JOIN THE EXCITEMENT IN ROSWELL, NM

by Bob Carlson, AFMS President

As a member of the Chaparral Rockhounds and President of the American Federation (AFMS), I would like to take this opportunity to offer a very warm welcome to the joint Rocky Mountain and the AFMS annual Gem and Mineral Convention. The welcome is especially warm because the festivities will be held in June in Roswell, New Mexico.

Roswell is an oasis in the southern New Mexico desert and is noted for its strange events. In addition to beautiful gems, stunning jewelry, fabulous mineral specimens, intriguing fossils and informative educational displays that you will see at the show, there will be some unusual incidents and displays. Allen, some might say.

So, if you want some unparalleled fun, come see us in Roswell.

LET ME WHET YOUR APPETITE!

A few of the special activities that we'll have at the 2007 Convention this year in Roswell include:

New Mexico Minerals
Parade of States
Field Trips
AFMS 60th Anniversary!

Let me whet your appetite!

New Mexico is well known for its fabulous mineral wealth. On Friday afternoon we'll have a seminar on the Minerals of New Mexico moderated by Dr. Virgil Lueth of the New Mexico Bureau of Mines. All of the speakers at the seminar will be past recipients of the AFMS Scholarship Foundation Honorary Awards.

In addition to all of the competitive and non-competitive exhibits associated with RMFMS and AFMS Conventions, we'll also have a special display that we call the "Parade of States". Rocky Mountain Federation State Directors are being encouraged to enter a display of their state rocks and minerals. A cash award of $25 will be given to the best display!

Field trips are being planned for both during and after the show. These include two trips during the show to hunt for "Pecos Valley Diamonds" and a three-day trip after the conclusion of the show to several sites west of Roswell. We'll have more information on these trips later this spring, but if you are interested in going on any or all, please fill out the "Waiver of Liability" form included in this newsletter and send it in with your registration.

AFMS 60th Anniversary! We're planning to have a special "Birthday Bash" for the AFMS on Thursday night at the time reserved for the Cracker Barrel. Shirley Leeson and her committee are planning on several surprises during this event and we know you won't want to miss it!

All of the registration forms and information on the host motel for the convention are printed in this newsletter starting on page 9 or you can download them from the AFMS website <www.amfed.org/show2007.html>.

Mark your calendar and make your plans. The Roswell Convention (June 7 - 10, 2007) is one that you won't want to miss!
FROM THE PRESIDENT

As I sit here at my desk, with the house surrounded by over a foot of snow and another foot predicted, I have a chance to reflect on the finances of the AFMS. We are in good shape.

Our last dues increase was in 1994, over a decade ago. During that decade, we have increased the level of services. We went from mailing two issues of the AFMS newsletter to each club to three. We started travel reimbursement for the President or President-Elect to attend Regional Federation Shows (previously the AFMS Presidents attended as many Regional Shows as their pocketbooks would allow). We initiated travel reimbursement for key Committee Chairpersons to the AFMS Meeting.

The AFMS Program Competition has expanded dramatically to provide high quality Videos for each Regional Federation to enhance their Program Libraries. The Juniors Program provides a series of badges to Juniors that complete prescribed projects. We have established a Judges Training Program where the AFMS pays the tuition for one member from each Regional Federation, each year.

The cost of nearly everything has gone up in the past decade. Postal Rates have increased by about one-third, which means that our communication costs have risen. Although transportation costs have nearly doubled, our payment structure limits the amount that the AFMS can reimburse; so much of that increase is borne by those who travel. Some of the other miscellaneous expenses that have increased are the audit fees, treasurer bonding fees, and even business card costs.

So, how can we expand services in the face of rising costs, while not raising dues? There are really two answers. The first is that many of the people who serve the AFMS do not submit their expenses for reimbursement. They prefer to donate both their time and their money. The second answer is the Endowment fund.

What is so significant about the Endowment fund? The Endowment fund was established to provide income for the general fund of the AFMS to help stave off a dues increase. Only the interest from the Endowment fund can be used for AFMS expenses.

The original tenets of the Endowment fund specified that no interest could be used from the fund until it reached the magical figure of $100,000. I wasn’t around when the Endowment fund was started, but I was at the announcement that the magic figure had been reached. I can’t remember when or where the announcement was made, but I believe that Henry Bonar made the announcement. Since that time, the restricted funds (read Principal) have grown, and the unrestricted funds (read Interest) have been used for special projects, to supplement the general fund, or to put back in the restricted fund category.

So, my message here is that, if you want to avoid a dues increase, support the Endowment fund. One of the easiest ways is to support the annual Endowment Fund Drawing which you’ll hear about in future issues of this newsletter. If you can’t donate something as a prize, buy a ticket. Buy several tickets.

RLC

DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR ANNOUNCES THE NEW “AMERICA THE BEAUTIFUL” PASS

from John Spuntaugh

Legislation passed in the waning days of the 2005 Congressional session established a new program of passes for the National Parks Service. Here’s the information on the new program that went into effect on January 1 of this year.

Dubbed “America the Beautiful, these passes will be needed to use certain facilities and access certain areas on public land. (If you’re a casual user, say you only visit one or two parks once or twice per year, you will still be able to pay for park use on an individual use basis) The new program replaces the Golden Eagle, Golden Age, and the Golden Access Passports as well as the National Parks Pass. Existing passes will remain valid until expired, lost or stolen. This means the lifetime passes will be valid unless lost or stolen at which time they will need to be replaced.

Cost of the four different passes in the new interagency program are:
1) a new annual interagency pass costing $80--For visitors to multiple federal sites, the pass offers unlimited coverage of entrance and standard amenity recreation fees for a specific period of time, typically a year, beginning from the date of sale.
2) a $10 lifetime senior pass for U.S. citizens 62 or over;
3) a free lifetime access pass for citizens with permanent disabilities; and
4) a new, free annual volunteer pass for volunteers acquiring 500 hours of service on a cumulative basis.

Information on the new passes can be found on the internet at: <www.doi.gov/news/06_News_Releases/061205.html>
The A.F.M.S. Newsletter is published monthly except January, July and August by the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies

Address corrections and changes
Subscription Information
Distribution Questions

Each Regional Federation Club is entitled to receive three (3) copies of the AFMS Newsletter. These are sent to the President, Editor and Secretary.

Subscriptions are $14.50 per year
Remit payment to the AFMS Central Office
Checks should be made payable to “AFMS”

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CONTENT — LETTERS
EDITORIAL COMMENTS — SUBMISSIONS

Any communication concerning the content or format of the Newsletter should be sent to the Editor:
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DEADLINE IS THE 1ST OF EACH MONTH PRECEDING PUBLICATION (i.e. APRIL 1 FOR THE MAY ISSUE)

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**AFMS Newsletter - February 2007**

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**ENDOWMENT FUND NEWS**

by Lizie Burns, AFMS Chair

Greetings For the New Year - 2007 (Already?)!

The chestnuts have been roasted, and Santa has gone back to the North Pole to rest up and relax after his busy season of gift giving presents to all good little girls and boys. The New Year has begun and Thank-You’s are again in order.

