

EFMLS NEWS

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



THANKS TO THE BRISTOL GEM & MINERAL CLUB
FOR HOSTING A FABULOUS CONVENTION!

EFMLS INSURANCE RENEWAL - 2009 – 2010

by Carl Miller, EFMLS Insurance Coordinator

It is time again to pull out the club checkbook and write checks for your



EFMLS arranged insurances. In order to retain an insurance program last year and keep the expiring rate, we had to move the

program to a new insurer and accept a \$1,000 deductible. That insurer has agreed to renew our program this year with no change in rate. The deductible remains in place on the program. A renewal option to remove the deductible was not available.

The insurance policy is with the Burlington Insurance Company. Please be sure to send your premium payments out immediately to ensure that your coverage remains in force. Renewing our program with no increase is a great result for us as liability insurance increases driven by economic conditions and societal issues continue to push up costs. There continues to be no change to the accident insurance premium.

Premiums for the EFMLS insurance programs this year are:

- EFMLS Liability Insurance:
\$3.124 per club member
- EFMLS Accident Insurance:
\$2.40 per club member

Don't Forget How Important The Liability Insurance Is!

Without the EFMLS Liability Insurance policy, many clubs and individual Federation members could not collect on the majority of all commercially owned localities. This includes active quarries and mines, inactive but still commercially owned quarries and mines, and well known (and not so well known) privately owned locations, where the EFMLS insurance gives that land owner that extra peace of mind. And don't forget that it protects your club against covered lawsuits for alleged and actual claims.

Accident Insurance

The EFMLS Accident Insurance program for your club members is a very inexpensive way to provide some relief for medical expenses incurred due an injury while on a Club sanctioned collecting trip, meeting, event, etc.

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THANKSGIVING



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2009 – 2010



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FROM THE TOP!

by Loren Patterson, EFMLS President

Growing up in Central NY in the 1940's, my first memory of an interest in rocks and fossils involved skipping flat pieces of shale on the shore of a nearby lake where my family liked to spend their summer get-aways. I was about six or seven years old and eventually noticed there were some pretty neat fossils in those rocks. It was a couple of years later that our family made a real rock hounding trip to one of the Herkimer Diamond Mines near Herkimer, NY and I developed an itch for the hobby. I resisted that itch for a long time until renewing my interest by taking my own son "diamond" hunting in the 1970's. It wasn't until I met my wife, Cathy, about 1989 that I finally realized there was a local club for rockhounds, the Gem & Mineral Society of Syracuse. Since she was already a member when we met, I like to think that I married into the hobby.

During the 1990's, I served the GMSS as treasurer and managed the Club Booth at our annual show from the early 90's until 2006. My wife and I enjoy traveling and this year alone have been from coast to coast in at least seven states visiting an AFMS/NFMS show in Montana and sight seeing and mineral shopping in Arizona and California.

Since 2002, when I retired from a career in computer maintenance, I find more time to enjoy field trips and mineral and fossil shows and the social benefits of our hobby. I am a collector of fluorites, quartz, and some fossils. I have been very interested in lapidary for some time and want to get a workshop started. One focus is faceting, when I can break away from some of my commitments. Lately, my activity in faceting has more emphasis on acquiring faceting rough than the actual faceting. I need to keep focused on the workshop idea.

A couple of years after "marrying into the hobby"; my home club needed a new editor for the club bulletin, the "Crack 'N Cab". Someone, most likely a member of the club's nominating committee, convinced me that "we" would make great co-editors for the club and learn a lot at the same time. They were right and I was the newsletter editor for between 10 and 15 years. The number is hard to pin down because my wife filled in often at the beginning and later for a while by herself during my work assignment to Colorado in 1999. I reluctantly gave up the job last fall to allow myself more time for this EFMLS position. Filling the important role of editor for the Gem & Mineral Society of Syracuse provided me with an opportunity to see how important a club bulletin can be for keeping club members informed and aware of upcoming meetings and what their club is offering its members. You can expect to hear more about the importance of your club bulletin editor from me as I know this is an area that can spell success for many clubs. Please write me with any helpful suggestions at <lpatterson@gmss.us>. I will answer all inquiries as time allows.



EFMLS CITATION AWARD

from the EFMLS Jury of Awards

The highest award of the Eastern Federation of Mineralogical and Lapidary Societies, the Citation Award, is presented each year to an individual whose service to the



Federation and the hobby have consistently demonstrated a willingness to go above and beyond expectations. I am pleased to report that the nominations for the 2009 honoree were unanimous, an indication of how highly the contributions of this individual are valued.

After earning his engineering degree, our New Jersey native began his professional career with General Electric Company in Erie, Pennsylvania where he met his wife to be. He was later transferred to the Syracuse General Electric plant where he worked in a development lab and was instrumental in trouble shooting and solving product problems. He and his wife continue to reside in the Syracuse area where they have raised five children who have blessed them with several grandchildren.

His travels have included such places as Tibet, Egypt and Peru. He is a dowser and has dowsed many wells for people showing them where to drill. Other interests have included vegetable and flower gardening and he is especially fond of day lilies and iris. He has also volunteered his time for many years with free preparation of tax returns for senior citizens.

A lifetime member of the Gem & Mineral Society of Syracuse, our honoree went through the chairs and served as President. He has also served as Show Chairman, Wholesale Dealer Chairman, Show Registrar, EFMLS Liaison and Treasurer, an office he has held for more than a decade with two brief interruptions. He loves field collecting minerals and fossils and has exhibited his healing crystals at various Syracuse Club shows. He has a talent for dimensional carving and has made some wonderful pendants, and has attended EFMLS Wildacres Workshops several times where he has demonstrated a talent for other lapidary pursuits.

After serving as Assistant Treasurer, Lou was elected Treasurer in 2001. His first task was to resolve some record keeping irregularities which might have led to sanctions against the Federation by the IRS. Lou accepted the challenge and, with a great deal of hard work and the use of his considerable talent for problem solving, was able to resolve the problems and avoid any adverse consequences for the Federation. To help improve record keeping, and avoid future problems he bought and learned to use a computerized accounting program to help bring us into the 21st century. Eight years later, he continues to hold the office of EFMLS Treasurer and can always be counted on to fulfill the duties of the office in a timely and professional manner.

