



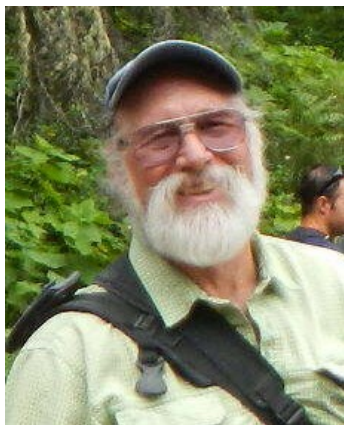
NORTHWEST NEWSLETTER



TIME SENSITIVE MATERIAL

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

VOLUME 56, NO. 10 Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies NOVEMBER 2016



Jim Bosley President

Communication in the Social Media Age

The organizations of the NFMS and your local gem and mineral societies are challenged with the changing demographics in our society. How do we effectively communicate with the younger population, such as the Generations X, Y, and Z? The paradigm for the dissemination of society information we have used for many years are meetings, newsletters and recently emails and a web page. Flyers, TV, radio and newspapers are used for gem and mineral shows. If we, as gem and mineral societies want to grow - attracting and retaining new and younger members - we need to understand how they think and communicate. We need to adopt new methods of communication to reach them and keep them interested in the society and its activities. I want

you to think about how your children and grandchildren access information and communicate among their friends.

I have used my family as an example to demonstrate the differences in how generation access information, news and communicate. My mother is 86 (Silent Generation) and the use of a computer or smart phone does not interest her, whereas my 3 year old grandson (Generation A) can maneuver around the internet on a computer or smart phone to access games and stories of his choice. My mother gets her news from the newspaper or TV and uses the phone for communication. My daughter is 39 (Generation X) and prefers text messaging and Facebook as her main methods of communication, instead of emails. She uses text messaging as she does not always have the time with a busy family for a phone conversation. She doesn't take a newspaper and gets her news and information by searching the internet. I am 65 (Baby Boomer) and prefer emails, but I do use text messaging and Facebook to keep up-to-date on what my children, grandchildren and friends are up to. I do not take the newspaper, don't watch the local TV station and get my news and information from the internet and radio. My daughter and family recently moved to New Zealand and we use FaceTime to visit with the grandchildren.

We need to start defining how we can use social media to improve our communication with our younger members and the public. We need to understand that we are marketing our club and its activities, competing with all the other activities in our communities. We need to convince our members and public that what we offer is worth their time. We need to consider them a consumer and be sure we are delivering a worthwhile product and service. We need to follow up with members that have dropped out, so that we can identify and address why it occurred.

In order, to understand the challenges and opportunities faced by gem and mineral societies in communicating with Generations X, Y, and Z we consider what social media is and how it is utilized by each of the younger generations.

Social media are web-based and mobile technologies that allow individuals and organizations to view, create and share information, ideas, and other forms of expression via virtual communities and networks, The gem and mineral societies need to create online information to inform younger members of upcoming meetings and activities. Social media provides the opportunity for the society to provide education and instructional material to their members. This will attract the attention of the readers and encourage them be a part of us. This provides an inexpensive method to pass information to your member and to the public in general.

Some examples of social media that could benefit you society are the following:

Facebook is a free social networking website that allows registered users to create profiles, upload photos and video, send messages and keep in touch with friends, family and colleagues.

Twitter is a free microblogging service that allows registered members to broadcast short posts called tweets. Twitter members can broadcast tweets and follow other users' tweets by using multiple platforms and devices. Twitter allows other people to keep up with important events; stay connected with their peers, and can contribute in various ways throughout social media.

YouTube is a frequently used social media tool in the classroom. Students can watch videos, answer questions, and discuss content. Additionally, students can create videos to share with others.

Blogs are a regularly updated website or web page, typically one run by an individual or small group that is written in an informal or conversational style.

I know this is a tall order, but we need to think like 20 year olds if we want to attract them into our society. This will require us in addition to email and a web page to create relational networks that offer an opportunity to connect online with our member and public on a personal level. These days, it is necessary for most organizations to have a Facebook Page or a Twitter account, to reach out online to their audience and answer any questions that may arise. We hear all the time on TV or the radio, "Like us on Facebook or Twitter"

We need to clearly define our brand, the product, service, or concept that distinguished us from other competing organizations or activities. The brand can be easily communicated and marketed. What is it that distinguishes your society? Why should I want to join you society and spend my time and money with you? Is your logo readily recognized in your community? How do you "get the word out" when your society has an event, activity or meeting?