We are delighted to report a special gift which was given to the AFMS Endowment Fund during the holiday season. We have received yet another generous contribution from the Gem, Lapidary and Mineralogical Club of Montgomery County, Maryland. Thank you to the many individuals and clubs who continue to support the special programs which are funded by the interest from the Fund.

We also wish to thank our tireless Endowment Fund committee for their excellent effort in coordinating the garnering of prizes and distribution of tickets in the 2006 drawing. They are currently in the process of lining up another outstanding array of prizes for the 2007 drive, and we will again be publishing pictures and descriptions of the same as soon as we receive them.

Our committee membership has changed slightly since last year. Marve Starbuck has moved on to take over as Chair of the American Lands Access Association, so has asked to be replaced as MF. Endowment Fund committee rep. Stepping in to fill the slot is John Washburn, and we trust that you folks in the Midwest will give him your full support as he approaches you with tickets in hand! Oh yes, all the regional committee persons have tickets for the new drive, and will be looking for your contributions. The 2007 committee roster is as follows:

- CFMS - Bural Loraue
  P. O. Box 1657, Rialto, CA 92377-1657
  909-874-5664 <plaruel@earthlink.net>

- EFLMS - Joy Bourne
  RR #1, Box 159A, Towanda, PA 18848-9739
  570-265-4594 <cspbrun@epix.net>

- MWF - John Washburn
  107 Deer Creek Rd., Rochester, IL 62563
  217-498-7713 <jwashburn2@msn.com>

- NFMS - Rocky McCull
  8330 272nd St. NW, Stanwood WA 98292
  425-629-2925 <rnmccull@comcast.net>

- SFMS - Howard Whiting
  2300 South Union Ave, Roswell, NM 88203
  505-622-5679 <htwhrdw@dfn.com>

- SCFMS - Tayce Speed
  4680 Wisteria, Dallas, TX 75211-8026
  214-337-9446 <cellsped@yahoo.com>

- SFMS - Ken Anderson
  2023 Briarwood Circle, Fort Mill, SC 29715
  803-547-5147 <k.da66@rjsonline.net>

If you’re at the club show, stop by the ALAA booth and say hello. If you’re not a member, we’ll be glad to sign you up. Membership is $25 per year and your funds are used to help promote an informed view about collecting to our Congressional members.

We’re looking forward to seeing and meeting you in Tucson this February and having you join us as a member. As rockhounds, we must work hard to preserve our ability to collect on public lands.

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**CONSERVATION & LEGISLATION**

Let’s all give Jon Spurny a big thank you for his great job in keeping us informed about legislative activities that affect our hobby over the past several years. He always explained the situation and encouraged AFMS members to become involved. I hope that he will continue to share with us his knowledge of wilderness and national lands legislation.

The American Lands Access Association (ALAA) is an excellent way to follow what is happening in our collecting areas. This group was formed several years ago as an independent organization to provide an opportunity for people interested in the earth sciences to know what is happening, to become involved, and to be able to give feedback on land issues. As a 501(C)(4) organization, ALAA can become involved in lobbying our elected officials, something our local clubs, as 501(C)(3) organizations are prohibited from doing.

In a previous article, Jon mentioned the passage of the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act (RAT) which approved the changing of fees to manage government lands (see page 2 for the latest news). I served on the DAC some years ago and served on a committee to study fees for public use. Their approach was somewhat different from the National Forest experimental programs in that all fees for public land use would be returned to the area where it was collected and be used to improve the area to benefit the users of the specific area and protect the land. This makes it very important for us to have friends of rockhounding volunteering to serve on RAC. Applications are accepted by BLM, National Forest Services, and National Monuments each year. I would like to encourage more of our members to check with their regional office and seek information about RAC applications, meetings, etc.

Out of 24 wilderness bill proposals introduced in the last Congress, only four passed both houses and been signed into law. I must state that one of those granted wilderness protection for 275,000 acres of federal land in Humboldt Co., CA. This was less than 15% of the acreage in the original bill that was introduced. This area consists of 26 miles of beach area which has mountains in the background. The other three bills affected areas in Idaho and Montana. Some of the bills that were defeated will be introduced in the next session of Congress. We must be vigilant!

The Bureau of Land Management presented awards to the Plains Exploration Co. of Los Angeles, to Chevron Corp. of Bakersfield and Matris Exploration Co. for their efforts to protect our environment. It is good to know that companies continue to work and also, protect the lands. As rockhounds, we respect the government lands and do not destroy their beauty.

There is a need to continue to work to keep our lands open for future generations to be able to enjoy mountains, study geology, and find new minerals, rocks, fossils and meteorites. Join ALAA, apply to become a RAC member, find time to attend RAC meetings. You do not have to be a member of the committee to attend their meetings. Write to your Congressmen with your encouragement to keep public lands open.

Membership fee for ALAA is $25 per year. For more information, watch the ALAA website: <www.amlands.org> or contact me at <sniibi@aol.com>

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**AFMS / ALAA IN TUCSON**

from Marve Starbuck, ALAA President

Through the generosity of the Tucson Gem & Mineral Society, the American Lands Access Association (ALAA) and AFMS will have a booth in the Convention Center Gallery during the Tucson club show (February 8-11). We will have information about ALAA and the AFMS plus the latest information about legislation that applies to our public lands and collecting rights.

If you’re at the club show, stop by the ALAA booth and say hello. If you’re not a member, we’ll be glad to sign you up. Membership is $25 per year and your funds are used to help promote an informed view about collecting to our Congressional members.

We’re looking forward to seeing and meeting you in Tucson this February and having you join us as a member. As rockhounds, we must work hard to preserve our ability to collect on public lands.

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**I'M NOT CLAIRVOYANT!**

by Steve Weinberger, AFMS Central Office

My dogs sometimes think I am, but I'm really not clairvoyant. With so many clubs in our seven regional federations, there is no way that I can know who holds the various club offices...unless you help me out and tell me.

The AFMS Newsletter is mailed to three officers of your club. They are the president, editor and federation director (liaison) or secretary. In a few cases, where the same individual holds two offices, I substitute the VP or Treasurer as the third recipient.

I'm not clairvoyant...so please, send me the name and address of your 2007 officers. We don't sell or share the mailing list nor do we put it out on the web, so your information remains confidential. Only my two dogs get to see it - and they're not talking!

There's lots of important information that needs to get to you and your club members each month so help us keep those lines of communication open.

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**AFMS Newsletter - February 2007**
Feet Hurt?

Check Footwear and Foot Care!

I remember some of my older relatives saying that when your feet hurt, you hurt all over. I never really gave it much thought until I approached significant maturity. Then, my feet began to cause a bit more trouble and I had to make changes in footwear and foot care. I well remember the lectures they gave us in the Army before we went on marches, hikes or field exercises. Always we had to have an extra pair of clean, dry socks and we had to inspect our feet carefully each morning and each evening and keep our boots and feet as dry as possible. It was darned good advice.

