# NORTHWEST NEWSLETTER

**VOLUME 54, NO. 2 Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies DEC 2013/JAN 2014** 



# **Don Innes**

The trip to Jacksonville, Florida was my first American Federation Meeting. My flight was at night, so I got into Jacksonville at 1am in the morning. I got up just in time for the Business meeting at the Marriott Hotel. The Jacksonville Gem Show was on at the same time as the meetings and the theme was Meteorites. I have never seen so many on display and for sale.

NASA had some moon rocks and displays of meteorites as well as many symposiums. They had films of their people at the North Pole searching for meteorites. They told us it is much easier to find them in the snow.

The Jacksonville club had a bar-b-que for us at a beach park about 10 miles from the Marriott. Their plan called for Telescopes to see the stars but it was cloudy so we had a great bar-b-que and then the star show was cancelled. We found later the clouds disappeared. (Heck mildly put) They showed pictures the next day.

Dee Holland and his judges recruited Kathy Moedl to be their secretary. The cases were very well set up with some great specimens.

Shirley Leeson President of ALAA in her meeting gave new information on land Access with BLM, Forestry and other Restrictions and Rules. See <a href="mailto:president@amlands.org">president@amlands.org</a> for more info.

The business meeting was so well organized it was over before lunch time. Of course there were some committee meetings in the afternoon. In the ALAA with Shirley Leeson there were items for us to take home to our clubs. We should all belong to ALAA, as clubs and as individuals. Individual membership is \$50.00 per year and Club membership is \$25.00 per year. They are the voice of all collectors.

I would like all committee Officers to remain in their current positions if possible for this year. If any of you cannot please let me know. My e-mail doninnes.innes20@gmail.com or my phone is 541-396-5722. I am available at most times of day or evenings.

## WEBSITE APPLICATIONS ARE BEING ACCEPTED AT THIS TIMEII

Membership applications are no longer mandatory on your club's Website; they are nice but Not Mandatory! Yay!!

ALSO, CLOSING date For accepting applications For the NFMs is February 28th, 2014.

Enter your Website; We need more than three this time!! IF you have not entered for one year you can enter this year.

> Send applications to CHERI GEORGE, LizardWoMan3@yaHoo.com THANK YOU!



# **President**



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#### **NEWSLETTER DEADLINE:**

December deadline: November 15

Contact **Beth Heesacker** Email: nfmseditor@coho.net

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

#### **NFMS EXECUTIVE OFFICERS 2012-2013**

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2<sup>ND</sup> VICE PRESIDENT:Hidemi Kira, Clackamette Mineral and Gem Club, 15455 S. Highland Rd., Oregon City, OR 97045, htkira@spiritone.com

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#### NFMS STANDING COMMITTEES

BUDGET: Warren Rood, 1st Vice President (see above)
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SLIDE/ VIDEO LIBRARIAN: OPEN

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SCHOLARSHIP: Evelyn Cataldo, Lakeside Gem and Mineral Club, 99509 Brandon, Kennewick, WA, 99338, (509) 628-0170, cataldoevelyn@yahoo.com

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SHOW COORDINATOR: Pat Lambert, Lakeside Gem & Mineral Club, 26106 S. Oak, Kennewick, WA 99337, palambert@charter.net

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#### NFMS SPECIAL COMMITTEES

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

ROCKHOUND OF THE YEAR: OPEN

WEBSITE CONTEST: Cheri George

AFMS COMMITTEES (NFMS Representatives)

VP and AFMS Field Trip chair -Doug True, ENDOWMENT FUND- Chris Blickfeldt, EDITORS HALL OF FAME-Open, NEWSLETTER EDITOR-Beth Heesacker, NFMS CLUB BULLETIN AIDS-Open, ROCKHOUND OF THE YEAR-Evelyn Cataldo (chair) & Viola Jones, CONSERVATION & LEGISLATION-Darlene Posthuma, EDUCATION-ALL AMERICAN AWARD- Jim & Libby Spencer, INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS-Bill and Janet Smith, JUNIORS PROGRAM-Audrey Vogelpohl, PROGRAM COMPETITION-Tim & Sharon DeGrie, 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-Larry Hulstrom, 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 membership fee of \$25.00 helps support their activities. Club membership is \$50 per year. Send dues to: Colleen McGann, ALAA Membership Chair; P.O. Box 54398, San Jose, CA 95154 or contact: membership@amlands.org For more information contact: Shirley Leeson, ALAA President, P.O. Box 23, Tendoy, ID, 83468 president@amlands.org.

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 <u>cebar62@aim.com</u> 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

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.

To NFMS Scholarship Chairperson for:

- 1. Donations to AFMS Scholarship Fund
- 2. Memorial contributions to AFMS Scholarship Make check payable to <u>AFMS Scholarship Fund.</u>

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
- 2. Donations

Make check payable to ALAA

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

NFMS WEB SITE: www.amfed.org/nfms
NFMS NEWSLETTER AND WEBSITE

# NFMS NEWSLETTER AND WEBSITE ADVERTISEMENT Members, Non-members, clubs, etc. can advertise in the

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.

<u>Do not send ads on colored paper</u> 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** 

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

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

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#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**



# Hidemi Kira 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President

First of all, it was very sad news that our Secretary, Joan Day has passed away. It is a huge loss for the NFMS and we will miss her a lot.

Our Clackamette Mineral & Gem Club's 49<sup>th</sup> Annual Show is now over and we did much better than we

expected. Our club sales exceeded the previous record we made in 2010. It went rather too high that it will be a challenge to beat this new record. We are still in the process of analyzing the results of our show. but finally getting a bit more peaceful.

