

NORTHWEST NEWSLETTER



VOLUME 51, NO. 3 Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies

NOV 2010



Fritz Mack NFMS President

As the new President I would like to, first of all, thank the Portland Regional show for all that they did so that the N.F.M.S. could have our first meeting at their show. I would like to thank everyone who has agreed to stay on as committee chair personnel. Thank you to Rick Bowers of Owyhee Club for taking on the Junior Chairman's job.

As I am attending more meetings I am finding out that there are only a handful of people that are making the big wheel move. These people sure could use some help. All it takes is a little time.

Please Get Involved

If we don't fight for what we have right now, we won't have it to fight for thanks to new rules and regulations.

Judi Allison 1st VP

It's time for the November newsletter already! Time certainly flies! Here we are two months into the new fiscal year. I am excited about this year and the opportunity to serve as your 1st Vice President while I continue to learn more and more about the inner workings of our Federation.

I am sure you are familiar with the analogy of the hard working bees carrying on their various duties in the hives. It never ceases to amaze me how many worker bees we have in our Federation making so much possible for everyone. We have those behind the scenes making sure the Endowment Fund is operating smoothly, a web master who continues to give of himself to get the information out for all, a treasurer who has served for a number of years . . . I could go on and on, but I am sure you get the point. We all are working at these things because we all have a love of the hobby and a belief in maintaining the ability to continue to enjoy our earth's treasures. By staying involved in our Federation and the AFMS, we are able to keep connected.

I was reminded at the Annual Convention in Hillsboro about the importance of yet another aspect of our connectivity. Membership in the American Lands Access Association (ALAA) is an important contribution you can make to our hobby and our Federations. Remember that this is the entity that lobbies to help preserve our ability to look for our earth's treasures. You can help build a stronger force to preserve our hobby. Consider joining the ALAA. If your club is not a member, urge it to join. We need to have funds to help lobby against "the big boys", and you can do your part by sending in your membership today.

What's Inside:

Officer/Committee Reports 1
Western Slope Report3
Editor's Rockpile 3
ALAA News
By and For Our Juniors5
Newsletter Editors' News 6
Mark Your Calendars 7
AFMS Code of Ethics
Show Calendar8

DECEMBER NEWSLETTER ARTICLES ARE DUE ON NOVEMBER 15TH

There will not be a NFMS Newsletter in February, 2011 due to the editor being on a rock pilgrimage to Quartzsite, AZ. Please plan your articles and announcements accordingly.

Contact Beth Heesacker Email: nfmseditor@coho.net

NFMS Website: www.amfed.org/nfms

NFMS EXECUTIVE OFFICERS 2010-2011

- PRESIDENT: Fritz Mack, Everett Rock & Gem Club, 10619 Holly Dr., Everett, WA 98204, 425.513.0115, rockngem_mack@comcast.net
- VICE PRESIDENT: Judi Allison, Hatrockhounds Gem & Mineral Society, 1701 NW 11th #A, Hermiston, OR 97838, (541) 720.4950, jall@eotnet.net
- 2ND VICE PRESIDENT: Kathy Moedl, Idaho Falls Gem and Mineral Society, 149 E. 1st. N, Rexburg, ID 83440, (208) 356-4169, kmoedl@cableone.net
- **EXECUTIVE SECRETARY: Joan Day, Golden Spike Gem** & Mineral Society, 509 Highland Blvd., Brigham City, UT. 84302, (435) 723-3830, joanday@sisna.com
- TREASURER: Lyle Vogelpohl, West Seattle Rock Club, 8810 37th Ave. SW, Seattle, WA 98126-3617, (206) 932-3292, nfmstreasurer@comcast.net

