

EFMLS NEWS

Volume 42, Number 6
April, 2005

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



PALEONTOLOGICAL RESOURCES PRESERVATION ACT S263

by Carl Miller, EFMLS President

Once again a paleontological resources preservation act has been introduced into the US Senate which will impact all people who are interested in collecting fossils on Federal land. The act, "S.263 Paleontological Resources Preservation Act", intent is to make criminal almost all collection of "paleontological resources" on federal lands. "Paleontological Resources" in the act are defined as including "fossilized remains, traces, or imprints of organisms that are preserved in or on the Earth's crust." Said clearly, the bill establishes criminal and civil penalties for activities related to collecting fossils.

This bill is sponsored by the same senators that introduced a similar (if not identical) bill in the 108th Session of Congress in 2003. It has already been passed out of the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources without amendment, and the next step is for action on the floor of the Senate. That committee and the sponsors appear to be hoping this will slide through this time by a simple voice vote.

If you are not in favor of this bill (it can be found in its entirety at www.theorator.com/bills109/s263.html) then I strongly urge you to immediately alert your state's US Senators to watch for this bill and request that they block its passage by voice vote on the floor of the Senate, or by any later more formalized process.

EXTRA HELP NEEDED FOR AFMS SCHOLARSHIP FUND

by Bob Livingston

2005 is an extra large year for this great program. Number 1 because all the federations including Eastern, have been challenged by the South Central Federation to match them in getting one dollar per federation member or \$2000 (which in our case is less) in "unrestricted funds" so that if all six of us federations can do it, we can return to (2) scholarships awarded per federation next year.

Now we don't want to be caught being laggards on our oars, do we? So, accordingly, I need for some 190 of you to send me a check for \$10 made out to AFMS Scholarship Foundation. You guys and gals personally and via your clubs do that, and I will personally throw in the remaining \$100 to meet the goal. Nineteen with \$100 each could also do the job. We only have a short time to make this happen by mid-August when the totals are tallied for the national convention in St. Louis. Surely with near 10,000 members we should be able to meet the challenge. I am confident that you all will fill my mailbox with checks so we can let "American" know Eastern is a team player who really cares and together, we can keep the money "keeping on" for this worthwhile cause (address at end).

Meantime, we truly appreciate the donations made by these seven during January and February:

Che-Hanna Rock and Mineral Club
Wendell Mohr
Cynthia Payne

Paul Dunning
(made in honor of the good EFMLS officers do)
SE New Hampshire Mineral Club
Bob Livingston
(in honor of John Davis' 90th birthday)
Gulf Coast Mineral, Fossil & Gem Club
(in memory of Kenneth Zahn)

Please consider the above special plea and send your tax deductible check made out to AFMS Scholarship Foundation and send it to: Bob Livingston, EFMLS Coordinator, 59 Ely Drive, Fayetteville, NY 13066-1001.

Thanks much.

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WHAT A SHOW!!! AND, THE (SCHOLARSHIP) SHOW MUST GO ON!

by Carl Miller, EFMLS President



What a great show and EFMLS Convention the Che-Hanna Rock and Mineral Club put on in Sayre, Pennsylvania! The displays were beautiful and educational, the EFMLS annual meeting went off without a hitch, everybody had great ideas at the Cracker Barrel, the EFMLS auction was a big money maker with great deals, the EFMLS Awards banquet was entertaining and the food was delicious, the dealers at the show had an excellent selection, and the conversation and social mixing was outstanding! All the work the Che-Hanna members put into the convention and show really paid off. They were a great success and Che-Hanna should be proud. I guess you will have to call me a prognosticator though, because at this writing the show has not yet occurred. But I know that all that I wrote above will be true, and if you didn't attend, I want to take this first opportunity to make you envious of all of us that did.

Scholarship Challenge

On a more serious note, the AFMS Scholarship Foundation needs all of our help, I would like to ask each of you individually, and as clubs, to rise to this "Scholarship Challenge." As you may have already heard, at the AFMS Scholarship Foundation annual meeting in Syracuse, NY last July, the Scholarship Foundation Directors voted to only fund one scholarship for each federation in 2005. This was not any easy decision, and it wasn't without debate. Unfortunately, unexpected expenses combined with lower than expected returns on investments left the Foundation with a one-time shortfall. The decision was made by the Directors that the solution was to pass a resolution to give only one scholarship per federation in 2005 instead of the usual two.

