I spent my first week of being president of the NFMS creating and visiting with some of the nicest group of people that you would ever meet. About 50 students and 20 instructors spent five full days at our Northwest Rockhound Retreat at Camp Hancock. I learned very quickly why it is so popular and why a very high percentage of attendees return year after year.

One of the major reasons the retreat is so successful is because of the high quality of instruction. The instructors are knowledgeable, talented, creative and patient. Most spend a lot of time and money preparing materials for their class. This way you can bring your own materials or buy them as you need them. I found the instructors, who were volunteering their time, to be very eager to help and share their expertise.

Eight different classes were offered this year. You can sign up for a class and during the week spend time in the other classes if you desired. This is ideal as you can bring a stone, shape it in the lapidary shop, then either learn to wire wrap or make a silver frame. You could also make a doublet or a piece of intarsia, then take it to the lapidary shop and finish it. There are so many ways to learn new things and be creative. The choices included basic lapidary, faceting, silversmithing, silver casting, intarsia, doublets & triplets, beading and wire-wrapping. Next year knapping will probably be included.

The camp is older and rustic with a lot of charm. It is dotted with “A” frame cabins that sleep 12 or less, while the main building is used for meetings, classes and dining. We were served a buffet breakfast and dinner, which included two entrees many nights and so many choices that we needed bigger plates. After breakfast, lunch items were spread out and we made our own sack lunches. I learned very quickly that you saved your brown bag because it was supposed to last the whole week. After tossing my first one, I kept the next one under my pillow.

Lamar Tilghner has been the steady force behind the retreat for 10 years. He is busy during the retreat helping it run smoothly, but there are many hidden hours spent during the rest of the year. He negotiates contracts with the camp owner, OMSI, works with the NFMS and communicates with attendees before and after the retreat.

Attendees are given first choice for the next year. The camp has a limit of 50 students which doesn’t leave a lot of room for newcomers. So, if this interests you at all, you need to register as soon as you see it announced in the NFMS Newsletter.

Spending a week with people that love the same hobby that you do is gratifying. It is easy to make friends when you share so many things in common. My friend and instructor of doublets & triplets Pat Lloyd, said it best “We kind of form this Hancock family up here”.

April 10-12, 2015 is not that far away and I am not talking TAX time

NFMS Annual Meeting
Ogden, Utah
NFS EXECUTIVE OFFICERS 2012-2013

PRESIDENT: Warren Rood, Marcus Whitman Gem and Mineral, 243 E. Birch, Walla Walla, WA 99362, warrenrood@yahoo.com

1ST VICE PRESIDENT: Hidemi Kira, Clackamette Mineral and Gem Club, 15455 S. Highland Rd., Oregon City, OR 97045, mt.rockhound@bresnan.net

2ND VICE PRESIDENT: Jim Bosley, Idaho Falls Gem and Mineral, 634 Tyson Ave., Idaho Falls, ID 83401, (208)520-1819,

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY: Judi Allison, Lakeside Gem and Mineral Club, 1701 NW 11th St., Hermiston, OR, 97882, 541-720-4950, jall@oanet.net

TREASURER: Lyle Vogelphol, West Seattle Rock Club, 8810 S 37th Ave. SW, Seattle, WA 98126-3161, (206)932-3292, nfmstreasures@comcast.net

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BUDGET: Hidemi Kira, 1st Vice President (see above)
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NFMS Club-at-Large: 1st Vice President (see above)

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PAST PRESIDENTS COUNCIL: Evelyn Cataldo, Lakeside Gem & Mineral Club, 95909 Brandon, Kennewick, WA 99338, (509) 625-0170, cataldoevelyn@yahoo.com

PUBLIC LANDS ADVISORY: Open
SLIDE / VIDEO LIBRARIAN: Darrell Watkins, Yakima Rock and Mineral Club, P.O Box 635,Tieton, WA 98948, (509)673-0085, darrell884@gmail.com

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SCHOLARSHIP: Evelyn Cataldo, Lakeside Gem and Mineral Club, 95909 Brandon, Kennewick, WA 99338, (509) 625-0170, cataldoevelyn@yahoo.com

SHOW COORDINATION 2014: Mike Filasiki & Judy Allison, Hermiston, Oregon

SHOW COORDINATOR: Pat Lambert, Lakeside Gem & Mineral Club, 21606 S. Oak, Kennewick, WA 99377, paul_apike@outlook.com

STAMPS: Hermiena Kolski, Club-at-Large, 208 Riverview 2 East, Great Falls, MT 59404-1534, (406)231-0620

SUPPLIES: Patty Amos, Mt. Hood Rock Club, 15523 NE 215th Ave., Ridgefield, WA 98648, (360)982-3716, packratt2@msn.com

WAYS & MEANS: Janice Van Cura, Willamette Agate & Mineral Society, Inc., 3448 NW Covey Run, Corvallis, OR 97330, janicevc@comcast.net, phone: (541) 753-2408

WEBMASTER: Brad Larson, Owyhee Gem and Mineral Society, 4112 E. Park Ridge Dr., Nampa, ID 83487 (208) 465-1920, nfmwebmaster@gmail.com

NFS SPECIAL COMMITTEES

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

ROCKHOUND OF THE YEAR: Bev Bockman, Rock Rollers Club, P.O.Box 1326, Post Falls, Idaho 83777, (208) 773 5384, rockbb@qol.com

WEBSITE CONTEST: Cheri George

AFMS COMMITTEES (NFMS Representatives)


THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW

The American Lands Access Association (ALAA) is a 501(c)(4) organization. Its purpose is to promote and encourage the right of access to 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: Shirley Leeson, President at: president@amlands.org or P.O. Box 25, Tendoy, ID 83468

The NFMS 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 President, Secretary, and Editor) receiving the NFMS 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

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 with a link 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 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 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. Donations and supplies
2. Donations for the general fund
3. Donations to Junior Achievement
4. Advertisement in this Newsletter

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 98126-3167

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 committee).

