



NORTHWEST NEWSLETTER

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Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies
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ROCKHOUND RETREAT AT HANCOCK FIELD STATION (OMSI)

Question: How do you tell when everyone is having a good time?

Answer: There is LAUGHTER, LAUGHTER EVERYWHERE!

This is how I describe my 6 nights and 7 days at the Rockhound Retreat at the OMSI Hancock Field Station in Central Oregon

by Bryan Schroeder, NFMS Editor



photo by: Candy Kennardczk design

Orientation Session (Tuesday morning) –Erin, from the OMSI Staff, discusses the geology and history behind the John Day Formation

There were 41 participants who came from Oregon, Washington, Idaho, California, and even Canada; and 20 instructors came from Oregon, Washington and Idaho. WOW, a 2:1 student instructor ratio



At the end of the week we displayd our handiwork, creativity, and treasures. Note: all the tables were filled.



(lt. to rt.) Bob Jacobsen, Chris Blickfeldt, Stephen Petkovsek and Barbara Jacobsen ham-it-up the last night. Chris gets a mug with a mustache, and Barbara gets a "gold" crown.

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NEWSLETTER ARTICLES DUE

Contact Beth Heesacker
E-MAIL: nfmsnews@gmail.com

NFMS WEBSITE
www.amfed.org/nfms

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NORTHWEST FEDERATION EXEC. OFFICERS 2008-2009

PRESIDENT: Evelyn Cataldo, Lakeside Gem & Mineral Club, 99509 Brandon Dr., Kennewick WA 99336, (509) 628-0170, ecataldo@cbtabbs.com

1st VICE PRESIDENT: Fritz Mack, Everett Rock & Gem Club, 10619 Holly Dr., Everett, WA 98204, 425.513.0115, rockngeni_mack@netzero.net

2nd Vice President: Judi Allison, Hatrocksounds Gem & Mineral Society, 1701 NW 11th #A, Hermiston, OR 97838, (541) 720.4950, jall@eotnet.net

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY: Joan Day, Golden Spike Gem & Mineral Society, 509 Highland Blvd., Brigham City, UT. 84302 (435) 723-3830, joanday@sisma.com

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

NFMS STANDING COMMITTEES

BUDGET: Fritz Mack, 1st Vice President (see above)

BULLETIN AIDS: Darlene Posthuma, Eureka Rock & Gem Club, 5760 SW Riley Ln, Mountain Home, ID 83647, 208.794.0976, frankposthuma3@clearwire.net

CIRCULATION: Tom Burchard, Golden Spike Gem & Mineral Society, 875 E 4500 S, S. Ogden, UT 84403, 801.479.4286, Roxhund@aol.com

CREDENTIALS: Del & Clara Walker, Tualatin Valley Gem Club, 25305 Wilson River Hwy., Tualook, OR, 503.815.1863, dcwalker@semarqmail.com

CUSTODIAN: Judi Allison, 2nd Vice President (see above)

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

nfmndirectory@comcast.net
EDUCATION: Jim & Libby Spencer, Clackamette Mineral & Gem Society, 660 Collins Crest, Gladstone, OR 97027, 503-650-5027, the_spencers@comcast.net

ENDOWMENT FUND: CHAIRMAN: Edna Nelson, Mt Hood Rock Club, 66830 Maple Crest Rd., Deer Island, OR 97054, (503) 397-5284, snelson@ados.net; **TREASURER:** NFMS Treasurer (see above)

EXHIBITS REGISTRAR: Larry Hulstrom, Lakeside Gem & Mineral Club, 5409 W 26th, Kennewick, WA 99338, (509) 783.6210, rockhound132@charter.net

FINANCIAL ADVISOR: Jon Spunaugle, 4841 Doctor Eldridge Dr., Washougal, WA 98671, 360.624.7604, jonspe@comcast.net

HISTORIAN: Shirley Leeson, Intermountain Faceters Guild, P.O. Box 23, Tenody, ID., 83468-0023, (619) 460-6128 or (208) 756-2394, beauholland@centurytel.net

JUDGING DIRECTOR: Dee Holland, Intermountain Faceters Guild, P.O.Box 23, Tenody, ID, 83468, (208) 756-2394, beauholland@centurytel.net

JUNIORS CHAIR: OPEN
NEWSLETTER EDITOR: Beth Heesacker, Clackamette Gem & Mineral Corp., 4145 NW Heesacker Rd., Forest Grove OR, 97116, (503) 357-8804, nfmsnews@gmail.com

NFMS Club-at-Large: 1st Vice President (see above)
NOMINATING CHAIRMAN: Paul Heesacker, Clackamette Gem & Mineral Corp., 4145 NW Heesacker Rd., Forest Grove OR, 97116, (503) 357-8804, heesacker@coho.net Members: TBD

OPERATIONS REVIEW: OPEN
PAST PRESIDENTS COUNCIL: Chuck Sonner, Southern WA Mineralogical Society, 165 Tingle Rd., Winlock, WA. 98596, (360) 785-3909, chuckagate2@yahoo.com

PUBLIC LANDS ADVISORY: Andy Johnson, Lakeside Gem & Mineral Club, P.O.Box 3251, Pasco, WA 99302, (509)547-7625, washatonian@hotmail.com

SLIDE/ VIDEO LIBRARIAN: OPEN
RESOLUTIONS: Fred Burton, Golden Spike Gem & Mineral Society, 90 Lakeview, Tooele, UT 84074, (435)882.8614, fburton@trilobyte.net

