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**THE PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE**

by Dr. Robert Carlson, AFMS President

I am your new AFMS President. As such, I am honored to lead this great organization.

My assessment of the health of the Organization follows:

Membership has been declining over the past several years. Consequently, we have established an ad-hoc committee on advertising to promote the AFMS. The goal is to attract new members.

We are fiscally sound, having had budget surpluses over the past several years, even though the past many budgets have been written in red. This anomaly is explained by the fact that many persons serving the AFMS do not submit their expenses.

The Junior Program seems to be gaining momentum. This program won't really see fruits for many years. As teens turn into adults, they have other interests, such as obtaining an education, starting a family, and pursuing a career. It isn't until they get older that they return to Rockhounding. But we are planting the seeds.

Our sister organization, AL-aa, is barely hanging on by the skin of its teeth. This is the organization established so that rockhounds would have an opportunity to lobby Congress in the event legislation is introduced that would curtail our collecting rights (like the recent fossil bill). This bill and perhaps others, will probably be reintroduced again during the next session and we need to support this organization and be eternally vigilant. This is an area that needs more attention.

This past year, two instances occurred where two Regional Federation Shows were held on the same weekend. One of those was the AFMS show. We have a mechanism in place to prevent that; it is called the AFMS Show Coordinator. Before making a firm show date commitment, please contact that individual. Be first.

The ad-hoc Committee to promote uniform judging of Competitive Exhibits across all Federations was formed into a Permanent Committee. This is an experiment that worked.

Our committees to honor members for their service - such as Rockhound of the Year, Bulletin Editor Hall of Fame, Club Publications, and Program Competition - are all functioning well.

All in all, the health of the AFMS is good. Major areas for improvement are in Membership, and protecting our rights to collect.

Comments for improvement in these and other areas are welcome.

Bob

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**AFMS SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM - 2006**

by Dee Holland, Foundation President

In 2001 the AFMS Scholarship Foundation exceeded $1,000,000.00 in scholarships. The Fund, which began modestly in 1964, with a $300. single scholarship, is now contributing $48,000 per year to twenty-four regional scholarships, which amounts to Twelve new scholarships of $2,000 each and twelve second year scholarships of $2,000. The Fund has grown through individual and club donations, auctions, and memorials.

This year we are happy to announce the Honorees and their students beginning the Fall Semester, 2006:

California:  
- Dr. Barrie Bierer of Walnut Creek, CA  
  Students: William Amidon, Cal Tech, Pasadena, CA  
  Amy Hoffman, Cal Tech, Pasadena, CA

Eastern:  
- Richard F. Yuretich, Amherst, MA  
  Students: Nancy Price, Univ of Massachusetts  
  Sarah Schillawauski, Univ of Mass.

Midwest:  
- Kitty & Marvin Starbuck, Vicksburg, MI  
  Students: Christopher K. Jones, Western Michigan Univ, Kalamazoo  
  Amy K. Novak, Western Michigan Univ, Kalamazoo, MI

Northwest:  
- Kristine J. Crossen, Anchorage AK  
  Students: Matt Bowes, Univ of Alaska, Fairbanks, AK  
  Brad Burich, Univ of Alaska, Anchorage, AK

Rocky Mt:  
- Dave London, Norman, OK  
  Students: Kerry A. Paul, Univ of Oklahoma, Norman, OK  
  Amie Garcia, Univ of Oklahoma, Norman, OK

South Central:  
- Barbara Lee Dutrow, Baton Rouge, LA  
  Students: Haiying Sun, Louisiana State Univ, Baton Rouge, LA  
  Corine Armstrong, Louisiana State Univ, Baton Rouge, LA

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Checks should be made payable to “AFMS” and sent to: AFMS CENTRAL OFFICE, PO BOX 302, GLYNDON, MD 21071-0302

Remit payment to the AFMS Central Office.

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To promote popular interest and education in the various Mineralogy, Paleontology, Lapidary and other related fields.

To inform and encourage individuals to join and support societies and other related organizations.

To promote the formation of new Societies and other related organizations.

To further international good will and fellowship.

