



NORTHWEST NEWSLETTER



TIME SENSITIVE MATERIAL

Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies
Tom Burchard, Circulation
875 E 4500 S
S Ogdan, UT 84403-2913

VOLUME 61, NO. 5 Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies October 2021



President Larry Hulstrom

As I begin to write this I have to begin by thanking Beth Heesacker for her term as the first ever virtual president. She and the rest of the Executive Board worked through the ongoing effects of the pandemic to keep our organization alive and in contact with as many of you as we could. The rise of the delta variant has slowed our recovery process but many of you strive to keep moving ahead to whatever becomes our new “normal”. Vaccines and boosters shots are now available. I hope that everyone gets those shots so we can all get through this and get back to doing the things we love to do.

The annual meeting was held on September 11 via Zoom after the meeting (and show) in Walla Walla were cancelled. The minutes from that meeting have been distributed to club directors and will be posted on the NFMS website. Your immediate help is needed. There are many open positions at this time where volunteers such as yourself are needed. The list is posted elsewhere in the newsletter. One of those positions, the newsletter editor, is vital for maintaining communication with all of you. Paul Heesacker, who has been doing this job, can give you assistance in getting started. This newsletter may be the last everyone gets unless we can find his replacement. If you know of someone that might be interested have them get in touch with either me or Paul as soon as possible. The other open positions are just as important. Please volunteer your time and energy to help us continue working forward.

newsletter. Leave me a message if you call and I will get right back to you.

We are looking for a club to host the 2022 annual show and convention. The role of the host club is defined in Operation Procedure General-2 in the NFMS By-Laws and Operations Procedures that can be found in either the last Directory that was issued or on the NFMS Website. The Executive Board can work with your club and help you to successfully host the show. If you wish to discuss it please contact me directly. My contact information is found on page 2 of the newsletter. Leave me a message if you call and I will get right back to you.

The Executive Board continues working on other items. A new edition of the Directory is in the works. Please make sure your club gets updated information in as soon as possible, along with your dues for the next year. We plan to have the new directories available at the Mid-Year meeting which is being planned for May 21, 2022 and will be held in conjunction with the 25th Anniversary Show of the Lakeside Gem & Mineral Club (my home club) in Kennewick, WA. In conjunction with the mid-year meeting we are also planning to hold training for people that would like to become NFMS certified judges for evaluation of competitive displays.

I end this edition with sad news on the passing of Chuck Sonner, former NFMS President (2006-2007) and lead of the Stamps committee (another open position). Chuck gave up his duties as stamps coordinator earlier this year as his health continued to decline and his wife Tanya informed us of his passing on September 4. Our thoughts and prayers go out to Tanya and their family. Sadly I also recently learned that Cheri George, former lead for the Website Contest, also passed on October 8. Our thoughts and prayers go out to her family as well.

Please give thought (and action) to volunteering for one of the open positions. If you want to know more about the position feel free to contact me or any of the Executive Board members. We need your help.

NFMS Mid-Year Meeting in 2022

Saturday, May 21, 2022
Kennewick, WA

During the Lakeside Gem & Mineral Club
25th Anniversary Show



By mid next year we should all be in a better place! Since we have not been able to gather for the past 2 years at annual meetings let's come together for this Mid-Year meeting to be held in conjunction with the 25th Anniversary Show of the Lakeside Gem & Mineral Club in Kennewick, WA. The Mid-Year meeting will be held from 1-3 pm on Saturday May 21. Mark this on your calendars. More details will be coming later.

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NEWSLETTER DEADLINE:
The editor will send out a reminder in time
for all committees to respond.
Estimated Deadline - TBD

For deadlines and to submit articles
Contact:
Editor position OPEN

NFMS Website:
<http://NorthwestFederation.org>

To see this newsletter in living color go to

[http://NorthwestFederation.org/
Newsletters.asp](http://NorthwestFederation.org/Newsletters.asp)

and click on the month
you want to see.

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NFMS EXECUTIVE OFFICERS 2020-2021

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

1ST VICE PRESIDENT: **Darrell Coyle**, Bitterroot Gem and Mineral Society, PO Box 52, Corvallis, MT 59828, 406-961-5369, [coyled\(at\)bresnan.net](mailto:coyled(at)bresnan.net)

2ND VICE PRESIDENT: **Jennifer Haley**, Springfield Thunderegg Rock Club , P.O. Box 324, Murphy, OR 97533, 541-660-1832, ladybuglane@napablogger.com

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

TREASURER: **Linda Harvey**, Tualatin Valley Gem Club, PO Box 598, North Plains, OR 97133, [dggr1910\(at\)gmail.com](mailto:dggr1910(at)gmail.com)

NFMS STANDING COMMITTEES

BUDGET: **1st Vice President** (see above)

BULLETIN AIDS: **Kat Koch**

Cascade Mineralogical Society, 4762 Whitworth Pl. S, Unit P104, Renton, WA98055 (425) 765-5408. [bulletinaids\(at\)gmail\(dot\)com](mailto:bulletinaids(at)gmail(dot)com)