NFMS STANDING COMMITTEES

- **BUDGET:** Fritz Mack, 1st Vice President (see above) BULLETIN AIDS: Peggy Blickfeldt, Idaho Gem Club, 236 Tollgate Rd., Boise, ID 83716, (208) 345-8774, grumpies@acn.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, 12377 SE Davis Loop, Prineville, OR 97754, (541) 447-7826, dcwalker@embarqmail.com
- **CUSTODIAN:** Judi Allison, 2st Vice President (see above) DIRECTORY: Audrey Vogelpohl, West Seattle Rock Club, 8810 37th Ave. SW, Seattle, WA 98126-3617, nfmsdirectory@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, ionspe@comcast.net
- HISTORIAN: Dee Holland, Bitterroot Gem/Mineral Soc, Hamilton, MT, P.O. Box 23, Tendoy, ID., 83468-0023, (619) 460-6128 or (208) 756-2394.
- beauholland@centurytel.net JUDGING DIRECTOR: Dee Holland, Bitterroot Gem/Mineral Soc, Hamilton, MT, P.O.Box 23, Tendoy, ID, 83468, (208) 756-2394, beauholland@centurytel.net
- JUNIORS CHAIR: Rick Bower, NEWSLETTER EDITOR: Beth Heesacker, Clackamette Gem & Mineral Corp., 4145 NW Heesacker Rd., Forest
- Grove OR, 97116, (503) 357-8804, nfmseditor@coho.net NFMS Club-at-Large: 1st Vice President (see above) NOMINATING CHAIRMAN: : Evelyn Cataldo, Lakeside Gem & Mineral Club, 99509 Brandon Dr. Kennewick, WA,
- $99336, (509)\ 628\text{-}0170, \textbf{ecataldo@cbtabs.com}$ **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)546-1950, washatonian@hotmail.com
- SLIDE/ VIDEO LIBRARIAN: Tim and Sharon DeGrie, Lakeside Gem & Mineral Club, P.O. Box 458 Goldendale, WA 98620, 509-772-2533, cell 509-910-9228 ROCKNlibrary@yahoo.com
- **RESOLUTIONS: Fred Burton,** Golden Spike Gem & Mineral Society, 90 Lakeview, Tooele, UT 84074, (435)882.8614, fburton@trilobyte.net
- RULES & AWARDS CHAIR: Dee Holland, Bitterroot Gem/Mineral Soc, Hamilton, MT, P.O.Box 23, Tendoy, ID, 83468, (208) 756-2394, beauholland@centurytel.net SAFETY: OPEN
- SCHOLARSHIP: Rose Alene McArthur, Hells Canyon Gem Club, 14 Debertin Drive, Orofino, Idaho, 83544, (208) 476-3840, obmcarthur@cpcinternet.com
- SHOW CHAIRPERSON 2011: Chuck Sonner, Southern WA. Mineralogical Society, 165 Tingle Rd., Winlock, WA. 98596, (360) 785-3909, chuckagate2@yahoo.com

- SHOW CHAIRPERSON 2012: Larry Hulstrom and Evelyn Cataldo, Lakeside Gem and Mineral Club, 5409 W. 26th Kennewick, WA, 99338, (509) 783-6210.
- SHOW COORDINATION: Pat Lambert, Lakeside Gem & Mineral Club, 26106 S. Oak, Kennewick, WA 99337, palambert@charter.net
- AMPS: Hermina Kolski, 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, nwfm.timhoff@bresnan.net
- WAYS & MEANS: Janice Van Cura, Willamette Agate & Mineral Society, Inc.3448 NW Covey Run, Corvalis, OR 97330 (541)753-2401, jvancura@peak.org
- WEBMASTER: Jack Eads, Kitsap Mineral & Gem Soc., 5169 E. Hillcrest Drive, Port Orchard, WA. 98366-8101, (360) 871-2445, jacke@wavecable.com

NFMS WEB SITE: www.amfed.org/nfms

NFMS SPECIAL COMMITTEES

- FIELD TRIP CHAIRMAN: Doug True, Billings Gem & Mineral Club, 2622 Broadwater, Billings, MT 59102, 406.670.0506, dtruefossils@yahoo.com
- LONG RANGE PLANNING: Brvan 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, lstilgner1@verizon.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

WEBSITE COMPETITION: Cheri George, 2255 W. Avenue O, Palmdale, CA 93551, (562) 243-8470 lizardwoman3@yahoo.com.