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I thought for my first message, I’d let those of you who don’t know me, in on what my interests are and what my back-ground in the hobby is.

You’ll probably laugh about this, but I was introduced to the hobby because of a Christmas gift in 1971. It was a Sears Tumbler Kit. After tumbbling the stones included in the package, we looked in the yellow pages of the San Diego Phone Directory and found San Diego Mineral & Gem Society. We took our “prized stones” down to the meeting and were rudely awakened to the real world of rockhounds. We joined that night and were surrounded by “instant friends and teachers.” We were fortunate that this was a club with all the assets, a workshop of huge proportions, a museum of minerals, fossils and lapidary specimens on the premises and friends who were willing to share their knowledge and expertise.

This new media for us, Gordon and me, took us to rock shows throughout Southern California and Arizona. We were on the road almost every weekend, visiting rockhounds and learning. Every show I encountered was willing to stop and talk and offer advice and information. We attended our first Tucson Experience in 1973. And also visited Quartzsite for the first time that year.

I attended my first AFMS/CFMS show at Anaheim in 1972. It was at the Convention Center and blew me away. I look back on many of the early shows I attended as giving me the insight into where the hobby was in the ‘70’s when I joined, and where it is today.

I found my true calling by taking on the editorship of the Pegmatite, bulletin of the SDMG. I held the job for 20 years and only released it because of Gordon’s serious health problems. But before this I was a member of the SDMG Board of Directors for those 20 years, and president three times. In 1981 I was asked to assist the CFMS Bulletin Aid and the following year was named CFMS Bulletin Aid. In 1983 I was elected Secretary of CFMS, which I held for two years and went through the chairs becoming CFMS President in 1987, twenty years ago this year.

In 1984 the San Diego Mineral & Gem Society celebrated it’s 50th anniversary by hosting the AFMS/CFMS combined show and convention in the convention center downtown San Diego. Acting as assistant to the show chairman, Bill Tirk, it was my responsibility to bring in guest exhibits. Something I’m extremely proud of, even today.

In 1985 Betty Crawford, the incoming AFMS President asked me to take on the show consultant chair, a position I held till 2000. I was able to attend most of the AFMS convention and shows during this time and made many friends throughout the U.S. And because of my interest in bulletins and the editors who published them I was able to establish a great relationship with many throughout the U.S., Canada, New Zealand, Australia and England. This was during the time of “snail-mail” and not the internet we have today – where there is now instant communication.

In 1998 I was asked if I’d take the AFMS Historian’s position, and I answered in the affirmative. I had already taken on the job of CFMS Historian in 1995. In 2001 I offered to take on the NFMS Historian job because nobody wanted it. You may think this a little odd, but these three jobs, plus the AFMS and CFMS shows and conventions I have attended have made me realize what the CFMS and ultimately the AFMS is all about. I believe I have a great understanding of what has been, is, and hopefully where I hope to be in the future. It is a real passion for seeing the AFMS continue. I feel humbled to have achieved this position this year and with your help, go on next year to complete the role as president, and I wouldn’t have thought of attempting such a feat without Dee by my side.

My goal this year is to assist Dr. Bob Carlson in any way I can and to assist those chairmen who ask my assistance. I look forward to writing a column each month for the next two years and will let you know my feelings about the strengths and also areas where I believe we can improve the AFMS. If you have any thoughts on these subjects, please contact me at: <shirleyleeson@msn.com> AND <beauholland@salmoninternet.com>.

Please use both e-mail, as my own is temperamental and some messages disappear in cyberspace. We also travel between California and Idaho, when we’re not at a convention.

Shirley
**HAVING FUN - JUNIOR ACTIVITIES**

**CAREERS IN THE EARTH SCIENCES**

by Jim Brace-Thompson, Junior Activities

For many kids, an initial fascination with colorful minerals or fantastic fossils abates with the teen years as school, sports, band, dating, video games, part-time jobs, cars, and so many other activities and temptations compete for their time and interest. But there are those few intense teens—and every club has seen at least a couple—who maintain a consuming interest in our rocky earth. For those kids who truly get bitten by the bug, you can offer invaluable guidance by introducing them to the varied career paths toward which their interest might lead.

