

EFMLS NEWS

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



WILDACRES 2019

by Steve Weinberger and Helen Serras-Herman

As I write this, the Fall 2018 EFMLS Workshop at Wildacres session is in progress. Although we have a small group, it's a close-knit one whose interests include learning new skills, hearing excellent talks by our Speaker-in-Residence Alfredo Petrov, and enjoying the company of a lovely group of like-minded hobbyists.

We've made some changes to our group of committee members who help guide and plan our session. Most notable for now is the replacement of Bruce Gaber as our speaker-liaison. Bruce has admirably handled the task of procuring speakers since 2007 and has arranged an interesting roster for us. Bruce's interests have changed and he asked to be relieved of this task. Thank you Bruce for a job well done!

Filling his shoes will be Helen Serras-Herman. Many of you already know Helen as a speaker at Wildacres, a gem artist (Gem Art Center) and from various gem and mineral shows including AGTA and the Tucson Gem & Mineral Show.

When asked, Helen graciously accepted and immediately began working on our 2019 speakers!

Adding to the excitement of bringing Helen on board, is a recent phone call from the Wildacres Foundation giving us our spring 2019 dates! They will be May 20 – 26.

Here's what Helen tells us about our tentative speakers for the spring and fall sessions:

"Sending warm greetings to all EFMLS Wildacres Retreat Workshop attendees! As many of you know, I am the new Speaker-in-Residence Program coordinator for the EFLMS Spring and Fall Sessions at Wildacres, and I have some terrific news to share with all of you.

The Spring 2019 Speaker-in-Residence will be **Renée New-**

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man, and the Fall 2019 Speaker-in-Residence tentatively will be **Elise A. Skalwold**. I am thrilled that they have both accepted my invitation to be our 2019 Speakers-in-Residence. They are both terrific, and will give some new blood to our Wildacres sessions, as they are both new to Wildacres. They are

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2017-2018



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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Barbara Ringhiser, President



This is my swan song president's message. This is a task that, as president this past year, I won't miss because writing for me is like trying to squeeze toothpaste out of an almost empty toothpaste tube. It's really hard.

First, I want to thank Dan Imel for his long, long service and great job as our webmaster. I can't remember when he wasn't our webmaster. However, the pressures of his real job have become too great and he is stepping down. Again, thank you so much.

Therefore, WE NEED A NEW WEBMASTER. You may apply to David Nock davidnock@gmail.com or me bar5678@aol.com.

Last year, a committee was formed to look at revising the Procedures, computerizing entry of club information for the Directory and seeing whether all of the committees add value to the organization. This committee was combined with the committee for computerizing procedures headed by Dave Korzendorfer. The current committee consists of myself, Dave Korzendorfer, David Nock, Ellery Borow, Mary Bateman, Cheryl Neary and Gary Bergtholdt. Our first task is to look at the procedures. I feel we have a good start. When we're done, we'll send our recommendations to the current procedures and bylaws committee. I want to thank my committee members for making the progress we've made possible.

When I first took office, we needed committee chairs for the Eastern Foundation Fund, AFMS Ways & Means and the All American Award. As of now, only the AFMS Ways & Means chair is vacant. Is anyone interested? Contact David Nock to volunteer.

I also want to thank Cyndy Hummel, the general show chairman and member of the Tar Heel Gem & Mineral Club, for hosting a great EFMLS and AFMS convention in Raleigh, NC.

I survived!! And, it really wasn't so bad. So, please volunteer for positions on the Executive Board and EFMLS Committees.

Barbara

SAFETY FIRST – TICKS, CHIGGERS, MESQUITOS, OH MY!

by Ellery Borow, Safety Chair

Ticks, chiggers, mesquites, fire ants, black flies, scorpions, venomous snakes, poison ivy earthquakes, volcanos, flashfloods, and excessive heat -oh my! Pretty much anywhere a rock collector goes one will find something in the area that needs special attention. That something can be a little thing or a big thing, but still a thing which should, for safety sake, be addressed and not ignored.

We collectors check maps, monitor tire pressure, bring water, up date medical aid kits, research what mineral might be found in the area and soon. We might be well advised to also check into things which might bug us on our trips.... things such as bugs and bears and storms and snakes.

Fire ant bites are not fun. Mesquites and ticks are transmission vectors for more and more diseases. Weather patterns are changing. For these and other local conditions for which the well prepared collector should be aware, there are numerous sources of data. NOAA weather services, state and local health services monitor area insect populations, and even the USGS has websites which report on earthquake and volcanic activity.