CIRCULATION: **Tom Burchard**, Golden Spike Gem & Mineral Society, 875 E 4500 S, S. Ogden, UT 84403, (801) 479-4286, [Roxhund\(at\)aol.com](mailto:Roxhund(at)aol.com)

COMPETITIVE EXHIBITS:

RULES AND AWARDS CHAIR: **OPEN**

JUDGING DIRECTOR : **Darrell Coyle**, Bitterroot Gem & Mineral Society, PO Box 52, Corvallis, MT 59828, (406) 274-6874, [coyled\(at\)bresnan.net](mailto:coyled(at)bresnan.net)

REGISTRAR: **OPEN:** (pro tempore) **Darrell Coyle**

CREDENTIALS: **Del & Clara Walker**, Central Oregon Rock Collectors, 12377 SE Davis Loop, Prineville, OR 97754, 503-812-6540, [cdwalker\(at\)q.com](mailto:cdwalker(at)q.com)

CUSTODIAN: **2ND Vice President:** (see above)

DIRECTORY: **Carol Willey**, Oregon Coast Agate, 929 Ojalla Road, Siletz, OR, 97380 , 541-444-1360, [going4rocks\(at\)outlook.com](mailto:going4rocks(at)outlook.com)

EDUCATION: **OPEN**

ENDOWMENT FUND:

CHAIRMAN: **OPEN**

SECRETARY: **OPEN**

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

FINANCIAL ADVISOR: **Jim Brain**, Spokane Rock Rollers , 6410 W Sundance Dr., Spokane, WA 99208, 509-863-9883, [jrbrain233\(at\)outlook.com](mailto:jrbrain233(at)outlook.com)

HISTORIAN: **Linda Barlow**, Idaho Gem Club, Inc., 3074 W. Newbury Ct, Eagle, Idaho 83616, 208-724-3309, [barlow596\(at\)gmail.com](mailto:barlow596(at)gmail.com)

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NEWSLETTER CHAIR: **Paul Heesacker**, Clackamette Mineral and Gem Corp., 4145 NW Heesacker Rd., Forest Grove OR, 97116, (503) 357-8804, [nfmseditor\(at\)coho.net](mailto:nfmseditor(at)coho.net)

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

NOMINATING CHAIRMAN: **Kenneth Zahn**, Bozeman Gem and Mineral Club, 146 Canyon Meadow Rd., Bozeman, MT 59718, 406-582-8752, [kczahn\(at\)littleappletech.com](mailto:kczahn(at)littleappletech.com)

NORTHWEST ROCKHOUND RETREAT (Hancock): **Walter Butler**, 8821 SW Equestrian Place, Crooked River Ranch, OR 97760, (503) 702-5748, [waltercbutler\(at\)comcast.net](mailto:waltercbutler(at)comcast.net)

PAST PRESIDENTS COUNCIL: **Jim Bosley**, At-Large, bosleyjames019@gmail.com

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

SLIDE/ VIDEO LIBRARIAN: **Darrell Watkins**, Yakima Rock and Mineral Club, P.O. Box 635, Tieton, WA 9894, (509)673-0085, [darrell848\(at\)aol.com](mailto:darrell848(at)aol.com)

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

SAFETY: **Kathy McLean**, Spokane Rock Rollers, 3029 W Hoffman Ave., Spokane, WA 99205, (509) 822-9776, **no email**

SCHOLARSHIP: **Mary Lou Northrup**, 1623 Powers Ave, Lewiston, ID 83501, (208) 763-6944, [milandjl\(at\)yahoo.com](mailto:milandjl(at)yahoo.com)

SHOW CHAIRPERSON: **OPEN** until we have a definite place for the show this fall.

SHOW COORDINATOR: **Pat Lambert**, Lakeside Gem & Mineral Club, 26106 S. Oak, Kennewick, WA 99337, [palambert\(at\)charter.net](mailto:palambert(at)charter.net)

STAMPS: **OPEN**

SUPPLIES: **Patty Amos**, Mt. Hood Rock Club, 15523 NE 214th Ave., Brush Prairie, WA98606, (360) 892-3716, [packrats2\(at\)q.com](mailto:packrats2(at)q.com)

WAYS & MEANS: **Janice Van Cura**, Willamette Agate & Mineral Society, Inc., 3448 NW Covey Run, Corvallis, OR 97330 (541)753-2401, [jvancura\(at\)peak.org](mailto:jvancura(at)peak.org)

WEBMASTER: **Brad Larson**, Owyhee Gem and Mineral Society, 6010 W. Cruzen St., Boise, ID 83704 , 208-465-1920, [nfms.webmaster\(at\)gmail.com](mailto:nfms.webmaster(at)gmail.com)

NFMS SPECIAL COMMITTEES

BYLAWS REVISORY CHAIRMAN - Kenneth Zahn, Bozeman Gem and Mineral Club, 146 Canyon Meadow Rd., Bozeman, MT 59718, 406-582-8752, [kczahn\(at\)littleappletech.com](mailto:kczahn(at)littleappletech.com)

