AFMS Recognition Award Presented

by Ron Carman, AFMS Past President

The AFMS Recognition Award, begun in 2003 by Past President Steve Weinberger and the AFMS Past Presidents Committee is presented annually to an individual who has served the American Federation in an exceptional manner. Nominations are obtained from the AFMS Past Presidents and then a committee of (the last three AFMS Past Presidents) selects the recipient from among those nominated. The award is made public at the annual AFMS Convention during the Awards Banquet.

Here’s the Citation for the 2004 Recipient as read by Ron Carman at the Banquet in Syracuse this past July:

The recipient of this year’s AFMS Recognition Award is a person who has been a mainstay of the AFMS for many years. He has served on the Executive Board of the AFMS, working his way up through all the positions to become the AFMS President in 1993. Since his term as president, he has continued to be active in the Federation, serving as chairman of the Supplies and Publications Committee, and has worked consistently with the Uniform Rules Committee to ensure that the rules as well as other publications are kept correct and current before publication. This task is especially critical now that the Uniform Rules are available on the AFMS website.

He has also continued to be an astute advisor to the Federation, one that many presidents have been able to rely on for advice and assistance. His deep understanding of our Federation and its workings is an inspiration and source of knowledge to us all.

Our recipient has been a most knowledgeable and active promoter of the AFMS for many years, and we are pleased to present the AFMS Recognition Award to:

James. F. Hurlbut

Ronald R. Carman
Chairman, Past Presidents’ Advisory Council

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Visit the AFMS Website
<www.amfed.org>

What A Wonderful Show & Convention!
The Gem & Mineral Society of Syracuse, NY Make It Happen in Grand Style
News of the 2004 AFMS Convention Inside
For those that weren’t able to attend the Syracuse Convention, you missed out on a very good and hospitable time. The Eastern Federation did a great job in hosting the show, and we must give them a BIG THANK YOU for all the time and work that was involved in putting on such a show. I would like to encourage anyone who didn’t attend a convention in the past, be it regional or national, to do so. The best part of any convention is the camaraderie...that’s what it’s all about!!! Your Regional Federation holds an annual convention each year - a schedule always appears in this newsletter and in your own regional federation newsletter. The 2005 AFMS Convention will be held in St. Louis, Missouri in mid-August.

One of the highlights of the meeting was the presentation of a $500 check presented to Dee Holland, AFMS Scholarship Chairman, by John and Judy Washburn, commemorating the 50th Anniversary of their club, The Lincoln Earth Orbit Science Society, Springfield, Illinois. Think of that folks, that’s a great thing to do, perhaps your club could follow suit. The Scholarship Foundation also received $500 contributions each from the Gem & Mineral Society of Syracuse (host club for the Convention) and from the Ye Olde Timers Club of California.

I was pleased to see so many awards presented at both the banquet and the Editor’s Breakfast. I want to encourage clubs to enter the All American Club Award Competition as this is an excellent way to preserve your club’s history, and win an award in the process. This year there were 19 entries...how about your club, entering next year? There were 133 entries in the AFMS Bulletin Contest, 19 of these were Junior entries...all taking a trophy or a certificate. Editors encourage both your juniors and adults to write, write, write!

By the time you read this we will have returned from the Upper Peninsula of Michigan where we took part in “Keweenaw Week” held in Houghton/Hancock. This is an annual week long event, with several field trips, speakers, a live auction, a tour of the A. E. Seaman Museum, which is the official Michigan Mineral Museum...open houses...tours of the area with Larry Malloy, noted author and speaker covering the history of the area, and classes in mineral identification. If you have never attended, you are missing a lot of good field trips. Special permission has been granted to collect on the many fruitiful dumps in the copper country, and I encourage you to attend this event next year as no one knows how much longer this will be available and open for rockhounds all over the country.

On the Road with Bill

I don’t know who came up with the phrase, all roads lead to the Combined EFMLS/AFMS Show in Syracuse, NY, but from the people present I think it was true. There were twenty-seven of us just from the NFMS.

Janet and I departed for the show on 5 April. Our first stop was the town of Lone Pine, CA where many of the old western movies were filmed. I still remember, as a kid, counting the times the stagecoach and robbers went by the same set of rocks. We were able to drive the area and see in person those same rock formations. Sure brought back memories. Our next stop was at Wikieup, AZ where we spent a couple days collecting the famous Burro Creek agate on Burro and Big Sandy Creeks. Still lots of agate available for the taking. It was then on to the Rocky Mountain Federation and Wichita Gem and Mineral Society Show in Wichita, KS. Janet and I grew up about 90 miles from Wichita and we soon found out that great Midwest hospitality still exists today. One thousand seven hundred school children came through the show on Friday. Could have been upwards of three thousand if it had not been for severe thunder storms throughout the day. The club even had training classes for the students. This may sound like mass confusion but it was very well organized with different schools arriving throughout the day. It was very surprised and delighted to see how many brought their parents back on Saturday and Sunday. Another great surprise, especially if you are a fossil collector, was the Sternburg Museum in Hays, KS. Here you will find many examples of the fish and reptiles that existed when most of Kansas was a shallow sea. The 8 ft fish skeleton with a smaller fish inside is a real eye stopper. We spent some time at Janet’s folks in Kansas and then slowly made our way to Syracuse with visits in Ohio and PA. Did spend a day collecting Ohio Flint on the gravel bars of the Scioto River. Found some beautiful material.

The big show in Syracuse was just that. BIG. I am sure there will be many details of the show in the newsletter so won’t discuss the show. What really stood out was that Eastern excitement. They are excited about the hobby, their club, the show they put on, and the Eastern Federation as well as the AFMS. They are also a growing federation with at least one club doubling in size. You just couldn’t come away without a refreshed outlook on the hobby. I am looking forward to being involved in that excitement this coming year.

I will close with the thought of, let’s all get excited and work on obtaining and retaining new members.

Until next month,

Bill

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Proudly Serving Seven Regional Federations

The AFMS

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Marve’s Message

from Marve Starbuck, President

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President Elect’s Message

from Bill Smith, AFMS President-Elect

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Page 2
The recent meeting in Syracuse of the AFMS Scholarship Foundation produced some important changes to the by-laws and operating procedures. The proposals passed strengthened the foundation. One proposal changed the way the meetings are conducted. Instead of holding two meetings in the future there will be only one meeting of the directors. We also changed the directors so that now the Scholarship directors are the same as the AFMS regional directors.

