Our Walla Walla club has long wished for a lapidary shop that we could share. In fact we found early newsletter articles from the 50’s where the club leaders were hoping and planning for a shop. It did not happen during all these years for a number of reasons, but the main reason was the lack of funds. So, I thought I would share the experience of our club in the hopes that it might help other clubs.

A few years ago we formed a lapidary shop committee to see what options we could find that might work. We talked about finding a used truck trailer or mobile home trailer and put it on some property. We talked about renting some space, even buying some existing buildings that would have room for a shop, monthly meetings and even a museum. Most of these would have been a stretch for our budget or just totally out of reach budget wise. Then we started looking at the idea of partnering with an entity that already offered classes. We first approached the City Parks department of Walla Walla which offers classes ranging from yoga to ceramics. At first they were very open to the idea of us conducting classes in exchange for us having a shop that members could use. So they started working with us on a location to have the shop. The first vacant building we looked at was promising, but the city decided not to let us use that building. Then we looked at a basement where other classes were offered, which we decided we did not want to use because of location and restrictions.

About this time I got a part time job at Walla Walla Community College. After a couple of months I approached the coordinator of the community education program, which organizes non-credit classes ranging from yoga to wood carving to painting. Timing is everything. When I approached her about having a class on stones, she was super excited because her steering committee had just suggested she start a class in stones. We looked around campus and found a room that was not being used. We then started talking to the different layers of people at the college about a partnership between the college and our club with the idea that we would use the room for a class and also for club use. The college would provide two rooms, one for classes and one for lab and they would pay for utilities and other expenses. As a club we started talking about going into partnership with the college. What that meant for us was to provide the machines and maintain them in trade for using the shop once or twice a week. After a month of negotiating and meetings, everybody agreed we would start planning for our first class. Members of our club were working with us on a location to have the shop. The first vacant building we looked at was promising, but the city decided not to let us use that building. Then we looked at a basement where other classes were offered, which we decided we did not want to use because of location and restrictions.

The only way the first classes would be successful would be if we could get full enrollment. The college sends out a flyer with our class listed. Our club was encouraging members and friends to take the class and that first quarter we had overwhelming response. I taught two classes and both filled with a total of 24 students, which filled out maximum capacity of 12 per class. That was 3 1/2 years ago. Since then I have taught the classes and we have always been able to keep them full, which is the requirement for keeping a lapidary shop at the college. That means that we have been able to provide a shop for club members.

The total cost to the club is the maintenance of the machines, which we cover by asking club members to pay a small fee for each hour they use the shop. We have appointed a shop superintendent who is in charge of the clubs responsibilities of maintenance and staffing. He coordinates experienced volunteers that function as our shop foreman. These foremen are

(Continued on page 3)
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY: Judi Allison, (208) 520-1819, jall@eotnet.net
SLIDE/VIDEO LIBRARIAN: Darrell Watkins, Yakima rockroller_ALAA@yahoo.com, (509) 396-5722, yrock@q.com
DIRECTORY: Carol Willey, 15252 NE 215th Ave., Issaquah, WA, (425) 392-3716, cewilley@icloud.com

3RD VICE PRESIDENT: Jim Bosley, Idaho Falls Falls and Mineral, 634 Tyson Ave., Idaho Falls, ID, 83401, (208) 529-1819.

ELECTIVE SECRETARY: Judi Allison, Lakeside Gem and Mineral Club, 1701 NW 11th St., Hermiston, OR, 97882, 541-720-4950, jall@eotnet.net
TREASURER: Lyle Vogelphol, West Seattle Rock Club, 8810 37th Ave. SW, Seattle, WA 98126-3167, (206) 932-3292, nfmtreasurer@comcast.net

NFMS STANDING COMMITTEES

BUDGET: Hidemi Kira, 1st Vice President (see above)

BULLETIN AIDS: Ronna Watkins, Yakima Rock and Mineral Club, POB 635, Teton, ID, 83497, (509)673-0085, ronna@comcast.net

CIRCULATION: Tom Burchard, Golden Spike Gem & Mineral Society, 875 E 4500 S, S. Ogden, UT 84403, (801) 479-4286, Roxhund@aol.com

COMPETITIVE EXHIBITS: Chuck Bickie, Central Oregon Rock Collectors, 12377 SE Davis Loop, Prineville, OR, 97754, (541) 447-7826, cdwalker@q.com

CUSTOMER: Judi Allison, 1st Vice President (see above)

DIRECTORY: Audrey Vogelpohl, Central Oregon Rock Collectors, 8810 37th Ave. SW, Seattle, WA 98126-3167, (206) 932-3292, nfmtreasurer@comcast.net

EDUCATION: OPEN

ENDOWMENT FUND: CHAIRMAN: Edna Nelson, Mt Rockhound Club, P.O. Box 190, Jefferson, OR, 97752-0190, (503) 397-5284, rockhoundstoo1966@yahoo.com, TREASURER: NFMS Treasurer (see above)

FINANCIAL ADVISOR: Jon Spauling, 12719 NE 116th St, Suite E, 1-01, Kirkland, WA 98034-8458, (360) 624-7604, jspence@comcast.net

HISTORIAN: Shirley Leeson, Bitterroot Gem/MIneral Soc, Hamilton, MT, P.O. Box 23, Tendoy, ID, 83468-0023, (619) 460-6128 or (208) 756-2394, Roxhund@aol.com

NEWSLETTER EDITOR: Beth Heesacker, Clackamette Gem & Mineral Corp., 4145 NW Heesacker Rd., Forest Grove OR, 97116, (503) 357-8804, Gem&MineralCorp.com, Donations related (e.g. rocks, equipment, grit, shows, etc.)

