

# EFMLS NEWS

Information for members of the Eastern Federation of Mineralogical & Lapidary Societies



## NEAT STUFF YOU MIGHT OWN

from Janie Hand, EFMLS Ways & Means Chair

To date I have seven wonderful prizes for the drawing for the Ways and Means Committee. I would like to have one or two more, so please hurry and get your donations in for this event. I will be mailing out the tickets in late April, and they must be returned to me by September 15<sup>th</sup> to be in time for the drawing in October at our convention.

Why are we having this drawing? The proceeds will go to the Eastern Federation Fund and help build the principal. Only the interest of this fund can be used for a variety of projects - last year we voted to use it to update several of the slide programs in our library that had begun to show wear and tear. Other projects that ultimately benefit our EFMLS member clubs (and thus you), are on the horizon. The larger the EFF principal, the larger the amount we have to use for these projects each year.

If you would still like to donate a prize, please send them directly to me so I can photograph them and publicize them in the next EFMLS News.

And now for the prizes that we already have!

Prize #1: A lovely bead and faceted stone necklace contributed by Laura Tarbutton of the Mississippi Gem & Mineral Society.



Prize #2:



A fluorite with calcite specimen from the famed Cave-in-Rock district of southern Illinois.

The specimen measures 6" x 2 1/4" and has a value of \$70. Donated by Seagoat Creations from Bill Klose in memory of Darlene Klose.

Prize #3:



A lovely Aragonite from Mexico measuring 6" x 4 3/4". Also donated by Seagoat Creations

from Bill Klose in memory of Darlene Klose. It has a value of \$30.

The descriptions follow

Prize #4:

A Tiger-eye, aventurine and quartz gem tree set on a citrine base. Valued at \$50, it was



donated by Sandy Keener of Sandy's Gemstone Trees, Athens, PA.

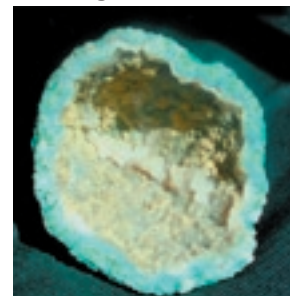
## ON THE INSIDE

President's Message.....	2
Regional VP Nominations.....	3
Scholarship News .....	3
Safety First.....	4
Custom Fossils.....	5
Each One Teach One .....	5
EFF News.....	6
Rockhound Concerns .....	6
On Pompey's Knob .....	7
Editor's Corner .....	7
EFMLS Candidates .....	8
Convention News .....	8
Directory Updates .....	9
FRA Merit Badges .....	11
Lois Barnhart.....	11
Wildacres Application .....	12
EFMLS Committees .....	13
Visit a Show .....	14

Prize #5:

Brazilian Chalcedony Geode, Valued at \$20, the geode measures

5 1/4" x 4 1/2" and was also donated by Seagoat Creations in memory of Darlene Klose.



see "Neat Stuff" on page 3

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## WHAT DOES YOUR FEDERATION DO FOR YOU? COME TO THE CONVENTION AND FIND OUT!

by Fran Sick, EFMLS President



This message is a challenge to each Eastern Federation member club.

By the time you read this the 2007 EFMLS Convention packets will be on their way, or you may have already received them. The Wayne County Gem and Mineral Club is working hard on plans for a great weekend in Newark, NY, in October. Now it is up to us to make plans to attend this important Federation annual event. To all club officers and everyone who is reading this message, please share it with your club members and encourage them to attend. Make a few copies of the registrations forms to have on hand for those members who do not receive packets or Federation newsletters. My challenge to you is to set a new club record for attendance at the 2007 convention. You can help this happen by making necessary information and forms easily accessible to your members.

How often have you heard the question "What does the Federation do for me?" We do our best to answer by listing the benefits provided by Federation membership, but there is nothing quite as effective as being there.

My second question is "What can you do for the Federation?" At the very least I would hope every club will be sure to have both a director and delegate in attendance at the annual EFMLS meeting to vote on important issues. Only in this way can we ensure that the needs, problems and ideas of every member club are represented. Also more participation in both competitive and non-competitive exhibits should be encouraged, as should increased support for the annual EFMLS auction. If every one who attends the convention would donate at least one item (hobby related good stuff only please) and everyone would purchase at least one item, my guess is we would see a significant increase in the proceeds from this important fund raising event, and we would all have a great time. I issued this same challenge to my club prior to our most recent annual auction and they responded by breaking all previous records in a big way.

When you receive your convention materials you will notice that the cracker barrel meeting has been scheduled for Friday afternoon and the annual meeting for Friday evening. This is not an error. At several cracker barrel meetings in recent years there has been discussion on one or more topics and the statement has been made that if we had known about it before the annual meeting it could have been brought up for a vote. Originally the cracker barrel meeting was scheduled first for this very reason. Also, with the cracker barrel being scheduled later in the afternoon and the annual meeting in the evening it may be easier for folks who must schedule vacation time from work to attend.

Another big event that is just around the corner is the combined Rocky Mountain/AFMS Convention in Roswell, New Mexico, from June 5-10, 2007. Registration deadline is May 1 so if you have not yet made your reservations there may still be a few days left. The Chaparral Rockhounds have some exciting plans for field trips and other events in addition to the usual convention activities. There will be a special gem stone auction and two different drawings that will offer once-in-a-lifetime opportunities to become the proud owner of some spectacular prizes. You will not want to miss this one.

Come to a convention, learn more about your Federations, meet many wonderful people, get involved and have a great time.

*Fran*

## REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT NOMINATIONS

by Ellery Borow, EFMLS 1st Vice President

News Flash! And yes, this is big news! It is time for all member clubs in EFMLS Regions I, III, V and VII to come forward and make their nominations for a Regional Vice President to serve their area and club.