Therefore, in recognition of his many years of outstanding service to the Eastern Federation of Mineralogical and Lapidary Societies, his club and our hobby, it is my very great honor to present the 2009 Citation Award to Louis A "Lou" Budell.

Fran Sick
EFMLS Jury of Awards Chair

SAFETY FIRST –

AND LAST

by Jim Doran, EFMLS Safety Chair

"Short and Sweet"

I don't know about any of you, but if I'm reading something that goes on forever before getting to the point, I lose interest very fast.

Considering that problem, I've come up with some short and sweet safety tips which, hopefully, you can remember for various collecting and lapidary situations:

- Have a currently inspected, working fire extinguisher in your lapidary shop.
- Before using any lapidary equipment know how to safely operate the equipment.
- Keep a first aid kit handy on field trips and in your lapidary shop.
- Always wear safety glasses when breaking rocks, using grinding or cutting wheels, trim saws, or torches.
- Always wear your hard hat when in a quarry, or when the situation requires the use of one.
- Use a dust mask when cutting or trimming rocks or making cabochons.
- Keep far enough away from water or any other liquids when using electrical equipment.
- Make sure all your lapidary equipment is in a safe, usable condition before using it.

I, obviously, have not listed every safety tip, but I did want to list some important ones for your use, whether field collecting, or making some beautiful cabs in your shop.

Safety is a big deal!

Please email me if you have suggestions for articles, criticisms, or anything else at: <jpdoran1@verizon.net>.

WELCOME BACK!

from Mary Bateman, EFMLS Past President

It gives us great pleasure to welcome back the Southwest Florida Gem, Mineral & Fossil Club of Fort Myers, FL. The club was a member of EFMLS until a few years ago and recently decided to ask to rejoin. Since they are a Florida club, permission to join us was needed from the Southeast Federation. Not having heard any objections from SFMS, we are delighted to have them back with us.

Southwest Florida Gem, Mineral & Fossil Club

Club Address: 3830 Arlington St; Ft. Myers, FL 33901

20 Adults 0 Juniors. Officers are elected in November and take office in January

President: Charles Smith, 3310 Heritage Lakes Blvd; Ft. Myers, FL 33917
239-543-4138

Vice Pres: Bill Courtwright, 1649 Grace St; Ft. Myers, FL 33901
239-936-8693

Secretary: Loretta Blessing, 5236-I Cedarbend Dr; Ft. Myers, FL 33919
239-939-5357 <blessu4@gmail.com>

Treasurer: Howard Beck, 3830 Arlington St; Ft. Myers, FL 33901.
239-936-1722. <bseehitch@aol.com>

Meetings: 4th Tuesday of month at 7:30 pm.

Hughes & Snell Co., 1470 Royal Palm Square Blvd, Ft Myers 33919

Please remember to add their information to your EFMLS Directory.

COMPETITIVE AWARDS

from Barbara Sky

There were two wonderful displays entered in competition at the 2009 Bristol / EFMLS show. I wish we had had more and hope that those of you who are just "thinking about it" will decide to enter a display at the 2010 show in Stanton, DE this coming March.

The first competitive display was entered in the Educational category by Ed Matson of the Stamford Mineralogical Society. Ed entered in the advanced category and earned a score of 84 which earned him a blue ribbon. One pesky spelling error, showing up on 5 labels were the difference between Ed's earning that blue ribbon and a trophy.

The second case was a display

of barite put in by yours truly. I'm embarrassed to tell you that this case earned a 99.25 and a trophy.

If you're interested in entering a display, get a copy of the AFMS Uniform Rules (available from EFMLS Supplies Chair Suzi Milligan). You'll find lots of helpful information that will demystify the art of competitive exhibiting. I'll also be more than happy to answer questions you might have.



IN A WORD – THANK YOU!

by Ellery Borow, ACROY Chair

Our clubs are filled with opportunities to say "thank you" to many folks who help with meetings, shows, auctions, bulletins and the myriad of other activities associated with running a club.

The many volunteers who help our clubs function as well as they do deserve to hear those two very big words, "thank you". Unfortunately, all too often, we under-utilize the power of those words.

I'd like to offer an opportunity to you to recognize some of the deserving folks in your club. Here's the deal - think of the many special folks in your club, single out the one(s) who go that extra mile, put together a brief write-up of their contributions to the club, send your write-up to me (please see my contact information at the back of this issue of the EFMLS News), and leave the rest to us... it's that simple. Submissions should be between 50 and 75 words.

We will print the information about your outstanding member(s) in the EFMLS Newsletter so that others may also share in recognizing their efforts. We will also send the information on to the AFMS for Club Rockhound of the Year where it will be printed in the AFMS Newsletter.

Remember the power of saying "thank you". This is one simple way of recognizing the contributions of the dedicated folks in your club.

Disclaimers - clubs are limited to one submission per year. This may be an individual or a couple. In addition, a junior member may also be the honoree. The submission may be made by any club member.

Please take advantage of this opportunity to recognize the effort of our outstanding members. Please contact me if you have any questions.

AFMS SCHOLARSHIP REPORT

by Bob Livingston, Coordinator

I am pleased to catch up and report the following donations from EFMLS clubs and individuals:

Memorial Gifts:

Steve & Carolyn Weinberger
in memory of
Leslie Meszler and Elmira Patterson
credited to
Gem Cutters Guild of Baltimore

Gem Cutters Guild of Baltimore
in memory of Leslie Meszler
(new participation level 5300%)

Catawba Valley Gem & Mineral Society
in memory of
Buck Suttlemyre
(new participation level 1600%)

For Valuable Help:

Lapidary & Mineral Club
of Central Connecticut
in honor of the help given by
Michael Kokonis
(new participation level 200%)

Bristol Gem and Mineral Club
in honor of the help given by
Michael Kokonis
(new participation level 100%)

Regular Donations:

Gem & Mineral Society
of the Virginia Peninsula
(new participation level 400%)

Gem & Mineral
Society
of Syracuse
(new participation
level 4700%)



Unrestricted Do-
nation towards "Our Challenge":
Gem & Mineral Society of Syracuse

We are really appreciative for all your great donations. Several of you were first time donors which is fantastic. Every one means so much to the overall. When you are ready to make your tax-deductible donation, have the check made out to AFMS Scholarship Foundation and mail it to:

Bob Livingston, Coordinator
59 Ely Drive
Fayetteville, NY 13066-1001.

