It's Eastern up at Bat July 7 thru 11

That's right, back in April '03 the eyes of the country were on the Syracuse Orangemen as they fought hard and won the NCAA title. Lots of pride in town ever since with that #1 trophy.

The pendulum swings the maximum as the big event in our hobby shifts from California to New York. Next July, the focus once again will be on Syracuse, site of the big 2004 combined American Federation / Eastern Federation annual convention and show. It is incredible, but until now this event has never been in the State of New York. What a shame since the Finger Lakes vacation area has so much to offer.

In these pages over the next 4 months we will give you the skinny on everything we can squeeze in to the big event we are calling "The Splendor of Quartz"—after all, these coveted Herkimer's are only a little over an hour down the road.

The meetings and food events will be at the Headquarters Hotel, The Ramada Inn on Buckley Road in Syracuse, NY (Exit 36 off New York Thruway, I-90) where we are holding a large block of rooms. The special rate is $89 per day and includes a cooked to order breakfast. When registering, merely mention that you are with the American or Eastern Federation convention.

Phone number is (315) 457-8670 or www.RamadaSyracuse.com. Hotel rooms and restaurant were renovated in 2003. Other hotels are available in the area - you can go to the www.AmFed.org/EFMLS for that information and you can download all the information and forms you'll need if you want to get a jump on reservations.

For your planning purposes, the American Federation meeting is Thursday July 8 at 9 am, the Eastern Federation meeting is Saturday July 10 at 9 am, the Awards dinner is Saturday night July 10 and the Editors' breakfast is Sunday July 11 at 8 am. The show opens at 10 am each day beginning Friday July 9. Closing time is 6 pm on Friday and Saturday. Sunday the 11th, the show closes at 4 pm.

There will be daily lectures plus a fund raising auction for Eastern at 2 pm on Saturday, July 10. The show is air-conditioned and will include 50+ retail dealers and 11 wholesalers. It will be located in the huge Center of Progress Building at the New York State Fairgrounds in Syracuse, Exit 7 off I-690.

For kids there will be sluice mining, operating model are trains, straw-draw chances and hopefully soapstone carving. We have geared up for over 100 educational displays and look to clubs and individuals around the country to share your wonderful creations, mineral specimens and fossils for everyone to enjoy.

Next month we will tell you why you should not miss this exciting show and convention in an area of the country new to many of you. We will also let you in on more of what you can expect to find here at the show and the beautiful surrounding country side. Meantime, dig around and decide what it is that you will bring to show off for your club and/or yourself to share for the benefit of all. Look forward to seeing you in Syracuse "Orange country" in July.

The splendor of Quartz

2004
Good Morning.

from Mare Starbuck, AFMS President

This is going to sound like a broken record...but COMMUNICATIONS ARE VERY IMPORTANT. One of the major problems with communications is...PEOPLE DON’T (WON’T) READ. It’s amazing how many times people ask, "When is the next meeting?" "What is the program?" "Where is the next field trip?" And the answer is always, "It was in your newsletter." "Oh, I didn’t read it."

It is a common problem in most clubs, and is very frustrating. Editors put in a lot of time and effort to keep you informed on what is going on, and when. Another question heard on a regular basis is, "Just what does the AFMS do for us?" It sends you a newsletter every month (nine in July or August, and December/January are combined), keeping you abreast of what is happening. As I pointed out in my last message, It is up to each club to get the names of their newly (current) elected officers to the AFMS Central Office, so you will be placed on the mailing list, so you will receive the AFMS Newsletter. If someone in your club is receiving the AFMS News, and knows that their club is not, please pass this information along. If you haven’t contacted the Central Office with this information, you will NOT receive this newsletter, because they have no idea who you are, or where you live. Once you have passed this information along to Lewis Elrod at the Central Office, he will put you on the mailing list. If you start receiving the AFMS Newsletter, but you take the time to read it, you will very quickly learn what the AFMS does for you.

Each year, clubs are encouraged to enter the ALL AMERICAN AWARD...this is an easy way to keep a history of what your club has done, and what it is doing. If you haven’t received the form in your regional newsletter, you will find it in the December/January issue of the AFMS Newsletter...that is if you have sent in your listing of your new officers, so you will receive the AFMS News.