The President of each EFMLS member club in the odd-numbered Regions should have by now received a nomination form for their region. I would like to encourage each club to have a discussion about this important nomination. Our system of Regional Vice Presidents is one of the vital links of communication with one another. We need your help in making this important nomination for a Regional Vice President to represent and serve your area.

According to the Operating Procedures, I have the honor and privilege of conducting these odd-number Regional elections in the odd-numbered years. Therefore, in 2007, we are conducting the elections in Regions I, III, V and VII. The terms for the current Vice Presidents will expire on October 31, 2007. The next term will be for two years beginning November 1, 2007 and running to October 31, 2009.

It is important to make your nominations early. If only one candidate is nominated by the regional clubs, that person will be declared the winner by acclamation. If more than one person is nominated in a region, it will be necessary to prepare a ballot and conduct an election in the effected region.

In the upcoming months, once the nomination and election process is complete, the regional clubs will be notified of the outcome. The results

will be published in the EFMLS News. Please keep in mind that the EFMLS system of Regional Vice Presidents is your first link in contacting and working with the EFMLS. Please give the important matter of nominating a candidate all due consideration. This is an opportunity to make your voice heard. I look forward to hearing from you.

Regional Vice President elections are an important issue. If there are any questions regarding this matter, please feel free to contact me at the address or phone number listed on page 2 of this issue.

## NEAT STUFF

continued from page 1

Prize # 6:



A Bloodstone cabochon pendant. Value unknown.

Prize #7:

A jasper cabochon wire-wrapped pendant. Value unknown.



Thank you for your support of this federation fund raiser.

## SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION NEWS

by Bob Livingston, EFMLS Coordinator

Donations Update thru March, 2007

I am happy to report that we have had the following much appreciated activity in the last couple of months.

Regular Donations:

*Western Piedmont Mineral & Gem Society* resulted in a club % level increase

*Southeastern New Hampshire Mineral Club* and a personal donation from *Edith Hammond* resulted in a club % level increase to a lofty 11,200% (highest of any club in EFMLS)

Memorial Donations:

*Gem Cutters Guild of Baltimore* in memory of Hamilton Leitch Steve & Carolyn Weinberger in memory of Paul Dunning and Hamilton Leitch % level unchanged

As you look over the Honor Roll of Contributors on page 38 of the new 2007 EFMLS Directory, if your club is shown as below 100% level, we would be happy to change that for next year. All we need is an outright donation, or donation to remember someone, or more than one special, with dollar amount equal to or greater than the number of members in your club. We take them for any old reason. Send yours to: AFMS Scholarship Foundation, c/o Bob Livingston, Coordinator, 59 Ely Drive, Fayetteville, NY 13066-1001. Thanks everyone.

Remember, your contributions help fund scholarships for graduate students in the Earth Sciences. Only the interest from monies collected is used: your donations go directly into the principal.

# SAFETY FIRST

by Bill Klose, EFMLS Safety Chair

## Vehicle Safety

Every spring it is important to re-view Summer Vehicle Safety before venturing out for vacations, field trips, and other outings.

Prior to leaving on a trip, make sure your vehicle is in good mechanical condition:

1. Service the engine by having a tune up and oil change to improve reliability, engine performance and mileage.

2. Have the brakes inspected and worn pucks or pads replaced and rotors turned or replaced if required.

3. Check tire wear and air pressure, including the spare or "donut". If the tires show wear, rotate or replace them. A wheel alignment and balance may be prudent if it appears misalignment is responsible for uneven tire wear. If you are going to be traveling over long distances without services or on rural roads, especially rutted dirt roads, it would be advisable to replace the "donut" with a full sized spare tire that will allow for higher speeds, longer range, better ground clearance, and load capacity. Keep the tires fully inflated. Soft tires may give a smoother ride, but will heat up and may fail in hot weather. Do not exceed the manufacture's tire, spring or towing load limits.

4. Make sure your windshield, rear windscreen, and headlight wipers are in good working order and the inside and outside of all windows and the rear view mirrors, and light lenses are clean. Adjust your mirrors to reduce the "blind zones". Avoid buying vehicles with tinted windows that can impair visibility.

5. Adjust the headrests to the level of your ears, not to the lower area of your head or curvature of

your neck.

6. Ensure that the seat belts and children's safety seats are in good working order and properly installed in accordance with the manufacture's instructions and state laws.

Check the supplies in your vehicle:

1. Bottled water and emergency food, such as energy bars or trail mix, that will last for several days or more.

2. Tire iron, lug nut key if anti-theft lug nuts are installed and a heavy duty jack, including the jack handle.

3. Extra windshield washer fluid, engine oil, transmission fluid, and brake oil.

4. Flashlight with spare batteries.

5. Emergency flasher, flares, and triangle.

6. Emergency tool kit.

7. Cell phone with replacement battery and/or in vehicle battery charger.

8. A change of clothes, shoes, and blankets and a warm coat.

Prior to heading out:

1. Plan your trip in advance so you can concentrate on driving and not navigating. Have the maps and travel guides available in the vehicle and have someone else in the vehicle familiar with them to aid with navigation if the need should arise to reduce driver distraction. AARP recommends that "if you are planning to take an unfamiliar route at night, try making a trial run during daylight". Avoid driving in heavily traveled or high speed areas during rush hour and bad weather. Check weather, fire conditions, and sun

screen requirements for the day(s) of the trip.

2. Make reservations in advance and plan the trip so each days activities will not exhaust the driver.

3. Provide for frequent rest stops to rest the driver and if possible share the driving responsibilities.

4. Make sure your prescription glasses are current and that you have both clear and tinted lenses with you as well as any prescription medicines.

5. Make sure someone knows where you are going and when you should return. Give them your cell phone and accommodation phone numbers so you can be contacted in case of emergencies.

