



AFMS Newsletter
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A.F.M.S. Newsletter

Volume 63, Number 7 – June – July 2010
 <www.amfed.org>

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF MINERALOGICAL SOCIETIES
 SERVING SEVEN REGIONAL FEDERATIONS

HIDDEN TREASURE AFMS / CFMS SHOW

by Loretta Ogden

Hear Ye! Hear Ye! Hidden Treasure Show Information

It is by Royal Decree that you are ordered to buy tickets for our very special drawing! Even though we know we cannot do that I know you will want to anyway.

We have the most beautiful deep purple 21.5 carat natural amethyst set as a pendant with its own chain in sterling silver. It comes with an appraisal certificate (\$1600.00). The pendant was cut and set by club member Jonas Ruzgys, a master faceter and expert on Baltic Amber.



This piece will be in a side raffle to support the Youth Of La Habra. We will be selling the tickets for only \$10.00 and will close the sales at 300 tickets total.

Don't take a chance; go to the ticket sales table first thing upon arrival at the Show.



AFMS/CFMS 2010 Gem Show

Hosted by:
 North Orange County Gem & Mineral Society

Games
 Displays
 Raffle Prizes
 Gems & Jewelry
 Sponsoring:
 La Habra Youth

Fossils
 Kids Room
 Food

Free Parking

Admission: \$6.00
 Children under 14 Free
 (with an adult)

HIDDEN TREASURES

June 18 - 20, 2010
 Fri. - Sun. 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.



So. CA University of Health Sciences
 18200 E. Amber Valley Dr. Whittier, CA 90604
 information: 626-330-9574 - jowartier@uhsoc.com
 or 806-595-2446 - jonogden@aol.com
 dmmsnc.org - rlogans.com

WORK WANTED – WILL WORK FOR FREE

by Fran Sick, Public Relations Chair



We all know the American economy is currently not at its best and scores of people are looking for work. We also know current economic conditions have affected our hobby to some extent. Consequently I have decided to make an offer I hope you can't refuse. I will work for free – and all you have to do is ask. The only benefits I am requesting are a chance to get to know our member clubs better, to help wherever I can with publicity or public relations endeavors and to help you get to know your federations better.

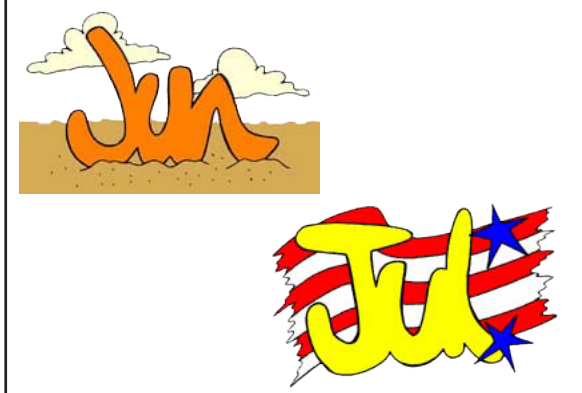
Nine times each year the American Federation publishes a newsletter which is received by officers of every single member club. Each of the seven Regional Federations of the AFMS also publishes its own newsletter on a regular basis. Our federations, American and Regional, are working hard to keep us informed about important issues and events affecting our hobby. But are our clubs working hard to keep the federations informed?

I'm guessing that many of our clubs, from time to time, have events or news that we all should be aware of or would enjoy hearing about. Some examples would be new legislation affecting collecting opportunities in local areas, a new collecting locality or maybe discovery of a new mineral in an established locality, an especially interesting or informative speaker or program, a club activity that was especially successful or problematic or produced surprising results, an upcoming club event, or maybe you would like to question or comment about something you have read in one of the federation publications or heard about elsewhere. Please share your news and concerns with your fellow rockhounds through your Regional and American Federation newsletters.

And now more about my offer to work for free. I know many people just do not like to write articles

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for publication, or don't have time to do so, or just can't get it done for any number of reasons. If you will contact me through any means you wish - Email, snail mail, telephone or pony express - and give me the basics about information you would like to share, I will do my best to write an article for you, or edit it for you, or whatever I can do to help. Then, after you have approved the final article, you may submit it for publication or I will do it for you if you prefer. In addition to publication in federation newsletters my offer extends to help with preparation and publication of press releases.

Let's get to know each other better. I will do whatever I can to help but it's up to you to get the ball rolling.