NFMS Club-at-Large: 1st Vice President (see above)

NOMINATING CHAIRMAN: Don Innes, Far West Lapidary, 54416 Arago-Finchart Rd., Myrtle Point, OR, 97458, (541) 396-5722, doninnes.innes2@gmail.com

NORTHWEST ROCKHOUND RETREAT (Hancock): Lamar Tlgnier (Chair), Mt. Hood Rock Club, 200 SE Olvera Ave., Gresham, OR 97080, (503) 666-2905, btlnner1@frontier.com

PAST PRESIDENTS COUNCIL: Evelyn Cataldo, Lakeside Gem & Mineral Club, 40079 Blvd. N, Kennewick, WA 99338, (509) 625-0170, cataldoelynn@yahoo.com

PUBLIC LANDS ADVISORY: Ben Odum, 3511 N. Atlantic, Spokane, WA 99205 (509) 953-2470, lstilgner1@frontier.com

SLIDE/VIDEO LIBRARIAN: Darrell Watkins, Yakima Rock and Mineral Club, P.O. Box 635,Tieton, WA, 9894, (509)673-0085, darrell884@aol.com

RESOLUTIONS: Fred Burton, Golden Spike Gem & Mineral Society, 90 Lakeview, Tieton, WA 9894, (509) 875-3909, chuckagate2@yahoo.com

SHOW COORDINATORS: Ben Lambert, Lakeside Gem & Mineral Club, 21606 S. Oak, Kennewick, WA 99337, packrats2@msn.com

STAMPS: Hermena Kolski, Club-at-Large, 208 Riverview St. E, East Great Falls, MT 59404-1354, (406)231-0620, packrats2@msn.com

WAYS & MEANS: Janice Van Cura, Willamette Agate & Mineral Society, Inc., 3448 NW Covey Run, Corvallis, OR 97330, jvancura@bluejacket.com or (541) 753-2468, lizardwoman3@yahoo.com

AFMS COMMITTEES(NFMS Representatives)

AFMS VP and Field Trip Chair: Doug Truex
ENDOWMENT FUND: Chris Bildcker, EDITORS HALL OF FAME-Open, NEWSLETTER EDITOR-Beth Heesacker, NFMS CLUB BULLETIN AIDS-Ronna Watkins

ROCKHOUND OF THE YEAR: Bev Bockman, Rock Rollers Club, P.O. Box 1326, Post Falls, ID 83577, (208) 773 5384, jockbb@aol.com

WEBSITE CONTEST - Cherl George, lizardwoman3@yahoo.com

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 representatives and public land managers. Your annual individual/couple membership fee is $25 which helps support their activities. Club membership is $50 per year. Send to Treasurer, P.O. Box 54398, San Jose, CA 95154. Make checks payable to: American Lands Access Assn. Applications can be downloaded at: www.amlands.org on the left side of the page. For more information contact: Shirley Leeson, President at: president@amlands.org or P.O. Box 23, Tendoy, ID, 83468

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 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 stamps are available for purchase from the above listed NFMS treasurer. Stamps are 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 Treasurer

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

To NFMS Endowment Fund Treasurer for:
1. Donations to Endowment Fund
2. Memorial contributions to NFMS Scholarship
3. Make check payable to AFMS Scholarship Fund, to: Evan Day, 509 Highland Blvd, Brigham City, UT, 84302, 801-391-2912, eday@sisna.com

To NFMS Scholarship Chairperson for:
1. Donations to AFMS Scholarship Fund
2. Memorial contributions to AFMS Scholarship
3. Make check payable to AFMS Scholarship Fund, to: Evan Day, 509 Highland Blvd, Brigham City, UT, 84302, 801-391-2912, eday@sisna.com

To NFMS Treasurer:
1. Checks payable to NFMS Endowment Fund, send to: Evan Day, 810 37th Ave SW, Seattle, WA 98126-3167

To NFMS Scholarship Chairperson:
1. Donations to AFMS Endowment
2. Memorial contributions to NFMS Scholarship
3. Make check payable to NFMS Scholarship Fund, to: Evan Day, 509 Highland Blvd, Brigham City, UT, 84302, 801-391-2912, eday@sisna.com

To NFMS Treasurer:
1. Donations to NFMS Endowment
2. Memorial contributions to NFMS Scholarship
3. Make check payable to AFMS Scholarship Fund, to: Evan Day, 509 Highland Blvd, Brigham City, UT, 84302, 801-391-2912, eday@sisna.com

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

NFMS WEBSITE: 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 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.
It is hard to say how long this will last. Probably as long as we can keep the classes full and the college does not need our room for other classes. It has been a very nice partnership for our club and for the college. In the mean time we have been able to save money in case we can someday own a building.

It would be very interesting to know what all of the different clubs in our Northwest Federation have done about having a lapidary shop. I am guessing there are many different situations ranging from no lapidary shop, to getting together at a members house, to renting a space to owning a building. I would love to hear the different stories about what your club is doing, because your story may help another club in their search for a solution. Send your story to myself or our newsletter editor and we will share it.

Honoree of the NFMS Scholarship Fund

Because she has in the past and continues to be so active and dedicated to her local club... Because she has in the past and continues to dedicate so much time and energy to the NFMS,... Because she is dedicating time and energy to the AFMS... Because she is well respected by all of her peers... And last but not least... Because she is an all around nice individual...