To AFMS Endowment Fund for:
1. Donations to Endowment Fund
2. Memorials

Send to: See AFMS Newsletter

To ALAA Treasurer for:
1. Membership renewal
2. Donations
3. Make check payable to ALAA (American Lands Access Assn) Treasurer, P.O. Box 54398, San Jose, CA 95154

NFMS WEB SITE: www.amfed.org/nfms

NFMS NEWSLETTER AND WEBSITE ADVERTISEMENT

Members, Non-members, clubs, etc. can advertise in the Northwest Newsletter. This service is provided to help defray the cost of printing and mailing the newsletter and is encouraged by the Federation. The only criteria for the ad is that it be hobby related (e.g. rocks, equipment, grit, shows, etc.).

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

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

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

I am sure everyone had a great summer and added many beautiful or interesting rocks in your collection either from the field trips or from the shows.

In this issue, I would like to share some of the rock collecting part and the places my wife Tomoko and I visited on the way and back from the American Federation (AFMS) Meeting and Show in Tulsa, Oklahoma. We left Oregon City, OR on July 4th and passed through Idaho, Utah, Wyoming, Colorado, and Kansas and arrived in Oklahoma City two days prior to the AFMS Meeting. The day we arrived, we visited the Sam Noble Oklahoma Museum of Natural History located at Norman, Oklahoma (University of Oklahoma Campus) where we were able to see the wide range of rock related items and other interesting exhibits. It was very impressive and had a very good time. If you are to visit Oklahoma, I recommend you to visit this wonderful museum. Thanks to the internet, you can check out the website www.snomnh.ou.edu for the details. It will give you a much better idea than me trying to explain the details. Next day, we drove up to Tulsa and visited the Elsing Museum located inside the Oral Roberts University. There were no signs around the University and we had a hard time finding the museum. Finally we got the information from the person at the entrance to the parking and found the place. The displays were very enjoyable and wished we could spend more time. A student gave us the tour and made us feel guilty holding the student for a long period of time, so had to kind of rush through the displays. The admission was free, so if you are to travel the area, I recommend you visiting this museum. You can check the website www.oru.edu/the_elsing_museum/ for the details.

Next day after the AFMS Meeting and Show ended, we headed to Arkansas to collect crystals. This was a place we wanted to go for a long time. I checked the internet before we left and found there are so many places to collect crystals in Arkansas and was not sure which one was the best for us. We asked several people at the AFMS show for their opinion as we heard the popular place changes year by year. We decided to go to Ron Coleman Mine inJessieville. We checked the site, looked through their shop and spent the night in a motel near the mine. Next day, we started at 9 am (digging opens at 8 am) and stayed to the very end, 5:30 pm.

The digging site is a huge tailing pile and vehicles were not allowed in the area. That means we could not haul out huge pieces which would have been a super impressive yard rock. A lady from Missouri who has been there several times was digging near me found a huge plate with lots of points, so big that she couldn’t carry it by herself. The lady said they will charge a hefty price to haul material to your vehicle, so I had the privilege of helping her carry the piece to her vehicle and take a good look at it. And a young lady digging next to Tomoko found a big one with a perfect point. So there are good materials for sure, but have to be pretty lucky to find really good ones. We got pretty good amount of crystals including some with little ones with perfect points and lots of larger yard rock quality ones and had a super fun day for only $15 with the senior discount (over 55). You can check their site www.colemanquartz.com for the details.

The next day we headed to Mt. Ida, another hot spot for crystals. We stopped at many rock shops along Highway 270 and had fun looking at the crystals and other rocks. We happened to find a Forest Service Office there and asked about collecting. The officer said we can pick up anything on the ground, but no digging and also gave us the information about the public collecting site. We went to the site, but gave up because of the long trail we had to hike. Probably we will go there next time when we have more time and there are less bugs.

We wanted to get more crystals, but the rain was coming in and so we decided to head back to Oklahoma to collect Barite Rose, which is the official state rock of Oklahoma. When we first entered Oklahoma before the AFMS meeting, the lady at the information center told us that there are no places for the public to collect, but the information was not correct. A couple who we became friends with during the AFMS show gave us a book “The Barite Rose of Oklahoma by David London” and gave us information of where they have collected. It was raining and was a record low temperature, so we only went to one place out of the several options. We went to the south side of the Stanley Draper Lake close to Norman and walked around the lake with our rubber boots and umbrellas and found several pieces along the lakeside within a short time.

Then we drove through the pan handle and headed to Colorado to see the Colorado School of Mines Geology Museum in Golden not so far from Denver. This was another museum we wanted to go and I recommend that you to visit. We are not so much into minerals, but the collection was really gorgeous and we had to spend quite a while. Check out the details at www.mines.edu/Geology_Museum. The admission was free and we felt so guilty that we did a little shopping at their shop.

Then we drove I-70, which was a spectacular view and we were glad we went through this way. I cannot remember which town it was, but we found a Forest Service office and asked about the rock collecting status in Colorado. The officer’s answer was “No collecting at all!”. As you may have heard this kind of story, each office is different. We went on and entered Utah after some collecting of rocks. The Yellow Cat (agatized barite with beautiful colors) in Utah was one of the sites we wanted to go for a long time. The freeway exit number did not match with the book, so we stopped at the visitor center to find out what was going on. They said the state changed the exit number about 3 years ago. We were fortunate that we didn’t have to go too far to find this out and headed back to the right exit. I forgot the number, but you have to exit where it states “Yellow Cat”. We spent few hours in the hot weather walking around. We found some interesting material, but after came home and cut it, it was pretty badly fractured and fell apart when cut. Maybe if we stayed long enough, I am pretty sure we could have gotten better material. We will go back someday when the weather is right and spent at least a few days. From there, we headed back home going through Utah, and Idaho.