Every person that is listed as the person to receive the Regional/AFMS News, needs to make an effort to communicate with all information that comes to them through the above mentioned newsletters. It is very heart warming to pick up an exchange bulletin and read...Copies of the AFMS Newsletter, and your Regional Newsletter are on the table, please take time to look at them. There is only one problem...I DO NOT READ THIS IN ENOUGH EXCHANGE BULLETINS!

Read your Regional Federation Newsletter and the AFMS Newsletter, pass the information along to your club members, so they know what is happening in their Regional Federation, and also the American. Let’s everyone make this a priority on your "New Year’s Resolution List"!!! Please read, read, read!!!

And now, I have to get back to reading exchange bulletins...HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Mare

Another Year
from Bill Smith, AFMS President-elect

At the beginning of each year I like to take a look back at what we have accomplished last year and start planning our schedule for the year.

Last year brought a major surprise, actually it was a shock, when I was nominated and elected President Elect of the AFMS. The honor took place at the CFMS/AFMS show in Ventura which was our first visit to a California Federation show. We certainly enjoyed meeting and associating with so many motivated people and being involved in another super show. Very interesting weather with the Ventura June Gloom, but we did spend a day in the Sierra Madre Mountains in full sunshine and 80 degree temperature. We also displayed in the Gray’s Harbor, Port Townsend and NFMS Washington shows.

The year started on a high note when in March I found two new species of fossils in the Clliam Formation in Northwest Washington. Also spent the month of July in Alaska where we collected super ammonites, crystal vugs, crystals, jasper, agate, and petrified wood in the Talkeetna Mountains. Many miles of hiking, packing and fun with our daughter and family. Even lost 20 pounds and I still haven’t found it. We also finished an abisian butterfly case and displayed it at the NFMS show.

We have started planning this year with our major focus on the combined EFMLS/AFMS show at Syracuse, NY. This will be our first Eastern show and we are looking forward to meeting many new friends. Will also spend some time visiting old friends up and down the east coast. Some we haven’t seen in years. Also plan to attend several of the other Federation shows.

Hope you are filling in your schedule for the year and that we are able to meet you at one of the shows. Until next time,
**Having Fun - Junior Activities**

**Implementing a Program of Planned Activities**

by Innaym-Hzont

My message this month is short and sweet. Throughout 2003, I outlined a series of activities as part of a proposal for a "merit badge" sort of program for kids and teens enrolled in the AFMS Future Rockhounds of America. At the year drew to a close, I sent the complete list of activities and my thoughts on such a program to all FRA leaders and to officers within the AFMS, seeking comments, suggestions, additional activities to consider, improvements on the plan I've proposed, and so forth. I've already received several thoughtful and very helpful responses, for which I am very grateful. Thank you to all those who responded so positively! I encourage any FRA leaders who have not yet responded to send your suggestions with the start of the new year. 2004 is the year I hope to finalize details and begin implementing the program, and it's not too late to contribute your ideas. Any and all are welcomed and valued.

[Ed. Note: Please note Jim's new e-mail address: jbraceth@adelphia.net]

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**Club Rockhound of the Year**

from Ronnie Glimann

**Eastern Federation**

**Mitchell Portnoy** of the New York Mineralological Club has been nominated as the AFMS Club Rockhound of the Year. You probably recognize Mitch's name. He has been NYMCC president for the past 2 terms and Bulletin Editor for nearly 10 years. During Mitch's term as president, we started for the first time ever, a junior group, called the Tournamiral Trap. Mitch has also worked tirelessly each year to crest, Tony Nikischer of Excalibur Minerals to organize and host the New York Gem and Mineral Show. At our annual banquet in November, he prepares special awards to recognize members' contributions during the year. He organizes games and activities for the banquet and catalogs the lots for the annual auction. This year, I hope to see Mitch Portnoy become Rockhound of the Year submitted by Anna Schumate, President

**South Central Federation**

**Cary and Betsy Goger** have worked as a team in Austin Gem and Mineral Society activities since they moved to Austin from Houston. They have been active in the Beading Group and the Fluorescent Group. Betsy served a term as refreshment Chair, and Cary was one of the long sufferers on the rewriting of the Crockett Center. But, Betsy's real strength has come out as the Publicity Chair for the AGMS Show Committee. Her hard work and dedication have really bolstered the Gem Coper's notoriety by getting publicity in new venues and by developing effective advertising with our limited funds. In this Betsy and Cary have been invaluable to the Austin Gem and Mineral Society. submitted by George Browne

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**It's That Time of Year Again**

from Mike Kokosko, AFMS Tax Advisor

Are you exempt from federal income tax under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code? If so, you will want to order two new publications developed by the Service. Publication 4220 and 4221 provide excellent information from applying for exemption to annual reporting requirements and retention periods for all types of records.