RULES & AWARDS CHAIR: Rocky McCall, Marysville Rock & Gem club, 8330 272nd St. NW, Stanwood, WA 98292, (360) 629-2515, rm711@tgi.net

SAFETY: Dale Geer, Yakima Rock & Mineral Club, P.O. Box 34, Moxee, WA 98936, 509.248.6975, moxican1@q.com

SCHOLARSHIP: Rose Alene McArthur, Hells Canyon Gem Club, 33427 Highway 212, Orofino, ID. 83544, (208) 476-3840, obmcarthur@cpinternet.com

SHOW CHAIRPERSON 2009: OPEN
SHOW COORDINATION: Pat Lambert, Lakeside Gem & Mineral Club, 26106 S. Oak, Kennewick, WA 99337, palambert@charter.net

STAMPS: Hermina Kotski, Club-at-Large, 208 Riverview 2 East, Great Falls, MT 59404-1534, 406-231-0620

SUPPLIES: Tim Hoff, Butte Mineral & Gem Club, 1016 Waukesha Ave, Butte, MT., 59701, 406-491-3587, ttinker9742@bigskyhds.com

WAYS & MEANS: Janice Van Cura, Willamette Agate & Mineral Society, Inc. 3448 NW Covey Run, Corvallis, OR 97330 (503)753-2401 jvancura@peak.org

WEBMASTER: Jack Eads, Kitsap Mineral & Gem Soc., 5169 E. Hillcrest Drive, Port Orchard, WA. 98366-8101, (360) 871-2445, jacks@wavecable.com
NFMS WEB SITE: www.amfed.org/nfms

NFMS SPECIAL COMMITTEES 2009

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

LONG RANGE PLANNING: Bryan Schroeder, Lakeside Gem & Mineral Club, 153 Spring St., Richland, WA 99354, (509) 371-1572, bks1939@gmail.com

NORTHWEST ROCKHOUND RETREAT (Hancock): Lamar Tilgner (Chair), Mt. Hood Rock Club, 200 SE Olvera Ave., Gresham, OR 97080, (503) 666-2905, LSTILGNER@aol.com

CLAIMS COMMITTEE: Rocky McCall, Marysville Rock & Gem club, 8330 272nd St. NW, Stanwood, WA 98292-7430 (360) 629-2515, rm711@tgi.net

OPERATIONS PROCEDURE UPDATE: OPEN
ROCKHOUND OF THE YEAR: Viola Jones, Skagit Rock & Gem Club, P. O. Box 2841, Mt. Vernon, WA. 98273, (360) 424-8340, rocks1x1vi.george@verizon.net

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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 membership fee of \$25.00 helps support their activities. Contact: Dr. Robert Carlson, ALAA President, 1585 Los Pueblos, Los Alamos, NM, 87544, 505.662.5534, drobertcarlson@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), write to: **AFMS Central Off., Steve Weinberger, P.O. Box 302, Glyndon, MD 21071-0302.** Make checks payable to "AFMS". Email: cebar62@aim.com

The NORTHWEST NEWSLETTER is the official publication of the Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies (NFMS) and is usually published ten (10) times per year. This publication is brought to you through your club membership in 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 Burley Reminder in Burley ID. For matters related to the Newsletter (i.e. content, advertising, etc) contact the Newsletter Editor (printed elsewhere on this page). For matters related to the Newsletter circulation (new members, address changes, etc.) contact the Circulation Chairperson (located elsewhere on this page).

SHOW COORDINATION. Your Federation provides a free service for NFMS members by listing your show in this Newsletter, on the NFMS website, two magazines ("Rocks and Minerals" and "Rock and Gem") and the on-line Calendar from "Lapidary Journal". Please provide the date and time for the show, the club name and show title (if applicable), the location of the show, and most important a contact person with address, e-mail address and/or phone (e-mail is preferred). Please send your show information four to six months in advance to the SHOW COORDINATION Chairperson (printed elsewhere on this page). If you see an error once your show is listed, or if your show is not listed, contact Newsletter Editor (printed elsewhere on this page).

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 (printed elsewhere on the page), brought to the NFMS Annual Show or given to your Federation Director in your club.

ATTENTION CLUB TREASURERS

Where to send your money

(See this page for address, phone, or e-mail)

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 Vogelwohl, 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.

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: Rose Alene Mc Arthur (see Scholarship this page).

To AFMS Endowment Fund for:

1. Donations to AFMS Endowment
2. Memorials

Send to: See AFMS Newsletter

To ALAA Treasurer for:

1. Memberships, new and renewals
2. Donations

Make check payable to ALAA

Send to Joyce Hanschu, ALAA Treasurer, 6607 Sturbridge Ln; Canton, MI 48187-2638

NFMS NEWSLETTER 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

Do not send ads on colored paper because the back-ground will look gray in the ad. Following the placement of 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 (printed elsewhere on this page.)

DEADLINE

for YOUR SUBMISSIONS TO
the next

NORTHWEST NEWSLETTER is

Contact Beth
Heesacker

NFMS NEWSLETTER EDITOR
nfmsnews@gmail.com

COMMENTS, THOUGHTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS



**Evelyn
Cataldo,
NFMS
President**

Hello Fellow
Rockhounds!

The summer seems to get shorter every year. Summer 2009 is almost gone. The darkness is seeping earlier and earlier into the evening. However, the cooler weather is ideal for undertaking field trips.