At the AFMS Directors meeting on Thursday, John Washburn of the Midwest Federation presented the Scholarship Foundation with a check for $500, from the Lincoln Orbit Earth Science Society. The money was to honor their club founders on the 50th anniversary of the club's founding. The club also challenged other clubs throughout the federation to do likewise. It was a highlight of the AFMS directors meeting.

During the Cracker Barrel meeting Friday evening, the Ye Old Timers, a nationally known rock club, presented a check for $500 from their membership. During the AFMS directors meeting, the Ye Old Timers, a nationally known rock club, presented a check for $500 to the foundation. It was presented by Betty Pankey, their president. Again, it was one of the highlights of the event.

At the Awards Banquet on Saturday, another check for $500 was presented to the Foundation by the president joyinker of the host club, the Gem and Mineral Society of Syracuse.

Our Treasurer, Arlene Burkhalter received the check from the Ye Old Timers, and the respective regional Scholarship Chairs were given the other checks so they could be properly recorded for their regions.

While these checks are LARGE, every donation is important. Please don't think you must send large donations. This organization was founded in the 60's by people who collected soap on label, and raised money through rock raffles and asked for money from individuals to match the amount of money with their age on their birthdays. Other creative ideas for donations have arisen over the years including the million pennies conducted by iszy and Bill Burns recently. All have gone toward raising awareness in this gigantic cause we are all involved in.

At the recent Northwest Federation convention and show in Boise, Idaho the Intermountain Focaters' Guild held their annual stone auction for the AFMS Scholarship Foundation. This year the auction was a memorial of three well known faceters from the Northwest who passed away. The stones were given to Dick Gilmore by the families and he set them in 14 k gold. Ed Romack was again the auctioneer and the monies raised set a record. An announcement will be forthcoming on the exact amount. Our sincere thanks to these hardworking members who have done this auction since 1985. It's people like these who have been the backbone of the donations for the Scholarship Foundation.

While there have been setbacks, there have been the highs when we learned that students had filled their quest in finishing their studies with the help of the money all of you have donated. Please help us in gaining the one million dollar goal for the scholarship fund. We are close to that now. With some creative ideas in fund raising, we could reach it in the next few years. Won't you be a part of the solution... Donations can be made through your regional scholarship chairman, and will be forwarded to the Scholarship Treasurer.

**AFMS Newsletter - September, 2004**

**Page 3**
2004 All-American Club Awards

The 2004 All-American awards have been put into the history books and the awards have been awarded. Many thanks to all the regional chairpersons for their efforts to this end.

Eighteen clubs submitted entries, representing six of the seven regional federations. This was an increase of four over the 2003 entries, and a similar increase next year would be great.

The participating clubs and their awards are as follows:

Large Clubs (100+ members):
- Che-Hanna Rock & Mineral Club
- Sayre, PA (EMLFS)
- First Place Gold Award
- Lincoln Orbit Earth Science Society
- Springfield, IL (MWF)
- Gold Award
- Contra Costa Mineral & Gem Society
- Walnut Creek, CA (CFMS)
- Gold Award
- Austin Gem & Mineral Society
- Austin, TX (SCFMS)
- Gold Award
- Wisconsin Geological Society
- Milwaukee, WI (MWF)
- Gold Award
- Arlington Gem & Mineral Society
- Arlington, TX (CFMS)
- Gold Award
- The Georgia Mineral Society
- Atlanta, GA (SFMS)
- Silver Award
- Minnesota Mineral Club
- Minneapolis, MN (MWF)
- Silver Award
- Waco Gem & Mineral Society
- Waco, TX (SFMS)
- Honorable Mention
- Small Clubs (less than 100 members):
  - Stillwater Mineral & Gem Society
  - Stillwater, OK
  - First Place Gold Award
- Fossils For Fun Society
- Gold River, CA
- Gold Award
- Northwest Wisconsin Gem & Mineral Society
- Cumberland, WI
- Gold Award
- Occult Mineral Society
- Santa Maria, CA
- Silver Award
- Sutter Buttes Gem & Mineral Club
- Marysville, CA
- Silver Award

On behalf of the AFMS and the regional federations, I wish to thank the participating clubs and applaud their efforts. It is no easy task to do such a thing.

Look for another article concerning this competition at a later date, but I would like to make a couple of comments concerning this last one. All the reports were very good, the differences being the presence, or absence of club activities considered important to the Federation. A couple of Federations were late in sending their reports. This year it was not a problem, but it could be in years to come, so it is important to meet deadlines so that other deadlines can be met. I intend to keep the same deadline as this year, which was the 15th of April (you heard it here first!). That means that your entries to your Regional Federation chair will need to be turned in earlier than that.

Again, I thank all the clubs for their participation, and look forward to repeating the process come next year. Look for another article to appear in the November issue of the AFMS Newsletter.

Club Rockhound of the Year

There’s only two submissions for the AFMS Club Rockhound of the Year this month. I hope that now that most of the summer heat has past you’ll consider recognizing someone in your club.

Recognizing an individual or couple from your club is easy. Just pick someone and then tell us why that person is important to your club. (Limit your praise to 50 words or less.) Each AFMS affiliated club is entitled to submit one individual (or couple) for the Club Rockhound of the Year recognition each calendar year. Submissions may be made by the club, a club officer, or by any member. We’ll print your club Rockhound information in the AFMS Newsletter so you can share your pride with everyone else.

I’m eagerly awaiting your submissions. What are you waiting for?

New Officers Elected

One of the important items on the Agenda at each AFMS meeting is the election of officers to lead the Federation for the coming year. Elected for a term beginning November 1, 2004 are:

President
Bill Smith (NFMS)

President-Elect
Jim Robinson (SFMS)

1st Vice President
Walt Wells (RMFMS)

2nd Vice President
Pat LaRue (CFMS)

3rd Vice President
Carolyn Weinberger (EFMLS)

4th Vice President
Emerson Tucker (SFMS)

5th Vice President
Bob Miller (MWF)

Treasurer
Toby Cozens

South Central Federation

The Fort Worth Gem and Mineral Club would like to nominate Irene Stemple for the Rockhound of the Year Award. Our club is in Fort Worth, Texas.

