



NORTHWEST NEWSLETTER



TIME SENSITIVE MATERIAL

Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies
Tom Burchard, Circulation
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2019 NFMS Convention/Lewiston Show More than Successful... Even Better: Memorable

Lewiston ID The 2019 Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies' Show and Convention hosted by the Hells Canyon Gem Club, Inc. was not only successful and memorable, but produced the biggest gem show ever in the Lewis-Clark Valley.

The show co-chaired by Randy Squires, Rick Westerholm, and Linn Enger was held at the Nez Perce County Fair Building in Lewiston, Idaho. NFMS meetings and gatherings were conveniently held on the grounds in a building next to the show with the NFMS Awards Banquet at the Lewiston Red Lion Hotel.



Lauren Williams (left) Presents Lamar and Merlia Tilgner with the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies' Scholarship Foundation 2019 Honoree Award at the NFMS Banquet.

Special attractions at the show included gemstones, carvings, and jewelry from around the world. Exquisite displays of stone carvings by Mario and Sons' master carvers Mario Marcella and his son Joey and many displays of intarsia by the Hell's Canyon Intarsia masters, Tom Blimka, Jerry Blimka, Linn Enger, Jeremy Giard, and Ralph Mathewson pleased the eye.

NFMS competitive displays did not disappoint with Linn Enger's beautiful Tiffany-style lamp shades of agate in floral designs lighting the way in Masters CS-1 with a score of 100%. Linn was awarded the blue ribbon and the "Specialized Lapidary" Trophy. Randy Squires displayed his skill in CC-1 Cabochons in the Masters group with a red ribbon and Teresa Stevenson shared her wire-wrapping in competition for the first time earning a blue ribbon at the Novice group level. Junior Yakima Club member, Brenna Baker shared her collection in an Education (EGC-1) class Mineral division display about crystal structures earning a score of 98% in the Adult Novice group taking the T-28 Trophy: Educational II, and the Lester Ziehen Memorial Trophy for best "Mineral" exhibit. All the displays, competitive and non-competitive, were well executed with a variety of material and exhibited the spectrum of lapidary arts. The NFMS Competitive Exhibits Committee and the Judges did an excellent job as usual.

The show was well organized, well promoted, and well attended. A thirty-two page
(Continued on Page 8)



The swearing-in ceremony led by (L-R): Lauren Williams (Past AFMS & NFMS President) Lyle Vogelpohl (Treasurer), Judi Allison (Secretary), Larry Hulstrom (2nd VP), Beth Heesacker (VP), Ken Zahn (President).

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NEWSLETTER DEADLINE:

JANUARY 1, 2020
Submit articles to Ronna Watkins at
NFMSronna(at)gmail.com

► EDITOR WANTED ◀

To see this newsletter in color:

<http://NorthwestFederation.org/Newsletters.asp>

Happy Holiday!

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PROGRAM COMPETITION - Darrell Watkins

SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION - Lauren Williams

THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW**NFMS Club-at-Large: 1st Vice President** (see above)

The **AMERICAN LANDS ACCESS ASSOCIATION (ALAA)** is a 501(c)(4) organization. Its purpose is to promote and ensure the right of amateur hobby fossil and mineral collecting, recreational prospecting and mining, and the use of public and private lands for educational and recreational purposes; and to carry the voice of all amateur collectors and hobbyists to our elected officials, government regulators and public lands managers. Your annual individual/couple membership fee is \$25 which helps support their activities. Club membership is \$50 per year. Send to Treasurer, P.O. Box 54398, San Jose, CA 95154. Make checks payable to: American Lands Access Assn. Applications can be downloaded at: www.amlands.org on the left side of the page. For more information contact: Frank Mullaney 408-266-1791, Cell: 408-691-2655, rockyfiv@aol.com.

The **AFMS NEWSLETTER** is published monthly except Jan-Jul-Aug by the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies. Each NFMS member society 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 (\$5 per year). Contact: Suzanne Webb 9895 Kerrydale Court, Reno NV 98521-4401 editor@amfed.org 775-624-8446 Make checks payable to "AFMS".

The **NORTHWEST NEWSLETTER** is the official publication of the Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies (NFMS) and is published at least 6 times per year. Each member is entitled to receive a mailed copy of this publications with their membership. Please check with your Club membership person to assure you are receiving this means of keeping you informed of the activities and events pertaining to the business and services of the Federation. Club membership points-of-contact are encouraged to forward names and addresses of new club members, soon after they join, to both the Directory Chair and the Circulation Chair, so that Newsletter distribution by mail to them can be started as soon as practicable. The newsletters are also posted to the Federation website electronically and archived there for members to review and/or download.

For matters related to this newsletter (i.e. content, advertising, etc.) contact the Newsletter Chair. For matters related to this newsletter distribution (new members, address changes, etc.) contact the Circulation Chair.

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

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

**ATTENTION CLUB TREASURERS****Where to send your money****To NFMS Treasurer for:**

1. Membership Dues (new & renewal) and supplies
2. Donations for the general fund
3. Donations to Junior Achievement
4. Advertisement in this Newsletter

Send to: Lyle Vogelpohl, see Treasurer this page.

To NFMS Endowment Fund Treasurer for:

1. Donations to Endowment Fund
2. Memorial contributions

Make check payable to NFMS Endowment Fund, send to Endowment Fund Treasurer, 8810 37th Ave SW, Seattle, WA 98126-3617

To NFMS Scholarship Chairperson for:

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

Make check payable to AFMS Scholarship Fund.
Send to: Mary Lou Northrup mldandjl@yahoo.com (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 (American Lands Access Assn) Treasurer, P.O. Box 54398, San Jose, CA 95154

NFMS Website

<http://northwestfederation.org/>

Join the NFMS Facebook Page

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

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

**NFMS NEWSLETTER AND WEBSITE
ADVERTISEMENT**

Members, Non-members, clubs, etc. can advertise in the Northwest Newsletter. This service is provided to help defray the cost of printing and mailing the newsletter and is encouraged by the Federation. The only criteria for the ad is that it be hobby related (e.g. rocks, equipment, grit, shows, etc.).

Ads for the Northwest Newsletter are
\$1.50 per square inch.

Example: 3" x 4" ad = 12 inches
12 inches x \$1.50 = \$18 per issue of the Newsletter

For an additional 50% of the cost of the Newsletter ad, you can have the same ad placed on the NFMS website for the same length of time. The Newsletter ad must be purchased to receive this additional advertisement.

Do not send ads on colored paper because the back-ground will look gray in the ad. The Editor will send a billing statement to the customer which will include instructions to make payment to the NFMS Treasurer. For more information or questions, call, e-mail or write the **Newsletter Editor**



Ken Zahn

From the PRESIDENT's Desk...

First: Thanks to the members of the Hells Canyon Gem Club, Inc., of Lewiston, Idaho, for hosting the October 2019's NFMS Annual Membership Meeting and live auction during their wonderful show October 18-20.

(<http://www.hellscanyonclub.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/01/2019-FED-SHOW-FLYER.pdf>)
The Club's congenial Triumvirate of Randy Squires, as President as well as Show Co-Chair with Rick Westerholm and Linn Enger were everywhere, putting out fires and directing traffic, and the Northrups and *SO MANY* other club members contributed their special skills in support to make this a great weekend for the community and our Federation.

Special guests Doug and Jeanette True (Doug is our current American Federation President), and Tony and Sandy Fender of the California Federation (Sandy is our current American Federation Scholarship Chair) participated as well, and added their expertise and suggestions to our Federation Officers and Committee Chairs.

The versatile Darryl Powell from New York and Florida (perhaps better known as "Diamond Dan" to our Junior members) (http://www.rockhoundandlapidaryhalloffame.org/uploads/1/6/6/3/16636366/powell_darryl.pdf) added his always-thoughtful comments to our Federation Officers and Directors, Bulletin Editors, and Junior Program Chairs. His banquet keynote address reminded us of the tremendous changes taking place in how young adults prefer to communicate and how important it is to have sincere and "deep-knowing" relationships -- sometimes subtle, sometimes overt, but *always* sincere -- with them if we wish to truly light a spark during their young lives that can shape their futures -- an important element in our relationships with everyone we meet, as well. His "Mini-Miners Monthly" magazine should have been coming to every club within the NFMS this past year for use with your Juniors program: If you're not receiving it (and info on certain reproduction/distribution restrictions), please alert your Federation Director, President, or Secretary to check in with him ([powellpublicationsgroup\(at\)gmail.com](mailto:powellpublicationsgroup@gmail.com)) as to your club contact person's current mail and email addresses.