In this issue, I would like to share one of the things we did different at our show this year. I am sure many of the clubs have voting on the Display Cases and give out trophies to the winners as we do. This year, we changed the regular trophies to finished rock related items as Amethyst, bookends and carvings. I got this idea from the Sweet Home Rock & Mineral Society's 2013 show. I haven't noticed until this year and was very impressed with this great idea. Majority of our members liked this idea and decided to make a change. Only the Best Junior's trophy was kept the same, but attached a piece of terminated crystal quartz on the side. Kids seem to like the regular trophies.

In my previous article, I wrote about the concern of the decline of the membership. I thought it may help to see the trend of the each clubs which belongs to NFMS to find out which clubs are increasing the memberships, so that we may be able to learn from those clubs. I had help from our Treasurer, Lyle to dig out the reports from 2007 and sent it to me. Lyle has sent it to me before our show, but I did not have enough time to look into it due to the preparation for our show. Now that the show is over, I have started to look into the reports. There is no scientific reason that I chose 7 years for checking out the trend. I thought 10 years would be rather too much work for me and 5 years would be a bit too short to see the trend.

Before I go further, I want to make this very clear that the membership numbers of the clubs has absolutely nothing to do with the quality of the clubs. There are great small clubs that I know of. There are many factors in a club and the number of the membership is just one of them. However, the membership number is a measurable factor and when we want our voice to be heard. I assume more numbers should work in our favor.

The figures I am going to state here should be nothing new to the members who were involved in the NFMS and this kind of work may have been done in the past or even ongoing. The numbers I am about to write is mostly for giving an idea to the members who are not so familiar with the NFMS.

Right after working on the numbers, I felt a little embarrassed because of the decline I was looking at was the figure of the total membership of 2013 that declined 6% from 2012. In 2007, the total NFMS membership number was 5,004 (Adults and Junior) then grew and peaked in 2011 and now has 6,030. Even though there was a recent decline, it has grown 121% since 2007. Some clubs has been gone and some came in, but with the current clubs, 48 clubs out of 68 stayed the same or increased their members since 2007 or from the year they joined the NFMS. This means approximately 70% of the clubs has been doing pretty good. I checked the junior membership

and it showed a significant increase. There were 343 juniors in 2007, peaked at 2012 and now have 629, which is a 183% increase.

From 2007 or from when they joined, there were 6 clubs increased the total members over 200% (some close to 300%) and 16 clubs increased over 150%. These clubs must have done something special to make this happen.

I am still in the process of working on the figures to know better about the trend and eventually would like to see if we can ask those growing clubs to share their little secrets with the NFMS clubs.

The rockhounding season is pretty much over here in the NW, so I am sure many members have started cutting, grinding and polishing the rocks they have collected or are heading south to enjoy more rockhounding.

Happy Holidays!



## NFMS DUES ARE DUE!

Lyle Vogelpohl, Treasurer

NFMS dues are due by January 10, 2014. Your club should have received a packet of information and forms by the first

part of December 2013. If your club has not received this packet, please let me know right away. The packet contains 3 items.

The 1<sup>st</sup> is a letter of instructions on how to complete the other items in the packet. NFMS dues are based on who was a member of vour club in 2013 .... \$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 2014.) The NFMS pays the AFMS \$.75 for each adult and junior member from these amounts.

This instruction sheet also contains order information about the 2014 NFMS Directory. The NFMS Directory includes NFMS Officer and committee information, all society club and member information, a quick reference sheet to each club's meeting date, NFMS Articles of Incorporation and By-Laws, and the NFMS Program Library catalogue. Each club is provided a free copy each year. If individuals would like to purchase their own copy the cost will be \$10.00.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> item in the packet is a sheet for your club's information. This includes your club's name, website, mailing address, meeting place and time, contact person, and your 2014 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 your club's dues calculations - adults and juniors AND space for NFMS Directory orders.

The 3<sup>rd</sup> item is the one that I will ask for your club's assistance on the most. 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 address of those members who moved, and names and addresses of your members who do not appear on the list provided.

Thank you for your help in getting this job done promptly ... dues are due by the 10<sup>th</sup> of January.



# Ronna Watkins Bulletin Aids

November is here and the weather has finally turned cold in Eastern Washington. Field collecting has come to a close for the season, my husband, Darrell, has returned to the shop for the winter, and my two youngest sons are hunkered down in their classroom, leaving me to get caught up and to get this introduction written.

Greetings! My name is Ronna Buckhanon Watkins, but many people know me as Ron Buck. I am excited and honored to be the NFMS Bulletin Editor Aids Chair. I have been interested in journalism since Junior High School when I joined my first newspaper staff; and then, in high school I was the editor of the school paper and, as a young person, I worked for Beach City News in Hermosa Beach, California. I am currently the editor of the "Yakima Rock & Mineral Club News", my club's social chairman, and I lead our communications team that looks after the club's Facebook page, web site, and e-mail. Now, I am dedicated to the Editors of the Northwest Federation and ready to serve. My first job is to encourage our editors to send in submissions for the NFMS 2014 Bulletin Competition, and to announce the deadline for entries which is February 1, 2014. Bulletins, articles (from adults and juniors), written and drawn features, and special publications from 2013 should all be submitted. Submissions must have an AFMS score sheet attached to it, with the top portion filled out.

Bulletin categories for competition include, "New Editors" (any size bulletins), "Mini" (six pages or less), "Small" (7-11 pages), and "Large" (more than eleven pages). "Original Adult Articles", "Advanced Adult Articles", "Written Features", and "Drawn Features" should also be submitted. But what is the difference? Generally, an article is educational in nature, and the author has given references and suggestions for additional reading. A feature is generally short, such as

president or field trip reports, hobby-related humor, shop hints, member biography/accolade, or a book review (and many more). Original Advanced Adult Articles are written by authors who have won a 1st place trophy in AFMS Adult Articles, or have earned a living in the earth science field, or have had an article or book professionally published. And, please, don't forget to submit the "Junior Articles" and the "Special Publications".