Irene Stemple, our “Fossil Lady” has been a club member for many years and served as president and vice-president of programs. She is an encyclopedia of knowledge and always gladly shares what she knows. Education of children is very important to her. She gives generously of her time and fossils.

Submitted by: Terry Bygler, President

AFMS Newsletter - September, 2004
I received an E-mail the other day in which a gentleman mentioned that he had downloaded part of the rules from the AFMS website. He mentioned how convenient it was to have them on the web, but he said he couldn’t find the Mineral classification list, and wanted to know what page it was on. Unfortunately when I answered him I didn’t read it very carefully and said I didn’t know where the list was and wasn’t sure if it was even on the web.

After reading the E-mail again later I realized that I had not really answered his question. He had asked “what page was it on” and I had answered as if he had asked where on the web it was. The Mineral list, as well as the Lapidary approved names list and fossil list are all separate books. They are not part of the Rules book, but are used in conjunction with the rules. They are not on the web, but can be obtained from your Regional Federation Supplies Chair.

As always if you have a question I will try my best to answer it.

B. Jay Bowman
Uniform Rules Chair
5788 Bowman Road
Ponca City OK 74604
580-765-5854
bjb@pcwan.net

The annual meeting of the AFMS Uniform Rules Committee took place on Tuesday, July 7th during the AFMS Convention in Syracuse, NY. Each of the Regional Federations was represented and the discussions held were quite lively and fruitful.

Several changes to the URC were accepted by the Committee and will become effective January 1, 2005. Here are the changes:

Item #1 Labeling Change:

S I P I - 4-1992 Rule 3.12 “In all instances where rules require labeling the labels shall be in English (U.S. spelling), except for fossil names. The exception being in education division where the subject matter may require the use of some foreign words.”

Item #2 Nation wide Judges List:

Dr. Bob Carlson, (RMFMS) Report: Bob has been working on a national list of judges. He has contacted each region requesting information on the judges used. At this time Bob has 115 judges in his data base. He has found the following:

California: has no micromount, fossil, faceting and UV judges.
Eastern: has no lapidary, jewelry or petrified wood judges.
Midwest: has no carving, jewelry, or UV judges.
Northwest: has no open or micromount judges
Rocky Mt.: has judges in all divisions
South Central: has no micromount or carving judges.
Southeast: has one judge that can judge everything.

Bob passed out sheets to each regional chair and asked them to add those judges who were not listed and to add those judges who have judged recently and the years and divisions they judged.

Item #3 Cabochon Changes:

The proposals were divided into sections:

#1 Proposed Addition: Rule 9.1, page C-1-2003 under DEFINITIONS

Traditional: “A plane of symmetry exists when a plane passed through the middle of a cabochon gives equal halves in size and shape. Some examples of traditional cabochons are: heart, cross, star, square, rectangular, diamond, teardrop, pear, circle, oval and kite. These cabochons may be exhibited in classes 1 through 7. Flat topped stones or free forms (no plane of symmetry) are Out-Of-Class in Traditional Cabochon Classes CCF-5 and CC-6

#2 Proposed New Rule, page C-11-2003

Rule 11.5 Exhibitors in cabochon classes should show a variety of work, including inside curves as well as the many variety of cuts included in the traditional and modern categories, based on your Class of entry. No more than 10% (rounded up to the nearest whole number) of an exhibit should be of the same size and shape. Ten points will be given for total compliance. This rule affects Classes CC-1 through CC-5 and CC-6.

After a suggestion to change the Category to “U” proposal was approved and passed.

Judging points would be added to each page.

Category L S Q VW VM W

U 5 15 25 10 45

Item #3 C-11-2003 Rule 11.6

Exhibitors in cabochon classes should show, where appropriate, a variety of material exhibiting different levels of hardness (as measured by the Mohs scale). Judges will award 1 point for each variety or level of hardness up to a maximum of 5 points. This rule effects Classes CC-1, CC-3, and CC-5. Suggested change in Category to “O”.

Category L S Q VW VM W

G 5 15 25 10 5 40

Item #4 Division A, Class A-2

Lapidary scoring sheet and Instructions on page A-2-2003 need to have the following added. (An omission in the 2004 printing).

A-2 Lapidary Labels - See Rule 9.3, deduct up to 10 points
Showmanship - See Rule 9.7, deduct up to 15 points
Quality - See Rule 9.6, deduct up to 10 points

Those representing your federation at the meeting were:

B. Jay Bowman, URC Chair
Bill Cook, URC Chair 2005
Betty James, URC Chair 2006

AFMS URC Eligibility: Anne Cook

California: Bural LaRue
             Dee Holland
Northwest:  Barbara Jacobson
Eastern:    Susanna MacInnis
Midwest:   Joyce Hanschu
          Barbara Sky
Rocky Mt.: Jim Hurlbut
          Dr. Bob Carlson
South Central: Bill Pattillo
              Ron Carman
Southeast: W.G. Bill Waggner
           Jim Robinson

The complete, updated Uniform Rules will be on the AFMS website sometime after January 1, 2005. Until that time, the 2004 Rules remain in effect and can be obtained either from your Regional Federation Supplies Chair or downloaded from the AFMS website <www.amfed.org>.

Back Issues:

Back issues of the AFMS Newsletter can be downloaded from our website <www.amfed.org>.
**Program Competition Results**

Four programs were submitted in this year's Program Competition - two slide presentations and two in digital format. Three entries earned enough points to win a prize. The authors are currently working on the final script, in response to the judges comments and the programs will be ready in the fall. Since one or more title may be changed in the process of the final rewrite, watch for the description and more information about these programs when they are distributed to the Regional Libraries later this year.

And the winners are:

Class 1: Educational:
"Those Fabulous Thundereggz" (a slide program that will also be available in PowerPoint) by Doug Moore & Dan Kelman, members of Heart of Wisconsin Gem & Mineral Society, Wisconsin Rapids, WI. Earned: First Place with Highest Honors (Score: more than 95 points) and won a prize of $200.00.