Communications today are very different than it was a decade or two ago when access to data was limited to newsprint, radio and TV. The Internet has altered not only how we get information but also how we express ourselves. Digital technology is re-wiring our brains and reshaping how we communicate. As organizations with aging members it is incumbent on us to look to future and it is clear that we need to use social media to inform, teach, recruit and retain new and younger members. I encourage you to make social media a part of your society's information and education plans.

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NEWSLETTER DEADLINE:

**No Newsletter in December
January Deadline: January 15th**

**For deadlines and to submit articles
contact
Beth Heesacker
Email: nfmseditor@coho.net**

**NFMS Website:
www.amfed.org/nfms**

**To see this newsletter in living color and
to see it usually by the first of the month
go to
[http://www.amfed.org/nfms/
newsletters.asp](http://www.amfed.org/nfms/newsletters.asp) and click on the month
you want to see.**

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WEBSITE CONTEST: Cheri George, lizardwoman3@yahoo.com

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ENDOWMENT FUND- Judi Allison

EDITORS HALL OF FAME-OPEN

NEWSLETTER EDITOR-Beth Heesacker

NFMS CLUB BULLETIN AIDS- OPEN

ROCKHOUND OF THE YEAR-Evelyn Cataldo (chair) & Bev Bockman

CONSERVATION & LEGISLATION-Darlene Posthuma

ALL AMERICAN AWARD- Sean Hietpas

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS-OPEN

JUNIORS PROGRAM-Audrey Vogelpohl

PROGRAM COMPETITION-Darrell Watkins

PUBLIC RELATIONS-OPEN

SAFETY-Chuck Sonner

SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION-Dee Holland (chair) & Evelyn Cataldo

SUPPLIES AND PUBLICATIONS-Tim Hoff

JUDGE TRAINING COMMITTEE-Dee Holland

UNIFORM RULES-Dee Holland

WAYS AND MEANS-Lauren Williams (chair) & Janice Van Cura

WEBSITE-Brad Larson

WEBSITE CONTEST – Cheri George

THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW

The **AMERICAN LANDS ACCESS ASSOCIATION (ALAA)** is a 501(c)(4) organization. Its purpose is to promote and ensure the right of amateur hobby fossil and mineral collecting, recreational prospecting and mining, and the use of public and private lands for educational and recreational purposes; and to carry the voice of all amateur collectors and hobbyists to our elected officials, government regulators and public lands managers. Your annual individual/couple membership fee is \$25 which helps support their activities. Club membership is \$50 per year. Send to Treasurer, P.O. Box 54398, San Jose, CA 95154. Make checks payable to: American Lands Access Assn. Applications can be downloaded at: www.amlands.org on the left side of the page. For more information contact: Doug True, Billings Gem & Mineral Club, 2622 Broadwater, Billings, MT 59102, 406.670.0506, dtruefossils12@yahoo.com

The **AFMS NEWSLETTER** is published monthly except Jan-Jul-Aug by the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies. Each NFMS member club should have three people (usually the Pres, Secretary, and Editor) receiving the AFMS Newsletter. If they are not, or if anyone else wants to subscribe (\$4.50 per year). Contact: AFMS Central Off., Steve Weinberger, P.O. Box 302, Glyndon, MD 21071-0302 ce-bar62@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 (9) times per year. This publication is brought to you through your club membership in the 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 Oregon Lithoprint in McMinnville, Oregon.

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

To NFMS Treasurer for:

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

Send to: Lyle 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, 8810 37th Ave SW, Seattle, WA 98126-3617

To NFMS Scholarship Chairperson for:

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

Make check payable to AFMS Scholarship Fund.

Send to: Evelyn Cataldo (see Scholarship this page).