Once you are on the road:

1. Keep a safe distance from the vehicle ahead for the speed you are driving. Do not "tail gate".

2. If you are going to change lanes, signal well in advance and look in the inside and outside rear view mirrors as well as over your shoulder before making your move to avoid not seeing a vehicle in the "blind area" of the rear quarter of your vehicle. When passing, provide adequate space and use your turn signals prior to pulling back over into the travel lane. Do not travel in the passing lane.

3. Do not talk on the cell phone, eat, play the radio loud or engage in any other activity that will distract you or keep you from having both hands on the steering wheel.

4. Use your headlights at least one half hour before sunset and until one half hour after sunrise and when

*See "Safety First" on page 5*



## SAFETY FIRST

*continued from page 4*

visibility is poor, when it is raining and in construction zones. Have your cars running lights on if installed whenever the engine is running. Use your emergency flashers when parked on the side of the road or broken down.

5. Always use your seat belts and child safety seats and keep at least 30 inches from your vehicle front air bags.

6. When traveling with trucks, drive so that you can see the trucks rear view mirror, to ensure the driver can see you. When stopped at a traffic signal or stop sign, especially on up grades, stay back from the vehicle ahead to allow for possible roll back when starting out, which is especially common with standard transmissions or inexperienced drivers.

7. If you should have a flat tire or other casualty, get as far off the pavement as possible and put out a flare, flasher, or emergency triangle, and turn on your vehicle flashing lights so other drivers can see you. It is better to drive a short distance on a flat tire to get the vehicle safely out of traffic danger. If it is not safe to change the tire or repair the vehicle yourself, call for help.

8. Do not encourage "road rage" by making gestures, looking at other drivers, or exhibiting aggressive driving habits. If you are pursued by another driver, proceed to a populated area, preferably a police station. Do not go to your home or get out of your vehicle.

9. Always be alert for the unexpected

Have a great safe summer vacation and collecting season.



## WEAR YOUR CUSTOM FOSSILS

*by Betsy Oberheim, EFMLS Junior Activities Chair*

If you haven't experimented with polymer clay; you are in for a treat! These soft, flexible clays are available in craft stores and go by names like: "Premo", "Sculpy III", "Fimo", and "Certo", etc. Personally, I prefer "Sculpy III" for the kids to use: it's usually the least expensive and comes in a wide range of colors (including metallics).

One of their favorite projects is a "fossil pendant". The clay should be "conditioned" by playing with it...what a tough task! If time is short use one color (a block has 4 divisions and one division makes a nice sized pendant) If you have more than 20 minutes; cut the divisions in half and have each pebble pup choose 2 or 3 contrasting colors.

After conditioning, roll into long "snakes" and twist the colors together. The colors blend easily, in fact, tell the kids to stop while you can still see the individual colors. Press it out into a rock shape about as thick as your finger. Then to create the fossil; press into the clay shells, plastic bugs, plastic ferns (they imprint better than

real ones), marker caps and ends (make neat crinoids), r u b b e r snakes, fish charms, etc. I'm sure you'll discover more objects that look neat.

In case these objects seem to stick; for a quick release; paint them with a light coat of any kind of power, or mist them with water. Use a toothpick to create a hole the hang them or make a little tunnel in the top to fit them on a shoelace, leather thong, or chain. These must be baked in an oven usually about 265 degrees for about 20 to 30 minutes. Make sure the oven isn't any hotter as they will burn easily. I take in an old toaster oven, but if that isn't practical you can send them home with the baking instructions. If you enjoy the clay and want to do more, there are great books on creating faux rocks like turquoise and malachite.

This clay has progressed from a fun craft to a real art form, and some net searches will give you many ideas.



## EACH ONE TEACH ONE - REMINDER!!

*by Hazel Remaley, EOTO Chair*

Time is running short for you to send me your entries in the Each One Teach One Competition. I need them by June 15th so that I can send them off to my judges.

Now that the reminder is out of the way, I would like to tell you about a conversation that I had at a local club mineral show. I had my name tag/badge on and a young man asked me what the Each One Teach One meant. I explained the program to him, and he thought that it was a really great idea. Turns out that he is a teacher, enjoys geology, and plans to get more information about the club. Now, don't get me wrong, I really don't think that I should be nominated for the award for that, but, spreading the word about our hobby is a good thing. Think about the folks who do all the speaking, teaching, and sharing. Nominate them (yes, it may be a couple) this year. I'll be waiting.



## EFF NEWS

by Mary Jane Boutwell, Chair

Once again it is a pleasure to tell you about donations made to the Eastern Foundation Fund. As I told one of my grandsons recently - "If you put a dollar a payday into a savings account and not touch it until you retire, you will be well off." Like my grandson, every dollar we place in the EFF increases what can be done for all members of the Eastern Federation.



The sad part of the donations is that they often are made as memorials - the EFF's gain is our loss as members of the rockhound community.

Jennie Smith, a person worthy of great honor herself, made a contribution in memory of Robert Dunning, a member of the Micromineralogists of the National Capital Area.

The Gem, Lapidary & Mineral Society of Washington, DC also made a contribution in memory of Russ Shew, long time member and show chairman.

The passing of a member leaves a void in a club that can eventually be partially filled. One way to recognize the contributions of this member is to donate to the Eastern Foundation Fund in their memory.

Send your donations directly to me (see page \_\_\_ for mailing info). Checks should be made payable to "EFF". Please include your name and address, club that you wish to give credit to along with the name of the honoree and name and address of the

## ROCKHOUDING CONCERNS

by Clyf Bourne, Conservation & Legislation Chair

Both Paleontological Resources Preservation Act bills, (Senate S. 320 and House H.R. 554) are still on the calendar to be discussed at a later date. So, for the time being, that is their status. Go to <www.GovTrack.us> on the internet to check on the status of these bills. (Or any bills, for that matter.)

