



Eastern Federation
of Mineralogical and Lapidary Societies, Inc.
Affiliated with the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies, Inc.



This packet contains instructions and information for

**The 2012 EFMLS
Bulletin Editors' Competition**

In this packet you will find all the forms and the rules for the 2012 Bulletin Editors' Contest (2011 bulletins). Please read the attached letter, rules and checklist carefully; note the deadline date of

January 5, 2012

Please send all packets for competition to

Bulletin Editors Advisory Committee
C/O Central PA Rock & Mineral Club
P.O. Box 6271
Harrisburg, PA 17112-0271

THE DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT OF ALL ENTRIES IS JANUARY 5, 2012

**No entries will be accepted by e-mail
ALL entries must be mailed in hard copy format**

EFMLS BULLETIN EDITORS' CONTEST GUIDELINES 2012

The EFMLS Bulletin Editors' Contest was designed to give editors an opportunity to have their publications judged by others with similar interests. Judges' comments are meant to improve the quality of the publication, thus resulting in better communication and a sharing of information throughout the Federation. All of the categories for entry have been modified to conform as closely as possible to the guidelines for the AFMS competition.

Entries may be submitted in any of the following categories:

CATEGORY M: MINI BULLETINS CATEGORY S: SMALL BULLETINS CATEGORY L: LARGE BULLETINS CATEGORY N: NEW BULLETINS, NEW EDITORS CATEGORY OE: ORIGINAL EDUCATIONAL/TECHNICAL ARTICLES CATEGORY ON: ORIGINAL NON-TECHNICAL ARTICLES CATEGORY P: ORIGINAL POEMS CATEGORY FW: WRITTEN FEATURES CATEGORY FD: DRAWN FEATURES CATEGORY J: JUNIOR ARTICLES SPECIAL PUBLICATIONS

1. BULLETINS

The bulletin entry should be published in 2011 and be an original issue and not a copy.

A bulletin can be entered into only one of the following categories:

CATEGORY M: MINI BULLETINS – 5 pages or less (includes one-page bulletins)

CATEGORY S: SMALL BULLETINS – 6 to 11 pages

CATEGORY L: LARGE BULLETINS -12 or more printed pages

CATEGORY N: NEW BULLETINS, NEW EDITORS -any size

For categories **M**, **S**, and **L**, use these guidelines: A "page" is defined as an 8.5" x 11" sheet with standard size print (12 pitch). A legal size sheet (8.5" x 14") will count as 1.5 standard pages. Pages which have been reduced photographically will be counted based on their unreduced size. A sheet printed on both sides is counted as two pages.

The cover (mailing) page is counted if it includes a "news" item, e.g., a report of an event that is not published in the newsletter or a continuation of an item in the issue. Do not count the cover page if it contains only standard masthead information that is copied for every issue. If you use an envelope or other separate mailer that has pertinent information, include it with your entry. No electronic copies will be accepted. If you send out your newsletter electronically, you may print out copies to send with your entry forms.

For category **N**, use these guidelines: A "New Editor" is one who has not previously edited a newsletter for an EFMLS club, and who began editing in the current judging year. Only one club bulletin per "new editor" can be submitted. If a "new editor" begins editing bulletins for more than one club during the year, and they are a new editor for all those bulletins, only the first club's bulletin they edited is eligible. A person who assumes editorship from a family member cannot be considered a "New Editor." An assistant editor or coeditor (moving up to editor) does not qualify for "New Editor" status. A "New Bulletin" is one for a new club, or for a club which has not previously published a bulletin.

2. BULLETIN CONTRIBUTIONS

CATEGORY OE: ORIGINAL EDUCATIONAL/TECHNICAL ARTICLES – adult **CATEGORY ON: ORIGINAL NON-TECHNICAL ARTICLES – adult (not judged by AFMS)** **CATEGORY J: JUNIOR ARTICLES – Under 18 years of age** **CATEGORY P: ORIGINAL POEMS – junior and adult** **CATEGORY FW: WRITTEN FEATURES – junior and adult (not judged by AFMS)** **CATEGORY FD: DRAWN FEATURES – junior and adult (not judged by AFMS)**

CATEGORY OE: ORIGINAL EDUCATIONAL/TECHNICAL ARTICLES -Any original educational/technical article written by an adult member of an EFMLS affiliated club may be entered in this category. The article must have been published during the 2011 calendar year and written expressly for the EFMLS club bulletin from which it was entered. An article written for the federation newsletter is not eligible. The article must be at least a half-page in length.