And...don't forget our challenge! As noted last month, the Scholarship Foundation is trying to raise an additional \$9,700 so that the students selected for this coming year will be able to receive the \$4,000 in funding instead of \$2,000 that's been earned by interest this year.

Interested in helping? Mark your contribution check with the word "non-restrictive" on the subject line.

I know we can make this happen!



Loren Patterson, our new president receives the "pin of office" from outgoing president Mary Bateman

SUPER SHARERS

by Hazel Remaley, EOTO Chair

The Each One Teach One program is all about sharing and teaching others about our hobby. Begun by



Bramwell Terrill in 1972 while he was EFMLS President, the idea of the program is to encourage and recognize club members who go out and teach others how to cut cabs, collect minerals and fossils, make jewelry or whatever aspect of our hobby is of interest to them without receiving any monetary remuneration for their efforts. The program was officially adopted by EFMLS in 1979 and a list of past receipts can be found in the Federation Directory.

There were three entries for the 2009 program and I'm pleased to share the results.

Trophy Award

Tom Pratchar

Pennsylvania Earth Science Association

Second Place

Jim Patzer

American Fossil Federation

Third Place

Holly McNeil

Gem, Lapidary and Mineral Society of Montgomery County, Maryland

Congratulations...and keep on teaching!

The 2010 Each One Teach One competition is underway. Since neither Jim nor Holly earned the trophy award, their information could be submitted again for this year...along with the nominee from your club! I'll have more details in the December EFMLS Newsletter.

2009 "M" AWARDS

by John Milligan, 2009 EFMLS 2nd VP



Each year the EFMLS recognizes three clubs whose membership has increased the most during the year. The results are based on the number of members reported by the club when remitting their annual dues and club information forms.

I'm pleased to announce the results:

Increase in Junior Membership
**Mineralogical Society of
Northeastern Pennsylvania**

Club having over 50 members
**Alabama Mineral and
Lapidary Society**

Club having less than 50 members
West Virginia Fossil Club

FIRST EVER WEB SITE CONTEST RESULTS

by Dan Imel, EFMLS Contest Chair

With more and more information about our clubs' appearing on the internet, the AFMS decided that it was time to recognize the work done by our hard working webmasters. As a result, an Ad Hoc committee was formed and club web masters were encouraged to submit their work for evaluation. I was pleased to accept the position as the chairperson from Eastern and will continue in that position this year as well.



The results of our EFMLS regional portion of the competition, as announced during "Breakfast with the Editors" during the EFMLS convention at Bristol, CT are as follows:

6th Place
Joe Mulvey
<www.bostonmineralclub.org>
Boston Mineral Club

5th Place
Bill Lesniak
<www.wcgm.org>
Wayne County Gem & Mineral Club

4th Place
Brooks H. Britt, Jr.
<tidewaterminerals.googlepages.com>
Tidewater Gem & Mineral Society

3rd Place
Michael Moody
<www.monongahelarockhounds.org>
The Monongahela Rockhounds

2nd Place
Ken Casey
<www.delminsociety.org>
Delaware Mineralogical Society

1st Place
Joe Mulvey
<www.micromountersofnewengland.org>
Micromounters of New England
(6th place in the AFMS contest)

EDITORS' CORNER

from Mary Bateman, Bulletin Editors' Advisory Chair

With the conclusion of the 2009 Bulletin Competition, it's time to look forward to a new contest for 2010. Our next convention will be held the first weekend in March so in order to give our judges sufficient time to evaluate the entries, I need to have them no later December 1, 2009.



Score sheets and complete details about the 2010 contest are already on the website <www.amfed.org/efmls> and will be in the next EFMLS Newsletter. Basically, the rules will remain the same as last year so you can start planning ahead now.

I look forward to receiving your club bulletin entry and your authors' work for our judges to read and evaluate. Do consider entering the contest.



The Otis Elevator test tower in Bristol, CT is the tallest such tower in North America and could be seen from the convention hotel.

I'M YOUR NEW AFMS VICE PRESIDENT!

by Matt Charsky, AFMS 5th Vice President



Although my term of office doesn't officially begin until November 1, I was installed as American Federation of Mineralogical Societies (AFMS) 5th Vice President on August 1 during the AFMS Convention in Billings, MT. Let me first personally thank the EFMLS Officers and members of the Past Presidents' Advisory Council for electing me to serve in this important position. During the coming year, I will try to do my best to communicate what the AFMS is doing and how it relates to both our Federation and our individual clubs.

In coming issues, I will pick out at least one topic that clubs/members of the EFMLS could be a little more educated on regarding what the AFMS does and why it's important to them. If there's a topic that you or your club would like more information about, give me a holler and I'll include it in my article.

Let's start from the beginning, so that everyone is on the same page. The AFMS was founded in 1947 and its purpose is as follows:

"To promote popular interest and education in the various Earth Sciences, and in particular the subjects of Geology, Mineralogy, Paleontology, Lapidary and other related subjects, and to sponsor and provide means of coordinating the work and efforts of all persons and groups interested therein; to sponsor and encourage the formation and international development of Societies and Regional Federations

and by and through such means to strive forward greater international good will and fellowship."

EFMLS is part of this non-profit educational federation and we are one of what's called "seven similar regional organizations." EFMLS is one of the largest regions (by number of members) in the AFMS, but large or small doesn't matter since the AFMS has around 50,000 members nationally and every federation has the same voice at the annual meeting.