Also in "Class 1: Educational"
"Features found in Petrified Wood and Plant Life" (a QuickTime video) by Ruby Lingelbach, member of Stillwater Gem & Mineral Society, Stillwater, OK. Earned: First Place (Score: between 90 - 95 points) and a prize of $100.00.

In Class 2: Field Collecting:
"Recent Collecting at the Philadelphia Mine, Rush Arkanzas" (a traditional slide program) by Ed Hakesley, Ozark Earth Science Club, Mountain Home, AR. Earned: First Place (Score: between 90 - 95 points) and a prize of $100.00.

In addition to these Competition Winners, each Regional Library will receive a number of programs (mostly videos) purchased with funds from AFMS Endowment Fund. Information about this group of programs will be published next month.

**AFMS Endowment Fund: 2004 Fund-Raiser Wrap-up**

by Joy Bourne, AFMS Endowment Fund Chair

The 2004 AFMS Endowment Fund raffle now history. The drawing has been done, all tickets have been accounted for: the accounts have been reconciled, and thanks to the great selflessness of our regional representatives and volunteers, plus a most generous, surprise contribution from the Ye Old Timers Mineral Club, of Livermore, CA, I am pleased to report that the AFMS Endowment Fund is now "richer" by $4,143.50. It was a fabulous convention, and a most successful finale to our fund-raising effort for 2004.

Congratulations to holders of the winning tickets, who are, in alphabetical order:
- Judi Allison, Umatilla, OR
- Ken Anderson, Ft. Mill, SC
- Lou Budell, Marcellus, NY
- Jack Burger, Essex, MD
- Wayne Farley, Hamilton, MT
- Raymond Gottschalk, Cherokee Village, AR
- Betty Jones, Rome, PA
- Michael Kessler, E. Stroudsburg, PA
- D. Lee, Pendleton, OR
- James Mitchell, Dallas, TX
- Frank Monze, CFMS (2 prizes)
- Betty Pankey, CFMS
- Kathy Starbuck, Vicksburg, MI

We are sure you are pleased with the beautiful and valuable prizes you received.

Our sincere thanks to all who participated in this 2004 fund-raising effort for the AFMS Endowment Fund. Our regional ticket sales coordinators were Shirley Leeson, CFMS; Steve Weinberger, EFMLS; Marve Starbuck, MWF; Jack Edwards, NFMS; Howell Whiting, RMFMS; Joyce Speed, SCFMS; and Ken Anderson, SFMS. In addition, several volunteers asked for, and received tickets to sell in their local areas. These are: B. Joy Bowman, Lewis Elrod, Dee Holland and Ike House. All together, the regional coordinators and volunteers sold a total of 642 tickets! Adding in the count of tickets sold by mail and at the show, the grand total was 832 tickets sold. Thank you for all your time and effort!

Special thanks to Dee Holland and Shirley Leeson for bringing along all the Foundation Fund treasures - pins, certificates, and miscellaneous items to sell at the show. Dee also brought a quantity of Oregon Thundereggz, donated by a friend of the Foundation in NFMS territory. Next year, in St. Louis, these items will be available for sale at our booth.

We also thank Marty Hart, AFMS webmaster, and Carolyn Weinberger, AFMS Newsletter editor, who did a fantastic job of keeping our publicity before the membership in the AFMS Newsletter and on the AFMS website.

Joyce Speed, SCFMS; Ron Sick, EFMLS, Betty Jones, EFMLS and Clif Bourne EFMLS helped the chair by taking turns manning the ticket table during the convention, too. Your help was greatly appreciated.

Of course, it goes without saying that the ultimate contributors were all the members and friends of AFMS who purchased the tickets. You are the greatest!

We had wonderful participation from all seven regional federations, and we are most grateful to all who contributed prizes; who sold and/or purchased tickets, and those who helped spread the word! Thank you!

**Bulletin Editor's Hall of Fame**

Club newsletter editors are one of the most important people in your club. They work many hours producing your club bulletin - often without the help or input from the membership. Your club newsletter lets you know what’s happening in your group each month so that you and your fellow members can come to the meeting knowing what’s planned, attend a near-by show, or learn a bit more about your hobby through the numerous articles the editor includes each issue.

As a way of recognizing our hard working editors, the Bulletin Editors Hall of Fame was begun in 1993. Each year a few additional editors are added to the Hall of Fame. They are selected by editors of each regional federation based on nominations they receive and their knowledge about the work of the editor(s) selected.

The addition of the following editors was announced this year at the 2004 AFMS Editor’s Breakfast in Syracuse, NY.

from Shirley Leeson

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<tr>
<td>California Federation</td>
<td>Laurie Haines, Editor of Rock Chips Stockton Lapidary &amp; Mineral Club Stockton, CA</td>
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<td>Eastern Federation</td>
<td>Joy Bourne, Editor of Shin-Skinner News Che-Hanna Rock &amp; Mineral Club Sayre, PA</td>
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<td>Northwest Federation</td>
<td>Violet Hall, Editor of Hatrickhound Gazette Hatrickhounds Gem &amp; Mineral Society Hermiston, OR</td>
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<td>South Central Federation</td>
<td>Ike House, Editor of The Rock Rattler Ark-La-Tex Gem &amp; Mineral Society Bossier-City, LA</td>
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Barbara Sky receives her trophy from Jay Bowman during the AFMS Awards Banquet at Syracuse. Photo: C. Weinberger
The Forest Service has been busy lately, promulgating rules and regulations that will negatively impact small miners and prospectors. Public Lands for the People (PLP) is taking action to put a stop to it.

In “Forest Service Decision Stands - US Forest Service Withdraws Appeal,” (January 2004), we reported on the Lex-Waggener decision (US v. Ronald O. Lex and Ken Waggener, 5th Cir. No. 05-3599 (5th Cir. May 14, 2003)).

In this case, Judge Lawrence K. Karlton, US District Court in Sacramento, reversed a lower court decision which wrongfully concluded that the miners were required to file a Notice of Intent for occupying their mining claim for more than 14 days in California’s Klamath National Forest.