Second: The Northwest Federation owes a deep debt of gratitude to Ronna Watkins of the Yakima Club for her steadfast leadership over the last 3 years as an Officer. Yes, I know, she was formally only President for 2018-2019, but she was "moving, shooting, and communicating" in so many ways all 3 of those years -- and is already supporting you actively as the Immediate Past President. Ronna's heart has been in the smooth functioning of the NFMS for A LOT LONGER A TIME than even these past 3 years. You've been fortunate to have her as a selfless leader and volunteer. She has my deepest gratitude on your behalf. Please express your thanks to her whenever you see or speak with her.

Third: The next Federation-level show and Membership Meeting is set for Easter weekend, April 10-12, 2020, in conjunction with the fabulous 3-day show of the Golden Spike Gem and Mineral Club in Ogden, Utah. This means that we may see you again in only 5 months time and that there is a lot to do quickly. Right now, we are not planning a Mid-year Federation meeting (as we normally would) due to the shortened time-span. We are hoping, however, to conduct training for AFMS-certified competitive display-case judges during a portion of the April 9-12, 2020 period in Ogden, in view of the great need within our Federation (and within other regional Federations as well) for these certified judges.

This will be a great opportunity for members to "step up" and become a highly valued judge to help our exhibitors grow and be competitive at the AFMS level. You need not be an expert in all the sub-fields of the hobby/craft; you will be training on applying the AFMS standards and procedures to the judging process. We must quickly gauge the level of interest in conducting this training, and A LOT OF DETAILED PLANNING is required. More details will follow in this and near-term newsletters. Again, time is short, so we'd appreciate your serious consideration of being trained in this important function. Please contact one of our Officers (see page 2 of this newsletter), or Doug True (Billings MT Club), Ronna Watkins (Yakima WA Club), Bob Gibson or Darrell Coyle (Hamilton MT Club), or Lauren Williams (ID Falls Club) if you would be willing to take (or conduct part of !!!!) this training. Their contact information is in the 2018-2019 NFMS Directory, provided to each club already (see your President or club-designated NFMS Director).

Fourth: I am especially interested in communicating with club Presidents this year to both learn of, and discuss, problems and concerns you may have within your clubs. As a way to "give back" to this amazing hobby that has so greatly influenced our own "recreational lives," I and the other Officers and Committee Chairs are here to assist you and your members in growing, maintaining, and experiencing proactive and rewarding clubs. Thanks to those who have stepped up at the Lewiston meeting to chair key committees or functions. They have our thanks in advance for their interest and dedication. There are several extremely important vacancies, however (see page 2), that need your consideration as to volunteering to lead. I know that the skills are there among our nearly 6,000 members, the rewards are many, and your dedication -- if you lead an area -- will be both so greatly appreciated.

Fifth: Finally, having attended the Lewiston ID show 3 years in a row, I would encourage our Montana members, especially, to plan on making the trip there next year so that (weather permitting) they might experience the incredible scenery and tree color changes one sees in the Lochsa River Canyon every year at that time as you travel between Lolo Pass and Lewiston (and return) via U.S. Hwy 12. I've seen the "Fall Colors" of our Northeastern coastal states -- and they are great -- but the Lochsa River Canyon is almost as spectacular, and is a lot closer.



NFMS President, Ronna Watkins had the honor of presenting Doug True, the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies' President, with his "Outstanding Leadership" Award, during the NFMS Awards Banquet at the Red Lion Hotel in Lewiston, Idaho, Saturday Night, October 19, 2019.



Beth Heesacker

From the 1st VICE PRESIDENT's Desk...

What a great meeting of the NFMS in Lewiston, Idaho! Saw many old friends and new. Did a bit of shopping (more than I should have). Attended numerous meetings including the Annual Meeting, Awards Dinner, Editors' Breakfast and a couple of NFMS Board meetings. A very busy weekend.

Then we headed home, repacked and went to help our club put on our rock show. Another very busy and productive weekend. We came home exhausted but happy.

It always seems that winter shuts down rockhounding in the Northwest. There are fewer rock shows scheduled, fewer field trips to go on, etc., because the weather changes. It is hard to find pretty rocks when there is snow on top of them. So, what is one to do?

Sort out the buckets of rock that you brought home during the summer. Fire up the rock saws, the sphere machines, the grinders and the faceting machines. Wire wrap or mount cabochons to make exquisite jewelry. Lots of things to do while the cold winds blow and the rain or snow falls.

Some of us are into the mineral side of the hobby, like me, and I am making plans on heading south to Quartzsite, to the Southern California Micromineral Conference and then on to Tucson (weather and fires permitting). I also hope to sort and catalogue more of my collection when I am home.

I guess what I am getting at is that rockhounding can be a year-round hobby. This time of year is also your chance to investigate ways you can help your rock club. Think of presentations that you can give at your meeting. Maybe you took pictures during a field trip. Use them in a PowerPoint presentation so the group can reminisce about the trip or use them to excite others to go on the next year's trips.

Maybe bring some great pieces that you collected and exhibit them on a display table, if your club has one. Otherwise, just have them on the table in front of you and talk about them. Maybe some cabs or slabs that you have made can be on exhibit too. These type of simple volunteer efforts can help make your meetings more exciting. AND you will learn more about your rocks.

If your club has a show, they probably are starting to gear up for it during the winter. Volunteer to help. You will learn so much and your show chair will be so grateful!

Remember, you will get more out of volunteering than you give.

Reminder:

NFMS DUES are DUE

Lyle Vogelpohl; Treasurer

Your club should receive a packet of information and forms in mid-November 2019. NFMS dues need to be sent to me by January 10, 2020, along with the other requested information. If your club does not receive this packet, please let me know right away.

The packet contains 3 items:

Item 1) A "Letter of Instruction" on how to complete the other items in the packet.

NFMS dues are based on who was a member of your club in 2019

\$3.50** for EACH ADULT member and \$1.00 for EACH JUNIOR (18 and under). NOT based on who has already paid their dues for 2020.

The NFMS pays the AFMS \$.75 for each adult and junior member from these amounts.

**Note: At the Annual Meeting, October 18, 2019 in Lewiston, Idaho, a motion was made and carried, that earnings from the NFMS Endowment Fund would be used to pay \$1.00 for each ADULT members in all NFMS clubs. Therefore, for this year Adult Dues will be \$2.50 (with the Endowment Fund paying the other \$1.00). Juniors dues remain at \$1.00 each.

The Instruction Sheet also contains order information about the 2020 NFMS Directory. The NFMS Directory includes NFMS Officer and Committee information; all society/club and members information; NFMS Articles of Incorporation and

By-Laws, and the NFMS Program Library catalogue. Each club is provided a free copy each year. Individuals may purchase their own copy for \$10.00.

Item 2) A sheet for your club's information, including club name, website, mailing address, meeting place and time, contact person, and your 2020 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 to the AFMS. The final items on the sheet are spaces for the calculation of your club's dues – adults and juniors, and for Directory orders.

Item 3) This item is the one that I will ask for the most assistance from your club.

We ask that you please update the membership list we send to your club. **Please do NOT send a computer generated print-**

out of your club roster. Think of it this way, the NFMS files contain over 3600 names, addresses, and phone numbers. If you send your club roster it must be checked line by line against the 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 information on your unlisted members, and updating of information on existing members.

Thank you for your help in seeing that your club gets the job done promptly ... dues are due by the 10th of January.



From the SECRETARY'S Tablet...

It was wonderful to see all of the folks at the annual show and meeting in Lewiston, Idaho.

We had a really good turnout for the meeting and some wonderful folks who volunteered their time to add to our roster. Of course, there are those who already have done so much for the Federation and I would like to thank all of them profusely.

We did discuss the fact that the newsletter is more readily read by members by being sent in a hard copy. I have updated the directory names with what information I have from the directory and those individuals who have attended the meeting. I will be sending out an official copy of the Minutes along with the agenda that went beforehand to each Club Director or contact that I have listed. Please remember that this is information about all of us and for all of us so it should be shared with your club. I had considered the

Judi Allison

idea of sending a hard copy to each club but, again I felt that the cost would be onerous, and the hard copy may just find its way into a stack of mail that was never viewed. So if nothing else, if you are the contact person who receives the Minutes please review them and give a report at your meeting. The only way that the Federation can do things for us is for us to know that the Federation exists and be active in such.