I am nominating

\textit{Evelyn Cataldo}

as the "Honoree of the NFMS Scholarship fund" for the year 2015.

As recipient of this position she will select the individuals to receive the NFMS scholarships for the year 2015 and announce these individuals at the awards banquet in Ogden Utah in April.

Congratulations Evelyn and thank you for accepting this honor and for your many contributions.

\textit{Warren Rood}

NFMS President 2014-2015

Hello to All,

I am sure everyone had a great Thanksgiving and are now enjoying the Holiday Season.

First of all, I would like to congratulate Evelyn Cataldo on being nominated as the Honoree of the NFMS Scholarship Fund for the year 2015. Our President Warren has made an excellent choice. Lakeside Gem & Mineral Club where Evelyn belongs is an amazing club as you all know by attending the NFMS mid-year meetings or the NFMS annual meeting held in 2012. I have been collecting the membership data since 2007 to see the trend and her club has grown 185% since 2007 and it is the second largest club (including the juniors) in the NFMS behind Timpanogos Gem & Mineral Society in Utah. I am sure Evelyn has contributed a lot to their activities in her club in order to have this increase in membership. And she has been heavily contributing to the NFMS as everyone knows.

Regarding the trend of the NFMS membership I wrote in the last issue, I haven’t seen all the details, but have the data in and see the trend. Maybe you have a success story or some kind of warning
of what may impact the membership in your club. It would be nice
if you could share your stories in the NFMS newsletter or let me
know by emailing to htkira@spiritone.com.

Writing about memberships, I have the numbers for all the
federations in the AFMS from 2007 to 2014 with the help of AFMS
Central Office, Steve Weinberger and AFMS Treasurer, Pat LaRue.
The growth from 2007 to 2014, NFMS was the best of all and was
138%. The others were Rocky Mountain 106%, Mid West 100%,
South Central 97%, California 92%, Eastern 92% and South Eastern
73%, so we are doing pretty well.

Clackamette Mineral & Gem Club in Oregon City, OR where
I belong had their 50th Annual Show in late October and it was a
very successful show. The attendance was almost the same as last
year, but our show income significantly increased and set another
record exceeding the record we set last year.

I would like to share one of the new things we did this year
for the show. As I wrote in my previous articles, our club has
fundraising departments such as a Silent Auction, Slab Sales,
Bargain Rock, Kids Korner, Raffle, etc. This year, one of our
dealers had to cancel and so we had the opportunity to add one more
section to experiment with the sales of large rocks using three 8'
tables including one as the back table. When our club acquires
rocks, there are always large ones mixed in which are not good
enough for our auction and too big to put in the planting pots that
we use for the sales of bargain rocks. In the past, we sold some in
the Bargain Rock area and even tried to break them up to make them
fit in the pots. Lots of them are too nice to bust up and we were
accumulating a large stockpile.

The surprising result of this new sales area was that they sold
very well even though we priced them quite a bit higher than our
bargain rocks. Since it was our 50th annual show, we decided to give
away a large rock every 30 minutes during the show using the same
tickets that we use for Door Prizes. This was to advertise the new
section and I believe this contributed to getting the attention of the
visitors. In our meetings after the show, we decide to have this new
section as a new independent department. I am sure many of the
clubs in the NFMS are doing these kinds of things, but if you
haven’t, it is worth a try!

The Quartzsite shows in Arizona will be starting soon and
some of you may have already left. As wrote in my previous issue, it
is a fun place to go see all kinds of new rocks that you don’t see
around here. There are many places for rockhounding and you can
enjoy the nice warm weather that we don’t have here during the
winter in the Northwest. The ALAA meeting and the Annual Clean-
Up will be scheduled during the shows, so please check out
www.amlands.org for details and try to participate if you can. The
clean-up will be a very good opportunity for us to keep continuing
our good relationship with the BLM in the area, which is very
important for rockhounds. Also Quartzsite is a great place where
you can purchase material for your club show such as raffle prizes
or door prizes for a very reasonable price. When I joined the rock
club in late 2012, an older member told me that if you are a
rockhound, you have to go to Quartzsite at least once in your
lifetime. It is such a fun place that once was not enough for me and I
am sure you will feel the same way if you go there!

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to All!!

April 10-12, 2015 is not that far away
NFMS Annual Meeting
Ogden, Utah

ALL American Club Award Opening

We have an opening for an NFMS committee chair for the All American Club Award. This is a new
position from the American Federation of the Mineralogical Society(AFMS), which is to encourage clubs to
assemble a "yearbook" or record of the activities and accomplishments they have done in the past year. Awards are
given to clubs. The committee chair writes an article or two for our NFMS paper to encourage the clubs. The clubs
send in the book or digital form to the committee chair, which then sends the entries to (AFMS). The AFMS
November Newsletter has more details and forms which you can find on their website. Please contact Warren
Rood if you can help by filling this opening.
The Golden Spike Gem and Mineral Society has selected Arland Stark as its 2014 Rockhound of the Year. Arland joined the club in 1970 and held the offices of President, Vice President, Treasurer, Show Chair and Field Trip Leader. As Field Trip Leader, several of his trips were written up in Rock & Gem magazine. He has served on the Board of Directors for many years and is currently serving as the club Parliamentarian and an advisor to the Board of Directors. Arland is eager to share his knowledge and enjoys teaching the lapidary arts.