Don't forget if you are on a calendar year the Form 990 or Form 990EZ are due May 15. The form(s) do not need to be filed if gross receipts are less than $25,000. A tax exempt organization must file if the Service mails Form 990 or 990EZ to the organization whether or not gross receipts are less than $25,000.

Keep up to date by viewing the Internal Revenue Service and your Department of Revenue websites periodically. If a society is subject to a state charitable trust division, check their site as well. The Charitable Trust Division is most likely under a state's Attorney General.

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**In Passing**

from Carolyn Weinberger

We note with sadness the passing of two members of the Dare Devil Facetters - Cliff Jackson and Carl Unruh. The time and talent contributed by these men in cutting not only the very largest, dramatic and unusual stones, but also wonderful stones for jewelry, helped raise several thousands of dollars for the AFMS Scholarship Foundation via annual auctions of their contributions held by the Northwest Federation at their annual conventions.

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**Scholarship Foundation News**

from Dee Holland

Welcome to the New Year. We'd like to introduce you to the hardworking people from each regional federation who collect the money from their club members and forward it to the AFMS Scholarship Foundation's Treasurer, Arlene Burkhalter. Your club contribution should be sent to your regional federation coordinator as listed below.

**California:**
Montella Lopez
676 Heritage Place, San Jose, CA 95134

**Eastern:**
Bob Livingston
59 Ely Dr., Fayetteville, NY 13066

**Midwest:**
Nellie Claxton
1001 Wilshire Dr. Mt. Vernon, IL 62864

**Northwest:**
Toby Cozens
4401 SW Hill St. Seattle, WA 98116

**Rocky Mountain:**
Sandy Comedy
2313 Box 7, Ringer, OK 73009

**South Central:**
Jonathan Moehring
2835 Grandview Dr.
Grande Prairie, TX 75052

The Regional Directors of the Foundation are:

California: Lois Allmen & Marion Roberts
Eastern: Matt Charsky & Carl Miller
Northwest: Chris Bickfield & Jack Edwards
Midwest: Alan Hukill & John Washburn
Rocky Mt: Judy Beck & Richard Jaeger
South Central: Keith Harmon & Bill Alcorn

The Foundation Officers are:

Dee Holland, President
Marve Starback, Vice President
Ruth Bailey, Secretary
Arlene Burkhalter, Treasurer

You can reach me at:
holland@salmoninternet.com and
shirleyleeson@email.msn.com
Please use both emails in order to reach me.

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**Club Officer Info Needed**

from Lewis Eldred

Has your club elected new officers? If so, now is the time for you to send us the name and address of your club president, secretary and editor so we can update the AFMS mailing list and be certain the the correct people in your club receive the AFMS Newsletter.

Send your club information to:
Lewis Eldred
AFMS Central Office
2706 Lascaux Pike
Murfreesboro, TN 37130-1541
<central_office@afms.org>

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AFMS Newsletter - February, 2004
I received a letter a while back from a competitor in lapidary. He wrote that he had competed in a show and lost a lot of points in showmanship because the judge said that he should have his cabbing standing up. The next competition the judge downgraded his showmanship because this group of judges said that they should all be laying down. The man's question was what did the say about how cabs should be displayed and where could he find it in writing.

Well, he won't find it in writing, at least not in an official AFMS publication. I know of a group in one of the regional federations that is attempting to make it mandatory that cabs be standing. In their group if they want that then that is fine but if they are judging a case that is not from their group then it should be judged according to the rules of the AFMS unless it is spelled out ahead of time that different rules are being used. In that case then eligibility for AFMS trophies cannot be gained.

A judge cannot let personal prejudice affect his/her judging. A judge can't take points away if the cab is standing and the judge thinks they should be laying down. The judge can make a note that in her/his opinion they would look better laying down but no points deducted. If the position of some of the cabs is such that labels are hidden or other cabs cannot be seen then the judge may take away points but not just because they are not set in the case the way the judge would do it.

As mentioned before judging showmanship is very subjective but the rule book would be about ten times as thick as it is now if there was an attempt to set specific point deductions for each and every possible error that might be made and then there would be many that still would not be in the book.