THE AFMS

PROUDLY SERVING
SEVEN REGIONAL
FEDERATIONS



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FROM THE RECTANGULAR OFFICE

by Emerson Tucker, AFMS President

The show cases have been put back in storage after the Lubbock (Texas) Gem and Mineral Society (my home club) concluded their 52nd annual show this past weekend. The show is open on Saturday and Sunday. Everyone that I talked to, including some of the dealers, indicated that it was a successful show.

The show is held at the Lubbock Memorial Civic Center where it has been annually scheduled since 1981. Only half of the exhibit hall is used during the show. During set-up and take-down the other half of the exhibit hall is available so motor vehicles can be unloaded inside the building, but no vehicles can be left inside the building during the show. This unloading area is very convenient for the members and dealers.

One of the restrictions on using the facility is that no food, such as a pot-luck dinner, can be brought into the Civic Center. Thus the club had a catered set-up dinner on Friday night. Club members pay a set amount for the all you-can-eat fish and chicken dinner but it is free to the dealers and out-of-town visitors who have brought in display cases. This is a great time for everyone to visit with each other.

Saturday night several dealers, out of town visitors and local club members gathered at a local restaurant to enjoy good food and great company. Sunday night after the show and the dealers had packed their vehicles and club members had taken the cases and other items back to the storage building, there was another get-together of a few of the dealers and local club members at another local restaurant. So socializing is a big part of the gem show.

Our club takes cases and displays to other clubs in the area so those clubs in turn bring cases and displays to our show. This year there were 81 display cases. 38 displays were from our club or dealers. The other 43 displays were from out-of-town clubs. Cities where the clubs provided cases and displays were: Plainview (47 miles North of Lubbock), Abilene (162 miles Southeast), Big Spring (104 miles South), Midland (119 miles South) and Roswell, NM (174 miles Southwest). Thus we get a lot of nice displays from other clubs near us. Besides the displays a lot of wonderful people visit with us and thus make the show a warm meeting place.

I've mentioned the Rollin' Rock Club (RRC) in a past message. This Sunday morning prior to the opening of the show, the RRC had about 40 members and guests gathering together for fellowship, stories, doughnuts and coffee. Several years ago an ugly bola contest was started and now has some members participating to see who can come up with the ugliest bola. A lot of fun and laughter accompanies the contest. Afterwards an auction takes place of rock related material donated by the members. The \$180.00 received from the special Reggie auction went to the AFMS Scholarship Fund. The \$460.00 received from the auction of the donated material went to the SCFMS Endowment Fund. The members present vote on where the money from donated matter will be given. As part of the auction Keith Harmon was able to auction off an autographed calling card of the current president of the AFMS. He has been doing this at several of the RRC auctions and estimates that from \$30 to \$40 have been earned by auctioning several cards for worthy causes that the RRC supports. Never knew my autograph was worth money, but Keith is a "You better buy this!" auctioneer. He also reminds everyone that it will be seven years before they can buy the calling card of the next AFMS president from the SCFMS.

So this weekend we had a great show with lots of displays, dealers with many nice items to purchase and demonstrators sharing their knowledge. The part I enjoy the most is visiting with the people attending the show, club members, show dealers and our friends that bring displays to our show. So what is the main theme of a Gem and Mineral Show? To me it's people!

Have a wonderful summer. Remember as you go out on your field trips to always be careful, wear correct protective equipment, and leave collecting sites better than you found them.

I look forward to meeting many of you at the AFMS /CFMS Convention in La Habra, CA. Please come by and introduce yourself to me.

Emerson



HAVING FUN: JUNIOR ACTIVITIES

by Jim Brace-Thompson, Junior Activities Chair

Forming a Youth Group in Your Club: A Six-Step Program

As Part 2 in the three-part set of articles I started last month on beginning and growing a youth group within your club, this month I focus on how to form a youth group. If your local society doesn't already have a youth group in place, here are six general "rules" I've learned as a result of talking with folks who have taken the initiative to begin one:

Enlist a kids' "champion." One common denominator I've observed over the years: those clubs that have successfully maintained a strong, vibrant, and sustained kids program have had a central club member who has stepped forward to champion it. It all begins and ends with a leader who commits to the program and follows through with consistency and enthusiasm.