EFMLS and many of our individual clubs have similar purposes compared to AFMS. I think all of us would like to say that our group of gem, mineral, lapidary, and fossil societies does make a positive difference in promoting all facets of our hobby. If you look at the EFMLS Committee chairs (later in this newsletter), you will see several positions that work jointly between AFMS & EFMLS - e.g., AFMS Endowment Fund; AFMS Scholarship Fund (including EFMLS Honorary Scholarship Awardees); AFMS Ways and Means; All American Award; Bulletin Editors Advisory; Convention Advisory; and Uniform Rules. Next time you see one of these people, thank them for serving as our EFMLS representatives and use them as an information resource.

The AFMS must be doing something right - over 800,000 visitors have logged on to www.amfed.org since December 1998. That's a pretty hefty number of log-ins over the past 10 years. There are currently over 260 pages different pages on this site. So, what's there?

The AFMS web-site is updated regularly with 2009 AFMS articles, status of AFMS programs, articles of national significance, and, of course, the latest AFMS Newsletter. There's an "In The News" section, which contains articles on various parts of the hobby. There's also information on upcoming shows, symposiums, celebrations, and publications. Currently, there's a promotion for the Special Congress Representing Involved Bulletin Editors (S.C.R.I.B.E.'s) 29th Annual Meeting and Editor's Symposium in Quartzsite, AZ in January 2010; and an article on a Rockhound that Teaches Fourth Grade Travels to Antarctica.

The AFMS visits each Federation every seven years as each Federation takes its turns to host the AFMS Convention. This year's convention was in Billings, MT and was hosted by the Northwest Federation. Next year, 2010 it will be in California, and EFMLS will be hosting the AFMS convention in 2011 in Syracuse, NY. Many of you will remember that the Gem and Mineral Society of Syracuse also hosted the AFMS/EFMLS convention back in 2004.

JOY BOURNE

EFMLS and AFMS Past President Joy Bourne had to miss our EFMLS Convention because she landed in the hospital for a few days. Seems she was walking in her garden when she stepped wrong and took quite a fall. She has a broken pelvis and a few cracked ribs along with a large "egg" on her head. She's at home now recovering and would certainly enjoy cheery cards.



JUNE CULP ZEITNER

February 7, 1916 – October 11, 2009

The “First Lady” of rockhounding has died at the age of 93 after a lengthy illness. Probably best known through her monthly articles in *Lapidary Journal* and *Rock and Gem Magazines*, June Culp Zeitner was also the author of ten books, the recipient of both the AFMS Recognition Award (2003) and Carnegie Mineralogical Award (2005), a frequent speaker at club shows and federation conventions and one of the best boosters for our hobby.



Born in Michigan, one of five girls, her father insisted that each receive a college education – something rare at that time. In 1937 she moved to Mission, SD where she began her career as an English teacher and later became superintendent of the local high school. It was in Mission that she met Albert Zeitner whom she married. Albert’s family owned a hardware store and natural history museum in Mission and June soon was “hooked”. Early in their marriage, the couple set off on a one-year cross-country trip to visit several collecting sites. That trip turned into a 30-year adventure during which they visited almost every locality. June turned her adventures into books (numerous “Gem Trails” volumes, *Gem and Mineral Materials for Cutters, Collectors and Jewelers*, etc.).

June also wrote a monthly column for *Lapidary Journal* in which she answered questions about the hobby from readers. Later she wrote articles about her adventures in *Rock & Gem Magazine*. Arthritis and failing health forced her to give up the monthly column about two years ago.

Indefatigable, she was instrumental in founding the State Stone Program, encouraging each state to adopt an official gem, mineral and fossil. She was responsible for heading up the AFMS 25th Anniversary Celebration at the Smithsonian and obtaining at least one polished cabochon from every state to display on a giant birthday cake. These were on display in the gem hall until the renovation in 1997. She was also honored as “The First Lady of Gems” in 1976 by the International Gem Show and crowned at the White House.

June’s idea of honoring notables in the hobby resulted in the establishment of the “Rockhound Hall of Fame”, now housed in Murdo, SD. Nominations from the rockhound community each year result in the selection of an individual to honor in the field of lapidary, minerals, fossils, metalcraft, education and tribute (deceased). June herself was inducted in 1992 for her work in education.

Much of June’s personal collection of rocks, gems and minerals is on display at the South Dakota School of Mines in Rapid City, SD, at the Black Hills Museum of Natural History and Black Hills Institute in Hill City, SD and at the Rockhound Hall of Fame in Murdo, SD.

On a personal note, June was a friend. I first met her at an AFMS Convention....I was editing this “rag” at the time and after seeing my name on my badge, came over to introduce herself and comment about the newsletter. Over the years we saw one another at succeeding conventions and in Tucson. In 2003 when the AFMS decided to create the Recognition Award, June was the overwhelming choice to receive the first one. June was not present when the award was presented, so Steve and I decided to drive home via Rapid City and present it to her personally. It was a very hot summer day and we had our dog with us. Knocking on her door, we had no idea if Barkley would be welcomed or not, but he was. When it was time to leave for lunch, June insisted that he remain in her home and was delighted to see him looking out the front window as he heard our car return. After that her phone calls always began with “and how’s my little dog?” She’ll be missed!

Contributions in June’s memory can be made to the AFMS Scholarship Foundation, % of Bob Livingston, 59 Ely Dr; Fayetteville, NY 13066-1001. Remember to mark your check “unrestricted” if you wish your contribution to go towards the challenge.

Carolyn Weinberger

ENDOWMENT DRAWING RESULTS

by Ellery Borow

Many thanks to all the clubs and individuals who participated in this year's Ways and Means Drawing benefiting the Eastern Foundation Fund. All of your generous participation made the drawing a rousing success! Many thanks should also be offered to the members of the Water-Oak Gem & Mineral Society for donating all of this year's prizes.