It behooves the judge to be fair and when points are deducted they should be explained. Don't let personal prejudices set your judging criteria.

That will do for this month, remember that I will try to answer any of your questions about the rules and judging that I can. If I don't know the answer I probably know who does.

B. Joy Bowman
AFMS Uniform Rules Chair
5788 Bowman Road
Ponca City, OK 74604
980-765-5854
bjoy@pcwan.net

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**An Invitation From The Eastern Federation**

from Esther Dunn

Wildacres! Just the name inspires all kinds of visions doesn’t it?

Wildacres is the name of a private, non-profit retreat in the mountains of North Carolina which opens its doors to groups such as the Eastern and Southeastern Federations so they can hold workshops designed to better mankind. Other groups using the facility include writers, painters, musicians, youth and leadership groups.

The Wildacres facility is located on a private mountain just off the Blue Ridge Parkway in the community of Little Switzerland, NC (near Asheville). Lodging is in two buildings each containing private "motel type" rooms with private baths. There is also a large auditorium, meeting rooms and classrooms. Meals are taken family style in the main lodge and separate sessions at Wildacres is a way of getting away from it all - there are no TVs, or radios, loud noises from passing vehicles etc.

The Eastern Federation would like to invite you to join members of EFMLS clubs at one of its sessions this year. The cost is $280 per person for a week of fun and learning.

Each session features a selection of classes to attend plus a guest speaker. The first 2004 session, June 26 - July 2, will feature Bob Jones, Sr. Editor of Rock & Gem Magazine. We know he'll have lots to tell us about his recent trips plus inside information about organizing the 2004 Tucson Gem & Mineral Show which has gold as its theme. AND...this session ends just a few days before the AFMS Convention in Syracuse, NY so it's a perfect stop along the way. This portion of the East Coast is just lovely as is the New York area around Syracuse so if you attend Wildacres, you will have time to explore the area before the Convention begins.

The second Wildacres session will be held September 20 - 26, 2004 and will feature Dr. Steve Chamberlain as the speaker. Steve is a man of eclectic interests and talents - he has one of the largest New York mineral collections, much self-collected; has collected in the Pacific Trench aboard the Alvin; writes opera; raises hostas; teaches at the Univ. of Syracuse and much more. He was selected to the National Rockhound and Lapidary Hall of Fame in 2002 so you know he has made enormous contributions to our hobby.

There are talks by our featured speaker most days. Other activities include a variety of hobby related classes (silversmithing, micromounting, faceting, wire-wrapping, judging, etc.) plus an auction and a night of fun. There is also enough time to relax on the porches or patios in one of the famous Wildacres rocking chairs or socialize in the indoor canteen area.

Interested in attending? Members of regional federations other than EFMLS are welcome on a space available basis.

A list of classes being offered plus an application can be obtained via the EFMLS website <www.amfed.org/efmls> or by writing Registrar Debbie Bord, 8085 Old 126, Warfordsburg, PA 17267-8047.

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**Announcing: The 2004 AFMS Endowment Fund Raffle**

from Joy Bourne

It's not too early to start thinking about the annual AFMS Fund-Raiser which will be taking place from now until the 2004 combined AFMS/EFMLS Convention at Syracuse, NY next July. Already, we have received information about some of the items which have been promised for the annual Endowment Fund Raffle, and couldn't wait to let you know about them.

We are delighted to report that AFMS President Marve Starbuck is presently creating a very special gem tree, with "blossoms" of opal adorning its branches. Many of you are already acquainted with Marve's beautiful award winning work and will truly appreciate all the effort he puts into creating his projects.

Our 2003 EFMLS Citation Award winner, and master craftsman, B. Joy Bowman will be creating another of his beautifully engraved glass pieces, especially for this year's showcase. He's not sure yet if it will be a vase or a pitcher, but anyone who has ever seen one of his beautiful creations will surely want to be in on the drawing for this prize.

We have also received word from Marc Wil-son, Head of the Section of Minerals at the Carnegie Museum of Natural History in Pittsburgh, that he will be selecting a mineral specimen from the Carnegie collection for us to offer as yet another fabulous prize. How's that for starters?

We'll be keeping you informed of more prize donations as we receive them, and will have pictures posted on the website as soon as we have them. Of course, we invite contributions from members of all the regional federations — we will be happy to add the products of your special talents to our list. The more items we have, the greater the returned benefits for all of us in the American Federation.