The Marcus Whiteman Gem and Mineral Society of Walla Walla has named Jack Edwards as its 2014 Rockhound of the Year. Jack, a former NFMS President, has served the club in the past as President, Vice President, Show Chair and Shop Foreman. Jack and his wife Charlene have been avid rockhounds and collectors for many years and are always willing to share digging locations and knowledge with club members. Jack’s spheres of various materials are always a favorite display at the club show. Jack’s knowledge of club procedures and the routine running of a club are greatly appreciated.

Oregon Agate and Mineral Society nominates Jim Urbaniak for Rockhound of the Year. Here are some of the many reasons why: As 2014 president, he set a goal of 20% increase in membership for 2014 and we have met that already. He started an intra-club rock exchange and has traded quality rock and minerals with clubs around the U.S. and the world. These will be used for a rock of the month prize, for sales at our annual show, etc. He has set us up on many social media websites. He is an advisor to the Rice Northwest Museum of Rocks & Minerals board of directors and is one of Oregon Agate's liaison with the Oregon Museum of Science and Industry (OMSI) and was instrumental in getting Oregonite and Josephinite as Oregon Twin Minerals passed into law.

Has been published in Rock & Gem and other magazines and has made up a program about rocks and minerals for blind and vision impaired people. He has formed and activated many club committees and in getting us more involved in the efforts of ALAA to keep public lands open for rockhounding and other public uses.

Jim has many connections with people in the Portland Regional organization and NFMS and in the earth sciences field and is well liked and respected by all who know him.

Lakeside Gem & Mineral Club of Kennewick, Washington proudly announces that Pat Lambert has been named as their 2014 AFMS Rockhound of the Year. Pat has been the Membership Chairlady for the past seven years. Not only does she receipt-in dues, issue membership cards, maintain a membership list, greet members and guests at the meetings, make member name tags for both the club meetings and the annual show, Pat does the same for our Junior Club! She has also been responsible for the folding, addressing and posting of the club newsletter. Pat is always there helping with club projects. In addition, Pat is the Show Coordinator for the NFMS. Pat, we appreciate all that you do for us and we love having you as a member of our club.

The Mt. Hood Rock Club is pleased to announce that it has chosen Lee & Elizabeth Boerner as the Rockhound of the Year for 2014. They joined our club in 2008. Lee has been a Board member for 3 years and he has been the major support for the equipment in our shop. He has spent many hours in the shop repairing and rebuilding sanders, grinders and saws making sure that they were available for use. This work was performed over about a 3 year period. This year we had to move our lapidary shop to a new location and Lee & Elizabeth took control and made sure the move was controlled and complete. Now they are the central figures for setting up the new shop so that it can work in the most effective manner. For their dedication and support, we choose them for this award in 2014.

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.

DO NOT SEND THIS INFORMATION TO THE EDITOR ! ! !

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.

DO NOT SEND THIS INFORMATION TO THE EDITOR ! ! !

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

THANK YOU FROM THE EDITOR!
Don’t Forget . . .

NFMS Dues are DUE !!!

AFMS WEBSITE CONTEST 2015
By Cheri George

Our Federation is not as active in submitting websites for the AFMS Website Contest as I would like it to be. But thanks to Donn Ullery from the West Seattle Rock Club for submitting his Website or we would have been sitting there looking like a bunch of schmucks! Let’s get our ducks in order this year and submit the websites for evaluation. Who knows, you might win 1st Place. I know there a lot of fine websites out there, because I have looked at them. One year a chairman from another federation picked five who he thought were good and submitted them without using the Webmasters form. It was very interesting. Two of them placed in AFMS and the Webmasters were quite shocked to receive their certificates. I really don’t want to do that, as I think that the Webmaster or the club President should be the one to submit their Website.

A big hearty congratulations to Donn Ullery for his First Place in NFMS, and second place in AFMS. We will keep on trying, I know there is a First place quality website out there in NFMS-land. Let’s go people!!

Our closing date for accepting applications is 1 February 2015, since our show is fairly early this will give the judges a chance to get all their perusing done; and give me time to get the trophy. Thank you!!

I can’t believe I did that.
By Chuck Sonner, Safety Chair

“I can’t believe I did that or that will never happen to me” are statements that can be made just after and just before a self inflicted injury. Why am I saying this? Well, Warren Rood reminded me of a lady he knew who got her hair caught in the pulley system of a rock saw.

I wrote an article earlier about the problem. Since that article, these types of injuries are still happening. I even had a club member tell me he removed the pulley covers to give him more room. Safety devices are there for one reason only - SAFETY.

New equipment we purchase for our hobby, come with safety rules. Used equipment not so much. Check on line for those rules or ask experienced club members. I worked with a young man whose hand was pulled into a meat tenderizer. He was wearing gloves. That was against safety rules.

Remember, only you can protect yourself.

Merry Christmas

SWITCH IT.
Save Time,
Save Money,
Save Trees

You can switch over and receive this newsletter via e-mail.

You will get it earlier, it will save money and paper.

Ask your local editor or whoever keeps the membership list to switch it. Contact Brad Larson at nfms.webmaster@gmail.com.
OGDEN-GRAM #2

By Evan Day

For those who like to make their reservations early; the Headquarters for the NFMS 2015 Show and Annual Meeting is Ogden's “Comfort Suites Hotel”. At this “full service” inn, we will not only have exceptionally nice rooms with full breakfasts included; but the committee luncheons and the Awards Banquet are also taken care of by their on-site restaurant. Just off I-15, it is a short drive to the show site, and and 21st street is an easy access road to downtown Ogden with all of its attractions. For reduced rates, be sure to mention you are with the “NFMS convention”. Call (801) 621-2545 or visit their website at “http://www.comfortsuites.com/hotel-ogden-utah-UT422”.

