

EFMLS NEWS

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



ALL AMERICAN CLUB AWARD

by Cathy Patterson, EFMLS Chair

Reach Out to Your Community SECTION 5

Community Relations (15 points)



Your club provides an important service to your community – believe it or not! You offer a gathering place for folks interested in the

hobby giving them an opportunity to share ideas and learn from each other through your programs at your meetings. You educate the youth in your group and foster in them a life long love of the natural world. You provide maybe the only opportunity for folks in your community to see museum quality mineral and fossil specimens you bring to your club show. You might even help teachers in your community to better teach their units in geology by giving them extra mineral specimens from your members. Yes, you are a valuable asset to your community!

This section deals with what your club does in your community. For example:

•Do members give talks or do demonstrations at local schools or scout groups?

•Are there any rocky displays your club shows off at a public library, school, or other place?

•Have your members ever manned a booth or information table, or did an activity at a town event?

•Did you club donate materials to schools, scout groups, or other youth organizations?

•Are your club members active in local affairs?

Support material for the above should include details for those items including pictures, thank you notes, letters, and certificates of appreciation and reports printed in your club newsletter or in the community newspaper.

Where we've been on our year-book-making "trip" ~

Getting Your Materials in Order -
EFMLS News January 2010

Club Information – The Basics (no points) EFMLS News April 2010

Offerings to Club Members and Guests
(25 points) EFMLS News May 2010

Publicity and Publications (15 points) EFMLS News June-July 2010

Support for Regional Federations, AFMS and other clubs (20 points) EFMLS News September 2010

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Next time:

Government Agency and Legislative Relations (10 points)

Overall Format and Presentation Showmanship tips
(15 points)

Let's get started and keep it going!
We're in together!

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2009 – 2010



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No issue is normally published during July or August.

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FROM THE TOP!

by Loren Patterson, EFMLS President

The AFMS Code of Ethics: Your Field Trip Guide

In my closing weeks as EFMLS president, I want to deliver an important message concerning collecting on "Field Trips". How important is it? For many of our EFMLS clubs with declining membership, field trips are a make or break issue. Many members see field trips as the essence of rockhounding, without which there is one less reason to belong to a club with little field trip potential. In the current atmosphere of government legislation driven by environmentalists and promoted by well meaning groups that would preserve everything as Wilderness, there are fewer places to collect every year as more and more locations are closed. If we do nothing, we may have to take future field trips in each other's basement or driveways.

We need to ask ourselves, "Are we doing enough of the right things to improve our public image or are we part of the problem?" Are you a good rockhound or a not so good rockhound? It is possible that if you do not follow the AFMS Code of Ethics (www.amfed.org/ethics.htm) or have never read it in your club bulletin you may not know what it takes to promote your club image as a responsible rockhound. The American Federation of Mineralogical Societies suggests that the Code of Ethics be read at one club meeting a year at



In the field, Montana, August 2009

least. Since many club members don't attend every meeting, I think having printed copies of the AFMS Code of Ethics available at club meetings and reminding members that they are important is a minimum. This is one small step to help alter and improve our public image. Let's not give those forces trying to close our public lands any extra help by not doing the right thing. We all need to be aware that it doesn't require a lot of effort to follow the AFMS Code of Ethics and be a real rockhound.

Another small step would be for clubs to join the American Lands Access Association (ALAA) <www.amlands.org>. ALAA's mission is "to promote and ensure the rights for amateur 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." By joining ALAA, you can make your membership aware of legislation that may restrict your rights concerning field collecting and you can become an active part of the solution and not part of the problem. Membership in ALAA is only \$25 for individuals and \$50 for clubs.

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FIRST IMPRESSIONS

by Mary Bateman, BEAC Chair

Each month I receive over 100 newsletters from clubs all across the country. In all cases, the editor has taken care to pass information and news along to the members of their respective clubs. Some of the newsletters are award winners and some could use some help. Each newsletter has the potential to be an award-winning newsletter.



Over the next few articles, we will attempt to give you some hints on how to improve your newsletter. If you have any suggestions for topics, please feel free to let us know <mbateman1@verizon.net>. This month we will concentrate on first impressions. Mastheads (the area of page one that has your newsletter name, club, etc.) are not covered in this article.

When you pick up a newsletter (or any written material), the first thing you notice is whether or not it is appealing, clean and that items are easily discernible. If not, you probably file it in the round file called the paper basket.