Again, it was great to see all of the folks at the convention and see all of the wonderful displays enjoyed by all. Thank you for all of the work that the Hells Canyon Club put into providing a great show. And now on to the winter and the new year, and then in the spring we will start over again in Ogden, Utah. I've always said there's nothing better than a bunch of Rockhounds. Who could ask for a better bunch of people?

Northwest Rockhound Retreat

Walt Butler; NWRR Chair

In September the Annual Rockhound Retreat was held at OMSI – Camp Hancock. We had 48 Campers and 17 Instructors. We had great weather, sunny and warm, but not hot.

Classes were held in Silversmithing, Metal Working, Enameling, Intarsia, Carving, Beading, Wire Wrapping, and Faceting.

Several evening programs were well attended from the Stump the Experts, Making Chainmail earrings, Glynis Hull gave a presentation on her trip to New Zealand, Swap Meet, Auction and cooking smores.

Everyone had a great time at the Show and Tell where everyone showed off the projects they were working on.

Below: (T-B) Metal working students with instructor Steve. Beading with Merlia and Audrey. Katherine working a cabochon.



Next year's camp will be on September 7-13, 2020 . Hope to see you there.

You Can Do This!

Ronna Watkins: Nominating Committee

Greetings to all: It's that time again, so we are starting the search for a 2nd Vice President for the 2020-21 year. The position description information can be found in the By-Laws ARTICLE IX, Duties of Officers and in the Operating Procedures, OP BOARD –4, 2nd VICE PRESIDENT. Any interested member should also read OP BOARD 3, 1st VICE PRESIDENT, and OP BOARD 2, PRESIDENT. The write-up for each is fairly clear.

Basically the 2nd VP position is a learning position. Travel is normally to the Midyear meeting and Annual meeting. The 2nd VP also is Custodian of the NFMS inventory. As 1st Vice President you will be more involved in the overall mechanics of the Federation. That will include preparation of the Budget by working with our Treasurer and Committee Chairs. As 1st Vice President, you will be a voting member of our NFMS Endowment Fund, attend the NFMS Midyear and Annual meeting, attend the AFMS Annual Meeting, and AFMS Scholarship meetings which are held in a different region each year, so expect travel. As President, you and the Executive Board will provide leadership for the NFMS. You will have the honor of selecting the AFMS Scholarship recipient for the NFMS. You will represent our federation at the annual AFMS General Meeting, AFMS Endowment Fund, and AFMS Scholarship Fund meeting, and be a voting member. You will be asked to report members of our Federation who passed away during your term at the AFMS General Meeting.

We need a person who can be available to fill the functions outlined, with leadership skills and integrity. Some knowledge of finance would help, but is not required. If you are interested please contact me via email at [NFMSronna\(at\)gmail.com](mailto:NFMSronna@gmail.com) or by phone at 509-673-0085 or any of the Nominating Committee.

Building Relations with BLM

Hidemi Kira;
American Lands Access Association
Vice President

I am sure many of you know ALAA has been doing the Clean-Up with the BLM in the Quartzsite, AZ area for years during the QIA Pow Wow to build a strong and good relation with BLM.

The following activity is one of an example of building a good relation with the BLM, which took place recently at Hampton Butte in Central Oregon near Prineville. This location has been a very popular site for collecting green petrified wood and wood replacements.

When the NFMS hosted the AFMS Convention & Show in 2016, Hampton Butte was one of the official field trip sites and had lots of fun with many other members. After two years, the place was like a war zone with big holes and trenches. People were even digging places where normal rockhounds will not dig. We heard that this site was posted on Social Media and attracted many people. If the BLM saw this site, it would have given them a good excuse to close this area for rockhounding. This place was on the BLM's table to be closed to the public, but the member of the Oregon Council of Rocks and Mineral Clubs (OCRMC) has been working very hard to prevent it from closure.

The OCRMC is an 501(c)(4) organization, which the objective is similar to ALAA, but limited to activities in Oregon (more info at ocrmc.org). There are 16 member Clubs from Oregon as of Oct. 26, 2019 and is a member of ALAA.

The OCRMC decided to form a work party to fix this site with the BLM involved. The OCRMC President, Dave Williams contacted the BLM office in Prineville to discuss this matter.

On June 13th 2019, President Dave and three members met with the BLM staff, Geologist, Kevin Weldon and Outdoor Recreation Planner, Michael Anderson at the Prineville Office and headed to the Hampton Butte together to have a meeting at the site.

The BLM staffs were surprised of how bad the situation was, but were happy to know the rockhounds are willing to fix this place. Their suggestion for the work party was to do it on September 28th, which is the National Public Lands Day. They also suggested a Partnership Agreement with their agency. We asked if a small tractor with a front loader could be used, but to obtain the permission will take a very long time, so hand tools only was suggested for this time.

On Sep. 28th, despite the snow and rain weather forecast, we had 11 members from the OCRMC and 3 staffs from the BLM office. We started to fill in the holes and trenches together with the BLM staffs near the parking area and slowly expanded. We started from 9 am and finished around 3 pm. It was not the perfect weather, but had fun working together.

The BLM gave each member a T-Shirt with the design of "National Public Land Day" and a free pass for entering the National Public Lands. Since this place is a very broad area, OCRMC is planning to make this an annual event and also pursue the Partnership Agreement with the BLM.

Later we heard that the BLM Prineville Office has reported this activity to other BLM Offices and heard it was highly appreciated. We didn't get as much members as we wished this time, but small number of people can make a huge difference.

If there is a rockhounding site that needs repair or needs clean-up, I strongly suggest you contact the BLM or government agencies and work together.

If each of the clubs could take time to do projects like this perhaps once a year, it will make a huge difference and I am sure the chance of closure of the public land for rockhounding will be significantly reduced.

Status of Collecting at Crystal Park, Montana

Ken Zahn;
NFMS President

There has been some discussion about the status of Montana's 220-acre Crystal Park Picnic and Mineral Collecting Area, the recreational rock-hounding site for smoky quartz and amethyst sceptor crystals northwest of Dillon, Montana. Administered by Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest (BDLNF), the site has been under BDLNF management, after transfer from the Butte Mineral and Gem Club, for many decades. Open to the public by paved road access and with a minimal parking lot fee (\$5) and good collecting success rates, this has become a nation-wide collecting destination. The site is currently withdrawn from mineral location through a date in 2023, by which time an extension of the withdrawal period is expected to be approved by the Department of the Interior (DOI). Although comments have been heard that the site was reclaimed and closed until the digging area can be expanded, these rumors are incorrect, as I learned by checking recently with the staff in Dillon by phone. Several years ago, there were extensive cleanups of deadfall and tree hazards and hole-filling in the southern portions of the northeast-facing ridge south of the parking area and highway (as well as parking lot upgrades and installation of screen tables for cleaning crystals), but this cleanup closure lasted only three days and has not been resumed.

Short of temporary closures for mosquito abatement or other needed safety-related activities, the BDLNF does not plan for either long closures or restrictions on continued digging in the 220-acre parcel. A proposed expansion by an additional 390 acres adjacent to the current 220 acres was disapproved by the DOI in 2015, and BDLNF management staff has indicated that it feels there is still ample un-dug land within the current 220 acres to provide great recreational crystal collecting for decades to come. For general site information, see:

<https://www.fs.usda.gov/recarea/bdnf/recarea/?recid=5669>

Bottom line: Crystal Park continues to be open in summers and early Fall, and neither further expansion nor extended closures are currently anticipated.

ALAA Renewal is Now

Ronna Watkins;
ALAA Membership Secretary

Greetings from Washington State!

We have had a busy year keeping access open and the new year 2020 will be no different. We thank you for your membership and your support! Please Renew today!

It is time to join or renew your membership to help keep access open and rockhounding alive! We can't do it without your help. Our numbers do count!

It has, also, come to my attention that many people do not know about the American Lands Access Association and what we do. Please, tell your friends and other clubs about ALAA. I am sure they will want to join the fight to keep access open.

As members, remember we need you to let us know about land access issues in your area. It is impossible for the ALAA to keep an eye on every agency in every state and know what is happening at every rockhounding site without your help. Please help information to flow up!

Find the membership form here: http://amlands.org/media/DIR_519967f814313c636ebe07ffff8056ffffe906.pdf



NFMS BULLETIN AIDS CONTEST

Kat Koch; Bulletin Aids Chair

Our NFMS bulletin, articles, cartoon, poetry and etc. contest is back for 2019.