Judge Karlton said that section 36 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), subsection 261.61, does not apply to miners who are camping on their claims while engaged in activities related to mining, rather it was meant to cover recreational activities. He stated, “As the regulations are currently structured, so long as no earth moving equipment or tree-cutting is involved, a miner can camp on his claim indefinitely…”

The Forest Service, fearing a loss of control that they never legally possessed, published an interim rule to address the above issue, under 36 CFR 228, in the Federal Register on July 9, 2004. The Federal Register Notice is entitled, “Clarification as to When a Notice of Intent and/or Plan of Operation is Required for Locatable Mineral Operations on National Forest System Lands.”

According to the Federal Register notice, the emergency rule will be effective August 9, 2004, though comments will be accepted until September 7, 2004.

The Forest Service states they will soon require a Notice of Intent “in any situation in which a mining operation causes a surface disturbance, regardless of whether that disturbance is caused by mechanized earth moving equipment or the removal of timber.”

“After a Notice of Intent is submitted, the District Ranger determines whether the proposed operations will likely cause a significant disturbance of surface resources. If the determination is that the proposal will likely cause a significant disturbance of surface resources, the operator is notified that a plan of operations is required.”

It is our opinion that the emergency rule would place severe restrictions on small operators if it were allowed to stand. Small miners, at the very least, would be subjected to the time and expense involved with the filing of a Notice of Intent for a minimal disturbance. The Forest Service cannot currently respond to applications in a timely manner, and delays would be inevitable if they receive hundreds or even thousands of notices. Worse yet, some miners could be subjected to the long delays and excessive costs involved with a Plan of Operations and financial guarantees (bonding) for minimal disturbances, all at the direction of a District Ranger who may or may not be favorable to mining. Merely bringing camping equipment onto a mining claim could be considered a significant disturbance in the mind of a District Ranger.

We have reviewed the emergency interim rule with Public Lands for the People (PLP). Jerry Hobbs, president of PLP, stated there are numerous avenues open to challenge the interim rule. These include non-compliance with the Administrative Procedures Act, National Environmental Policy Act, Regulatory Flexibility Act, Paperwork Reduction Act, and others. After much discussion, it appears the best course of action is to file suit against the Forest Service to stop the interim rule, and a mining attorney has already been retained.

This should be a concerted effort on behalf of miners and prospectors, rather than a disjointed effort involving lawsuits filed by small entities with limited funds. Several mining and prospecting companies have already started the fundraising effort, including ICMJ’s Prospecting and Mining Journal, donating thousands of dollars to PLP to pay for the legal fees that will be incurred in this case.

Special thanks goes to Keene Engineering for starting the ball rolling with a $5,000 donation.

Much more will be needed. I encourage you to support this effort personally, and by bringing it to the attention of any clubs or associations to which you belong.

I have personally met with the PLP board on several occasions. I have been very impressed with their knowledge of rules and regulations, and the ability of their members to apply this knowledge to successfully litigate government agencies. I encourage all miners and prospectors to support their efforts on behalf of all of us.

Contributions can be sent to: Public Lands for the People, 3700 Santa Carlotta St; La Crescenta, CA 91214.

A direct link to the Federal Register notice can be found on our website (www.icmj.com) under the Pending Rules, Regulations, Projects section. The Federal Register notice can also be located online at www.regulations.gov/freadocs/O4-15483.htm.

Concerned readers in need of further information can contact Sam Hatohashii, Minerals and Geology Management Staff, at 703-605-4802.

Comments can be sent to:
- e-mail: <35crf228bf@fs.fed.us>
- fax: 703-605-1575
- or mailed to:
  Forest Service, USDA
  Attn: Director, Minerals and Geology Management Staff (2810)
  Mall Stop 1126
  Washington, DC 20250-1125

Here are the recipients of the competitive case trophies from the AFMS show in Syracuse. Congratulations to each.

**Trophy T-5**
- Minerals from one state (BC9Y)
- Susanna C. MacInnis (EFMLS)
- Allentown, PA

**Trophy T-9**
- Minerals of one Species (BT-7X)
- Barbara Sky (MWF)
- Winchester MO

**Trophy T-41**
- Carvings - Composite Stone
- Vigil Keltz
- Anacortes, WA

**Trophy T-11**
- Micromount Minerals of One Species (BM-7X)
- Kathy Hrechka (EFMLS)
- Alexandria, VA

**Trophy T-13**
- Petrified Wood: Gabachons (G3)
- Robert Bever (NFMS)
- Sedro Woolley, WA

**Trophy T-13**
- Petrified Wood, Special Features
- Donald Snyder (NFMS)
- Richland, WA

**Trophy T-1**
- Fossils (A-4)
- George Wallace Powell, Jr. (EFMLS)
- Falls Church, VA

**Trophy T-3**
- One Mineral Series or Species (BU-7X)
- Rose M. Blue (MWF)
- Strongville, OH

**Trophy T-16**
- Carving, Soft Stone (CA-I)
- Bruce Banick (EFMLS)
- Eden, NY

**Trophy T-35**
- Fossils Collected in the Field, Restricted (FC-2)
- Ruth Banick (EFMLS)
- Eden, NY

**Trophy T-28**
- Educational, General Audience: Concept (EGC-5)
- Joy Bourne (EFMLS)
- Towanda, PA

Sue MacInnis accepts the trophy for her minerals display at the Syracuse Awards Banquet. With her is AFMS URC Chair, Jay Bowman.