(Continued on the next page)
During the whole trip, we stopped at lots of road cuts or places that looked like there were some signs of pretty rocks and found several interesting ones. The most interesting material we found among these road cuts was in Utah close to where the Birdseye Rhyolite is found. Tomoko found two large size pretty pink brecciated rhyolite, which resembles the pink brecciated jasper from Burro Creek, AZ, but softer. And we found some large river tumbled fossils in silicified limestone at the exact same site. We brought back some pieces and had it identified by a member of North American Research Group (NARG) at the Portland Regional Show held in Hillsboro, OR on October 10-12 and found the fossil was gastropods. I was told it will polish really well, so you may see it hanging on my neck someday if it turns out to be a good cabochon! Overall, we had a fun time and very glad we had the opportunity to visit these sites.

After I got the NFMS Year-End Report in Hermiston, I have slowly started to make the spread sheets to see the trend of the memberships from 2007 as I did last year. I have not finished it yet, but am already finding some interesting movements. If the club is growing, there should be some reason for it to grow, so I would love to know how they did it and hope they will share their story. On the other hand, if there is a significant or unusual drop, there should be some reason, so I would like to know what happened and hope they will share their experience to help the other clubs. I should be finished by the next issue and have a better idea of the movements.

Clackamette Mineral & Gem Club where I belong is having our 50th Annual show at Clackamas County Fairgrounds in Canby, OR on Oct. 25 and 26. I look forward to seeing friends of the NFMS there and hope you will see this issue before it ends!
Pictures of the Hancock Retreat Report
By Warren Rood

Alicia Link holds a deep blue fluorite that she traded for at the Tuesday night swap. She then shaped and polished it during the week.

Just part of the ladies learning beading from Merlia Tilgner.

Attendee Olan Long cabbing one of his doublets.

The lapidary shop is a busy place most of the time.

Lamar Tilgner assisting one of the attendees in the lapidary shop.

Norma Long enjoying the endless variety of beading.

Lyle Vogelpohl helped out in the lapidary shop with cutting a lot of rock.
The Camp Hancock instructors:

Back row L to R:
Jim Crismon: faceting,
Carol Cimolino: intarsia,
Chris Blickfeldt: silver casting,
John Wozniak: lapidary.

Middle row, L to R:
Kathy Woods: Intarsia assistant,
Merlia Tilgner: beading,
Louise Elenbaas: casting,
Audrey Vogelpohl: beading,
Darlene Wozniak: wire wrapping,
Lamar Tilgner: lapidary,
Pat Lloyd: doublet/triplet,
Faye Thompson: doublet/triplet assistant,

Front row, L to R:
Peggy Blickfeldt: silver smithing,
Lyle Vogelpohl: lapidary,
Stephen Petkovsek: silver assistant.

NFMS Dues are DUE !!!
By Lyle Vogelpohl, Treasurer

NFMS dues need to be sent to me by January 10, 2015, along with the other requested information. Your club will receive a packet of information and forms by the first part of November 2014. If your club does not receive this packet, please let me know right away. The packet contains 3 items.

1) A letter of instructions on how to complete the other items in the packet. NFMS dues are based on who was a member of your club in 2014 .... $3.50 for EACH ADULT member and $1.00 for EACH JUNIOR (18 and under) member. (NOT based on who has already paid their dues for 2015.) The NFMS pays the AFMS $.75 for each adult and junior member from these amounts. This instruction sheet also contains order information about the 2015 NFMS Directory. The NFMS Directory includes NFMS Officer and Committee information, all society club and member information, a quick reference sheet to each club's meeting date, NFMS Articles of Incorporation and By-Laws, and the NFMS Program Library catalogue. Each club is provided a free copy each year. Individuals may purchase their own copy for $10.00.

2) A sheet for your club's information, including club name, website, mailing address, meeting place and time, contact person, and your 2015 officer and committee list. There is space on this form for the names of the 3 persons in your club to whom the AFMS Newsletter will be sent. I forward those names on to the AFMS. The final items on the sheet are spaces for the calculation of your club's dues - adults and juniors --AND space for NFMS Directory orders.

3) This item is the one that I will ask for the most assistance from your club. We ask that you please update the membership list we send to your club. Please do NOT send a copy of your club roster. Think of it this way, the NFMS files contain over 3600 names and addresses. If you send your club roster they must be checked line by line against our data base - a tremendously time consuming task. We ask that you update our list by crossing out names of members who are no longer with your club. And list on a separate sheet of paper the names and requested information of those members who moved, and the names, addresses and telephone numbers of your members who do not appear on the provided list.

Thank you for your help in seeing that your club gets this job done promptly ... dues are due by the 10th of January.
Anticipation Hancock Station
By Bert Kae-Je’,
Pictures by Bert Kae-Je’

Anticipation Hancock Station, O-Yah,
Getting ready for so long and now, it’s eminent
Sure nuff, got my flu and pneumonia shots,
Pack my Allegra, hair-brush and bug spray,
Take my comfy quilt, pillow, and big fan.

Pack my jeans and my cruddy, ragged t-shirts,
Pack my, jewelry glitches, hiccups, & problems,
Off to that special place – Hancock Station!
Middle of no-where, and some say nothing,
But I’m there to learn and learn I will.