AFMS COMMITTEES (NFMS Representatives) AFMS 1st VICE PRESIDENT-Doug True, ENDOWMENT FUND- Edna Nelson, EDITORS HALL OF FAME-Open, NEWSLETTER EDITOR-Beth Heesacker, NFMS CLUB BULLETINS-Darlene Posthuma, ROCKHOUND OF THE YEAR-Viola Jones, CONSERVATION & AWARD LEGISLATION-Darlene Posthuma, EDUCATION-ALL AMERICAN AWARD- Jim & Libby Spencer, INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS-Bill and Janet Smith, JUNIORS PROGRAM-Open, PROGRAM COMPETITION-Open, PUBLIC RELATIONS-OPEN, SAFETY-Dale Geer, SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION-Dee Holland & Rose McArthur. SUPPLIES AND PUBLICATIONS-Tim Hoff. JUDGE TRAINING COMMITTEE-Dee Holland. UNIFORM RULES-Dee Holland (Director), WAYS AND MEANS-Glenn Lee (chair) & Janice Van Cura, WEBSITE-Jack Eads.

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 membership fee of \$25.00 helps support their activities. Club membership is \$50 per year. Contact: Shirley Leeson, ALAA Vice President, P.O. Box 23, Tendoy, ID, 83468, shirleyleeson@cox.net or beauholland@centurytel.net

The AFMS NEWSLETTER is published monthly except Jan-Jul-Aug by the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies. Each NFMS member <u>club</u> should have three people (usually the Pres, Secretary, and Editor) receiving the AFMS Newsletter. If they are not, or if anyone else wants to subscribe (\$4.50 per year). Contact:: AFMS Central Off., Steve Weinberger, P.O. Box 302, Glyndon, MD 21071-0302 cebar62@aim.com Make checks payable to "AFMS".

The **NORTHWEST NEWSLETTER** is the official publication of the Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies (NFMS) and is usually published ten (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**. For matters related to the Newsletter circulation (new members, address changes, etc.) contact Circulation.

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

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

ATTENTION CLUB TREASURERS

Where to send your money

<u>To NFMS Treasurer</u> for:

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

Send to: Lyle Vogelpohl, see Treasurer this page.

To NFMS Endowment Fund Treasurer for:

- 1. Donations to Endowment Fund
- 2. Memorial contributions

Make check payable to NFMS Endowment Fund, send to Endowment Fund Treasurer.

- 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
- Donations

Make check payable to ALAA

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

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: $3" \times 4" \text{ ad} = 12 \text{ inches}$

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, email or write the Newsletter Editor.

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

> > go to

http://www.amfed.org/nfms/newslet2.htm and click on the month you want to see.

COMMITTEE REPORTS



From the WESTERN SLOPE NO-FEE COALITION via Shirley Leeson, ALAA Vice President

An important decision has been handed down by Federal

Magistrate Judge Mark Aspey in Flagstaff, Arizona. He granted a motion by Sedona resident Jim Smith to have his ticket for failure to pay a Forest Service recreation fee (i.e. have a Red Rock Pass) dismissed.

Jim parked overnight at the Vultee Arch Trailhead, a dirt parking lot with no amenities accessed by a rough dirt road. He backpacked into the Coconino National Forest, camped in an area with no amenities, and returned to find a ticket on his car because it did not display a Red Rock Pass.

The Red Rock Pass fee program is one of the most notorious in the nation, requiring an access fee for 160,000 acres of federal public land, much of it dispersed undeveloped backcountry.

Jim challenged the Forest Service's authority to levy a fee at Vultee Arch Trailhead because the law governing recreation fees specifically prohibits fees for parking, general access, walking through federal land without using facilities and services, camping in dispersed undeveloped areas, or in any location that does not offer reasonable access to six specific amenities: permanent toilet, permanent trash container, picnic table, developed parking, interpretive signage, and security services. The Vultee Arch Trailhead offers none of these amenities - it only serves as a place to park and enter undeveloped backcountry, both of which are activities the law says must be free of charge. The nearest toilet is 7 miles away and the nearest trash can is 10 miles away.