All of us must become more sensitive to our footwear. We should select sturdy shoes. I know ladies, they may not be stylish. We must have shoes that fit properly. We may have gotten in the habit of buying one particular size and they may no longer fit. Two factors can figure into this. First, I have been told that a few years ago manufacturers changed the standards for shoe sizes and shoes became ever so slightly smaller. A second factor is that as we become older, our feet may tend to change in size, width or length. We may need to consult a knowledgeable supplier of footwear so that we purchase the correct size so that we do not cramp our toes and also get the proper support. Much comfort can often be derived from either good quality arch supports or custom made orthotics. This may cost you a little money but can be a good investment in the long run.

The second part of the basic equation of foot comfort is foot care. Let’s start with the toe nails. An ingrown toe nail can really be a source of pain and infection - they can actually be dangerous. Nails should be trimmed straight across and trimmed off. They do not have to be cut extra short just don’t let them touch the inside of the toe of the shoe. Be alert to strange tendencies for the toe nails to “cup” or “curl” and watch out for discoloration. There are fungal growths that enjoy attacking your toe nails and they can cause big trouble.

Malformations of the toes and feet can occur and are bad news. Hammer toes, bunions and corns often result from poorly fitted shoes and may require medical assistance. There are other foot problems that I do not even know about and I am not sure that I want to.

Paying close attention to our toes and feet in general is most important. With age comes the onset of non-insulin dependent or type 2 diabetes. Diabetes has a nasty habit of causing sores or infections on the feet and this must be avoided. Untreated sores on the feet can even result in amputation or some other form of surgery.

In closing, let me remind you that our feet are fragile and we must not run down to our work area or studio for even a minute without proper footwear. It is really easy to break toes and often very little can be done to repair the damage. Having your toes taped together is less than comfortable and is, of ten, the only thing that can be done to achieve healing.

I must declare to you that I am not a physician and have no other contact with the medical profession other than sleeping with a nurse (my wife), but I do know that as long as we persist in walking upright, we must take care of our feet.

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THORA (TOBY) COZENS
1926 - 2006

Toby Cozens became AFMS Treasurer in 1993 and served in that capacity until she became ill in the spring of 2006. One of the first things that Toby did as Treasurer was require the AFMS to obtain bonding insurance, something that she felt was important to ensure the well-being of the Federation and its funds. She also obtained the services of an accountant who reviewed the Federation financial records each year and who assisted with the filing of tax reports.

She was a quiet, unassuming lady. Although it was her late husband Frank who was involved with lapidary, Toby loved the friendships she made while attending meetings of the West Seattle Rock Club with him and she became a member. She was persuaded to cut her first (and probably only) cabochon in 2005, years after she became a club member - a membership that lasted 40 years! After Frank’s death in 1984, she served as Treasurer for the Northwest Federation and, after the formation of ALAA, also agreed to serve as its treasurer. At the same time she also served as the AFMS Scholarship Coordinator for the Northwest Federation. The accounts always balanced to the penny!

A military nurse in the 1950’s, Toby had many hobbies and talents. She loved needlepoint and crocheting often donating afghans to the Northwest Federation for silent auctions or to friends and other organizations. She also loved to visit zoos where one of the first exhibits she would seek out would be that of the otters. Toby loved the adorable, playful creatures and laughed at their antics. She played the piano, collected lighthouses and other memorabilia, read widely, volunteered at her local public school library, bowled, served as a driver for her local blood bank and maintained close relationships with a wide circle of friends...and her family.

Toby is survived by her five children and eleven grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren as well as several other relatives in her native New Jersey. And of course the raft of friends she made in Seattle where she lived, in the Northwest Federation and indeed across the U.S. Through her involvement with the AFMS will also mourn her passing.

At her request there were no services, but we know she’d be honored if contributions were made in her memory to the AFMS Scholarship Foundation with contributions sent to your regional Federation Coordinator.

Carolyn Weinberger and Audrey Vogelpohl

GEORGE BROUVE

George Browne, the AFMS and SCFMS Boundaries Chair passed away on Tuesday, January 2 at the age of 71. He had been ill for some time.

George was a familiar figure at AFMS and at South Central Federation gatherings. He served as SCFMS President for two years and as District VP and Safety Chair in more recent years. George was a “doer”, not a lurker. He served in almost every office for both the Austin Gem & Mineral Club and Williamson Co. Gem & Mineral Club. He also was a member of the Rollin’ Rock Club where he most recently served as “Supreme Vice President” and then as President. George was a character who always had a unique story to tell and a great passion for life.

In 2000 the South Central Federation awarded him with their “Golden Sparkplug” Award in recognition of his many services to the Federation including organization of the Federation Insurance Program.

He retired several years ago as Scientific Director for the Lab of Public Safety in Austin. While there, he was instrumental in setting up the forensic laboratory. His talents, inquisitiveness, and dedication were unique...and did not go unnoticed at work or by his wide circle of friends.

George is survived by his wife JoAnn, son Harold, daughter Nancy and grand-daughter, Shelby Jo.

Contributions in his memory may be made to the AFMS Scholarship Foundation.

Carolyn Weinberger
AFMS Club Rockhounds of the Year

California Federation

The Mother Lode Mineral Society would like to honor Bud and Terry McMillin as AFMS Club Rockhounds of the Year for all they have done for our club. Bud has been President, is the current Treasurer and has been our Show Co-Chair for 4 years with Terry. They have spent many hours securing exceptional displays and dealers for the show making it one of the top shows in California. Terry is also investing many hours in classroom presentation helping expand the students knowledge about rock and fossils. She is about to Chair a Junior Rockhounds program for our club. Thank you for all you do for the Mother Lode Mineral Society.

submitted by President, Ana Christiansen

Midwest Federation

The Driftless Area Gem and Mineral Club is proud to nominate Robert Crook as our AFMS Club Rockhound of the Year. Robert has served as our club president, as show chairman many times and schedules and leads our "Adopt-A-Highway" clean up. He has a very large collection of fossils, minerals and interesting rocks that he takes to schools around the area year after year. He takes great pleasure in telling the children about the kinds of rocks. If asked to do a job, he is always a mainstay at all of our field trips and shares his knowledge of what minerals to look for at each location and how to identify these minerals. Olive Sain is very deserving of the recognition for all her efforts supporting and promoting our club and rockhounding in general, i.e., setting up displays in local schools, making presentations to local schools on rocks and minerals, donating minerals to schools and the student identifying minerals for club members, club curator for two plus decades, past newsletter editor, presented programs at club meetings, identifying minerals for the silent auction tables at the club's annual gem and mineral show, overseeing and providing direction to the micromounting group. She is always a mainstay at all of our field trips and shares her knowledge of what minerals to look for at each location and how to identify these minerals. Olive Sain is very deserving of the recognition for all her contributions.

submitted by Ernest Johnson, Vice-President

South Central Federation

Sallie and Charles Light-foot are the 2006 AFMS Club Rockhounds of the Year for the Central Texas Gem & Mineral Association. Sallie is chairperson of the club's show every year. She teaches wire wrapping classes and is past secretary/treasurer. Sallie and Charles are both past presidents of the club, and they are very active in all club activities. Charlie is club building and grounds chairperson this year.