Entries in this category should not be simply “reports.” A field trip report can qualify as an educational/technical article if it goes beyond reporting who went, who found what, and who got lost; i.e., **a travelogue does not belong in this category.** A report becomes an educational/technical article if it includes historical and/or geological information, gives complete (technical) descriptions of the material found, and/or uses research to support the educational value of the report. **If research of any kind is done, a bibliography must be included.** An article is also considered to be “educational” if it gives a “how-to” procedure for lapidary work, exhibiting, micromounting, etc.; if it provides a description of a particular mineral or fossil; or if it is a safety study on hazardous minerals, shop practices, or field work.

If an educational/technical article has been previously published in a magazine or company publication; used as information for a display case, or handout at a show, class, seminar, convention/meeting; or previously published on the Internet, it CANNOT be considered an original article.

When filling out the cover sheet for your article entries, pay special attention to the designation of “Advanced Author.” The “Advanced Author” is one whose earnings are primarily in the earth science field, or who has had writings/photos published in a commercial or professional context. If the author is an engineer, specify what kind. If he is a professional in earth sciences, state the area of expertise. In addition, a person 18 years of age or older who has ever won a first place trophy in Adult Articles in the AFMS competition is regarded as an “Advanced Author.” This information will help the BEAC Chairman to determine the proper category wherein the entry is classified for the AFMS competition.

CATEGORY ON: ORIGINAL NON-TECHNICAL ARTICLES -These original articles written by an adult club member are of an **informational** rather than technical nature. **Entries in this category should not be simply “reports.”** Entries *must be at least a half-page in length* and may include such things as show critiques; program reviews; book reviews; and editorials on matters pertinent to the hobby in general. **A report of a field trip, club social event, rock swap, etc. that is mainly an accounting and could have been written by anyone who was present with little personal reflection, analysis, critique by the author is not a nontechnical article.** If an article has been previously published in a magazine or company publication or as other public information, previously published on the Internet, or the content is made up largely of quoted passages it CANNOT be considered an original article.

CATEGORY P: ORIGINAL POEMS -A poem written by a Junior or an Adult is entered in this category.

In the case of Junior contributions, be sure to state the author’s age at the top of the score sheet. **Poems must be related to the hobby.** In addition, there is a designation for poetry content, serious or humorous. Please note this on the heading of the score sheet.

CATEGORY FW: WRITTEN FEATURES – Written Features are items (other than poems) in sentence form which add spice to a club bulletin, but do not necessarily follow the form of an article. They must be original, and there is no length limitation. A possible entry would include a humorous anecdote, presidents’ column, shop hints, play on mineral names, special club contest, or club history commentary

(not just copied quotes from past newsletters, the author must introduce personal input/analysis).

CATEGORY FD: DRAWN FEATURES – Drawn Features are original items that bring spice to a bulletin but do not follow a literary form. Included here are puzzles that are made up of a form or shape (not word puzzles), cartoons, crystal structures (drawn by author and incorporated in an original application). The drawn feature should have some accompanying description/heading to add to the originality but the drawing predominates.

CATEGORY J: JUNIOR ARTICLES -Any registered junior member of a club may be submitted for original articles in this category. There are two age categories, under age 12 and 12-17, that encompass a wide range of abilities. In selecting entries, look for quality that would be expected from an average youth of That age. For example, a seven-year old (2nd grader) might be expected to write one paragraph or one-third of a page with no bibliography. The high school student should be able to research material and write an article one-half to one page or more in length with a bibliography. Minutes of a meeting/program or a report are not an original article and should not be entered in this category even if they are written by a junior member of your club.

3. SPECIAL PUBLICATIONS

If your club printed in 2011 a NEW, **one-time only publication**, such as a show program, a club information pamphlet, shop procedures, lapidary techniques and hints, anniversary issues, club history, field trip guides, etc., please send it in, clearly labeled as a SPECIAL PUBLICATION. The EFMLS does not judge such a publication in its contest. However, the top three, as evaluated by the BEAC chairman, will be sent on to the AFMS for their competition for Special Publications. The publication should be club and/or earth science related and the authors must be members of the club submitting the entry. Copyrighted publications that are evaluated in the top three will be submitted to AFMS as long as permission is granted to reproduce those publications.

4. GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS

1. The three highest-scoring entries in each category (with the exception of categories **FW**, **FD** and **ON**) will be forwarded to the AFMS for national competition. Three Special Publications will also be forwarded. Entries under the category **OE** will be subdivided into “Advanced” and “non-Advanced” articles and the three highest-scoring entries from each of these categories will be forwarded to the AFMS.