All entries must have been published from January 1, 2019 through December 15, 2019. The categories and rules are on the AFMS website www.amfed.org under the tab "Site Map". Submit all entries with the appropriate fillable form.

The contest deadline is **January 1, 2020**.

I am the new Bulletin Aids Chairman. Send all entries for all categories to Kat Koch [bulletinaids\(at\)gmail.com](mailto:bulletinaids@gmail.com)

Winners will be announced at the NFMS Federation Show in Ogden, Utah which is being held April 10 - 12, 2020. The top three winners from the NFMS will be automatically entered in the AFMS national contest. The national AFMS winners will be an-

NFMS JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Gayle Butler; NFMS Juniors Chair

The next NFMS meeting is April 10-12, 2020 so time is short for **Junior Rock Hounds** to share their accomplishments from the past 2 years (2018 and 2019); The Northwest Federation wants to honor you. You must be paid up and listed as a member of your Club and the NFMS or provide proof of membership if not listed in the Federation membership book 2019.

Your age as of December 31, 2019 determines the age category.

Age Group 1: ages up to 7 years

Age Group 2: ages 8 through 11

Age Group 3: ages 12 through 15

Age Group 4: ages 16 through 18

If you won last year (2019) at Lewiston, Idaho you will need to wait *until* 2020 to enter again UNLESS you move up to the next age category.

Your Resume and Application together require a postmark by February 16, 2020. Winners will be notified a month later, after the NFMS Judges vote on each candidate's Summary. If any of this sounds too complicated or if you have any questions just contact me at gaylesmail@comcast.net or ask your Juniors Advisor, a parent or the Federation Director of your Rock Club. Everyone will be delighted to help you in the quest of achieving fame.

All awards will be presented at the NFMS Annual Meeting at Ogden, Utah on Friday, April 11, 2020.

Here are your three EZ steps:

1. Write or type a short summary (resume/outline) about what your achievements are for the past two years (2018 and 2019), following Sections I, II, III & IV from the GUIDELINE below.
2. Photocopy the APPLICATION from the Northwest Newsletter. Fill out the APPLICATION and have your Rock Club representatives sign their spaces.
3. Mail with a postmark by March 1, 2020, your summary (resume/outline), and completed APPLICATION to the **NFMS Junior Committee Chair – Gayle Butler, 8821 SW Equestrian Place, Crooked River Ranch, OR 97760**

Guidelines for Junior Achievement Award

Section I. HOBBY RELATED (Possible 45 points)

Club Involvement (field trips, committees, show participation)

Hobby Craft Involvement (faceting, lapidary, metals, collecting),

Competitive Involvement (display, articles, promotion, awards)

Section II. EDUCATIONAL ACHIEVEMENT (Possible 25 points)

Scholastic (honor roll, advanced classes, improvement of grades),

Extracurricular (sports, drama, debate, drill team, music)

Section III. COMMUNITY ACTION (Possible 20 points),

Events Involvement (charity, volunteer, donation programs)

Scouts, Campfire, 4H-Club, Other community groups).

Section IV. WORK RELATED (Possible 10 points)

Volunteer, employment, home chores, neighborhood work, business



2019 NFMS SHOW & CONVENTION HOSTED BY THE HELLS CANYON GEM CLUB



Lamar & Merlia Tilgner are honored for their contribution to the NFMS' NWRR.



Beth Heesacker receives an AFMS Award for her bulletin.

(Continued from Front Page)

program filled with interesting articles about the Hells Canyon Club, the NFMS, and the show's special exhibits was not only a great advertising tool, but also, an informative guide to rockhounding including fun puzzles from Diamond Dan Publications.

Many people came to see the special exhibits that included Tex-Rex the T-rex skull replica, the sixteen foot long North America Research Group's Thalattosaur and 3-D printer, and the Gemstone Space Needle replica.

Friday afternoon the NFMS Annual Meeting was held. Many NFMS Past Presidents were in attendance: Judi Allison, Jim Bosley, Keith Fackrell, Paul Heesacker, Hidemi Kira, Chuck Sonner, Doug True, Lyle Vogelpohl and, Lauren Williams. Thirty clubs were represented.

Business included: Reinstating the Tualatin Valley Gem Club and accepting the Lewis County Rock Club's membership into the NFMS; Accepting the proposal for the 2020 NFMS Show to be hosted by the Golden Spike Gem and Mineral Club in Ogden, Utah, April 10th through 12th; Junior Achievement Awards presentations; Acceptance of the 2020 Budget; A presentation of a plaque of Appreciation of Service to Lamar and Merlia Tilgner for their years of dedication running the Northwest Rockhound Retreat; Welcoming of Walt Butler as the new NWRR Chair; Adoption of OP's (corrections/additions) Rules & Awards Committee, which passed; Adoption of Circulation Chair Proposal, West Seattle Club, which passed; and, Chair reports were given.

These Open Chairs were filled during the annual meeting: Bulletin Aids by Kat Koch, Public Lands Advisory by Susie Koppert, and Safety by Kathy McLean.

Saturday morning the Editors' Breakfast was started with a meet-and-greet activity about the ways people communicate. The tables were adorned with fall decorations and the breakfast was very good. Darryl Powell spoke and awards were presented.

The Officer's Luncheon, Saturday afternoon was well attended. There was so much food that the dealers even got some. Officers, *(Cont. Next Page)*

Our Special Guest Darryl Powell aka Diamond Dan encourages attendees at the Bulletin Editors Breakfast. NFMS BEAC, Kat Koch (on the right)



Above: At the Junior Cracker Barrel, Ronna Watkins shared how Yakima Juniors (inset) learn the "Definition of a Mineral" with a fun game. Cracker barrel participants tried it out. Right: Getting more sand out at the Children's Activities area. Many fun activities, and a lot of free rock was available.



One of the many beautiful displays at the show.



2019 NFMS SHOW & CONVENTION

HOSTED BY THE HELLS CANYON GEM CLUB

past and present, got the chance to catch up with each other and exchange ideas.

Saturday evening, the Annual Awards Banquet was held. The elegant table settings, beautiful crystal and garnet centerpieces, and menu were arranged by Diane Rose. The seventy attendees enjoyed a delicious buffet of Kalbi Marinated Grilled Chicken and tender Grilled Steak Bites with Rosemary Potatoes prepared by a seasoned chef that had relocated from Southern California. The servers were attentive and there was enough food for seconds.

The keynote speaker was Darryl Powell, aka Diamond Dan. Randy Squire, President of the Hells Canyon Club introduced and gave recognition and acclamation to his show team. Competitive awards were presented and the 2019-20 NFMS Officers were sworn in. The 2019 American Federation of Mineralogical Societies Scholarship Foundation Honorees, Lamar and Merlia Tilgner were presented with a plaque and the recipients of the scholarships were announced. Ronna Watkins was presented with an engraved rock hammer and gifts as outgoing President. Doug True was honored and presented with the AFMS' "Outstanding Leadership" Award for his service and contributions.

Sunday morning the Junior Cracker Barrel was attended by a small group. Darryl Powell presented ideas for attracting youth with new technology and what can be done to introduce the rockhound hobby to youth in this age of technology. A lot of ideas were exchanged. Ronna Watkins shared her club's egg crate geology curriculum.

The Lewiston Tribune's Sunday edition had a nice article about the show in it.
 Ronna Watkins



Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies Results of Competitive Exhibits October 18th 2019

Brenna Baker	EGC-1	Mineral	Novice	98
Yakima Rock and Mineral Club, Yakima WA				
Linn Enger	CS-1	Lamp Shades	Master	100
Hells Canyon Gem Club, Lewiston ID				
Randy Squires	CC-1	Cabachons	Advanced	84
Hells Canyon Gem Club, Lewiston ID				
Teresa Stevenson	DST-6	Wire Wrapping	Novice	83
Hells Canyon Gem Club, Lewiston ID				
Linn Enger	Trophy	T-21 SPECIALIZED LAPIDARY I		
Brenna Baker	Trophy	T-28 EDUCATIONAL II		
Brenna Baker	NFMS Trophy			
Lester Ziehen Memorial Trophy for best "Mineral" exhibit				



Top: Linn Enger's Trophy winning display of Lamp Shades.

Left: Randy Squires, President Hells Canyon Club recognizes members for their contributions.

Below: Lauren Williams awards Brenna Baker for her educational display on mineral crystal structures shown here.



The Federations **Need You!**

By Beth Heesacker; 1st VP

We currently have a need for AFMS-certified Judges to evaluate and critique the competitive display cases at our annual shows. This is an important function that enables us to continue support for our members, and to improve their skills as exhibitors. It also seems that most of the other regional Federations desperately need more certified judges.