Jim represented himself, and he was up against the full might of the federal government, but he won because he proved to the judge that the way the Forest Service is implementing fees in the Red Rock Pass area is not a reasonable interpretation of the law. In fact the decision describes the Forest Service's interpretation as "absurd":

"In addition to the plain language of the statute prohibiting the Forest Service from charging for parking or access or undeveloped camping, and the plain language of the statute prohibiting the Forest Service from charging an amenity fee at a site where specific amenities were not provided, Congressional intent and legislative history indicate that the Forest Service's construction of the relevant statutory section would thwart Congressional intent and result in an absurd construction of the relevant statutory scheme." [decision p. 29]

This is a very important decision, with national implications. There are almost 100 places around the country where the Forest Service has created "High Impact Recreation Areas" or HIRAs. Within a HIRA they have been claiming the authority to charge a fee for any activity at all as long as the six amenities exist somewhere in the HIRA, no matter how scattered or how far away. This interpretation has resulted in visitors being charged fees to access millions of acres of dispersed undeveloped backcountry.

Judge Aspey says nix to all that.

Among other things, this decision renders moot the signs in the Red Rock Pass area that say you have to buy a pass to park anywhere on the National Forest, and makes it unlikely that the Coconino - or any other National Forest - can ever again successfully prosecute someone for not having a pass at trailheads or dispersed camping areas.

You can read more about the case, including all the legal briefs and the judge's decision, at our website.

http://www.westernslopenofee.org/







From the Editor's Rockpile By Beth Heesacker

This is the time of year that many people set aside time to be thankful. Ancient peoples celebrated the bringing in of the harvest with dancing and eating of the bounty they had reaped. In many cultures today we do the same

thing. We in the United States have a special day set aside in our calendar at the end of November to spend time with family and friends, eating and drinking together, and giving thanks for all that we have received and enjoy.

There are all the normal things that a person is thankful for such as Faith and family but I thought that in this context I would focus on our rockhound hobby.

I know that I am thankful to be your newsletter editor, especially since this edition marks the beginning of my second year as your editor. For this I am very thankful. It is a wonderful way to spend my time and talents. I am also thankful for all the rock I have been able to collect both in the field and through purchases. I am thankful that I am still able to physically get around enough to pick up a specimen or two with Paul's help.

I am hugely thankful for all the friends I have in the rockhound hobby. They keep me alive and excited about the next field trip, the next club meeting, and the next rock show. I am thankful for the people who are willing to share their knowledge of geology, fossils and rocks. And most of all I am thankful to God for all the beauty He has hidden in the rocks and minerals for us to search out and find.

As a final note I want to apologize to David Hanna for mis-identifying him as David Lee in last month's newsletter. Sorry to both Davids.

God bless and Happy Thanksgiving to you all.

ALAA NEWS



A.L.A.A. News by Dick Pankey, President, American Lands Access Association

On July 6, 2010 I attended a Listening Session for America's Great Outdoors Initiative held at UC Davis in Davis, CA. The Blue Ribbon Coalition has published several Alert messages about the America's Great Outdoors Initiative and the Listening Sessions that told what it is and gave the background on it and I am not going to restate it here. To me there is a lot of effort and money being expended for questionable, unclear, poorly stated objectives. What is un-said is what we should concern us.

The stated reasons for this "Initiative" are to:

- •Reconnect Americans, especially children, to the out of doors.
- •Build upon State, local, private, and tribal priorities for the conservation
- •Use science-based management practices to restore and protect our lands and waters for future generations.

New focus may be needed to address Reason 1, but there are procedures, laws and regulation in place to address Reason 2 and 3. This "Initiative" is just another mechanism/tool that the conservation/ preservation extremist are trying to use to keep people off our public lands and control our use and activities.

We must be vigilant. We must be aware. We must be involved and participate in the process. This "Initiative" could affect how all public and private lands in the United States is used. This affects everyone in every state. We all need to be involved and participate. **Why should this matter to you:** There is a very real possibility this might just end up being a giant vehicle to hand the "conservation community" whatever is on its latest wish list.

Please educate yourself on the "Initiative"; inform others; and involve yourself in the process. Listening Sessions are being scheduled all around the country. Watch for them and find one in your area and attend it. Check out these web sites for more information:

Remarks by The President at America's Great Outdoors

Conference <www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/remarkspresident-americas-great-outdoors-conference> and the BRC web site
<www.sharetrails.org/>

This is the statement that I gave at the Listening Session for the America's Great Outdoors Initiative held at UC Davis. I wanted to keep it simple. It says who we are, who we represent and what we want. This statement is a start, something to build on. The purpose of making this statement at this meeting was to document our presence at the meeting and to go on record that the Americans Lands Access Assoc. was here to be part of the "process".