In the meantime, it behooves us to continue to make ourselves known to our representatives as to where we stand; as being interested in pursuing our hobby. We need to be able to enjoy the great outdoors, to be able to poke around in it and uncover and collect some of those wonderful examples of nature, mineral and fossil, if we wish. At the same time we must continue to respect the environment and other people's rights. We must do all that we can; not to be perceived as overstepping our rights and privileges in these pursuits, especially if we expect Congress to enact laws that allow us to really actively enjoy our hobby. We should be familiar with our Code of Ethics and abide by them. Unfortunately, there are persons who have not. And we know the results. Prime prospecting areas have been closed to us by the property owners and is, undoubtedly, a factor in presentation of these bills before Congress now.

A personal experience of mine comes to mind. A few years ago, Joy and I visited Magnet Cove; we had heard what an unusual aggregation of minerals were to be found there. Remember, this is the place you can't use your compass. It tries to point into the ground. I think our interest was also piqued by finding little black crystals (brookites), pointed out by the owner, around the picnic table at a campground not too far away. We stopped along side the road in town and discovered some brookites around a big rock in the shoulder. An approaching car spun around in the road, changing direction and sped off. In a few minutes another car approached,

stopped near us, a woman got out and told us to get off her property. As far as I know, highways, including land measured from the center line a reasonable distance, are not private property. Never the less, we removed to the local diner, perhaps to reflect and to inquire for other possibilities. As it happened, the sheriff was there. Sitting on a high stool. We did not feel welcomed by him either but he did suggest we could search along beside the road at a certain intersection. We did not find anything; perhaps he knew we wouldn't. We got the impression local people resented rockhounds in general. One reason, perhaps was that we had heard of an individual bringing in heavy equipment to a nearby location at night, to do extensive earth moving and haul out materials. This would incense anybody; who could blame the locals? I suspect others, around the country have done similar damage. Other incidents such as littering, leaving gates open or small excavations unfilled, have been committed by thoughtless or even ornery individuals, have caused promising areas to be closed to us. We have to be vigilant with ourselves and convince others that this behavior is hurting us.

We have just come from our annual Che-Hanna club show in which we were very fortunate to have, as visitors, three of our governmental representatives. First, we had our state representative, who often visits our show (we had the opportunity to inquire, face to face, about how our push to make Celestine our state mineral is coming.) and also a County Commissioner who just happened to be hosting our U. S. Congressional Representative who represents our 10th district of Pennsylvania in Washington. Just the person we need to be on good terms with if we are serious about protecting our interests when laws are being made. What better way to make a good impression on our lawmakers than to welcome them to our club shows? Happy hunting.

## TIME FOR JUNIORS

by Bill Gilbert, BEAC Chair



This month I would like to write about getting juniors involved with your bulletins and competing in the annual EFMLS Bulletin Contest. I am very certain that the discussion of getting young people involve with the club's activities has been a frequent occurrence. I wish I had the secret to this problem. It has been apparent by the number of entries from juniors in the EFMLS Bulletin Contest. Certainly, we, the leadership of our club's need to promote and encourage the juniors to write, draw, or develop a neat game/puzzle/poem for their club bulletin.

Do the juniors in your club know they can contribute to their club's bulletin? Do they know that their contributions can be submitted for competition in the Eastern Federation's annual bulletin contest? We need to tell them at our club's meetings and functions.

There are several categories that the juniors can participate in. The first category is 'Junior Articles'. Junior articles are written articles that are submitted to the club's bulletin. The length can range from a few paragraphs to possibly a page or more.

The next category they can enter is 'Junior Feature Drawn'. Junior Feature drawn are items that don't fit the traditional written format. They can include drawings, puzzles, and other items.

There are also 'Junior Poems'. This would include junior originally composed poems that are hobby re-

lated. If you are interested looking up the criteria for the junior categories, please go to the EFMLS webpage <[www.amfed.org/efmls.beac.htm](http://www.amfed.org/efmls.beac.htm)>.

There is another good reason for juniors to participate in the EFMLS Bulletin Contest. The top three entries for Junior Articles (ages under 12 and 12 to 17 years old) and Junior Poems are sent on to the American Federation (AFMS) for competition in their annual Bulletin Contest. Competing in the AFMS Bulletin Contest means competing with junior authors from the entire United States. The judges in both AFMS and EFMLS provide positive feedback on how to make future contributions better.

I would like to challenge each club in the Eastern Federation to promote and encourage juniors to participate in their own club's bulletin. Offer them help in how to write the article or possibly how to do research on a rock related subject. Lead by example and also submit articles/poems to your bulletin and show them it isn't that hard.

It is really rewarding when the club looks at a face of a junior who has received a certificate/award and is recognized for the effort they did. This is just one aspect of our club's effort to share our knowledge and experience through supporting the juniors in the club.



## ON POMPEY'S KNOB

by Steve Weinberger

The first time I went to Wildacres was in 1976. The present Dining Hall was open for the first season and the North Lodge was just being started. We all lived in a 1920's wooden hotel which had it's charm, but also had paper thin walls, drafty windows, and mysterious creaks whenever anyone walked around. The experience was unique to say the least.

Today all the buildings at Wildacres are modern and although you still can hear heavy footed folks walk around on occasion, the loudest noise you hear is that of laughter, birds, Katy-dids and people having fun. The view from the porches, patios and meeting rooms remains the same tranquil one that welcomed us in 1976, although some of the trees have definitely grown a bit.

It's the "Wildacres Spirit" that always encourages many of us to return each year. If you've never been, you're missing quite a treat. I encourage you to take a week of your time and come to Little Switzerland this September (10-16) to join in the fun. Full information can be found on the EFMLS Wildacres website <[www.amfed.org/efmls.wildacres.htm](http://www.amfed.org/efmls.wildacres.htm)> We've included an application in this issue for your convenience.