This is just a brief overview of the 2014 NFMS Contest opportunities for submissions. Get the complete guidelines for the NFMS, which are the same as the AFMS' guidelines, at the AFMS website: <a href="www.amfed.org">www.amfed.org</a> /news/contest/contest.htm. The 2011 contest information and forms on the website are the same as what is most current and are good to use. To use the fill-able forms, open the file to the category needed, type in the information, and then save the document to your computer with a different name; then, print it out and send it to me with the original bulletin, article, or publication attached at PO Box 635, Tieton, WA 98947. For articles and features, please send the entire page and not just a cut out section.

I strongly encourage every editor to choose your best 2013 bulletin, according to the judging criteria, and get it sent in! And, don't ignore those articles, poems, and stories. The more entries from different authors you send the better chance your club has at bringing home a ribbon. No entry, no chance. This *is* the "one more" thing editors should feel obligated to do, and it is, also, encouragement for our contributors to contribute again. Winners in this contest are sent on to the AFMS 2014 Contest representing our federation at the national level. We can't win, if we don't have entries for me to submit! And, it might be easier to do it now, rather than waiting till after the holidays.

If you have any questions call me, any time. I look forward to meeting each of you at the Editor's Breakfast during the NFMS Annual Meeting in Hermiston, OR in August. Here's sending you all lots of encouragement...keep up the great works! Happy Holidays!





# Safety Report By Chuck Sonner

**Bad Habits** 

What is a bad habit? Not opening the car door for your wife? Not saying Happy Birthday on the right day? Leaving the toilet seat up? Wait! I am not picking on males, just using a few examples.

We, rockhounds, have a lot of great equipment. Think about a trim saw. A trim saw with a thin blade cuts a slab like a hot knife through

butter. Even when you apply a little too much pressure, your finger(s) will survive contact with the blade. Now we fast forward to a table saw. If you use the same technique with a table saw as you use with a trim saw, your fingers might not survive.

How many of us have a bench top drill press. This drill press does a great job drilling holes in rocks. Need a special bead? Those small core drills will do the job. At our last club show, I had a chance to pick up several diamond drills. When I asked the dealer about the life of a drill, it came down to two things: use of a coolant and pressure. The faster you try to drill, the sooner the drill will wear out. Now let's go back to the last century. I worked with an individual that had a work place accident. He was drilling a hole with a 1/8 inch bit. Somehow the drill broke and a piece entered his eye. Was he going to fast?

Maybe we need to review our techniques. Bad habits with our rock equipment might transfer to other disciplines. About the toilet seat......



## **Rockhounds of the Year**

Hatrockhound Gem and Mineral Society of Hermiston, Oregon honors Mike Filarski as its Rockhound for 2013. As Show Chairman, Mike has provided our community with an excellent show the last seven years. As Vice President, he gives of himself to share his knowledge, give presentations to local schools and simply be a generous, valuable member. We are proud to have

Mike among our membership and hope to have the privilege of his fellowship for many years to come.

Blaine and Kay Berry are members of the Golden Spike Gem and Mineral Society, and several other rock clubs. They are enthusiastic and dedicated members and rockhounds. Kay joined in 1970, becoming thoroughly involved. Blaine joined in 1988, following their marriage. He loved camping but it took him four years to really enjoy rock hunting. He told everyone he was Kay's "Pack Mule," but once the "Rock Pox" bug bit him, he was hunting with the best of them. They have been Field Trip Leaders for over 15 years.

Kay has studied rocks and gems and their locations to become very knowledgeable in identification. Both have been Board Directors, served on Gem Show committees and teach rock education classes at schools. Kay has served as President and all offices except Treasurer. She has been program and membership Chair, presented programs, and taught silver-smithing classes at the Senior Center.

As Bulletin Editor for four years, she won Large Bulletin awards in NFMS and AFMS Bulletin Contests. She served as a Competition Judge and a Judge for the California Federation newsletter contest. Blaine served as Vice President, faithful supporter and donated rocks for the show.

They have been involved in community and church organizations, holding many positions. Kay served as President of Bonneville Business & Professional Woman and Wasatch AFA, Director of Roy/Riverdale Chamber of Commerce, and Editor of Utah Good Sams, USU College of Consumer and Family Education, and Utah Vintage Gazette. She received the Governors Award as one of "Utah's Most Outstanding Woman," and was nominated as an "Outstanding Teacher."

Blaine served as Director and Treasurer of Utah Good Sams, Roy/Riverdale Chamber Board Member, and Treasurer of Wasatch AFA and Utah AFA. He received the Small Business of the Year Award. Both are entrepreneurs starting and running their own businesses for many years to present. Kay is a retired school teacher and volunteers for many teaching and speaking assignments. They donate time and money to many worthy causes, especially the rock hobby.

The **Spokane Rock Rollers** of Spokane, WA honor **Mike Shaw** as our 2013 Rockhound of the Year. Mike donates countless hours to the Spokane Rock Rollers. This year he served as First Vice President and Show Board Chairman in addition to Field Trip Committee Chair and Workshop Supervisor. Mike maintains all equipment, as he has for many years. Mike quickly and happily assists all members and prospective members with answers to questions regarding equipment usage and rockhounding skills. His special skills include traveling demonstrations to school and scout groups. Mike's contributions have made 2013 a successful and fun year. Thank you Mike!