Capitalize on your existing pool of talent. It's hard to find someone who knows everything about our hobby, but in most clubs you find an amazingly diverse storehouse of individual knowledge. One person loves fossils, another is an expert cab crafter, another has an amazing mineral collection, yet another knows all there is to know about meteorites or knapping. Identify adults within the ranks of your club's members and their individual strengths. Then gather commitments! Just one member a month committing to help with a presentation or activity will carry you through your first year. Although you need a central champion to lead the program, to succeed it also needs to be a *club* commitment, not the project of any one individual.

Plan before you start. How will your activities be organized? You should have procedures spelled out, and they should be more-or-less consistent from meeting-to-meeting so expectations are clear for everyone involved and to create a familiar sense of rhythm for the kids. You might choose to devote 10-20 minutes of your usual club meeting to a Pebble Pup Presentation; or you might choose a monthly activity at a member's home just for kids. Whatever you choose, keep the structure and expectations more-or-less consistent. In addition to planning the structure of a typical meeting, ideally, you should plan your entire first year's calendar in advance, gathering commitments from club members to take on specific months. Then, publicize the schedule in your club bulletin and elsewhere so everyone knows what's coming and appropriate preparations can be made well in advance rather than moving from meeting to meeting in a last-minute rush to find a new topic, activity, or speaker.

Center meetings around an activity. Most adult meetings are centered around a lecture or presentation, and during these, you'll observe kids a) sleeping or b) running the hallways. The best way to channel kids' curiosity and energy is through hands-on activities. There should be a *brief* presentation to set the stage, but the bulk

of your meeting should be activity-oriented. For instance, in introducing fossils, you very briefly should give kids the utmost basics on what a fossil is and on the fossilization process and then move quickly to sturdy specimens kids can see and touch and pass around, perhaps with a couple large-format picture books and dinosaur models as illustrations. Then move on to the main event: an activity making clay and plaster casts so kids can walk away with their very own plaster fossil at the end of the night. Get kids learning by doing, and they'll want to come back for more.

Reward kids with something tangible after each meeting. Kids like to collect, so one goal should be to help them build a basic collection. In addition to whatever they may end up with from the activity session of each meeting (like the fossil cast described above), you might also open or close each meeting with a raffle where every kid is a winner. Spread out a selection of rocks, minerals, and fossils, and give each child a single raffle ticket and let them pick from the selection when their numbers are called. Or give each child the same sort of specimen. (Encourage adult members, when going on field trips, to stockpile and bring home a supply of whatever they're seeking—whether quartz crystals, fossil shark teeth, agates, or barite roses—for the kids.) Yet another idea is to hand out gold stars or stickers, such as the rolls of small "Rockhound" stickers available from Frank Mullaney of the California Federation (phone, 408-266-1791; email, (rockyfv@aol.com) at the conclusion of any activity or club meeting, and once kids have earned 3 or 4 stars or stickers, they can trade them in for a mineral or fossil. Whatever route you choose to go, label specimens with info on what they are and where they came from to begin teaching kids the basics of documenting their collections to add both personal and scientific value. Finally, you can also use the AFMS Future Rockhounds of America Badge Program to work with kids toward earning badges in the various areas of our hobby or Diamond Dan Earth Digger Clubs activity patches to sew onto club vests or sashes.

Involve parents. A youth program is not a babysitting service. Kids have a lot of energy (my own energy was constantly getting me into trouble when I was in elementary school, as my second-grade "D" in conduct will attest...), and parents should be expected to help channel that energy in positive, productive directions and to lend their support. The larger the youth group, the more important it is that a number of adults are on hand to provide individual attention and to prevent the inevitable tendency toward chaos. This also brings up a point I wish we didn't have to go into, but it's important to raise, namely, the importance of having youth leaders who are well known by all in the club and of having multiple adults on hand when working with kids. We need to ensure a safe, secure, and wholesome environment free from child predators. The safety of our youth is of primary importance. Finally, getting parents involved in running activities will help in cultivating future youth leaders for your club, thus avoiding the problem of burn-out if a single individual is asked to run the youth program year after year.

Most of all: **Make it Fun!**

Purpose of the AFMS:

To promote popular interest and education in the various Earth Sciences, and in particular the subjects of Geology, Mineralogy, Paleontology, Lapidary and other related subjects, and to sponsor and provide means of coordinating the work and efforts of all persons and groups interested therein; to sponsor and encourage the formation and international development of Societies and Regional Federations and by and through such means to strive toward greater international good will and fellowship.