To AFMS Endowment Fund for:

1. Donations to AFMS Endowment
2. Memorials

Send to: See AFMS Newsletter

To ALAA Treasurer for:

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

NFMS WEB SITE: www.amfed.org/nfms

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**

See the NFMS on Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/NFMS1>
(for the desktop/laptop/tablets)

<https://m.facebook.com/groups/NFMS1>
(for mobile devices like phones)





Keith Fackrell

1st Vice President

I have been hearing a lot of concern about going to your favorite Rockhounding area and finding that it has been closed and/or covered up. One of these areas in the Milford, Utah area has been visited by many of us. It has been a good place to pick up Picasso Marble. This place was recently visited by some of our Club Members and Guess What! . . . they found the whole area, where it used to be, was totally covered and signs painted on Rocks that said "Keep Out!"

After hearing about this and not knowing for sure what was happening, Jerrie and I went to the Bureau of Land Management Field Office in Fillmore, Utah and talked to Todd Leeds, Geologist for BLM. Mr. Leeds answered questions and was very informative about Mining Claims in the Fillmore area. He stated, when an Individual or Company files for a claim and are going to dig up the area for an open Pit Operation or disturb the Claim area in any way, they must first Post a Bond which is a guarantee to clean up the site when they cease operation. If the Mining Company or individual does not take care of the area, then the BLM or Forest Service collects on the bond and takes care of Reclamation of the area at the company or individuals expense. This is what happened at the Picasso Marble area.

Now, another person or company has filed a claim on this area and are now mining it or will be in the near future. There are not any uniform MARKERS placed around their claim.

Markers can be anything such as white PVC Pipe, or T Post, or Rock Monuments, whatever they want to use. However at one of the markers, there should be, in a container, a document stating claim description, name of the Mining Company or the individual's name, etc. Mr. Leeds stated that when a claim is no longer active and has been abandoned, after the BLM takes care of the area and has it ready to reopen, rockhounds may then gather rocks in that area and anyone has the opportunity to file a claim on this or other open mining areas. I am sorry to say, fellow Rockhounds, that the Picasso Marble mine is, at the present time closed to rock collecting.

The Dugway Geode Bed is open to Hobby gathering.

Mr. Leeds stated that the published rules are still in effect. If we want to make sure we are doing the correct procedures while enjoying our trips, we need to follow the rules. BLM has published a flyer that tells where Rockhounding is legitimate and what and how much may be collected. They also mention that Fossil collecting has its own set of rules. These and other BLM rules can be found online by typing in "Rockhounding on Public lands in Utah" or by visiting a BLM Utah State Office and picking up a flyer on the subject.

Rockhounding is a legitimate and enjoyable recreational pursuit on nearly all of the 22 million acres of public land in Utah, so lets follow the rules and keep on rockin!



Ronna Watkins

2nd Vice President

Greetings! Fall is here in all its splendor. In our part of the northwest apple harvest is done and the orchard trees are golden, maroon, and amber. By the time you get this issue, the wind will have blown it all down and given us lots of chores buttoning down the house for the winter to come.

It is hard to see the rock hunting season here come to an end. Our favorite crystal hunting site is already getting snow and the petrified wood sight is getting the very cold wind that makes digging in mean a hole to stay down in. Knowing that soon the hoarfrost will soon glisten in the orchards gets us thinking about heat for the shop and fire safety.

The obvious being, keeping heat lamps and space heaters a safe distance from anything that can burn and making sure the heaters are on a sturdy surface and cannot fall over. But, we will also do the not so obvious and check our electrical equipment to ensure all wiring is free from damage and that extension cords are being used safely. As part of our regular routine, we will make sure all light bulbs have covers to protect them from dust and that the dust and cobwebs around electrical outlets and lights are knocked down. We will conscientiously keep oily rags in a closed metal container. This is also the perfect time to make sure we have a working smoke detector and fire extinguisher. So, as we all hunker down inside for the winter, safely, let's not forget to plan to make something to donate to our clubs for the raffle or auction...and let the fun begin!

One more thing before I close, don't stay all cooped up in your shop this winter, there are plenty of good rock shows to go to. I hope I will see you at some. I love running into friends at shows!

Happy Holidays and the Best to You and Your Family in this Season of Thanksgiving and Giving.