### **JOAN DAY**

October 2, 1934 ~ October 24, 2013

BRIGHAM CITY - Our cherished wife, mother, grandmother, and friend, Joan Arlene Day, 79, passed away on October 24, 2013

She was born on October 2, 1934 in Sacramento, California, to Morris and Mildred (Seavy) Bertsch.

She married Evan E. Day on July 5, 1959 in Sacramento, California. Joan was a member of the Presbyterian and the Rocky Mountain Bible Churches. One of her greatest joys was serving as the Pastor's wife while Evan was a Minister in Richfield, Utah.

She enjoyed baseball, rock-hounding, fishing, and traveling. She was a member of Golden Spike Gem and Mineral Society for 36 years. She enjoyed her career in finance, managing the H&R Block tax office in Brigham City for 20 years.

Surviving are her husband, Evan, 4 children, Kathryn (William) Strong, Susan Zecca, Michelle Ernsberger, and Zia (Parvin) Rahimpour; 7 grandchildren, 3 great grandchildren; and brother-inlaw, Gary (Elaine) Day.

A memorial service will be held on Saturday, November 23, 2013 at 11:00 a.m. at Gillies Funeral Chapel, 634 East 200 South, Brigham City, UT.

Via ObitsUtah.com

# NFMS Website Contest By Cheri George



I want congratulate Donn Ullery on his First Place in the NFMS Website Contest. As you have

probably heard all federations sent in their top three entries to AFMS, but since we had only two that's what we sent. Both of our entries placed on it.

Hopefully we will have more entries next year and will be able to send three. Keep in mind that if your website won in the past, you may now enter again.

Two of the seven federations did not have any entries. Don't make us one of them next year. ENTER YOUR CLUB'S WEBSITE!!







### **JOIN US**

Quartzsite, January 26, 2014 I –10 and Exit 26, Gold Nugget Road East of Quartzsite from 8am to 12 noon. Shirley Leeson, ALAA president@amlands.org

Last year during the QIA extravaganza, we had our 1<sup>st</sup> Annual BLM Quartzsite Clean-up. It was a huge success in the eyes of the BLM, with the group collecting 3 tons of trash.

Please join us this year, same location, along with the BLM Ranger Bill Alexander and his crew to clean up this area.

The publicity for rockhounds was huge. It was noted in both the Arizona and California BLM Newsletters and BLM Facebook pages for Arizona.

Help us make a positive spin on rockhound activities, join us. Pictures say it all, and they are lasting.

Mark your calendar today and join us. We'll have a check in so you and your club will be recognized as having participated. For further information go to <a href="mailto:info@amlands.org">info@amlands.org</a>

Last year in the NFMS Newsletter a picture of Ralph and Penny Luther of the Bitterroot G/M Society was shown. Will your picture be shown in 2014?



# NFMS Postage Stamp Report By Hermina Kolski

I don't know if it was ever reported but the deal Ben made dealer was that half of the box was to be commemoratives and the other half was regular issues otherwise we cannot sell them regular issues. Maybe you did not know and that is why you all use so many regular issue stamps instead of commemoratives. Commemoratives have special pictures, not the flag or bells. PLEASE use, and send in, the commemorative stamps as much as possible.

Stamps don't stop working when they finish the job for you, they go on and on. Imagine a whole city of school children in Norway asking for Christmas stamps for each of them at Christmas time. A box I sent to the dealer went directly to Norway. This was several years ago when I was shipping 100 pounds at a time. Times have changed considerably now.

#### Ore-Rock-On On DVD Version 5.2

Oregon, Washington, and Idaho Rock Dig Locations DVD for PC & MAC

- . A comprehensive guide for digging lapidary, mineral, and fossil materials
- Includes ALL rockhounding sites in the NEW editions of Gem Trails of Washington & Oregon and Rockhounding Idaho
- . 991 USGS topo map & overview map images with digs clearly marked
- . A relief map of each state points you to maps or detailed info & photos
- . Waypoint files to upload to your GPS Over 2,100 Waypoints!
- . 36 detailed descriptions of dig sites that have GOOD material!

\$41.50; Send Money Order only to Tim Fisher, 18403 S Clear Acres Drive, Oregon City OR 97045, for credit cards see http://OreRockOn.com/CD.htm



# Happy Hanukah and

# Happy Kwanza

# 2014 NFMS CALENDAR ITEMS

NFMS Mid-Year Meeting Tri-Cities, WA April 26-27, 2014

The Multi-Federation Field Trip: Terry, Montana July 31, August 1, 2, 3, 2014

For more information contact Doug True, Fieldtrip Chair, (406) 670-0506, or email dtruefossils12@yahoo.com

NFMS Annual Meeting Hermiston, Oregon August 15-17, 2014

For more information contact Mike Filarski stonemorlin1@netscape.net or Judi Allison jall@eotnet.ne

#### **AFMS JUDGES TRAINING PROGRAM FOR 2014**

Dee Holland, Chair

beauholland@centurytel.net or shirleyleeson@gmail.com



We are excited to bring you the second "on the road" Judges Training Seminar, beginning Thursday, April 10, 2014 through Sunday, April 13, 2014 in OGDEN, UTAH. This is the last of the authorized seminars to be held. In 2013 there was hope of a seminar but the dates and prices at the location were way out of line for our budget.

I think you will be pleasantly surprised to find the Ogden Best Western High Country Inn has been gracious in giving us the best prices around, for the money. \$70 per night for either 2 queens or 1 king, and in addition their 'on premises' Jeremiah's restaurant where the seminars will be held in their conference room will astound you with their meals. They will be providing us with lunch on both Friday and Saturday and that is included in the price of the seminar, \$30. BUT, if you want to try their 'best in the west' pork ribs or their famous 'deep dish pies' feel free.