Such careers are found in a number of industries and sectors, including: the gem and jewelry business, the petroleum and mining industries, environmental consulting, the federal government (USGS, BLM, National Park Service, or NASA, to name but a few agencies), national laboratories, state agencies, university research and teaching, paleontology, natural history museums, and K-12 education.

Last month, I directed attention to Earth Science Week, an annual event sponsored by the American Geological Institute (AGI) to promote a better public understanding and appreciation of the earth sciences. The AGI web site also provides helpful links telling about the varied careers open to youth wishing to take their interest in rocks, minerals, and fossils to the next level. Check it out at www.agiweb.org. Click on the "Geoscience Careers" tab. The Geological Institute of America also has a "Careers" tab on their web site (www.gia.edu).

Finally, you can direct teens to the web sites of colleges and universities with particularly strong geology, earth science, or paleontology departments, such as UCLA, Berkeley, San Diego State, or UC-Santa Barbara in my home state of California. You might give them an assignment to explore a department web site, find the name of the department’s undergraduate advisor, and contact that person to solicit more information about educational and career opportunities related to your teen’s particular interest, and then write up a brief paper or give an oral report about their findings. Such an assignment also gives a teen a leg up when later making the big decision about going on to a college education.

Work to help direct your club’s teens to web sites of organizations like the AGI, GIA, and university geology departments as one way to direct their time and interest. But there are those few intense teens—and every club has seen at least a couple—who maintain a consuming interest in our rocky earth. For those kids who truly get bitten by the bug, you can offer invaluable guidance by introducing them to the varied career paths toward which their interest might lead.

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Work to help direct your club’s teens to web sites of organizations like the AGI, GIA, and university geology departments as one way to direct their vision toward potential lifelong careers while—as always—having fun!

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**BE SAFE - BE WELL**

by Don Monroe, AFMS Safety Chair

**'Strangers in Paradise'**

We all may tend to feel that we pretty well know our way around out in the woods or on field trips and probably are not aware of dangers that may exist in unfamiliar locations. Situations discussed with me at the recent AFMS/SFMS meeting in Nashville reminded me that there is so much that I don’t know about conditions in any other areas and I’ll bet that some of you don’t know either.

Picture yourself out in the desert in the Southwest and you encounter an oil well that is being pumped or you find a pipeline pumping station. It may well be un-monitored and may not be adequately fenced. Well, it looks fine but have you thought about poisons and gases that may be present? Do you rely on your knowledge and sense of smell? I no longer feel comfortable in that situation. We all know about hydrogen sulfide and the "rotten egg" smell but may not know that it is an extremely deadly gas when concentrated. I lived close to an industrial plant that periodically released quantities of the noxious gas, which is very heavy and drifts over farmland where it killed both vegetation and livestock. Because of the foul odor, you would think that it would be difficult to get into trouble but that is not the case. Plant workers would become accustomed to the smell and not be able to differentiate between an irritating concentration and a deadly concentration of the gas. Fatalities did result.

In the Southeast we have a small tan scorpion, which is often referred to as a pine scorpion. Yes, it will sting you and it really does hurt but is almost never fatal. In the West they have scorpions that really pack a wallop. They bear some resemblance to their eastern cousins but they can kill. They also have snakes in the West as we find in most parts of the country but big western diamondback rattlesnakes can inject enough venom to kill quickly.

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**AMERICAN LANDS ACCESS ASSOCIATION - PROTECTING THE PUBLIC LANDS FOR THE PUBLIC**

Please enroll me as a member of A.L.A.A.! Annual membership fee - $25.00

____New _______ Renew _______ Date:_________________________

| Name: ______________________________ | Address: ____________________________ |
| ______________________________ | State: ______________________ Zip: __________ |
| Phone: _________________________ | E-mail: ____________________________ |

Club Affiliation: __________________________ Interest: __________________________

Remit fees to the A.L.A.A. Treasurer

Norman W. Hanschu, 6607 Sturbridge Ln, Canton, MI 48187-2638

The A.L.A.A. is a 501(C)(4) organization. Its purpose is promoting and ensuring the right of amateur hobby collecting, recreational prospecting and mining, and the use of public and private lands for educational and recreational purposes; and to carry the voice of all amateur collectors and hobbyists to our elected officials, government regulators and public land managers. Contributions to A.L.A.A. are not deductible as charitable contributions for Federal Tax purposes.