We Resolve - A little about Resolutions

By Judi Allison

If you are involved at all in the workings of the Federation, you understand that we function through the Articles of Incorporation, By-Laws and Operating Procedures set forth when the Federation was first formed. As times change there are sometimes amendments or changes that may be warranted for the continued effectiveness of our Federation. This might be accomplished by bringing forth a resolution to change, amend or remove a by-law. If there is something your society feels needs to be updated or changed, a resolution might be what you wish to submit.

The proper way to go about submitting a resolution is to first agree as a society as to what you want to amend. It is then submitted to the NFMS Secretary who will pass it on to the Resolution Committee for review to give "such counsel and advise to cover, but not be restricted to, proper wording, coverage and placement of the changes desired." (NFMS Operation Procedures, Resolutions)

The member society can then revise and finalize the proposal for the Secretary to give notice to each of the member Societies at least three months in advance of the Annual Meeting. Since our Meeting falls on May 19th, 2017, the finalized resolution would have to be out to each society no later than February 19th, 2017. The deadline for articles in the Newsletter in January is the 15th. So any resolutions need to be sent to the Secretary, forwarded to the Resolutions Chair, and back to the society and/or to the Secretary so that it can be submitted to the Newsletter by the January deadline of the 15th. The February edition would be less than the 90 days required.

Articles of Incorporation, By-Laws and Operation Procedures housed in the back of every NFMS Directory will give you more specific guidelines. So, if your society has any intentions of making any submissions, now is the time to act.

NFMS Junior Achievement Award by Audrey Vogelpohl, NFMS Juniors Chair

It is time for Junior Rockhounds to share their accomplishments from the past 2 years (2015 and 2016); the Northwest Federation wants to honor you. You must be paid up and listed as a member of your Club and the NFMS.

Age Group 1: ages up to 7 years

Age Group 3: ages 12 through 15

Age Group 2: ages 8 through 11

Age Group 4: ages 16 through 18.

Your age as of December 31, 2016 determines the age category. If you won last year at Albany, Oregon you will need to wait until 2018 to enter again UNLESS you move up to the next age category.

Your Resume and Application together require a postmark by March 1, 2017. 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 Hamilton, Montana on May 19, 2017.

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 (2015 and 2016), 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, 2017, your summary (resume/outline), and completed APPLICATION to the NFMS Junior Committee Chair, Audrey Vogelpohl, 8810 - 37th Ave SW, Seattle, WA 98126

Guideline for Junior Achievement Award

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)

Applicant Name _____

Your Date of Birth _____ Age _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone # _____

and Email _____

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, 2017 --Thank You!)

NFMS/AFMS 2016 Show Final Report

Janice Van Cura, Show Chair.

I want to thank everyone who helped with the show in July. We had a great group of dealers, and the exhibits were fantastic. We had about 3000 people attend the show, including children. We were able to show rockhounds from outside the area just how great it is to be a rockhound in the Northwest. The opportunities we have to collect here are wonderful. We also opened the eye of many people that were not aware of what rockhounding is all about in the Northwest. Hopefully some of these people will be new rockhounds.

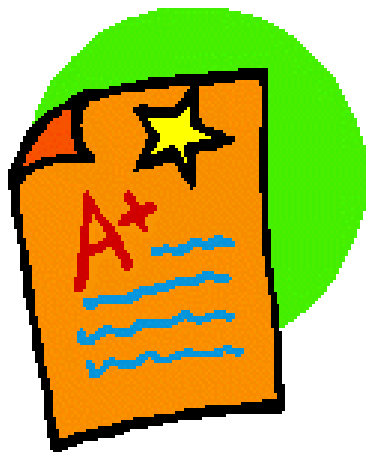
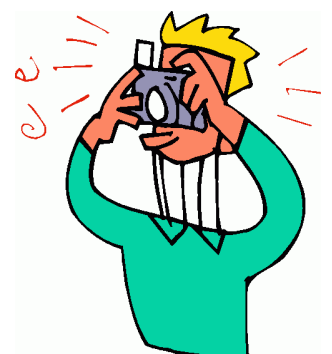
The lectures were well attended as were the various meetings and other events. It was also a financial success with over \$4,650 going to the Northwest Federation's coffers. Not including the oral auction proceeds.