With that in mind, I am writing this column in between making trips out to our travel trailer. We are loading up and getting ready to hit the road for a rock collecting trip to Utah. Yellow Cat Flat – here we come! We are meeting up with fellow rockhounds from Utah and New Mexico. I am looking forward to days of searching for that special find and evenings of fellowship with good friends.

Each fall, as we make a sojourn to a collecting site, we lament over the fact that the number of collecting sites diminishes each year. **In the past**, we wondered if our grandchildren will ever have the opportunity to discover and cherish a brightly colored agate or a piece of wind polished petrified wood. **Today**, we wonder if there will be a collecting site open for our next vacation!

I challenge each and every one of you to remain alert. Remain alert to congressional bills and government entities that want to close off our collecting sites. Write those letters, sign those petitions and make those phone calls. Let our elected officials know that we are a large and strong organization and that we expect them to protect and preserve our collecting rights. We do make a difference when we speak up. I also urge you to become a member of the ALAA, the rockhound's lobbying voice.

With warm regards, Evelyn

ROCKHOUND NOMINATION

The Chugach Gem & Mineral Society of Anchorage, Alaska has elected ANITA WILLIAMS as our 2009 Rockhound of the Year. Anita was instrumental in dovetailing a rock and mineral show with the annual Alaska Miners Association convention and has coordinated this very popular event every year since. She has served most of the CGMS officer positions and is now Treasurer. As a professional geologist, she has organized field trips and meeting programs and is always ready to lend her expertise to geology questions. Three years ago she represented CGMS at the Northwest Federation annual meeting. It is a pleasure to submit Anita's name for our "Rockhound of the Year" award.

Greg Durocher, President
Chugach Gem & Mineral Society



Judy Allison

NFMS 2nd V.P.

It just recently sunk into me that it is now after September first and my duties as your second Vice President have commenced. I thank you for the opportunity to serve and hope I live up to the

duties as time goes on.

Just to give everyone an overview of the person that you elected, I will let you know a bit about myself. I have been a member of the Northwest Federation since joining a club in Montana in 1992. I now belong to the Lakeside club in Tri-cities, WA and the Hatrockhounds in Hermiston, OR. Because of dual membership, I have served as secretary for more years than I have been in the Federation. My husband, Roger, and I created and maintained the Federation site until Jack Eads took over in 2004. The last four or five years (I think-time flies when you're having fun), I have served as the Show Coordinator.

I really like to get out and enjoy the natural beauty of our world and look for great finds in the process, but my greatest enjoyment of rockhounding is the people. It's wonderful to develop friendships with others who have common interests. I am looking forward to the next three years, so I can develop and cultivate more of those connections

New Show Coordinator

My name is Pat Lambert. I am taking over the job that Judy Allison has been doing so well. With your help, I hope to do as good a job as she has done.

My job is to collect information on the Gem and Mineral/Rock Shows that are being presented by the clubs that make up the Northwest Federation. I will send the information to the Northwest Newsletter, to the NFMS web site, to Rock and Gem Magazine, and to Rocks and Minerals. You need only send the information to me to have it reach all the above destinations. The information that I need:

- Date of the show and hours each day
- Club presenting the event and Name of the event
- Show location including City and State
- Miscellaneous information about the show (a big or special happening)
- Contact person, address, phone number or e-mail

Please email or mail your show information to me. The magazines like the information 6 months in advance but send it whenever you have the information. Thank you for your help.

Pat Lambert, Lakeside Gem and Mineral Club, 26106
South Oak, Kennewick, WA, 99337
palambert@charter.net

Membership Drive

We need each of you to talk up ALAA and have your club members and members of clubs surrounding you to join. We're a member of the Blue Ribbon Coalition – a group working to keep the roads to our collecting sites open to us.



We have a real deal for you. For those new members that can join now, their membership will be paid through December 31, 2010. The dues are: \$25 for single or couples and only \$50 for your whole club.

We are focusing on working with those people who are "managers" of the land" we want to collect on.

In the west it will be Forestry, Bureau of Land Management and State parks. We need to know the person in charge, his/her address, phone and email. What we want to do is have a working relationship with each person and his/her crew who manage the land we collect on and the roads we travel to get there.

In the east, it's property owners and quarry owners as well as Forestry, BLM and State Parks. If they allow collecting by a club, we would like to know that. However, this information will be on a database and not released to the public or other clubs. If a club is interested in a particular quarry, we can search our database and, if listed, we can refer the interested club to the club who works with the quarry owner. If the quarry is not open to collecting under any circumstances, then we'd like to know that as well. We want to be good rockhounds and have a reputation of working with the proper authorities.

In this time of short budgets for those entities, we may be able to help them. If they need help with road management, we may be able to help as well. With this stated, we need your help to make our organization grow and be recognized.

Here's what each of you can do. Bring in at least one new member/couple. Get your clubs and those surrounding you to join us. In addition to your membership, we're looking for clubs and people who are also willing to be active in our endeavor, especially those who enjoy field trips. In order to keep everyone informed of what's going on, we need to have an e-mail contact for everyone.

We are searching for those people who are willing to work with the bureaucracy of each state or federal entity within each state. In addition we need someone who will be willing to coordinate the clubs in that state. Please go to our website, <amlands.org> and see the states we already have covered.

I encourage you to join us in preserving our collecting sites and the roads to them!

