to thank everyone who entered display cases. Their quality and variety add so much to our shows. I would also like to recognize the Special Award winners.

- The JOHN T HEDIN MEMORIAL was established in June 1973 by Mrs. John T Hedin for the "best display of petrified wood or wood casts at our annual NFMS Show." The trophy is presented to **Jim Landon** for his wood rounds filling the west wall showcase.
- The RODNEY J SMITH TROPHY for "All Northwest Material" that is, materials from within the boundaries of the NFMS. The trophy is presented to **Jim Landon** for his wood rounds filling the west wall showcase.
- The ISABELLE B MATTISON TROPHY was established in July 1990 by the Three Rivers Mineralogical Society, Kennewick, Washington, for the best exhibit by a Junior Member or Junior Society. The minimum score of 60 points is to be used to qualify for the trophy. The trophy is presented to **Brenna Baker**.
- The LESTER ZEIHEN TRUST was established. In May 1999 and the trophy is presented to **Brenna Baker**.

Endowment Fund Seeks Your Spending Input

At the annual NFMS meeting in Yakima, the Delegates approved a motion presented by the Endowment Fund Committee that updated the wording in the Federation Operating Procedures that effects the Endowment Fund. A key addition is that we now have a written spending policy for the fund management. It reads as follows:

Annually allocate 4% of the average Endowment Fund's total portfolio value for the 3 preceding years for expenditure during a given fiscal year.

Under our spending policy, based on the expected Endowment Fund portfolio balance at the end of the current federation fiscal year, there should be approximately \$9500 available for expenditure on **programs or projects that benefit the membership of the federation** during the NFMS 2018-2019 business year. Since there were no responses to the earlier request (in January 2018 NFMS newsletter) for potential programs or projects to be funded by the Endowment Fund, it was moved, seconded and approved by the delegates at the annual meeting to continue the motion approved the previous year where Endowment Fund proceeds would be used to offset the dues paid by member societies to the tune of \$1.00 per member for another year, for the 2018-19 federation business year. This will obligate about \$6000 of the funds available to spend next year leaving \$3500 for other programs or projects.

Individuals and member societies **please** take a few minutes and think of ways Endowment funds could be used to benefit the membership of the Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies. We have made it easy. Use the following format to submit your proposal.

Project Title: _____

Project Sponsor: _____

Contact person: _____

Contact phone number: _____ e-mail address: _____

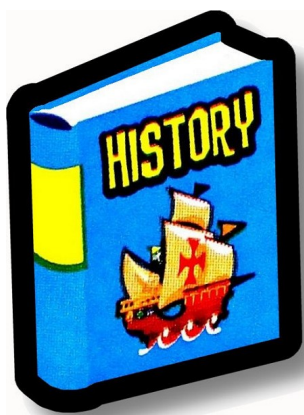
Detailed Project Description: _____

Estimated Cost: _____

The committee would appreciate responses by November 1, 2018. Submit your proposals to Jim Brain, Endowment Fund Financial Advisor, at jrbrain@outlook.com or mail them to him at 6410 W. Sundance Dr, Spokane, WA 99208. The committee will prioritize proposals and recommend those to be funded in 2018-19 to the federation executive committee for final approval. Acceptable unfunded proposals will be saved for the next year when more funds will be available..

NFMS HISTORIAN

By Linda Barlow



History is more than about ancient history, it includes current experiences. I am on the road without access to my files so decided to write about my travels for this month. Hope you enjoy your summer rock hunting!

The field trips of the Idaho Gem Club in Boise have wetted my appetite but never on the overnight or high clearance vehicle trips (I didn't have the camping equipment or the vehicle). This year started by going with a friend who owns a Suburban, high clearance vehicle, to Succor Creek and finding Thundereggs, Geodes, and 2 limb casts as big as my forearms!



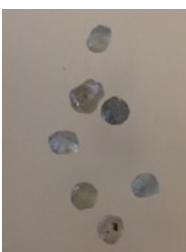
Then took a trip to Spencer Mines in western Idaho in the Suburban. No accommodation close by so went to Lima, Montana, 30 miles up the freeway and stayed at a very nice motel and RV place. The rooms at the motel were efficiencies! Wow best price deal ever and reasonably good food at the restaurant across the street. Could have stayed another day and hunted fossils! What did I find at Spencer? A Fire Opal first thing then lots of other opals including blue.