From what I heard everyone who attended had a good time. Thank you all for coming and helping. Without all of you the show would not have been the success it was. And a special thank you to Doug True for coordinating the federation field trips right after the show. This helped bring some of the out of town attendees.

Greetings Rockhounds from John Rockhound Martin

Below is the hyperlink to 285 pictures from the 2016 NFMS/AFMS Convention and Show. The pictures maybe copied, downloaded (one or All) or just viewed. I will probably leave them up for about 6 months. The pictures are just as they came out of the cameras and are full size and resolution. Use them however you want.

<http://img.gg/tw39DfV> Albany 2016





NFMS Dues are DUE !!!

By Lyle Vogelpohl, Treasurer

NFMS dues need to be sent to me by January 10, 2017, along with the other requested information. Your club will receive a packet of information and forms by the first part of November 2016. 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 2016 ...** \$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 2017.) The NFMS pays the AFMS \$.75 for each adult and junior member from these amounts.

This instruction sheet also contains order information about the 2017 NFMS Directory. The NFMS Directory includes NFMS Officer and Committee information, all society club and member information, 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 2017 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.



Fourth Edition of our AFMS/FRA Badge Manual Now Posted!

By Jim Brace-Thompson, Juniors Program Chair

I was appointed CFMS Juniors Activities Chair in 1998 and then AFMS Juniors Program Chair in 2003. I immediately set to work developing a nation-wide Badge Program modeled after the Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts. Month-by-month in the AFMS Newsletter, I outlined ideas for badges, and—with approval from AFMS officers and generous support of the AFMS Endowment Fund, which I cannot thank enough—we began offering our AFMS Future Rockhounds of America Badge Program entirely free to affiliated clubs and societies nationwide in 2004.

At the time I indicated if the program proved successful, my goal was to update and expand it every 4 years. With well over 11,000 badges now awarded to kids nationwide, I'm happy to report we have proven successful! 558 kids have been awarded the Rockhound badge by earning at least 6 of the activity badges, and 26 kids have earned coveted Rock Star status by having earned each and every badge in the program. Their names are recorded on our AFMS Kids Corner website in Honor Rolls recognizing their achievements. (My sincere thanks to Marty Hart for his always helpful, cheerful, unflinching and consistent assistance with the AFMS website these many years.)

The first edition of my Badge Manual offered 9 badges and 53 activities. Staying true to plan, I've updated and expanded it in 2008 and 2012 (with a minor update in 2010), and I'm now pleased to report I have sent the 2016 edition to Marty to post on the AFMS website. This 4th Edition offers 20 badges and 130 activities. As with past editions, many new activities were suggested by the junior leaders of local clubs. In fact, one of the badges introduced in our 3rd Edition was designed by a junior member, Rock Star Erica Nathan of Florida. Similarly, in our 4th Edition another junior member—Rock Star Jem Burch of California—suggested an "Elements" activity you'll now find as part of our Rocks & Minerals badge.

For the 4th Edition, I issued requests for new badge ideas via the AFMS and CFMS newsletters, and I thank the 22 people who responded with suggestions. There were no overwhelming calls to add whole new badges. Some suggested adding Elements, Prospecting, and Beading badges, but because of manufacturing expenses a whole new badge incurs, I've opted instead to include these ideas as new activities within the existing badges for Rocks & Minerals, Gold Panning & Prospecting, and Lapidary Arts. For those already familiar with the program, here are examples of changes you'll find:

- The Manual has grown from 223 pages to 255, with 86 pages revised or entirely new.
- Over a dozen new activities have been added within our existing badges.
- Many previously existing activities have been augmented and/or enhanced with new activities.
- All website links have been checked to ensure viability and any that have evaporated have been replaced, and many new links have been added.
- I've added many new books as recommended resources.
- New tables have been added and existing tables have been expanded.

Looking toward our 5th Edition for 2020, I'm hoping to expand the visual nature of our manual along with links to such things as YouTube videos to better appeal to a more technologically sophisticated cohort of junior members who could probably teach me a thing or two about my smart phone, which increasingly proves smarter than its Baby Boomer owner. If you have suggestions for enhancing visual appeal and/or links to video or other multimedia elements, I welcome hearing from you! Meanwhile, my sincere thanks to all who responded to my calls for ideas to add to our 4th Edition. I've incorporated every suggestion I've received. Most of all, I wish to thank local youth leaders who have embraced the program, devoted time and effort, and who found creative ways to implement it so that their juniors members have been encouraged not only to learn about our hobby and passion, but also to have fun!