Anticipation Hancock Station! Enlightenment

Learn to polish more professionally,
Learn to stitch a joining notch for seed beads,
Learn to fit a plug into my Intarsia,
To doublet my piece of malachite-azurite,
To make silver jewelry that

Anticipation Hancock Station ---Advance!

Each year a chance to grow in knowledge,
You could learn to facet your Garnet,
Cast your bugs, broom sticks, and snake skin in silver,
Seed Bead your beautifully polished Cabochon,
And wire wrap that odd shaped stone.
Or you may grind and polish your petrified wood.

And when you do, you could make a friend,
Feed your soul, express your creativity and
Always there is encouragement — “Look @ That!”

Anticipation Hancock Station, Awesome!

Swap night, what a trip! FUN! Lucky find!
This year I’ll take a grinder, a tumbler, safety glasses,
Extra tools, spacy brocaded lookin’ rocks, a jewelry case,
Things I don’t need and someone else wants,
And off I go, ready to find someone else’s swappy,

Anticipation Hancock Station, Fabulous!

Yup, unearth surprises, learning, and friends.
Ascertain friendly instructors who foster wisdom!
More than enough food, fun, and inviting scenery.
Come, take a walk with God in Rocky Buttes.
Refresh your soul, your spirit, your mind.

Anticipation Hancock Station, Rejuvenate!

I think where Jesus walked occasionally may have been,
Like Hancock Station tween Fossil & Antelope, Oregon,
And if not, least I know God is more than present,
This week my problems can become smaller,
The Creator of the universe to be recognized
And praised for sacred gifts.

Anticipation Hancock Station, a Gift!

I’m so glad that many months ago, I registered with Lamar,
Though, I’ll miss my special room-mate of yr. 1 & 2,
She’s now living and learning silver-smithing in Quatar.
Gas tank full, round the corpulent mountains,
35mph forever and Anticipation Hancock Station!
Don’t forget your water bottle.

Note: Bert Kae-Je’, a Psychologist, Pastoral Counselor & Art Therapist, is a member of Lakeside Gem and Mineral Club, Kennewick, WA.
This is her 4th year to attend and each year Bert looks forward to this for her, a mental health event. The 1st year she was there were 2 from Lakeside Club and now 7 are going.

Poetry – Fall 2014 Rocks
d) 8/29/2014
2014 Was a Very Good Year
By Bert Kae-Jé

It was a Very Good Year
South of Fossil OR, OMSI, Hancock Field Station,
What a gift to learn and relearn, cast and grind,
Facet, bead, cut, drill, polish, enamel, hour after hour,
Eat biscuits, apple pie, and celebrate birthdays of three,
And stagger out through the night to take a pee.

Overflowed RV Parking for some..... jammed in tight,
No cell phone connections and pay phone out,
No TV---sorry fans of Sea Hawks & Green Bay,
Reduced accessibility for those with limitations,
Early morning coffee sometimes scarce but
Even with the odds, it was A Very Good Year.

We worked so hard on our stuff, metal, stone & wax,
No flu this year, only falls of which there were four,
Shoulders, legs, knees, butts skewed bruised and bumped.
No heads on concrete or broken bones, but weary bodies,
Skidding on loose gravel and hard flipping benches,
It was a Tumbling Good Year.

Instructors, who help the tyros and advanced,
Including the unfocused, distractible, and always out of the box,
But student and teachers managed to survive and thrive,
Set stones, form bracelets, acorns file, and rings move,
Ochre, silver, metal, imagination all on the interchange,
Meaning, it was a great shot at A Very Good Year.

Rearrangement, repositioning, refocus, change,
Always employing right & left brain to solve dilemmas,
Dino bone, fern and flower, neath quartz caps,
Peyote stitch, needle # 10, with the right color seed bead,
Owyhee Jasper & Moss Agate aligned with wire- flat & round,
So inciting, making for A Very Good Year.

Evening education re little known wax casting secrets,
Case display, competition or nay, and caring for your machines,
Nights of cider drinks, fun, and sharing of the ordinary things,
Campers--brokers, engineers, teachers, and floral arrangers,
Canteen managers, librarians, domesticians, and card sharks,
Retired or not, we guffaw together and it’s A Very Good Year!

Instructors, who labored more than a week long,
Lyle slabbed rocks hour after hour and Lamar always there,
All the Instructors were the finest,
Teaching us to fabricate, design, and create,
Fabulous, beautiful, and Beauteous we would say,
Making for an Arduously Good Year!

Endless sharing of ideas on Canadian BC Flower Stone,
Alabaster, Jasper, Opal, Wonder-stone, and Peridot.
Carol, Chris, & Peggy provided & provoked new thought,
So helpful, when as planned, doesn’t work out.
Made for a VERY, Very Nascently Good Year.

Finally, we’ve a Creator who helps us laugh at ourselves,
While we go from chaos to order in our work,
Finding mirth, friendship and Hancock acumen.
He/She holds the whole world in His/Her hands,
Who is more than all, surely An Ample Good Year.

And Nature’s forces in Central Oregon at work,
Flora of dry plant life on scenic mountains, & big gullies,
Fauna of swarming bats, scorpions, tiny lizards, big & little frogs,
Cool nights, velvet skies, sunshine and walking trails,

Then In précis, 2014 was a Very, Good Year.

From the Editor’s Rockpile
By Beth Heesacker

This is another one of those editions where I can hardly get a word
in edgewise. 😊

I do want to remind you of our President’s call to change over to
receiving this newsletter by email or downloading it from the web
(preferred method). Not only will you receive it sooner, it will be
in COLOR and the pictures will be MUCH clearer but you will
also SAVE the Federation and yourself money. We won’t have to
raise our dues for some time. See the articles in the September
dition outlining the process.