Shirley Leeson, 1st Vice President, membership
<beauholland@centurytel.net

A ROCKIN RETREAT

by Andy Johnson



Having recently attended this year's Northwest Rock hound Retreat for the first time which was held at the Hancock Field Station September 7-13 in North Central Oregon, I couldn't help but reflect back upon this most interesting and unique location.

Through a collaborative agreement between the Oregon Museum of Science and Industry and the NFMS (Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies) rockhounds from British Columbia, Idaho, Washington, Oregon, and California were once again able to gather for a Fifth year to expand their areas of interest in a wide variety of lapidary activities and to use their free time to explore some of our public lands which surround the Hancock Field Station, in particular, the Clarno Unit. It is one of three units which comprise the 14,000-acre area known as the John Day Fossil Bed National Monument. The Clarno Unit is located 18 miles west of Fossil on highway 218 and offers the public a chance to walk through and gaze upon eroded ancient mud slides which formed cathedral shaped spires 40 million years ago.

Speaking of public lands and Fossil, one of Oregon's lesser known towns, there is a site located behind Fossil's only high school, situated on a hill-side on school land, where lies one of the richest fossil beds of the Bridge Creek flora found in Oregon. It is easily accessible and open for public collection for a nominal fee of \$5 which provides a needed source of revenue to Wheeler High School. These fossil beds formed some 30 million years ago when volcanic ash fell in the region during the formation of the present-day Western Cascades. This site has yielded over 30 species of plants, most of them belonging to the genera that are no longer native to the Pacific Northwest. Fossil hunters and collectors can dig unlimited fossil specimens in relative comfort and safety without fear of being fined, arrested or having their fossil finds confiscated.

These fossil beds were exposed during the construction of Wheeler High School in 1949, and have been used on a continuous basis by amateurs and professionals alike. So, if per chance you are searching for a public site to collect fossils in Oregon, do not overlook the sleepy community of Fossil where treasures beyond just fossils can be found and enjoyed.

Editor's Note: One of the options available at the Retreat is to take a van tour of the fossil beds and the multi-million dollar museum. This particular time the tour group stopped behind Wheeler High School and spent about an hour collecting fossils. The photo in the next column shows a collected specimen. It looks like some sort of leaf to me but that is as far as I am willing to go.



photo by Sandy Kennard/c2k design

I often think that a picture is worth a 1000 words. At the Retreat, I asked Sandy Kennard if she would take photographs of each of the classes being taught. Below is a brief bio about Sandy and some more of her photographs.

Sandy Kennard works as a freelance graphic designer and photographer, working on varied projects including publication layout and design, business websites, logos and T-shirt design. She is current with the latest in technology relating to photography and design from digital SLR cameras to computers and software. Sandy and her husband, Dave, have their own company, c2k Designs LLC (on the web at www.c2kdesign.com), which provide a wide array of services in photography, design work and computer consulting. Sandy can be reached by email anytime at sandy.kennard@c2kdesign.com.



photo by Sandy Kennard/c2k design

Beading

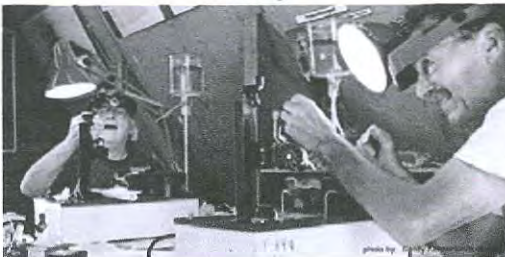


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Faceting



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Intarsia

High Speed Sander – thunderegg in view



photo by Sandy Kennard/c2k design

Grinding & Sanding wheels – cab making



photo by Sandy Kennard/c2k design

Wirewrapping



photo by Sandy Kennard/c2k design

Judging – starring at a case display

Not shown are silversmithing and casting (four types I understand).

Huge Calcite Crystals**Part 2 – The Big Find**

(See September 2009 issue for Part 1)

by

Bob Bristow

After examining the smaller Evans Camp Quarry, Rex and I explored the bigger Evans Quarry. We wanted to see if it would be worth trying to get permission to take in the whole mineral club.

We started exploring at the northwest corner and immediately began finding nice calcite crystals in several habits. They were about 1/2-inch long and we spent about an hour chipping out a couple of nice clusters. We then walked further east and found the crystals were larger here, about an inch long. I didn't want the hour spent gathering the first



Figure 1. Rex Exploring Evans Quarry

crystals to be wasted, so I carefully placed my cluster on a rock for the next rockhound. I now spent another hour getting a good sample of the larger crystals. Going to the northeast corner, we found even better crystals. I laid the latest cluster on another rock and went after larger crystals again. (Looking back, I couldn't be very smart if I didn't check out the whole deposit before collecting any more clusters!) At any rate, at this third location, I collected a very nice specimen that approached museum quality. We found excellent crystals that day but none as great as Dave Paquette collected on a trip by himself. (If there are any museum specimens, Dave will find them!) He discovered a mud-filled crack and upon removing the mud, pulled out several plates covered with large crystals. These calcite crystals were of an unusual shape. Instead of flat faces, each face was rounded so that the whole crystal had a near-spherical shape. The crystals were about three by three inches and very bright.