In the Fall, Keith Harmon, President of the South Central Federation issued a challenge to all participating regional federations to help raise an additional \$12,000 to offset the shortfall so that the second AFMS Scholarship would be available in each federation. In order to facilitate this, the Directors voted to allow the Scholarship Foundation to accept "unrestricted funds" and created a fund whose sole purpose is for this effort. Donations for this challenge should be specified as "Unrestricted Funds" and can be sent to the regional federation's scholarship chairperson. Eastern Federation's scholarship chairperson is:

Bob Livingston
AFMS Scholarship Foundation
59 Ely Drive
Fayetteville, NY 13066

If you have any questions, or any ideas on how to help raise the money, please contact me or any of your EFMLS officers. As I mentioned, the goal is \$12,000. This may seem like a lot, but remember that this is spread across the entire US, and it is for a great cause. It is something that should be dear to all of us, higher education scholarships in the earth sciences. I will be personally reaching out some clubs that have been very gracious in their giving to the federation in the past. I'm asking each of you to do what you can to help us hit that goal. Let's make sure EFMLS does its part. Every little bit helps; I've written my check already, have you?

Get out there! *Carl*

WILDACRES IN JUNE

by Esther Dunn
Wildacres Functioning Chair

The beautiful mountain setting of the Wildacres Workshop is very inspiring, and the association with people "of a like mind" is uplifting and enjoyable.

Have you made a reservation yet? June 3-9, 2005 is coming soon and Wildacres is a beautiful place this time of year. The rhododendron, mountain laurel and other native shrubs and flowers will be blooming. To get your choice of classes, you need to get your registration in as soon as possible. This will assure you of your choice of classes, and let us know how many Instructors we will need to hire. We really love Wildacres and are sure you will too.

Our guest speaker will be Bill Metropolis of the Harvard Museum. Many of you know him and have enjoyed his presentations about the famous collections. He has traveled extensively and his programs reflect his love of the hobby.

The first time I attended, I was alone, shy and quite an introvert. I knew only three of the other attendees, but was eventually introduced to the others, most of whom were Officers of the EFMLS. Hey!! They were very normal people just like me! I had really feared meeting them, but I was made to feel right at home. The next year, the director asked me to be Registrar. I accepted the job, but had little to go on, as there were no Operating Procedures for me to follow. I used common sense and wrote the procedures as I went along (and they are still in use today!) I held this job for three years and gradually overcame my shyness. I eventually became an Instructor and taught for 12 years. By then, Wildacres had become a second "home" to me.

If you have any hesitation, just come to Wildacres and experience the magic! Try taking a course you have always wanted to try, but were afraid you couldn't do it. Our Instructors are very patient and will make sure you succeed.

AFMS CLUB ROCKHOUND OF THE YEAR

from Cathy Gaber, Chair

Every club should have a *Jean Groves*. As the Treasurer of the Gem, Lapidary and Mineral Society of Washington, DC for almost ten years, she makes sure that all bills are accurately paid in a very timely fashion. She also keeps track of other annual monies due such as the renewal fee for our corporation papers, the postal permit, insurance payment, dues to EFMLS, etc., even when she does not receive a notice or bill, thus saving the club hundreds of dollars every two years. Jean helps the Show Chairman by keeping

track of payments and a list of dealers' addresses. At the Show, Jean is always there - helping to set up, manning the club and the admission tables, setting up a showcase, or helping during take down. Jean participates in all our Society's activities, including meetings, hospitality, field trips, the holiday party, the picnic and more. In addition, Jean is chair of the audit committee for the Eastern Federation. Jean has done many intricate beading projects and is not shy in putting them in the Showcase at meetings. We are proud and thankful that Jean is a member of our Society.

submitted by Mary Bateman, President

Then go back to your club and teach them what you learned. Perhaps you'll light a spark in someone and then see it grow into a bright flame. We are always looking for new Instructors, so if you know of someone who is really good at some hobby specialty, and might be willing to spend a week teaching others, please let us know. Instructor's expenses are paid, so there isn't much of a burden on them. I'm sure you will all be willing to return to this "Heaven on earth."!!

A complete listing of classes being offered during the June session (and fall too) can be found on page 4. An application is included on page 8.

Want to learn more about Wildacres? Visit the EFMLS website <www.amfed.org/efmls>. We also have a nifty CD that we'd love to send you telling about Wildacres. The program can be yours at no charge just by writing to the EFMLS Editor (see page 2) and asking. Be sure to indicate the name of your club plus the name and address of the person the CD is to be sent to.



The members of the American Fossil Federation (Maryland) have selected *Betsy Hallman* as their 2005 AFMS Club Fossilhound of the Year. Betsy was elected into membership in 1996 and has served as Refreshment Coordinator (1999) and as Secretary (2000 to present). She is always ready to do whatever is asked of her and is enthusiastic about fossil collecting, so much so, that she attends nearly every collecting trip and will serve as Field Trip Coordinator when necessary. Betsy enjoys taking photos on the club trips and sharing them with the other attendees. Betsy has donated fossil specimens to the Calvert Marine Museum in Solomons, Maryland and to the Smithsonian Museum of Natural History. She is a Friend of the Aurora Fossil Museum in Aurora, North Carolina and has assisted and displayed at their annual festival from 1998-2002. In 2002, she presented a program on Fossils for the Gem, Lapidary and Mineral Society of Montgomery County, Maryland.

submitted by George Powell, Jr., President

The Gem & Mineral Society of Syracuse proudly nominates *Bob Livingston* for AFMS Club Rockhound of

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WILDACRES CLASSES

Here is the listing of classes we currently plan to offer at the two EFMLS Wildacres Workshops for 2005. When you send in your application form, be sure to specify your class preferences. We will make every effort to honor your 1st or 2nd choice, but should a class be filled, we need to know your other preferences. An application form is included on page 10 and will be accepted beginning January 1 for both sessions. The earlier you register the better your chance of being assigned to your first choice.