"I am Richard Pankey, President of the American Lands Access Association. The purpose of the American Lands Access Association is to promote and ensure the rights of amateur 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 land managers. We represent the over 52,000 members of 640 societies of the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies and the many, many millions of unaffiliated rockhounds.

We advocate for access to public lands; to keep them open and to reopen unnecessarily closed lands. We promote the principles and policies of Multiple-Use for BLM and FS managed land. We believe that conservation and recreation are compatible and desirable. We need to get past the prejudice that "use is abuse".

We believe and advocate that except for special cultural and environmental considerations that all public lands, both Federal and State should be available and useable by our citizens."

I believe that a simple statement like this is a good way to introduce ALAA to others at meetings like the Listening Session and at BLM and FS meetings. It can also serve as an introduction when writing or emailing comments about legislation and regulations.

Watch for a "Listening Session" in your area; I know that they are scheduled for Utah, Minnesota and Pennsylvania.

Via AFMS Newsletter 10/10

American Lands Access Association

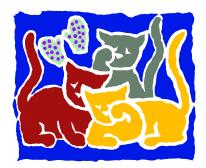
Protecting the Public Lands for the Public Please enroll me as a member of the ALAA! Annual membership fee is \$25.00 Annual membership fee for clubs is \$50.00

Annua	I membership fee for c	lubs is \$50.00
New	_Renewal Date/	
Please print Name:		
Address:	State:	Zip:
Phone: Email:		
Club Affiliations:		
Hobby Interest:		

Remit fees to: ALAA Ruth Bailey 2857 Addison Pl Santa Clara, CA 95051-1705

The A.L.A.A. is a 501(c)(4) organization. Its purpose is promoting and ensuring the right of the amateur hobby 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 land managers. Contributions to the A.L.A.A. are not deductible as a charitable contribution for Federal Tax Purposes.

BY AND FOR OUR JUNIORS



GI-NORMOUS DEN OF CUBS LOCATED! By Evan Day

It started with an innocent phone call from Tom Burchard of our Golden Spike Gem & Mineral Society. "A lady named Sue

Breeden in Layton, UT called me with a request for someone to talk to a Cub Scout group about fish fossils. As our resident amateur paleontologist, will you handle it?" Thinking of a typical pack of 5-10 kids, I said, "Sure." Since I was tentatively scheduled for other things on September 25th, I asked her if we could make it another day. "Not really, she said. We have 150 cubs coming in the morning, and another 150 in the afternoon!" Wow! Fast re-shuffle of my schedule followed. Turned out that it was their District "Fun Day" with the theme of "OLOGY." Paleontology, herpetology, entomology, etc.

My wife, Joan, and I got to Layton Commons Park early enough to set up charts, fossil preparation tools, and reference materials. As the noisy excited gang congregated at 0930, the leader took me back about 65 years as a Boy Scout when she put two fingers in the air – they caught and replicated the sign and quieted down for instructions. She asked me to lead an opening prayer, and then sent each pack to one of the "OLOGY" stations.

Mrs. Breeden had acquired enough partial fish pieces from a quarry near Kemmerer, WY for over 300 Cubs. As each pack came to our station, Joan gave each kid a fossil and then they came over to me for identification of species from my neat chart of Green River Formation fossils. Next we sat down and I explained how old they were: 60 million years, nearly as old as I am! Where they died: a sea level lake near today's equatorial Panama. But Fossil Lake has now moved to 7500 ft above sea level near Kemmerer, WY. Why they died: usually from fresh water on top of the salty lake which then dried up and killed the fish and covered them with minerals. Much like what happened to today's Great Salt Lake in the mid-1980s. The formation contains a whole ecosystem: Palm trees, bugs that ate the palms, fish that ate the bugs, crocodiles that ate the fish, etc. I even pointed out fossil "fish poop" that the boys found pretty cool.

Where bits of rock covered portions of the fish, I showed them how to prepare their specimen by chipping away tiny bits with a dental pick or electric engraver. Then we had them spray their fish with cheap hair spray to protect the fragile bones from scuffing. Joan showed them how to scrape the back of their specimen with a pick, and smell the Kerogen crude oil trapped in the oil-shale matrix. We let them view their finds with magnifying glasses, answered many intriguing questions, and then got ready for the next pack.