And the Winners are . . .

By Cheri George, NFMS Website Contest Chairman

Thanks to all of the Webmasters who entered their club Websites in this years contest. I am sorry that you all could not have been winners. But, that's the way the apple falls from the tree I guess. Congratulations to you all. Remember, if you didn't win first place in AFMS, you are all eligible to enter again next year. hopefully some other webmasters may get the itch again also. Here are our finishers:

- 1st- Yakima Rock & Mineral Club
- 2nd- Owyhee Gem & Mineral Society
- 3rd- Tualatin Valley Gem Club
- 4th- Hatrockhounds Gem & Mineral Society

Thank you so very much!!"





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12/3, Sat. 10 6pm
12/4, Sun. 11-6pm

Rock, Gems, Shell, Wood, Metal & More
Nature's One of a Kind Gifts
"Spin & Win" Prize Each Time

Info: Keith/Carolyn 541-267-5008



From the Editor's Rockpile

By Beth Heesacker

The holiday season is fast approaching. I hope that you are finishing up your lapidary Christmas gifts. Not much time left. :-) Just remember a gift from the heart is what is really appreciated. It does not have to be expensive, large, flashy, etc. Just made and given with love.

Our family makes a special effort to get together around the holidays. It is hard to include our one son who lives in Italy but we were blessed by his visit for a month earlier this year with one of our grandsons. He plans to be here in June with the other one for an extended visit. We will make contact over the internet with him and his family during the holidays to make sure he is included in our celebrations.

This next year promises to be a great one. We plan on going to Quartzsite, the Tucson show, two mineral shows on the east coast, one in California and the AFMS show in California. And that is just the first part of the year. :-) We want to be sure to get as much traveling in while we are still young enough to move around and enjoy it. Hope to see some of you during our travels.

Try not to eat too much and if you do, make sure that you get out and exercise to work it off. Get out and exercise anyway. It is good for the body and the mind !!!

Rockhounds of the Year



Hatrockhounds Gem and Mineral Society of Hermiston, Oregon present **Margaret and Randy Free** as our "Rockhounds of the Year 2016". Margaret not only willingly and efficiently took on the job of Treasurer, but is also at the ready with any volunteerism. Her "continental" breakfast for our dealers and show workers has all thoroughly spoiled with biscuits and gravy or pancakes, eggs and breakfast meats. Randy has become our resident BINGO caller for our annual Rock BINGO game. He is always at the ready to help fellow rockhounds and share his knowledge. Thanks, Margaret and Randy for all you do!

EXCITING NEWS....

For those of you who have already thought about attending the AFMS/CFMS National Show & Convention June 9 – 11, 2017, here's an additional event you may want to considering attending....

There will be a **JUDGES TRAINING SEMINAR**, Tuesday, June 7 & Wednesday, June 8, 2017. It will be conducted by none other than **JAY BOWMAN**, Teacher/Judge extraordinaire. This is open to judges and exhibitors from all over the seven regions, and who wish to brush up on their judging skills and exhibitors who would like to begin learning about judging.

Marion Roberts, AFMS Uniform Rules Chair, 2017 will be in charge, with his elves making things happen. We already have a contract with a local family-owned motel in the heart of Ventura and close to the fairgrounds hosting the show. We can accommodate, on a first come first served basis, a maximum of 50 participants for this event. The motel price is far below other hotel/motels in the area and has a huge parking lot and an on-premises restaurant.

More in the February 2017 issue of the AFMS Newsletter, along with an application to fill out and return to our registrar.



It is never too Early to Mark Your Calendars!

NFMS Show

May 19-21, 2017



ADVANCE HOTEL REGISTRATION: Townhouse Inn, only 30 rooms available due to another convention in town. Please call as soon as possible. When making reservations, please tell the front desk clerk the Group Block Name: "BR Gem & Mineral Show" to insure the group rate of; \$ 79.99 Plus Tax.