Plans are in the works to hold AFMS-certified training classes in conjunction with the Golden Spike Gem and Mineral Society Show and NFMS meetings next year in Ogden, Utah. The training takes 3-4 days and would start before the Ogden show and continue throughout the show. The tentative dates are April 9-12, 2020.

There will probably be a small fee for attending the classes to cover the cost of the lunch during training, but the AFMS instructors will be free. Attendees room costs are not finalized yet and travel costs will, of course, vary. Those costs - or a portion of them for each attendee - should be paid by the respective Federation.

We need to get some idea of how many people are interested, and which Federations are interested in supporting their members who are willing to attend.

If you are interested in being trained for this vital position, or if you are a Federation interested in participating, please email Beth Heesacker, NFMS 1st VP at heesacker@coho.net and let me know. If you have questions, please email also.

As details come together, I will keep you posted and forward the registration form to you.

Thank you so much for considering serving in this very important capacity.

2020 NFMS CONVENTION

OGDEN-2020

by Tom Burchard and Evan Day

The Host Hotel for the 2020 NFMS Meeting and Show is the "Comfort Suites" in Ogden, Utah, the same fine place as in 2015. A block of really nice rooms has been set aside for us at \$89 plus tax per night starting on Thursday, April 9 through Sunday April 12. Call them at 801-621-2545 ASAP and tell them you are with Golden Spike Gem & Mineral Society for that rate.

The Awards Banquet, all Committee lunches and breakfasts, and a "Hospitality Room" for impromptu get-togethers will be there.

There is unlimited "Dry Camping" at the Weber County Fairgrounds show site, and a few full hookups about a block away, plus several nice commercial campgrounds nearby. We hope our sister clubs in Logan and Provo will be able to arrange one-day field trips during the show weekend (Rocky Mountain Spring weather permitting).

Based on the precedent set at Lewiston last month, we will be coordinating with the NFMS Endowment Fund to bring some very special speakers and exhibits to dazzle you next Spring.

Additional Information:

Location: Golden Spike Event Center, Weber County Fairgrounds 1000 N 1200 W, Ogden, UT 84404

For the Competitive Display Entry Form, find it on page 15.

Deadline: March 20, 2020. For Non-Competitive Displays: Find an online form to be filled out for 'exhibits' at <http://goldenspikegem.org/exhibitor.php>. The online form goes to the Golden Spike Club "Cases" Chair, Deb Blake. Setup is Thursday, April 9, 2020 from 10 AM to 6 PM. Tear Down starts on Sunday, April 12, 2020 at 4 PM and should be completed by 6:30 PM.

The NFMS Annual Meeting, Bulletin Editors' Breakfast, and Junior Cracker Barrel will be held during this show at the hotel.

Club Directors and Delegates should plan to attend to represent their club. Any proposals or bylaw changes will need to be submitted to be published in the January *Northwest Newsletter*.

WEBSITE CONTEST 2019 and 2020

Cheri George; NFMS Website Contest Chairman

It certainly has been a hairy year for me, with all my jobs and illness. I have managed to get everything done on the Website Contest in time for judging and emailing to the AFMS judge. It never occurred to me when I accepted this job, that I would still be doing it ten years later. It has been a lot of fun, as well as work seeing to it that all our hard working Webmasters got the recognition they deserved.

This year's contest was wonderful, we had four entries, Clackamette Mineral and Gem Club, Denise Harrison, Webmaster; Cascade Mineralogical Society, Mark Hohn, Webmaster; West Seattle Rock Club, Donn Ullery, Webmaster, and; Owyhee Gem and Mineral Society, Brad Larson, Webmaster. Congratulations to Brad for placing 1st, and to Denise Harrison for placing 2nd in NFMS. Each Webmaster in our federation does a great job. I wish all of you would take the time to enter our Yearly contest. We have been fortunate to have entries every year, some federations don't have any entries to report, I am pleased that we are not one of them.

The closing date for next year's contest will be 15 January, 2020! Since we only have a couple of months before the NFMS Convention, I have made it a bit early. I am looking forward to receiving your entries, So let's get ready.

2020 forms can be accessed at http://www.amfed.org/web/website_contest.htm

Contact me at Cherig1946@yahoo.com if you have any questions, and I will try to give you whatever help I can.



Denise Harrison placed 2nd in the NFMS website contest for the Clackamette Mineral and Gem Club website and an Honorable Mention in the AFMS Website Contest

Check it out: <http://www.clackamettegem.org/>



Brenna Baker;
Yakima Rock & Mineral Club

Juniors Win!

Gayle Butler; NFMS Junior Chair

We had ten outstanding Junior members who entered for the Junior Achievement Awards this year at the Annual NFMS Meeting in Lewiston, Idaho! We had two show up for their awards at the show, and the other certificates were given to their respective club representatives.

These awards are given based on their own activities with each one writing about their hobby activities, educational achievements, community action, and work related.



Nadine Marshall;
Lakeside Gem & Mineral Club

Certificates of Achievement and/or monetary Awards were given to:

Ages 8-11	Jesslyn Ilg	Willamette Agate & Mineral Society
	Isaiah Fu	Cascade Mineralogical Society
	Dustin Peterson	Clackamette Mineral & Gem Club
	Clarah Moriarty	Oregon Agate & Mineral Society
	Jacob Haneberg	Marysville Rock & Gem Club
	Alex Danneman	Cascade Mineralogical Society

Ages 12-15	Nadine Marshall	Lakeside Gem & Mineral Club
	Brenna Baker	Yakima Rock & Mineral Club
	Zoe Ryan	West Seattle Rock Club

Ages 16-18	Micah Eastwood	Timpanogos Gem & Mineral Society
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Brenna Baker from Yakima Rock & Gem Club also won an award for her NFMS case in the Adult category!

Congratulations to these Juniors, along with their parents, mentors, and club advisors that are taking an interest in keeping their Junior programs going. After all, Juniors are our future!

Get it Ready –All American Awards Entry

Kapta; AFMS Chair

What is the purpose of your club—what is the mission? This mission is usually stated in clubs' charters or bylaws and is seen on club websites and membership materials, but how well is that mission fulfilled? As clubs grow and change, does the mission still fit? Most clubs have a blended goal of promoting the hobby via education, community outreach, attracting new members, and providing a space where our geology interest can be fostered. How well your club accomplishes that mission can be reflected in your AACA yearbook, as it provides an opportunity to look at the big picture—how do the monthly programs, annual shows, junior activities, community involvement and member events satisfy that mission through the year?

Each yearbook entered is evaluated based on proven facets that grow a club. From junior meetings, and workshops, to shows, publicity and community involvement—all contribute to a club's growth and ultimate survival. In an age where many other interests compete for our members' attention, it takes several different approaches to get a person's interest, keep that interest, and promote active participation. We all need active members, and the challenge of finding them is one of the biggest problems that clubs can face.

The AACA yearbook criteria promote different aspects that are vital to a club's survival. The award winners in each yearly contest can serve as models to inspire, and as a resource for some great ideas for your club.

One thing I would like to point out is that club entries are not evaluated against each other, but for the aspects that makes a strong, active club serving its mission. Each entry begins with 100 points, and judges look to match club activities to those criteria. Take a look at what your club has accomplished this past year, and give credit where credit is due! The more members contribute to the yearbook, the more it can serve as an historical document for the club, and an excellent tool to encourage prospective members.

The Yearbook can be in the form of a paper scrapbook or digital PDF. The AFMS Web Site has applications and examples of previous award winners. The deadline for the AACA entries will be March 1, 2020. The contest will cover the year 2019 from January thru December.

The AACA contest is a two-tier competition—the first tier is entry in the Regional Federations' contest, and the top three entries are submitted to the AFMS level for judging. Check with your regional chairs for their deadline. The deadline for entry in the AFMS contest is March 1, 2020. The regional deadline will need to be earlier, so check your Regional newsletters for those dates. Forms for the 2020 contest are on the AFMS website. Questions? Contact Regina Kapta at [rmkapta\(at\)comcast.net](mailto:rmkapta(at)comcast.net)

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NOTE: In the absence of an NFMS Education Chair, Please send NFMS Contest entries to Ronna Watkins PO Box 635, Tieton WA 98947 or to [nfmsronna\(at\)gmail.com](mailto:nfmsronna(at)gmail.com) Find more information here: <http://www.amfed.org/AACA.htm> Competition deadline for NFMS entries is postmark February 1, 2020. May the best clubs win!