Spring - June 3 - 9, 2005

CLASS	INSTRUCTOR	DESCRIPTION
Judging & Exhibiting	B. Jay Bowman	Return to the roots of EFMLS Wildacres by participating in the Judging & Exhibiting class with the inimitable Jay Bowman. There will be four days of discussion moderated by Jay along with real judging experience questions that participants have had or have heard about. Discussions are spirited and this is complemented by some practice judging on exhibits prepared by Wildacres participants...often with a deliberate flaw to keep you on your toes and alert. Then hear the debriefing...what an experience! 4 day class
Faceting	Reivan Zeleznik	You CAN do it! The mystery of faceting is out the window! Like hundreds of other "never-before" faceters Reivan has worked with at WA you will take home with a gem you've created with your own two hands. And, it will be better in quality than 90% of the gems (other than diamonds) in your local jewelry store. Spend a week with Reivan and enjoy unlocking your untapped talent. 4 day class
Cabochons - Basic	Al DeMilo	Hands on instruction will be given to show how to transform a rough piece of rock into a shiny well formed cabochon with no flat spots. The use of a trim saw as well as techniques to grind, sand and polish the stone into a standard size and shape will be covered. Slabs will be provided but you may use your own with instructor's approval. 2 day class. 1st Semester
Cabochons - Intermediate	Al DeMilo	Prerequisite: Know how to use a trim saw, dop a stone, and use a grinding, sanding, and polishing machine. This course is an extension of already learned skills. It will focus on the crafting of cabochons of difficult shapes or sizes. Much one-on-one attention will be given. Slabs will be provided but you may use your own with Instructor's approval. 2 day class. 2nd Semester
Wirecraft - Basic	Lisa Roberts	Learn the basics of twisting gold-filled and sterling silver wire to create wonderful wire-wrapped jewelry. 2 day class. 1st Semester
Wirecraft - Advanced	Lisa Roberts	More advanced projects utilizing skills learned in the basic class. 2 day class. 2nd Semester
Silversmithing - Basic	Richard Zolweg	2 day class. 1st Semester.
Silversmithing - Intermediate	Richard Zolweg	Prerequisite - student must be familiar with basic soldering skills. 2 day class. 2nd Semester.
Basic Beadcraft I	Mia Schulman	Students will learn how to form knots between beads (essential for pearls and attractive for other beads) and how to finish necklaces using a variety of clasps. They will also learn to make a Spiral rope necklace using seed beads. 2 day class. 1st Semester
Basic Beadcraft II	Mia Schulman	We'll make a bracelet using the Peyote stitch which can also be used to fabricate pendants, amulet bags, and even pictures. Students will also learn how to "read" and design their own patterns. The "netting" stitch will also be taught which is useful in making chokers, necklaces and our project, a Christmas ball. 2 day class. 2nd Semester.
Introduction to Precious Metal Clay	Cathy Gaber	Precious Metal Clay (tm) is pure silver, finely disseminated in a clay-like base, which is transformed to solid silver by being fired in a kiln. Since almost all the work in a PMC piece, such as modeling, molding, texturing and finishing, can be done before the piece is fired, all the difficult and time consuming work of traditional silversmithing and soldering can be avoided. You will learn how to make and finish buttons, beads, brooches and more. 2 day class. 1st semester.
Mineral ID	Cathy Gaber	Learn to use your powers of observation to identify minerals. To aid in your investigations, several hundred mineral specimens, a microscope and various mineral reference books will be provided in class. The many properties of minerals, from hardness to crystal group to color and more, will be explored. There will be specific assignments, an indoor "field trip" and free time to target your own specific interests. 2 day class. 2nd Semester.
Pewter Fabrication	Bruce Gaber	Learn to make functional and decorative objects from a wonderfully versatile metal. Pewter is easy to work, and easy to solder. This allows one to make a variety of forms in a much shorter time than working in silver. Pewter can be finished in everything from a glossy high luster to a deep rich matte. The surface can be further embellished by embossing and the addition of an etch or patina. Join Bruce to explore this most ancient and traditional material. Oh, and by the way, modern pewter contains no lead. 4 day class.