Tickets will be available at the AFMS/EFMLS show at the New York State Fairgrounds in Syra-cuse, July 9 - 11, 2004. If anyone wishes to pur chase advance sale tickets before the conven tion, just contact me by mail at RR #1, Box 1594, Towanda, PA 18848, or email me at csprings@epix.net.

We'll be happy to mail them out to you upon receipt of your check.
Nominations for the 2004 AFMS/EFMLS Convention from Cathy and Bruce Gaber

Did you go to the 1967 convention in Washington, DC? Did you contribute a stone to the First Ladies Brooch? Did you take photos or save any memorabilia?

We missed this momentous event, but it was hosted by two of our clubs, and we are trying, belatedly, to collect as much information as we can about it. Anything about the show, the exhibits, the people, no detail is too small to be appreciated. We welcome your remembrances, your photos, reports in your club or federation newsletters, etc. We can scan and return photos to you or you could send them to us as jogs. Documents can be mailed or e-mailed. If anyone has home movies from the show, please also contact us.

Thank you!
Bruce and Cathy Gaber
5707 Northfield Rd.
Bethesda, MD 20817-6737
rbg@his.com

Regional Federation Shows from Mary Tammell

Combined California
May 28–30, 2004
Marpiso, California

Eastern Federation / AFMS
July 7–11, 2004
Syracuse, New York

Midwest
April 23–25, 2004
Cedar Rapids, Iowa

Northwest
July 23–25, 2004
Boise, Idaho

Rocky Mountain
April 23–25, 2004
Wichita, Kansas

South Central
September 24–26, 2004
Houston, Texas

Southeast
November 28–30, 2003
Roanoke, Virginia

AFMS Newsletter - February, 2004

NOMINATE A WINNER

This is your chance to put your mentor in the National Rockhound and Lapidary Hall of Fame. Your nominees know people who have been of exceptional help and inspiration in the earth sciences and lapidary arts. They are top mineral collectors, experts in lapidary, original jewelry artists, dedicated fossill specialists, enthusiastic writers, speakers, and teachers in the fifth category of the National Rockhound and Lapidary Hall of Fame - education. Although the purpose of the Hall of Fame is to honor those who have made important contributions in promoting and advancing various branches of our hobby, we sadly added a sixth class, deceased, for those special benefactors who were not nominated and elected in time to know how much they were appreciated. Underlined are the six divisions.

Your nominees need not be federation or club members and need not be amateurs, although most professionals who have used their time and expertise to help amateurs are amateurs themselves in the true sense of the word, and they possess a love of their chosen field.

If nominees are federation members they can be from any of the seven AFMS regional federations. They should have participated in the field of Minerals, Lapidary, Jewelry, Fossils or Education for at least 15 years and should have been helpful to many clubs and individuals. Your club may make a single nomination or up to six nominations (one for each category). We need you to write at least 200 words about each nominee, telling mostly about their achievements, how they have helped amateurs, their participation in our shows, classes, etc., including articles, books, lectures, offices, awards, volunteer work, or donations to museums and anything else to enrich our hobby. Send your nominations to me by March 5, 2004.

Final choices are made according to the information we receive and the knowledge of the board of seven who come from all parts of the country and have been active in the federations for long enough to know most of the high attainers. Added together the involvement of these seven with the many facets of earth science and lapidary totals over 300 years!

Inductees get Hall of Fame pins, certificates, pictures on the Hall of Fame wall in Murdo, SD, their names engraved in bronze on a walnut plaque, lifetime passes to the Hall of Fame and biographies in the Hall of Fame archives. A recent Florida winner was completely surprised when his club had a surprise party to honor him, complete with a local television crew on hand to report the event!

In 1987, the first year for the Hall of Fame, 26 people were chosen from a list of outstanding leaders of the past. Peter Zoda, Russell MacFar, David and Kay Jensen, Joseph Lizardera, George Kunz, Sharr Cochete, A.E. Foote, Richard Pearl, Henry Graves, and Leland Quick were among them.

In the following years, some of the inductees were:
Top Jewelry artists include - Doris Kemp, Jerry Harr, James Fowler, James Kaufman, Kevin Lane Smith, Larry Richey, and Tim McCrae.
Fossil luminaries in the Hall of Fame include Roger Fabian, Allen Grossham, Robert Bakker, William Alloway, Roger Van Oeter, Neal Larson and Frank Garcia.