2. Editors or contributors who have earned a trophy in the EFMLS competition are not eligible to compete in that category until two years have lapsed. Trophy winners, however, can compete in any other EFMLS category as long as they have not received a trophy in that category during the previous two years. If an EFMLS trophy winner is eligible for an AFMS first place trophy, entries can be submitted for those categories for judging, however, they will receive no EFMLS awards. If the EFMLS trophy winner scores in the top three AND is eligible to compete in the AFMS competition, those entries will be sent to the AFMS competition. The following are ineligible for EFMLS trophies (the date following their name is the date they received the trophy):

Mini Bulletins: 2010 – Robert Miller; 2011 – Kathy, Julia & Michael Hrechka

Small Bulletins: 2010 – Wendell Mohr; 2011 – Barbara Fenstermacher

Large Bulletins: 2010 – Ed Mattson; 2011 – Carolyn Weinberger

New Editor: 2010 – Robert Winsor; 2011 - None

Original Education Articles: 2010 - Kathy Hrechka; 2011 – Bob Farrar

Original Educ. Articles – Advanced: 2010 - Stan Balducci; 2011 – Shellie T. Newman
Original Non-Technical Articles: 2010 – Jeff Taylor; 2011 – Diana Jarrett
Written Features: 2010 – Steve Weinberger; 2011 – Betsy Oberheim
Poetry: 2010 – Jim Stedman; 2011 – Betsy Oberheim
Drawn Features (Adult): 2010 – None; 2011- Sheryl Smith
Drawn Features (Junior): 2010 - None ; 2011 – Harrison Smith
Junior Articles: 2010 – Jaret Williams; 2011 – Alec Brenner

3. Editors or authors who have earned a first place trophy in AFMS competition are not again eligible for AFMS competition in that category until two years have elapsed. Trophy winners, however, can compete in any other AFMS category.
4. All applicable forms must be filled out completely and attached to the entries by the bulletin editor submitting them. **It is important that all information on the forms be correct.** Information for awards and the bulletin editors' breakfast program will be taken from the forms.
5. All entries must have been published during the 2011 calendar year and must be submitted through the club bulletin editor.
6. Only one editor per club per year will be eligible for competition. Be sure that all submitted bulletins were edited by the same person.
7. An article, poem, or feature may be a copy from the original bulletin issue, but • **the title of the newsletter, the month, and the year of the issue and page number must be included on the entry page.** If necessary, send additional pages of the bulletin (that have this information) with the entry so this criteria is met. Information handwritten in the margins is not acceptable.
8. Each editor may submit no more than:
 - 3 entries in each of Categories OE, ON, P, FW, FD, J
 - 2 entries by the same author per category, a total of 3 entries by the SAME AUTHOR in all categories combined.If the editor is also an author, he can submit no more than 2 entries per category, a total of 3 entries in all categories combined excluding the bulletin category.
9. **All entries will be judged in the category assigned by the submitting editor.** If an entry is in the wrong category, its score will suffer because judging criteria differ among the categories. Be sure to enter in the proper category. If necessary, contact the BEAC Chair for clarification.

5. PROCEDURES FOR SUBMITTING ENTRIES

1. Duplicate all forms as needed.
2. CATEGORIES **M, S, L, N**: Make • three (3) packets, each containing • **two issues of your choice, both the same size as noted for the entering category.** Each packet must contain copies of the same two issues. Using paper clips, attach BULLETIN SCORE SHEETS (FORMS **A** and **B**) to the front of each packet. Fill in the information requested on the top part of FORM **A**. To save time, you may affix a label with the required information as long as the information is in the same sequence as the form. Fill in the dates of the issues you are submitting on both FORM **A** and FORM **B**.

3. CATEGORIES **OE, ON, P, FW, FD, J**: Submit • three (3) copies of each entry with the appropriate score sheet (labeled as FORM **OE, ON, P, FW, FD, J**, respectively) stapled to the front of each. Fill in the information requested at the top of the score sheet. To save time, you may affix a label with the required information as long as the information is in the same sequence as the form. Entries must be the entire page(s) from the bulletin.

SPECIAL PUBLICATIONS: Send • two (2) copies of the publication with score sheet **A** stapled to the front. Fill in the information requested at the top of each form. Again, you may affix a label with the required information as long as the information is in the same sequence as the form.

Editors' Checklist

Before sending your entries please check the following:

- _____ Are both bulletin entries in the same category?
- _____ Are all the pages of the entry included?
- _____ Is the page dated?
- _____ Is it submitted in the correct category?
- _____ Was it originally published in the issue?
- _____ Are the forms filled out and attached to each copy?
- _____ Is the information on the forms correct?
- _____ Are the correct number of copies included?
- _____ Is the author a club member?
- _____ If a junior poem or drawing, is the author's age noted?
- _____ Is the writer an "Advanced" Author?

All entries, including AFMS entries, should be sent by January 5, 2012 to:

Bulletin Editors Advisory Committee
C/O Central PA Rock & Mineral Club
P.O. Box 6271
Harrisburg, PA 17112-0271

For questions and/or clarification, contact the BEAC Chair at the above address, at 717-795-0922 or via e-mail at <roqfreq@rjharris.com>.