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CONSERVATION & LEGISLATION

by John Martin, Conservation & Legislation Chair



As the AFMS Conservation and Legislative Committee Chair, I want to recognize the work that John Wright is doing in the Southeast Federation. His is keeping the members aware of the changes and actions that are taking place in the Southeast Federation. I encourage all of the Regional Federation Members of the AFMS Conservation and Legislation Committee to submit reports to their Regional Federation Newsletters and to also submit articles and reports to the AFMS Conservation and Legislation Committee for publication in the AFMS Newsletters. It is very important to keep our members informed of the changes that are taking place in all of the Regional Federations and also at the National level. These changes will have an impact on our ability to collect rocks, minerals and fossils on public lands. Stay informed and check with the responsible Land Management Office before collecting on public lands to be on the safe side.

Thank you for your effort and support.

Here is John's report to the SFMS Board of Directors.

May 1, 2010

At present National Forest Service area managers and supervisory personnel are still working to revise policies regarding recreational activities in National forests with many aspects being reviewed and modified. Expanded, more detailed policies are expected to be published and placed into effect in a few areas



later this year, but in many areas it may require several years. According to published accounts by the Forest Service, "In the interim, the current rockhounding policy will remain in place", i.e.: **(1) Recreational Rockhounding may take place at areas where minerals are loose and free on the surface, and the activity is not restricted by permit or in an area designated as closed for this activity. Mineral collection must be with non-mechanical equipment and result in no significant ground or stream disturbance. (2) Recreational Gold Panning is allowed where minerals are in federal ownership, using non-mechanized equipment, where no ground disturbance takes place, and where streams are not designated as closed to this activity. (3) Metal detectors may only be used with clearance from the area forest manager.**

NOTE: Arrow heads, stone tools, and chips left from making them are considered "antiques" and covered under sub-paragraphs (g) & (h), 36 C, Code of Federal Regulations - Title 36: Parks, Forests, and Public Property (December, 2005), Chapter II - Forest Service, Department of Agriculture, Part 261 - Prohibitions, Subpart a - General Prohibitions, and the Antiquities Act of 1906.

The Paleontological Resources Preservation Act is now law and while it only protects and prevents the collecting of "vertebrate fossils" on federal lands, be aware that most Forest Service law enforcement officers do not know or care about the difference in fossils. You should also be aware that in many areas of the country vertebrate fossils are protected by state laws and collecting them even on private property is prohibited.

In most areas Forest Service managers leave the issuing of citations up to the discretion of law enforcement officers and let the courts determine innocence or guilt. (PS: Federal judges find in favor of federal law enforcement officer 95% of the time.)

ROCKY McCALL

July 11, 1935 - April 30, 2010

First AFMS Regional Vice President Roscoe "Rocky" McCall has lost his battle with cancer.



Born in Brewster, WA, he is survived by his wife Nora, four children, eleven grandchildren and eleven great-grandchildren.

During his lifetime, Rocky held a variety of jobs -- construction at Boeing Aircraft, real estate agent, timber cruiser, butcher and furniture maker, exhibiting his unique talents in each.

With his interests in lapidary, Rocky became a member of the Marysville Rock Club where he held numerous offices and committee positions. He also became involved in the Northwest Federation, becoming president for the year 1999-2000. He also served as AFMS Regional Vice President for several terms, the last being this current year.

He was a master craftsman and teacher of lapidary work. An interest in intarsia led him to develop the craft and his wonderful work earned him numerous trophies, including the coveted AFMS award.

Rocky was a compassionate, fun loving and talented individual and he shall be missed.

Those wishing to make contributions in Rocky's memory may do so to the AFMS Scholarship Foundation, % of your regional coordinator.

UPCOMING REGIONAL FEDERATION CONVENTIONS

from Bob Livingston, Convention Coordinator

	California Federation	Eastern Federation	Midwest Federation	Northwest Federation	Rocky Mountain Federation	South Central Federation	Southeast Federation
2010	AFMS June 18-20 La Habre, CA	March 6-7 Newark, DE	Aug 27-29 Peoria, IL	Sept. 17-19 Hillsboro, OR	April 23-25 Wichita, KS	Dec. 11 - 12 DeRidder, LA	October 16-18 Knoxville, TN
2011	May 13-15 Anderson, CA	AFMS July 7-10 Syracuse, NY	Sept 8-11 Toledo, OH		December Colorado Spgs, CO	April 15-17 Alpine, TX	
2012		Sept. 16-17 Harrisburg, PA	AFMS July Minnesota				

AFMS CLUB ROCKHOUNDS OF THE YEAR

from Loretta Ogden, ACROY Chair

Will it be Yours?