Next field trip, was with the club to Oregon's Sunstone Collection Area! We went early and stayed 4 days in a RV! We took advantage of the 2 Mines there including Dust Devil and Spectrum. I loved hunting on my own at the Dust Devil and found lots of "John Deer" Green Crystals!!! This was a broken windshield from the tractor they used to excavate! I was hoping it was the Green Sunstones or watermelon Sunstones! I did find some sunstones! Next went to Spectrum and went through a dump load of dirt. Whoever said rockhunting wasn't exercise? Just read on: (1) shoveling the dirt into 24"x 24" screens waist high, (2) sifting out the dirt, (3) washing off the remainder of the dirt, and (4) holding the screen up to the sunlight to see any missed Sunstones!!! It took all day! Eight hours in the sun without a hat but did wear a long-sleeved white shirt. It took me 2 days to wash out the iron color from the dirt! I got lots of sun and Sunstones! The last day, we spent the morning at the Idaho Gem Club's Sunstone claim. My friend dug and I walked the perimeter. We found about the same! Hungry and hot at lunch time we returned to the RV for food and rest. I walked at the public collection site, but the heat drove me back inside. We then went through the conveyor belt at Spectrum for one hour looking for Sunstones – that was more rewarding and very competitive! We switched lead position every 15 minutes so we both had equal time getting the first Sunstones which came out onto the conveyor. (It reminded me of that candy conveyor belt Lucille Ball worked on with her friend Vivian?! I wasn't popping candy but my fingers were popping to catch the stones first or find any that my friend missed!) The road in and out of Sunstone Collection Area was long (20 miles on Hogback Road & 14 miles at turn off to collections site very well labeled), all dirt, and very dusty. We taped over all our RV vents but to no avail. What a thorough cleaning of everything before and after, including my nose!



Home from Sunstone for 2 days and then left for Emerald Creek, Idaho! Beautiful country Idaho! We hunted garnets. At Emerald Creek, the process is (1) to fill our own buckets from a communal sand pile, (2) carry them to the sifting area, (3) find a 24" x 24" or 12" x 12" screen, (4) sift the dirt and mud (that required scraping with a larger stone), (5) putting the stones into a separate bucket, (6) carrying the bucket to the water trough, (7) waiting for a space (it was opening weekend, so everyone was there!), then (8) look for garnets to shine in the sun. That was fun but who said rockhunting isn't work! My hands were dry and parched – sure used a lot of lotion!

On to Crystal Park, Montana, near Dillon. I had been there a couple of years ago right after a rainstorm. That is the best time to go as all the stones are on the surface and no digging to find the big ones! It rained the day before we arrived and the night we got there it was snowing!!! I wasn't prepared for snow so piled all my clothes on and slowly peeled them off as it got warmer on July 4th. The mosquitoes and No-see-ums found me! What a great way to celebrate our country's independence! I found multiple clear quartz crystals and one small amethyst. My friend did have the find of the day: a 293 carat amethyst phantom recorder!!! Wow, I was so happy for him!



We left Crystal Park, Montana, and traveled north looking at the Rocky Mountains! Then south to Phillipsburg, Montana, to Gem Mountain. Stayed right on the grounds in the RV! They have a deal, buy 6 buckets of dirt and receive one bucket free. We both chose to do that. We each did 3 buckets the day we arrived and 4 the next day! That is a lot of filling screens about 12" x 12", washing, and flipping onto a black surface to look for sapphires. As it was my first time, there was instruction as to procedure and also many staff to support the customers! I found a full tube of Sapphires both days! According to the stone evaluator, Jody, that is a lot to find in only 7 buckets. There were multiple colors of pink, purple, yellow, clear, blue, and green! I chose to have the 7 flawless sapphires heat treated and faceted. The others I will keep raw for healing to use on grids, in meditation, and place around my apartment for their energy! Besides being a "stone of prosperity" Sapphires are also "record keepers". The colored ones have their additional qualities for emotional and spiritual and physical assistance of one's health. NOTE: Brad Somers, president of Bozeman Gem & Mineral Club, and Russ (?) were volunteers to help customers wash, flip, & look for sapphires. Brad and Russ were so helpful and enjoyed talking rocks. Russ showed me the Amethyst/Smoky Quartz scepter he found in his mine which will be the subject of November Rock and Mineral Magazine cover and article highlight. He was kind enough to give me a similar one not quite perfect but full of energy and usable for healing (my interest for using stones)!