Winners, drawn at the EFMLS Awards banquet in Bristol, CT are:

Prize	Winner	Location
1. Watermelon Tourmaline Pendant	Chesapeake Gem & Mineral Society	Baltimore, MD
2. Herkimer Diamond Earrings	Phillip Daly	Parksville, KY
3. Wire-wrapped Ammonite Pendant	John Passaneau	State College, PA
4. Framed Picture Jasper	Kimberly Uhl	Boyertown, PA
5. 3-D Floral Painting	Michael Kessler	E. Stroudsburg, PA
6. Oco Geodes on Walnut Base	Koby Stange	Ludlow, MA
7. Mt. Ida Quartz Pendant	Staten Island Geological Society	Staten Island, NY
8. Double-sided Wood & Cabochon Pendant	Pat Pitkin	Mohrsville, PA
9. Double-sided Cabochon Pendant	Kristi Chumley	Harrodsburg, KY
10. Mystery Prize --- Hand Crafted Clock -- Brazilian Agate Slab framed with Butternut Wood.	Art Doyle	Orange, CT

2010 EFMLS WEBMASTER COMPETITION

by Dan Imel

OK boys and girls, its time to start planning for the 2nd annual Webmaster Competition. Last year we had six entries from the EFMLS, lets make sure we have a lot more this year!!! The Eastern Federation convention will be held in March 6-7 in Newark, DE, which means that the deadline for bulletin and article submissions for the 2010 contest will have to be January 1, 2010. Sorry for the short notice but the convention this year is exceptionally early.

Webmasters wishing to enter their web sites into the contest should download from the EFMLS Web site (www.amfed.org.efmls.afmswebmaster.htm), the following three forms: Contest Guidelines, the Entry Form, and the Score Sheet form. These are in PDF

format, and they can be opened with Adobe Acrobat Reader®. Free Acrobat Reader software, which is available at www.adobe.com/products/reader/.

To enter the contest, the webmaster needs to fill out the Entry Form completely (there are two pages) and fill out the information requested in the top part of the Score sheet. These forms can be filled-in on your computer and saved to your hard drive. Important: You need Acrobat Reader version 9 to be able to save the filled-in forms to your hard drive and to modify them later if necessary. See link above for FREE Acrobat 9 software to do this. Send the two completed forms as e-mail attachments to Dan Imel at lapidry@aol.com by the January 1st, 2010 deadline.

Special plea, if you are a current (or former) webmaster or are very Website savvy and do not plan to enter the competition, please help make the contest a success by volunteering a little of your time to act as a judge. Read the Guidelines to see what the judges will be looking for on the sites that they judge, and contact Phyllis George at pgeorge4@comcast.net to help this fledgling contest be an even bigger success in its second year.

Thank you all for your time and I hope to see your club entered in this year's competition.

AMAZING ENERGY!

by Carolyn Weinberger



The 2009 EFMLS Convention and Show are now a thing of the past. I think I speak for everyone attending in thanking the good folks of the Bristol Gem & Mineral Society for giving us a wonderful weekend.

The club show was terrific! For those of us who came from as far away as Florida, seeing dealers specializing in New England minerals was a rare treat. Many of us went home with new specimens for our collections and new jewelry and gems as well.

The enthusiasm of all the club members was infectious...they were everywhere doing everything! The smiles on the faces of all the volunteers was wonderful to see...you could easily tell that everyone was enjoying their tasks.

Every aspect of the convention was handled well -- from the "goody bags" that accompanied our badges to the favors on the tables at the banquet to the "convenience dinner" held between the cracker barrel and the annual meeting. The meal was home cooked by the club members and was delicious! I doubt if anyone went away hungry!

If there was a "down" side to the weekend it was the weather. Driving north on Thursday through light snow and seeing a forecast that called for more snow showers on Friday was a bit discouraging as many had hoped to be able to view the fall leaf colors in sunshine. It was cool and overcast throughout the weekend - not something the club could predict or change. Sunday, those who went to Roxbury for the field trip came back with lots of garnets and some mud as an extra souvenir.

EASTERN FOUNDATION FUND

by Fran Sick, EFF Chair

November begins a new fiscal year for the Eastern Federation, and I am looking forward to another good year for the Eastern Foundation Fund. However, before moving ahead I would like to take a few minutes to look back at the year just concluded.

One of the best parts of my job as EFF Chairman is having the honor of presenting certificates recognizing those clubs whose contributions have earned special notice. I have just returned from the 2009 EFMLS Convention in Bristol, Connecticut, where I was privileged to present certificates to the five clubs listed below who reached new milestones in their level of giving to the Eastern Foundation Fund.

Northeast Georgia Mineral Society
100%

Micromineralogists of the
National Capital Area
100%

Gem, Lapidary and Mineral Society
of Montgomery County, MD
200%

Che-Hanna Rock and Mineral Club
300%

New York Southern Tier
Geology Club
500%

But wait! As impressive as the generosity of these clubs is, it gets even better. Two of the clubs listed above, Che-Hanna Rock and Mineral Club and Gem, Lapidary and Mineral Society of Montgomery County, Maryland, also each reached a new 1000% level of giving, the second for each of them. Which means both of these clubs have had plates in their honor added for the second time to the Eastern Foundation Fund Roll of Honor plaque which is displayed at all EFMLS meetings and functions. Each of these clubs was also presented a certificate recognizing their new level of giving which can be permanently displayed by the clubs.

Many thanks to the clubs listed above and to all those who continue to support the Eastern Foundation Fund. As you can see, the 2008-09 fiscal year has been a good one. But there is still much room for improvement and with your support 2009-10 will be even better. I hope to be able to present even more certificates at the 2010 EFMLS Convention and together we can make it happen.



Please send all contributions to me at PO Box 5, Dushore, PA 18614

Those visiting the Connecticut Mining Museum in Kent saw a wonderful small gem of a teaching museum. Founder Jack Pawloski has expanded the museum considerably and is in the process of revamping several of the exhibits. The focus is on Connecticut minerals and mining and many wonderful specimens line the walls throughout the museum.