WILDACRES CLASSES

September 12 - 18, 2005

CLASS	INSTRUCTOR	DESCRIPTION
Judging & Exhibiting	B. Jay Bowman	Return to the roots of EFMLS Wildacres by participating in the Judging & Exhibiting class with the inimitable Jay Bowman. There will be four days of discussion moderated by Jay along with real judging experience questions that participants have had or have heard about. Discussions are spirited and this is complemented by some practice judging on exhibits prepared by Wildacres participants...often with a deliberate flaw to keep you on your toes and alert. Then hear the debriefing...what an experience! 4 day class
Faceting	Steve Weinberger	You CAN do it! The mystery of faceting is out the window! Like hundreds of other "never-before" faceters Steve has worked with at WA you will take home with a gem you've created with your own two hands. And, it will be better in quality than 90% of the gems (other than diamonds) in your local jewelry store. Spend a week with Steve and enjoy unlocking your untapped talent. 4 day class
Cabochons - Basic	Al DeMilo	Hands on instruction will be given to show how to transform a rough piece of rock into a shiny well formed cabochon with no flat spots. The use of a trim saw as well as techniques to grind, sand and polish the stone into a standard size and shape will be covered. Slabs will be provided but you may use your own with instructor's approval. 2 day class. 1st Semester
Cabochons - Intermediate	Al DeMilo	Prerequisite: Know how to use a trim saw, dop a stone, and use a grinding, sanding, and polishing machine This course is an extension of already learned skills. It will focus on the crafting of cabochons of difficult shapes or sizes. Much one-on-one attention will be given. Slabs will be provided but you may use your own with Instructor's approval. 2 day class. 2nd Semester
Wirecraft - Basic	Lisa Roberts	Learn the basics of twisting gold-filled and sterling silver wire to create wonderful wire-wrapped jewelry. 2 day class. 1st Semester
Wirecraft - Advanced	Lisa Roberts	More advanced projects utilizing skills learned in the basic class. 2 day class. 2nd Semester
Micromounting	Paul Smith	Micromounting is the art of preparing small mineral specimens so they can best be viewed under a microscope. You will learn how to trim off excess material, mount your specimen on a pedestal and then in a small box. For those wishing to stay in the class both semesters, the additional skill of photographing minerals through the microscope will be introduced. 2 day class offered both semesters or can be taken as a 4 day class.
Crystallography	Jennie Smith	Learn to identify and use crystal shapes in the study of mineralogy. 2 day class. Semester to be determined.
Silversmithing - Basic	Richard Meszler	Students will complete several projects geared to teaching and learning the basics of silversmithing - annealing, bending metal, soldering, piercing and polishing. 2 day class. 1st Semester.
Silversmithing - Intermediate	Richard Meszler	Students will use skills learned in the basic class to complete a bezel set cabochon pin / pendant. Prerequisite: soldering, filing, basic silversmithing skills. 2 day class. 2nd Semester
Soapstone Carving	Inga Wells	Learn how to create lovely small carvings from a soft material. Minimal tools are used to achieve lovely results. Let the object hidden in the stone come alive under your hand. 2 day class offered both semesters.
Forging (Tentative)	TBA	Using hammers and a variety of shaped stakes can produce lovely pieces of jewelry. No soldering or other metalworking experience is required. 4 day class.

the Year. Bob served as Vice President then President in our club, then held the same offices in the Eastern Federation and worked on Federation committees, further sharing his many talents. His ability to go from local to national positions keeps us part of the bigger picture. He works tirelessly on all the details of promoting and putting on our summer show. He attends every regular meeting and board meeting, offering guidance and perspective through leadership changes over the years. Because he's also our detail man Bob has an uncanny sense of knowing what needs to be done and figures out how to accomplish what seems like the impossible. Betty Witworth and Bob were instrumental in setting up a skill center in Betty's home which gave members a place to learn and practice lapidary work. Bob is a talented writer who regularly keeps our editor supplied with articles. He has gone on digs around the state and the country and never fails to share with the membership what he finds. Our Rockhound of the Year has a big heart, a lot of talent, and is a real asset to our club.

submitted by Cathy Patterson, Secretary

The 2005 AFMS Rockhound of the Year from the Central Pennsylvania Rock and Mineral Club is **Maxine Nicholas**. It goes without saying that our club would not function as it does without the hard-working Maxine Nicholas. Our "First Place" award winning newsletter alone is a mammoth task not to mention the dozens of other things that Maxine handles. She has done it all: president, show chair, secretary. What an asset!

submitted by R.J. Harris, President



Chisels & Drills

Chisels and drills are used with hammers. Flat chisels are used to form and cut cold metal and not work with rock. Rock hounds should use brick chisels that have a double beveled point at an inclined angle of 80 degrees and brick sets with a single beveled point with an inclined angle of 45 degrees to split rocks. Star drills are used for making holes and have all cutting edges with inclined angles of 70 degrees.