Appearance is a very important aspect of each newsletter. Part of that first impression is spacing. Some newsletters have an overabundance of “white space” while others have little or none—appearing to have filled up a page with as much information as possible. “White space” is the spacing on your newsletter that is the white space between columns, paragraphs, titles and text, pictures, etc. There should be enough white space to make the newsletter look neat and clean, easy to read and find items. In other words, there should not be so little white space as to make the newsletter appear to cram items together nor should there be a great deal of space between items. Ideally there should be at least two blank lines between the end of the article and the title of the next.

Titles of the various articles/items should stand out. A simple way to do this is to use boldface and/or all caps. Another way is to underscore the title. Titles can be all caps or upper and lower case. It is

overkill to underline, boldface and use all caps in the title. The one exception to this would be to highlight extremely important items (such as a place or date change of your next meeting). Every item we put in our newsletters is important. However, when you have an item that is extremely important and all the headings/title are in bold, caps and underscored, that important item will be lost and possibly not read. Italics should be reserved for items such as quotes, titles of books, articles, etc.

Do I leave a blank line after the title? This is up to you. However, remember for appearance and ease of reading, you may want to put a blank line after the title. In any event, the title should be on its own line(s).

The bottom line is that first impressions and readability are very important and may make the difference between a newsletter being read and “deep sixed.” Take a fresh and honest look at your newsletter—how can the appearance of my newsletter be improved?

FROM THE TOP!

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As this is my last message as EFMLS President, I want to thank several people for their fine efforts in the name of the Federation. I especially wish to thank Mary Bateman for her excellent work as BEAC chair and for her advice and guidance. I commend my fellow officers for having done an excellent job in their assigned tasks. I'd also like to thank the many committee chairs and Regional Vice Presidents who make this organization all that it is. I would also like to give extra special thanks to Carolyn and Steve Weinberger for their continuing support and advice. They made it possible for me to be successful in spite of myself! Finally I wish to thank the many fellow EFMLS members who helped me find my way during the past year. It has been a privilege and an honor serving as your EFMLS President.

We are all in this together!

Loren

HAVE YOU RECOGNIZED YOUR CLUB'S ROCK- HOUND OF THE YEAR YET?

Send your submission to
Ellery Borow
and see it published in both the
EFMLS and AFMS Newsletters!

What a nice way to say
“thank you” for an unsung hero
of your club!

SAFETY FIRST – AND LAST

by Jim Doran, Safety Chair



I hope everyone has had a great summer. I know the heat was brutal for most of us, but I hope you read some of my previous articles and knew how to be safe!

Hopefully, with Fall coming, temperatures will come down so collecting will be a lot more comfortable. I know that you all will have inspected your safety gear: hard hat, safety glasses, steel-toed boots, and all your chisels and rock hammers, BEFORE you go on that next trip, right?

You will remember to look around wherever you're collecting, either in a quarry or on private property, to see what is there: high walls, water filled pits or streams, heavy

equipment, old abandoned mine shafts, etc., right?

You will leave your trip itinerary, directions, time you'll return, and any contact information with someone in case of emergency, right?

Of course you did all these things, because you want to have a successful collecting trip without any problems or injuries, right?

You DID all these things because you want to be safe, and, have fun, right?

Good for you! Remember, be safe and have fun!

(As always, if anyone has suggestions for articles, criticisms, ideas, questions, etc., contact me at <jp-doran1@verizon.net>.

EACH ONE TEACH ONE

by Hazel Remaley

Last month I told you that I would be sending my messages to you using the letters in the word TEACH . I have covered the letter T (talent) . Now , let's go on to the letter E. I will use the word EFFORT . I looked the word up in a dictionary (yes, I still use one, even in this tech world) and the one meaning was "an achievement or accomplishment". Think about it. How many of your fellow club members put forth any kind of EFFORT to help a new member identify a mineral or explain the hardness test? What about the EFFORT that your junior leader puts forth each month to keep our future rockhounds interested in our hobby? And remember, all this must be done with no monetary compensation. Not all of us have made that EFFORT . So, as I remind you every month - look around for the members who have T for TALENT and E for EFFORT .

That's all for this month. Next month - the letter A. Stay tuned.

An added note - those good folks who have been nominated previously, but were not awarded the trophy award may be renominated. Contact me with your questions. (info on page 7).