On the other side of I-15 is the full hookup Century Mobile Home and RV Park. They also will offer a reduced rate if enough folks make reservations. (801-731-3800) or “http://centuryparkrv.com”) There is free dry camping in a paved parking lot right next to the Show; and the fairgrounds has several “electric only” spots next to the equestrian facilities about a block away.

The NFMS Annual Meeting will be at 4:00 on Friday afternoon, about 100 yards from the show building in the Golden Spike Events Center. The ALAA meeting will be just before, at 1:00 Friday in the same conference room. We have invited U.S Representative Rob Bishop, whose district includes Ogden, to speak to us. Mr. Bishop is the designated Chairman of the House Natural Resources Committee in the incoming 2015 Congress! This is the key body for everything we Rock-hounds are concerned about! Rob's schedule is not yet settled, but we are optimistic we can get him.

The Awards Banquet will be in the Baja Room of the Hotel, buffet style so we all get good hot servings. Bob Jones, editor of “Rock & Gem Magazine, will probably be our featured speaker at the Dinner. He will confirm this later (after his computer gets fixed. (Even HE isn't immune!)

Elsewhere in this NFMS newsletter, you will find the application forms for exhibiting at the Show. The same forms serve for both Competitive and Non-competitive displays. Just fill in the appropriate parts pertaining to your application. We will have a at least 60 cases, with first priority given to Competitive exhibits; next to Non-competitive exhibits from folks in clubs outside of Ogden, and the rest from around the area. At Hermiston last August, the Rice Museum in Portland offered to bring one of their wonderful items, a special treat indeed.

In addition, we will be delighted if folks in the NFMS volunteer to Demonstrate their many skills during the Show. Let me know if you can do so, and I will have our Demo chairman call you for details. Also scour your yard and garage for good stuff to bring to the Silent Auction.

During the Show we will be treated to tours of the Eccles Dinosaur Park acres of life-size reproductions of these pre-historic creatures. In the main building are many more exhibits, and the Palentology Laboratory staffed by several volunteer Golden Spike Club members in association with the Natural History Museum of Utah.

Field trips to Topaz Mountain and Wendover (in the West Desert) are on tap. More information later as ideas and the weather develop.

More details will follow in future Ogden-Grams. Questions? Contact Evan Day at 801-391-2912 or email to eday@sisna.com.

OGDEN-GRAM #2 12-10-14
COMPETITIVE & NON-COMPETITIVE ENTRY FORM
Fri: 9am – 6, Sat 10am – 6, Sun 10am – 4pm April 10, 11, 12, 2015
Weber County Fairgrounds
Ogden, UT

NAME______________________________________________________________
ADDRESS__________________________________________________________
PHONE______________________EMAIL_________________________________
Society___________________________________________________________

EXHIBITOR GROUP: MASTER___ ADVANCED___ NOVICE___ JUNIOR___
SOCIETY___ JUNIOR SOCIETY___ (JUNIOR’S BIRTHDATE)___________

EXHIBIT DIVISION_____ EXHIBIT CLASS_____
Do you have your own case?_____ Size: Width_______ Height______ Depth__________
Do you need a Club case? _____

CERTIFICATION FOR EXHIBITORS
I hereby certify that all material in competition by me is my own personal property. If, Society, all material belongs to members of the Society. All work, except minor findings or where otherwise allowed by the rules, was completed by me. I have read the current rules and agree to abide by them.

Exhibitor’s Signature_________________________________________________

PRINT NAME______________________________________________________

Exhibitor’s Society ________________________________________________

I certify, as an officer of the above named society, that the exhibitor is a member in good standing of that society, and to the best of my knowledge is eligible to exhibit in the stated classification according to the AFMS Rules.

Signature______________________________ Title_____________________________

If this is sent email: we need the officer’s email________________________________

Date____________________

BOTH PAGES MUST BE SENT BACK
Be sure and make a copy for your files

NOTE: These forms should also be used to reserve space for a NON-COMPETITIVE case; just ignore EXHIBITOR GROUP, DIVISION and CLASS, and certification signatures. However, please give us a brief description of your display (or any special requests), to help in assigning a good location for you.

Page 2 of 2
Camp Hancock Thank You and Offer of Silver Classes
By Chris and Peggy Blickfield

We want to give a big Thank-you to all of you that have been to Hancock or tried to get there. We are the instructors in the silver and casting classes. We have learned so much from all of you as you constantly ask to learn new things and we have to stretch our minds to keep up with your desires. This retreat only happens once a year and many of you have asked repeatedly if we would teach other silver classes. We are now in a position to do that and would be happy to come and teach at your club activity. Most of you know that we have been members of the Federation for over 40 years and love seeing programs geared to people wanting to further their knowledge in the field. We love sharing our knowledge with others in hopes that they will also share. This will also give us a chance to visit with some of you that we only see once a year. Chris and Peggy Blickfield grumpies@q.com

From the Editor’s Rockpile
By Beth Heesacker

First I want to wish you all a very Blessed and Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukah, Happy Kwanza, etc. It is a season to celebrate what we believe in and to hold on close to family. We will be spending some time with our children, eating good food (some of them will be eating lots of food – more about that later) and going to see the Hobbit movie with them. Not much in the way of rockhounding to do in the cold, wet weather we are having. I am still working on my micro and thumbnail collection so I guess that counts. I just recently completed updating my database so I can click on a hyperlink and look up information on Mindat for each mineral. This will make it easier to access this information and learn more.