Very important in the Education division are John Sinkankas, Russell Kemp, Panoy Kraus, Jim Strain, Glenn and Dorothy Lee, Theodore Fredericks, and Joel Arem.

Tragedies to departed leaders include Robert Harrell, Thomas Jones, Joe Phetreplace, Antonio Bonnana, Dr. H.H. Nininger, Helen and Richard Rice, and Quinny Howell.

The 2002 inductees were Jay Lining (Minerals), B. Jay Bowman (Lapidary), West Lingerfelt (Jewelry), John Moffitt (Fossils), Don and Lee Kendall (Education) and Benjamin Chromy (Deceased).

2003 saw the induction of Dr. Steve Chamberlain (Minerals), Helen Serras-Herman (Lapidary), Tom Horman (Jewelry), Terry Wenz (Fossils), Katharina Stute (Education) and ora Steward (Deceased).

The California, Eastern and Midwest Federations are tied in the number of successful nominations and the Rocky Mountain Federation is a close runner-up. States with the most Hall of Famers are California, Colorado, Oregon, Wisconsin and the Washington, DC area. This is not counting the 26 chosen in 1987 or the deceased honorers.

The National Rockhound & Lapidary Hall of Fame is incorporated as a 501(C)(3) non-profit educational organization. There are no paid officers. The work has been accomplished through donations of time and money. The headquarters are in the Pioneer Museum of Murdo, SD, just off I-90. Maxine Wilson, long time mineral collector, serves as curator. The website for the Hall of Fame is www.rockhoundhalloffame.org.

This is the 17th year of the Hall of Fame. Please think of who you feel should be added and send your individual or club nominations to us before March 5, 2004. Be sure to include the name of the person we should contact if your nominee is selected as one of the 2004 inductees.

We need the name and address of every nominee, but if the club wants to keep a winner's name and secret and announce it at a special meeting we can send the inductee's packet to the club if requested.

Nominations should be mailed to June Culpe Zetner, 5203 S Canyon Rd, Rapid City, SD 57702 no later than March 5, 2004. We look forward to hearing from you and your club members.
2004 AFMS Committee Chairs

AFMS Club Rockhound of the Year
Bonnie Glismann
<bonnie@bluehost.com>

AFMS Newsletter Committee
Carolyn Weinberger
<editor@afms.org>

AFMS Boundaries Committee
<Brownrigg@aol.com>

Bulletin Editor Hall of Fame
Shirley Leeson
<shirley@msn.com>

Bylaws Revisory Committee
Steve Weinberger
<editor@afms.org>

AFMS Central Office
Lewis F. Eldred, CPE
2706 Lastasadas Drive, Murfreesboro, TN 37130
(615) 893-8270 <central_office@afms.org>

Club Publications Committee
<president@afms.org>

Commemorative Stump Committee
Wendell Mohr
<mohr@afms.org>

Conservation & Legislation
George Loud
<goud@msn.com>

Education-All American Committee
Alan Huikle
<bruce@afms.org>

Endowment Fund
Joy Bourne
<cbourne@epix.net>

Financial Investment Committee
Dee Holland - Chair
<holland@salmoninformation.com>

Historian Committee
Shirley Leeson
<shirley@msn.com>

International Relations Committee
Bill & Janet Smith
<see President Elect, page 2>