FIELD TRIP CHAIRMAN: **Doug True**, Billings Gem & Mineral Club, 2622 Broadwater, Billings, MT 59102, 406.670.0506, [dtruefossils12\(at\)yahoo.com](mailto:dtruefossils12(at)yahoo.com)

ROCKHOUND OF THE YEAR: **Laurie Ellis**, Hatrockhounds Gem and Mineral Society, PO Box 3326, Irrigon, OR 97844, 541-626-3131, [65shark\(at\)gmail.com](mailto:65shark(at)gmail.com)

WEBSITE CONTEST: **OPEN**

SHOW CHAIR 2021: **OPEN**

AFMS COMMITTEES (NFMS Representatives)

AFMS 5TH VP - Jim Bosley

ENDOWMENT FUND - Judi Allison

PROGRAM COMPETITION - Darrell Watkins

SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION- Mary Lou Northrup

THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW

The **AMERICAN LANDS ACCESS ASSOCIATION (ALAA)** is a 501(c)(4) organization. Its purpose is to promote and ensure the right of amateur hobby fossil and mineral collecting, recreational prospecting and mining, and the use of public and private lands for educational and recreational purposes; and to carry the voice of all amateur collectors and hobbyists to our elected officials, government regulators and public lands managers. Your annual individual/couple membership fee is \$25 which helps support their activities. Club membership is \$50 per year. Send to Treasurer, P.O. Box 54398, San Jose, CA 95154. Make checks payable to: American Lands Access Assn. Applications can be downloaded at: www.amlands.org on the left side of the page. For more information contact: Frank Mullaney, 408-266-1791, cell: 408-691-2655, [Rockyfiv\(at\)aol.com](mailto:Rockyfiv(at)aol.com)

The **AFMS NEWSLETTER** is published monthly except Jan-Jul-Aug by the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies. Each NFMS member society should have three people (usually the Pres, Secretary and Editor) receiving the AFMS Newsletter. If they are not, or if anyone else wants to subscribe (\$5 per year). Contact: Suzanne Webb, 9895 Kerrydale Court, Reno , Nevada 98521-4401, [editor\(at\)AMFED.org](mailto:editor(at)AMFED.org) 775-624-8446. Make checks payable to “AFMS”.

The **NORTHWEST NEWSLETTER** is the official publication of the Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies (NFMS) and is published at least six times per year. Each member is entitled to receive a mailed copy of this publication with their membership. Please check with your club membership person to assure you are receiving this means of keeping you informed of the activities and events pertaining to the business and services of the Federation. Club membership points of contact are encouraged to forward names and addresses of new club members, soon after they join, to both the Directory Chair and Circulation Chair, so that newsletter distribution by mail to them can be started as soon as practical. The newsletters are also posted to the Federation website electronically and archive there for members to review or download.

For matters related to this newsletter (i.e. content, advertising, etc.) contact the editor. For matters related to this newsletter distribution (new members, address changes, etc.) contact the Circulation Chair.

SHOW COORDINATION. Your Federation provides a free service for NFMS members by listing your show in this Newsletter, on the NFMS website, two magazines (“Rocks and Minerals” and “Rock and Gem”) and the on-line calendar from “Lapidary Journal”. Please provide the date and time for the show, the club name and show title (if applicable), the location of the show, admission

price, and most important a contact person with address, e-mail address and/or phone (e-mail is preferred). Please send your show information four to six months in advance to the Show Coordination Chairperson. If you see an error once your show is listed, or if your show is not listed, contact the Newsletter Chair.

SAVE STAMPS PROGRAM. NFMS members are encouraged to use and save commemorative stamps. The money generated from the sale of these used (cancelled) stamps is then donated to Cancer Research. The collected stamps can be sent to the **Stamps Chairperson**, brought to the NFMS Annual Show or given to your Federation Director in your club.

ATTENTION CLUB TREASURERS

Where to send your money

To NFMS Treasurer for:

1. Dues (new and renewal) and supplies
2. Donations for the general fund
3. Donations to Junior Achievement
4. Advertisement in this Newsletter

Send to: see Treasurer this page.

To NFMS Endowment Fund Treasurer for:

1. Donations to Endowment Fund
 2. Memorial contributions
- Make check payable to NFMS Endowment Fund, send to Endowment Fund Treasurer, 8810 37th Ave SW, Seattle, WA 98126-3617

To NFMS Scholarship Chairperson for:

1. Donations to AFMS Scholarship Fund
2. Memorial contributions to AFMS Scholarship

Make check payable to AFMS Scholarship Fund.

Send to: Mary Lou Northrup (see Scholarship this page).