A rain in the mountains and the resulting flash flood 6 miles away could isolate our vehicle, knowledge of how long a tick takes to transmit Lyme Disease, how to prepare for a venomous snake in the trail, precautions concerning fresh bear tracks in the area - all these take time to research and understand but the well prepared collector is a safer collector. It is, in this time of internet, far easier and less time consuming than yesteryear to be prepared and be safe. Truly, there is sometimes too much information out there to review it all.

When traveling, most rock collectors bring at least the basics - maps, water, food, medical kit, personal protective equipment and so on.

Besides the basics, it is the wise collector who prepares for any additional hazards the area has to offer. Such additional protections might be as simple as bringing an extra strong mosquito repellent.

Please don't let little flying things bug you. Your safety matters.

WILDACRES 2019

both acclaimed in their fields, very well respected within the trade community, and are internationally sought after speakers for gemological conferences and mineralogical symposia. They are great presenters and authors. Here are some biographical notes for Renée:

Renée Newman is a graduate of the University of California at Santa Barbara, and a graduate gemologist from the Gemological Association of America (GIA). She was first exposed to beautiful gems while working as an international tour director in Asia, South America and the South Pacific. She worked as a gemologist at a wholesale firm in Los Angeles and acquired a wealth of knowledge on diamonds, colored stones and pearls.



Renée is famous for her consumer guide books to buying gems. Her first one on diamonds was published in 1989. For her fourteen-to-date published books Renée Newman uses many photos from designers, lapidaries, jewelry artists and gem dealers, always giving credit and publicity to them, but she also takes many photographs herself. Please visit her website for more info at <http://www.reneenewman.com/index.htm> .

2019 BEAC Contest

Only one month until your BEAC contest entries are due -- OCTOBER 31st!! If you didn't receive or cannot find the e-mail with the Guidelines and Forms, please let me know and I will send them off to you. Note that the forms are different and some have changes. Also, the Guidelines have also been updated.

Be sure to carefully read the Guidelines for each category entry. A few reminders from the Guidelines:

- All entries should be from the December 2017 through October 2018 issues of your bulletin/newsletter.
- Three (3) copies attached to the score sheet for each entry. Entries must be original, first published in your newsletter and be in hard copy.
- For all categories of Bulletins, be sure to include both Forms A and B (3 packets each containing the same two (2) separate issues).
- Double check the information at the top of each entry form. Is the information accurate, spelled correctly?
- Are entries in the right categories?

Remember, if you do not enter you cannot be acknowledged or win a trophy--sooooo, get those entries in!

Improving Your Bulletin

This month let's focus on grammar. It's that nasty word with all the rules and regulations that are hard to remember.

We already know the importance of spell check which includes both your computer spell check and human spell check.

Often simple grammar mistakes are overlooked. Some computer programs have a grammar check (i.e., Microsoft WORD). If your software has a grammar check feature, be sure to turn it on. As with spell check, grammar check does not pick up all grammar errors, therefore, the editor is the last resort to catch those errors that sneak into your newsletter. Here

are a few to look out for:

- Either/or; neither/nor--when using either use or; when using neither, use nor (the negative of or).
- Check to make sure the tense of a verb is the correct one--present, past, future--and that it agrees with the remainder of the sentence.
- If the subject noun of a sentence is singular, does the verb and remainder of the sentence agree with the subject noun? How about if it is plural?
- Should that comma be a semicolon or that semicolon be a comma?
- Is there an overuse of explanation points (!)?
- Is there a space between words, after a comma or semicolon, etc.?
- Is there a line space between paragraphs? In some cases when a paragraph has an indented first line and space is short, a line space between paragraphs is omitted. While this is not an uncommon practice, it makes reading difficult for the reader. Unless truly in need of space, try to avoid not putting line spaces between paragraphs. At the same time, if your paragraphs are justified (each line of the paragraph stretches from the left to right margins) you should always put a line space between paragraphs.
- Watch for widows and orphans. Unless the paragraph is only one-line long, there should always be at least two (2) lines of a paragraph at the bottom of a page, or no less than two lines of a paragraph at the top of the next page. If you are at the bottom of a page, your paragraph is three-lines long, and you only have room for two lines, put the paragraph on the next page.