We finished up about 4:00pm after a fun day for them and us. As Joan and I drove the next four hours to Myton (near Roosevelt, UT), we spent the entire ride reviewing vignettes from the many interesting times with these neat kids. Who knows, maybe we ignited a spark that may lead a youngster in a career in science. Perhaps like an elementary school trip to the Golden Spike Annual Gem Show ultimately led Paul Bybee to become Doctor-Professor of Paleontology at Utah Valley University!

VIA Golden Spike 10/10





GEOLOGY CORNER, by Ron Graichen

ROCK DUST

I just received my August issue of Rock & Gem which includes an article on dangerous dust. As a 16-year old lapidarist I asked my high school health teacher if my dry sanding of

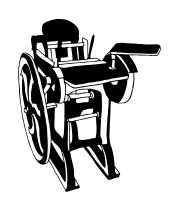
agates was a health concern for me. I was told, "I don't think so." My career in the mining industry certainly identified the hazard of silicosis and some of my fellow coworkers were so afflicted. Of course, for us, the tiny amount of dust we might produce in our shop can't be all that much of a hazard—right?

One of our members was commenting to me about a metallic taste in his mouth that he attributed to his dental crowns. I didn't have a clue about his predicament until now, after reading the magazine article. It says, "among the worst offenders (to your health) are the copper oxide minerals. My friend was working with turquoise at the time (9.8% copper oxide). Copper mineral villains we may work with are: azurite, malachite, chrysocolla and others. Additionally, "heaven-help-you if you are a smoker", the poisoning effects of the rock dust is even greater for smokers.

Serious dust control needs to be considered with our lapidary endeavors. The easiest solution is to work outside, perhaps with a fan to blow away the dust. Well, that may work for summer, but most of us have permanent setups indoors. Masks don't work because we are loath to spend big bucks on properly designed and approved devices. And if we do have proper masks, we will not keep them clean and regularly assure proper fit. Cheap masks are of very little protective value. If you are working totally wet that's probably OK, but make sure you wipe up dried fines regularly. I'm thinking about installation of a HEPA vacuum system which the magazine issue suggests.

Whether it's copper oxide dust, asbestos dust (tiger eye) or just silica dust, we need to be concerned about the health effects of our hobby.

NEWSLETTER EDITORS' NEWS



ATTENTION ALL CLUB NEWSLETTER EDITORS

NEW NFMS BULLETIN AIDS CHAIR

Peggy Blickfeldt

of the Idaho Gem Club 236 Tollgate Rd., Boise, ID 83716 (208) 345-8774 grumpies@acn.net

Please contact her to submit newsletters, adult and junior articles, adult and junior poetry, special publications and features.



Annual SCRIBE Meeting & Editors Get-To-Gether

Saturday, January 22, 2011 9:00 am to Noon Senior Citizen's Center, Moon Mountain Road

QUARTZSITE, ARIZONA

What Every Editor Needs

Hints, Tips, Handouts, CD's, Prizes
PLUS
Coffee Donuts and Friendly Faces!

Coffee, Donuts and Friendly Faces! What More Could You Ask For?

Use Commemorative Stamps

To send out your newsletters, if you can, AND

then remind your members to save them and give them to their NFMS Director or Delegate for the NFMS.

They are collected by the NFMS and sold to help pay for Cancer Research.

Every Stamp helps!

Dates for the 2011 AFMS BULLETIN CONTEST

March 1, 2011 AFMS Judges List to all BEACs



April 1, 2011

All regional entries into AFMS contest due to the respective AFMS judges

May 15, 2011

All AFMS contest entries judged and returned to AFMS Club Publications Chair by AFMS judges

July 7 – 10, 2011

FOR

EFMLS/AFMS joint Show & Convention in Syracuse,

July 10, 2011 – Breakfast with the Editors & Web Masters

AFMS Club Publications Chair – Linda Jaeger Email: ljgralg@aol.com

Lapidary Equipment Businesses For Sale

-1) Extensive rebuilt and used lapidary equipment business.