Junior Programs Committee
Jim Brevet-Thompson
<jbravet@adelphia.net>

Lewis & Clark Committee (ad hoc)
<MissAgate@aol.com>

Long Range Planning Committee
<rrcarmeli@evolph.net>

Name Badge Committee
<rockyfiv@aol.com>

Nominating Committee
Ron Carman
See Long Range Planning

Parliamentarian
Ruth Bailey
<brubak825@aol.com>

Past President's Advisory Committee
Ron Carman
See Long Range Planning

Photography Committee
Barbara Sky

Program Competition Committee
Marge Collins
<brubak825@aol.com>

Public Relations Committee
Barbara Penfotmacher
<college2@bellsouth.net>

Safety Committee
William (Bill) Buckner

Show Consultant
Mary Trammell
<trammell@our-town.com>

Supply & Publications
Jim Harbut
<jharbut@vanion.com>

Uniform Rules Committee
B. Joy Bowman
<brubak825@aol.com>

Uniform Rules Judges Certification (ad hoc)
Dee Holland
See Financial Investment

Eligibility Files
Anne Cook
See AFMS Secretary

Ways & Means Committee
Issabella "Izzy" Burns
<isnbil@aol.com>

Website/Webmaster Committee
Marty Hart
<webmaster@afms.org>

Scholarship Foundation Committee
Dee Holland
See Financial Investment Committee

Looking Ahead

From Kitty Starbuck

I realize that it's a bit early to be thinking about which club newsletter issues you will enter in your Regional Federation Bulletin Contest for 2004, but it's not too early to start thinking about the articles that you will have to chose from when you do send your entries in later this year.

Seems like it was only yesterday that I was writing a similar letter...and this time comes around faster and faster every year.

I hope you have been encouraging your Juniors to write, write, write this year...I know, some of your former Juniors have moved on, but there are younger ones taking their place. When Juniors that have not written or entered the contest see the articles, and the trophies that their friends have won, I hope it encourages them to try their hand at writing.

The categories for Juniors are: Juniors - Under 12, and Juniors 12-17. With the help of an adult, I have seen articles written by kids 5 years old or so...and they have placed in the top ten!! It doesn't have to be by any single article - have them tell about their 'First Field Trip'...or if your club has a Junior Club, tell about the things the club is doing. Or what their favorite rock/feast is...

A question came up the other day..."I have an article that so and so wrote for the local paper; can it be entered in the contest?" Sorry, no, all articles have to be written especially for your own newsletter. It was a very interesting article, and can be published in their newsletter, but not entered in the contest. I hope to see it soon in their newsletter, providing the author gives written permission (remember those copyright laws!).

[Do you know that your regional federation supplies chair has a manual entitled "Guidelines for Bulletin Editors" that's jam packed with useful ideas? Why not obtain one for your editor? ]
Eye Safety

from Bill Buckner, AFMS Safety Chair

Our eyes are important to us in order to experience much in our world. There are many things we cannot do without them so let’s think about their safety.

It is safer if we wear safety glasses when we hammer, dig, saw, cab, facet, silversmith, cut wire, and almost everything we do in lapidary and many other activities.

The sun can do damage to our eyes, so good sun blocker glasses can help when we must be in the sun.

Some recent medical research tells us even wearing tight collars and ties can cause glaucoma (a serious eye disorder). So fellows, you might want to loosen your collar and tie a little.

Eye problems also often accompany diabetes. According to what I have read, both genetics (which we cannot control) and overweight (which we can control) have an effect on diabetes. The next time you pig out just remember you may be asking for trouble with your eyes.

Too strong or very bright lights can do damage to eyes as can light that is too dim.

Let us all care for our eyes by protecting them at all times.

Have a great life and enjoy the beauty of our hobby.

Jack Streeter
November 21, 1903 - November 7, 2003

Jack (John G.) Streeter died November 7th, two weeks before his 100th birthday. Born in Fowler, Calif. On November 21, 1903, his family moved to Hawaii when he was three. He graduated from Hilo High School, as president of his class, and then returned to California by working on a freighter. His career was with W.W. Granger Co. He was active with several Mineralogy societies, as well as E. Clampus Vitus and Westerners. He was an avid collector of books and a 10 year docent in the main library. After retirement, he was an enthusiastic world traveler.

Jack was one of the founding fathers of both the California Federation and the American Federation. He was one of the founders who attended the first AFMS Convention in Denver in 1947. He was the CFMS President, 1948-1950. He helped put on the Third AFMS Annual Show and Convention in Sacramento, California in 1949. And served as the American Federation President in 1950 at the fourth Annual Show and Convention in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Jack was interested in judging and helped formulate many of the earlier rules for exhibiting. In the early years of “exhibiting” Jack spoke of exhibitors laying out their items on long tables and standing behind them to answer questions by the general public. Later he acquired store front display cases, and the old rotating carousel cases were very popular with exhibitors. These later became the standing 4 foot flat exhibit cases and finally the ones we currently use and are still known as “standard 4 foot by 2 ft by 2 ft” cases.

Jack went to Arizona a number of times to assist Arthur Flagg in creating the Arizona Mineral Museum in Phoenix, AZ. Jack still has minerals in the Museum.