GEMS ALONG THE ERIE CANAL

by Cathy Patterson, Show Chair

A Diamond Celebration

The Gem & Mineral Society of Syracuse welcomes you in 2011! This is our second installment of getting the word out to you. Last month we told you when and where the show is and when and where the meetings are. We tried to give enough information for the early birds to think about a hotel reservation at the headquarters Ramada Inn on Buckley Rd. in Syracuse. Complete package details will be coming in the near future at the American Federation website. Stay tuned!

This time we will tell you what's available for you to enjoy in our area of the state before and after the show and convention festivities. Plan to take some extra time to enjoy the sights and pleasures of Central New York (upstate) for extra bonuses.

•Erie Canal Museum in Syracuse featuring a full size packet boat right on Erie Blvd where the boats carried families and cargo.

•Boxing Hall of Fame (Canastota) is 25 minutes east from your hotel.

•Also nearby – the world class Turning Stone Casino in Verona, NY.

•Herkimer diamond hunting opportunities at several locations 1 ½ hours east along the Erie Canal route.

•Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown 2 hours to the east.

•St. Lawrence Seaway and 1000 Islands are 2 hours north near Canada. Boat trips and a tour of New York's Bolt Castle.

•Learn all about industrial garnet production and collect there, 3 hours north at North Creek, NY in the beautiful Adirondacks.

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ERIE CANAL

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•Taste your way through the beautiful Finger Lakes Wine Country (25+ wineries). Just 1 ½ hours to the west.

•Historic glider and aviation museum and glider trips aloft, 2 hours south and west.

•Museum of Glass, Corning, NY. See world famous Steuben crystal made at the museum. 2 ½ hours to the south in Ithaca.

•Museum of the Earth in Ithaca, NY just 1 ½ hours south.

•Enjoy a dinner cruise on one of the nearby Finger Lakes.

•Niagara Falls is just 2 ½ hours to the west!

•IMAX Theater at our Museum of Science and Technology in downtown Syracuse.

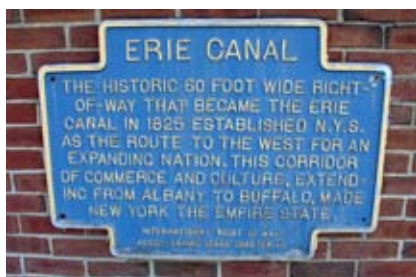
•Eastman Kodak Museum in Rochester 1 ½ hours to the west.

•Mammoth, 3 story, Carousel Mall just a couple miles from the host hotel.

•Salt Museum (Syracuse got its start pumping and evaporating salt) 2 miles from the hotel.

•Stickley, collector-grade furniture factory and showroom 20 minutes east.

The weather is ideal, sunny and warm, and there's so much to enjoy, lots to see, photo opportunities galore to snap and share back home. The welcome mat will be out for YOU. You just can't lose unless you fail to come and be part of the 2011 great gathering of super people – Rockhounds!



A WONDERFUL WEEK ON THE MOUNTAIN

by Ye Olde Ed



Spending a week in the mountains of North Carolina is always a pleasure and the fall EFMLS Wildacres Workshop week this year was no exception. The weather was ideal with warm, clear days, and cool and pleasant nights. As a result, the rocking chairs on the porches got quite a workout.

Perhaps one of the most memorable things about an EFMLS Wildacres Workshop is the friendships made while on the mountain. Long evenings on the porch or in the canteen are a wonderful way to meet new people and expand the "friendship circle". Coming and going from one of the workshops always brings out the hugs in people!

EFMLS Wildacres is really all about learning, sharing, being creative and friendship. Wirewrapped and silver jewelry, bronze, brass and silver hollow beads, engraved glass, faceted gems, wonderful photographs, bronze and silver PMC jewelry, and cabochons were all produced during the week and students in the geology class took field trips and studied the various features of our planet.

Sharing of ideas and "how to" tips were ongoing as people gathered between events and talked. Although the group did not come away solving our economic problems, everyone did learn a new trick or two for working with metals or stones, dealing with club activities, etc.

At the end of the class sessions, EFMLS Wildacres has an old fashioned

"Show and Tell" where students put out their completed work and tell about the class or classes they took during the week. Awesome! is just one of the words used to describe the projects! Everyone was able to take home finished work that they can be proud of. And, many learned new skills which they plan on continuing through their own club or in their own workshop.