To AFMS Endowment Fund for:

1. Donations to AFMS Endowment
2. Memorials

Send to: See AFMS Newsletter

To ALAA Treasurer for:

Memberships, new and renewals
Donations
Make check payable to ALAA (American Lands Access Assn) Treasurer, P.O. Box 54398, San Jose, CA 95154

NFMS WEB SITE: www.amfed.org/nfms or <http://northwestfederation.org/>

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)

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.).

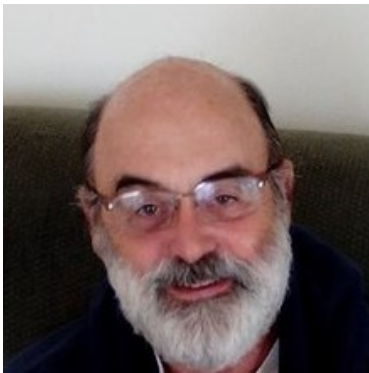


Ads for the Northwest Newsletter are
\$1.50 per square inch.
Example: 3” x 4” ad = 12 inches
12 inches x \$1.50 = \$18 per issue of the Newsletter

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 Chair**





1st Vice President

Darrell Coyle

Hello all, not sure when this will be received but I assume it will be after our Annual Meeting at Walla Walla. Which would mean we have a new Second Vice President and at least one new person in the Rules and Awards Committee. I am sure they will be putting something in the Newsletter.

Speaking of welcoming new members I have something I would like to talk about. Over the years in my own club I have heard people say that there’s a clique. I remember feeling that way when I first joined my club. It seemed that during breaks that people grouped up and even though I tried, it seemed I was being ignored. I know that at our meetings that the worker bees of the club do tend to group because we have a lot of business to discuss. The point is you need to circulate and engage the new and the not so new members. If you see someone sitting alone, go talk to them. During break, make it a break and have a snack and a cup of coffee with someone.

If you have a project don’t just count on the regulars to raise their hands. Go and ask “will you be joining us?” Organizations can wither away as the older members have health issues or are just tired of being “the guy who always shows up”. We often have people who join and after a couple meetings don’t show up anymore. Has anyone called and asked them to come? Ask why they quit coming to meetings. Maybe you need to change things up and get guest speakers, demonstrations or show and tell from field trips. Keeping new members involved is vital to your club. Recognizing and publicly thanking those that show up and do the work goes a long way. Don’t get tunnel vision at your meetings, include one and all and make them feel they are welcome and part of the “family”.



2nd Vice President

Jennifer Haley

FABRIC COVERED GEODES

What do you do if you have a geode that is gorgeous in the inside, but you don’t have the tools or equipment to make the roughness of the outside more beautiful? Cover it in fabric! This is a Morocco geode that I covered with hand quilted velvet fabric over quilt batting. These are very easy and fun to make. I came up with the idea from those wonderful confectionary sugar peep-hole eggs you see at Easter time.

Tools and Supplies Needed: geode, quilt batting, fabric, scissors, tacky glue, sewing pins, needle, sewing thread, toothpicks, miscellaneous beads, trinkets or ribbon.

Instructions:

Cut a round of quilt batting large enough to hug around the geode except for the front opening. You may need to cut out “V” shapes into the batting towards the opening of the geode so the batting lays smooth against the rock.

As if you were holding an apple, hold the batting in place against the rock in one hand, as you use your other hand to squirt tacky glue here and there on the geode and underneath the batting to adhere the batting in place. You don’t need a lot of glue, just enough to hold the batting in place.

Neatly cut the edges of the batting about 1/4” away from the edges of the geode’s opening, this will allow for a smoother edge when you apply the decorative fabric. You may find trimming is easier once the glue dries.

When the glue is dry, cut a round of decorative fabric to drape and hug over the batting, with enough extra fabric to extend past the batting edge. Use pins to hold the fabric in place on the batting.

With needle and thread, sew a basting stitch through the edges of the decorative fabric just past the batting. Pull the basting thread tight so that you have a snug and even gather around the opening of the egg. Trim any excess fabric off so you have a very neat edge without cutting into your basting stitches.

Apply even dabs of glue between the edges of the fabric and geode. Let dry. A tooth pick can help you get the glue just in the right places without getting glue where you don’t want it.

To cover up the rough fabric edges, glue on a decorative trim or a strand of beads for a wow factor. The decorating is only limited by your imagination. I topped this one off with French wire ribbon flowers, velvet leaves, fancy buttons and a rhinestone butterfly. Seed beads and stone beads are sewn in all over the sides and back for an extra special look. Once you make one of these, you’ll come up with more fun and beautiful ideas. I can also imagine covering a geode with various cabochons which are held in place with fancy beaded bezels. The ideas are endless and the fabric geodes make great gifts. Enjoy!



We Need Your Club

To Host the 2022 Annual Meeting

We need a club to host the 2022 annual meeting. Duties of the host club are found in the NFMS Operation Procedures (OP General-2). If your club is willing to do this the NFMS is willing to help you be successful and discuss what is needed. Not all of the things spelled out are “hard and fast” requirements. We can work with you to make everyone come out ahead. As we all work to get back to having our annual shows please consider this. We would like to do this during the late summer or early fall next year. It’s not too late to add this to your regular club show! If you are interested and have questions please feel free to contact me.