Tuition is \$330 for the entire week. That includes your room and board plus talks by our Speaker in Residence for the session, Dr. Steve Chamberlain. What a bargain! What a wonderful place to meet and learn with fellow rockhounds! What a place to learn a new skill or reinforce an old one!



## CONVENTION PLANS

by Andrea Kords, Show Chair



The 2007 EFMLS convention plans are moving right along. We sure hope you and your club members are considering a visit to Wayne County for the Convention and show. We are lining up all kinds of fun events and happenings to amuse, educate and amaze you during your stay in Newark, New York.

The cracker barrel is being held on Friday afternoon and is the place for the general membership to bring up any ideas they would like to share or bring to a vote at the annual meeting Friday night. The cracker barrel is also a time to share ideas with club members. Last year in West Palm Beach there was a lot of talk about clubs and how they work with children. This year we are having a speaker at our show just to help your club gain some ideas you can use.

Folks who attend the show will get a real education on glass bead making as we have "Nancy on Fire" Nancy will be at the show both days with her tools and torches demonstrating the art of glass bead making.

Plans were made just today for the annual Banquet. Have you ever had homemade apple pie or grape pie made with the fruits from our own New York Finger Lakes Area? All who attend the annual dinner are in for a real treat. Maybe we should have desert first?

Sunday Morning is a must for all club editors and friends of club editors. Valuable information to help all editors will be available and awards presentations for all the wonderful articles we all enjoy in the monthly club bulletins as well as for the bulletins themselves. After the Editors

## SLATE OF CANDIDATES ANNOUNCED

by Sue MacInnis, Nominating Committee Chair

The EFMLS Nominating Committee is pleased to announce their proposed slate of candidates for EFMLS office. The election will take place at the EFMLS Annual Meeting on October 5th in Newark, NY.

*President - Ellery Borow*  
Waterville, Maine

Water-Oak Gem & Mineral Society  
currently EFMLS 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President

*1<sup>st</sup> Vice President - Mary Bateman*  
Arlington, Virginia  
Gem, Lapidary & Mineral Society of  
Washington, DC  
currently EFMLS 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President

*2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President - Loren Patterson*  
Baldwinsville, New York  
Gem & Mineral Society of Syracuse

*Treasurer - Lou Budell*  
Marcellus, New York  
Gem & Mineral Society of Syracuse  
currently EFMLS Treasurer

*Editor - Carolyn Weinberger*  
Glyndon, Maryland  
Gem Cutters' Guild of Baltimore  
currently EFMLS Editor

### Nominating Committee

*Barbara Fenstermacher*  
Aiken, South Carolina  
Aiken Gem, Mineral & Fossil Soc.

*Esther Dunn*  
Ozark, Alabama  
Dothan Gem & Mineral Society

Secretary Cathy Patterson and Asst. Treasurer LaReene Heath were elected to two year terms of office last year.

Additional nominations for any office may be made from the floor during the Annual Meeting. Please be certain that the individual you nominate is willing to serve if elected.

Sue MacInnis, Chair  
Harvey Brickman  
K.C. Foster  
Cathy Gaber  
Wayne Sukow  
Larry Vandergrift  
Reivan Zeleznik

breakfast there will be a field trip led by one of Wayne County clubs master diggers, Ken Rowe. He says he has a dig planned outside of Syracuse (about an hour away) for some amazing Selenites. Ken says you might not be too excited at first to hear about digging for Selenites, but he is making a display of them for the show. He says these Selenites are just so unusual that once seen, every mineral loving collector will want in on this dig.

For those of you who might check out the show on Sunday, I hear there is going to be a display of antique cars from 11 until 1. Wayne

County has a very active car club and they are visiting the show with their beautiful cars.

Packets will be in the mail shortly so get on board and drag your club members along to join in the fun at the Wayne County Gem and Mineral Show and The EFMLS annual Convention the weekend of October 5 - 7, 2007.



# EFMLS DIRECTORY ADDITIONS / UPDATES

from Carolyn Weinberger, Directory Editor

I've no idea how this happened, but I've heard from two clubs whose information for 2007, though sent me in plenty of time, did not get updated in the new Directory. My master file was updated...I checked...but somehow when the file was imported into the Directory, something glitched and the old information showed up. I'll never understand computers...they seem to have a mind of their own! In addition, three clubs sent their 2007 information after the Directory was printed and I've heard from a few of you with typo corrections or e-mail changes. Please take a few minutes and update your copy so it remains a useful and up-to-date document.

Page 1 and 8 (2 places):

Treasurer Lou Budell: <labudell@windstream.net>

Page 44:

## ***Bridgeport Mineralogical Society***

Club Address: PO Box 2147; Huntington, CT 06484.

20 Adults 0 Juniors Organized: 1978 Joined EFMLS: 1986

Officers Elected: December Take Office: January

PRESIDENT: Jay Dimand, 25 Casimir Drive; Fairfield, CT 06432-1225. 203-374-3630. <jkdimand@worldnet.att.net>

VICE PRES: Jay Dimand

SECRETARY: Helen Shupik, 355 Frenchtown Rd; Bridgeport, CT 06606-1907. 203-372-0682.

TREASURER: Mary Elizabeth Molon, PO Box 2147; Huntington, CT 06484.

LIAISON: Jay Dimand

EDITOR: Mary Elizabeth Molon

BULLETIN: *The Garnet*

MEETING: Mondays or Wednesdays at 7 P.M. Depending on availability of meeting place-.  
North Branch Library, 3455 Madison Av; Bridgeport, CT

Page 49

## ***Miami Mineralogical And Lapidary Guild, Inc.***

PRESIDENT: John Fasy, 10800 SW 66 Dr; Miami, FL 33173. 305-271-8451.

Page 56

## ***Southern Maryland Rock And Mineral Club***

Club Address: Clearwater Nature Ctr, 11000 Thrift Rd; Clinton, MD 20735-9764.