During another trip with several friends, we found that at the very SE corner of the quarry, a large rockfall had brought down some large boulders with extremely large crystals. We all collected a number that were five to six inches long. The last visit was with Roy McKelvey. I wanted to collect at least one real museum-size crystal. I found a hole in one of the boulders and digging around in the mud, pulled out two

very large crystals with perfect shapes. At the bottom of the hole in the mud my fingers explored a flat rock that took up most of the bottom area. I ran my fingers around the rock looking for more loose crystals. When my fingers slipped under the rock, I felt a cluster of very large crystals. I now had my hands on not only a museum-size single crystal, but a whole cluster of huge crystals. Squeezing both arms into the hole, I was able to turn the 74 pound



Figure 2. Huge Calcite Cluster

cluster over so that the crystals pointed up. However, getting it out of the hole now appeared impossible. The hole in the boulder was not large enough to bring the cluster directly out. The only way would be to turn the cluster on its side, lift it up about 18 inches, and pull it straight out without the crystals touching the boulder. Ever try lifting 74 pounds with your arms out straight? I didn't think I could do it. But there was that beautiful specimen only inches away. I finally resolved that I would either get that rock out or I would break my body trying. I got a good hold on it, closed my eyes, set my teeth and lifted. Surprise! Out it came, and without damaging any of the crystals. I had a big backpack, and the cluster just barely slid in. I had it made! Or so I thought until I remembered I was still 75 feet above the quarry floor and surrounded by big boulders. Luckily, I had brought a 130-foot climbing rope. Roy tied himself in on a rock up above me and belayed me down to the floor. Now, another problem, I ruined one of my ankles in a sky-diving accident, and Roy also had damaged his feet. Neither of us could carry that cluster the half-mile to the car. Roy had the solution. He had brought a small trail bike

suggested that one of us balance the cluster on the bike and ride it back to the car. Back at Roy's rig, we unloaded the bike, and I was to ride it while Roy got the car as close as possible. Now, I have spent thousands of miles driving a highway bike so that little trail bike was like a toy. It was pointing the wrong way, so I zipped down the road a bit, leaned it over and gave it a little throttle. The next thing I knew, I was laying on the ground with the bike on top of me. I found that those little trail bikes deserve a bit more respect! Anyway, we got the cluster home and it is shown in Figure 2.

Epilog: The latest word I heard is that the owners of the Evans Quarry have closed it to all collecting due to a fatal accident involving youths playing around above the cliffs.

NORTHWEST NEWSLETTER HISTORY, CONTINUED

by Bryan Schroeder, Editor

Last month I had suggested that it was the "golden anniversary" for the Northwest Newsletter because the Volume Number had turned to the big "50". Not so says our Historian Shirley Leeson. Below is information provided by Shirley on the first edition. As a matter of fact, it seems like there was a four year gap between the previous newsletter, "Northwest Mineral News" and the current "Northwest Newsletter". Here is an excerpt from the first edition of the Northwest Newsletter

Volume I, Number 1 June 1962

Editors: Burdette & Rita Frederick, Spokane, Washington

Officers of the Northwest Federation

President - Bob Hagglund, Everett, Washington

Vice President - Elwood T. Rees, MD, Twin Falls, Idaho

Secretary - Mrs. A.W. "Berrie" Hancock, Portland, Oregon

Treasurer - Mrs. Dorothy Lee, Pendleton, Oregon

Purpose of the Northwest Newsletter – Bob Hagglund, President

Northwest Federation member-service programs have now reached a state of development where more frequent and efficient means of contact between the affiliated society and the Federation is necessary. The "Northwest Newsletter," devoted solely to the distribution of information and the exchange of ideas between the affiliated societies and the officers and committee members of the Federation, will serve that need.

The Society Officer's Council, Marie Hagglund, Chairman

The Society Officers Council is intended to provide a "meeting place" where the thoughts and experiences of all affiliated society officers may be revealed for the benefit of all members.

Education Department – The Slide Librarian – Al Keen, Director

Every Federation member has an investment in this department and should be interested in its operation. It is divided into two sections: The Education Director, responsible for securing and assembling slide programs and for program aids; The Slide Librarian, with the job of scheduling, mailing and checking in the programs.

Preservation of our Collecting Areas - Bob Hagglund

Several months ago the U.S. Bureau of Land Management announced its interest in certain deposits of petrified wood as subject for legislation aimed at the preservation of those deposits for "future generations", as well as for present public recreation purposes.

Safety Program - Mrs. Frankie Rees, Chairman

Purpose: The purpose of the Safety Program is to compile all of the safety factors, so that members can be more aware of the dangers and know what to do to prevent the mishap, or to take care of the problem once it has occurred.

Field Trips - Chuck Roadruck, Spokane, WA.

Tired of the same old "Diggin' Grounds"? The NFMS Field Trip Committee will furnish information for trips with details of material, location, tools, accommodations, safety, owners, etc. This will be available to NFMS Societies upon request, loaned to clubs only, not to individuals or "outsiders."

This NFMS Newsletter is the first edition. We have most, if not all the NFMS Newsletters since that time in the NFMS Historian's files.

Shirley Leeson, NFMS Historian, 2009

NFMS JUNIOR ROCKHOUNDS

"News Flash" October 2009"

Juniors Chairman

Gary Buhr



We are still rockn' from the Big Show in Billings, Montana. An amazing array of

awards, but the main event of the Awards Banquet was honoring the two 2009 NFMS Junior Achievement Award Winners.

ALEX MILLER of the West Seattle Rock Club won First Place in the Age 12 & Under Category. ALEX's Juniors Advisor, Audrey Vogelpohl, was present to accept his awards to take back to Seattle.