Arrival Date: May 17th 2017 - May 22nd 2017. Guests can reserve dates before and after the date indicated. Check in is after 2:00 p.m. and Check out is 11:00 a.m. You will be responsible for your own payment and the room must be reserved with a credit card. **The last day or (cut-off date) to make reservations in the group block is January 1st, 2017**

TOWNHOUSE INN OF HAMILTON
1113 North First Street
Hamilton, Montana 59840
Toll Free Line: (800) 442-4667
Phone Number: (406) 363-6600
Fax Number (406) 363-564

MOTEL 6 with 32 rooms available at \$66 per night with kids free and pets allowed. It is a nice motel. Please contact 406-363-2142 for reservations and payment.

Camping at Fairgrounds with Electric only \$15.00 per day. Contact Chris at 363-3411 for reservations and Payment, OR Black Rabbit RV Park at 363-3744 OR Anglers Roost at 363-1268 for reservations and Payment.

* For those who like to really plan early Registration and Display Case forms can be found in this newsletter and at ravalligemandmineralclub.org

If you have any questions at all, please contact: Faith Farley at 406-961-3347 or Steve Vieth at 406-381-7597.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Please submit all membership and address changes to Tom Burchard, Circulation Chair, and to Carol Willey, Directory Chair.

Their contact information can be found on the second page of this newsletter.

Please submit all show information (including admission charge) to Pat Lambert, Show Coordinator.

Her information can also be found on the second page of this newsletter.

Thank you.