Speaker-in-Residence Lisa Carp gave the group a wonderful insight into gemstones, passing around numerous examples of pearls, tourmalines, opals, tigereye and jade from her vast personal collection. She also got into the spirit of things by taking classes and participating in a fun night skit.

Planning of our 2011 workshops will begin shortly. Dates, class offerings and information on our Speakers-in-Residence will be announced in late fall and we hope that YOU will consider coming to an EFMLS Wildacres Workshop so you too can enjoy the learning, sharing, fellowship and friendships that are made in this wonderful place.



↑ Workshop instructors
← Lisa Carp
Hot & Cold Connections
↓



EACH ONE TEACH ONE APPLICATION FORM

Please print all information clearly.
Use a separate form for each nominee.
Forms may be duplicated.

Name of Club or Society: _____
Nominates the following named club member to receive the Each One Teach One Award for the year 2010

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Telephone (include area code): _____

Email: _____

Please explain why this person should receive this award. (A single page may be attached).

Name of Club nominee is affiliated with _____

Name of Club Officer presenting nominee's name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone (including area code) _____

E-mail: _____

Club Office held _____

Mail To:

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Gillett, PA 16925-9016

Deadline for all nominations is May 1, 2011

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EFMLS NEWS

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<WWW.AMFED.ORG/EFMLS>

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VISIT A SHOW

from Matt Charsky

September:

18-19: Central Pennsylvania Rock & Mineral Show sponsored by the Central PA Rock & Mineral Club. Zembo Shrine, Harrisburg, PA.

18-19: 41st Annual Gem, Mineral & Jewelry Show and Sale sponsored by the Mid-Hudson Valley Gem & Mineral Society. Dutchess Co. Fairgrounds, Rhinebeck, NY

25-26: 46th Annual Atlantic Coast Gem, Mineral and Jewelry Show hosted by the Gem Cutters Guild of Baltimore. Howard County Fairgrounds, West Friendship, MD.

October:

1 - 3: Annual Desautels Micromount Symposium hosted by the Baltimore Mineral Society. MHA Conference Center, Elkridge, MD. Registration and information: <cscrytals2@verizon.net>

1 - 3: 33rd Annual Gem, Mineral & Faceters Show sponsored by the Gaston Gem, Mineral & Faceters Club. Gaston County Park, Dallas, NC

16-17: 12th Annual Mineral Show & Sale sponsored by the Fulton Co. Mineral Club. Johnstown Moose Lodge, Rt. 30A; Johnstown, NY.

16-17: 38th Annual Gem & Mineral Show sponsored by the Bristol Gem & Mineral Club. Bristol Community / Senior Center, Bristol, CT

23-24: Rhode Island Mineral Hunters Annual Show sponsored by Rhode Island Mineral Hunters. CCRI Knight Campus, Warwick, RI.

23-24: 41st Annual Rochester Gem, Mineral, Jewelry & Fossil Show sponsored by the Rochester Academy of Science Mineral Section and Rochester Lapidary Society. Monroe Co. Fair & Expo Center, Henrietta, NY

30: 21st Annual "Ultravioletation" Fluorescent Mineral Show sponsored by the Rock & Mineral Club of Lower Bucks County. First United Methodist Church, Fairless Hills, PA

November:

6-7: Annual Gem, Mineral, Jewelry & Fossil Show sponsored by the Stamford Mineralogical Society. Eastern Greenwich Civic Center, Greenwich, CT.

13: 19th Annual Richmond Gem & Mineral Society Fall Rock Swap sponsored by the Richmond Gem & Mineral Society. Ridge Baptist Church Meeting Hall, 1515 Eastridge Rd; Richmond, Va.

13-14: New York City Gem & Mineral Show sponsored by the New York Mineralogical Club. Holiday Inn - Midtown (57th St.), New York, NY.

20-21: 19th Annual Gem, Mineral & Fossil Show sponsored by the Northern Virginia Mineral Club. George Mason University, Student Union II Bldg; Fairfax, VA

20-21: 44th Annual Gem, Mineral, Jewelry, Bead & Fossil Show sponsored by the Gem & Mineral Society of the Palm Beaches. Americraft Expo Center East; West Palm Beach, FL

April:

1-3: Annual Atlantic Micromounters Conference sponsored by the Micromineralogists of the National Capital Area. MHA Conference Center, Elkridge, MD. Registration: S. Weinberger <cscrytals2@verizon.net>.

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>.