ALEXANDER CARRINGTON of the Everett Rock and Gem Club received First Place Junior Achievement Award in the Age 13 to 18 Category. Both of these Winners are super-achievers and top producers in our hobby as you can see in their corresponding resumes below. During the following year they will enjoy showing the Legendary Plaque to their colleagues and community as well as taking pride in the framed Certificate of Achievement, personalized pen set and certainly finding good use for the \$100 cash prize. Historically, since 1990 these Junior Achievement Awards clearly identify the absolute best Juniors of the Northwest that we believe are undoubtedly the top Rockhounds of America. Congratulations ALEX and ALEX!



ALEX MILLER's photo (above) shows beachcombing on Camano Island (Puget Sound), and here is the Winning Resume: Hello, my name is ALEX MILLER, age 10, and I would like to tell you a little bit about me and my interests. I have been involved in the West Seattle Rock Club (WSRC) for 3 years. I have rarely missed a meeting and bring show and tell items each time. I participate in some field trips including Hansen Creek (quartz points), Lake Wenatchee (garnets and soapstone), Richardson's Ranch, OR (geodes, opals and jasper), Fossil, OR (leaf fossils), Goodyear's Bar, CA (serpentine), Yuba River, CA (gold) and Snoqualmie

Valley (quartz and pyrite). I also earned 7 AFMS Merit Badges including the Rock Hound Badge. I put in a display case in the 2007 show and am putting up another display this year. I helped work at the gem trees station, spinning wheel, capping demonstrations and grab bags.

For lapidary arts, I enjoy capping and wire wrapping. In the February meeting, I got to use a rock dremel/drill tool. It was fun, and we ended up taking home 3 pieces. Also, last year, a professional flint knapper came and did a demonstration. He let me try it with his assistance and guidance. In the April meeting we will be making gem tree bases for the 2009 show. I also did that last year for the 2008 show, but I was skiing in Whitefish, Montana so I could not work there. I collect general material--not just one type of rock, mineral, or fossil. My collection consists of about 380 minerals and fossils. In 2008 I started a computer cataloging system on Word, and it is currently updated about every 4 months.

At the 2007 show I did a display on Quartz types and I won a small box of mineral specimens from one of the dealers. At the last meeting, I found out that I have also won an award for an article I wrote on "Ancient Egyptian Jewelry", and it will be presented at this year's NFMS summer show. In 2007 I won 2nd place in the NFMS Junior Achievement Award. I also published an article in the WSRC Petroglyphs titled "All About Gemstones". It listed the hardness, streak, color, and chemical composition as well as interesting information about 8 different commonly thought of gemstones. At a science fair in 2005, the best displays got a blue ribbon. I got one and had the only display on minerals in my grade. I also got a Pacific Science Center Discovery Award in 2006. I am very proud to hold these honors.

I participate in the Seattle public schools APP program (Accelerated Progress Program), which basically puts me 1.5 grades ahead of general ed classes. I also play cello, which I have been doing for 5 years, and I practice every day except Saturdays. I also participate in school orchestra, as well as Chamber Music Madness and M.I.T.C. (Seattle Youth Symphony summer camp). As for sports, I ski, bike, run, pogo stick, swim, play badminton and play soccer at school.

Every year my school does a coin drive for a school in Sierra Leone. I bring in some of my allowance money. I also did student council last year which is an elected position to decide things like spirit days and coin drives. I also take part in chess club and participate in Pacific Science Center and Museum of Flight summer camps.

I don't have many chores, because of cello, but I regularly make my bed and clear dishes. Sometimes I get paid to water the neighbor's plants when they are away and I help shovel for them when it snows. I also worked at the WSRC show in 2007 and am planning on doing it again this year! Thanks for letting me tell you a little about myself and letting me participate in this award!

ALEXANDER CARRINGTON (picture upper right was taken at the Billings presentation of his First Place Junior Achievement Award). Here is his Winning Resume: My name is ALEX CARRINGTON. I am 15 years old and a member of the Everett Rock & Gem Club where I attend almost every meeting and participate in the show and tell. I have been interested in rocks ever since my Dad gave me his small rock collection when I was 10. What really hooked me was later that year when I went on a WSMC field trip to Hansen Creek and collected quartz crystals. My first rock show was later that year in Marysville.



Since that time I have gone on many field trips with the WSMC and attended many rock shows, which has grown my collection greatly. For my collection now I am more interested in quality than quantity and just concentrate on fewer high end specimens. I have displayed at three Everett Rock Club shows and also last summer I had a case at the NFMS show, where I won the Zeihan Trophy. At the Everett Rock Show this year I ran the Kid's Silent Auction for the entire weekend. The week before the Everett Rock Show I was able to go to Tucson with my Dad and visit the fantastic mineral show.

Outside of mineral collecting my main activities are music and athletics. I am a ninth grader at Jackson High in Mill Creek and was able to make both the jazz band and honors wind ensemble. Last year I made the All State band. I am also on the Cross Country and Track teams. For a non-competitive sport I love to snowboard. I maintain a straight A grade average and am looking to go into Geology when I get to college. I am a Teacher in my church. I am a Boy Scout and have achieved Star ranking. For volunteer work I go to the Boeing Community Days with my Dad and do the annual Christmas tree pick-up for the Boy Scouts. For work related activities I have been helping my parents remodel a rental house that we own. I also have worked for a few mineral dealers at local rock shows.