I need to make sure I am up to date before we go to Ogden for the NFMS meetings. I have been assured that there will be mineral hunting field trips and I am anticipation bring home quite a few new species and crystals. I do understand that the mountains will not be clear of snow yet but there are some desert places that should be ok to collect in. The excitement builds.

I ask that you all hold me in your prayers for my surgery on January 8th. It is only supposed to be a couple days stay in the hospital and then a few weeks recuperating as long as all goes well. And about that food issue - in anticipation of the surgery I was asked to lose some weight. I have lost about 35 pounds since mid September and am a shadow of my former self. Not really. I hope I can get through our club’s Christmas Party and the rest of the holiday feasting without veering from my allotted menu. I hope then that I can keep up the loss even after the surgery. I am told that very few people keep weight loss off for very long but it would sure make all the rockhounding field trips much easier. I have a goal and having a goal will assist in achieving it.

Continuing on that train of thought, with the New Year we usually make resolutions/goals and I hope that all your good resolutions will be achieved. May you have a very Happy and Healthy New Year.

p.s. I apologize for the size of the font in the Show Schedule. In order to get it all in I had to really shrink it down. Get out your magnifying glass or jeweler’s loupe and see what the new year has in store. Thanks!
The Annual Meeting
Is Just a Few Months Away!
April 10-12, 2015
Ogden, Utah

A REMINDER AND REQUEST FROM THE CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE

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

The Credential forms below must be completed by

the designated director/delegate, signed by the Club President and Secretary, and brought by the director and delegate to the annual meeting. Or, this should be done by the alternate delegate(s), if necessary. Send the name(s) (not the
credentials forms) at least two weeks prior to the meeting to:

Clara & Del Walker
12377 SE Davis Loop
Prineville, OR 97754

Phone: 541-447-7826 (cell: 503-812-6540) or email to cdwalker@q.com
(note email address is new...and that is a “Q” not a “G”)

NFMS DIRECTOR’S CREDENTIALS

Name of Director __________________________
Name of Club ____________________________
City, State ______________________________
Club President Signature __________________
Club Secretary Signature __________________
Date ____________________________

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

NFMS DELEGATE’S CREDENTIALS

Name of Delegate __________________________
Name of Club ____________________________
City, State ______________________________
Club President Signature __________________
Club Secretary Signature __________________
Date ____________________________

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

Ore-Rock-On On DVD Version 5.3

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for full details see http://OreRockOn.com/CD.htm
Hello fellow rockhounds!!! I hope that everyone has had a fantastic holiday season and a rocking start to the New Year.

As many of you can see, I'm a fresh face to the Public Lands Advisory position within the Northwest Federation. Therefore, I'd like to give you all a quick bio of who I am along with what I'm looking to accomplish so that every rockhound may continue to enjoy our hobby.

I have been into sticks, stones, and bones all of my life. Basically, anything made by nature that had special attributes garnered my attention. It really wasn't until my early 30's that I realized that there were others similarly afflicted with this obsession...called rockhounds!

Once I found out that I wasn't alone with this condition, I began to search for others like me. This is how I found myself becoming a member of the Spokane Rock Rollers Gem and Mineral club.

Since joining the club in May of 2011, my admiration of shiny rocks and the land in which they are found, has led me to take on several positions.

Within my club, I am about to begin my second year as the federation director and my first year as a club rep for the ALAA.

Outside of the club, I have been recruited as an Eastern Washington rep for the ALAA itself and a lead for the organization in searching for a way to re-open the Lolo National Forest for the collection of smokey quartz crystals.

My position as "Public Lands Advisory" is going to be very similar as my position within the ALAA. They both have a similar goal...to search out and find issues of access to our public lands.

As many of you already know, there are quite a number of issues that can have a negative impact on rockhounds. Examples of such are land closures, forest travel plan modifications, land transfers, collecting prohibitions, etc. These are the sort of issues that clubs and individuals need to be aware of as soon as they start to develop so a plan of action can be developed early on to try on prevent access limitations. Once limitations are in place, it is an uphill struggle to reverse them.

There are also circumstances that arise that can be of benefit to the rockhound community. An example of what I mean can be found in Washington State. Recently, the state has decided to take a different approach in deciding on how to manage recreation opportunities on newly acquired lands. In two different locations, the state has not only asked for public comment, but also for the public to form an advisory board to help the state in the formation of recreational opportunities. These are the sort of opportunities that we as rockhounds need to be jumping on immediately so that our input can be put into consideration.

Roadblocks are commonly very subtle in nature. Agencies making changes of any sort quite often do so in a very quiet fashion. Much of the time, only a handful of rockhounds might have a small amount of knowledge of what's happening and that's usually because they live in the immediate area. When these issues arise, often times the individual rockhound feels at a loss as to what they should do. Who would they report these issues to? What can they do about circumventing these issues before access becomes denied? Can I get others to help join me in a group effort to confront these issues?