What Projects are Planned or Underway in Your Forest ?

Dr. Kenneth Zahn; NFMS President

Ever wonder how to find out what projects are being planned for collecting-site portions of your favorite National Forest, what types of environmental reviews are being planned for them and what is the status of each proposal's planning process? There is a simple way to check on these points within each National Forest, as each Forest publishes a project planning summary called the SOPA (Status of Proposed Actions) each quarter. The SOPA is published online, but you can also request a paper copy in many cases by calling the National Forest Supervisor's office.

Quarterly SOPAs are also prepared by each specific Grassland, Scenic Area, Recreation Area, and Tall Grass Prairie. The simplest way to directly access your area Forest's SOPA for on-line review (or printing) is to type the name of your Forest and the word SOPA into your internet browser, for example: "Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest SOPA". When the list of recent quarterly SOPAs appears, just click open the one you want to read. (P.S.: You can also review the details of many of the higher-profile or most-current individual projects (such as Travel Plan or Forest Management Plan Revision proposals) that are planned or already underway by clicking on the Forest's "Home Page" prompt after reading the SOPA, and once at the Home Page, click open the "Land and Resources Management" prompt and then the "Projects" prompt.)

But back to the SOPA: Each proposed project's planning summary shows what type environmental impact review (NEPA) document (if needed) is to be used (CE for Categorical Exclusion, EA for Environmental Assessment, or EIS for Environmental Impact Statement), the key planning processes such as when a public comment period closes, the expected date of the final decision, the portion of the Forest at issue, and the name and telephone number of the Project Contact person to reach for more information.

Understanding the nuances of the processes required for the different types of environmental review (by CE, EA, or EIS) is a story for another article (but you can at least start with the SOPA to understand what's planned, and each planning process' current action-timeline periods and current Agency status. Acting on that information by attending and participating in all the meetings (and commenting orally and in writing), and enlisting Federation or ALAA support, is up to you. There is a lot at stake, so your local actions are all-important.

Should you wish to dig into the USFS's NEPA procedures, you might start by accessing and bookmarking a USDA-sponsored page that lists many of the key NEPA-related Federal Acts and agency regulations/policies/procedures by typing the following website address into your internet browser: <http://www.fs.fed.us/emc/nepa/>. BLM's NEPA planning procedures and underlying agency regulations are somewhat different, but the key features – especially regarding the public comment process -- are similar. (See: <https://www.blm.gov/programs/planning-and-nepa>). Once there, check key projects in your state by clicking on "Current Plans in Development" and follow the prompts.

ROCKHOUNDS OF THE YEAR

Laurie Ellis; Chair

Idaho Gem Club nominates Linda Barlow and Mike Dome as Rockhounds of the Year.

Linda has served as AFMS and NW Federation Director. She steers committees, and is a strong voice for lands and recreation access. Amid rockhound trips in 2018 she produced award winning newsletters and served on the Banquet committee.

Mike is always ready to help with functions, committees, and our annual gem show. This rockhounding super couple is always seeking adventure, and discovering new collection sites. Their enthusiasm is contagious!

We benefit from the education they provide as they travel. In 2019 the rockhounding motorhome cruised 10,000 miles through Idaho, Montana, Alberta, British Columbia, Yukon, Alaska, Washington, and collecting along Arctic Ocean, Bering Strait, Gulf of Alaska, and Pacific Ocean, sending photos and stories all the way!

(Continued Page 15)



Linda Barlow and Mike Dome North Idaho Club's Rockhounds of the Year.

ALAA MEETINGS

Two meetings are scheduled Saturday, 1/18/20 @ the Community Center, 295 East Chandler Street, Quartzsite, AZ. Starting at 6 p.m. will be ALAA's Annual General Membership Meeting for 2020 at which the assembled members who are eligible to vote will elect the 2020 Board of Directors. No absentee or proxy votes are allowed.



Coming to Quartzsite
January 18, 2020

Quartzsite Community Center,
295 East Chandler Street,
Quartzsite, AZ.

7:00 PM to 9:00 PM MST

American Lands Access Association
2020 Public Meeting and Forum
"Recreational Rockhounding
and Public Lands"

Our Featured Speaker for the Evening



Congressman Gosar, Representing the Arizona's 4th District and Chairman of the Congressional Western Caucus, will be presenting information on Recreational Rockhounding and Public Land issues in the Western States, accomplishments in the Arizona 4th District and the Congressional Western Caucus as they pertain to Recreational Rockhounding. After his presentation there will be a Question and Answer session relating to Recreational Rockhounding on Public Lands. Speaker is subject to change depending on availability and schedule.

American Lands Access Association, Inc - www.amlands.org



HISTORIAN HIDDENITES

Linda Barlow



“Connection with Knowledge”

ALASKA STATE STONE

By Betty Smith, letter, April 7, 1974

THE DIGGERS, Potlatch, Idaho December 1974 Vol. IV, No. 4

Mrs. Betty Smith of Anchorage, member of the Chugach Gem & Mineral Society, was our correspondent for the state stone information on Jade, the official stone of Alaska. With the help of Sally Ashcroft, who researched the “legislative bit,” the two produced a good state story. The specimen of jade in the shape of Alaska is beautiful. We wish to thank you for the specimen and the story.

Jade was designated as the official State Gem of Alaska by Act of the State Legislature June 24, 1968. Senate Bill 222 resulted in the entry in the 1968 Session Laws of Alaska, Chapter 51, Section 44.09, 100, through the efforts of a Chugach Gem & Mineral Society member.

Oro Stewart, a long-time member of CGMS, reveals that for a period prior to the Legislature’s action, she canvassed various lapidary & mineralogical organizations & interested parties for their preferences as to the designation of a State Gem. Ballots were received & the choice of jade was submitted to the Director of Mines & Minerals for approval. Comment regarding the choice was also solicited from the AMFS.

At the same time, gold was declared the official State mineral by passage of Senate Bill 223.

These selections are particularly appropriate as the history of the discovery of gold and jade in Alaska is well known. “Gold in the Klondike” was the magic word heard around the world in the days of ‘98; jade was originally discovered in 1883 in the Kobuk country of northwestern Alaska. Both are used extensively in the jewelry and souvenir industry in Alaska.

“Gold is where you find it,” is still true today, but the only substantial supply of jade is still found in the Kobuk country though there have been specimens found in different areas, mostly as float. Chugach Gem & Mineral Society has three of its own claims on Dahl Creek, a tributary of the Kobuk River. This is strictly a fly-in trip, though we look forward to the day when we will be able to drive there. The float found has been on the Copper, the Matanuska, & the Knik Rivers & some “ore” in the Sheep Mt. area. It’s enough to keep a Rockhound hunting.

The jade of Alaska is nephrite, one of the tremolite minerals, fibrous and tough, with hardness of 5-6, specific gravity of 3.0-3.3. it is hydrous silicate of calcium & magnesium with varying amounts of iron which gives it its green color.

The discovery of Jade Mountain by Lieutenant Stoney of the US Navy in 1883 solved the occurrence of jade implements found on the northwest coast, Bering Sea, & Arctic shores of America. It is thought that there are other mountains containing jade in the area. Jade Mountain, appearing, like a gigantic gem of green (probably because there is no vegetation on it), lies within the Arctic Circle, about 130 miles from Kotzebue at the mouth of the Kobuk River. The mountain range, of which Jade Mountain is a part, is thought to be about 30 miles in extent, & it is known that the range contains other jade deposits, the depths of which cannot be estimated.³

It is not known how long the Eskimos used jade for implements & adornment. It is thought they used it until they were contacted by the Russians who introduced iron & other hard materials to the Eskimos.⁴

Colors of jade range from vivid green through the various vegetable-family greens, mixed greens, brown-milky-browns, milky greens, curdled greens with black splotches; some is chatoyant, making beautiful rare gems.



Alaska State Gemstone, Alaska
Jade: 5114 Pounds taken from the Arctic Circle area approximately 50 miles north of Dahl Creek. Anchorage Convention & Visitors Bureau

So within the Arctic Circle, silent, aloof, stands this magnificent mountain of jade and serpentine. A tremendous jewel, cold & distant, clasping to her bosom untold wealth of jade, she disdains the puny efforts of man to wrest from her the secrets she possesses. She could justly be called the Queen of the North. Already man has scratched her sides. And man will come to her again & again, until some day she will succumb & man will scar & tear at her very vitals, never satisfied until he has wrenched the very heart out of her.