We certainly thank the Bristol Gem & Mineral Society for hosting the convention and giving us a wonderful experience.

Hats off...Bravo! We had a great time.

EDITORS' CONTEST RESULTS

by Natalie Darling, 2009 BEAC Chair

The Bulletin Editors' Advisory Committee is indebted to the 14 judges who volunteered their time and talents to make this year's contest a success through their thorough evaluations and helpful comments.

Mary Bateman, Arlington, VA

Steve Boylan, Lynchburg, VA

Sandra Childress, Richmond, VA

Katie Collins, Glastonbury, CT

Barbara Fenstermacher, Aiken, SC

Bill Gilbert, Richmond, VA

LaReene Heath, Mercerville, NJ

Dave Lines; LaPlata, MD

Fran Sick; Dushore, PA

Dee Tinsley; Amherst, VA

Thomas Tucker; Washington, VA

Carolyn Weinberger; Glyndon, MD

Steve Weinberger; Glyndon, MD

Dave Woolley; Lynchburg, VA

We had 15 clubs participate this year -- fewer than in recent years and we hope that this is not a trend that will continue. Entering the contest is a wonderful way for editors to get suggestions for improving their product and for authors to gain recognition for their hard work.

The results of the 2009 contest were announced during the EFMLS Convention at the "Breakfast with the Editors" in Bristol, CT on October 18. Congratulations to all who entered.

MINI BULLETINS

No submissions

SMALL BULLETINS

Trophy

Rock Buster News
Maxine Nicholas, Editor
Central Pennsylvania Rock
and Mineral Club

First Place Awards

Crack 'n cab
Loren Patterson, editor
Gem and Mineral Society of Syracuse

The Rockhounder
Wendell C. Mohr, Editor
Gem, Lapidary & Mineral
Society of Montgomery Co. MD

Second Place Award

The Mineral Mite
Georgia Olmstead, Editor
The Micromineralogists of
the National Capital Area

Third Place Award

The Collecting Bag
Alan McCleaf, Editor
Richmond Gem & Mineral Society

Fourth Place Award

Mineral Minutes
Georgia Olmstead, Editor
The Mineralogical Society
of the District of Columbia

Fifth Place Award

The Rostrum
Rick Smith, Editor
Maryland Geological Society

Sixth Place Award

Fossil Finder
Jim Patzer, Editor
American Fossil Federation

Large Bulletins

First Place Award

The Vug Examiner
Ed Mattson, Editor
Stamford Mineralogical Society

New Editors

First Place Award

Rocky Echoes
Janie Hand, Editor
Mississippi Gem & Mineral Society

Second Place Award

Rock Talk
Jessica Thomson, Editor
So. Maryland Rock & Mineral Club

Third Place Award

Star City Rock & Gem Journal
Kerry Barnett, Editor
Roanoke Valley Mineral & Gem Society

Fourth Place Award

Coral Geode
Tricia Lynn, Editor
Tampa Bay Mineral & Science Club

Original Educational Articles

Trophy

Bruce Hargreaves
"Belemnites of the Chesapeake"
The Rostrum
Maryland Geological Society

First Place Award

"The Faber Mine -- A Little Bit of
History and a Lot of Fun"
Dave Callahan
Gem & Mineral Journal
Lynchburg Gem & Mineral Society

Second Place Award

"Have a Successful Rock Trip"
Bob Davidson
Rock Talk
So. Maryland Rock & Mineral Club

"What is a Mineral?"

Erich Grundel
Mineral Minutes
Mineralogical Society of the
District of Columbia

Third Place Award

"The UV & You: Better Collecting Through
Technology (and sometimes bungee cords)"
Brandon Aldinger
Rock Buster News
Central PA Rock & Mineral Club

Fourth Place Award

"The Ultimate Micro Mineral Collector"
Erich Grundel
The Mineral Mite
Micromineralogists of the
National Capital Area

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Fifth Place Award
"The Blue Wing Mine, Granville County, NC
USA"
Rudolph J. Bland
The Collecting Bag
Richmond Gem & Mineral Society

Sixth Place Award
"Crystals and Fun are
Dug Up at Rucks Pit"
Tricia Lynn
Coral Geode
Tampa Bay Mineral & Science Club

Seventh Place Award
"Rock Swap Workshop"
Rudolph J. Bland
The Collecting Bag
Richmond Gem & Mineral Society

Eighth Place Awards
"Platinum and Platinum Alaska"
George Olmstead
The Mineral Mite
Micromineralogists of the
National Capital Area

"Some Musings About Language"
Reivan Zeleznik
The Yug Examiner
Stamford Mineralogical Society

Ninth Place Award
"A Flintknapper's Challenge"
Elmore Easter
The Yug Examiner
Stamford Mineralogical Society

Tenth Place Award
"Glass and Colors"
Edward Mattson
The Yug Examiner
Stamford Mineralogical Society

**Original Educational Articles
Advanced**

Trophy
Dr. Vivien Gornitz
"Mining The Deep Sea"
*Bulletin of the New York
Mineralogical Club*
New York Mineralogical Club

First Place Award
"Buckyballs - From Earth to Space"
Dr. Vivien Gornitz
*Bulletin of the New York
Mineralogical Club*
New York Mineralogical Club

Second Place Award
"Another Dinosaur Discovered
This Summer!"
Bob Davidson
Rock Talk
So. Maryland Rock & Mineral Club

Third Place Award
"Carbonate Minerals & Rocks Including Calc-
Silicate, Skarn & Carbonatite"
Dave Woolley
Gem & Mineral Journal
Gem & Mineral Society of Lynchburg

Fourth Place Award
"Sediments Into Sedimentary Rock"
Dave Woolley
Gem & Mineral Journal
Gem & Mineral Society of Lynchburg

Original Non-Technical Articles

Trophy
David Brand
"Why Micromounts"
*Bulletin of the New York
Mineralogical Club*
New York Mineralogical Club