Larry Hulstrom
President NFMS





Past President Beth Heesacker

I had such a wonderful time being the first virtual NFMS President. I again thank your Executive Board for all their help through all the weird ups and downs this past year.

Your Newsletter Committee (Paul as your editor and me as the committee) also want to thank Tom Burchard, Circulation, and Pat Lambert, Show Coordinator, for their immeasurable help in getting the newsletter out each edition.

Paul and I are retiring from the NFMS and will be spending more time on my mineral collection and the two mineral publications that I edit.

We will be around at various shows, Zoom meetings, etc. so if you see me huddled over the mineral specimens or Paul gabbing with someone at a show, please say hello.

We wish all you rockhounds joy with your rocks, safety in your workshops and health in all you do.



We STILL Really, Really Need You to Help Us Succeed!

The following positions/committee leads are still open. We need your support. More details can be found in the OP Committee Section of the Operation Procedures.

Historian – stores historical records and writes reports for the NFMS Newsletter

Website Contest – chairs the website contest and writes reports for the NFMS newsletter

Endowment Committee Chairperson – oversees the activities of the Endowment Fund Committee

Endowment Committee Secretary – assists the Endowment Fund committee

Rules and Awards Committee Rules Chairman – administers the show Rules and Awards in conjunction with the AFMS Rules

Education lead – promotes education within the NFMS and writes articles for the NFMS Newsletter

Newsletter Editor – Edits and produces the NFMS Newsletter – (**this is a vital position!**)

Stamps – collects and sells postage stamps for the NFMS to support cancer research

All American Club – coordinates with the AFMS to encourage clubs to submit entries for the annual All American Club Award Program

Directory – collects member societies information for publication in the Directory, manages and coordinates publication of the Directory

Public Relations - encourage member societies to actively participate in community activities and services.

Please volunteer!

Treasurer's Message

By Linda Harvey, NFMS Treasurer

Thank you to all the clubs able to pay dues for the 2020-2021 year. I'm sure some of the clubs were not even meeting over the last year and some clubs waived membership dues for the members. A few did not send in membership dues for participation in the NFMS : **Montana:** Butte Mineral & Gem Club; **Oregon:** Malheur County Rock & Gem Club; Oregon Trail Gem & Mineral Society; Rock & Arrowhead Club; Umpqua Gem & Mineral Club; **Washington:** Bellevue Rock Club; Grays Harbor Geology & Gem Society.



Now that we are starting our 2021-2022 year I will be sending out, by email, the new membership documents and last year's rosters in a few weeks. If email doesn't work for you please let me know in advance and I will snail mail things to you. Email helps keep costs down and with the postal service problems encountered over the last year it makes more sense to use when possible. Once again there will be \$1.00 off adult dues. Instead of the \$4.50 per adult member it is \$3.50. If you belong to one of the clubs mentioned above, please send an updated contact for me (dggr1910@gmail.com) to send the worksheet and roster to. Thank you!

In hopes that all clubs, when possible, are or will soon be starting to meet in person or at least until that time have figured out



Dragon Totes for the AFMS Endowment Fund

All the dragon gift totes are being donated to the AFMS Endowment Fund as a fun fundraiser. What's in the dragon gift totes? The dragon hand puppets are quite the characters. The green ones are (LxWxH) 8.5 x 8 x 11 inches and the blue ones are 9 x 8 x 22 inches. Each one comes in a tote bag with a large

dragon scale pendant, a carved dragon's stone egg with stand, a very special quality mineral or stone specimen and a copy of the book Fairy Dragons written by AFMS Historian, Jennifer Haley.

The story is a fairytale written for kids about Lapidarians and their magical life with the fairy dragons and their gemstone eggs. When you send your order with payment to the AFMS, mention what color dragon you want. Blue Dragon Gift Tote is \$95. Green Dragon Gift Tote is \$85. Shipping & handling is included.

Getting supplies this year could be strained given the problems covid has created with shipping and backorders on some supplies, but everything is looking good, and supplies are in hand depending on how many orders come in.

Contact Jennifer Haley, P.O. Box 324, Murphy, OR 97533, ladybuglane@napablogger.com to place your orders. Please make your check out to the AFMS.

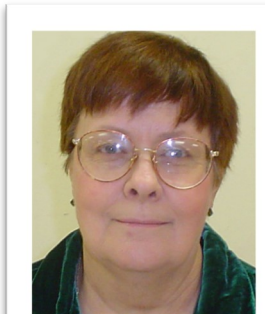


We are saddened to report the loss of two of our own. Past President, Chuck Sonner lost his battle with cancer on September 4th. We also have just learned of the passing of Cheri George.