NFMS Clubs' Show Schedule

December 10 & 11 Sat – 9 – 6 Sun – 10 – 6	Maplewood Rock and Gem Club	Maplewood Rock and Gem Clubhouse, 8802 196 th ST SW, Edmonds WA	Mary Ann Collins, collma1@comcast.net 206 714 3922
Feb. 11 & 12 Sat – 9 – 5 Sun - 9 – 4	Whidbey Island Gem Club	Oak Harbor Senior Center 51 SE Jerome Oak Harbor WA	Keith Ludemann 360 675 1837 rock9@whidbey.net
Feb. 24, 25, & 26 Fri – 9:00 – 5:00 Sat – 9:00 – 5:00 Sun – 9:00 – 5:00	Oregon Agate and Mineral Society	OMSI (Oregon Museum of Science and Industry) 1945 SE Water Avenue Portland OR	Sonia Watt justonemorerock@yahoo.com 2372 SE 46 th Avenue, Portland OR 97215
March 4 & 5 Sat – 10 - 6 Sun – 10 - 5.	Owyhee Gem & Mineral Society	O'Conner Field House 2200 Blaine Caldwell, Idaho	Darell Ehlers 208-674-1213 ddehlers@fmtc.com
March 11 & 12 Sat – 10 – 5 Sun – 10 – 4	Magic Valley Gem Club	Twin Falls County Fairgrounds, 215 Fair Avenue, File, ID	Shirley or Rocky Metts, 208 423 4827 rmetts@magicvalleygemclub.org
March 11 & 12 Sat – 9 – 6 Sun – 9 – 5	NW Montana Rock-Chucks	Northwest Montana Frgrnds, 265 North Meridian Road, Kalispell MT	Lloyd Fager oldgrayelf@sbcglobal.net 608 436 0780
March 17 & 18 Fri – 8:30 – 6 Sat – 9 – 5	Panorama Gem and Mineral Club	Colville Fairground, Colville Ag and Trade Center, 317 West Astor Colville WA	Bill Allen 509 936 2446 sagostore2@charter.net
March 18 & 19 Sat – 9 – 6 Sun – 10 – 5	Hellgate Mineral Society	Hilton Garden Inn 3720 North Reserve St. Missoula MT	Bob Riggs 406 543 3667 robert.riggs3@gmail.com
March 25 & 26 Sat – 10 – 6 Sun – 10 – 5	Mt. Baker Rock and Gem Club	Bloedel Donovan Community Center 2214 Electric Avenue Bellingham WA	Lori Nettles, 360 961 7873 lorinhardy@yahoo.com Club website – www.mtbakerrockclub.org
March 24 - 26 Fri – 10 – 6 Sat – 10 – 6 Sun 10 – 4	Rock Rollers Club of Spokane WA	Spokane County Fair & Expo Center, N.604 Havana at Broadway Spokane WA	Vonnie Dillon, 509 951 8173 showchair@rockrollers.org
April 1 & 2 Sat – 10 – 6 Sun – 10 – 5	Sweet Home Rock and Mineral Society	Sweet Home High School Gym 1641 Long Street Sweet Home OR	– Joe Cota 541 451 2740 or Ed Anderson 541 944 2124 ela4rocks@gmail.com PO Box 2279 Lebanon OR 97355
April 7, 8, & 9 Fri – 9-6 Sat – 10 – 6 Sun – 10 – 4	Golden Spike Gem and Mineral Society	Golden Spike Event Center Weber County Fairgrounds 1000 N 1200 W Ogden UT 88440	Deborah Blake 385 205 9187 gemshow@goldenspikegem.org
April 8 – 9 Sat – 9 – 6 Sun – 10 – 6	Maplewood Rock and Gem Club	Maplewood Rock and Gem Clubhouse, 8802 196 th ST SW, Edmonds WA	Mary Ann Collins, 206 714 3922 collma1@comcast.net
April 22 & 23 Sat – 10 – 6 Sun – 10 – 4	Yakima Rock and Mineral Club	Central Washington State Fair Grounds Modern Living Building 1301 South Fair Avenue Yakima WA 98901	Marti Sondgeroth, 2013 S 41st Ave., Yakima, WA 98903, Phone evenings 509-248-6401 leave a message, Cell daytime 509-910-3484, marthams@q.com
April 22 & 23 Sat – 10 – 5 Sun – 10 – 4	Lakeside Gem and Mineral Club	Benton County Fairgrounds 1500 South Oak Kennewick WA	Mary Lou Omstead, 509 783 2798 PO Box 6652 Kennewick WA 99336
April 22 & 23 Sat – 10 – 6 Sun – 10 – 5	Idaho Falls Gem and Mineral Society	Idaho Falls Recreation Center, Corner of Memorial Drive and B Street, Idaho Falls, ID	Nicole Strong 208 768 7953 nicolek_hansen@hotmail.com or Gerry Gibeault 208 589 0736 PO Box 2362 Idaho Falls ID 83403
April 28- 30 Fri – 10 – 5 Sat – 10 – 5 Sun – 10 – 4	Mt Hood Rock Club	Jackson Armory 6255 NE Cornfoot Road Portland OR 97218	Wayne King mhrcdc@gmail.com 503 284 7195 www.mthoodrockclub.com
April 29 & 30 Sat – 10 – 5 Sun – 10 – 5	West Seattle Rock Club	Alki Masonic Temple 4736 40 th Avenue SW Seattle WA	Diane Christensen diane@purns.org 206 582 2267 www.westseattlerockclub.org
May 6 & 7 Sat – 10 – 6 Sun – 10 – 5	Everett Rock and Gem Club	Everett Community College Walt Price Student Fitness Center, 2206 Tower Street Everett WA	Fritz Mack 425 232 0809 PO Box 1615 Everett WA 98206 Website: www.everettrockclub.com
May 6 & 7 Sat – 9 – 5 Sun – 10 – 4	Umpqua Gem & Mineral Club	Douglas County Fairgrounds, I-5 Exit 123 Roseburg OR	Sue Woodman 541 672 3486 rocksandhorses3@gmail.com
May 6 & 7 Sat – 10 – 5 Sun – 10 – 4	Billings Gem and Mineral Club	Al Bedoo Shrine Auditorium 1125 Broadwater Avenue Billings MT	Doug True dtruefossils12@yahoo.com 406 670 0506
May 13 & 14 Sat – 10 – 5 Sun – 10 – 4	Hatrockhounds Gem and Mineral Society	Hermiston Conference Center, 415 Highway 395 South, Hermiston OR	Mike Filarski, 541 571 2593 stonemorlin1@netscape.net
May 19 - 21 2017 NFMS Show Fri, Sat – 10 – 6 Sun – 10 – 4	Bitterroot Gem and Mineral Society	First Interstate Center Ravalli County Fairgrounds 100 Old Corvallis Road Hamilton MT	Steve Vieth, 406 381 7597 viethsteve88@gmail.com