What I hope to do through this Advisory position is to encourage all individual rockhounds to pay attention to what's developing in their immediate area. As soon as you hear about something, negative or positive, let me know about it. I can then provide that information to both the Federation as well as the ALAA so that awareness is spread out to all rockhounds in the nation so that we, as a large group, can create a collective effort to hopefully prevent access limitations to our public lands. To contact me with any information, please email me at rockroller_ALAA@yahoo.com

Additionally, I have created a Facebook page so that anyone in the rockhound nation can join and inform others of access issues in an immediate fashion. The page is titled "United Rockhounds for Accessible Lands (URAL)". Simply send an add request to join.

IRS Late Filing Penalty- Good News!
from Lyle Vogelpohl, Treasurer

At the Annual Meeting at Hermiston I reported that the NFMS was assessed a $1420.00 penalty for filing our tax return late. This was due to our tax preparer failing to file a request for "Extension of Time for Filing" Form. Correspondence between the NFMS and the IRS, and between the NFMS, the tax preparer and the IRS resulted with a notice from the IRS stating that the penalty was correct. On July 18, 2014 I mailed a check to the IRS in the amount of $1429.01 (9.01 interest accrued).

In early October our tax preparer called to inform me they had made contact with a "real person" at the IRS, and that this person, upon reviewing our account and the circumstances for the late filing, said that the penalty would be refunded. On October 31, 2014 I received a check from the IRS in the amount of $1438.68. This amount included a reduction of $8.43 in the original interest charged and then allowed us interest of $10.25 on our payment (much better interest than what the NFMS is receiving from the banks).