40 Adults 1 Junior Organized: 1989 Joined EFMLS: 1990

Officers Elected: December Take Office: January

PRESIDENT: Lorna Larson, 6905 Calvin St; Ft. Washington, MD 20744. 301-567-9116. <lormelar@verizon.net>

VICE PRES: Carole Raucheisen, 9012 Hilary Ct; LaPlata, MD 20646. 301-392-9736. <caroleal@verizon.net>

SECRETARY: Susanne Steward, 16311 Manning Rd W; Accokeek, MD 20607. 301-283-0022. <suzannesteward69@yahoo.com>

TREASURER: Michael Patterson, 1100 Thrift Rd; Clinton, MD 20735-9467. 301-297-4575. <michael.patterson@pgparks.com>

LIAISON: Michael Patterson

EDITOR: Maria Jolley, 2618 Ferguson Ct; Waldorf, MD 20602. 240-375-7407. <mjolley@somd.lib.md.us>

BULLETIN: *Rock Talk*

MEETINGS: 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of month at 7:00 P.M. Clearwater Nature Center; Clinton, MD

SHOW: March 4, 2007. Clearwater Nature Center, 11000 Thrift Rd; Clinton, MD

Page 68:

## ***Orange County Mineral Society***

PRESIDENT: Mike Essig <stonebear76@yahoo.com>

TREASURER: Celia Sager <csager1@hvc.rr.com>

LIAISON: George Gardianos <GGardianos@LINCOLNTECH.COM>

EDITOR: John Wheeler <wheejo@yahoo.com>

Page 58:

## ***Worcester Mineral Club, Inc.***

Club Address: PO Box 2278, Worcester, MA 01613

Club Website: <www.worcestermineralclub.org>

119 Adults 0 Juniors Organized: 1938 Joined EFMLS: 1958

Officers Elected: June Take Office: September

PRESIDENT: Larry Bull, 3 Crescent St; Shrewsbury, MA 01545. 508-842-8498. <llbull@hotmail.com>

VICE PRES: Ed Anderson, 1342 Main St; Leominster, MA 01453. 978-342-0402.

SECRETARY: James & Holly Anne Evans, 16 Lilly Dr; Leominster, MA 01453. 978-537-4863. <phievans@aol.com>

TREASURER: Nancy Kangas, 126 Phe St #2; Gardner, MA 01440. 978-632-2435.

LIAISON: Larry Johnson, 36 Howland Terr; Worcester, MA 01602.

EDITOR: André Bourque, 10 Revere Way; Ashland, MA 01721. 508-881-6225, <andre.bourque@genzyme.com>

BULLETIN: *New Diggings*

MEETINGS: 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of month at 7:00 P.M. Trinity Episcopal Church, 440 Main St; Shrewsbury, MA

SHOW/SWAP: Weekend before Thanksgiving, 2007. National Guard Armory, 701 Lincoln St; Worcester, MA

Page 59:

## ***Mississippi Gem and Mineral Society***

EDITOR: James Monk 601-936-2536 <tspdance@bellsouth.net>

Page 65:

## ***Capital District Mineral Club in Albany, NY***

Vice Pres: Anne Woods, <schmanie@albanyrockclub.com>

Treasurer: Robert Stitham, 3612 Route 9; Hudson, NY 12534. 518-755-2255 <gumby59@mhicable.com>

Editor: Anne Woods, <schmanie@albanyrockclub.com>

Page 66:

## ***Gem And Mineral Society of Syracuse, Inc.***

Club Address: PO Box 801; Syracuse, NY 13201-0801.

Club webpage: <http://www.gmss.us>

130 Adults 4 Junior Organized: 1951 Joined EFMLS: 1952

Officers Elected: June Take Office: September

PRESIDENT: Cathy Patterson, 7725 Van Buren Rd; Baldwinsville, NY 13027-9779. 315-638-8817. <cathypatterson@gmss.us>

VICE PRES: Len Sharp, 7964 Walnut Pl; Liverpool, NY 13090. 315-652-8873. <lenssharp@gmss.us>

SECRETARY: Judy Cook, 110 Elaine Av; N Syracuse, NY 13212. <judycook@gmss.us>

TREASURER: Lou budell, 2718 Falls Rd; Marcellus, NY 13108-9783. 315-673-1891. <labudell@windstream.net>

LIAISON: Cathy Patterson

EDITOR: Loren Patterson, 7725 Van Buren Rd; Baldwinsville, NY 13027-9779. 315-638-8817. <lnpatterson@gmss.us>

BULLETIN: *Crack 'N Cab*

MEETINGS: 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of month at 7:30 P.M.

First Presbyterian Church, Parish Hall rear-. 620 W. Genessee St.; Syracuse, NY

SHOW: July 14-15, 2007. New York State Fair Grounds; Syracuse, NY.

Page 73

## ***Central Pennsylvania Rock & Mineral Club***

PRESIDENT: R.J. Harris <roqfreq@rjharris.com>

SHOW: September 15-16, 2007. Sporting Hill Elementar School, 210 S Sporting Hill Rd; Mechanicsburg, PA

# FRA MERIT BADGES IN A NUTSHELL

by Jim Brace-Thompson, AFMS Junior Activities Chair

Here are answers to 4 common questions I've received about the AFMS/FRA merit badge program:

## How Does the Merit Badge Program Work?

The program consists of an FRA membership badge, 9 merit badges (Rocks & Minerals, Earth Resources, Fossils, Lapidary Arts, Collecting, Showmanship, Communication, Field Trips, and Leadership), and a "Rockhound Badge" for kids who earn 6 of the 9 merit badges. A 100-page guidebook describes and outlines requirements for each of the 9 merit badges. There are 52 activities to choose from, or

about a half dozen activities per badge, with kids required to complete only 3 activities to earn any particular badge. Checklists in the guidebook make it easy for youth leaders to sign off on activities as junior members complete them. In addition, brief back-up pages and suggestions help leaders guide their kids through each activity. The guidebook is available both in hard-copy format (photocopied) and on the AFMS web site (<[www.amfed.org/fra/meritbadge.htm](http://www.amfed.org/fra/meritbadge.htm)>). To save on costs to the program, which is being provided entirely free, I encourage you to download a copy of the guidebook and its checklist sheets from the web. If this is not possible, contact me for a copy.