submitted by Carlos Talley, Ann Harrison, and Don Brenholtz

Rocky Mountain Federation

As the saying goes, "Behind every great man there's a woman." In the Colorado Springs Mineralogical Society that woman is Linda Laverly, our Vice President, who we wish to honor as our AFMS Club Rockhound of the Year. We very blessed to have Linda carry the heavy burden of obtaining speakers ensuring we have presentations at the meeting, conducting Board meetings, filling in for the President, and being our advocate in all matters presented to the CSMS President and Board. Linda takes her duties as VIP seriously and performs them in a professional manner with a great deal of dedication, organization and finesse. While maintaining a successful professional career, she still finds time to efficiently serve as our Vice President. If she said it, she meant it - a woman of her word. Thank you, Linda, for serving so faithfully, keeping Drew (our President) focused, replacing Ron and the Holiday meeting and for agreeing to continue doing the job in 2007. You are greatly appreciated.

submitted by Bill Cox, Co-Editor

AFMS Approved Reference List of Classifications and Common Names for Fossils

AFMS Mineral Classification List

AFMS Approved Reference List of Lapidary Mineral Names

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submitted by Bill Cox, Co-Editor

UNIFORM RULES UPDATES

At the annual Uniform Rules meeting held this past August in Nashville, TN, the URC Committee approved several revisions to the Uniform Rules Manual. Printed copies of these changes are available from your regional URC Chairperson for a nominal fee.

For your convenience, the updates, along with the complete URC Manual is now on the AFMS website. You'll need to have Adobe Acrobat to open the file, but that's a free download from www.adobe.com if you need it. If you already have an official copy of the entire manual, you can easily download just the updated changes and then use them to replace the out-of-date pages in your complete manual. These changes become official on January 1 so I encourage you to update as soon as possible, especially if you're planning on entering your display in competition at one of the regional federation shows this year.

In addition to the URC Manual, you can now obtain copies of the following lists on the same website (or from your regional federation supplies chair).

AFMS Approved Reference List of Common Names for Fossils

AFMS Mineral Classification List

AFMS Approved Reference List of Lapidary Mineral Names

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SHOW CO-SPONSORSHIP

Allowing an already successful club show to grow in its offerings and stature, while keeping dealers happy was a concern of mine for many years. We experienced dealers not wanting to do MWF Convention shows because, to meet the increase in show expenses, the clubs were adding more dealers than the club and area could support.

I personally struggled with this problem when my local club bid on hosting the MWF Convention and Show in 2002. I had recently attended a North Central Section meeting of the Geological Society of America (GSA), where they had sought co-sponsors to support the meeting. As I was approached by GSA for the area in which I wanted to be a co-sponsor, I decided this might be the way for my local club to get additional dollars without having to expand our show with added dealers.

This proved to be very successful, as we were able to raise enough funds from our co-sponsors to provide the equivalent of 16 additional dealers, while maintaining our normal number that were supported by our annual attendees. Although using co-sponsors was to be a one time endeavor, it proved to be so successful, that I had a co-sponsor ask me the next year to participate. So, we have now done four shows using co-sponsors, and everyone is happy!

Co-Sponsorship of your show has a couple of advantages. One, is that it allows the club to have additional up-front capital for bringing in special displays, speakers, and possibly demonstrators, and for increasing your advertising budget. These special items are all sold to co-sponsors as educational activities for a not-for-profit group, which makes their contribution tax deductible. But based on recent conversations with co-sponsors, they are simply making the cost a part of their advertising budget!

Second, by building your show based on the amount of additional capital that is raised, co-sponsorship acts as a hedge against the club's capital risk.

When we took on the task of hosting the Mid- west Federation Convention and Show, we wanted to use the same facility that we had used for our annual show, since our local audience was accustomed to it, and therefore we could not substantially increase the number of dealers to increase our up-front capital. Nor did we want to increase the number of dealers beyond what we felt the show could support a rule of thumb being that you need at least 100 - 150 adult attendees per dealer. The practice of over-stocking dealers for Federation Shows had made many dealers shy of participation. But, we wanted to be able to bring into our area several special displays, speakers, bus school children in on Friday, and to increase our advertising budget without additional capital risk for the club. This approach allowed us to build the show as we gained co-sponsorships. The requests for co-sponsorship were sent out right after we sent our contracts for dealers, so by the time the contracts were final, we had our co-sponsors and all of our special displays and speakers. We were ready then to advertise.

Following is the invitation we used to solicit our co-sponsors, that can be adapted to any club's purposes.

Invitation to Co-Sponsors for the 2002 combined Lincoln Orbit Earth Science Society and Midwest Federation of Mineralogical and Geological Societies Convention and Show

OVERVIEW: • Both the Midwest Federation of Mineralogical and Geological Societies (MWF) and the Lincoln Orbit Earth Science Society (LOESS) are not-for-profit organizations. • The MWF includes the states of Illinois, Minnesota, Iowa, Michigan, Wisconsin, Ohio, Indiana, Missouri, and parts of Arkansas, Nebraska, North Dakota and South Dakota. • More than 2,500 people are expected to attend the 2002 Rock, Mineral & Fossil Show. Many of these attendees will be participating in field trips and/or group discussions beginning on Wednesday prior to the opening of the Show and convened meetings.

• The Dinos are Coming" Our featured attractions will include: a cast of the skull of the Tyrannosaurus rex, Sue, from the Field Museum in Chicago.

• Educational activities, open to the general public, begin on Friday and run through Sunday. Spearheading these activities will be professional geologists from industry, government agencies, colleges and universities, educators from museums and public schools; and many amateur geoscientists.

• Registration in the morning and a welcoming reception in the evening will be held on Friday, October 4, 2002.

• Formal meetings will also begin on Friday, and scientific presentations will be given on Saturday and Sunday. Featured speakers will include Dr. William Simpson of the Field Museum.

LOGISTICS: • The headquarters motel for the Convention will be the Springfield Days Inn on Stevenson Drive.

• Most meetings and all of the educational activities will be on the Show site—the Illinois Building, on the Illinois State Fairgrounds at 9th Street and Sangamon Avenue. At this facility, we will be using the main exhibit hall, the auditorium, the balcony, and other meeting areas.

CO-SPONSOR LEVELS:

- At the Crystal Donor Level ($100-$199) - each co-sponsor will be recognized as mentioned above—plus with a 17" X 24" poster with the co-sponsor's company name and logo will be hung in the exhibit hall of the Illinois Building (Note again: more than 2,500 attendees are expected)

- At the Gold Donor Level ($350-$499) - each co-sponsor will be recognized as mentioned above in the Crystal donor level—plus with a 33" X 56" banner with the company name and logo will be hung from the balcony railing overlooking the exhibit hall of the Illinois Building.

- At the Diamond Donor Level ($500-$999) - each co-sponsor will be recognized as mentioned above—plus Diamond Donors will be named in newspaper ads and radio advertising spots leading up to the Show. This minimaly will include 6 newspaper ads running the week before and the week of the Show and 30, 30-second radio spots during the same time period. Pre- registrants for the Convention will be given an attractive book bag containing their registration materials on which the Diamond Donor's name and logo will be printed. The Diamond Donors will also receive two, 3- day passes to the Show.