It is not often these days that you can do some thing nice and not have it cost you a penny. So how about every club honoring one of their members, by writing a short (50-100 words) article about how your choice for AFMS Club Rockhound of the Year has contributed to the success of your club.

After you have chosen your member you can mail it to your federations chairperson and they will sent it to me and I will mail it to the AFMS Newsletter editor for publication. That's it! Your member or couple will be so proud you chose them and also having it in print in the AFMS and in your regional federation newsletter.



California Federation

North Orange County Gem & Mineral Society would not be what it is without **Don & Ofelia Warthen** as members. They have served as various officers over the years. Show Chairmen, Dealer Chair, Education Chair and shop hosts. They host the summer party and Liaison to the city. They are our presence at the Chamber of Commerce.

Don is a lawyer and an accountant (CFMS financial advisory committee). He even knows how to repair huge pipe organs. Don was a Navy Seal in his youth. Ofelia is a realtor and has served as President of the Board of Realtors and donates her time to the Salvation Army and a shelter for abused woman. They paint, make jewelry and do lapidary and Ofelia carves. This only a short list of the things they do for our club and the community, they are certainly inspirational and deserving of this award.

submitted by Loretta Ogden
Federation Director



Midwest Federation

The year 2009 proved to be an unbelievable year for one of the members of the Mikenauk Rock and Gem Club of Roscommon, Michigan. **Jeff Anderson** received recognition in two books for his work in the field of agates. In *Agates II* by Johann Zenz, Jeff was included in a section of the book entitled "Fifty Important People in the World of Agates." A two page biography and many of the agates from his collection were included in the book. A second book on thunder eggs being printed in Japan includes Jeff's picture in a collage of United States collectors as well as a few of Jeff's thunder eggs. Jeff's agates have also appeared in the 2009 and 2010 Agate Calendar put out by Gem Shop Inc. Jeff has hopes that another agate, already photographed, will make the 2011 calendar as well.

Jeff has been one of the major identifiers and workers in our club for a long time. He has presented programs for our club yearly as well as giving programs for other clubs. Because of this recognition and suc-

cess, the Mikenauk Rock and Gem club of Roscommon would like to nominate Jeff Anderson as our "Rockhound of the Year."

The members of the club are very proud of Jeff's achievements. In spite of his deafness, Jeff has done a tremendous job as evidenced by these recognitions.

submitted by the club president



Northwest Federation

On behalf of the Yakima Rock and Mineral Club of Yakima, WA, I would like to recognize **Howard Alexander**, as our 2010 Rockhound of The Year. He has occupied positions of elected offices as well as chairing many committees. He is a great asset particularly when it comes to the club's annual gem show. He participates in all club activities. These individuals when called upon to assist a fellow rockhound doesn't hesitate to provide any help required. Therefore, this individual is most deserving of this special honor and recognition.

submitted by Howard S. Walter, Jr., Federation Director

Members of the Chugach Gem & Mineral Society for over 15 years **Joe and Bobbie Turnbow**, have held many club positions. Bobbie served two terms as president; Joe was the bulletin editor for almost three years and both have served on several committees, and led many field trips some of which required extensive coordination. Joe is also one of the club's judges at the annual Alaska Science Fair. They've been extremely active in our annual rock show assisting with everything from setup, displays and takedown. In recent years, he's also provided after hours security!

As a new member, Joe took on the project of finishing our "Rockhound Guidebook of Alaska." When club membership wouldn't finance the publication, he created a partnership between the club and three businesses to spread the cost.

Owners of a local lapidary shop, they've opened their shop to club members wishing to use their equipment. They continue to use their shop for committee meetings and allow members to display their collections in the store. Joe teaches geology classes for elementary and home schooled students, scouts, etc. and also takes these groups on field trips. Joe also helped the local Natural History Museum identify specimens when the museum's documentation was lost.

Although working full time jobs in addition to running their rock shop, Joe and Bobbie continue to devote time to the club. I proudly submit their names as our 2010 Rockhounds of the Year.

submitted by Thomas W. Cooper, Federation Director

EXERCISE? ABSOLUTELY!

by Don Monroe, SFMS Safety Chair
from Lodestar, February 2010

Almost every newspaper or magazine or television advertisement extols the virtues of exercise and usually tries to sell you some sort of equipment. Now the equipment is probably not all bad but may not be necessary. Many forms of exercise such as walking or swimming may be accomplished without any significant investment.