In the years to come Jade Mountain, the last outpost of the rockhounds, will probably be invaded by many jade hunters, but it is safe to say that the almost inexhaustible supply of jade from the frozen North will not be visibly affected for hundreds of years.⁵

3. Allan W. Branham, “The Jade Beyond,” Lapidary Journal (July 1966, 20(4), p.554

4. Ibid

5. Ibid

☞ NFMS Calendar ☜	
January 1	Bulletin Contest Entry Deadline
January 10	NFMS Dues Due
January 18	ALAA Annual Meeting
February 1	All American Club Entries Deadline
March 1	Junior Achievement Entry Deadline
March 20	Competitive Display Entry Deadline
April 8-12	NFMS Convention & Show
September 7-13	Northwest Rockhound Retreat

American Federation of Mineralogical Societies' Scholarship Foundation 2019 Honorees: **Lamar and Merlia Tilgner**

Ronna Watkins; Past President

One of the honors of the office of NFMS President is the opportunity to choose a NFMS member to be the AFMS Scholarship Foundation Honoree. With the Honorary Award goes the privilege of selecting a school, or schools, and assisting in the selection of two students to receive scholarship grants from the Foundation to help them achieve their educational goals. Each grant was for the school Fall Semester 2019 and is for \$4,000 for each student. It was a privilege to announce our Honorees at the 2019 Awards Banquet in Lewiston Idaho, Lamar and Merlia Tilgner for their dedication to lapidary arts and the development and running of the Northwest Rockhound Retreat over the years. For their strong leadership with a nomination for Rockhounds of the Year in 2009 from the Mount Hood Rock Club in Oregon.

“Members since 1972, they have taught hundreds the arts of Cabbing, Silversmithing, Beading, Wire-wrapping, Displaying, Judging, Earrings, Bead Knotting, and High-speed Sanding. Lamar was the first President of the Portland Regional Gem & Mineral Show Association and created the Northwest Rockhound Retreat. He also negotiated a display case for our club in the Northwest Rice Museum of Rocks and Minerals. Merlia sews 400 grab bags each year and has been helping with Membership for over 20 years. Together they are invaluable to our club. Submitted by Stephen Petkovsek, President” *AFMS Newsletter* Volume 62, Number 8 – September, 2009

The AFMS Scholarship Foundation’s requirements for these beneficiary students are: Working toward a Master’s or Doctor’s degree – NO UNDERGRADUATES. Major must be in any of the EARTH SCIENCES. Women and men students are equally acceptable. They need not be in actual want, but should be reasonably in need of this assistance and worthy of it. U.S citizens only.

The first Honorary Award was given in 1965. At this time, rockhounds from all over the U.S. have paid out over \$1.5 million dollars to graduate students in Earth Sciences through this Foundation.

Congratulations Lamar and Merlia Tilgner and their scholarship recipient beneficiaries:



ETHAN COPPAGE
MONTANA TECH

Ethan Coppage is in Montana Tech’s Geosciences M.S. program. Ethan has a B.S. in Geology from Fort Lewis College, Durango, Colorado. He did a bachelor’s thesis on the petrology of a Tertiary basalt flow in southwest Colorado. Ethan’s M.S. thesis project is to map the geology of a portion of the Hog Heaven volcanic field that surrounds the mineral deposit that Ian Kallio is studying. Ethan’s summer field work has funding from the USGS EDMAP program. Besides mapping, Ethan will be conducting petrographic and geochemical studies on the volcanic rocks, submitting samples for radiogenic dating, and delineating hydrothermal alteration zones using a portable spectral analyzer (Terraspec Halo). Ethan has experience working in Alaska at the Pogo Gold Mine. His passion is field geology and petrology, especially applied to mineral deposits.

Ethan has visited the following mines: Newmont: Barrick: Genesis Pit Betze-Post Pit, Gold Quarry Meikle/Rodeo, Leeville Cortez underground, Golden Sunlight. Freeport McMoRan: New Jersey Mining: Chino Mine Golden Chest Mine, Morenci. Americas Silver Corporation: Galena Mine

His hobbies include: Mineral collecting/Rock hounding, Skiing/Biking/Hiking/Climbing, Pottery/Petrography/Reading.

Information above provided by Chris Gammons; Professor, Department of Geological Engineering, Montana Technological University, Butte, Montana, April 18, 2019



IAN KALLIO
MONTANA TECH

Ian Kallio is pursuing an M.S. degree in Geosciences at Montana Tech. He has a B.S. in Geology from the University of Oregon, where he earned a GPA of 3.5. He did his bachelor’s thesis on the stratigraphy of the Elkhorn Mountains Volcanics along the east margin of mineralogy and geochemistry of the Hog Heaven epithermal deposit west of Flathead Lake, Montana, using detailed ore and gangue mineralogy, fluid inclusion analysis, and stable isotopes. The Hog Heaven deposit has a complex, polymetallic, mineral assemblage, including base metal sulfides and Bi-Pb-Cu-Sb-Ag sulfosalts in a gangue of quartz, alunite, pyrophyllite, kaolinite, barite, and APS minerals. Ian has experience working in Nevada prospecting for Carlin-type deposits, and wants to pursue a career in the mineral exploration industry after leaving Montana Tech.

Ian has also visited these mines: Cortez Hills, NV; Yerington District, NV; Goldbar, NV; Tonkin Springs, NV; Galice Gold Belt, OR; Quartz Creek, OR; Galena Mine, ID; Golden Chest, ID; Butte District, MT; Golden Sunlight, MT; .

Information above provided by Chris Gammons; Professor, Department of Geological Engineering, Montana Technological University, Butte, Montana, April 18, 2019

**The NFMS wishes these outstanding students
successful endeavors in their fields.
Ronna Watkins; President 2018-19**

Rockhounds of the Year Named

Hatrockhounds Gem and Mineral Society names Mike Filarski as their AFMS Rockhound of the Year. Mike has served as our Vice President/Show Chairman for a number of years. He pleasantly accepts both jobs and creates a great venue every year for the show. He not only takes care of the dealers but also the advertising; creating ads, making flyers and placing signs. He is a hands on person when it comes to show time. If it weren't for Mike, we might not even have a show. Not only does he run the show, but so much more! Mike is one MVM (most valuable member). We honor and thank him for all his dedication.

The **West Seattle Rock Club's** Executive Board has selected Ron Nims as its Rockhound of the Year. Besides creating T-shirts for our members, Ron has supported our annual show by creating a "movie corner". With a set-up beneath a canopy, chairs are provided for viewing geology related videos. Chairs are also wel-

comed by show guests looking for a place to rest their bodies after viewing display cases, demonstrators, dealers, and the silent auction. A place to sit awhile, and a movie to watch, can be found at our show - THANKS to RON NIMS.

Cassandra Lowell is **Bozeman (MT) Gem and Mineral Club's** Rockhound of the Year for 2019. Cass joined in 2017 and immediately became a trusted and efficient volunteer, even as a brand-new adult member. Even with no prior experience and with a full-time job, she took over arranging land-owner permission for, organizing, and leading ten field trips this past year. Cass has also eagerly supported the annual show on setup, silent-auction duty, teardown, and any other work needed. While new adult members to the hobby usually shy from volunteering, Cass has already become a cherished Club asset for her continuing "can-do" volunteering attitude.

NFMS COMPETITION ENTRY FORM
 Fri & Sat 10 - 6; Sun 10 - 4 April 10, 11, 12, 2020
 Golden Spike Events Center, Weber County Fairgrounds, Ogden, Utah

EXHIBIT ENTRY DEADLINE: March 20, 2020

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? _____

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

NFMS CONVENTION COMPETITION ENTRY FORM
 Fri & Sat 10 - 6; Sun 10 - 4 April 10, 11, 12, 2020
 Golden Spike Events Center, Weber County Fairgrounds, Ogden, Utah

EXHIBIT ENTRY DEADLINE: March 20, 2020

SETUP:
 All entries must be set up and ready for judging by 7pm, Thursday, April 9, 2020. Or, with the approval of the Rules Chairman - between 7am 9am on Friday, April 10, 2020

SECURITY WILL BE FURNISHED.