Also I hope to see many of you at my Club’s show. See the ad
in the next column. 😊
It is time for Junior Rockhounds to share their accomplishments from the past 2 years; the Federation wants to honor you. You must be paid up and listed as a member of your Club and the NFMS. **NOTE: There is a change from previous years in the age categories in order to align with the age groups in the AFMS Badge Program.**

Age Group 1: ages up to 7 years  
Age Group 2: ages 8 through 11  
Age Group 3: ages 12 through 15  
Age Group 4: ages 16 through 18.

Your age as of December 31, 2014 determines the age category. If you won last year at Hermiston, Oregon you will need to wait until 2016 to enter again UNLESS you move up to the next age category.

Your Resume and Application together require a postmark by March 1, 2015. Winners will be notified a month later, after the NFMS Judges vote on each candidate’s Summary. If any of this sounds too complicated or if you have any questions just contact me at nfmsjunior@comcast.net OR ask your Juniors Advisor, parent or the Federation Director of your Rock Club, everyone will be delighted to help you in the quest of achieving fame. Monetary awards will be presented at the NFMS Annual Meeting at Ogden, Utah on April 10, 2015.

Here are your three EZ steps:

1. Write or type a short summary (resume/outline) about what your achievements are for the past 2 years (2013 and 2014), following Sections I, II, III & IV from the GUIDELINE below.
2. Photocopy the APPLICATION from the Northwest Newsletter. Fill out the APPLICATION and have your Rock Club representatives sign their spaces.
3. Mail with a postmark by March 1, 2015, your summary (resume/outline), and completed APPLICATION to the NFMS Junior Committee Chair,
   Audrey Vogelpohl, 8810 - 37th Ave SW, Seattle, WA 98126

Guidelines for Junior Achievement Awards

**Section I. HOBBY RELATED** (Possible 45 points)
- Club involvement (field trips, committees, show participation)
- Hobby Craft involvement (faceting, lapidary, metals, collecting)
- Competitive involvement (display, articles, promotion, awards)

**Section II. EDUCATIONAL ACHIEVEMENT** (Possible 25 points)
- Scholastic (honor roll, advanced classes, improvement of grades)
- Extracurricular (sports, drama, debate, drill team, music)

**Section III. COMMUNITY ACHIEVEMENT** (Possible 20 points)
- Events involvement (charity, volunteer, donation programs)
- Scouts, Campfire, 4H-Club, Other community groups

**Section IV. WORK RELATED** (Possible 10 points)
- Employment, Home Chores, Neighborhood Work, Business

APPLICATION—

**Junior Achievement Award (confidential info)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Applicant Name</th>
<th>Age</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Your Date of Birth</td>
<td>Age</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mailing Address</td>
<td>City</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phone #</td>
<td>and Email</td>
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Applicant’s Signature X Date

Rock Club Name

Name of Junior Advisor

The following Club Officials attest to the applicant being a paid up member of the Club and NFMS:

Federation Director's Name

Federation Director Signature X

Club President's Name

President Signature X

Mail your SUMMARY (resume/outline), & APPLICATION to:

Audrey Vogelpohl, NFMS Juniors Chair
8810 - 37th Ave SW, Seattle, WA 98126-3617

(please be sure to postmark by MARCH 1, 2015 --Thank You!)
Bulletin Editor’s Contest
By Ronna Watkins, Bulletin Aids Chair

Greetings! Autumn is here and most clubs have gotten back to their regular meetings and are busy sharing summer finds and adventures. Many members have come back and are sharing their finished summer projects. All of this makes great additions to our bulletins! Get some pictures and stories to add to your bulletins!

So, it’s back to the business of writing and sharing all the news! Won’t some of you out there write a little something about your summer or a shop tip you know about and submit it to your club editor to help fill up the white spaces? I’m sure your editor will appreciate having something fun and new to print.

It is time, again, to start looking at your bulletins and to decide which issue and which articles and features to submit for the 2014 NFMS Bulletin Contest. Officers and members can encourage their editors by letting them know which issue and articles they enjoyed most!

Editors still have the opportunity to make that over-the-top issue for submission, and club members still have time to submit something for publication that could be the AFMS’ Best Article, or Best Feature Story, or Best Illustration. Junior Chairmen could lead their groups in writing something for the bulletin or help their Juniors write some Geology Poetry. Then, choose your favorites and send them in to the contest!

This year the 2014 NFMS’ Bulletin Editors’ Contest deadline is February 28, 2015. The NFMS contest uses the AFMS guidelines and score sheets, available on the AFMS web site (Do not let the 2011 date fool you.). Guidelines and score sheets have not changed since 2011, and all the online forms are undated. Download and use the forms from www.amfed.org. Fill them out on line or download them and fill them out, then attach them to your submissions and send them to me at P.O. Box 635, Tieton, WA 98947.

The following information on direct entries was sent to me from Linda Jaeger the AFMS BEAC Chairman, these are our guidelines also:

“What is a Direct Entry?”

In the AFMS contest the first place winner of each category is prohibited from entering the same category for the following two years. This gives everyone a chance to win a first place trophy, instead of one person winning year after year. Most of the regional federations have the same rule. To give authors and editors who won first place in their regional contest, but not first place in the AFMS contest the same year, a chance to compete at the national level when they are ineligible for their regional contest, AFMS created the “direct entry.”

Club editors – if you have author or editor entries that are ineligible for your regional contest because of being a first place regional winner one of the previous two years, you can submit that work as a direct entry to AFMS, but you must send it to your regional BEAC with a note to enter it as a direct entry to AFMS. Direct entries to AFMS must go to the regional BEAC first; then the BEAC submits those entries to AFMS with the designation of “direct entry.”