Hold chisels and drills with a loose fist, keeping the fingers relaxed in order to minimize the chance of being hit by a glancing blow of the hammer. A sponge rubber pad forced over the chisel or drill above the hand and a glove will also provide protection for the hand. If some one else is holding the chisel or drill, it is best to use a set of tongs or a chisel holder as a guide. Gloves and protective clothing consisting of long sleeve shirts, long pants, and aprons, eye protection (safety spectacles, safety goggles, and face shields), and safety shoes should be used to protect both individuals from glancing blows and flying chips.

The following safe practices apply to chisels and drills:

1. Protect cutting edges by installing protective covers.
2. Store in rack where they will not be chipped or broken.
3. Regrind broken or chipped chisel edges before using. cool in water often to protect the temper of the metal. Drill cutting edges should be hand filed. Replace chisels and drills with mushroomed heads to prevent shards of metal from breaking off and causing injury.
4. Lubricate with light oil before storing and wipe off the oil before striking with a hammer.

Crowbars, Pinch Bars and Wreaking Bars

Crowbars, pinch bars, and wreak-

ing bars are favorite tools of rock hounds. Be sure to pick the proper size of tool for the job, with a point or toe that will grip the object to be moved and a heel that will act as a pivot or fulcrum. Use of a block of wood under the heel will also keep the bar from slipping and causing hand injuries.

Store bars secured upright so they will not fall or cause tripping hazards.

Never hit a bar with another tool and do not try to pry an item that will cause the bar to bend.

Knives

According to the National Safety Council, knives are responsible for more disabling injuries than any other hand tool. Only use knives for the purpose intended, not splitting rocks with a hammer. Keep the knife blade sharp and cut away from the body, avoiding jerky motions. Use knives with retractable blades whenever possible. If the item to be cut is held in the other hand, wear cut resistant gloves. Always wear a sheathed knife at the hip towards the back, never on the front part of a belt. This prevents severing an artery or vein in a leg as the result of a fall. Wipe knives with the sharp part of the blade turned away with a separate cloth, not on clothes or with fingers. Wash knives separate from other utensils. When not in use keep knives in sheaths or knife racks to guard their edges and to protect people. For long term storage, apply a rust preventative compound on all metal parts and store in a dry spot out of reach of small children. Avoid horseplay, such as "fencing", when using knives and allow plenty of room so you won't bump into anything.

The 18" machete is used to cut tall grass, vines, and small brush. It is heaviest and widest near the pointed end with a handle shaped to fit the

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SAFETY FIRST

continued from page 6

hand on the opposite end. When using a machete, always make sure no one is close enough to be injured before swinging the tool. Always clear the swing path so as not to deflect the blade. Do not use a dull or defective tool. Store properly in a sheath when not in use. For prolonged storage, coat metal parts with light oil.

Axes

Axes are designed for cutting, felling, trimming, notching, and splitting wood and soft material. A narrow blade is for hard wood and a wide blade for soft wood. A single bit ax may also be used for driving wooden stakes, NOT CHISELS and BITS! Never strike an ax against metal, stone, or concrete. Never use an ax with a worn or damaged handle. Use steel wedges with a maul or sledge hammer when splitting wood, never a single bit ax. Keep ax blades sharp. A dull blade may glance back and cut the user. Always wear safety shoes, eye protection, and long pants when using axes. Before swinging an ax, ensure you have a path clear of vines, brush, etc., and that no one is standing nearby. During the swing, let your hand slide down the handle towards the other hand near the end. Have your weight distributed evenly with your knees set but not tense. The body should be relaxed and free to swing and bend at the waist. For a right handed person, the left foot should be closer to the work. Protect the ax blade(s) with a sheath or metal guard when not in use. Carry axes at your side-single blades pointed down. Axes, like knives, should be kept sharp by honing.

Mattocks

Double bedded mattock and pick mattocks are designed for digging and cutting. The use and safe practices are similar to those for axes.

Shovels and Spades

Long handles shovels are used for digging in open areas and "D" handled shovels are for light digging in confined areas. The spade is for heavy digging in confined areas. The post hole digger is used to bore holes for posts, explosive charges, etc.. Shovel blades should be kept well trimmed and the handles in good shape and free of splinters. Wear heavy safety boots with sturdy soles and use the ball of the foot, not the arch, to press the shovel into the ground. If the instep is used and the foot slips off the shovel, the sharp corner of the shovel may cut the shoe and the foot. Keep legs well separated with spring in the knees-the leg muscles should take much of the load while shoveling. Dip the blade in water often or coat the blade with wax or grease to keep the shovel free of sticky material and caking. Treat the handle with linseed oil occasionally to avoid cracking and splinters. Store shovels against or hanging on the wall in a rack or shovel box.

EACH ONE TEACH ONE 2005 AWARD WINNERS

by Fran Sick, EOTO Chair

There were three nominations received for the 2005 Each One Teach One Award and when the judging was completed there was a tie for the top award with one second place honoree.

The plaques and certificates were presented at the EFMLS Awards Banquet in Sayre, PA, on March 19, 2005, to the following winners.