- At the Platinum Donor Level ($1000 and above) - each co-sponsor will be recognized as mentioned above—plus they will be provided with a well-situated table on the Show floor or in the balcony, with two chairs, on which a company display and hand-out literature can be placed.

USE OF CO-SPONSOR SUPPORT:

- Financial support will help with the buying of 4th-grade school children to the Show on Friday, October 4, 2002. The teachers will be provided with curriculum guides and activity sheets, in advance, that will help them to integrate the visit into their science curriculum. (Our built-in Show budget will allow us to support only a few busses at $132.00 each. Our hope is to be able to bring in at least two busses for four hours of the school day - a total of 700 school children.)

- Financial support will help increase the number of special exhibits and the number of special speakers that we can offer to the general public.

- Financial support will allow us to increase our advertising efforts, thereby increasing our attendance at the Show.

- Financial support can be earmarked at the request of any co-sponsor for a particular facet of our educational outreach—bus riding children, special speakers, special exhibits, etc.

- As host club, all initial contributions come from funds generated by members of the Lincoln Orbit Earth Science Society.

PAYMENT:

- Payment should be made out to: (Club)

- Funds will be held in account at the: (Bank of Club Account)

- Please send your financial support to: (Show Chair)

The year following our hosting of the Feder- ation Show, we did not plan to seek co-sponsorships for our normal annual show, until one of the former co-sponsors asked if he could again be a co-sponsor. Based on that inquiry, we proceeded to invite all of the major co-sponsors from the previous year, a total of five, but we sought less funding in keeping with a less ambitious show offering. For our normal show we retroceded back to videos in lieu of live speakers, deleted busing of school children, since our normal show is only on the weekend, and deleted giving out souvenir book bags and a special printed program. Based on this reduced scope, our co-sponsors still allowed us to bring in several special displays and not-for-profit demonstrators for the show.

We now have used between five initial co-sponsors for our annual show to our current seven co-sponsors. And all are very pleased with what they get for just a few dollars to them! We now offer only one level at $200 for the equivalent of what we gave initially for the Diamond Level.

continued on page 8
**Show Co-Sponsorship continued from page...**

The key to successfully gaining co-sponsors is to develop a list of firms that are in your community that normally participate in such activities. Banks, construction companies, engineering firms, technology firms, lobbying associations (if you’re in, or close to your state capital), and manufacturing firms are just a few of the ones we have had the most success in attracting. If you watch the local newspapers and signs that are put up for special fund-raising in your community, you will soon have a working list.

The next key to successfully gaining co-sponsors is to have a personal contact, either a person you or another club member knows, or at least a name to whom to properly address the co-sponsorship request letter. Our experience has been that, if you have a specific name of a contact, then you will have a better chance of obtaining a co-sponsorship.

We sent out a letter along with the invitation to potential co-sponsors listing the levels that were available for the Federation Convention and Show, but for the annual show we just send out a letter of invitation. Besides the initial letters, we also send a follow-up letter of thanks with several free passes to the show, and then a final letter supplying the co-sponsors with evidence of how their company name was displayed as promised (a souvenir letter) containing a copy of the newspaper ads, the show flier, the school fliers (10,000 for K-6), the printed show program, and the banner, all with their firm’s name as co-sponsor.

With the investment of a little time and a few stamps, your show can gain a significant amount of up-front capital. But remember, you must follow through you your show can gain a significant amount of up-front capital. But remember, you must follow through you...
## AFMS /RMFMS Convention & Show

**Hosted by Chaparral Rockhounds**

**ROSWELL Civic Center, ROSWELL, NM**

**JUNE 7 - 10, 2007**

### Schedule of Events

**Tuesday, June 5, 2007**

- **08:00-10:00** Registration Desk
  - Host Motel
- **09:00-12:00** Rules Committee Meeting
  - Host Motel
- **15:00-17:00** Registration Desk
  - Host Motel

**Wednesday, June 6, 2007**

- **08:00-10:00** Registration Desk
  - Host Motel
- **09:00-11:00** AFMS Annual Meeting
  - Host Motel
- **11:00-12:00** AFMS Scholarship Foundation Meeting
  - Host Motel
- **08:00-13:00** Show Set-up at Convention Center
  - Convention Center
- **13:00-20:00** Exhibitor & Vendor Set-up
  - Convention Center
- **13:00-17:00** Registration Desk
  - Convention Center
- **18:30-19:30** Potluck Dinner (Exhibitors and Vendors)
  - Convention Center
- **20:00** Convention Center Closes

**Thursday, June 7, 2007**

- **08:30** Judges Meeting
  - Convention Center
- **09:00** Judging Begins
  - Convention Center
- **09:00** Show Opens
  - Convention Center
- **09:30** Field Trip (Pecos Valley Diamonds)
  - Convention Center
- **17:00** Show Closes
  - Convention Center
- **19:00-21:00** Cracker Barrel (AFMS 60th Anniv. Celebration)
  - Host Motel

**Friday, June 8, 2007**

- **09:00-11:00** RMFMS Executive Council Meeting
  - Host Motel
- **09:00** Show Opens
  - Convention Center
- **13:30-16:30** “Minerals of New Mexico” Seminar
  - Host Motel
- **17:00** Show Closes
  - Convention Center

**Saturday, June 9, 2007**

- **08:30-11:00** Editor’s Breakfast
  - Host Motel
- **09:00** Show Opens
  - Convention Center
- **11:00** Judges and Exhibitors Meeting
  - Convention Center
- **13:00** RMFMS Delegates Meeting
  - Host Motel
- **17:00** Show Closes
  - Convention Center
- **18:30** Happy Hour
  - Host Motel
- **19:00-??** Banquet
  - Host Motel

**Sunday, June 10, 2007**

- **08:00** Rollin’ Rock Club Meeting
  - Convention Center
- **09:00** Show Opens
  - Convention Center
- **10:00** Field Trip (Pecos Valley Diamonds)
  - Convention Center
- **17:00** Show Closes
  - Convention Center
- **17:00-21:00** Show Tear Down
  - Convention Center

### Awards Banquet

The annual Awards Banquet will be held on Saturday evening at the Sally Port Inn. Cost is $22 per person. Happy Hour will begin at 6:30 p.m. with a buffet dinner and the evening activities shortly thereafter.

The menu consists of three entrees:

- Roasted Baron of Beef
- Honey Glazed Baked Ham
- Baked Chicken with Herbs

Mixed Greens With choice of dressing
- Pasta Salad - Baked Potato
- Mashed Potatoes with Gravy
- Fresh Green Beans Almandine

Reservation forms for the dinner, and all other activities can be found elsewhere in this issue.

### Editors’ Breakfast

One of the more important meetings at any Federation Convention is the Editors’ Breakfast. This is an opportunity to honor the hard working people who produce the monthly club bulletins - the “glue that keeps your club together”. You do not have to be an editor or author to attend...just come and enjoy the fun.

