Imagine....

...160 displays - 60 of them entered in competition.
...a kids corner complete with a raffle, spin-a-wheel and interactive mineral identification game.
...scads of dealers featuring jewelry, minerals, "old things (fossils)", lapidary equipment, findings, tools and lots and lots of cutting rough.
...an active silent auction with a large variety of interesting things to bid on
...a very active demonstration area featuring such crafts as filigree, wire wrapping, concave and regular faceting, silversmithing, and fossil preparation.
...lots of friendly, involved members of the Billings Gem and Mineral Club.
...a faceted stone auction that raised about $10,000 for the AFMS Scholarship Foundation.
...a banquet attended by about 250 people that featured excellent food!
...reasonably short AFMS and NFMS meetings held in comfortable surroundings.
...excellent field trips.
...the famous Rock Food Table.
...the first ever showing of a moon rock in Montana.
...an attendance of over 3,000 people.

Had you attended the NFMS/AFMS convention in Billings, MT this July-August, you would have experienced all of the above and much more. What a wonderful week everyone had.

Many, many thanks must be extended to Doug and Jeannette True who seemed to be everywhere and doing everything. Many of the visitors from AFMS commented on how seamless everything went. Other members of the Billings club handled the various other tasks - hosting the various meal functions, handling the seminars and talks, setting up and dismantling show cases, covering dealer tables, running wires etc. It was a pleasure to see and meet such wonderful and happy people. All of you can be very, very proud of a job well done.

If you missed the show in Billings, you can still own a piece of the fun. Doug has produced a show poster which you can still purchase and have mailed to you. The poster, pictured above is $9 ($5 + $4 postage). You can obtain it by contacting Doug at:

Billings Gem & Mineral Club
2622 Broadwater
Billings, MT 59102

Checks should be payable to the Billings Gem & Mineral Club.

We truly thank the members of the Billings club for being such wonderful hosts.
**Proudly Serving Seven Regional Federations**

**Officers:**

**President**
Joy Bourne
<cospringo@epix.net>

**President-Elect**
Emerson Tucker
<emersont@suddenlink.net>

**1st Vice President**
Bob Miller
<KanBrock@aol.com>

**2nd Vice President**
Lauren Williams
<slharuir@yahoo.com>

**3rd Vice President**
Ann Monroe
<acmonroe@windstream.net>

**4th Vice President**
Richard Jaeger
<Rjgrsci@aol.com>

**5th Vice President**
Colleen McGann
<Colleen.mcgann@hds.com>

**Secretary**
Anne Cook
<secretary@amfed.org>

**Treasurer**
Pat LaRue
<bplarue@earthlink.net>

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**The AFMS Newsletter - September, 2009**

**MAKE NEW FRIENDS, BUT KEEP THE OLD**
by Joy Bourne, AFMS President

New Friends Are Silver, but the Others Are Gold!”

This old round was sung around many a Girl Scout campfire when I was much younger, and it just popped back into mind as I was preparing this message to my Rockhound friends.

By the time you read this, the 2009 Annual Meeting and Convention will be history. I want to thank the Billings Gem & Mineral Club, the Northwest Federation, the various members involved in putting on the convention and especially Doug True, convention chair, for hosting such a wonderful event. We were treated to outstanding speakers, wonderful slide programs, exciting competitive and non-competitive displays and the warm hospitality that Montana has to offer. My traveling companion and good friend, Sue Macinnis and I were especially pleased to meet so many of you and make lots of new rockhound friends during our time together.

Now I’m looking forward to next year’s AFMS show in California and then the following year in Syracuse. It’s gratifying to see clubs offering to host these shows. I know there is a certain reluctance among members when the question of hosting a regional or AFMS show arises. Yes, it involves work and expense over and above the effort of producing the normal annual show, but with proper management and planning it can be done without losing money. I have seen shows held in a great variety of places, from fancy convention halls to fairgrounds buildings (which often work out quite well), even a local high school! The most important items are the will to get the jobs done and, of course, enough willing members to do the work.