TOP AWARD (Tie)

Harald (Johnny) Johnsson
Chesapeake Gem and Mineral Society
and
Barbara Ermler
American Fossil Federation

SECOND PLACE

William (Bill) Wagner
Old Dominion Earth Science Society

Congratulations to each of the 2005 EOTO Award winners and many thanks for the time and expertise you have shared with others.

2005 DIRECTORY

by Carolyn Weinberger

The 2005 Eastern Federation Directory was taken to the printer on Monday, March 21 and with luck will be in the mail to you on March 28.

Regular features are of course included - listings of Federation officers and committee chairpersons, information about Federation programs, a complete listing of available slide and video programs which your club may borrow at no cost from the Federation Library and member club information.

New features, added this year include a listing of clubs hosting past EFMLS Conventions and a complete listing of the AFMS Honorary Scholarship Recipients. We thought these might be useful.

When you receive your copy, please check the listing for your club and report any errors to this editor immediately (cweinber@bcpl.net) so corrections can be made. Additional copies can be purchased from the EFMLS Supplies chair, Michael Kessler (see page 11 at a cost of \$4 each plus postage.

EASTERN FOUNDATION FUND NEWS FROM THE CONVENTION

by Joy Bourne, EFF Chair

Spring is in the air at last in North-Central Pennsylvania, and the EFMLS 2005 Convention has just wrapped up as you are reading this. Isn't it wonderful to be reminded once again that Spring always follows the winter?

I am very pleased to report that after the annual EFF club cumulative percentages were tallied, two EFMLS Clubs had achieved the 1,000% level of contributions to the Eastern Foundation Fund. As a result, two new engraved club nameplates were added to the EFF Roll of Honor plaque, which was displayed at the 2005 Annual Meeting. Joining the three clubs which were honored in 2004, were the Southeast New Hampshire Rock & Mineral Club, of Dover, NH, and the Che-Hanna Rock & Mineral Club, Inc., of Sayre, PA. for 2005.

In addition, Certificates of Appreciation were presented to three EFMLS club for achievement of percentages at or above the 100% level for the 2004-2005 reporting period. Coming in at the 400% level was the Queens Mineral Society, of East Rockaway, NY. At the 300% level for the period were Southeastern New Hampshire Mineral Club, and Che-Hanna Rock & Mineral Club. Our hearty congratulations and grateful thanks to all the clubs and members who made contributions to EFF during this period.

In my report to the Annual Meeting of the Executive Board, I made reference to the fact that of the 139 clubs belonging to EFMLS, our records show only 24 clubs which have supported the Eastern Foundation Fund to date! I hope you agree that this is not a satisfactory statistic! We should have 100% participation in this, the only fund established solely for the support of the Eastern Federation. All interest proceeds from the principal of EFF are returned directly to EFMLS, to be used at the discretion of our Board. The



Fund monies are currently deposited in interest-bearing accounts and certificates of deposit which generate slightly better-than average returns. However, it would definitely be to the advantage of all of us to support and build the principal to better fund the programs and services of EFMLS.

Won't you please do your part to see that your club is represented on the list of Eastern Foundation Fund supporters? All contributions received, individual and/or club, are credited to your club's tally. You and your club will certainly be among the ultimate winners!

MEET US IN ST. LOUIS from the Midwest Federation

The 2005 combined Midwest and American Federation Convention and Show will be held August 16-21 in Ballwin, MO (just west of St. Louis).

Complete information on the show can be found on the show website <<http://convention.stleearthsci.org>>.



MINING HISTORY CONFERENCE

from Johnny Johnsson

For the first time ever, the annual Mining History Conference will be held on the East Coast! Dates are June 16-20, 2005 in Scranton, PA.

The schedule of events for the weekend include:

Thursday, June 16 - 6 p.m. - welcoming reception at the Electric Trolley Museum ,

Friday, June 17 - Lackawanna Coal Mine, McDade Park, Scranton. Morning tours of the mine.

Afternoon sessions on Friday will feature selected papers which will be given at the Lackawanna Heritage Valley Center in Mayfield, north of Scranton, where the rest of the conference will take place.

Saturday will feature presentations, a luncheon and the Mining History Association business meeting. The film "The Molly Maguires" about miner unrest, violence and intrigue in the anthracite coal region during the 1870's will be shown in the evening.

Sunday, June 19 will afford participants a chance to tour the famous New Jersey Zinc Mining District - Sterling Hill Mining Museum and Franklin Mineral Museum. Bus transportation from the LHVC to Sterling Hill/Franklin will be provided.

Additional tour opportunities will be available after the formal end of the conference.

For additional information about cost, a registration form or lodging, please contact Johnny Johnsson directly at <johnnyj@qis.net>.

Ed. Note: Johnny Johnsson is a member of the Chesapeake Gem & Mineral Society, Baltimore MD and recipient of the Each One Teach One top Award for 2005.