As editor, you are responsible for the content of your newsletter. When you get a submission for printing, read it over. Check it for spelling and grammar. You can edit a submission *without changing the content of an article and make it easier to read.*

TRICK OR TREAT?!

by Betsy Oberheim, Each One Teach One Chair



Of course, who wants a trick? Especially when the treat is a big bowl of candy bars, peanut butter cups, gum, etc? A treat is always preferable, especially when the treat is a surprise from the Eastern Federation Each One Teach One Recognition Committee.

How about a treat in the form of a beautiful plaque that you can proudly hang up; that tells the world that you are so interested in your hobby of rocks and minerals that you were honored by your fellow club members for teaching others and sharing the hobby.

Most of the people who do this do it because they are not looking for a reward or appreciation, but for the love of sharing. They enjoy the delight on the face of a child (or adult) as they realize what you just put in their hand the history of it. Or the pleasure of seeing another's joy in creating a lapidary or jewelry project.

That in itself is quite the treat they love, but we like to reward them and acknowledge that they are helping us, the club, and the people they teach. And none of these teachers receive one penny for their work!

If you know a selfless person like that from your club, please write and let me know so I can let everyone else know!!!

Treat them to the positive attention and thanks they deserve.

The deadline for submitting your nomination to me is March 1, 2019. I look forward to learning about your valuable teachers.

SCRATCH OUT A FLUORITE

by Betsy Oberheim, Junior Activities Chair

After 54 years of teaching art I still find that kids love to draw! Some take off on their own, while others need a bit of help to put on paper what is in their brain.

I recently taught a Geology workshop with RJ Harris; his knowledge of rocks and minerals is far beyond mine, so I decided to stick to what I know best; how to draw the beauty of minerals.

First I gave them a slice of geode, told a bit of how it forms, and we studied and talked about how their geode may have formed so long ago. Then using colored pencils they created their own geode. I stressed mixing colors and pressing hard for rich darks and softly for pastels. Then we drew crystals (some people, adults included) like to look closely at something in order to draw it, while others get inspired and take off!). So I course I gave them a quartz crystal.

My time was limited so we couldn't go into the many different forms crystals can take. That would have to be another lesson! Then we looked at fluorite and they noted how it looks like an aerial view of a city. I had them practice on scrap paper, then gave them 6" squares of shelf paper which is coated with a plastic layer. They scratched out their fluorites and the effect of the white edges against the blend of blue and purple I had previously applied to the paper was striking!

Since the shelf paper is not very sturdy, they cut them out and pasted them on tagboard. The kids were pleased with what they had made and I was delighted with the excited way they set to work!

THE UNITED NATIONS PROCLAIMS 2019 THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF THE PERIODIC TABLE OF CHEMICAL ELEMENTS

via Mitch Portnoy, New York Mineralogical Club



**INTERNATIONAL
YEAR OF THE
PERIODIC TABLE
2019**

On 20 December 2017, during its 74th Plenary Meeting, the United Nations (UN) General Assembly 72nd Session has proclaimed 2019 as the International Year of the Periodic Table of Chemical Elements

(IYPT 2019). In proclaiming an International Year focusing on the Periodic Table of Chemical Elements and its applications, the United Nations has recognized the importance of raising global awareness of how chemistry promotes sustainable development and provides solutions to global challenges in energy, education, agriculture and health. Indeed, the resolution was adopted as part of a more general Agenda item on Science and technology for development. This International Year will bring together many different stakeholders including UNESCO, scientific societies and unions, educational and research institutions, technology platforms, non-profit organizations and private sector partners to promote and celebrate the significance of the Periodic Table of Elements and its applications to society during 2019.

The development of the Periodic Table of the Elements is one of the most significant achievements in science and a uniting scientific concept, with broad implications in Astronomy, Chemistry, Geology, Physics, Biology and other natural sciences. The International Year of the Periodic Table of Chemical Elements in 2019 will coincide with the 150th anniversary of the discovery of the Periodic System by Dmitry Mendeleev in 1869. It is a unique tool enabling scientists to predict the appearance and properties of matter on Earth and in the Universe. Many chemical elements are crucial to enhance the value and performance of products necessary for humankind, our planet, and industrial endeavors. The four most recent elements (113, 115, 117 and 118) were fully added into the Periodic Table, with the approval of their names and symbols, on 28 November 2016.