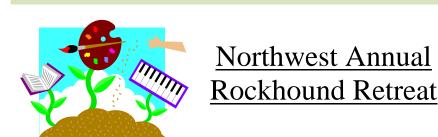
They are also offering to extend your visit on either end of the booking if you want to 'see the sights' in the area. – just ask when you make the reservation. MAKE SURE YOU TELL THEM, "AFMS JUDGES TRAINING."

The Weber County Fairgrounds is just down the street and we'll give you a map, (GPS coordinates take you way out of your way) or send it to you in advance if you want to bring your own exhibit for evaluation. You will have to put the exhibit in on Thursday afternoon as the Golden Spike Club's show is three days to accommodate the kids on Friday. Everyone in the club and at the hotel/restaurant is excited you are coming and want to make this event memorable.

Our intrepid "TEACHER" Jay Bowman will again teach the class. It will begin Friday morning at 9am. Breakfast is on your own, but we suggest Jeremiah's, and end at 4pm. After that you're on your own to search out other restaurants and then sit around the fire at the hotel. Saturday, Class begins again at 9am and will end approximately 4pm or sooner, if we are all good. Sunday morning at 9am at the Fairgrounds we will begin to judges exhibits. On completion, we will evaluate what we have accomplished.

I hope you will all consider attending, it's uplifting and exciting, we promise. And think what you can take home to your clubs. An interest in competitive exhibits is growing, be part of the solution. You must have an AFMS RULE BOOK, 2014. Download from AFMS website: amfed.org

Dee Holland, chair AFMS Judges Training beauholland@centurytel.net and or shirleyleeson@gmail.com



# Caring: The Grease of Creativity By Bert Kae-Je'

Surrounded by wonder and those who care,
We're invited to imagine, to give rise to the new,
Perhaps it all begins with a God, who cares for the cosmos,
A Creator who designs beyond wonder,
One who instills in us to create and relate,
And so we do
Wire-wrap, beads, and Intarsia design,
Doublets, Triplets, Faceting and free form Cabochons
What fun, what delight to share in the artistic process,
Experimenting, creating, originating wonders as well

Somehow transcendent or imminent,
God's presence in and with us to
See that fracture & shine that stone,
Pour that epoxy & dome that quartz,
Keep straight the edge & core drill the hole,
Perfect that girdle & shine the pavilion,
Torch that bezel & solder it hard, soft, easy.
Cast that grasshopper & bead that sunshine row.
It's all a process, suffused in caring and encouragement.

Instructors that care if we learn and enjoy, Who experiment with us and bring ferns a plentiful, Mylia who urges on--make a sunshine row to allow attachment, Peers to help when we don't understand, Like a Mag Light loaned to see in the dark, Colleagues who rejoice to work together again,

Thanks to all my Instructors, for we know your CARE Instructors who bring equipment-- flowers & ferns, Wire, stones & beads, solder & cuddle bones for us to learn. And thanks for that treasure acquired thru swap, Thanks to Lamar and Mylia for their work all year long. And thanks to OMSI that attends to adult learning.

Thanks for cooks who make sure we have healthy food,
Friends who make us a sandwich, or fix a drink,
Cabin mates who respect each other & support forty winks,
Friends who seek our wellbeing when we oversleep and don't show
up,

Contacts who affirm neonatal attempts to put this in poetry & tell me so,

Friends who sit and belly lough at the simple, silly things of life, And those who care about the Barbara's who could not come this year,

Instructors who bid us go home safely with miles of turns. Telling us to look for the e-mail and register without delay, For another year, Lord Willing and the Creek don't rise, We will gratefully gather again, and know it's a place Where the people care and take up the creative process.

It's that attitude that greases the wonder of the week, It's the surroundings of finding God in silence and wonder, It's beautiful; it's special, for everyone cares for one another. Finally, it all became apparent, my 3<sup>rd</sup> year at Hancock Field Station



# Warren Rood 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President

I recently received an email asking about the benefits of being in the Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Society. I think every club asks that question at some point. I know that our local club discussed it in

one of our board meetings several years ago and came to the conclusion that it was definitely worth being a member.

I have my personal perspective on this question, as I am sure each of you do. Of course, this newsletter is a vital part of this organization. It keeps us informed of Northwest rock hound news, such as our land rights, field trips, safety information and local club shows as well as the larger NFMS show. We have an excellent volunteer Beth Heesacker spending time each month organizing and laying out this newsletter. Think of it as the glue that holds us all together. You are no longer a small island of rock hounds, but connected to a larger community because of this organization. On page 2 of the newsletter is listed the many committees that offer services and opportunities for members. I will talk about many of those

services in this article.

The first big benefit that I have personally enjoyed from being a member of the NFMS has been the field trips. In the last few years our experienced field trip leaders, Doug True, Dick Panky, and Dick Parks have organized trips to Hampton Butte, Blue Forest, Davis Creek, and Texas Springs. The whole idea that we were shown great locations for rock hounding and many people left with prizes is incredible. In addition the camaraderie around the fire and the food shared meant the beginning of many friendships. These trips have been a true highlight for me. Doug has been organizing a fantastic trip for all of us this next summer in Montana. Keep checking this newsletter for details.

I have also taken advantage of the Northwest Rock hound retreat. It is a wonderful opportunity for learning and growing lapidary skills, thanks to the efforts of coordinator Lamar Tilgar. The retreat has excellent instructors, a charming location and the camaraderie of fellow rock hounds. This all adds up to a great experience. Recently the NFMS has helped to buy some new equipment for the camp. It happens each year around Labor Day weekend and I know that you need to apply early or it will be filled. Keep checking this newsletter for details.