Chuck most recently was our Stamp Chairman. He used E-bay to help increase the proceeds for the stamps, which ultimately goes to help with cancer research or related activities to further advancements in combating cancer. He served as NFMS President in fiscal year 2006-2007. After the lack of a host for a show/convention in 2010, Chuck vowed not to let it happen again. He pulled together all the resources in his community to create a very successful Show and Convention in Chehalis, Washington in 2011.

Volunteerism was obviously a large part of his life, as I found a 2017 article from the Centralia Chronicle. "After three decades of volunteering in Lewis County, most recently at the Winlock/Vader Food Bank, Chuck Sonner's efforts have caught the eye of the Governor's Office. On April 11, Sonner is set to receive a Governor's Volunteer Service Award . . ." Perhaps the words he offered about the honor sum up who Chuck really was. ". . . If I can help, why not?"



Cheri was a longtime member of the Palmdale, California Gem & Mineral Club (CFMS). She was well known for her exquisite and elaborate bead weaving talent. She taught beading at California's Camp Paradise & Camp Zzyzx for many years. She believed in the spirit of competition as a learning experience and, as such, was an active Certified AFMS Uniform Rules Judge. Her interests and participation in Federation activities won her a place as an AFMS Scholarship Foundation Honoree.

Although Cheri lived in California, she purposely joined the NFMS Club At Large so she could serve as Chairperson of the NFMS Website Contest. She saw a need and created a way to fulfill that need. She worked hard to encourage club webmasters to enter the contests, explaining that entry could be a way of learning about how to improve one's site and make the most of the exposure. The contest isn't just whether or not one wins, but a learning experience. Cheri followed through with that belief with her service as the AFMS Website Contest Chairman.

Thank you to these two fine folks who helped enrich our lives. Our thoughts and prayers go out to their families.



The Rules and Awards Committee Still Needs Your Help

By Darrell Coyle



There is still a need for one more individual to join the Committee. Ronna Watkins and Joshua Hulstrom have volunteered to be on the Rules and Awards Committee. Thank You so much. The Committee consists of three individuals. Normally a three year term in which people advance from Registrar to Judging Director and finally the Chair position. I believe we will have a Zoom meeting with the volunteers and see who is filling what position. There is still an ongoing effort to have a Federation Show in 2022. If this is successful we will need all three positions filled if there are to be Competitive Displays and Judging.

There is also a need for Judges and Clerks. Hopefully there will be Judges Training at the Mid Year Meeting this coming Spring. There has been some discussion about Junior Members who want to be involved being utilized as Clerks for the Judges. We are remaining optimistic and want to be prepared if we manage to have a 2022 Show.

Things are changing rapidly as we adjust to electronic meetings and local governments restrict meetings. It is important to keep up with these changes. Monitor the website and Facebook page regularly. Club representatives who are on the email list need to stay on top of this and keep club members informed also.



We Zoomed Around Again: Annual Meeting Report

by Judi Allison

In the eleventh hour, we found the need to bring yet another NFMS Annual Meeting into the electronic mode. We attempted to let everyone know, but if you were one who “fell through the cracks”, we are very sorry. We managed to gather fifteen representatives from ten clubs in four states, as well as Officers and Chairpersons. So, with that we plodded forward.

A couple of resolutions were passed. One added a section to the By-laws to allow electronic gatherings for committee purposes and even the annual meeting if emergencies deemed such as necessary. The resolution creates the ability to conduct such meetings. Additions and/or changes to the operating procedures can spell out exactly how that will be accomplished; as for example, the process of credentialing the Directors and Delegates. The second resolution spelled out the need to include authorization of how to deal with unused unrestricted Endowment Funds. The following will be added to the Fund Management Spending Policy Section. “Any unobligated portion of an annual authorization will be rolled over to the following budget year and will be treated as an addition to the authorization for that year.”

Doug True spoke to a number of his activities. He sponsored rock and gem shows in both Great Falls and Miles City, Montana and took names of individuals who would be interested in forming a club in those areas. Seventy-six were interested in the Great Falls area and eighty-seven in the Miles City area. He suggested perhaps others could do the same thing in underserved areas. He has chaired a couple of committees in the AFMS, working to create a user-friendly website with a more comprehensive interactive focus on the Junior program. Those who were able to see the presentation at the AFMS Show in Big Piney, Wyoming agreed that the process, although onerous, is coming along in an impressive manner. As ALAA President, he stated they are taking a different direction in working WITH entities. They have been working closely with BLM and others

A big piece of Doug’s news was that the Billings Gem and Mineral Club will host the combined NFMS/AFMS show in 2023. He gave an overview of the club’s plans thus far. He said they are looking at a couple of facilities. They are hoping for a date near the first part of May. So, keep your eyes and ears open. This is sure to be a good one!

Susie Koppert is our Public Lands Advisory Committee Chair. She reported that she has been attending a lot of ZOOM meetings with BLM, Forestry and USDA. They have been really positive. There seems to be a record number becoming excited about and beginning to collect rocks. The BLM has been especially positive. She continues to attempt to get a seat on their advisory committee. She keeps applying and checking. Thanks, Susie, for helping keep us visible.