The International Year of the Periodic Table of the Chemical Elements will coincide with the Centenary of IUPAC (IUPAC100). The events of IUPAC100 and

of IYPT will enhance the understanding and appreciation of the Periodic Table and chemistry in general among the public. The 100th Anniversary of IUPAC will be on the UNESCO Calendar of Anniversaries on 28th July 2019.

“As the global organization that provides objective scientific expertise and develops the essential tools for the application and communication of chemical knowledge for the benefit of humankind, the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry is pleased and honored to make this announcement concerning the International Year of the Periodic Table of Chemical Elements” said IUPAC President, Professor Natalia Tarasova.

Chemical Elements play a vital role in our daily lives and are crucial for humankind and our planet, and for industry. The International Year of the Periodic Table of Chemical Elements will give an opportunity to show how they are central to linking cultural, economic and political aspects of the global society through a common language, whilst also celebrating the genesis and development of the periodic table over the last 150 years. It is critical that the brightest young minds continue to be attracted to chemistry and physics in order to ensure the next generation of scientists, engineers, and innovators in this field. Particular areas where the Periodic Table and its understanding have had a revolutionary impact are in nuclear medicine, the study of chemical elements and compounds in space and the prediction of novel materials.

The IYPT is endorsed by a number of international Scientific Unions and the International Council for Science (ICSU). The IYPT will be administered by an International Steering Committee in collaboration with the UNESCO International Basic Sciences Programme and an International Secretariat, to start operating in early 2018. In addition to IUPAC, IYPT is supported by the International Union of Pure and Applied Physics (IUPAP), the European Chemical Sciences (EuCheMS), the International Astronomical Union (IAU) and the International Union of History and Philosophy of Science and Technology (IUHPST).

THE "LONE ARRANGER"

by Ellery Borow, AFMS Club Rockhound of the Year

A trail of smiles and a cloud of dust mark another appearance of the "Lone Arranger". Not often disguised by a mask, the "Lone Arranger" is instead often a well known person. This person arrives on the scene brandishing organizing skills, an attitude of dedication to the hobby, a wish to be helpful, and a can-do approach. What they leave behind in his or her wake is a plethora of "candone" projects.

The "Lone Arrange"r rarely sticks around to accept accolades, awards and medals, Instead they ride the trail of smiles to the next thing that a club needs to do.

Most rock, mineral, fossil, gem and lapidary clubs have a "Lone Arranger" in their midst. Because this often-quiet person rarely hangs around for accolades, do they receive the praise they so well deserve?

If there is any doubt your club's "Lone Arranger" is receiving all due recognitions, we can help with this pleasurable task. We in the AFMS Club Rockhound of the Year program can, with just a bit of your assistance, insure their recognition by placing reports of their meritorious work in the pages of both the Eastern and American Federation newsletters.

May we here at the ACROY committee help your club publicize your club's Lone Arranger? To honor your "Lone Arrange"r here is all one need do:

- Prepare a brief (100 words or so) write-up of your member's good work.
- Send that write-up to me. It's as simple as that!

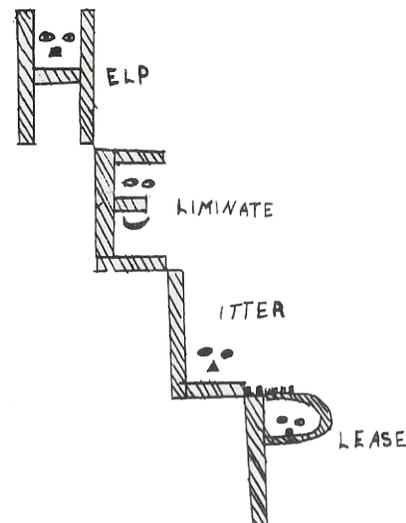
Some rules: (The ever present rules)

- Clubs are limited to selecting only one candidate per year (or two in the event of a couple). Clubs may, in addition, have a junior member honored as your ACROY.

- We need you to include, as part of the write-up, the honored members name, and your name as the submitter. (ANY club member may submit another club member's name as the ACROY honoree.)

Once we here in the EFMLS AFMS Club Rockhound of the Year headquarters receive your submission, we will mention your ACROY honorees accomplishments in the pages of both the EFMLS and AFMS Newsletters. Please, let us peer through the cloud of dust and recognize these remarkable people!

We would appreciate hearing from you with your honoree submissions. We just love to see your "Lone Arrangers" ride on to their next grand adventure!



AFMS CODE OF ETHICS

I will respect both private and public property and will do no collecting on privately owned land without the owner's permission.