We have an excellent website that is managed by our volunteer webmaster Brad Larson. This site has all of the committees, a calendar (continued on the next page)

of events and even a forum where you can ask questions of other people in the organization. You can find pdfs of past newsletters. You can also find a listing of member clubs which includes times they meet, contact info and websites. The website url is amfed.org/nfms. When you get chance, check it out.

The NFMS shows provide many opportunities for members. Many times, but not always, field trips are included in the show weekend. Often times special exhibits or guests are invited to these shows that give excellent viewpoints on unique subjects. These shows usually garner quality dealers and the silent auctions are very worthy of your attention as nice material comes from all over the Northwest. Also at this show we have competition cases that are judged by excellent volunteer judges who will try to help you improve your display by the comments they make.

Every member club should have two delegates sent to the NFMS show and to the mid-year meeting in April. This is a great time for each member club to give input and to hear what is currently happening in our organization. A report is made by all of the committee chairs.

One of the committees that is often passed by is the Juniors committee. If you have a Juniors' program in your club, and every club should have one, there is help available. Again we have an excellent volunteer, Audrey Vogelpohl organizing this program. There are many helpful documents on the juniors' page. We have a Junior Achievement Award that we love to give to the kids in our clubs. My kids filled out the applications and were awarded a plaque and cash prices. It is not that hard and is meant to encourage our kids in this

wonderful hobby of ours. Check out the details on our website under the tab "Juniors".

Did you know we have a DVD library that is available to members? Clubs can request a specific topic, just go to our website and look for the tab "library". Here you will find many topics and contact information. Currently we are looking for a good volunteer to manage this library for us. If you have any ideas, contact our president, Don Innes.

Our organization gives out scholarships to young geology students who show potential and maturity in their discipline. You can see who was awarded scholarships in the last few years on our website under the tab 'Scholarships'.

As a part of the NFMS you are a part of the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies. This means you have increased your network to the entire U.S. rock hound community. When you travel, you can now connect with officers or attend meetings of other clubs. This will be a great way to find new field trips. This organization puts on a larger show and I believe it will be coming to the Northwest in 2016. It should be exciting. Keep checking our newsletter or website for more details.

Many people are working together in the NFMS to provide opportunities and events for its members. It is up to each of you to take advantage of the opportunities. Go on a field trip, see the show, check out a DVD, check out the website or go to the Retreat. All of these things are meant to enrich your experience. Get involved, you will be glad you did.



# From the Editor's Rockpile By Beth Heesacker

We are at the turn of the year. Our abundance of holidays is leading into the quieter time of winter. That does not mean that we need to act like hibernating bears. It is time to get out the sandpaper, the oils, the files and clean up those tools that are our companions during the rockhounding season. Clean them, sharpen them, protect them. Make sure the handles are well attached. Take inventory. Is there a tool that is missing? Maybe Santa can fill in the gap.

Check out those buckets, bags and bins of rock that you brought home this year from your field trips. Cut, polish and display your finds. I see too many collections that just sink into the backyards of rockhounds and are forgotten. Too many rocks? Donate some to your club. Or if you have a local rock museum maybe they have a pile that they allow kids to pick through for a free rock. Is the pile shrinking? Bring them a bucket or two of your extras.

I have fallen behind in the sorting of my micro-minerals and will work on that this winter. I am lucky in that it allows me to work inside and stay warm. But I also have a lot of rock in the backyard that needs some TLC. Too many bins are falling over and buckets are deteriorating. I am changing over to ½ blue plastic barrels. These last longer in our Northwest weather.

Whatever needs to be done, get out and chip away at it. There are lots to be done before the next field trip heads out in the spring.

Clubs, please note that any SHOW INFORMATION should go to Pat Lambert, Show Coordinator. She will then send the information out to the rock magazines, websites and to this newsletter.

All MEMBERSHIP UPDATES, including new members so they can receive this newsletter as soon as possible, should go to Tom Burchard, Circulation Chair and to Carol Willey, Directory Chair.

See the second page of this newsletter for address information for these Chairmen and Chairwomen.

Thank you!

#### **AFMS NEWS**



# 2013 AFMS Recognition Award By Lauren Williams, Chair

The American Federation Recognition Award is given annual to an individual who has gone "above and beyond" the call of duty in serving the AFMS. Nominations are secured from past presidents and the final determination of the recipient is made by a committee of the three most recent past presidents.

Our 2013 recipient has been extremely active in the California Federation, having held many committee chairmanships and offices, including president. She currently serves as CFMS Historian. She is also active in the Northwest Federation where she also serves as their Historian. The lady loves records!

She became involved with the AFMS while she was CFMS President and has been a firm supporter of the AFMS Endowment Fund, Scholarship Foundation, SCRIBE (Special Congress Representing Inolved Bulletin Editors). In 1995 she founded the Editors Hall of Fame in order to recognize the hard working club and federation newsletter editors across the country. She was one of three AFMS members to construct a history booklet to commemorate the 50th anniversary of AFMS (1997) and a follow-up document for the 60th anniversary in 2007. And she's already making plans for the 70th Anniversary in 2017!

She served as AFMS Regional VP representing the CFMS and was elected AFMS President for 2007-08. As fate would have it, a major hurricane struck Houston, TX just before the AFMS Convention was to be held there and thus, she became the only AFMS President to cancel a convention. Not to be daunted she went to "plan B" and major business (budget approval, election of officers) was conducted by mail. Our recipient has also been very active in other "rockhound" activities including the American Lands Access Association where she currently serves as President.