Darrell Watkins continues to work toward getting the most valuable slides reproduced into a usable format. He has asked for assistance with costs, perhaps coming from the unrestricted interest in the Endowment Fund. It costs about \$100 to convert a slide show with approximately 80 slides. Programs vary from perhaps 100 slides to a much greater number. There are three costs: transfer, editing and adding audio. The majority of the cost is editing. It is felt that a number of these slide programs are a historical treasure we don’t want to lose.

We bade Beth Heesacker a fond farewell, as with her tenure complete, she is moving on to exclusively put her efforts toward the mineral world, where her heart truly lies. Thanks, Beth, for all you have given to the Federation over the years. Beth handed the leadership over to a collection who will continue to keep the wheels of the Northwest Federation running. Our new Treasurer, Linda Harvey has gotten her feet wet this last year, so she is prepared for the coming year. Second Vice President, Darrell Coyle is already behind the scenes taking care of business so he will be prepared to step into the President’s role next year. Our newly elected President, Larry Hulstrom, has the wheels turning toward seeking volunteers to fill vacant positions, hosting a Judges training next spring and working with all the membership. Our newest member, Second Vice President, Jennifer Haley, is no stranger to the work that needs to be done. Some of you may have seen her face in the AFMS Newsletter’s Historian column. We are happy to have her join us! As for me, I just keep plugging along, giving thanks for your continued support.

With that said, I will now take up my soapbox. I am sure you are aware that we have a number of vacancies in the NFMS Chairman positions. Some of these positions take little time, some take more. Many can be done without leaving home. If you just put that one foot forward, or raise your hand, I assure you, you will get a lot more out of being an active part in the Federation than you could ever imagine. Sometimes people think they don’t have the qualifications. But you would be surprised at how simple the process can be. Our Operating Procedures give guidelines on the positions, but those are just that: guidelines. You have some flexibility within those guidelines, so you can add your own shine. Volunteers, in my opinion, are the salt of the earth, so consider becoming even a few grains of salt. We will help anyone who is a willing volunteer. And you couldn’t meet a better bunch of folks than a bunch of rockhounds!



Geology Professor Honoree - Update

By Beth Heesacker, NFMS Past President

Paul and I made a pilgrimage to Ellensburg, WA to present the Geology Professor Award plaque to Nick Zentner of Central Washington University (CWU).

As background information the AFMS asks that each President of the member Federations to choose a geology professor who then selects two Masters level students from the geology program to each receive a \$4,000 scholarship from the AFMS. I chose Nick Zentner because of his outreach to the world in the field of Geology. This last year he videoed his classes, field trips, etc. and posted them on YouTube. These videos allowed me and thousands of others to focus on something other than the pandemic.

We have also received a thank you from each of the students at CWU, Joshua Stone and Lourdes Garcia,

Carve A New Stone
By Bert Kae-Je’

Note: What reflection of the Rockhound Retreat shall I write this year?
Stumbling out of Corvid, the prolonged building of a toilet edifice,
another year of the missing event brings sadness and wonder.

Empty, Empty, *Empty*
Is there a space for all that’s missing?
Perhaps from Covid, we’ve opened up,
But still, we really haven’t,
Sometimes, the toilets are in the way.

Two years and things change.
Wonder what will be next year.
How is it WE need to position ourselves,
To aid its return? Or is there even a chance?