Photo: C. Weinberger
Cincinnati Lapidary & Faceting Society, Cincinnati, OH (RMFMS)
Editors.  Mt. Baker Rock & Gem Club, Bellingham, WA
Collins Rockhounds, Ft. Collins, CO (RMFMS)
Los Alamos Geological Society, Los Alamos, NM
Editor.  Dallas County Gem & Mineral Society, Dallas, TX (CFMS)
Honorable Mention
- "Gneiss Times" Debbie Leschner, Editor.  Wick- enburg Gem & Mineral Society, Wickenburg, AZ (RMFMS)
- "Jax Gems" Ed Johnson, Editor.  Jacksville Gem & Mineral Society, Jacksonville, FL (SFMS)
- "LAS-ROCK" Richard Schmeck, Editor.  LSU-ROCK (SCFMS)
- "Beetle Buzzer" Les Brown, Editor.  Eastern Texas Gem & Mineral Society, Tyler, TX (MWF)
- "Beehive Rocks" Chip & Chatter, Editor.  Pleasant Oaks Gem & Mineral Club, Dallas, TX (RMFMS)
- "Emerald Gems" Dean Axtell, Editor.  Eugene Mineral Club, Eugene, OR (RMFMS)
- "Mountain Mineral Monthly" Bob宣传, Editor.  Southern Appalachian Mineral Society, Asheville, NC (RMFMS)
- "Grinding, Susan Tucker, Editor.  Idaho Gem club, Boise, ID (RMFMS)
Large Bulletins:
1. "Tips & Tricks" Carol Daniels, Editor.  Georgia Mineral Society, Atlanta, GA (SFMS)
Honorable Mention:
- "Rocket City Rocks & Gems", Dianna O'Dell, Editor.  Huntsville Gem & Mineral Society, Huntsville, AL (SFMFS)
- "Kyanite", Dorothy Hussey, Author.  Southern Appalachian Mineral Society, Asheville, NC (RMFMS)
- "Emeralds Are Going to the Dogs", Buddy (Sallie) Patterson, Author.  Gem Cutters Guild of Baltimore, Baltimore, MD (EFMLS)
- "The History of Geology, Matthew Couris, Author.  Chicago Rocks & Minerals Society (MWF)
- "The Iron King Mine", Jamie Wyatt and Nicole Forgues, Authors.  Capistrano Valley Rocks & Minerals Club, San Clemente, CA (CFMS)
- "Napoleon's Lost Army", Gravestone Uncovered in Lithuania, Roger Van Cleef, Author.  Memphis Archaeological & Geological Society, Memphis, TN
Honorable Mention:
- "Louisiana Agate, Wilford House, Author.  ARK-LA-TEX Gem & Mineral Society, Bossier City, LA (SFMS)
- "Status of Earth Science Education in Texas", Alexia Bieniek, Author.  Houston Gem & Mineral Society, Houston, TX (SCFMS)
- "About Topaz", Dee Parkeppel, Author.  Austin Gem & Mineral Society, Austin, TX (SFMS)
- "Trouble in the Desert", Bruce L. Mundt, Author.  Santa Lucia Rockhound, Santa Lucia, CA (SFMS)

continued on page 9
continued from page 8

- Look Out! Spring is Here!, Mickey McClain, Author. Georgia Mineral Society, Atlanta, GA (SFMS)

- Kirks New Lawn Ornament, Kirk Kegel, Capistrano Valley Rock & Mineral Club, San Clemente, CA (CFMS)

Advanced Adult Articles:
2. Digging the Winter Quarters of the Major Stephen Long Expedition, Ben Vrana, Author. The Loup Valley Gem & Mineral Society, Schuyler, NE (MWF)
3. Hadrosaurus, Neil Immege, Author. Houston Gem & Mineral Society, Houston, TX (SCFMS)
4. Enhydro: Terminology That's All Wet, Julian C. Gray, Author. Georgia Mineral Society, Atlanta, GA (SFMS)
5. Ammolite – A Rare and Fortunate Gemstone, Terry Yochschak, Author. Roseville Rock Rollers, Rocklin, CA (CFMS)
8. Inside the Hidden World of Crystals (Part I): Patterns of Growth, Dr. Vivien Gornitz, Author. Lincoln Orbit Earth Science Society, Springfield, IL (MWF)
9. My First Quarry Trip, Alexander (Sasha) Tihomirov, Author. The Northern Virginia Mineral Club, Merrifield, VA (RMFMS)
10. A Unique Mineral, David & Laura Dow, Dee Purcell, Author. McPherson Gem & Mineral Club, McPherson, KS (RMFMS)

Junior Articles – Authors ages 12 – 17:
6. Only Time Will Tell, Bridget O’Riordan, Author. Lake Elsinore Gem & Mineral Society, Lake Elsinore, CA (CFMS)
7. A Career to Die For, Sam Morse, Author. Lincoln Orbit Earth Science Society, Springfield, IL (MWF)

Honorable Mention:
-Wanderings Through Mississippi Gravel, Daniel Drennen, Author. Mississippi Gem & Mineral Society, Jackson, MS (EPFLMS)
-Geo-Hazards, Anita D. Westlake, Author. Georgia Mineral Society, Atlanta, GA (SFMS)
-The Fun of Petrified Wood, Ruby Lingebach, Author. Stillwater Gem & Mineral Society, Stillwater, OK (RMFMS)
-A Rockhound’s Greatest Asset, Terry Proctor, Author. Houston Gem & Mineral Society, Houston, TX (SCFMS)
-Tracking the Elusive Emerald, Jody Fronk, Author. Lincoln Orbit Earth Science Society, Springfield, IL (MWF)
-Mother Lode Field Trip Report, Terry Yochschak, Author. Roseville Rock Rollers, Rocklin, CA (CFMS)
-The South Korean Order, Paul Patrick, Author. Ocrutti Mineral Society, Santa Maria, CA (MWF)

Junior Articles – Authors under age 12
5. Tourmaline Trail, Timothy Wert, Author. Lake Elsinore Gem & Mineral Society, Lake Elsinore, CA (CFMS)

Honorable Mention:
-Preparing for a Club Field Trip, Leon Kingsley, Author. McPherson Gem & Mineral Club, McPherson, KS (RMFMS)
-The Elusive Crinoid, Brenda Watson Johnson, Author. Ozark Earth Science Club, Mountain Home, AR (MWF)
-Disturbing, Darryl Berghorn, Author. Capistrano Valley Rock & Mineral Club, San Clemente, CA (CFMS)
-A Rockhound’s Christmas, Aletha Hoogterp, Author. Sioux Empire Gem & Mineral Society, Sioux Falls, SD (MWF)
-Good Hunting, Belle Meyers, Author. Washington Mineralogical Society, Longview, WA (NFMS)
-The Empty Chair, Bob Ross, Author. Hells Canyon Gem Club, Lewiston, ID (NFMS)
-Rockhound Saga, Don Huber, Author. McPherson Gem & Mineral Club, McPherson, KS (RMFMS)

Special Publications:
2. 2004 MWF Show and Convention Packet, Sandy Fuller, Author. Minnesota Mineral Club, Falcon Heights, MN (MWF)
3. 2004 MWF Show Convention and Show Registration Packet, Sandy Fuller, Author. Minnesota Mineral Club, Falcon Heights, MN (MWF)
5. Gem Capers, David & Laura Dow, Dee Purkeypile, Paul Bordovsky, Harriet Streiber, Betty Gager, Authors. Austin Gem & Mineral Society, Austin, TX (SCFMS)

Editors Awards

Your Help Needed
from Lewis Eirod, AFMS Central Office

Have you sent the names and addresses of your new officers to the AFMS Central Office? The only way that we can be certain that the correct people in your club receive the AFMS Newsletter each month is for you to let us know who your officers are.