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Do you know if you have any severe allergies? Being allergic to insect stings can create a far more hazardous situation than snakebite. Wasps, hornets, biting flies, biting ants are all out there waiting for you.

Stay alert and watch where you put your hands, feet and other body parts. The speed of a striking snake is awesome and it has been said that they can reach out a third of their length or more.

Finally stay calm (if you can). Increasing your heart rate or blood pressure is counter-productive. Having been bitten as a kid, I know it is easy to do exactly the wrong thing. I ran like heck and my heart rate shot through the roof. Sunstroke, dehydration, sunburn, and many other outdoor problems can do bad things to you. We will talk about these other things some other day.

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By Jim Brace-Thompson, Junior Activities

*AFMS Newsletter - November, 2006*
AFMS Club Rockhounds of the Year

Eastern Federation
The Philadelphia Mineralological Society would like to honor Leonard Morgan as the AFMS Club Rockhound of the Year. Leonard joined the Society in 1930 (member #284) and has been "Mr. always there, always contributing" ever since. Locally, he is well known for having discovered and promoted a well-known carnallite site which is noted in several field guides. Amazingly, this was done by train and trolley car. Though retired and no longer driving, Leonard still finds ways to collect specimens. For example, ilmenite sand from underneath the Atlantic City Boardwalk. And he never fails to identify name and locality of any specimen he is asked to examine. The Society salutes Leonard on his 99th birthday and 77th year as a member.

submitted by Douglas Klegler, President

The Yucapia Valley Gem And Mineral Society wishes to honor as our 2006 AFMS Club Rockhound of the Year, Mr. Lee Peterson. Lee is a very active member who has held many offices including, president, vice president, show chairman, and federation director. Concurrently, he has served as chairman of many committees. He is always willing to help in every aspect of our club. In addition, he has organized club field trips. If a job needs doing, he is always willing to jump in and help. Thus, we feel that Lee richly deserves this award.

submitted by Judy Christopher, President

Midwest Federation
The Sac and Fox Lapidary Club selected John and Vera Golston as their 2006 AFMS Club Rockhounds of the Year. The Golstons became members of the Club in the early 1970's while it was located in Ottumwa, Iowa. John was the treasurer for many years and also served as chairman of the annual rock show in the late 1970's. Due to a decline in membership, the Club was moved to Fairfield, Iowa in 1996. During the past 11 years there is no one in our membership as faithful as John and Vera have been in attendance (despite a 50 mile trip each time). Both John and Vera were willing to do anything they have been asked to do, whether it is working in the annual show, providing security for the show, providing programs or being the hosts at our meetings. It is because of this kind of faithfulness and encouragement that our club has continued. Neither John nor Vera are lapidaries. They just love pretty rocks.

submitted by Bill Rathburn

California Federation
The Sutter Buttes Gem & Mineral Society would like to nominate Joan and Phil Hoskins for Education through Sharing. Joan and Phil joined our club in 1996. Phil has served as a Director for several years and as Program Chairman for one year, and provided many good programs that year. Phil is always ready to demonstrate carving or talk about fossils. He has served as both Vice President and President. He works with the children's group at the club and has conducted enrichment programs in local schools sharing his love and knowledge of all things fossil. During his tenure as President while the GMSS was hosting the combined AFMS and EFMLS shows, Joan made sure the club's exhibits were up to par by single handedly driving to Chicago to retrieve Sue the Tyrannosaurus Rex and a mastodon as well. Speaking of mastodons, Jay helped unearth the Hyde Park mastodon in New York. He has fostered the interest in fossils in the society and has worked to bring a variety of speakers and programs to our meetings. Whether leading field trips in a canoe or on land, volunteering behind the scenes at the Paleontological Research Institute and its Museum of the Earth in Ithaca, presenting to the club or writing award-winning articles for our newsletter, his enthusiasm and abilities are apparent. Anyone who has parked a mastodon, used for educational purposes, his enthusiasm and abilities are apparent.