As this is the November/December issue of Northwest News, I would like to commend my fellow editors for a year of issues well done! Another eleven or twelve issues under your hat is a great accomplishment and a commitment that deserves recognition. Thank you for all you do for rockhounds in the Northwest! I would also like to wish all my rockhound friends Happy Holidays and Good Times for the coming New Year!
Step Out Of The Box…Shake It Up…Add Some Zing…
By Evelyn Cataldo

Try something new in your club. We did and the enthusiasm was contagious.
The Lakeside Gem and Mineral Club from Kennewick, Washington decided to tackle trying to put together a competitive society case for the 2014 NFMS Show and Convention in Hermiston, Oregon. The idea was discussed at the January, 2014 meeting and the club agreed that we should give it a try and see if we could make it happen. We knew that our club members had some great specimens; just not an individual competitive attitude. After looking at the rules book and a meeting of the interested members, it was decided that our strength was in the petrified wood category.

Okay, so we had a subject now how to achieve a finished product? First we needed a case; a club member stepped up and volunteered the use of his case and liners. Another club member said, “I’ve got an idea how to make the labels.” The rules called for a minimum of five club members to participate in the case and a minimum of ten specimens. Ten specimens – five participants – that should be easy to do! Wrong!

Arriving at the right mix of quality, size, varying locations and species took some give and take on the participating members. But, we managed to get our act together in time to display the case at our annual show in April. We were fortunate to have Dee Holland and Shirley Leeson attending our show and they agreed to take a look at our case and give us some tips. That preview, along with club members critiquing, provided us with the feedback necessary to improve our display even further.

In the meantime, we were asked at each club meeting to report on the progress of the case. Club members were anxious to know how we were progressing. Being a society case, they all had a vested interest in creating a success. That interaction prompted three of our club members (first timers) to enter their own competitive cases in the Federation show!

Time for the big reveal in Hermiston. Club members crowded around as we set up the display on Thursday afternoon. In our minds, it looked great. Judging was scheduled for Friday. Club members were heard asking each other, “How did we do?” When the results were tacked up on Friday, we were all proud of our accomplishment. However, we did not know how thrilled to be until the awards banquet on Saturday evening. Our society case won first place for the category, the traveling society plaque, the Hedin trophy for best petrified wood exhibit and the Sweepstakes award for the best competitive display! Being a society case, the entire club was a winner. What a club success.

So, if you’re looking to spark some new interest at your club, suggest that club members cooperate on preparing a society case for competition at the next NFMS show and convention to be held in Ogden next April.

NFMS Stamp Report
By Hermina Kolski

Just wanted to update you on the amount of money collected for cancer Research. We now have $5,990.30 collected. Thanks for all of you who make this possible.
Julian Gray has been selected as the new Executive Director of the Rice Northwest Museum of Rocks and Minerals; Leslie Moclock has been chosen as the new curator. Both assumed their positions at the museum in May. Julian was formerly curator at the Tellus Science Museum in Cartersville, Georgia, just outside of Atlanta. Leslie recently received her masters degree in geology from University of California, Davis.

The museum, located just outside of Portland Oregon in Hillsboro, has a long and close association with the Pacific Northwest Chapter of Friends of Mineralogy (PNWFM). Richard L. Rice and Helen M. Rice began it as a private museum in 1952, and their daughter Sharleen made it a nonprofit 501(c)3 corporation in 1997. Sharleen is a charter member and former president of PNWFM. Chapter members loan specimens for display, and contribute specimens, money and time. The chapter is a group member of the museum, entitling members to free entry and other benefits. The museum hosts PNWFM events and is an important exhibitor at its annual October Symposium, now in its 40th year. Its first full-time curator was PNWFM charter member and zeolite expert Rudy Tschernich. When he retired Lara O’Dwyer Brown became curator and also acted as Executive Director in 2013-2014. Lara is moving to Denmark because of her husband’s work and will be sorely missed.

Julian worked on the expansion of the Weinmann Mineral Museum from 2005, helping to turn it into the Tellus Science Museum in 2009. He earned his Bachelor of Science from Georgia State University in 1981 and his Master of Science in geology from the same school in 1998. Leslie has worked on and off in museums since she was an undergraduate at Amherst College, where she graduated in 2009 with a degree in geology. Recently she worked at Oregon Museum of Science and Industry.

Julian is a long-time member of Friends of Mineralogy and past president of the national organization. He and his wife, Barb Epstien, are excited to be in the Pacific Northwest, fulfilling a dream they have had for some time. Leslie’s husband Alex Bridges is a doctor in residency at Oregon Health Sciences University and both are relative newcomers to Portland.
SPokane Rock Rollers **REALLY** Clean Up

By Ben Odum

On September 13, the Spokane Rock Rollers took part in their 1st Annual Cleanup Day. This event was sponsored by the ALAA and in partnership with the local BLM.

Fourteen club members, along with a ranger from the BLM, went to the Fish Trap area located within Spokane County, WA to clean up a parcel of BLM managed land. This particular area has become a favorite area for recreational target shooting.

While target shooting is a valid and valued recreational activity that one can partake on public lands, littering however, is not. Unfortunately, some target shooters have felt it is acceptable to bring out a wide assortment of items that would normally have been hauled to a waste disposal site to be used as targets. Afterwards, they have decided to leave behind those bullet riddled items as trash. So much trash was left behind in that small area that within just a span of two hours, the volunteers managed to pick up approximately 2,000 lbs of trash!

Upon the conclusion of this cleanup, the club gave thanks to their volunteers by hosting a BBQ and rock prize giveaway. While that was a great way to show appreciation for volunteering their time, the real appreciation came from the satisfaction in knowing that we helped in taking care of our public lands.