Procedures, entry deadlines and requirements for this prestigious Junior Achievement Award are available 24/7/365 on your NFMS Website Juniors Page. Check it out and decide to enter next year so you can be famous and bring new awareness to your Rock Club.

Since August of 2001, Gary Buhr has developed and bolstered visibility for Juniors of the Northwest Federation. Now it is time for a new Juniors Committee Chair to volunteer, test your ideas and bring this committee to a new level of success. This is my last article as Juniors Chair. If you check the NFMS Website Juniors Page, discover that GB has developed structures that include 10 Tips to Start a Juniors Club, Safety First Field Trip Safety, Juniors Display Education Training, Junior Achievement Awards, as well as the AFMS Merit Badge Program. Then, you can start the monthly photo articles about what is going on, plus acquire the hardware for the best KIDS CORNER in America. With this "starter kit" a new Juniors Committee Chair will be able to shift into the next phase of developing programs and promoting fun and visibility for our future. Please contact Gary Buhr gemnut@hotmail.com or President Evelyn Cataldo ecataldo@cbtabs.com with questions and your desire to volunteer to serve our kids.

Editor's Choice Award



Gary Buhr receives the Rockhound of the Year Award from Vi Jones at the Billings, MT AFMS/NFMS combined show and awards ceremonies.

I just want to say how much I enjoyed working on the newsletter with Gary. He was always timely, reliable, and courteous. If there was a question, he would contact me and we would work out any problem in a way that was agreeable to both of us. It is ironic we both have the same thing in common this month. This is Gary's last article for the Junior Page and my last issue of the Northwest Newsletter. Good luck Gary!

Bryan Schroeder, Editor
Northwest Newsletter

...Thats All Folks


Well, I haven't fallen of a cliff yet, but this my last issue of the Northwest Newsletter as your editor. Your new editor is Beth Heesacker. All her contact information is given on page 2 of this newsletter under the heading NEWSLETTER. The e-mail address will remain unchanged (for now anyway). Please give Beth all your support as you have me. Lack of material to publish in the Newsletter can be a challenge at times, so send your articles, inventions, field trips, etc to Beth. I know she will appreciate them. Sometimes it is an effort to sit down and do it. Don't thing about it, just do it!

The Newsletter has come a long way since I became editor about four years ago. At that time, each article was cut and pasted onto a big sheet of paper. These sheets were then shipped in a big box to the printer in Burley, ID. Today, the newsletter is sent electronically by e-mail to the same printer, and your Federation saves on shipping that big box twice a month.

Similarly, I worked on the mailing system, for automated bulk mailing. Mailing costs are actually about twice the printing cost of the newsletter, so it was important to get the lowest shipping rate available from the U.S. Postal Service. In that endeavor, we share in the computer program used to print the labels with the American Federation Newsletter. Tom Burchard now handles this portion of the newsletter (mailing).

The above discusses the creative and administrative aspects I have enjoyed, but there is also the social aspect of meeting and communicating with all sorts of people from all walks of life. When you say you are the Editor of the NFMS newsletter, it conveys an image of what you do, your part in making the federation work for all of us. I think this is the hardest part of "retiring" as editor, and it is the part I will miss the most.

**The Northwest Opal Association
and
The Boeing Employees' Mineralogical Soc.
Present**



The 5th Annual South Sound Gem, Opal & Mineral Show

Friday Nov. 13
10 am-5 pm
Saturday Nov. 14
10 am-5 pm
Sunday Nov. 15
10 am-4 pm

**Expo Hall
Puyallup Fairgrounds
Meridian St S & 9th Ave SW**

- Gem, Jewelry, & Mineral Dealers
- Demonstrations, Exhibits
- Hands-on Activities & Crafts
- Silent Auction, Raffle, Door Prizes

**Wheelchair
Accessible**

**Food
Available**

**Free Parking in
the Gold Lot**

Admission:
Adults - \$4.00
Students & Children - Free

For more information:
(206) 283-4205
(253) 631-9743
(425) 483-0557

Fun & informative for the whole family!



**CLACKAMETTE MINERAL & GEM CLUB'S
45TH ANNUAL
GEM and ROCK SHOW
"NATURES BEAUTY IN STONE 2009"**

**CLACKAMAS COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS
694 NE 4TH AVE. CANBY, OR**

OCTOBER 24 & 25, 2009
SAT. 9 AM - 6 PM, SUN. 10 AM - 5 PM

FREE ADMISSION

**Door Prizes
Display Cases
Dealers
Demonstrations
Silent Auction
Slabs
Fluorescent Show
Kid's Korner
Bargain Rocks
Snack Bar
And.....MORE!!**

For More Information Contact: Rick Mauer: (503) 691-6395 or tallerriecardo@juno.com,
Bea Settle: (503) 631-3128, www.clackamettegem.org, RockHound@clackamettegem.org