That was the beginning of my summer!



From the Past Editor's Rockpile

By Beth Heesacker

Since this is my last edition of the NFMS Newsletter I want to thank all those who have been so helpful in making my job possible: all those who sent in their articles faithfully and on time, Tom Burchard for his huge job of keeping the circulation list up to date and on time to the printer, Pat Lambert for submitting the show postings for all our member clubs, our printer (now Oregon Lithoprint) for their expertise on printing and mailing our newsletter, and so many more people that the list is endless.

It has been a great experience and I will miss it. As the newly elected 2nd VP, I cannot continue as editor but I know that our new editor will get up to speed and make this newsletter her own. She is Linda Barlow who has been the NFMS Historian. I have sent her information on what she might need to be successful and will continue to support her through the transition. Please welcome and support her as you have me since November 2009.

You will continue to hear from me as your 2nd VP so our important connection will not end. See you at the NFMS meetings and as many club shows as I can attend. Love to you all !!!



Northwest Federation News

(as Seen by NFMS Secretary, Judi Allison)



As a number of you are aware, the NFMS Show was recently held in Yakima, Washington. I know many of you went to see the show, but there are other things that go on at this time. The annual meeting, which is the one time during the year when official business of the NFMS can be brought forward and voted on is always held during these shows. Anyone can attend these meetings. Each club in the Federation (there are sixty-six) has representation in the form of a director and/or delegate. These are the individuals who are allowed to vote at the meetings. Their votes are supposed to represent what their club wishes to have happen. That is one of the main reasons it is good to keep up with what is going on in our Federation. Your Director or Delegate should be sharing information to be voted on and the result of those votes. At the very least, they should report on what transpired at the yearly meeting.

Of course, the new officers are voted on each year, and approval for a particular Club to host a show may be given. This year some changes in our operating procedures were brought forward to be voted on. One such change was to specifically spell out the types and names of the trophies given for the various display cases. The majority of these trophies are for competitive cases, but there are also some trophies that can be earned simply by putting in a really good display case. If you enter a display in a Federation Show, there is a possibility that one of these trophies could be yours. When the next Directory comes out, you will be able to look under Operating Procedures and find out specifically what these trophies are for and perhaps submit a case that would cover a particular criteria.

A second Operating Procedure receiving approval was in reference to the Endowment Fund. For those who don't quite understand the Endowment Fund; this is a fund that has been built up over the years by donations. The unrestricted part of the fund is used for things that will be of benefit to the Federation. (Which is the sixty-six individual clubs) An example of this is the fact that our cost of membership in the Federation of \$3.50 per adult member was defrayed by a \$1.00 per adult member last year. It was also approved for the coming year. The Endowment Fund Committee welcomes suggestions and ideas of how to use the funds to benefit the Federation.

The Endowment Committee drafted a whole new set of operation procedures to bring ours into line with what is required by the government for non-profits. The committee is made up of a Chairman, Jack Edwards; Financial Advisor, Jim Brain, NFMS Treasurer, Lyle Vogelpohl; and Secretary, Norma Long. The work of this committee goes on during the entire year, with monthly meetings and monthly reports to the executive committee.

Awards are given at the annual meeting, too. Youth who have received a Junior Achievement Award are honored and Certificates are given out for the Rockhounds of the Year for each club.

Along with the business meeting at the show, there are judges who evaluate the competitive cases and give each a score. There is a banquet where awards are given, and the officers for the following year are installed. Certificates for submissions to the newsletters and websites are presented at an Editors' Breakfast. Again, anyone can attend these functions. You simply need to register and pay for your meal. (Or you can attend without buying a meal.)

The Federation offers contests to create a yearbook of our club's activities, certificates for submissions to the newsletters, a website contest, and a Junior Achievement Award. Our Federation Directory lists all the clubs in the Federation complete with its members. The Directory also houses the By-Laws and Operating Procedures as well as a library of video programs that can be checked out by clubs to further their understanding and interest in our great hobby.

Although some of you may not necessarily be interested in the inner workings of the Federation, it is good to know there are opportunities and people volunteering to create those opportunities in Our Federation.

GET YOUR TICKETS NOW!