Who really needs to exercise? Basically all of us need to exercise but it takes a lot of commitment to do enough. Think about young children. If we can keep them off the couch and out from in front of the television, they can burn up a lot of energy and hopefully not do too much damage around the house. It often takes a lot of imagination to challenge little ones.

To get pre-teens to exercise, is often more of a challenge because they often have a short attention span and you may need to constantly come up with new ideas or different games. All of you who have dealt with grandchildren are probably aware of just what it takes to keep them doing new and different things. Teenagers present the same issues but just more of them.

As you look through this article you begin to see a pattern. As the participants get older, the job gets more difficult.

Well you haven't seen anything yet. Just wait until we get to adults and, even worse, senior citizens. Many of us have been in a situation where we had to amuse our parents. Mercy, can they be demanding! They often have the attention span of a child but are quite comfortable telling us what to do and how to do it.

Do I have any answers? I am not sure that I do, but I will, however, make the following suggestions:

- Collect puzzles appropriate to the various age groups.
- Look for games. Most game boxes will tell you what age group may be the best.
- Collect crayons, pens, pencils and paper.
- Collect decks of cards and a copy of Hoyle's rules.

Years ago we discovered that our entire family (about a dozen of us) really enjoyed rummy and canasta. Try dominos. There are some new ones on the market.

Last but not least you may want to pray for dry weather. Even a large house seems small on a rainy day.



SILVER BULLETS

by Beth Myers, CFMS Membership Committee Chair
from CFMS Newsletter, April and May 2010

Long Range Planning

Successful organizations always plan for the future.

If your society is like many others, it's difficult to think creatively and plan for the future at Board meetings and General Membership meetings – there just isn't enough time!

One solution is to establish a Long Range Planning Committee which takes very little effort but can yield impressive results. One society conducts their Long Range Planning meetings once each quarter. Although chaired by a single society member and attended by several regulars, all members are invited to attend and participate. Here is just one success story that resulted from such a meeting:

This society has an Education Program which provides outreach opportunities for teaching elementary school children, The Scouts, etc. about many aspects of geology and earth sciences. Until recently, members of the society had to load the containers of rocks/minerals/fossils/etc. into their own vehicles, drive to the schools, unload the containers, provide the instruction, re-load the containers into their vehicles, then unload them at their home. The Long Range Planning committee researched the cost of purchasing a new 5' X 8' enclosed trailer including the cost of insurance. With some fund-raisers, donations and two grant requests, the society now owns a fully self-contained "Education Trailer" complete with loading ramp and storage areas which is towed to-and-from each school. What a difference it has made!

If your society doesn't already have a Long Range Planning committee, now may be the perfect time to add this silver bullet to your society's arsenal!

Field Trips

Field trips are one of the more popular functions of many Rock and Gem Societies and having an active field trip program goes a long way to attracting (and retaining) members. All too often, a Society's Field Trip Chairperson assumes the sole responsibility for developing and scheduling field trips without capitalizing on a very effective tool that can easily be incorporated into your society.

Consider scheduling a Field Trip Planning Meeting during January of each year and inviting everyone in your society to attend, particularly those who have led field trips in the past. By doing this in January, those rockhounds who need to schedule their annual vacations with their employers will have a 'heads-up' regarding their society's field trip schedule for that year.

2010 AMERICAN LANDS ACCESS ASSOCIATION MEETING

by Carolyn Weinberger, Ye Olde Ed

The 2010 annual meeting of the American Lands Access Association (A.L.A.A.) will take place on Sunday, June 20 beginning at 11:30 am at the Anaheim Park Hotel, 222 W. Houston Ave., Fullerton, CA. Besides the usual reports and election of officers, Del Albright, Travelling Ambassador for the Blue Ribbon Coalition will be the keynote speaker.

Why is your membership in A.L.A.A. important? With all of the legislation pending at both the state and national levels, your membership can help convince our elected officials how important it is to keep collecting areas on public lands open for us and for future generations. What's rockhounding going to be like if we cannot collect on public lands? The more people A.L.A.A. represents, the more influential letters and other contacts with legislators can be. "I represent an association of 300 members" does not have the same impact as "I represent an association of 50,000 members".