Please, send us the information so we can keep our records up to date. See page 11 for address info.
AFMS JUDGING SEMINAR AT WILDACRES
From Dee Holland

Two years ago at Port Townsend, the AFMS Board of Directors approved funding for a 3-year program to better train members from all seven Regional Federations in interpreting and using the Uniform Rules. The program consists of three sessions held during the EFMLS Wildacres Workshop in conjunction with the Eastern Federations' Certified Judges instruction. The AFMS pays the tuition cost for each of the Regional Federation representatives plus that of the URC Chairperson. Attendees pay their own transportation.

This year marked the second of the three sessions. All the Regional Federations except North- west sent representatives to the workshop, although Barbara Jacobsen decided to come back on her own for a second year in the class.

Those in attendance from the Regional Federations were B. Jay Bowman, instructor and current URC Chair; Bill Cook, 2005 URC Chair, Ruth Bailey (CFMIS), Bill Pattillo (SCFMIS), Bob Carlson (RMFMIS), Joyce Hanschu (MWF), Flora Lee Walker (SFMIS) and Sue MacInnis (EFMLS). In addition, the class had also had another dozen who wanted to learn about judging. Perhaps they too will join the ranks of "Certified Judges" in the near future.

In addition to attending the Judging Seminar, participants took part in the rest of the EFMLS Wildacres Activities. Bob Jones, Sr. Editor of Rock & Gem Magazine was the featured speaker giving 6 talks during the week. Other activities of the week included an auction a "free day" so participants could explore the scenic North Carolina area, and a night of fun. There was also lots of time for sitting in the rocking chairs on the porch, talking and telling stories. Many in the group expressed an interest in coming back on their own another year. Wildacres is a special place.

Feedback from the participants has been gratifying. This year, a week after the end of the Semi- nar, most of the participants were in Syracuse, NY at the AFMS Convention practicing what they had learned.

Year three will be held in 2005 after which a determination about continuing the program will be made.

MY TRIP TO WILDACRES
by Bill Pattillo, SCFMIS Representative to the AFMS Judging Seminar

Let me start off by saying, "Thank you AFMS and EFMLS" for making my trip to Wildacres enjoyable and educational.

I have heard about Wildacres for many years and have been told by several Rockhounds that I should make a trip to North Carolina and take in Wildacres. Now I have gone and what an experience. Take a trip to North Carolina and enjoy a wonderful place and learn something new or get more information from someone who has been there and done that.

Getting to Wildacres is not difficult, it is just a few miles from Marion, North Carolina, which is on the map Northeast of Asheville. You leave Marion and just a few miles down the road the road starts going up in elevation. Just stay on the road and enjoy the beautiful drive, about 18 miles, up to the mountains. What a beautiful drive and what a beautiful place. You round the corner and there it is. A beautiful lodge and all the space you need for taking a class in a friendly related subject. There will be no need to move your automobile, so park it in the parking lot and start exploring the grounds of Wildacres.

If you have signed up to take a course, just go into the office and pick up your information, which will tell you where you will be living for the next several days. One of the delights is reading the sign that tells you that the air conditioning is taken care of by nature. True, they don't have or need air conditioning. Nights are plenty cool and day time temperatures are comfortable. Being from the flat land, I could not take enough pictures of the mountains. Every time you look toward the mountain range, there is another picture. Be sure and take plenty of film or digital capacity, because you will need these two items.

Now to tell you about what to expect from the school. From what I could tell, every one was involved with some aspect of the Lapidary Arts. For me, I went there to take the AFMS Rules and Judging course. This course was set up by the AFMS and Eastern Federation, to get more involvement with exhibiting at gem shows. This is to try and get every one on the same level. It is designed to promote competitive exhibits and that they are all on the same level, so there will be no questions as to, "why are they doing this or that"? After all, if you want to exhibit competitively, you sign up to accept the AFMS Rules for competition, so you should know what to expect. If you would like to read the rules, you can go to the Internet and on the AFMS site, www.amfed.org, click on 2004 AFMS Rules and there they are. Now they are a little lengthy, but you only need to concentrate on the first section and the particular part that may apply to your exhibit. Taking the class on Judging and Rules, took me to be sure and read all the rules, as they do refer to different parts of the rules, to clarify a point. After the class, the instructor asked me what I thought about the class and my reply was, "be sure and read all the rules and refer to the different sections, when you are instructed to do so". I do not intend to become a Judge or maybe exhibit competitively, but the rules are there and they need to be investigated, for your own good.

Now for a little information on Wildacres. Wildacres is a foundation and the Eastern Federation of Mineral and Lapidary Societies speak for two sessions, at the facility. The Southeast Federation also use the facility for their workshops. Eastern has a spring and fall schedule. At these sessions, different instructors volunteer to teach their expertise.

Now, that is the way to learn. At the session that I attended, there was Faceting, Carving, Chain making, Florescence, Rules, Mineral Identification, Cabochon making, Beading and Micro Mounting. The fall ses- sion may have some of these sessions or may have a different selection of classes.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the AFMS and the EFMLS, again, for making it possible for me to attend the class on Rules and Judging. This was the second year that the AFMS has made this offer and next year will be the third year. After next year, the AFMS will meet and try to determine if paying the tuition, for the different Federations, is worth continuing. I can say that as far as me, in particular, "it was certainly valuable to me." I now have a better understanding of competitive exhibiting and the AFMS Rules, complicated as they are.