It is an honor and privelege to present the 2013 AFMS Recognition Award to: Shirley Leeson

Via AFMS Newsletter Nov 2013



# **Geo-Sites for Earth Science Education** by Jim Brace-Thompson, Juniors Program Chair

When we think "field trip," we usually think "collecting," and we drive off with our heads filled with dreams of stuffing our backpacks with rocky treasures. But field trips don't always need to be about taking home rocks. Some allow us to take home a more valuable commodity: knowledge. A neat guidebook was recently published with field trip localities geared toward educating rather than collecting: Albert B. Dickas' 101 American Geo-Sites You've Gotta See (Mountain Press, 2012).

Dickas helps you take kids to sites that tell unique geological stories. For instance, you can see dramatic evidence of an ancient meteorite strike in Alabama, a view of the Pacific plate sliding by the North American plate along

California's San Andreas Fault, fossil-bearing ash beds in Nebraska that tell of an unimaginably immense volcanic eruption in ancient Idaho 12 million years ago, or evidence of a tropical sea as well as massive glaciation in Ohio. With 101 sites included across all 50 U.S. states, you should be able to find a locality within reasonable distance for a day- or weekend trip for your club's juniors.

The book opens with a brief earth science primer on the rock cycle, geological dating, plate tectonics, and "A Short History of the Earth" giving a quick walk-through of earth history eon-by-eon, period-by-period. Then comes the real meat of the book: the 101 sites from Alabama to Wyoming. Each site entry consists of a two-page spread. The opening page provides GPS coordinates a one-sentence overview of the significance of the site, and an overall description and history. The second page provides colorful supporting illustrations, maps, and photos. Printed on high-quality glossy paper, the photos make it a wonderful coffee-table book in addition to an informative read. But to maximize its use, go beyond the pictures and get your club's kids out to a site near you to see it up-close-and-personal. Rather than stuffing their backpacks with rocks, stuff their heads with a little knowledge—and a whole

Via AFMS Newsletter Nov 2013



#### **AFMS NEWS**

# **Uniform Rules Changes** by Leslie Wayment, URC Chair

At the Uniform Rules Committee meeting this year, the committee passed 6 changes to the URC, which will take effect on January 1, 2014. The most notable changes are to Division A-OPEN. In 2014 each of the 9 classes in Division A may be awarded Trophy #1, if qualification scores are met. This will eliminate competition between the separate classes for a single trophy for all of Division A.

Another change in Division A will be in the Judging Points for Division A-5 Project. The points assigned to Labels and use of charts, drawings and pictures are being joined. The Label must now clearly state what the project is. The use of charts, drawings and pictures may be used to clarify and state the project.

Another statement for OUT-OF CLASS is being added to Division F-Fossils. Statement (e) will be added. clarifying that specimens entered as Fossils with be out of class if they have any Lapidary work.

There were 3 changes added to Division I-Beading and Beadwork. The first change concerns class I-1 through I-3 (Straight Stringing). It will no longer be necessary to add the beading technique, as all items in these classes are limited to straight stringing. Another change to these 3 classes concerns the use of pearls. Glass pearls do not have to be knotted, but natural pearls entered in Class I-1 to I-3 have to be knotted. Knotting is not required in bead weaving.

Another change for Division I clarifies Rule 25.7 (2) so that only work in class I-4 through I-8 will require that each individual piece of work be identified as original work of the exhibitor, or cite the original designer. Straight Stringing will no longer need to be identified in this manner.

The committee also made 3 small changes to the AFMS Mineral Classification List. CELESTITE will be an acceptable alternative for CELESTINE. The other 2 changes are for consistent spelling of FLUORAPATITE, and SMALTITE – variety of Skutterudite. As with the rule changes, the spelling changes will become effective on January 1, 2014.

The complete updated rules will be available from your regional supplies chair or via the AFMS web site after January 1, 2014.

Via AFMS Newsletter Nov 2013



# **Multi-Federation Field Trip** – **Make Plans to Attend NOW!** By Doug True, Field Trip Chair

The town of Terry, Montana may be small, but they are planning on rolling out the red carpet for us as they host the AFMS 2014 Multi-

Federation field trip gathering. The dates are July 31 - August 4, 2014, so mark your calendars and get ready to register!

Terry is right in the middle of some of the best Montana rock hounding areas. We'll have numerous trips to the Gravel Bars on the Yellowstone River; productive areas that I've been hunting on annually for 40+ years. Many are accessed only through private property, but permissions have been granted. We'll be hunting for Montana agates, Jasper, Petrified Wood, fossil coral, stromatolites, and numerous other "oddities".

We'll have numerous trips into Montana fossil country to the Pierre and Bear Paw formation areas, and we'll collect ammonites, baculites, scaphites, natiloids and many other shells (70-95 million years old) in the ancient sea bed areas. We are also working on trips to several areas where we can collect dinosaur fossils from the Hell Creek Formation. More information will be forthcoming as plans are solidified.

In addition, we'll have an opportunity to take a guided tour through the Eastern Montana Badlands - a once in a lifetime opportunity. Start planning your collecting vacation now. Kids are welcome!!!! What could be better than four days in Eastern Montana with a chance of collecting wonderful material.

But wait, there's more....The town of Terry is allowing us to use their 2 block city park for dry camping and other activities. We'll have pot luck dinners, a barbecue and much, much more.