TWO GUEST PASSES PER EXHIBITOR WILL BE FURNISHED
 Cases will be assigned space on tables approximately 30 inches high. Exhibits are limited to 150 watts of power per case, and exhibitor must supply a three prong extension cord to reach the power supply under the tables. (Approximately 10 feet) (Consider LED lights)

Please complete all information on the entry form and this certification form and mail to the Competitive exhibits registration chairman for acceptance and acknowledgement - email is acceptable. Mail to Darrell Coyle; P.O. Box 52; Corvallis, MT 59828; coyled@bresnan.net

Refer to the AFMS Rules Updated to 2018. Download your copy of the rules from: www.AMFED.org

If you are uncertain as to the correct class or group you should enter or for clarification of the rules contact Lauren Williams; 957 E. Elva St; Idaho Falls, ID 83401; 208-529-6978; slharuir@msn.com

LIABILITY: It is mutually agreed that the Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies and the host society shall not be liable to any exhibitor in whole or part. This includes the property of the exhibitor or injury to their person resulting from any cause. Submitting this signed application/certification form for entry constitutes acceptance of these rules and regulations.

SIGNATURE _____
 Print name _____ Date _____



NFMS Clubs' Show Schedule 2020

December 7 & 8 2019 Sat. 9 – 5 Sun. 10 – 5	Maplewood Rock and Gem Club - Rock and Mineral Sale	Maplewood Rock and Gem Clubhouse, 8802 196 th ST SW Edmonds WA	Mary Ann Collins 206 714 3922 collma1(at) comcast.net
February 8 & 9 Sat. 9-5 Sun. 9-4	Whidbey Island Gem Club 55th Annual “Sweetheart of Gem’s” Show	Oak Harbor Senior Center 51 SE Jerome Street Oak Harbor WA	Keith Ludemann 360 675 1837 rock9(at) whidbey.net
February 28, 29 & March 30 Fri. 9 -5 Sat. 9 -5 Sun. 9 -5	Oregon Agate and Mineral Society Annual Show – “Treasures Beneath Our Feet”	OMSI (Oregon Museum of Science and Industry) Auditorium 1945 SE Water Avenue Portland OR	Ken Thistle kthistle815@gmail.com
March 6, 7 & 8 Fri. 10-5 Sat. 10-5 Sun. 10-5	62nd Annual Rock and Mineral Show Tualatin Valley Gem Club	Forest Grove National Guard Amory 2950 Taylor Way Forest Grove OR	Rose Jackson ljeweledrose@gmail.com 503 349 7418 Website: www.tvrgc.org
March 7 & 8 Sat. 10 - 6 Sun. 10 - 5	66th Annual Rock and Gem Show Owyhee Gem & Mineral Society	O’Conner Field House 2200 Blaine Caldwell ID	Darell Ehlers 208-674-1213 ddehlers@fmtc.com www.OwyheeRocks.com
March 7 & 8 Sat. 10 - 5 Sun. 10 - 4	70th Annual Rock, Gem, Mineral and Jewelry Show Magic Valley Gem Club	Twin Falls County Fairgrounds 215 Fair Avenue Filer ID	Chris Funk 208 539 5369 rmetts@magicvalleygemclub.org Magic Valley Gem Club PO Box 725 Twin Falls ID 83303
March 20, 21 & 22 Fri. 10-7 Sat. 10-7 Sun. 10-5	Timpanogos Gem & Mineral Society Annual Rock., Gem & Mineral Show	Spanish Fork Fair Grounds 475 South Main Street Spanish Fork UT	Keith Fackrell at 801-592-0410 krfackrell@gmail.com or Jerry Davis 801 830 9228
March 20, 21 & 22 Fri. 10-6 Sat. 10-6 Sun. 10-4	61st Annual Gem, Jewelry & Mineral Show Rock Rollers Club of Spokane WA	Spokane County Fair & Expo Center N.404 Havana at Broadway Spokane Valley WA	Mike Shaw 509 251 1574 showchair@rockrollers.org www.rockrollers.org
March 28 & 29 Sat. 10-5 Sun 10-5	64th Annual Rock and Gem Show South East Idaho Gem and Mineral Society (SEIGMS)	Bannock County Fairgrounds 10588 Fairground Dr. Pocatello ID 83201	Val Wuthrich 208 720 8239 valwuthrich@gmail.com or Joe Rodriquez joe.rodriquez@itd.idaho.gov. 208 237 6941
March 28 & 29 Sat. 10-6 Sun. 10-5	Mt. Baker Rock & Mineral 59th Annual Rock & Gem Show	Bloedel Donovan Community Center 2214 Electric Avenue Bellingham WA	Wes Gannaway 360 384 4209 debnwes@comcast.net Club website – www.mtbakerrockclub.org
April 4 & 5 Sat. 10-5 Sun. 10-3	63rd Annual Rock and Mineral Show Springfield Thunderegg Rock Club	Willamalane Adult Activity Center 215 W C Street Springfield OR	:Dean Burkhart 541 744 1919 burkhaks@aol.com
April 4 & 5 Sat. 9-5 Sun. 10-5	Maplewood Rock and Gem Club 5th Annual Spring Sale Maplewood Rock and Gem Club	Maplewood Rock and Gem Clubhouse 8802 196th ST SW Edmonds WA	Mary Ann Collins 206 714 3922 collma1(at) comcast.net
April 10, 11 & 12 Fri. 9-6 Sat. 10-6 Sun 10-4	Golden Spike Gem & Mineral Society 69th Gemstone Junction & NFMS Show	Golden Spike Event Center Weber County Fairgrounds 1000 N 1200 W Ogden UT 88440	Margie Miller 385 205-9187 gemshow@goldenspikegem.org www.goldenspikegem.org
April 18 & 19 Sat. 10-5 Sun. 10-4	Lakeside Gem and Mineral Annual Rock, Gem & Mineral Show	Benton County Fairgrounds 1500 South Oak Kennewick WA	Larry Hulstrom rockhound132@charter.net 509 308 8312
April 18 & 19 Sat 10-6 Sun 10-5	56th Annual Idaho Falls Gem and Mineral Show Idaho Falls Gem & Mineral Society	City Recreation Center Corner of Memorial Drive and B Street Idaho Falls ID	Nicole Strong 208 768 7953 nicolek_hansen@hotmail.com http://ifrockhounds.com
April 24, 25 & 26 Fri. 10-4 Sat. 10--5 Sun. 10-4	Yakima Rock & Mineral Club, Inc. 59th Parade of Gems – “A Blast from the Past” 40 years After Mt. St. Helens Blew	Central Washington State Fair Park Modern Living Building 1301 South Fair Avenue Yakima WA	Marti Sondgeroth evening 509 248 6401; daytime cell 509 910 3484 marthams@q.com www.yakimarockclub.com www.facebook.com/YakimaRockndMineralClub
April 25 & 26 Sat. 10-5 Sun 10-5	West Seattle Rock Club Rock Show	Alki Masonic Temple 4736 40th Avenue SW Seattle WA	Annette Nelson or Sue Fox wsrc.show@gmail.com www.westseattlerockclub.org
May 2 & 3 Sat 10-6 Sun. 10-5	67th Annual Gem, Jewelry, & Mineral Show Everett Rock and Gem Club	Everett Community College Walt Price Student Fitness Center 2206 Tower Street Everett WA	Fritz Mack 425 232 0809 www.everettrockclub.com
May 2 & 3 Sat. Sun. 10-4	50th Annual Show – “50th Rock Extravaganza” Umpqua Gem & Mineral Club	Douglas County Fairgrounds 2110 Frear Avenue I-5 Exit 123 Roseburg OR	Brooke Jakubos 541 784 7515 bajakubos@hotmail.com www.facebook.com/Umpquagem
June 6 & 7 Sat. 10-5 Sun 10-5	Annual Rock and Gem Show Butte Mineral and Gem Club	Butte Civic Center Annex 1340 Harrison Avenue Butte MT	Pete Knudsen 406 490 5828
August 8 & 9 Sat. 9-5 Sun. 10-5	14th Annual August Rock and Mineral Sale	Maplewood Rock and Gem Clubhouse 8802 196th ST SW Edmonds WA	Mary Ann Collins 206 714 3922 collma1(at) comcast.net
November 14 & 15 Sat. 9-5 Sun. 10-5	Annual November Show Maplewood Rock and Gem Club	Maplewood Rock and Gem Clubhouse 8802 196th ST SW Edmonds WA	Mary Ann Collins 206 714 3922 collma1(at) comcast.net
December 5 & 6 Sat. 9-5 Sun. 10-5	Maplewood Rock and Gem Club 9th Annual Winter Bazaar	Maplewood Rock and Gem Clubhouse 8802 196th ST SW Edmonds WA	Mary Ann Collins 206 714 3922 collma1(at) comcast.net