First Place Award
"Can A Lake Be Dry?"
Mary Crosswhite
The Rockhounder
Gem, Lapidary & Mineral Society
of Montgomery Co. MD

Second Place Award
"It Came From Outer Space"
Erich Grundel
The Mineral Mite
Micromineralogists of the
National Capital Area

Third Place Award
"Cave Minerals You Can't Collect –
A Presentation by Tom Tucker"
Betty Thompson
Mineral Minutes
Mineralogical Society of the
District of Columbia

Fourth Place Awards
"If I Could Do My Collecting
Career Over"
Susan Fisher
Mineral Minutes
Mineralogical Society of the
District of Columbia

Fifth Place Award
"Kilauea's Current Eruptions: An Ocean Entry
and a Puzzling Plume"
Betty Thompson
Mineral Minutes
Mineralogical Society of the
District of Columbia

Sixth Place Award
"The Rockhound, The Frog, and the Plum"
Mary Crosswhite
The Rockhounder
Gem, Lapidary & Mineral Society
of Montgomery Co. MD

Seventh Place Award
"Hot Stuff (Tucson '08)"
Diana Jarrett
*Bulletin of the New York
Mineralogical Club*
New York Mineralogical Club

Eighth Place Award
"That's Just Chert"
Janie Hand
Rocky Echoes
Mississippi Gem & Mineral Society

Ninth Place Award
"President's Message (July)"
John Haskins
Gem & Mineral Journal
Gem & Mineral Society of Lynchburg

Tenth Place Award
"Singapore Star"
Kerry Barnett
Star City Rock & Gem Journal
Roanoke Valley Mineral & Gem Society

Honorable Mention
"MGS Field Trip To Calvert Cliffs"
Michael Hutchins
The Rostrum
Maryland Geological Society

"Mineral of the Meeting - Rhodochrosite"
Bob Farrar
The Rostrum
Maryland Geological Society

"Mineral of the Meeting - Spinel"
Bob Farrar
The Rostrum
Maryland Geological Society

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“Sometimes Rocks Silently Exit From View”
Don Kauffman
Rock Buster News
Central PA Rock and Mineral Club,

“Forever Amber; Tracing
Plant Bloodlines”
Don Kauffman
Rock Buster News
Central PA Rock and Mineral Club,

“Paleo Preserve Dedication Ceremony”
Tricia Lynn
Coral Geode
Tampa Bay Mineral & Science Club

“Calamine”
David Brand
Bulletin of the New York
Mineralogical Club
New York Mineralogical Club
“Yesterday”
Janie Hand
Rocky Echoes
Mississippi Gem & Mineral Society

“A Brief History of Mercury and
Cinnabar, Part 2”
Ramon Ramos
The Yug Examiner
Stamford Mineralogical Society

“A Brief History of Mercury and
Cinnabar, Part 3”
Ramon Ramos
The Yug Examiner
Stamford Mineralogical Society

“Program Review: Collecting Safely”
Andy Dietz
The Collecting Bag
Richmond Gem & Mineral Society

“Rocks From Space- A Book Review”
Jeff Taylor
The Collecting Bag
Richmond Gem & Mineral Society

“Program Review: Dinosaur and other Ver-
tebrate Remains from the Lower cretaceous
Patuxent Formation of VA”
Andy Dietz & Sandra Childress
The Collecting Bag
Richmond Gem & Mineral Society

“Ya Ain't Dead Til Yer Dead”
Erich Grundel
The Mineral Mite
The Micromineralogists of the
National Capital Area

“Sink or Swim- It's Show Time!”
Bob Livingston
Crack 'N Cab
Gem & Mineral Society of Syracuse

“Presidents Message (March)”
John Haskins
Gem & Mineral Journal
Gem and Mineral Society of Lynchburg

“JMU Field Trip Report”
Dave Lines
Gem & Mineral Journal
Gem and Mineral Society of Lynchburg
“October Birthstone: Tourmaline”
Lorna Larson
Rock Talk
Southern Maryland Rock and Mineral Club

Written Features

Trophy
Jane Owen
“This is My Quest”
The Collecting Bag
Richmond Gem & Mineral Society

First Place Awards
“Web Sites Spy on These”
Wendell Mohr
The Rockhounder
Gem, Lapidary & Mineral Society of
Montgomery Co., Maryland

“Presidents Message
(Review of “Water” Exhibit at the AMNH)”
Anna Schumate
Bulletin of the New York Mineralogical Club
New York Mineralogical Club

Second Place Award
“Past And Current Members of the Central
Pennsylvania Rock and Mineral Club”
Edwin Charles
Rock Buster News
Central PA Rock and Mineral Club

Third Place Award
“How Geology Got on Track”
Andy Thompson
Mineral Minutes
Mineralogical Society of the
District of Columbia

Fourth Place Award
“Hokie Stones”
Mitch Portnoy
Bulletin of the New York Mineralogical Club
New York Mineralogical Club

Fifth Place Award
“No Pain, No Gain: A Chestnut Ridge Trip
Report”
Dave Lines
Collecting Bag
Richmond Gem & Mineral Society

Sixth Place Awards
“Very Thin Books”
Mitch Portnoy
Bulletin of the New York Mineralogical Club
New York Mineralogical Club

“Presidents Message (May)”
Mark Dahlman
The Rockhounder
Gem, Lapidary and Mineral Society of
Montgomery Co., MD

Seventh Place Award
“A Journey To Okalahoma”
Brady Hamilton
The Rostrum
Maryland Geological Society

Eighth Place Award
“International Year of the Planet”
Carolyn Rebbert
The Yug Examiner
Stamford Mineralogical Society

Ninth Place Awards
“Where Has the Time Gone?”
George Powell, Jr.
Fossil Finder
American Fossil Federation
“Visiting Dinosaurs In Spain”
Bill Gilbert
Gem and Mineral Journal
Gem and Mineral Society of Lynchburg,

Tenth Place Award
“This and That Menu”
Nancy Mattson
The Yug Examiner
Stamford Mineralogical Society