I will keep informed on all laws, regulations of rules governing collecting on public lands and will observe them.

I will to the best of my ability, ascertain the boundary lines of property on which I plan to collect.

I will use no firearms or blasting material in collecting areas.

I will cause no willful damage to property of any kind - fences, signs, buildings.

I will leave all gates as found.

I will build fires in designated or safe places only and will be certain they are completely extinguished before leaving the area.

I will discard no burning material - matches, cigarettes, etc.

I will fill all excavation holes which may be dangerous to livestock.

I will not contaminate wells, creeks or other water supply.

I will cause no willful damage to collecting material and will take home only what I can reasonably use.

I will practice conservation and undertake to utilize fully and well the materials I have collected and will recycle my surplus for the pleasure and benefit of others.

I will support the rockhound project H.E.L.P. (Help Eliminate Litter Please) and Will leave all collecting areas devoid of litter, regardless of how found.

I will cooperate with field trip leaders and those in designated authority in all collecting areas.

I will report to my club or Federation officers, Bureau of Land management or other authorities, any deposit of petrified wood or other materials on public lands which should be protected for the enjoyment of future generations for public educational and scientific purposes.

I will appreciate and protect our heritage of natural resources.

I will observe the "Golden Rule", will use "Good Outdoor Manners" and will at all times conduct myself in a manner which will add to the stature and Public "image" of rockhounds everywhere.

**MINUTES OF THE 2018 EFMLS BUSINESS MEETING
ARE BEING SENT AS A SEPARATE E-MAIL.**

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EFMLS NEWS

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VISIT A SHOW

from Carolyn Weinberger

If you are an EFMLS member club and would like to have your show or swap listed here, send information to Carolyn Weinberger, EFMLS Editor at PO Box 302; Glyndon, MD 21071-0302 or e-mail at <cscrystals2@gmail.com>.

September:

15-16: 53rd Annual Gem, Mineral & Jewelry Show sponsored by the Central Pennsylvania Rock & Mineral Club. Harrisburg Consistory (beside the old Zembo building), 2701 N Third St; Harrisburg, PA. INFO: aoberheim3@comcast.net

21-23: 51st Annual Gem, Mineral & Jewelry Show sponsored by the Shenandoah Valley Gem & Mineral Society. Augusta Expo, 277 Expo Rd; Fishersville, VA.

22-23: Annual Atlantic Gem, Mineral, Jewelry & Fossil Show hosted by the Gem Cutters Guild of Baltimore. Howard County Fairgrounds, 2210 Fairgrounds Rd; West Friendship, MD 21794. Info: www.gemcuttersguild.com

22-23: 49th Annual Gem & Mineral Show sponsored by the Mid-Hudson Gem & Mineral Society. Gold's Gym Family Center, 258 Titusville Rd, Poughkeepsie, NY. Info: http://mhvgms.org/annual_show/index.html

October:

5 – 7: Central Florida Mineral & Gem Society annual show sponsored by the Central Florida Mineral & Gem Society. Florida National Guard Armory, 2809 S Fern Creek Ave; Orlando, FL 32806.

19-21: 62nd Annual Desautels Micromount Symposium, The Friends School of Baltimore, 5114 North Charles St; Baltimore, MD 21210. Info: www.baltimoremineralsociety.org/desautels-symposium.html
Registration: BMS, PO Box 302; Glyndon, MD 21071.

20-21: 45th Annual Gem, Mineral, Fossil & Jewelry Show and Sale sponsored by the Kanawha Rock & Gem Club. So. Charleston Community Center, 601 Jefferson Rd; S. Charleston, WV 25309 (just off the Jefferson Rd exit of I-64). Info: [Facebook.com/Kanawha Rock and Gem Club](https://www.facebook.com/KanawhaRockandGemClub) or <wvyooper@frontiernet.net>

November:

17-18: 51st Annual Gem, Mineral, Jewelry, Bead and Fossil Show sponsored by the Gem & Mineral Society of the Palm Beaches. So. Florida Fairgrounds Expo Center East; 9067 Southern Blvd, West Palm Beach, FL 33411. Info: Walt Triche 561-626-1031 or wtriche@gmail.com

17-18: 27TH Annual Gem, Mineral & Fossil Show sponsored by the Northern Virginia Mineral Club. The HUB Ballroom, George Mason University, 4400 University Dr; Fairfax, VA 22030. Info: www.nvamineralclub.org