submitted by John Sweeney, President

Rocky Mountain Federation
Tom and Betty Pearson have rendered outstanding support to the activities of the Chaparral Rockhounds for over twenty years. Both have led numerous out-of-town visitors on field trips in the area. Both of them have also gone on long range field trips with the club, sleeping in a pup tent. Tom for many years has set up and torn down the facilities for our annual Gem and Mineral show. Betty has exhibited carvings in both our shows and other events around town. Betty has presented programs for our meetings and for many years prepared the coffee and cookies for our meetings. Both have served on committees preparing for Federation Shows. The Chaparral Rockhounds are honored to name Tom and Betty Pearson as the AFMS Club Rockhounds of the Year for 2006.

submitted by Howell T Whiting, Past President

AFMS Club Rockhounds of the Year

The purpose of the American Lands Access Association (A.L.A.A.) is to protect the public lands for the public! Formed in 1991 as a 501(C)(4) organization, A.L.A.A. continues to involve itself in pending legislation, both at the Federal and Local level that would effect our ability to collect fossils, minerals and rocks. In the past, A.L.A.A. has been most influential in defeating the "Vertebrate Paleontological Resources Protection Act of 1992" which would have prohibited the collection of fossil materials on public lands. A.L.A.A. continues to be involved in current attempts to limit collection areas as well.

To continue this work and to broaden it's ability to "get the word out", A.L.A.A. is joining the Blue Ribbon Coalition, an organization with similar goals to that of A.L.A.A.

Are you a member of A.L.A.A.? Is your club? Membership fees are $25 per year. In order to continue to work to keep our public lands open for us, A.L.A.A. needs your support. An application form can be found on page 4 of this issue. More information about A.L.A.A. can also be found on its website www.aolands.org.

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Marve Starbuck - President <mionedump @iserv.net>
Dick Pankey - Vice President <dickpankey@juno.com>
Ezzi Burns - Secretary <Isobil@aol.com>
Norman Hanschu - Treasurer <mahanschu@prodigy.net>

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Jim Hurtbut <Jhurth@earthlinknet.com>
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Bob Carlson <president@uafed.org>
Howell Whiting <Htwdhw@dfn.com>

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AFMS Newsletter - November, 2006 Page 5
Here is the listing of the people who have agreed to serve as AFMS Chairs for 2006-7. Please feel free to contact these people or the person in your regional federation who serves on the as well - if you need information or have ideas to share with them.

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Bulletin Editor Hall of Fame
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Commemorative Stamp
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Isabella Burns
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Education-All American
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Endowment Fund
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Financial Investment
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Historian
Shirley Leeson
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International Relations
Janet Smith
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Judges Training Seminar
Dee Holland, Chair
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Junior Programs
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Long Range Planning
Jim Robinson
<jhr30@netzero.net>

Name Badge
Frank Mullaney
<rockyfiv@aol.com>

Nominating
Jim Robinson
<jhr30@netzero.net>

Parliamentarian
Ruth Bailey
<ru51825@aol.com>

Program Competition
<margaret@qtm.net>

Safety
Don Monroe
<donmonroe@att.net>

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

Supply and Publications
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<bjb@wildblue.net>

Ways and Means
Bill Smith
<beetlebill@kanokla.net>

Uniform Rules
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<jfh@earthlink.net>

URC Eligibility Files
Anne Cook
<secretary@amfed.org>

Website/Webmaster
Marty Hart - Chair
<webmaster@amfed.org>

Ad Hoc AFMS 60th Anniversary Planning
Shirley Leeson, Chair
<shirleyleeson@msn.com> and <beauholland@salmoninternet.com>
Bill Cook, noted mineral collector, passed away at his home in Cleveland Heights, OH following a courageous battle with pancreatic cancer in early September. Well known to those attending Midwest Federation and American Federation meetings, Bill, along with his wife Anne, were always involved with judging mineral displays at the shows. Bill served as chairman of the AFMS Uniform Rules Committee and helped formulate many of the rules that are used today.