Jack was involved in drumming up interest for the hobby for many years and supported both the CFMS and AFMS. Along with Johnny Short, who was also a CFMS and AFMS Past President, they both tried to attend as many of the national shows as time and health would allow. Both attended the 50th AFMS Anniversary in Jackson, MS in 1997.

We lose the oldest Past President of the CFMS and AFMS. In passing we realize that we have lost something of immense value. His friendship and his knowledge. Neither can be replaced.

Shirley Leeson, AFMS Historian

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Address corrections and changes
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Editorial Ponderings

We’d like to share a couple of “pet peeves” this month. Who better to write about “pet peeves” than us?

What’s the purpose of your club newsletter? What’s the purpose of your club? Our guess is that they are the same - education. So why is it that a growing number of club newsletters we read each month contain no educational material? We find this scary.

It’s tough to obtain good educational material for your newsletter. The best source of course is the toughest - member contributions. We all realize of course, that most clubs don’t have club members standing in line to write articles... but there are many ways to obtain them. Your local Bulletin Aids person can help you with ideas.

The easiest way to obtain educational articles, besides your own members, is by exchanging newsletters with other clubs. Yes, we realize that this becomes expensive with postage and extra copy printing, but exchanges can be done via e-mail. You can easily send your newsletter in a “pdf” format or as a “Word” document. Most people can open documents in either format and you’ve preserved your newsletter with graphics exactly as you’ve printed it, while saving those extra $$$.

Who should you exchange with? Certainly the clubs within your own geographical area so you know what’s happening and can share these events with your members. Other exchanges can be obtained by looking at recent contest winners lists as published in the AFMS Newsletter and your regional federation Newsletter. Those scoring in the top ten are certainly successful newsletters and would provide you with a good source of material to “borrow” and share with your members. Just remember to give credit to the author and publication from which the articles are taken.

The “web” is another source of information, but this one gets tricky. You cannot just take an article or photo you find on the net and copy it into your newsletter without obtaining written permission from the author! Some sites already have a statement about using the material... include this statement when you reprint the web article. Most authors are more than willing to give permission - often with the proviso that they receive a printed copy of your newsletter, but newspapers and magazines often will not. Be careful!

Let’s see if we can increase the number of educational articles in our newsletters this year. We’re looking forward to learning much more about parts of the country that we’ve not visited, cutting material we don’t know about, minerals we’ve never seen, fossils we’ve never found and jewelry we can only hope to drool over. We’re curious fellows and think your club members probably are too.

Oh yes... a couple more people to exchange newsletters with are your regional federation president and editor and the AFMS president and editor. If you can, you should also send your newsletter to the vice presidents of the regional and AFMS as well. Using “pdf” format and sending via E-mail surely allows this to happen at no extra cost to your club.

We’re looking forward to reading your educational articles in forthcoming club newsletters.

Did You Know?

Every year, more than 23,000 pounds of new minerals must be provided for everyone in the United States to make the things we use, every day.

12. 262 lbs. Stone used to make Roads, buildings, bridges, various chemical uses.

8,854 lbs. Sand & gravel used to make Concrete, asphalt, road fill, blocks & bricks.

842 lbs. Cement used to make Roads, sidewalks, buildings, bridges.

429 lbs. Iron Ore used to make Steel - buildings, cars, trucks, planes & trains; other construction; containers.

384 lbs. Salt used in Various chemicals; highway deicing; food and agriculture.

289 lbs. Phosphate used to make Fertilizers to grow food, animal feed supplements.

275 lbs. Clay used to make Floor & wall tile; dinnerware; kitty litter; bricks & cement; paper.

65 lbs. Aluminum (Bauxite) used to make Buildings; beverage containers; autos; airplanes.

21 lbs. Copper used in Buildings; electrical & electronic parts; plumbing; transportation equipment.

12 lbs. Lead used 75% for transportation - batteries; electrical; communications; TV screens.

11 lbs. Zinc used to make Metals rust resistant; various metals & alloys; paint, rubber; skin creams & health care.

5 lbs. Manganese used to make In almost all steels for: construction; machinery; transportation.

572 lbs. Other Nonmetals numerous uses Glass, chemicals, soaps, paper, computers, cellular phones, etc.

20 lbs Other Metals numerous uses Same as nonmetals, but also electronics, TV & video equipment, recreational equipment, etc.

Visit the Mineral Information Institute’s website at www.mii.org for useful information for use with school and youth groups.

Every American Born in 2004 Will Need...