Honorable Mention
“Future Fossil of the Month- Jeff Sparks”
Christine Eddy
The Rostrum
Maryland Geological Society

“Wyoming Fossil Odyssey”
Michael Hutchins
The Rostrum
Maryland Geological Society

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“Be ‘Patient’ or ‘A Patient’”

Dave Lines
Rock Talk

Southern Maryland Rock and Mineral Club

“Dr. George Washington Carver:
Mineral Collector”

Erich Grundel
Mineral Minutes

Mineralogical Society of the
District of Columbia

“No Worries About Forest Fires Here”

Jim Patzer
Fossil Finder

American Fossil Federation

“Calvert Cliffs Notes”

Ann Fitzgerald
Crack ‘N Cab

Gem & Mineral Society of Syracuse

“Calvert Cliffs Field Trip to Chesapeake Bay”

Loren Patterson
Crack ‘N Cab

Gem & Mineral Society of Syracuse

“My Passion For Malachite”

Keith Gilmer
Crack ‘N Cab

Gem & Mineral Society of Syracuse

“Is Mineralogy Dead?”

Reivan Zeleznik
The Vug Examiner

Stamford Mineralogical Society

“Searching For Herkimer Diamonds”

Scott Germain
Collecting Bag

Richmond Gem & Mineral Society

“South Africa, A Land of Crafts
as Well as Animals”

Richard Meszler
Gem Cutters News

Gem Cutters Guild of Baltimore

“Presidents Message (Nov)”

Mark Dahlman
The Rockhounder

Gem, Lapidary and Mineral Society
of Montgomery Co., MD

“MNCA Happenings”

Georgia Olmstead
The Mineral Mite

Micromineralogists of the National Capital Area

“Remembering Sue Dhyse”

Cynthia Payne
Mineral Minutes

Mineralogical Society of the
District of Columbia

Our Kentucky Trip- Same Trip, Different Adventures

Dee Tinsley

Gem and Mineral Journal

Gem and Mineral Society of Lynchburg, VA, Inc.

The Rock King and I

Kathy McGlothlin

Gem and Mineral Journal

Gem and Mineral Society of Lynchburg, VA, Inc.

Drawn Features

No Submissions

Junior Articles

Trophy

Morgan Graham

“Pizza Blast For Juniors”

Rocky Echoes

Mississippi Gem & Mineral Society

First Place Award

“Petrified Wood”

Jason Hodge

The Vug Examiner

Stamford Mineralogical Society

Editor Ed Matson of the Stamford Mineralogical Society with one of the numerous awards won by his contributors and himself. →



VP Betsy Oberheim received the trophy for her poem “False Clues”

Second Place Award

“Ammonite Facts”

Jordan Tinsley

Gem and Mineral Journal

The Gem and Mineral Society of Lynchburg

Third Place Award

“The Virginia State Fossil”

Geoffrey Murphy

Gem and Mineral Journal

The Gem and Mineral Society of Lynchburg

Poetry

Trophy

Betsy Oberheim

“False Clues”

Rock Buster News

Central Pennsylvania Rock and Mineral Club

First Place Award

“No Cure”

Betsy Oberheim

Rock Buster News

Central Pennsylvania Rock and Mineral Club, Inc

Second Place Award

“The Collecting Cycle”

Betty Thompson

Mineral Minutes

Mineralogical Society of the

District of Columbia

Third Place Award

“A Tale of the Morefield Mine
on Christmas Eve Eve Eve”

Dave Lines

Rock Talk

Southern Maryland Rock and Mineral Club



Loren Patterson with his first place award for “Crack & Cab”

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To be appointed

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To be appointed

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To be appointed

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<WWW.AMFED.ORG/EFMLS>

VISIT A SHOW

from Matt Charsky

October:

31: 20th "Ultraviolation" Fluorescent Mineral Show sponsored by the Rock & Mineral Club of Lower Bucks Co. First United Methodist Church, Fairless Hills, PA.

November:

7 – 8: 49th Gemarama, 2009, "Gems of Myth, Legend & Lore" sponsored by the Tuscarora Lapidary Society. The School at Church Farm, nr. Frazier, PA

7 – 8: Annual Gem, Mineral, Jewelry & Fossil Show sponsored by the Stamford Mineralogical Society. Eastern Greenwich Civic Center, 90 Harding Rd; Greenwich, CT.

21-22: 43rd Annual Gem, Jewelry, Mineral & Fossil Show sponsored by the Gem & Mineral Society of the Palm Beaches. So. Florida Fairgrounds, West Palm Beach, FL.

February:

20-21: 7th Annual James Campbell Memorial Gem, Mineral & Fossil Show and Sale co-sponsored by the Capital District Mineral Club and the NY State Academy of Mineralogy. Museum of the Empire Plaza, 4th Floor, Albany, NY.

March:

6 – 7: Annual Gem & Mineral Show and 60th Annual EFMLS Convention hosted by the Delaware Mineralogical Society. Delaware Technical College, Rts 58 & 7, Stanton, DE.

*EFMLS Annual Meeting
Friday, March 5.*

19-20: 40th Annual Unifour Gem, Mineral, Fossil & Jewelry Show sponsored by the Catawba Valley Gem & Mineral Club. Metro Convention Center, Hickory, NC.

26-28: 37th Annual Atlantic Micro-mounters Conference hosted by the Micromineralogists of the National Capital Area. MHA Conference Center, Elkridge, MD. Registration & Info: S.Weinberger, <cscrystals2@verizon.net>.

27-28: 38th Annual Gem & Mineral Show sponsored by the Island Rockhounds. Holy Family School, 25 Fordam Av; Hicksville, NY.

27-28: 41st Annual Che-Hanna Rock & Mineral Club Show sponsored by the Che-Hanna Rock & Mineral Club. Athens Twp. Volunteer Fire Hall, Sayre, PA

April:

10-11: 41st Annual New York Southern Tier Geology Club Show sponsored by the Southern Tier Geology Club. Johnson City Senior Citizen Center, Johnson City, NY

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>.