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

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/

Congratulations, Jim, and THANKS!

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.
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:

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 e-mailing 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
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!
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@acen.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!
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
EFMLS/AFMS joint Show & Convention in Syracuse, NY

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
503-371-7752
Mark Your Calendars:

Tri-Federation Field Trip – Hampton Butte, OR
Memorial Day weekend, May 20, 2011
(Exact dates TBD)

Future NFMS Annual Meetings

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

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