Judi Allison, NFMS Chair for AFMS Endowment Fund



Attention, attention! I have tickets for the AFMS Endowment Fund Drawing to be held at the AFMS Show in Cedar Rapids, Iowa during the AFMS Show March 23-25, 2019. Since the show will be taking place even before we have a midyear meeting, I won't have an opportunity to sell tickets at a meeting. I know some of you have been great supporters of the Endowment Fund through purchase of these tickets and I want to offer them to you on a timely basis. Please call me at 541-720-4950 or email at jms46@outlook.com to get some to sell to your club members or for yourself. Thanks for helping to support the fund! You can view a list of the items in the AFMS Newsletters. You can also donate something to the cause. Information for this is also in the AFMS Newsletter, or I can help you with the process.

**Gem Mineral
SHOW**

Enjoy many displays of jewelry, minerals,
rough material, slabs, and used
machines. Plenty of demonstrations,
a bountiful silent auction, hourly door
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September 8-9 10AM-5PM

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9/18

**SKAGIT ROCK
& GEM CLUB**

PRESENTS

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A GEM, MINERAL, FOSSIL
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9-10/18

The National Rockhound and Lapidary Hall of Fame By Hidemi Kira National Rockhound and Lapidary Hall of Fame Board of Consultant, NFMS 2018



The National Rockhound and Lapidary Hall of Fame (Hall of Fame) was founded by June Culp Zeitner in 1987 to recognize excellence in the earth sciences by inducting one or more persons each year in six categories: Minerals, Fossils, Metal Craft, Lapidary, Education and Tribute (Deceased). You can find all the information in the website <http://www.rockhoundandlapidaryhalloffame.org/> and here are some outlines from the site with some of my comments.

The Hall of Fame is governed by a seven member Board of Consultants composed of one person from each of the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies (AFMS) member regions. Doug True has been representing the NFMS, but because he is becoming the President of the AFMS from November, I was asked to take over the position to take some load off of him.

In order to be considered for inclusion in the Hall of Fame, nominees should be well recognized for their contributions and should have been involved in the earth sciences or lapidary arts for at least fifteen (15) years. Nominations submitted should be signed by the individual making the nomination or, in the case of a club, by the club president. All nominations are to be sent to the Chairman of the Board of Consultants. No self-nominations will be considered. Selections, from all nominations received will be made once each year by a vote of the Board, usually in the spring. If a nominee is not selected during a given year, the nomination will be carried over.

To make a nomination for a candidate in one of the six categories, you'll need to give as much information about the accomplishments of the nominee in the field of his/her expertise/interest. We'll also need to have contact information for both the nominee (or family) and the person or club submitting the nomination. Check the website for the past Inductees. Inductees as of 2014 to current, you can click on the name and find the summary of what they have accomplished.

As you can see in the "Inductees" in the website, there has been nobody inducted from the NFMS since 2008. I think it is time to have members of the NFMS to be inducted. Look around your club and in the NFMS. There are many great members who should be recognized. There is also a category of the Tribute (Deceased), so check out the members who have passed away as well.

Multiple nominations and supporting letters from a well-known person in the rockhound world seem to work well to be considered. Although the nominations can be sent in any time of the year, if you want to nominate a person for 2019, send in the Nomination Form by early 2019. This year, the information was sent out to the Board of Consultants late April to be judged by mid-May. So I believe it will be better to be sent during March or in early April. You can find the "Criteria and Nomination Form" in the above website.

If you have any question, contact me at htkira@gmail.com or the Chairman, Steve Weinberger (also represents the Eastern Federation) at cscrystals2@gmail.com.

Extra, Extra, Read All About It!!!

Judi Allison

We have a great resource available for our Federation if we just remember to use it. That is our NFMS website. One can find all kinds of information there, and our webmaster attempts to keep things current.

Remember, the NFMS Newsletter can be found in full color on the website before it reaches your home in the mail. Just look for the "Newsletter" tab and click on it. You will find one that says "Current Newsletter." So why don't you help save a tree and ask to be removed from the mailing list and begin getting your news via the website?

As well as the Newsletter, I want to point out that you can find the minutes of the annual meetings on the site. If your Director was unable to attend the annual

meeting or you missed the club meeting when the report was given, you can read the minutes firsthand right there on the site. Look on the right hand side and you will find a heading, "Other Items to View". Under it, there is one called "Federation Reports". That is where you will find the minutes.