HIDDEN TREASURES

by Wayne Sukow, EFMLS 1st Vice President

Have you ever gone on vacation or an outing and discovered a hidden treasure? On a recent birding Elderhostel on the islands of Kauai and Hawaii, that's what happened to Carol (my wife) and me. We saw more than 60 different species, many of them new to us. Some birds showed the intense color and sparkliness of a faceted gemstone. A thousand feet below us in a canyon, bright green parakeets flying low over a dark green canopy of trees were so bright they were easily seen. The saffron finches with their deep yellow color and orange accents literally glowed. For bright reds, the Apapane and I'iwi were notable. Both were small and hard to see, but the flashes of color in the green of the forest canopy kept us looking. But I digress; this is a short article for a mineral and lapidary newsletter.

Madame Pele, the goddess of the volcanoes and keeper of the fire, was quiescent. At most we saw wisps of steam arising out of vents but there was no red hot fiery lava to be seen. We settled for looking at the miles and miles of impressive cooled gray lava fields. Unfortunately, no collecting was allowed. According to Hawaiian legend if you take a piece of lava, Madame Pele will be unhappy and punish you with bad luck.

The crown jewel in the hidden treasure we found was the Lyman Museum in Hilo. One of those long postcard-type brochures advertised it and extolled its fluorescent mineral collection. Although I am not a fluorescent mineral collector, Carol and I decided to check it out. The museum is adjacent to the old (1839) Lyman Mission House in the older part of Hilo and we missed it the first time we drove past. However, on the second pass we drove more slowly and saw the museum in its new attractive brick and glass home.

Although the museum is multifaceted, I'll focus on the mineral

aspect that's part of the museum's Earth Heritage Gallery. The elegant and modern exhibits let you discover how the Hawaiian Islands were formed and how unique the volcanoes are. Included is a walk through a lava tube...minus the fiery lava. Suddenly we found ourselves in the world famous mineral and gem collection of Orlando Lyman, the great-grandson of the original missionaries, David and Sarah Lyman. Although small, the gem and mineral collection is world famous and considered to be one of the top ten in the world. The organization of minerals used crystal groupings, which I found fascinating and different. The specimens were set on top of pillars of varying height that immediately reminded me of the columnar basalts of Oregon. It was an effective display technique when I thought about it in terms of my Wildacres Judging class. The exhibits were not crowded either, which is another mineral exhibit judging criteria.

The specimens were superb and truly deserving of being considered world class. No dings on the sharp crystal edges could be seen. I remember particularly the crystallized gold specimen, a 4-5 inch plate of beautiful arborescent crystal from Cripple Creek, Colorado. My only disappointment was that there was not a single datolite specimen in the monoclinic crystal group display. Of course this provides an opportunity to make a donation from one of the Loudon County quarries in Virginia. Off to one side in a solitary display case built into the wall with a small spotlight was a specimen of Orlymanite, a rare mineral that was fully identified in 1987 and is named for Orlando Lyman. Oh yes, off in a darkened corridor was a small single display case with fluorescent minerals on shelves.

Other such hidden treasures are waiting nearer to home for all of us. Do you know of the small but elegant mineral display of Virginia minerals



in a case in the lobby of the science building at Washington and Lee University in Lexington, Virginia? It has some superb specimens of Virginia minerals that I've only heard about. It's on your way to Wildacres if you are driving down Hwy 81 or Hwy 11. Hwy 11 goes through Lexington and Hwy 81 is two miles away. Take a break from the driving and treat yourself to this hidden treasure.

If you know of any such hidden treasures, be sure to let other club members know or better yet, write a brief article for the Eastern newsletter. The Editor will appreciate it.

COMING NEXT MONTH

Watch these pages next month for news from the EFMLS annual meeting including....

- election results. We'll have a new 2nd VP plus a host of officers whose terms begin on November 1.

- editor's contest results. How did your articles and editor do in the contest this year?

- AFMS Honorary Scholarship recipient. Who's the person who will select the students for the AFMS Scholarship Foundation?

- upcoming convention dates... and more.

2005 EFMLS Wildacres Registration

PLEASE, ONLY one person per form per session

CHECK ONE: June 3 - 9 _____ September 12 - 18 _____

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, 2005. (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 \$280.00 per person. Deposit is \$140 per person, payable with registration. Make checks payable to "EFMLS". Balance of \$140 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**

Do you need a roommate? **Yes** **No** Are you: **Male** **Female** (No single rooms are available)

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 Esther Dunn at 334-774-2172. 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>

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). You will have an opportunity to make changes once you arrive at Wildacres.

1st _____

3rd _____

2nd _____

4th _____

(No registrations accepted prior to January 1, 2005)

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> or 717-294-3667 or Wayne Sukow, Director at <cnsukow@erols.com> or 703-280-8108

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VISIT A SHOW

from William Lema

April 2005:

1-3: Atlantic Micromounters Conference sponsored by the Micromounters of the National Capital Area. MD Hospital Center, Elkridge, MD. For info & registration, contact Steve Weinberger <cweinber@bcpl.net>.