If you are interested in attending Wildacres, the Eastern Federation has openings at most of the sessions and they are filled on a first come first served basis. The weeks stay, the great meals a day included, was only $280, this year. This is a real bargain. Accommodations were very comfortable and the food was excellent. I did hear one comment that the food was not up to par, but for me, it was terrific.

It is my desire to attend a meeting, of any Club in the South Central Federation and encourage the members to become more competitive, even the Club can enter competition.

If I can be of any help, please feel free to contact me:

Bill Pattillo
619 Wright
Robsontown, Texas 78380-3815
bll@rockfoodtable.com
361-387-5190
AFMS Historian's Report

by Shirley Leeson

While it's always nice to attend the annual AFMS meeting of the Directors, and visit with old friends, it's also special when someone comes up to you and presents you with something that fills a gap in the history of the AFMS.

This happened this year at Syracuse. Bob Livingston of the Syracuse club brought me a large bundle of old newsletters. He had received them from an old member who is now unable to attend the regional functions. Among the newsletters were some of significant importance: March 1964 - with pictures on the cover of the Eastern Federation Officers; September 1964 - with pictures of the Northwest Federation Officers; AFMS Newsletters from July/Aug 1969; Nov/Dec 1969; Jan/Feb 1970. A Northern Pacific Railway Company flyer for the American Federation's Yakima, Washington show in September 1965. A page regarding plans for the 1967 Washington DC national show. And a booklet on how the All American Federation Club Award will be conducted, circa 1970.

As you can see, all these items are of real importance and I can't thank Bob enough for bringing the donation of Gerald E. Huveldt, former president of the Syracuse Gem and Mineral Club to me for the historical files. There are some things of real interest in these items and I will bring some of these facts forward in the next few months.

Please remember to ask old members of your respective clubs if they have anything in their files that might help the AFMS to "fill in the gaps."

Shirley Leeson
AFMS Historian
shirleyleeson@msn.com and beauholland@salmoninternet.com

Scenes From the 2004 AFMS Meeting at Syracuse, NY

photos by C. Weinberger

AFMS Treasurer Toby Cozens

President Marve Starbuck (MWF), Parliamentarian Ruth Bailey, 1st Regional VP Jim Robinson (SFMS), 3rd Regional VP Joy Bourne (EFMLS), Secretary Anne Cook.

3rd Regional VP Shirley Leeson (CFMS), 2nd Regional VP Bob Carlson (RMFMS) and President-Elect Bill Smith (NFMS).
"The Big Show for All America" is history. As you'll recall, we had the lofty goal of 100 exhibits at the combined show, July in Syracuse. Thanks to the great cooperation and participation by many from the various federations we had over 90 total non-competitive and competitive exhibits. You came through for us in spades. Folks are still talking about it. It was without question, the best in the East in a decade or more.

Secondly, we made a plea for help with demonstration and again you answered our call. Using your skills and creative talents, you all showed beginner and seasoned folks some of the wide ranging possibilities in this great hobby of ours. Ditto the appreciation and thanks from above.

Thanks again. "Syracuse" is glad to have done it and we're looking forward to attending the 2005 AFMS Convention in St. Louis next August.

"YES, I'M A SENIOR CITIZEN!" contributed by Cathy Gaber

I'm the life of the party... even if it lasts until 8 p.m. I'm very good at opening childproof caps... with a hammer. I'm usually interested in going home before I get to where I am going. I'm usually awake many hours before my body allows me to get up. I'm smiling all the time because I can't hear a thing you're saying. I'm very good at telling stories, over and over and over and over... I'm aware that other people's grandchildren are not nearly as cute as mine. I'm so cared for... long term care, eye care, dental care. I'm not really grouchy. I'm very good at telling stories, over and over and over and over... I'm beginning to realize that aging is not for wimps. I'm having trouble remembering simple words like.... I'm wrinkled, saggy, lumpy, and that's just my underwear. I will report to my club or Federation officers, Bureau of Land management or other authorities, I will cooperate with field trip leaders and those in designated authority in all collecting areas. I will fill all excavation holes which may be dangerous to livestock. I will leave all gates as found. I will encourage 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 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.

NOW is the time for your club to plan to enter one of the AFMS competitions. Coming up in future issues will be information about... Bulletin Editors Contest, All-American Club Award, Slide Program Competition, Club Rockhound of the Year. Each offers a wonderful way for you to learn more about your club and to share with others the wonderful things you are doing.

2004 AFMS MEETING - LAST WORDS
by Bob Livingston

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AFMS CODE OF ETHICS

1. Adherence to the AFMS Code of Ethics assures compliance with most statutes and regulations governing collecting on public lands and encourages respect for private property rights and the environment. Clubs are urged to read the AFMS Code of Ethics in at least one meeting every year, to publish the Code frequently in the club newsletter, and to compel compliance on club field trips.

2. Individuals and clubs are urged to write their elected representatives and land use management agency supervisors regarding issues of rule making, legislation and enforcement affecting field collecting of minerals and fossils.

3. Individuals and clubs are urged to join and support activities of the American Lands Access Association (ALAA), a sister organization with responsibility for advancing the interests of earth science amateurs with legislatures and land use management agencies.

4. The AFMS will receive a report from ALAA at its annual meeting.

5. The AFMS endorses the principle of multiple use of public lands as a guarantee of continuing recreational opportunities.

6. Wilderness and monument designations are inconsistent with the principle of multiple use. In view of the vast amount of public land already designated as wilderness and monuments, future such designations should be minimal, taking into account the increased demand for recreational opportunities, including rockhounding, created by a growing population.

7. In furtherance of the principle of multiple use, the AFMS believes that laws, regulations and rules established by relevant governmental authorities should be designed to allow free and full public access to all public lands, coupled with minimal restrictions on the recreational collection of minerals, fossils, gemstone materials and other naturally occurring materials.

8. A right to collect minerals and fossils on public lands should be protected by statute.

9. The AFMS urges its members to work with any or all government authorities to achieve a good working relationship in order to improve the "Public Image" of rockhounds everywhere.

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