Although the Hells Canyon Club has stepped up to host the 2019 Federation Show, we need to plan ahead. If your club has had the slightest idea of hosting a Federation Show, there is a resource that could serve you well in your decision making process. Under that same "Other Items to View" heading there is a listing, "Hosting a Federation Show". This is a booklet detailing the things that should be accomplished to do such. A club can negotiate the bid for the show, and after approval from the Past President's Council and a vote from the Directors assembly, they can move forward in the planning process. Hosting a Federation Show in essence is the same as your local show with a few additions. The key to a successful show is simply to be organized; thus the purpose of the guidebook. Although it entails extra work, the results can be rewarding. With proper planning, your club can gain additional income, gain exposure for the hobby and bring your members closer while working for a common goal. Consider it; it can be fun and give all a sense of accomplishment.

While you are on the site checking out the previously mentioned items, why don't you spend a bit of time and explore the other tabs available? One such tab you could click would be clubs. Find your club under that tab and check to see if the information is current. Let the webmaster know if it is not, so he can change it. If you need to make a submission to a committee, you might find the information you need under that tab. You can also find a copy of the by-laws and the holdings of the Federation Library on the site. Enjoy the convenience of our electronic age and take advantage of our NFMS Website.



Leon Agee Rest in Peace

On May 18, 2018 the Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies lost one of its well known members with the passing of Leon Agee. Leon and his wife Bonnie were long time members of the Rock Rollers Club of Spokane as well operating Agee Lapidary, a long time vendor at various gem and mineral shows around the northwest.

The following obituary appeared in the Spokesman-Review newspaper in Spokane (used with permission).

“Leon Agee, well known jewelry designer and gem cutter, peacefully passed away at the Veteran's Home on May 18, 2018. He was born at Sacred Heart Hospital to Oren and Eloise Agee. Growing up on the family homestead in Coeur D Alene and became a junior rock collector. His hobby later developed into a lifelong career he thrived on. After graduating high school and serving three years in the Army he was honorably discharged in 1955. At that time he became a certified Gemologist and Master Gem Cutter.

Over the years Leon achieved many accomplishments including cutting the world's largest faceted-Topaz weighing in at over 22,000 carats. The project took three years to complete. The American Golden Topaz is on display in the Smithsonian Museum of Gems in Washington D.C. He also collaborated with his friend John Koivule with the Gemological Institute of America, preparing and cutting over 1000 mineral specimens for scientific analysis. Leon always enjoyed working with his student's, friend's and client's designing and cutting gems. His chosen profession was his true passion.

Leon is survived by his wife Bonnie of twenty-one years. His sisters Gail Kinloch and Rose Luise Phillips and their extended families.

Per his request and my solemn promise, there will be no celebration of life or memorial service. In lieu of flowers anyone wishing to make a "in memory of Leon Agee" donation to the Spokane Veterans Home Betterment Fund would be truly appreciated. Leon's remains will be placed at the Fairmount Memorial Association Cemetery in Spokane, WA. He will be missed dearly.”