## How Do I Sign up the Kids in My Local Club?

The program is for clubs with youth members enrolled in the AFMS Future Rockhounds of America (FRA). To enroll your kids, contact me (call 805-659-3577 or email [jbraceth@roadrunner.com](mailto:jbraceth@roadrunner.com)). All you need is a group of kids (up to age 18), a sponsor, a name, and an application to FRA. (An application form can be downloaded from the website.) Your club must be affiliated with the AFMS. The number of youth is not important: you

can have as few as 1 or 2 and as many as you can handle.

## How Do I Order the Merit Badges?

Because this is a new program and we don't have a history as to what potential supply-and-demand will be, I'm keeping distribution of badges centralized, at least for the first year or so. For budgetary reasons, we were only able to order a limited quantity of badges as a start. Thus, rather than send bulk quantities of badges to local youth leaders and exhaust our supply right away, I'm asking that local leaders at individual clubs send me requests for badges as they are earned.



How to go about this? You should make multiple copies of the activity checklists that are included in the merit badge guidebook. For each child, check off activities as they are completed. When at least 3 activities are checked off for any one badge, both the child and youth leader sign the checklist, write in the mailing address of the youth leader, and send it to me: *Jim Brace-Thompson, AFMS Juniors Activities Chair, 7319 Eisenhower Street, Ventura, CA 93003*. I'll record the info and send the badge. To speed the whole process, I'm also willing to do fulfillment via the phone or email (see my contact info, above) rather than through the mail so long as the youth leader indicates: 1) the badge being requested, 2) which activities a child has completed to earn that badge, 3) the child's name and name of his/her club, and 4) name and mailing address of the youth leader to send the badge to.

I know this is a bit cumbersome and will mean a lag time in getting badges to kids. But in discussing this with others in the AFMS, I decided it's best to use this centralized approach at least in the beginning in order to monitor how much

the program is getting utilized. It's also necessary in order to keep tabs on which activities are proving most popular and how many badges actually end up getting awarded. This way, we'll have an accurate record for the future in estimating budgets for how many badges, and which ones, will need to be manufactured on a regular basis. In order to keep the program free, we need to monitor all costs as we start out and keep a lid on those costs by only distributing what's actually being used.

## How Can We Make the Merit Badge Program Better?

Finally, I welcome feedback, suggestions for improvements to the existing activities, and ideas of new activities and badges to add to the program. Let's all pitch in to provide an educational program by which kids learn, earn rewards, and—as always—have fun!

## LOIS BARNHART

Lois Barnhart, wife of EFMLS Past President (1995) Erston Barnhart, passed away in Augusta, GA on March 16.

Besides her interest in rocks and minerals, Lois was an accomplished church organist and, during her working days, was Secretary to the Dean of Continuing Education at Dickinson College in Carlisle, PA where she and Erston lived until she moved to Augusta in 2002.

Lois is survived by her three children: Kathleen, Jonathan and Matthew and a sister. A memorial service is being planned for June and will be held in Carlisle, PA.

Contributions in her memory should be directed to either the EFF or AFMS Scholarship Foundation.

# 2007 EFMLS Wildacres Registration

PLEASE, ONLY one person per form per session

CHECK ONE: April 20 - 26 \_\_\_\_\_ September 10 - 16 \_\_\_\_\_

Please fill out a separate registration form for each person attending and return to DEBBIE BARD, Registrar at 8085 Old 126, Warfordsburg, PA 17267. No registration will be accepted prior to January 1, 2007. (To make it easier for the registrar and others, please do not change or revise this form. You may photocopy it as needed.)

Name (as you wish it to appear on your name badge): \_\_\_\_\_

Street: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone number with area code: \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Club/Society Affiliation: \_\_\_\_\_

Fee for each session is \$330.00 per person. Deposit is \$165 per person, payable with registration. Make checks payable to "EFMLS". Balance of \$165 is due 30 days prior to start of session.

Cancellation policy: If unable to attend, fees paid will be refunded if notification is given prior to one month before the session begins. No refund will be made after that date.

Circle appropriate responses:

Have you been to Wildacres before? Yes No Is your Club sponsoring you? Yes No

Name of roommate: \_\_\_\_\_ (If none, one will be assigned).  
Are you: Male Female (No single rooms are available). Are you a smoker? Yes No

Do you have any physical handicaps and / or special dietary needs? Yes No  
If YES, please explain on reverse side.

Do you have material for exhibiting that you would be willing to display at Wildacres? Yes No  
If YES, please contact Steve Weinberger <cscrystals2@verizon.net>. Lined display cases are available.

Do you have a skill to demonstrate or a program to share (up to 40 minutes)? Yes No  
If YES, please contact Cathy Gaber at <bg@his.com>, or 301-654-7479.

Class Pre-registration.

See EFMLS Newsletter or Website for class offerings. <[www.amfed.org/efmls/wildacres.htm](http://www.amfed.org/efmls/wildacres.htm)>

Which of the classes being offered would you like to take? We will be preregistering you for classes you indicate. When a class is full NO others will be assigned to that class, and you will be assigned your next class choice(s). No class placement is guaranteed.