2) Name brand lapidary equipment manufacturing business.

Either or Both.

Call Jerry 503-371-7759

NEWS



Mark Your Calendars:

Future NFMS Annual Meetings

2011 – July 29-31, Southwest Washington Fairgrounds, Chehalis, WA

Tri-Federation Field Trip – Hampton Butte, OR Memorial Day weekend, May 20, 2011 (Exact dates TBD) 2012 – May 18-20, Benton County Fairgrounds, Kennewick, WA



AFMS Code of Ethics

- I will respect both private and public property and will do no collecting on privately owned land without the owner's permission.
- I will keep informed on all laws, regulations of rules governing collecting on public lands and will observe them.
- I will to the best of my ability, ascertain the boundary lines of property on which I plan to collect.
- I will use no firearms or blasting material in collecting areas.
- I will cause no willful damage to property of any kind fences, signs, buildings.
- I will leave all gates as found.
- I will build fires in designated or safe places only and will be certain they are completely extinguished before leaving the area.
- I will discard no burning material matches, cigarettes, etc.
- I will fill all excavation holes which may be dangerous to livestock.
- I will not contaminate wells, creeks or other water supply.
- I will cause no willful damage to collecting material and will take home only what I can reasonably use.
- I will practice conservation and undertake to utilize fully and well the materials I have collected and will recycle my surplus for the pleasure and benefit of others.
- I will support the rockhound project H.E.L.P. (Help Eliminate Litter Please) and will leave all collecting areas devoid of litter, regardless of how found.
- I will cooperate with field trip leaders and those in designated authority in all collecting areas.
- I will report to my club or Federation officers, Bureau of Land management or other authorities, any deposit of petrified wood or other materials on public lands which should be protected for the enjoyment of future generations for public educational and scientific purposes.
- I will appreciate and protect our heritage of natural resources.
- I will observe the "Golden Rule", will use "Good Outdoor Manners" and will at all times conduct myself in a manner which will add to the stature and Public "image" of rockhounds everywhere.



And we pray for those who have not been blessed with the abundance of the season in these hard economic times.