One person's help in cleaning up our lands is great and a group effort is terrific. But, to be phenomenal, a nation of volunteers is needed. The Spokane Rock Rollers Gem and Mineral Club would like to extend a challenge to other clubs from all over to form their own annual cleanup event. Together, as a rockhound nation, we can have an extremely positive impact upon our public lands!

Thanks goes out to Stephen Smith from the BLM in Spokane for helping us find an area in need of trash removal. A thanks also goes out to Ranger Dave Gibbons for not only assisting in the development of this event, but also for jumping in and getting his hands dirty in removing trash. Not to be forgotten, a huge thank you goes to the following club volunteers:

- Tom & MJ Brown
- Tim Cjeka
- Brian Dillon
- Kathleen Govitt
- Mark & Pam Hankins
- Tom Long
- Shawna Martin
- Jim McDaniel
- Jim Rundlett
- Dale Ruperd
- Mike Shaw
- Eric Thill

Thank you everyone!
Getting an Early Start Since the Annual Meeting Is Just a Few Months Away!
April 10-12, 2015
Ogden, Utah

A REMINDER AND REQUEST FROM THE CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE

DUE TO THE SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES OF OUR APRIL ANNUAL MEETING IN 2015, Clara & Del Walker, Committee Chairpersons, must receive the NFMS Credentials, the NAMES (only) of Club Directors and Delegates, as soon as possible (ASAP) for planning purposes of the meeting. The annual meeting will be held in Ogden, Utah at the Weber County Fairgrounds on April 10, 11, and 12. Time and place to follow.

The Credential forms below must be completed by the designated director/delegate, signed by the Club President and Secretary, and BROUGHT BY THE DIRECTOR AND DELEGATE to the annual meeting. Or, this should be done by the alternate delegate(s), if necessary. Send the name(s) (not the credentials forms) at least two weeks prior to the meeting to:
Clara & Del Walker
12377 SE Davis Loop
Prineville, OR 97754
Phone: 541-447-7826 (cell: 503-812-6540) or email to cdwalker@q.com
(note email address is new...and that is a "Q" not a "G")

NFMS DIRECTOR’S CREDENTIALS

Name of Director ____________________________
Name of Club _______________________________
City, State ________________________________
Club President Signature ____________________
Club Secretary Signature ____________________
Date ________________________________

Must be completed and signed to be seated with voting rights at the Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies Annual Meeting

NFMS DELEGATE’S CREDENTIALS

Name of Delegate __________________________
Name of Club ______________________________
City, State ________________________________
Club President Signature ____________________
Club Secretary Signature ____________________
Date ________________________________

Must be completed and signed to be seated with voting rights at the Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies Annual Meeting

Halloween – October 31
Daylight savings ends – November 2
Veterans Day – November 11
Thanksgiving – November 27
Pearl Harbor Rememberance Day – December 7
Having Fun: Junior Activities
by Jim Brace-Thompson, Junior Activities Chair

Classic Kids Books on Rocks
I’m in the publishing business and every year I attend the two big shows sponsored by the American Library Association. I returned last month from their annual summer convention in Las Vegas. (Regrettably, librarians have very slim budgets, so they choose “off-season” locations for their conventions. The next one is in Chicago in January. I can hardly wait!) In between normal business, I like to peruse the convention hall to see what’s new, and I always hit the kids’ publishers to see what I can find relating to rockhounding. Here’s a little recap of some rock and mineral books, some new, some (like me) “classic,” for young kids:

The Magic School Bus: Inside the Earth. Joanna Cole, author; Bruce Degen, illustrator. Part of the Magic School Bus series, in this episode Ms. Frizzle takes young readers on a field trip to the center of the earth while teaching about the three rock types, fossils, and more.


Dave’s Down-to-Earth Rock Shop. Stuart J. Murphy, author; Can Bowman Smith, illustrator. Dave and his rock shop teach Josh and Amy how to organize a rock collection, helping them learn about classifying by attributes like color, shape, hardness, or size.

A Rock Is Lively. Dianna Hutts Aston, author; Sylvia Long, illustrator. This book is as gorgeous as it is informative. Long’s colorful paintings of minerals on the cover immediately caught my eye and drew me into the book, where vivid paintings fill page-after-page. But the book is more than “eye candy.” I give earth science presentations to schools, and I’m always asked certain questions. How hot is lava? How old are the oldest rocks? What are rocks used for? Kids will find answers to these questions and more.


King of the Dinosaurs: Tyrannosaurus Rex and After the Dinosaurs. Two books by the authors/illustrators of the Berenstain Bears series, Stan, Jan, and Michael Berenstain, explore the ultimate king of the dinosaurs and the Age of Mammals leading up to us humans.

Finally, let’s not forget the wonderful activity/coloring books by Darryl “Diamond Dan” Powell:
- Diamond Dan’s Mineralogical Dictionary
- Minerals & Crystals: Activities for Young Mineral Collectors
- Corundum Carl’s Great Crystal Adventure
- The World of Minerals & Crystals: Their Properties, Forms and Uses
- Gold! An Activity Book for Young Prospectors
- Minerals from California

Check out your local library and bookstores for these books and more. If your club has a library, be sure to include kids’ books like these that making learning about rocks, minerals, and fossils not only interesting but fun!

There is a New Magazine in Town!
Hi. My name is Jim Landon and I am a member of the Yakima Washington Club. There is a new rockhounding magazine out called “American Rockhound” that I would like to make our Federation membership aware of. I am a regular contributor to the magazine covering digging sites in the Northwest.