For more information contact Doug True, Fieldtrip Chair, (406) 670-0506, or email <dtruefossils12@yahoo.com>







## NFMS MEMBER CLUBS' SHOW SCHEDULE

Feb 8 & 9	Whidbey Island Gem Club	Oak Harbor Senior Center	Keith Ludemann 360 675 1837
Sat 9–5, Sun 9–4	Windsey Island Geni Cius	51 SE Jerome Street, Oak Harbor WA	rock9@whidbey.net
Feb 14-16 Fri 9:30-5:30 Sat 9:30-5:30 Sun 9:30-5:30	Oregon Agate and Mineral Society	OMSI 1945 SE Water Ave. Portland OR 97214	Sonia Watt soniawatt@yahoo.com or Jim Urbaniak nygiants1931@yahoo.com
<b>Feb 22 - 23</b> Sat 10–6, Sun 10–5	Idaho Gem Club	Expo Idaho, 5610 Glenwood Boise ID	Brent Smith 208 342 1151 rocksbybrent@gmail.com
March 1 & 2 Sat 10–6, Sun 10–5 March 1 & 2	East KingCo Rock Club  Owyhee Gem and Mineral	Pickering Barn, 1730 - 10 <sup>th</sup> Avenue NW, Issaquah WA 98027, (across from Costco) O'Conner Field House	Robin Feiner 206 579 8448 PO Box 2203 Redmond WA 98073 Susan Beattie 208 466 6184
Sat 10–6, Sun 10–5	Society	2200 Blaine, Caldwell ID	susan71061@aol.com
<b>Mar 7, 8 &amp; 9</b> Fri 9–5, Sat 9–5 Sun 10–5	Tualatin Valley Rock and Gem Club	Washington Co. FairPlex 873 NE 34 <sup>th</sup> Avenue Hillsboro OR	Mitch Metcalf 503 726 9168 president@tvgc.com
<b>March 8 &amp; 9</b> Sat 9–5, Sun 9–5	Magic Valley Gem Club	Twin Falls County Fgnds., East of Filer, ID on U.S. Highway 30, 215 Fair Avenue, Filer ID	Jon Cromer 208 308 3364 or Tony Griffin 208 467 9286 rmetts@magicvalleygemclub.org
<b>Mar 14 – 16</b> Fri 10–7, Sat 10–7 Sun – 10 – 5	Timpanogos Gem and Mineral Society	Indoor Tennis Court 475 South Main Street Spanish Fork, UT	Keith Fackrell 801 592 0410 timprocks@gmail.com, 2295 East 700 S, Springville UT 84663
<b>Mar 28 - 30</b> Fri 10–6, Sat 10–6 Sun 10–4	Rock Rollers Club of Spokane WA	Spokane County Fair & Expo Center, N.604 Havana Spokane WA	Contact: David Rapp 509 891 6533 showchair@rockrollers.org
<b>Mar 29 &amp; 30</b> Sat 10–6, Sun 10–5	Sweet Home Rock & Mineral Society	Sweet Home High School Activity Gym, 1641 Long Street, Sweet Home OR	Joe Cota 541 451 2740 PO Box 2279 Lebanon OR 97355
<b>March 29 - 30</b> Sat 10–6, Sun 10–5	Mt. Baker Rock & Gem	Bloedel Donovan Com. Ctr., 2214 Electric Avenue, Bellingham WA	Sheri Clark 360 510 6483 <u>mamacat0849@gmail.com</u> <u>www.mtbakerrockclub.org</u>
<b>April 12 &amp; 13</b> Sat 10–6, Sun 10–4	Yakima Rock & Mineral Club	Washington National Guard Armory, 2501 Airport Lane, Yakima WA	Marti Sondgeroth marthams@q.com 509 248 6401 evenings
<b>April 12 &amp; 13</b> Sat 10–6, Sun 10–6	Idaho Falls Gem & Mineral Society	Idaho Falls Recreation Center, B Street, Idaho Falls, ID	Gary Hayes 208 754 0403; Kevin Landon 208 589 0146; or Jim Bosley 208 520 1819
<b>April 18, 19, &amp; 20</b> Fri 9–6, Sat 10–6 Sun 10–4:30	Willamette Agate and Mineral Society	Polk County Fairgrounds 520 S Pacific Hwy W. Rickreall OR 97371	Etheleen Flippo 503 623 4247 reflippoo@hotmail.com
<b>April 26 &amp; 27</b> Sat 10–5 Sun 10–4	Lakeside Gem and Mineral Society - NFMS Mid Year Meeting	Benton County Fairgrounds 1500 South Oak Street Kennewick WA	Mary Lou Omstead 509 783 2798 PO Box 6652 Kennewick WA 99336
<b>April 26 &amp; 27</b> Sat 10–5, Sun 10–5	West Seattle Rock Club	Alki Masonic Temple 4736 40 <sup>th</sup> Avenue SW, Seattle WA	Lyle Vogelpohl 206 932 3292 PO Box 16145 Seattle WA 98116
May 3 & 4 (New Date!) Sat 9–5, Sun 10–5	Everett Rock & Gem Club	Everett Comm. College Student Fitness Center, 2206 Tower Street, Everett WA	Fritz Mack PO Box 1615 Everett WA 98206 425 232 0809
<b>June 6, 7, &amp; 8</b> Fri 10–5, Sat 10–5 Sun 10–5	Puyallup Valley Gem & Mineral Club	Swiss Park 9205 198 <sup>th</sup> Avenue East Bonney Lake, WA 98390	Nancy LeMay bees2knees@att.net 253 952 6216, PVGMC, c/o Club Show, PO Box 134 Puyallup WA 98371 info@puyallupgemclub.org
<b>August 15 - 17</b> Fri 10–6, Sat 10–6 Sun 10–4	Hatrockhounds Gem and Mineral Society - NFMS Annual Meeting	Hermiston Conference Center, 415 South Highway 395, Hermiston OR	Judi Allison jall@eotnet.net 541 720 4950, Or Mike Filarski stonemorlin1@netscape.net 541 571 2593 222.hatrockhounds.org



# Merry Christmas and A Happy New Year