The Editors’ Breakfast will be held on Saturday, June 9th at 8:30 a.m. at the Sally Port Inn. Cost is $10.25 per person with the following buffet selections:

- Sliced Fresh Fruit
- Assortment of Breakfast pastries
- Cold cereals with milk
- Hash browns or home fries
- French toast with syrup
- Scrambled eggs
- Ham, bacon and sausage
- Chilled juice - Coffee or Tea

### Competitive & Non-Competitive Displays

Forms for entering your display, either as a competitive exhibit or as a non-competitive exhibit are printed elsewhere in this newsletter.

There will be two sizes of display cases available on a limited basis. The first is a normal 2' x 2' x 4' upright case. The second is a smaller upright case measuring 31" across the back on the inside, 15 1/4" deep and 18 inches high.

If you wish to borrow one of these display cases, please indicate which size on the exhibit entry form. NONE OF THE CASES HAVE LINERS OR RISERS - these must be furnished by the exhibitor. To see photos of the cases, visit the AFMS website: [www.amfed.org/show2007.htm].
AFMS/RMFMS CONVENTION & SHOW
HOSTED BY CHAPARRAL ROCKHOUNDS
ROSWELL CIVIC CENTER, ROSWELL, NM
JUNE 7 - 10, 2007

ADVANCE REGISTRATION FORM

(Please print or type)

NAME(s)______________________________________________________PHONE:__________________________
ADDRESS:______________________________________________________________________________________

NAME OF CLUB/SOCIETY______________________________________________________

Check all that apply:

FEDERATION: AFMS____RMFMS____SCFMS____CFMS____MWF____EFMLS____NFMS____SFMS____
OFFICE: Officer________Chairman________Delegate________Alternate________
Editor________Exhibitor________Judge________Clerk________
Other______________________________________________________________

ADMISSION FEES (Children under 12 admitted free)

One Day $5.00 Tax Included #________ Total $________
Four Day $10.00 Tax Included #________ Total $________

BREAKFAST with the Editors
Buffet $10.00 Tax Included #________ Total $________

AWARDS BANQUET BUFFET
Three Entrees $22.00 Tax Included #________ Total $________
Roasted Baron of Beef
Honey Glazed Baked Ham
Baked Chicken with Herbs
Please check your choice

Total Amount Due: $__________

Deadline for Advanced Registrations will be May 1, 2007

Make checks payable to "Chaparral Rockhounds Show"

Mail completed form and check to:
Chaparral Rockhounds
% Frank Whitney
27 Forest Drive
Roswell, NM 88203

Headquarters Hotel is the Best Western Sally Port Inn & Suites
Call the motel directly for room reservations.
Be sure to mention that you are with the AFMS Show.
AFMS/RMFMS CONVENTION & SHOW
HOSTED BY CHAPARRAL ROCKHOUNDS
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COMPETITIVE EXHIBIT ENTRY FORM
This completed Entry Form MUST be signed, dated and received by May 1, 2007
Please complete all information on this sheet pertaining to your exhibit and mail it to
Howie Whiting, 2300 S Union Av; Roswell, NM 88203

NAME____________________________________________________________PHONE_________________________

E-MAIL ADDRESS_________________________________________________________________________________

EXHIBITOR GROUP:   Master_______   Advanced_______   Novice_______   Jr._______   Soc_______   Jr. Soc______

DIVISION________________________________________EXHIBITOR CLASS_______________________________

Exhibitor Group cannot be changed after form has been accepted. Anything else
can be changed up until exhibit is finished before judging.

24 Hour Building Security, however AFMS, RMFMS or the Chaparral Rockhounds
assume no responsibility for loss or damage.

EXHIBIT CASE AND SPACE INFORMATION
Please supply the following information to aid us in planning your exhibit.
I will use my own case:  YES________  NO_______
Case Style:   Upright________  Slant Front_______
Dimensions:  Width_________  Height________  Depth________

Do you need a case provided?  Yes_______  Large?_____  Small?_____  __

NOTE:  Cases will be assigned space on tables 30 inches high.
Bring your own liners and risers if needed.

EXHIBIT SET UP TIME:
Wednesday, June 6, 2007  -  1:00 P.M. to 10:00 P.M. and/or
Thursday, June 7, 2007 - 8:00 A.M. to 10:00 A.M.
All entries must be setup and ready for judging no later than 10:00 A.M. on June 7, 2007
NO EXCEPTIONS!

I have read the current AFMS Uniform Rules and agree to abide by them.
I agree to leave my exhibit on display until the show closes on Sunday, June 10, 2007 at 5:00 P.M.

EXHIBITOR'S SIGNATURE__________________________________________________DATE___________________

I hereby certify, as an officer of the above named Society, that the exhibitor is a member in good standing and to the best of
my knowledge, is eligible to exhibit in the stated classification according to the rules.

Signature   Title   Date
AFMS/RMFMS CONVENTION & SHOW
HOSTED BY CHAPARRAL ROCKHOUNDS
ROSWELL CIVIC CENTER, ROSWELL, NM
JUNE 7 - 10, 2007

REQUEST FOR NON-COMPETITIVE DISPLAY SPACE

NAME:__________________________________________________________
Society___________________________________

Address:__________________________________________________________________________________________________
City:___________________________State:________________Zip_____________________________

Exhibitors are urged to bring their own cases. A limited number of club cases are available upon request. Exhibitors using club cases will need to furnish any risers, linings, extension cords or accessories as needed.

NON-COMPETITIVE EXHIBIT

Describe Display____________________________________________________________________________________________

I will bring my own case:___________________  Case Length____________Width____________Height_____________________
I will need a case: ________  Case size requested:  Large (2' x 2' x 4')__________      Small (15 1/4" x 18" x 31")_________

Signature of Non-Competitive Exhibitor_________________________________________________________________________

With the signing of this request, it is mutually agreed that the Chaparral Rockhounds, AFMS, RMFMS and Roswell Civic Center shall not be liable to any exhibitor for damage, loss or destruction of any exhibit or injury to his person for any cause and all claims for injury are expressly waived by the exhibitor.

DEADLINE:  May 1, 2007
Return to:  Howie Whiting
Applications will be accepted on a space available basis after May 1, 2007
2300 S Union Av
Roswell, NM 88203

PLEASE USE ONE FORM FOR EACH ENTRY - FORM MAY BE REPRODUCED

CAMPING AT ROSWELL

There is NO overnight camping at the Roswell Civic Center however there are three RV parks nearby. Reservations should be made directly with the facility.

Town & Country RV Park
331 W Broshier Rd, Roswell, NM 88203
505-624-1833 or 1-800-499-4364

Trailer Village Campground
1706 E Second St, Roswell, NM 88201
505-623-6040

Red Barn RV Park
2806 Second , E Roswell, NM
505-623-4897
RARE GEM UNEARTHED IN THE NATION'S CAPITAL

by Erich Grande, From Mineral Minutes, May 2005
Second Place in the 2006 AFMS Original Article Competition

Did you know that the Metro has two subway stations in Washington named after mineralogists? You undoubtedly know one of them: Smithsonian. James Smithson (1754 - 1829) was an English mineralogist who left behind an estate that was used to establish the museums that bear his name (Rhees, 1880). Who is the second one?