NFMS Member Clubs - Gem and Mineral Show Calendar

Date	Club/Show Name	Show Location	Contact Person
November 5 - 7	Chugach Gem and Mineral Society	Sheraton Anchorage Hotel	Anita Williams awilliam@alaska.net
Fri 5 – 9, Sat 10 - 5	Sponsored by the Alaska Miners	2nd Floor, 401 East 6th Avenue,	907-345 2541
Sun 11 - 4	Association	Anchorage, AK	
November 6 - 7	Maplewood Rock & Gem Club	MRGC Clubhouse	Kim Lee 425-773-2419
Sat $9 - 5$, Sun $9 - 4$		8802 196th St. SW, Edmonds, WA 98020	lleel@comcast.net
November 12-14	Northwest Opal Association and the	Washington State Fairgrounds, Meridian Street	Lyle Jorgensen 425-483-0557.
Fri 10 - 5 PM, Sat 10 - 5	Boeing Employee Mineralogical	South and 9 TH Ave SW, Puyallup, WA	mechanix@comcast.net
Sun 10 - 4	Society	,,,,,,,,, .	
	6 th annual South Sound Gem, Opal		
	and Mineral Show		
November 13-14	Skagit Rock & Gem Club	Sedro Woolley Community Center	Vi Jones 360-424-8340
Sat 9 – 5, Sun 10 - 5	Treasures of the Earth - A Gem,	720 State Street	rocks1x1vi.george@verizon.net
540 5 , 5411 10 5	Mineral, Fossil & Jewelry Show	Sedro Woolley, WA	Tooms IIII vii george e verilleimmer
November 20	Columbia-Willamette Faceters's	Monarch Hotel	Gail Lough 971-678-2862
Preview - 5:30pm	Guild	12566 SE 93rd Avenue	glough7@gmail.com
Auction - 7 - 10pm	37th Annual Gem and Jewelry	Clackamas, OR 97015	grought a ginam.com
raction / ropin	Auction	Checkamas, Oit 77015	
November 20 - 21	Kitsap Mineral & Gem Society	The President's Hall, Kitsap County Fairgrounds	Jim McClure 253-265-3011,
Sat 10 – 5	2010 Fall Festival of Gems	1200 N.W. Fairgrounds Road	pogy2@centurytel.net
Sun 10 - 5	2010 I all I estival of Gents	Bremerton, WA 98311	pogy2 @ contarytor.net
5th 10 5		Bremerton, Wil your	
February 12 - 13, 2011	Whidbey Island Gem Club	Oak Harbor Senior Center	Keith Ludemann 360-675-1837
Sat 9 - 5, Sun 9 - 4	46th Annual Sweetheart of Gems	51 SE Jerome Street, Oak Harbor, WA 98277	rock9@whidbey.net
2,250	Show		
February 26 - 27, 2011	Idaho Gem and Mineral Club	Expo Idaho, 5610 Glenwood St.,	Charlie Smith 208-628-4002
Sat 10 – 6, Sun 10 - 5		Boise, ID 83714	P.O. Box 8443 Boise, ID 83707
February 26 - 27, 2011	Everett Rock & Gem Club	Washington National Guard Armory	Fritz Mack, PO Box 1615, Everett,
Sat 10 – 6, Sun 10 - 5	58th Annual Gem & Jewelry Show	2730 Oakes Avenue, Everett, WA 98201	WA, 98206, 425-232-0809
March 12 - 13, 2011	Rock and Arrowhead Club, Annual	Klamath County Fairgrounds	Jennifer Zimmerlee
Sat 9 – 5, Sun 10 - 4	Show Featuring Petrified Wood	3531 South 6th Street, Klamath Falls, OR	jlazys@hotmail.com, 541-545 6773
			or Marv Stump 541 882 8341
March 12 - 13, 2011	60th Annual Gem Show	Twin Falls County Fairgrounds, East side of	Harold Waggoner 208 423 9668 or
Sat 9 – 6, Sun 9 - 5	Magic Valley Gem Club	Filer ID on US Highway 30, Filer, ID	Shirley Metts 208 423 4827
			rmetts@cableone.net
March 18 - 20, 2011	Timpanogos Gem & Mineral Society	Spanish Fork Fair Grounds	Keith Fackrell 801-489 7525
Fri 10 – 7, Sat 10 - 7	52nd Annual Spring Parade of Gems	475 South Main Street	PO Box 65 Provo UT 84601
Sun 10 - 5		Spanish Fork, UT	krfackrell@msn.com
			www.timprocks.weebly.com
March 26 - 27, 2011	Sweet Home Rock & Mineral Society	Sweet Home High School Activity Gym	Joe Cota 541-451-4027
Sat 10 - 6, Sun 10 - 5	63rd Annual Show, Featuring Fossils	1641 Long Street, Sweet Home, OR	PO Box 2279 Lebanon, OR
April 8 - 10, 2011	Rock Rollers Club	Spokane County Fair & Expo Center	Gerry Pfeiffer 509-924-1927
Fri 10 - 6, Sat 10 - 6	52nd Annual Gem, Jewelry, Rock and	North 604 Havana at Broadway	pfeiffer@webband.com.
Sun 10 - 5	Mineral Show	Spokane, WA	
April 9 - 10, 2011	"Golden" Family Affair - 50th	Bloedel Donovan Park	Wes Gannaway, 360-384-4209,
Sat 10 – 6, Sun 10 - 5	Anniversary, Mt. Baker Rock and Gem Show	2214 Electric Avenue, Bellingham, WA	debnwes@comcast.net
April 15 – 17, 2011	Willamette Agate Mineral Society	Polk County Fairgrounds	Kristi Edwards 541-738-6811
Fri $9 - 6$, Sat $10 - 6$	56th Annual Show	520 South Pacific Hwy West, Rickreall, OR	edwardskk@gmail.com
Sun 10 - 4:30			
April 30 & May 1, 2011	W4 C41- D1- Cl-1-	Allzi Magania Tampla 1726 10th Ava CW	Audrey Vogelpohl, 206-932-3292,
	West Seattle Rock Club	Alki Masonic Temple, 4736 40th Ave SW,	Audiey Vogelpolli, 200-932-3292,
Sat 10 – 5, Sun 10 - 5	West Seattle Rock Club	Seattle, WA	avogelpohl@comcast.net