See their website for more details: http://www.wncrocks.com/resources/AMERICAN ROCKHOUND MAGAZINE HOME.html
### NFMS Member Clubs’ Show Schedule

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<th>Date</th>
<th>Club Name</th>
<th>Address</th>
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<tr>
<td>October 25 &amp; 26</td>
<td>Clackamette Mineral and Gem Club</td>
<td>Fairgrounds, 694 Ne. 4th Ave, Canby, OR 97013</td>
<td>Beth Heesacker, <a href="mailto:heesacker@coho.net">heesacker@coho.net</a>, 4145 NW Heesacker Rd., Forest Grove, OR 97116</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 25 &amp; 26</td>
<td>Bellevue Rock Club</td>
<td></td>
<td>Dave Scott <a href="mailto:lagger175@yahoo.com">lagger175@yahoo.com</a> PO Box 1851 Bellevue, WA 98009</td>
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<td>November 8 &amp; 9</td>
<td>Skagit Rock &amp; Gem Club</td>
<td>Sedro Woolley Comm. Center, 700 Pacific Street Sedro Woolley, WA</td>
<td>Linda Keltz 360 424 6525 <a href="mailto:virlinkelz@comcast.com">virlinkelz@comcast.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>November 8 &amp; 9</td>
<td>Maplewood Rock and Gem Club</td>
<td>Maplewood Clubhouse, 8802 196th ST SW, Edmonds WA</td>
<td>Don Wilcox 206 226 1868 <a href="mailto:tundrafox@earthlink.net">tundrafox@earthlink.net</a></td>
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<td>November 15</td>
<td>Annual Auction</td>
<td>OMSI Auditorium 1945 SE Water Avenue Portland OR</td>
<td>Gail Bumala <a href="mailto:president@facetersguild.com">president@facetersguild.com</a> PO Box 2136, Portland OR 97208</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 7 – 8, 2015</td>
<td>Whidbey Island Gem Club</td>
<td>Oak Harbor Senior Center 51 SE Jerome Street, Oak Harbor WA</td>
<td>Keith Ludemann 360 675 1837 <a href="mailto:rock9@whidbey.net">rock9@whidbey.net</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb. 21-22, 2015</td>
<td>Idaho Gem Club</td>
<td>Expo Idaho, 5610 Glenwood Boise ID 83714</td>
<td>Brent Steward 208 342 1151 <a href="mailto:rocksbybrent@gmail.com">rocksbybrent@gmail.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb 28-Mar 1, 2015</td>
<td>East KingCo Rock Club</td>
<td>Pickering Barn 1730 10 Avenue NW Issaquah, WA</td>
<td>Robin Feiner <a href="mailto:rfeiner@rocketmail.com">rfeiner@rocketmail.com</a> or <a href="mailto:eastkingco@gmail.com">eastkingco@gmail.com</a> P.O. Box 2203 Redmond, WA 98073</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 7-8, 2015</td>
<td>Owyhee Gem &amp; Mineral Society</td>
<td>O’Commer Field House 2200 Blaine, Caldwell, Idaho</td>
<td>Darell Ehlers 208-674-1213 <a href="mailto:ddehlers@fmtc.com">ddehlers@fmtc.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 14 - 15, 2015</td>
<td>Magic Valley Gem Club</td>
<td>Twin Falls County Fairgrounds, Merchant Building #1, 215 Fair Avenue, Filer ID</td>
<td>Shirley Metts 208 423 4827 <a href="mailto:imetts@centurylink.net">imetts@centurylink.net</a> 550 Main Street South Kimberly ID 83341</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 27-29, 2015</td>
<td>Rock Rollers Club of Spokane WA</td>
<td>Spokane County Fair &amp; Expo Center, N.604 Havana at Broadway, Spokane WA</td>
<td>David Rapp 509 891 6533 <a href="mailto:showchair@rockrollers.org">showchair@rockrollers.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 11 - 12, 2015</td>
<td>Yakima Rock and Mineral Club</td>
<td>**New Location, Central Washington State Fair Grounds, Modern Living Building, 1301 S Fair Ave, Yakima WA 98901</td>
<td>Marti Sonderoth 509 248 6401 (evenings – leave message) <a href="mailto:marthams@qq.com">marthams@qq.com</a> 2013 South 41st Avenue Yakima WA 98903</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 17-19, 2015</td>
<td>Willamette Agate and Mineral Society</td>
<td>Polk County Fairgrounds 520 S Pacific Hwy W Rickreall, OR 97371</td>
<td>Etheleen Flippo 503-623-4241 <a href="mailto:rellippo@hotmail.com">rellippo@hotmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 18 - 19, 2015</td>
<td>Lakeside Gem and Mineral Club</td>
<td>Benton County Fairgrounds, 1500 South Oak, Kennewick WA</td>
<td>Mary Lou Omstead 509 783 2798 PO Box 6652 Kennewick WA 99336</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 2 - 3, 2015</td>
<td>Umpqua Gem &amp; Mineral Club</td>
<td>Douglas County Fairgrounds, I-5 Exit 123, Roseburg OR</td>
<td>Sue Woodman 541 391 3347 <a href="mailto:suew1952.sw@gmail.com">suew1952.sw@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 2-3, 2015</td>
<td>Everett Rock and Gem Club</td>
<td>Everett Community College, Student Fitness Center, 2206 Tower Street, Everett WA</td>
<td>Fritz Mack 425 232 0809 PO Box 1615 Everett WA 98206</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 5-7, 2015</td>
<td>Puyallup Valley Gem and Mineral Club</td>
<td>Swiss Park 9205 198th Avenue East Bonney Lake WA 98390</td>
<td>Nancy LeMay <a href="mailto:bees2knees@att.net">bees2knees@att.net</a> 253 952 6216, PVGMC 5% Club Show, PO Box 134, Puyallup WA 98371 <a href="mailto:info@puyallupgemclub.org">info@puyallupgemclub.org</a></td>
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