Twice a day T passes through the Fort Totten station, not having known until recently that it is named for a one-time mineralogist, General Joseph Gilbert Totten (1788-1884) had a remarkable military career that spanned more than 60 years (Cullum, 1890). He entered the first class at West Point in 1802 at the age of 14. At 17 he received his commission as a Second Lieutenant. He fought in the "Second War of Independence", more commonly known as the War of 1812, the Mexican-American War, and served in the Union Army in Washington during the Civil War until the day of his death.

His legacy is to be seen today (Barnard, 1877). In 1838 he was appointed Chief Engineer of the (Army) Corps of Engineers, a position he held for the remainder of his life. He developed a string of forts along the Atlantic Coast designed to protect the country from invasion. Some of these forts still stand and were used as recently as WWII for the same purpose they were originally intended to fulfill. He is also responsible for some of the early lighthouses, most of which still exist, that are found along the coast. He was known for the meticulous care to detail that made his works sound and lasting. He applied scientific methods, often conducted by him in the laboratory or sometimes in the field, to study the materials used to construct these structures. He is probably the only officer ever to have three forts named after him: Washington, Queens (NYC) and North Dakota.

Despite a very military career, General Totten had many outside interests. He was particularly involved in natural history, especially conchology, geology and mineralogy. In 1824 he published a paper on the use of the blowpipe in mineral analysis (Totten, 1824). The paper begins, interestingly, with an evaluation of Smithson's use of the device. He modified one of Smithson's procedures that now allowed one to subject very minute particles of minerals to the flame. This extended the range of the blowpipe, that is to say, to lower limits of detection.

In the 1830's, General Totten became one of the driving forces behind the National Institution for the Promotion of Science. This is regarded as the precursor of the Smithsonian Institution. In 1841 he donated its mineral collection to the National Institution (Anonymous, 1842). During the period of the national Institution's existence, Congress was debating what to do about Smithson's will. In 1846 General (then Colonel) Totten was named in the act of Congress organizing the Smithsonian Institution as one of its Regents. He was eminently qualified for he was in his own right not only an active scientist and capable administrator, but was someone who was very well acquainted with Smithson's accomplishments as a scientist.

In 1863 General Totten was selected as one of the original members of the National Academy of Sciences (Chocron, 1978). By this time his mineral collection had been transferred to the Smithsonian Institution and at least part of it was probably on display along with samples from Smithson's collection. General Totten died suddenly, probably due to pneumonia, on April 22, 1864. His grave may be visited, along with those of many other famous Americans in Washington's well known Congressional Cemetery.

In 1865 a fire at the museum destroyed most of the exhibits (Goode, 1897). Among the losses were Smithson's, Totten's and other early collections (Paul Pawlat, personal communication). By now you might be asking yourself what does all this have to do with the title of this article. Shortly thereafter, to secure valuable records against a future loss to fire, the Smithsonian transferred its library to the Library of Congress. Among the items sent was Totten's beautiful "List of A Cabinet of Minerals Presented to the National Institution in the City of Washington" (Totten, 1841). Today we call this a mineral catalogue. General Totten was known to be "an admirable draughtsman, executing his work with delicacy and finish that defied competition..." (Barnard, 1877). The catalogue shows this quite well. Without an error he compiled an orderly arrangement, according to the classification system of the early American mineralogist Parker Cleaveland (Cleaveland, 1822), of the 728 specimens of fossils, minerals, area, rocks and a few Indian artifacts he donated to the National Institution. The catalogue bears a record of it being part of the Smithsonian Institution's property.

Among the most interesting specimens, some of which can still be obtained today, listed are the following: 56 ammonite (sic) 2 crystals, Aragon (sic), Spain (Blount, 1977), 66 fluor spar (fluorite) crystals, Shawneetown Illinois (Goldstein, 1977), 68 massive fluor spar from Shenandoah Valley (Virginia), 77 salenite crystals from Fort Washington, Maryland (a nearby locality that was, in the past era, a MSDC (Mineralogical Society of DC) field trip site), 199-204) silicified wood (petrified wood) Washington, DC (221) spinelle (sic), Sparta, New Jersey (from Franklin Marble, as are the following spinel specimens). 222-233) spinelle (sic), Amary, New York (Kearns, 1976: 394-397) augite-pyroxene, Kingsbridge (Conkling, 1997). 536 red oxide of copper (cuprite) from Demidoff (The Demidoffs were a Russian family that, for two centuries, controlled many mines in the Ural Mountains. How the general obtained this specimen would be interesting to know). 673 manganese (One of the oxides of manganese, probably pyrolusite or manganosite) from Harper's Ferry, Virginia (West Virginia was then part of Virginia). The sample probably came from the Dargon mine in Maryland, about 2 miles from Harper's Ferry.

Both amateur and professional mineralogists in the Washington, DC area can look up General Totten as a model. He left behind a small legacy that still speaks to us today that is a link in the unbroken chain of interest in minerals in our capital that goes back at least 165 years. The Mineralogical Society of the District of Columbia is part of that link and no doubt the general would have been a member if we had existed back then.

Late in 2004, a spare moment and curiosity, led me unexpectedly to his catalogue, a rare gem, while doing some unrelated research at the Library of Congress. I don't know who has looked at it during the 140 years since its transfer, but I suspect not many.

References:
Cleaveland, Parker, 1822. An Elementary Treatise on Mineralogy and Geology Designed for the use of Pupils - For Persons, Attending Lectures on these Subjects - and as a companion for Travellers in the United States of America.
GOOD INFO FOR E-MAIL USERS  

by Trudy Martin, SCRIBE

This is good information.

It should be followed by ALL of us who send e-mails. Please read the short letter below, even if you're sure you already follow proper procedures.

An individual, who is a System Administrator for a large corporate system, has this to ask / say:

Do you really know how to forward e-mails?
50% of us do; 50% of us DO NOT.

Do you wonder why you get viruses or junk mail?

Do you hate it?

Every time you forward an e-mail there is information left over from the people who get the message before you, namely their e-mail addresses & names. As the message gets forwarded along, the list of addresses builds, and builds, and builds, and all it takes is for some poor sap to get a virus, and his or her computer can send that virus to every E-mail address that has come across his computer.

Or, someone can take all of those addresses and sell them or send junk mail to them in the hopes that you will go to the site and he will make five cents for each hit. That's right, all of that inconvenience over a nickel! How do you stop it?

Well, there are several easy steps:

1) When you forward an e-mail, DELETE all of the other addresses that appear in the body of the message (at the top). That's right, DELETE them. Highlight them and delete them, backspace them, cut them, whatever it is you know how to do. It only takes a second. You MUST click the "Forward" button first and then you will have full editing capabilities against the body and headers of the message. If you don't click on "Forward" first, you won't be able to edit the message at all.

2) Whenever you send an e-mail to more than one person, DO NOT use the To: or Cc: fields for forwards.

3) Remove any "FW: " in the subject line. Always use the BCC: (blind carbon copy) field for listing the e-mail addresses. This is the way the people you send to will only see their own e-mail address. If you don't see your BCC option click on where it says To: and your address list will appear. Highlight the address and choose BCC: and that's it, that's easy. When you send to BCC your message will automatically say "Undisclosed Recipients in the "To:" field of the people who receive it.