NFMS Clubs' Show Schedule

August 11 & 12, Sat - 9 - 5 Sun - 10 - 5	Maplewood Rock and Gem Club	Maplewood Rock and Gem Clubhouse, 8802 196 th ST SW, Edmonds WA	Mary Ann Collins 206 714 3922 collmal@comcast.net
September 8 & 9 Sat - 9 - 5 Sun - 10 - 4	Clallam County Gem and Mineral Association	Vern Burton Community Center, 308 East 4 th Street Port Angeles WA	Kathy Schreiner 360 681 3811 or Kathy Bachman 360 681 3994 PO Box 98 Sequim WA 98382
September 8 & 9 Sat - 10 - 5 Sun - 10 - 5	Marcus Whitman Gem and Mineral Society	Walla Walla County Frgrnds. Community Center Bldg., 363 Orchard St., Walla Walla, WA	Jack L Edwards, cell 509-520-1182, jcedwards1475@hotmail.com
September 15 & 16 Sat - 10 - 5 Sun - 10 - 4	Southern Washington Mineralogical Society	Castle Rock Fairgrounds 120 Fair Lane Castle Rock, WA	Robert Klickman & Nicole Doiron 360-785-4417 PO Box 679 Winlock WA 98596
September 22 & 23 Sat - 10-6 Sun - 10-4	Cascade Mineralogical Society	Green River College, Student Union Building 12401 SE 320 th Street, Auburn, WA	Mark Hohn, 32009 199th Ave. SE, Kent, WA 98042, (253)-332- 3736, showchair@cascademineralsociety.org , www.cascademineralsociety.org
October 6 & 7 Sat - 10 - 5 Sun - 10 - 5	Marysville Rock and Gem Club	Totem Middle School Gym, 605 7 th Street NE 7 th Street and State Avenue, Marysville WA	Brian Murril 425 346 9313 bmurril@aol.com Website: http://www.marysvillerockclub.com
October 6 Sat - 9 - 5	Idaho Falls Gem and Mineral Society - Members' Sale	Pinecrest Event Center, 560 East Anderson Idaho Falls, ID	Bill Thielbahr: (208)-524-0139; e-mail: tbar@srv.net
October 12 - 14, Fri - 10 - 6 Sat - 10 - 6 Sun - 10 - 5	Portland Regional Gem & Mineral Show Association	NEW: Clackamas County Fairgrounds 694 NE 4 th Avenue Canby OR 97013	Linda Harvey lindaharvey2010@gmail.com 503-310-3036., PO Box 5401 Portland, OR 97228 www.PortlandRegionalGemandMineral.com
October 20 & 21 Sat - 10 - 6 Sun - 10 - 5	Hells Canyon Gem Club	Nez Perce County Fair 1229 Burrell Avenue Lewiston ID 83501	Mary Lou Northrup 208 743 6944 mlandjl@yahoo.com
October 27-28 Sat: 9 - 6 Sun: 10 - 5	Clackamette Mineral and Gem	Clackamas County Fair-grounds, 694 NE 4th Ave, Canby, OR 97013	Beth Heesacker, heesack-er@coho.net, 4145 NW Heesacker Rd., Forest Grove, OR 97116
October 27 & 28 Sat - 10 - 6 Sun - 10 - 5	Bellevue Rock Club	Vasa Park 3560 West Lake Sammamish PKWY SE Bellevue, WA 98008	Bruce Himko PO Box 1851 Bellevue, WA 98009 belle-vuerockclub@comcast.net
November 10 & 11 Sat - 9 - 5 Sun - 10 - 5	Maplewood Rock and Gem Club	Maplewood Rock and Gem Clubhouse, 8802 196 th ST SW, Edmonds WA	Mary Ann Collins 206 714 3922 collmal@comcast.net
November 10 & 11 Sat - 9 - 5 Sun - 10 - 4	Skagit Rock & Gem Club	Sedro Woolley Comm. Ctr., 703 Pacific Street Sedro Woolley, WA	Debbie Frank skagitrockandgem@gmail.com
December 8 & 9 Sat - 9 - 5 Sun - 10 - 5	Maplewood Rock and Gem Club	Maplewood Rock and Gem Clubhouse, 8802 196 th ST SW, Edmonds WA	Mary Ann Collins 206 714 3922 collmal@comcast.net
2019			
March 16 & 17 Sat - 9 - 6 Sun - 10 - 5	Hellgate Mineral Society	Hilton Garden Inn 3720 North Reserve St. Missoula MT	Neil Maier attitoodz@yahoo.com 406 240 1079
March 22 - 24, 2019 Fri - 10 - 6 Sat - 10 - 6 Sun 10 - 4	Rock Rollers Club of Spo- kane WA	Spokane County Fair & Expo Center N.404 Havana at Broadway Spokane WA	Mike Shaw 509 251 1574 showchair@rockrollers.org
April 13 & 14 Sat - 9 - 5 Sun - 10 - 5	Maplewood Rock and Gem Club - April Sale	Maplewood Rock and Gem Clubhouse, 8802 196 th ST SW, Edmonds WA	Mary Ann Collins 206 714 3922 collmal@comcast.net
August 10 & 11 Sat - 9 - 5 Sun - 10 - 5	Maplewood Rock and Gem Club - Rock and Mineral Sale	Maplewood Rock and Gem Clubhouse, 8802 196 th ST SW, Edmonds WA	Mary Ann Collins 206 714 3922 collmal@comcast.net
November 9 & 10 Sat - 9 - 5 Sun - 10 - 5	Maplewood Rock and Gem Club - Show	Maplewood Rock and Gem Clubhouse, 8802 196 th ST SW, Edmonds WA	Mary Ann Collins 206 714 3922 collmal@comcast.net
December 7 & 8 Sat - 9 - 5 Sun - 10 - 5	Maplewood Rock and Gem Club - Rock and Mineral Sale	Maplewood Rock and Gem Clubhouse, 8802 196 th ST SW, Edmonds WA	Mary Ann Collins 206 714 3922 collmal@comcast.net