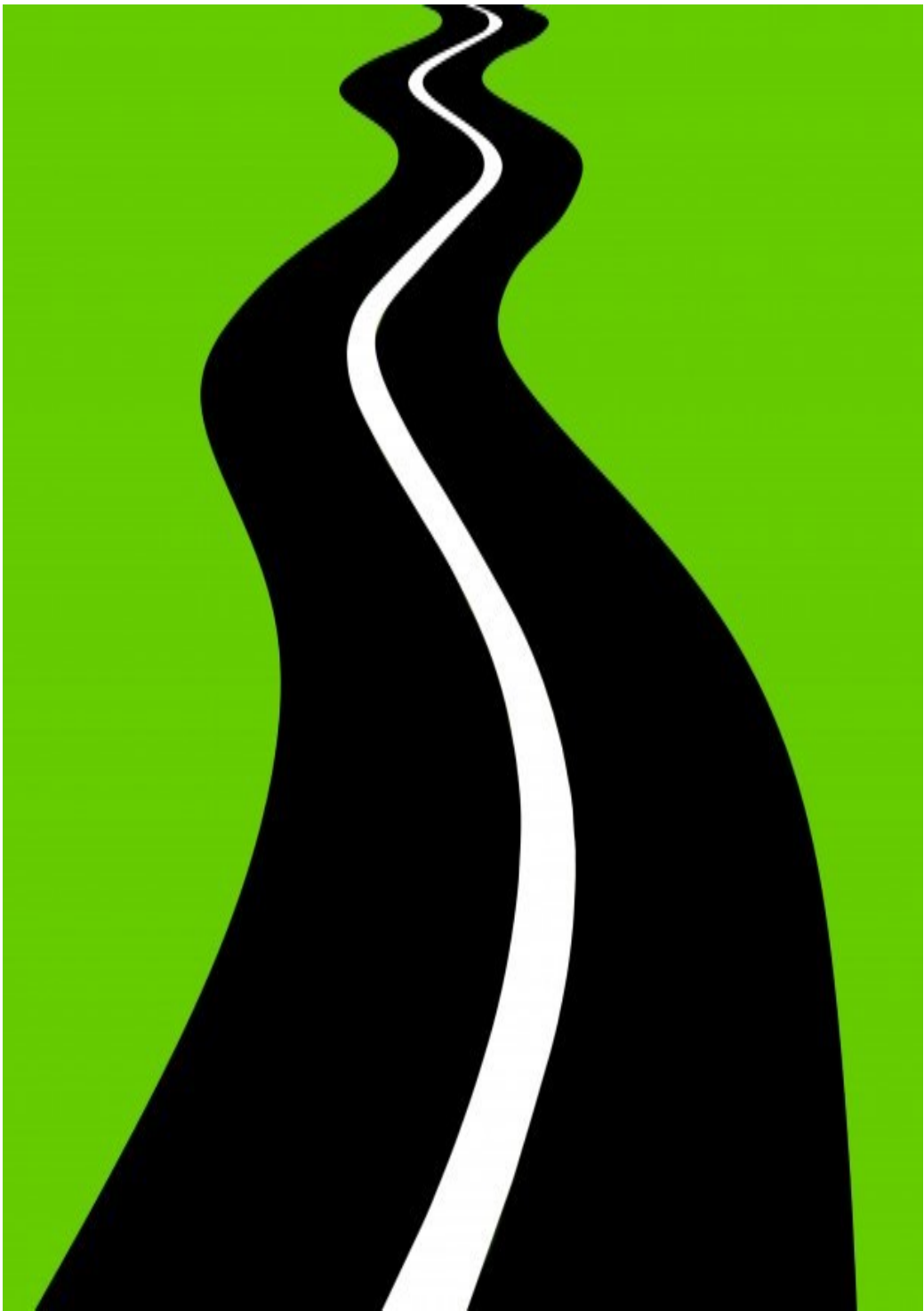
Have things run their course
So, though the building be built
Empty, empty, barren,
Was it but an opportunity of yesteryear?

Do we *bead* a new arena?
Do we *align* a new intarsia?
Do we *facet* a new paradigm?
Do we *saw* a different direction?

Years of learning and pleasure,
Many wonderful people,
Skills added to our repertoire and
Now the journey is unknown...
The road is less traveled.

The road --runs this way and that,
It poses joy and pain, loss and gain,
Or is it the replica of gain and loss,
Intermediary state, certainly not just the same,
Perhaps, just perchance, one can only imagine,

While lamenting, the opportunity unavailable.
Carving out a new and beautiful stone
How do we help it happen?



NFMS Clubs’ Show Schedule -- 2021

Please note that due to the Covid-19 virus, schedules may be changed. Please check with the show contact for any updates.

2022			
February 12-13 Sat – 9 – 5 Sun - 9 – 4	Whidbey Island Gem Club	The Center in Oak Harbor 51 Jerome St., Oak Harbor WA	Harriet Vick 360 720 9199 hmwick33@gmail.com
March 11-13 Fri – 10 – 5 Sat – 10 – 5 Sun – 10 – 5	Tualatin Valley Gem Club	Forest Grove National Guard Amory 2950 Taylor Way Forest Grove OR	Tiffany Jackson Viperlapidary@gmail.com
March 12-13 Sat – 9 – 6 Sun – 10 – 5	Northwest Montana Rock Chucks	Flathead County Fairgrounds, Expo Building (next to grandstands) 265 North Meridian Road, Kalispell MT	Lloyd Fager oldgrayelf@sbcglobal.net 608 436 0780
April 22-24 Fri – 10 - 4 Sat – 10 – 5 Sun – 10 – 4	Yakima Rock and Mineral Club	Central Washington State Fair Park, Modern Living Building 1301 South Fair Avenue, Yakima WA 98901	Marti Sondgeroth evening 509 248 6401 (leave a message); daytime cell 509 910 3484; marthams@q.com 2013 South 4 th Avenue Yakima WA 98903
May 21-22 Sat – 10 – 5 Sun – 10 – 4 NFMS Mid-Year Meeting	Lakeside Gem and Mineral Club	Benton County Fairgrounds, 1500 South Oak Kennewick WA	Larry Hulstrom rockhound132@charter.net 509 308 8312
May 28-29 Sat – 10 – 6 Sun – 10 – 5	Everett Rock and Gem Club	NEW LOCATION, Evergreen State Fairgrounds (East Entrance) 18359 Cascade View Drive, near Monroe, WA	Fritz Mack 425 232 0809 Website: www.everettrockclub.com