Dues in A.L.A.A. are \$25 per year for individuals and \$50 per year for clubs. We seem to be fighting an uphill battle, but your support may be just what's needed to help influence votes on these proposals. Consider joining as a club and as an individual as well.

A.L.A.A. Membership Application

AMERICAN LANDS ACCESS ASSOCIATION, INC.

Protecting the Public Lands for the Public

Please enroll me as a member of the ALAA! Annual membership fee is \$25.00

Annual membership fee for clubs is \$50.00

_____New _____Renewal Date ____/____/____

PLEASE PRINT

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Club Affiliations: _____

Hobby Interests: _____

Remit Fees to: ALAA

Ruth Bailey

2857 Addison Place

Santa Clara, CA 95051-1705

The A.L.A.A. is a 501(C)(4) organization. Its purpose is promoting and ensuring the right of amateur hobby collecting, recreational prospecting and mining, and the use of public and private lands for educational and recreational purposes; and to carry the voice of all amateur collectors and hobbyists to our elected officials, government regulators and public land managers. Contributions to the A.L.A.A. are not deductible as charitable contributions for Federal Tax Purposes.

2009–10 AFMS COMMITTEES

Here is the listing of the people who have agreed to serve as Committee Chairs for 2009 - 10. Please feel free to contact these people if you need information, have questions or would like to share ideas with

All American Club John Washburn <jrwashburn2@msn.com>	Historian Shirley Leeson <shirleyleeson@cox.net>	Show Consultant Bob Livingston <gemguy@verizon.net>
AFMS Club Rockhound of the Year Loretta Ogden <Fbriktr1@aol.com>	International Relations Bob Jones <jonesb52@gmail.com>	Uniform Rules Dee Holland (see Judges Training)
AFMS Newsletter Carolyn Weinberger P.O. Box 302, Glyndon, MD 21071-0302 410-833-7926 <editor@amfed.org>	Judges Training Seminar Dee Holland <beauholland@centurytel.net>	URC Eligibility Files Anne Cook <secretary@amfed.org>
Boundaries John Wright <osjbw@datasync.com>	Junior Programs Jim Brace-Thompson <jbraceth@roadrunner.com>	Ways and Means Marve Starbuck <greenstone@iserv.net>
Bulletin Editor Hall of Fame Kitty Starbuck <greenstone@iserv.net>	Long Range Planning Joy Bourne <joy.bourne5@gmail.com>	Website/Webmaster Marty Hart <webmaster@amfed.org>
Bulletin Editors Advisory Linda Jaeger <ljalgalg@aol.com>	Name Badges Frank Mullaney <rockyfiv@aol.com>	Ad Hoc Web Site Contest Phyllis George <pgeorge4@comcast.net>
Bylaws Revisory Steve Weinberger <central_office@amfed.org>	Nominating Joy Bourne (see Long Range Planning)	Ad Hoc Competition Study Ron Carman <rrcarman@centurytel.net>
Central Office Administrator Steve Weinberger P.O. Box 302, Glyndon, MD 21071-0302 410-833-7926 <central_office@amfed.org>	Parliamentarian Dee Holland (See Judges Training)	Ad Hoc Inter-Regional Field Trip Dick Pankey <dickpankey@juno.com>
Commemorative Stamps Wendell Mohr <wmohr@erols.com>	Past President's Advisory Joy Bourne (see Long Range Planning)	AFMS Scholarship Foundation Dee Holland, President (see Endowment Fund) Emerson Tucker, Vice President Ruth Bailey, Secretary Jon Spunaugle, Treasurer
Conservation and Legislation John Martin <smartin@antelecom.net>	Photography Steve Weinberger (see Bylaws Revisory)	
Endowment Fund Josie Middleton <jcjems55@yahoo.com>	Program Competition Marge Collins <margaret@qtm.net>	
Financial Investment Lauren Williams <slharuir@msn.com>	Publications B. Jay Bowman <bjb@wildblue.net>	
	Public Relations Fran Sick <ednfran@epix.net>	
	Safety Owen Martin <owenmartin@yahoo.com>	

2010 AFMS WEB SITE CONTEST – ITS SECOND YEAR

by Phyllis George, Ad Hoc Web Site Contest Chair

This is the second year for the Web Site Contest, and there were 42 entrants. Not bad for a fledgling contest. I hope that as the word gets around, there will be more and more Web sites entering each year. The contest is a wonderful tool for webmasters to learn what their sites should contain and how to go about making them more useful to their clubs. The goal is to increase the interest of the general public in the gem and mineral hobby, to gain new club members, and to serve as a source of current club information for their members.