4) ALWAYS hit your Forward button from the actual e-mail you are reading. Ever get those e-mails that you have to open 10 pages to read the one page with the information on it? By Forwarding from the actual page you wish someone to view, you stop them from having to open many e-mails just to see what you sent.

5) Have you ever gotten an email that is a petition? It states a position and asks you to add your name and address to it and forward it to 10 or 15 people or your entire address book. The email can be forwarded on and on and on and can collect thousands of names and email addresses. A FACT: The completed petition is actually worth a couple of bucks to a professional spammer because of the wealth of valid names and email addresses contained therein. If you want to support the petition, send it as your own personal letter to the intended recipient. Your position may carry more weight as a personal letter than a laundry list of names and email address on a petition. (Actually, if you think about it, who's supposed to send the petition in to whatever cause it supports?)

6) And don't believe the ones that say that the email is being traced, it just ain't so! One of the main ones is hate the ones that say that something like, Send this email to 10 people and you'll see something great run across your screen. Or sometimes they'll just tease you by saying something really cute will happen IT AIN'T GONNA HAPPEN!! (Trust me, I'm still seeing some of the same ones that I waited on 10 years ago!)

7) I don't let the bad luck ones scare me either, they get trashed. (could be why I haven't won the lottery?)

8) Before you forward an Amber Alert, or a Virus Alert, or some of the other ones floating around nowadays, check them out before you forward them. Most of them are junk mail that's been circulating the net for YEARS! Just about everything you receive in an email that is in question can be checked out at Snopes. Just go to www.snopes.com. Its really easy to find out if its real or not. If it's not, please don't pass it on.

So please, in the future, let's stop the junk mail and the viruses.

Finally, here's an idea! Let's send this to everyone we know. This is something that SHOULD be forwarded.

I will be deleting all petitions and good luck forwards.

YE OLDE TIMERS MINERAL CLUB

by Betty Pankey, President, YOTMC

At the last three AFMS meetings I have had the pleasure of presenting checks to the Endowment Fund and the Scholarship Fund from the Ye Old Timers Mineral Club. Or you may have seen the kind thank you's to the Ye Old Timers Mineral Club in the AFMS Newsletter and wondered, "just who are these YOTMC people anyway?" Well let me tell you.

Ye Old Timers Mineral Club, Inc., is a national organization of people over 50 years old who enjoy rockhounding and other rockhounds. We have members throughout the US, but most of our members are in the west. We were initially organized in 1941. In 1948 we reorganized, adopted a Constitution and had 168 members. Sometime in the late 1940's we were granted recognition by the AFMS. This is a recently discovered fact: I am not sure what it means and I don't really know what our status with the AFMS is today.

The main purpose of the Ye Old Timers Mineral Club is to provide an opportunity for all members of the mineral, gem, fossil and artifacts collecting fraternity to socialize through contact and exchange with others of like interests. To promote good fellowship through field trips, and get-togethers at local shows, Federation shows, and other educational activities. To promote wise use and conservation of natural resources.

Informal meetings and get-togethers are held at Federation Shows and the National Show, as well as at local shows. Our Regional Vice Presidents arrange get-togethers for members in their areas to fulfill our purpose and to promote YOTMC. Our big get-togethers are at Quartzsite, Arizona, and Snyder's Pow Wow, Valley Springs, California. We camp together at Quartzsite in January for 2 weeks of potlucks, afternoon happy hours, evening campsites, field trips, as well as, visiting all of the shows and sales. We also hold an annual auction that is one of our major fundraisers. The Snyder's Pow Wow is held in May where we meet and camp together in a cow pasture for 5 days. In addition to the potlucks, afternoow happy hours, field trips, and Pow Wow events, we hold our second auction of the year.

Because our members are nationwide we donate to the AFMS Endowment Fund and the Scholarship fund instead of regional federation funds. Our auctions have been very successful and we look forward to continuing our donations to the AFMS funds.

For more information about the Ye Old Timers Mineral Club, please email me at <dickpankey@juno.com>.

Editors' Note:

There is another, similar club in the South Central Federation called the "Rollin' Rock Club. This club gets together at each SCFM's club show, holds small auctions and donates the proceeds to a variety of organizations including the AFMS Scholarship Foundation. For more info on the "Rollin' Rock Club, contact Jonathan Maehring at <jpharken@flash.net>.

AFMS Newsletter - February 2007
# AFMS Committee Chairpersons

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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Committee</th>
<th>Chairperson</th>
<th>Email Address</th>
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THE DEADLINE FOR THE MARCH ISSUE OF THE AFMS NEWSLETTER WILL BE THURSDAY, JANUARY 25

THE AFMS CODE OF ETHICS

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

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

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

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

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

I will leave all gates as found.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

I will appreciate and protect our heritage of natural resources.

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

A Pending Divorce

A judge was interviewing a woman regarding her pending divorce and asked, "What are the grounds for your divorce?"

She replied, "About four acres and a nice little home in the middle of the property with a stream running by."

"No," he said, "I mean, what is the foundation of this case?"

"Oh, it's made of concrete, brick and mortar," she responded.

"I mean," he continued, "what are your relations like?"

"I have an aunt and uncle living here in town, and so do my husband's parents."

"He asked, "Well, do you have a real grudge?"

"No," she replied, "we have a two-car carport and have never really needed one."

"Exasperated, he tried again, "Please, is there any infidelity in your marriage?"

"Yes, both my son and daughter have stereo sets. We don't necessarily like the music, but the answer to your question is yes."

"Ma'am, does your husband ever beat you up?"

"Yes," she responded, "about twice a week he gets up earlier than I do."

"Finally, in frustration, the judge asked, "Lady, why do you want a divorce?"

"Oh, no, I don't want a divorce," she replied. "I've never wanted a divorce. My husband does. He says he can't communicate with me."

A Few Laws

Law of Mechanical Repair: After your hands become coated with grease your nose will begin to itch or you'll have to pee.

Law of the Workshop: Any tool, when dropped, will roll to the least accessible corner.

Law of probability: The probability of being watched is directly proportional to the stupidity of your act.

Law of the Telephone: When you dial a wrong number, you never get a busy signal.

Law of the Alibi: If you tell the boss you were late for work because you had a flat tire, the very next morning you will have a flat tire.

Variation Law: If you change lines (or traffic lanes), the one you were in will start to move faster than the one you are in now. (works every time)

Theorem: When the body is fully immersed in water, the telephone rings.

Law of Close Encounters: The probability of meeting someone you know increases when you are with someone you don't want to be seen with.

Law of the Result: When you try to prove to someone that a machine won't work, it will.

Law of Biomechanics: The severity of the itch is inversely proportional to the reach.

Theatre Rule: At any event, the people whose seats are farthest from the aisle arrive last.

Law of Coffee: As soon as you sit down to a cup of hot coffee, your boss will ask you to do something which will last until the coffee is cold.

Law of Logical Argument: Anything is possible if you don't know what you are talking about.

Brown's Law: If the shoe fits, it's ugly.

Oliver's Law: A closed mouth gathers no feet.

Wilson's Law: As soon as you find a product that you really like, they will stop making it.