The NFMS tax return for fiscal year September 1, 2013 thru August 31, 2014 has been completed and filed. No problems this year.
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<th>Date/Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Show Name</th>
<th>Contact</th>
<th>Phone</th>
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<tr>
<td>Feb. 7 - 8, 2015</td>
<td>Whidbey Island Gem Club</td>
<td>Oak Harbor Senior Center, 51 SE Jerome Street</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Rock9@whidbey.net">Rock9@whidbey.net</a></td>
<td>360 675 1837</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri, Sat, Sun 9:30–5:30</td>
<td>Oregon Agate and Mineral Society</td>
<td>OMSI (Oregon Museum of Science and Industry), 1945 SE Water Avenue Portland OR</td>
<td><a href="mailto:justomemorerock@yahoo.com">justomemorerock@yahoo.com</a></td>
<td>307 286 0023</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb. 13-15, 2015</td>
<td>Idaho Gem Club</td>
<td>Expo Idaho, 5610 Glenwood Boise ID 83714</td>
<td>Brent Steward         <a href="mailto:rockslybrent@gmail.com">rockslybrent@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>208 342 1151</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat 10-6, Sun 10-5</td>
<td>East KingCo Rock Club</td>
<td>Pickering Barn, 1730 10 Avenue NW Issaquah, WA</td>
<td>Robin Feiner          <a href="mailto:rfeiner@rocketmail.com">rfeiner@rocketmail.com</a> or <a href="mailto:eastkingco@gmail.com">eastkingco@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>P.O. Box 2203 Redmond, WA 98073</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 6 &amp; 7, 2015</td>
<td>Panorama Gem and Mineral Club</td>
<td>Colville Fairgrounds Ag Building, 317 West Astor, Colville WA</td>
<td>Bill Allen         509 935 8779 <a href="mailto:sagot@theofficenet.com">sagot@theofficenet.com</a></td>
<td>509 935 8779</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri – 8:30 – 6, Sat – 9 – 5</td>
<td>Owyhee Gem &amp; Mineral Society</td>
<td>O’Connor Field House 2200 Blaine, Caldwell, Idaho</td>
<td>Durell Ehlers</td>
<td>208-674-1213 <a href="mailto:ddeblers@fmc.com">ddeblers@fmc.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>March 13 – 15, 2015</td>
<td>Tualatin Valley Rock and Gem Club</td>
<td>Hillsboro Fair Plex, 873 NE 34th Avenue Hillsboro OR</td>
<td>Walt Butler</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Walterrebutter@comcast.net">Walterrebutter@comcast.net</a> PO Box 641 Forest Grove OR 97116</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat 9 – 5, Sat 9 – 5</td>
<td>Magic Valley Gem Club</td>
<td>Twin Falls County Fairgnds, Merchant Building #1, 215 Fair Avenue, Filer ID</td>
<td>Shirley Metts</td>
<td>208 423 4827 <a href="mailto:imetts@centurylink.net">imetts@centurylink.net</a> Main Street South Kimberly ID 83341</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat 9 – 5, Sun 10 – 5</td>
<td>NW Montana Rock Chucks</td>
<td>Flathead County Fairgnds., 265 North Meridian Road, Kalsipell MT</td>
<td>Kathy Fager</td>
<td><a href="mailto:babcock@montanasky.net">babcock@montanasky.net</a> NW MT Rock Chucks PO Box 5541 Kalsipell MT 59903</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 21 – 22, 2015</td>
<td>Hellgate Mineral Society</td>
<td>Hilton Garden Inn, 3720 North Reserve Street, Missoula MT</td>
<td>Bob Riggs</td>
<td>406 543 3667 14 Holiday Lane Missoula MT 59801 406 543 3667</td>
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<td>March 27 – 29, 2015</td>
<td>Rock Rollers Club of Spokane WA</td>
<td>Spokane County Fair &amp; Expo, N.604 Havana at Broadway, Spokane WA</td>
<td>David Rapp</td>
<td>509 891 6533 <a href="mailto:showchair@rockrollers.org">showchair@rockrollers.org</a></td>
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<td>March 28 – 29, 2015</td>
<td>Mt. Baker Rock and Gem Club</td>
<td>Bloedel Donovan Com. Center, 2214 Electric Avenue, Bellingham WA</td>
<td>Tracy Jackson</td>
<td>360 366 0576 <a href="mailto:tracyjackson@comcast.net">tracyjackson@comcast.net</a> <a href="http://www.mtbakerrockclub.org">www.mtbakerrockclub.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>March 28 – 29, 2015</td>
<td>Sweet Home Rock and Mineral Society</td>
<td>Sweet Home High School Gym, 1641 Long Street, Sweet Home OR</td>
<td>Joe Cota</td>
<td>541 451 2740 PO Box 2279 Lebanon OR 97355</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 10 – 12, 2015</td>
<td>Golden Spike Gem and Mineral Society</td>
<td>Golden Spike Event Center, Weber County Fairgrounds, 1000 N 1200 W, Ogden UT 88440</td>
<td>Deborah Blake</td>
<td>385 205 9187 PO Box 12835 Ogden UT 84412 For NFMS information contact Evan Day 801 391 2912 <a href="mailto:eyday@aisa.com">eyday@aisa.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>April 11 – 12, 2015</td>
<td>Yakima Rock and Mineral Club</td>
<td>**New Location, Central Washington State Fair Grounds, Modern Living Building, 1301 S Fair Ave, Yakima WA 98901</td>
<td>Marti Sondgeroth</td>
<td>509 248 6401 (evenings – leave message) <a href="mailto:martihams@s.com">martihams@s.com</a> 2013 South 41st Avenue Yakima WA 98903</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 17-19, 2015</td>
<td>Willamette Agate and Mineral Society</td>
<td>Polk County Fairgrounds, 520 S Pacific Hwy W, Rickreall, OR 97371</td>
<td>Ethleen Flippo</td>
<td>503-623-4241 <a href="mailto:refliippo@yahoo.com">refliippo@yahoo.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>April 18 – 19, 2015</td>
<td>Lakeside Gem and Mineral Club</td>
<td>Benton County Fairgrounds, 1500 South Oak, Kennewick WA</td>
<td>Mary Lou Omstead</td>
<td>509 783 2798 PO Box 6652 Kennewick WA 99336</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 18 &amp; 19, 2015</td>
<td>Idaho Falls Gem and Mineral Society</td>
<td>Idaho Falls Recreation Center, B Street, Idaho Falls ID</td>
<td>Dave Gunderson</td>
<td>208 523 2355 or Tom Strong 337 384 6820 PO Box 2362 Idaho Falls ID 83403</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 24 – 26, 2015</td>
<td>Mt. Hood Rock Club</td>
<td>Kliever Memorial NG Armory, 10000 NE 33rd Dr., Portland OR 97221</td>
<td>Contact: <a href="mailto:nhrcshow@gmail.com">nhrcshow@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>360 992 9220</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 25 &amp; 26, 2015</td>
<td>Grays Harbor Gem and Geology Society</td>
<td>Grays Harbor County Fairgnds, 43 Elma-McCleary Road,Elma WA</td>
<td>Gary Emberley</td>
<td>624 Fairmont Place Aberdeen, WA 98520 360 533 6196 <a href="mailto:melissa624@hotmail.com">melissa624@hotmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 25 &amp; 26, 2015</td>
<td>West Seattle Rock Club</td>
<td>Aliki Masonic Temple, 4736 40th Avenue SW, Seattle WA</td>
<td>Leroy Christensen</td>
<td>206 582 2267 <a href="mailto:soundview@home.com.comcast.net">soundview@home.com.comcast.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 2 &amp; 3, 2015</td>
<td>Umpqua Gem &amp; Mineral Club</td>
<td>Douglas County Fairgrounds, I-5 Exit 123 Roseburg OR</td>
<td>Sue Woodward</td>
<td>541 391 3347 <a href="mailto:rocksandhorses3@gmail.com">rocksandhorses3@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 2 &amp; 3, 2015</td>
<td>Everett Rock and Gem Club</td>
<td>Everett Comm. College, Student Fitness Ctr, 2206 Tower Street, Everett WA</td>
<td>Fritz Mack</td>
<td>425 232 0809 PO Box 1615 Everett WA 98206</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 5 – 7, 2015</td>
<td>Puyallup Valley Gem and Mineral Club</td>
<td>Swiss Park 9205 198th Avenue East Bonney Lake WA 98390</td>
<td>Nancy LeMay <a href="mailto:bees2knees@att.net">bees2knees@att.net</a> 253 952 6216, PVGMC % Club Show, PO Box 134, Puyallup WA 98371 <a href="mailto:info@puyallupgemclub.org">info@puyallupgemclub.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>June 13 &amp; 14, 2015</td>
<td>Butte Mineral and Gem Club</td>
<td>Butte Civic Center Annex, 1340 Harrison Avenue, Butte MT</td>
<td>Joe Slouber</td>
<td>406 494 3034 PO Box 4492 Butte MT 59702</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 24 &amp; 25</td>
<td>Clackamette Mineral and Gem Club</td>
<td>Clackamas County Fairgrounds, 694 Ne. 4th Ave, Canby OR 97013</td>
<td>Beth Heesacker</td>
<td><a href="mailto:beesacker@coho.net">beesacker@coho.net</a>, 4145 NW Heesacker Rd., Forest Grove, OR 97116</td>
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