The Web Site Contest has its own logo! Ron Gibbs, editor and webmaster for the Charlotte Gem & Mineral Club of Charlotte, North Carolina, is also an excellent graphic artist. Ron donated his



time and expertise to design and develop our logo. One for first place is shown here. He has generated animated gifs (small images that have a moving part) to

be awarded to the top two winners in each federation and to the top three winners at the AFMS level. These are for placement on the winning Web sites to let visitors know the high quality of the site.

The judges assigned to the seven regional federations served as mentors for these various clubs by giving the webmasters encouragement and friendly constructive criticism on what they are doing right and where they need to improve. The 2010 judges for the regional federation contests were Don Shurtz, Al Pennington, Joe Mulvey, Milton Bamfield, Terry Yoschak, Frank Mullaney, and Phyllis George. Thank you all! The contest could not have gone forward without you.

All the judging is now finished. Some of the regional federation contest results have already been announced at the various annual federation shows during their Breakfast with the Editors and Webmasters, but many of the shows are scheduled for later in the year, so their results are yet to be announced.

The first place regional federation winners may receive a plaque (depending on whether their federation budgeted for a plaque), but in addition they will receive something that is far better than a plaque. The first place winners each had their entries forwarded to Wes Lingerfelt, the man who is judging at the AFMS level. Wes will give the regional first place winners the benefit of his wisdom, his extensive Web experience, and his knowledge of what works and what doesn't. He analyzed each of the sites forwarded to him, and he gave useful feedback on what is being done well and how each site can be improved.

The results of the AFMS judging will be announced Sunday, June 20, 2010, at the Breakfast with the Editors and Webmasters to be held at the Anaheim Park Hotel, 222 W. Houston Ave., Fullerton, CA from 7 a.m. to 11 a.m. I hope all the finalists

will be able to attend. I cannot be there, but Linda Jaeger (who is in charge of the AFMS Bulletin Editors' Contest) has agreed to award the 1st place Web Site Contest plaque and the certificates in my place.

All the contestants participating at the AFMS level will receive a certificate signifying their rank, and the first place winner will also receive an AFMS first place plaque. The top three will also receive animated .gifs for placement on their sites as a symbol of the site's excellence.

Thank you, Wes, for agreeing to participate in our contest, for giving our first place regional winners the benefit of your hard-won wisdom, and for helping us achieve our goal of having rock and gem club Web sites that are as good as they can be.

I will begin working on the 2011 Web Site Contest Entry Form and the 2011 Web Site Contest Score Sheet shortly, and they will be available for downloading in September. I hope everyone reading this will encourage their club's webmaster to enter the 2011 contest. Their Web site will be better for having gone through the process of being judged, and their club may benefit from additional members.



Current Members of the Webmasters Contest Committee: Contact them for information about the contest.

Regional Federation	Contest Chair	E-mail Address
California Federation (CFMS)	Merryan O'Neill	mvoneill@comcast.net
Eastern Federation (EFMLS)	Dan Imel	lapidry@aol.com
Midwest Federation (MWFMS)	Cindy Root	d-root@sbcglobal.net
Northwest Federation (NFMS)	Cheri George	lizardwoman3@yahoo.com
Rocky Mountain Federation (RMFMS)	Dale Watts	d.watts@oksoccer.com
South Central Federation (SCFMS)	Don Shurtz	don.shurtz@gmail.com
Southeast Federation (SFMS)	Jim Flora	jimflora@windstream.net

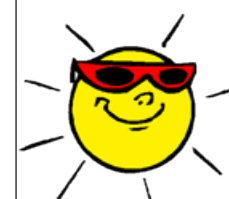
ONE RESULT OF DEFORESTATION

thanks to Jay Bowman



SUMMER BREAK

from the Editorial Staff



Your AFMS Newsletter will not be published during July and August

The deadline for the next issue (September) is August 1

The editorial staff (Sir Barkley Bigfoot, Caesar the GOFer and Ye Olde Editor) will spend our time collecting and cutting rocks, doing a bit of traveling, and attending some of our local and not so local area shows.

Have a wonderful and safe summer