What many do not know about Bill is that he was one of the founders of a small Cleveland, OH company - Cleveland Crystals - that makes synthetic crystals that are made to control lasers. He was the author or co-author of several papers and books and held several patents for ceramic and crystal formulations.

His keen interest in minerals led him to become a founding member of the Cleveland Mineralogical Society and the Cleveland Micromineral Society. He volunteered for over 30 years at the Cleveland Museum of Natural History and was named an adjunct curator in mineralogy in recognition of his service. He (and Anne) was named as AFMS Honorary Scholarship Recipient by the Midwest Federation in 2001.

Bill was an avid bridge and tennis play. He also was interested in financial investments and served as a financial advisor for the Midwest Federation.

The Cook’s enjoyed their yearly sojourns to mineral shows where they continued sharing their love of minerals as dealers - Virgin Valley Sales. Often Bill would be "off somewhere", his well annotated copy of Flesher’s Glossary of Mineral Species tucked beneath his arm in his quest for new or better specimens to add to his collection. Never one to flaunt his knowledge, you could ask him a question and receive a good, solid answer that was given in his modest, quiet manner.

Bill is survived by his loving wife Anne, who serves as our AFMS Secretary, his four children - William, Elizabeth, Barbara and Susan, and three grandchildren.

Contributions in his memory should be directed to the AFMS Scholarship Foundation, % of your regional federation chairperson, or to Arlene Burkhalter, Scholarship Foundation Treasurer (PO Box 1007: Choctaw, OK 73020).

**AFMS Regional Federation Conventions**

from Mary Trammell, AFMS Show Coordinator

Here is the schedule of upcoming Regional Federation Conventions that I have to this date. Please remember to contact me prior to finalizing any dates if your federation has plans for any shows other than those shown here so we can avoid conflicts. You can reach me at <trammell@our-town.com>.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>California Federation</th>
<th>Eastern Federation</th>
<th>Midwest Federation</th>
<th>Northwest Federation</th>
<th>Rocky Mountain Federation</th>
<th>South Central Federation</th>
<th>Southeast Federation</th>
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<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>Nov. 17-19 W Palm Beach, FL</td>
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<td>2007</td>
<td>June 15-17 Lancaster, CA</td>
<td>Oct. 6 - 7 Newark, NY</td>
<td>Aug. 11-12 Houghton, MI</td>
<td>Aug. 3-5 Butte, MT</td>
<td>AFMS June 5 - 10 Roswell, NM</td>
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<td>2008</td>
<td>Feb. 23-24 Jackson, MS</td>
<td>June 20-22 Lincoln, NE</td>
<td>June 20-26 Ontario, OR</td>
<td>Oct. 31 - Nov. 2 Tulsa, OK</td>
<td>AFMS Sept. 25-28 Humble, TX</td>
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<td>2009</td>
<td>May 16-17 Bena, OH</td>
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AFMS Endowment Fund: Thanksgiving

by Joy Bourne, AFMS Chair

As we reach November, it has become traditional in our great nation, to reflect upon and celebrate the many blessings we have received throughout the year. We celebrate the special day, called Thanksgiving, and we offer our thanks to those responsible for the harvest. The AFMS Endowment Fund has been especially blessed this year, achieving a new record harvest of funding from the efforts of those who conducted, those who contributed to our annual fund drive, and also from those who made individual and club contributions to the Fund. What a fitting time to say “Thank You All for your Special Support during 2006!”

We have already cited the names of our committee, and of some of those who have made other contributions to the Fund earlier this year. It remains to recognize the following contributions to the AFMS Endowment Fund which have been received since our last report in the March issue of the AFMS Newsletter:

March 2006
Mount Hood Rock Club of Beaverton OR. - NFMS
Club contribution in memory deceased member, Venia Dunn

August 2006
Isabella and Bill Burns
Monterey Park, CA. - CFMS
Individual Fund-raising effort
Mrs. Betty Leach
Reseda, CA. - CFMS
Individual contribution in memory of her late husband, Charles.
Ye Old Timers Mineral Club, Inc.
Pittsburg, CA. - CFMS
Club contribution.