2 -3: 37th Annual Gem, Mineral & Fossil Show sponsored by the Buffalo Geological Society, Hamburg Fairgrounds, Hamburg, NY.

9 - 10: Philadelphia Mineral Treasures and Fossil sponsored by the Philadelphia Mineralogical Society and Delaware Paleontological Society. LuLu Temple, 5140 Butler Pike, Plymouth Meeting, PA.

16-17: 42nd Annual "Hidden Treasures Under Foot" Gem & Mineral Show sponsored by the Blue Grass Gem & Mineral Club. Lexington Senior Citizens Center, 1530 Nicholasville Rd; Lexington, KY.

23-24: 33rd Annual New Jersey Earth Science Association Gem & Mineral Show sponsored by the Franklin-Ogdensburg Mineralogical Society, NJ Earth Science Assoc. & Sterling Hill Mining Museum. Franklin School, Washington Av., Franklin, NJ.

April 30 - May 1: 42nd New England Gem & Mineral Show hosted by the North Shore Rock & Mineral Club. Topsfield Fairgrounds, Coolidge Hall & Trade Building, Topsfield, MA

April 30 - May 1: Fulton County Mineral Show sponsored by the Fulton County Mineral Club. Johnstown Moose Lodge, Johnstown, NY

May

21: Annual Chesapeake Show at Goucher sponsored by the Chesapeake Gem & Mineral Society. Goucher College, Kraushaar Pavilion. Dulaney Valley Rd at I-695; Towson, MD.

21: Annual Micromineral Symposium sponsored by The Micromounters of New England. Hudson, MA Elks Club. For further information contact Mike Swanson at (413) 773-3867 or <msmicros@crocker.com>.

June

3,4,& 5: 32nd Annual Tannehill Gem, Mineral, Fossil & Jewelry Show sponsored by the Alabama Mineral & Lapidary Society. Tannehill Ironworks Historical State Park (from Birmingham take I-20/59 S. to Exit #100 or take Exit #1 off I-459 and follow signs.

4: PESA Spring Mineralfest sponsored by the Pennsylvania Earth Sciences Assoc., Inc. Macungie Memorial Park Building, Macungie, PA., eight miles southwest of Allentown.

11: 3rd Annual Rock Swap and Sale sponsored by the Danbury Mineralogical Society and the Connecticut Museum of Mining and Mineral Science. Connecticut Antique Machinery Assoc. Museum, Rt. 7, Kent, CT.

25-26: 41st Annual Gilsum Rock Swap and Mineral Show. Gilsum Elementary School, Rt 10; Gilsum, NH

July

9 - 10: 44th Annual Western Maine Gem, Mineral & Jewelry Festival sponsored by the Oxford County Mineral & Gem Association. Crescent Park School, Bethel, ME.

9 - 10: 39th Annual Jewelry and Mineral Show and Sale sponsored by the Gem & Mineral Society of Syracuse. Cargill Exposition Center, State Fairgrounds, Syracuse, NY

16-17: 36th Annual Gem and Mineral Show sponsored by the Gem City Rock & Mineral Club. Perry Hi-way Hose Company, 8270 Peach Street (Rt.19, 1/4 mile South of I-90 exit 24), Erie, PA.

30-31: 26th Annual Champlain Valley Gem, Mineral & Fossil Show sponsored by the Burlington Gem & Mineral Club. Tuttle Middle School, 500 Dorset St; S. Burlington, VT,

August

6-7: 56th Annual Gem Show sponsored by the Gem, Lapidary and Mineral Society of Washington, D.C. Ramada Hotel and Exhibition Center, 8500 Annapolis Rd, New Carrollton, MD (Exit 20-B off the I-95/495 Beltway

September

3 & 4: 16th Annual Rockhounds Gem & Mineral Show sponsored by the Kennebec Rocks & Minerals Club. National Guard Armory, Western Av; Augusta, ME

10-11: Annual Jewelry, Gem & Mineral Show sponsored by the Northern Berkshire Mineral Club. VFW Hall, Rt. 2 at the Mohawk Trail, North Adams, MA.

17 -18: Annual Gem & Mineral Show sponsored by the Central Pennsylvania Rock and Mineral Club, Zembo Shrine Auditorium, 3rd & Division Streets, Harrisburg, PA

24-25: 41st Annual Atlantic Coast Gem, Mineral & Jewelry Show sponsored by the Gem Cutters Guild of Baltimore. Howard Co. Fairgrounds, (I-95 & MD 32), West Friendship, MD.

If you are an EFMLS member club and would like to have your show or swap listed here, send information to William Lema, EFMLS Show Coordinator at 74 Ninth St; E. Providence, RI 02914 or e-mail <williamlema@cox.net>.