2009 Gem & Mineral Show Calendar

Date	Club/Show Name	Show Location	Contact Person
Oct 10-11 Sat 10-5 Sun 10-5	Marysville Rock & Gem Club Annual 'Rocktoberfest' show	Totem Middle School 7th Street & State Ave Marysville, WA 98270	Bill Moser, 425-238-8222 bill-j@comcast.net or Rocky McCall 360-629-2515
Oct 16-18 Fri 12-7 pm Sat 10-7 Sun 11-4	Springfield Thunderegg Rock Club 52nd Annual Rock and Gem Show	Gateway Mall 3000 Gateway Street Springfield, OR	Bob Smith 541-741-0060 John Randall 541-683-2661 sweetbottom@juno.com
Oct 17-18 Sat 10-6 Sun 10-5	43rd Annual Hells Canyon Gem Club Show "Hidden Treasure"	Nez Perce County Fair Building 1229 Burrell Ave Lewiston, Idaho	Rick Westerholm (208) 746-2101 rkwester@cableone.net
Oct 24-25 Sat 9-6 Sun 10-5	Clackamette Mineral & Gem Club, 'Nature's Beauty in Stone 2009'	Clackamas Co Fairground Pavilion Bldg, 694 NE 4th Ave., Canby, Oregon	Rick Mauer 503-691-6395 tallericardo@juno.com
Oct 24-25 Sat 9-6 Sun 10-5	Bellevue Rock Club "Octoberfest of Gems" bellevuerockclub.org	Vasa Park, 3560 West Lake Samamish Blvd. SE Bellevue, WA 98008	Marjorie McKinley, PO Box 1851, Bellevue, WA 98009, 206-633-1421
Nov 6-8 Fri 5-9 Sat 10-5 Sun 11-4	Chugach Gem & Mineral Society & Alaska Miners Assoc. 8th Annual show CGMS' 50 th Anniv.	Sheraton Anchorage Hotel, 2nd floor, 401 E. 6th Ave Anchorage, Alaska	Anita Williams (awilliam@alaska.net) Sharon Cox 907-563-9229
Nov 14 Sat 5:30 pm Sat 7-10 pm	Columbia Willamette Faceters' Guild 35th Annual Gem & Jewelry Auction	Monarch Hotel 12566 SE 93rd Ave Clackamas, Oregon 97015 Preview @ 5:30 p.m.	Gail Lough 971-678-2862 glough7@gmail.com
Nov 13-15 Fri 10-5 Sat 10-5 Sun 10-4	South Sound Gem, Opal & Mineral 5th annual show (BEMS & NOA)	Puyallup Fairgrounds Exposition Hall, Meridian Street S and 9TH Ave SW, Puyallup, WA 98371	Lyle & Char Jorgensen 425-483-0557 mechamix@comcast.net
Nov 14-15 Sat 9-5 Sun 10-5	Skagit Rock & Gem Club, Annual Show "Treasures of the Earth"	Sedro Woolley Community Center, 720 State St. Sedro Woolley, WA	Lois Stone Clear Lake, WA (360) 856-1190
Nov 21-22 Sat 10-5 Sun 10-5	Kitsap Mineral and Gem Society Show "Fall Festival of Gems".	Kitsap County Fairgrounds 1200 NW Fairgrounds Rd (Pres. Hall), Bremerton, WA	Gerry Alexander (360) 876-4543

2010 Gem & Mineral Show Calendar

Date	Club/Show Name	Show Location	Contact Person
Feb 13-14 Sat 9-5 Sun 9-4	Whidbey Island Gem Club 45th Annual Sweet- heart of Gems Show	Oak Harbor Senior Center 51 S. E. Jerome Street Oak Harbor, WA	Keith Ludemann 360-675-1837 rock9@whidbey.net
Feb 27-28 Sat 10-7 Sun 10-5	Idaho Gem Club Annual Show	Expo Idaho 5610 Glenwood Boise, Idaho	Charlie Smith (208) 628-4002
Feb 27-28 Sat 10-6 Sun 10-5	Everett Rock & Gem Club, 57th Annual Gem, Jewelry & Mineral Show	WA National Guard Armory, 2730 Oakes Ave. Everett, WA	Fritz Mack, 425-232-0809 PO Box 1615, Everett, WA 98206
Mar 6-7 Sat 9-5 Sun 10-4	Rock and Arrowhead Club, Annual show featuring "Thundereggs"	Klamath County Fairgrounds 3531 South 6 th Street Klamath Falls, OR	Garwin Carlson 541-882-8276 or Marv Stump 541-882-8341
Mar 12-14 Fri 10-6 Sat 10-6 Sun 10-5	Rock Rollers Club EARTH TREASURES NEW LOCATION	Spokane Co. Fair & Expo Ctr N. 604 Havana, at Broadway Spokane, Washington	Leon Agee (509) 276-3992 Jim Cotant (509)534-1746
Mar 13-14 Sat 9-6 Sun 9-6	Magic Valley Gem Club Show NEW LOCATION	Twin Falls Co Fairgrounds Merchant Bldg #3, 215 Fair Ave. Filer, Idaho	Harold Waggoner 208-423-9668 or Shirley Metts rmetts@cableone.net
Mar 27-28 Sat 10-6 Sun 10-4	Sweet Home Rock & Mineral Society .our 62 nd show for 2010	1641 Long Street, Sweet Home, Or.	Joe Coia 541- 451 2740
Apr 9-11 Fri 9-6 Sat 10-6 Sun 10-4	Golden Spike Gem and Mineral Society 59th Annual Gemstone Junction	Golden Spike Event Center - Weber Co. Fairgrounds 1000 North 1200 West Ogden UT	Cindy 801-648-5060 club@goldenspikegem.org
Apr 17-18 Sat 10-5 Sun 10-4	Lakeside Gem & Mineral Club Annual Show	Benton Co Fairgrounds Kennewick WA	Mickee Madden 509-582-8599