September 2006
John Washburn
Rochester, IL - MWF
Individual Fund-raising effort.
Fossils For Fun Society, Inc.
Gold River, CA. - CFMS
Club contribution.

Individual and club contributions to the Fund are always welcomed, and may be sent at any time to the AFMS Treasurer, Pat LaRue, earmarked for the AFMS Endowment Fund. Pat will deposit your gift in the Endowment Fund restricted funds, which means we will not spend your money - but will use the interest generated by the Fund to enable outreach programs of AFMS from which we all benefit.

To illustrate: This year (up to the end of August), the interest from your contributions has paid for badges for the Junior Rockhound program; for Judges to attend the training sessions at the Wildacres workshop; for A/V materials and distribution of winning entries from the AFMS Program Competition to all regional Slide and Video Libraries; not to mention other supplies furnished to the regional federations. Worthwhile? I think you will agree these are all programs for which we should all give a hearty Thank You!

Joy

Thanks From June Zeitner

[Many of you already know that June Zeitner broke her left femur over the summer. She's been in the hospital and in rehab learning to walk and should be home again by the time you read this message.

June's sister May writes that June has a wonderful, determined attitude and is "learning" every day.

Let's shower her with cards - (5203 S Canyon, Rapid City, SD 57702) and let her know how much we appreciate all she's done for us and for our hobby.]

June writes:
"I want to thank all of those who sent cards and letters to me in the hospital and rehab after I broke my hip. I can't walk yet, and may be in rehab for two weeks or more yet. The thoughtful messages have helped a lot!

Gratefully,
June Zeitner

Play on Words
from Rhonda Suls

Abundance - A social event for bread rolls.
Baguettes - Miniature bags.
Cartoons - Music while you drive.
Circumference - The knight who invented the Round Table.
Donation - Where female deer live.
Flashback - a man with his raincoat on backwards.
Goblet - A baby goblin.
Icing - What I do when I attend choir practice.
Laughing stock - cattle with a sense of humor.
Ostracized - Roughly the same size as an ostrich.
Plateau - The highest form of flattery.
Relapse - To run around the track again.
Romania - Crazy about kayaks.
Stifle - No room for any more pigs on the farm.
Virtuoso - A musician with really high morals.
Wallaby - Someone who aspires to be a kangaroo.
Warehouse - A building that grows fangs and fur every full moon and bites people.

A Bad Day!
from JoAnne White

A man was working on his motorcycle on his patio and his wife was in the house in the kitchen. The man was racing the engine on the motorcycle and somehow, the motorcycle slipped into gear. The man, still holding the handlebars, was dragged through a glass patio door and along with the motorcycle dumped onto the floor inside the house.

The wife, hearing the crash, ran into the dining room, and found her husband laying on the floor, cut and bleeding, the motorcycle laying next to him and the patio door shattered. The wife ran to the phone and summoned an ambulance. Because they lived on a fairly large hill, the wife went down the several flights of long steps to the street to direct the paramedics to her husband.

After the ambulance arrived and transported the husband to the hospital, the wife upraised the motorcycle and pushed it outside. Seeing that gas had spilled on the floor, the wife obtained some paper towels, blotted up the gasoline, and threw the towels in the toilet.

The husband was treated at the hospital and was released to come home. After arriving home, he looked at the shattered patio door and the damage done to his motorcycle. He became despondent, went into the bathroom, sat on the toilet and smoked a cigarette. After finishing the cigarette, he flipped it between his legs into the toilet bowl while still seated.

The wife, who was in the kitchen, heard a loud explosion and her husband screaming. She ran into the bathroom and found her husband laying on the floor. His trousers had been blown away and he was suffering burns on the buttocks, the back of his legs and his groin. The wife again ran to the phone and called for an ambulance.

The same ambulance crew was dispatched and the wife met them at the street. The paramedics loaded the husband on the stretcher and began carrying him to the street. While they were going down the stairs to the street accompanied by the wife, one of the paramedics asked the wife how the husband had burned himself. She told them and the paramedics started laughing so hard, one of them tipped the stretcher and dumped the husband out. He fell down the remaining steps and broke his arm.

Now THAT is a bad day!