1st \_\_\_\_\_ 3rd \_\_\_\_\_

2nd \_\_\_\_\_ 4th \_\_\_\_\_

(No registrations accepted prior to January 1, 2007)

Mail to: Debbie Bard, Wildacres Registrar  
8085 Old 126  
Warfordsburg, PA 17267

If you have any questions, please contact either Debbie Bard, Registrar at <[debbard@frontiernet.net](mailto:debbard@frontiernet.net)> or 717-294-3667 or Wayne Sukow, Director at <[d8olite@fastmail.fm](mailto:d8olite@fastmail.fm)> or 703-280-8108.

# REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENTS

## Region I

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### Parliamentarian

Steve Weinberger (see Bylaws)

### Wildacres - Continued

Carl Miller (see Boundaries)

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Matt Charsky  
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### Show Coordinator

Matt Charsky  
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### Each One Teach One

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### Supplies

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### Nominating (Elected committee)

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(see Wildacres Director)

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Cathy Gaber  
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Steve Weinberger, Chair  
(see Bylaws)

Sue MacInnis  
(see Historian)

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*\*Also Eastern Representative to American Federation Committee*

# EFMLS NEWS

Carolyn Weinberger, Editor  
PO Box 302



VISIT THE EFMLS WEBSITE  
<[www.amfed.org.efmls](http://www.amfed.org.efmls)>

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## VISIT A SHOW

from Matt Charsky

### May:

5 - 6: 44th Annual Show sponsored by the North Shore Rock & Mineral Club. Topsfield Fairgrounds, Topsfield, MA.

26: 18th Annual Chesapeake Gem & Mineral Show sponsored by the Chesapeake Gem & Mineral Society. Goucher College, Towson, MD.

### June

2 - 3: Mineral, Jewelry & Fossil Show sponsored by the Connecticut Valley Mineral Club. Three County Fair Grounds, Old Ferry Rd., Northampton, MA.

2: Annual Gem, Mineral, Fossil & Jewelry show sponsored jointly by the Bergen Co. Mineralogy & Paleontology Society and the New Jersey Paleontology Society. Bergen Co. Courthouse, River & Court Sts; Hackensack, NJ. Rain date, June 3.

3: Annual Spring Mineralfest sponsored by the Pennsylvania Earth Sciences Association. Macungie Memorial Park; Allentown, PA

2 - 3: 34th Annual Tannehill Gem, Mineral, Fossil & Jewelry Show sponsored by the Alabama Mineral & Lapidary Society. Tannehill Ironworks Historical State Park, AL

9-10: Annual Mineral Swap & Sell sponsored by the Orange County Mineral Society. Museum Village Green (outdoors), 1010 Rt 17M, Monroe, NY.

23 - 24: 43rd Annual Gilsum Rock Swap and Mineral Show. Gilsum Elementary School, Rt 10, Gilsum, NH

29-30: 2nd Annual Nittany Gem & Mineral Show sponsored by the Nittany Mineralogical Society. Mt. Nittany Middle School, State College, PA.

### July:

14-15: 41st Annual Gem, Mineral & Fossil Show sponsored by the Gem & Mineral Society of Syracuse, NY. Verizon Center of Progress Bldg., New York State Fairgrounds, Syracuse, NY.

14-15: 46th Annual Western Maine Gem, Mineral and Jewelry Festival sponsored by the Oxford County Mineral & Gem Assoc. Telstar High School, Bethel, ME.

28-29: 26th Annual Mineral & Gem Show sponsored by the Long Island Mineral & Geological Society. Cutchogue East Elementary School, Long Island, NY.

28-29: 28th Annual Champlain Valley Gem, Mineral & Fossil Show sponsored by the Burlington Gem & Mineral Club. Tuttle Middle School, Burlington, VT.

### August:

4 - 5: 58th Annual Gem & Mineral Show sponsored by the Gem, Lapidary & Mineral Society of Washington, DC. Stone Ridge School, 9101 Rockville Pike, Bethesda, MD

4 - 5: 37th Annual Mid-State Gem & Mineral Show sponsored by the Water-Oak gem & Mineral Society. Mt. Merici School, 152 Western Av; Waterville, ME.

### September

8-9: Jewelry, Gem & Mineral Show sponsored by the Northern Berkshire Mineral Club. VFW Hall, North Adams, MA

8-9: 57th Annual Gem, Mineral & Jewelry Show sponsored by the Danbury Mineralogical Society. New Milford High School, Danbury Rd; New Milford, CT.

15-16: 42nd Annual Gem, Mineral & Jewelry Show sponsored by the Central Pennsylvania Rock & Mineral Club. NEW LOCATION: Sporting Hill Elementary School, Mechanicsburg, PA

22 - 23: 43rd Annual Atlantic Coast Gem, Mineral & Jewelry Show hosted by the Gem Cutters Guild of Baltimore. Howard Co. Fairgrounds, I-70 at MD 32; West Friendship, MD

29-30: 44th Annual Gem, Mineral & Jewelry Festival sponsored by the Capital Mineral Club. NEW LOCATION: Everett Arena, Concord, NH.

29-30: 51st Annual Franklin-Sterling Hill Mineral, Gem & Jewelry Show, sponsored by the Franklin-Ogdensburg Mineralogical Society. Franklin School, Washington Ave., Franklin, NJ.

### October:

6: Annual Autumn Mineralfest sponsored by the Pennsylvania Earth Sciences Association. Macungie Memorial Park; Allentown, PA

6 - 7: 14th Annual Wayne County Gem & Mineral Show sponsored by the Wayne County Gem & Mineral Club. St. Michael's School, Newark, NJ. HOST OF 2007 EFMLS CONVENTION

*If you are an EFMLS member club and would like to have your show or swap listed here, send information to Matt Charsky, EFMLS Show Coordinator at 2430 N Glebe Rd; Arlington, VA 22207 or e-mail at <[Charsky.Matthew@epa.gov](mailto:Charsky.Matthew@epa.gov)>.*