You will find, at the post-mortem evaluation of your Show committee, that it was really a great experience to have made so many new friends to add to your list of “old” friends. You will be enriched with both silver and gold - how’s that for making a Rockhound’s Day?

Joy

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**Uniform Rules Committee News**

by Barbara Jacobsen, URC Chair

At the annual meeting of the Uniform Rules Committee, a proposal for the establishment of a new Division for Beading and Beadwork, Division I, was considered and adopted. Several proposals regarding CC-7, Creative Cabochons, were also considered. The URC Committee decided to delete the creative class definition and change the Modern definition to “Modern and Creative”, thus allowing them in all classes that allow the Modern cabochons.

Proposed changes to S-I-P-II-2-2009 were adopted, including the timing of regional submissions of proposals for changes to the Uniform Rules and the providing of such changes and an agenda to URC members. The Committee also approved a proposal for rewriting and combinibf the first and second sections of the Uniform Rules to reduce repetition and confusion about regional and AFMS competition.

The Committee examined editorial revisions to the AFMS Reference List for Fossils. The AFMS Mineral Classification List was discussed and its scoring was clarified. Finally, several changes to the AFMS Mineral Classification List were approved.

All changes will be available and take effect as of January 1, 2010.
Radioactivity and You

I taught military students about nuclear weapon effects and defense against same for my two years U S Army active duty service many moons ago. My feeling at the time was that few outside the nuclear physics or health physics world had any meaningful understanding of this topic. I fear that the general knowledge has not improved much since then.

When the term 'radioactivity' is used in general conversation, I feel most thoughts focus on Three Mile Island and Chernobyl. I know scores of people who would take a wide berth around an operating nuclear power plant (out of safety concerns) rather than take one of the fascinating tours some of them offer.

Radioactivity and fluorescence are somewhat related, in that neither can be detected by any of the five senses; specific electronic devices are necessary to know their existence. However, fluorescence can’t hurt you, while radiation can be a hazard.

There are three types of radioactivity that may be emitted by the unstable nuclei of certain minerals. Borrowing on the Greek alphabet, they are:

• Alpha: structurally a helium nucleus. This form of radiation has very low penetrating power (can be stopped by a sheet of paper), thus is no hazard outside the body. Internally, however, it poses a risk if an alpha emitter would be inhaled or ingested.

• Beta: structurally, a stream of electrons. Beta has some penetrating power, though can be stopped by a thin piece of aluminum. It is more of an external hazard than alpha – prolonged skin contact will produce a sunburn-like effect. Internally, it’s of lower hazard than alpha, but eating is not advised.

• Gamma: essentially similar to X-rays. These, depending on energy level, have great penetrating power, and can be stopped only with generous amounts of high-density materials such as Lead. They may pass through the body without doing damage, or may chip electrons off atoms and cause great damage if the energy is high and the exposure time is long.

How may one identify such species in their collection? To start, some of the more common radioactive minerals are: Uraninite, Torbernite, Autunite, and Gummite – all uranium containing species. To detect them, a Geiger counter (military Radiac instrument) is needed. eBay lists quite a few devices in the $20 - $60 range, many of them measure Gamma dose rate and detect Beta, such as the CDV 700 device used by Civil Defense. Alpha detectors are unusual, and harder to find. If you have a local CD unit, they may be willing to lend you a device. In any event, you need one used for personnel monitoring (lower dose rate) rather than one for survey.

So, you determined part of your collection is radioactive… what to do. Common sense takes over. Don’t eat, drink, or smoke while handling these materials. Wash your hands after handling. Store them further away from your living areas (dose rate decreases with the square of the distance). Avoid mechanical processes which may put fine debris in the air. Consider that Lead-lined box for fairly strong Gamma emitters (but not for Beta).

Like many other hazards in life, one can generally control them with knowledge. Handled safely, you’ll get more radiation in a CT scan, from normal background (always present) radiation – cosmic rays and naturally occurring radioactives, and from the radioactive Potassium-40 present in your own bodies than you will from your mineral collection.

Free safety PS: The US Dept of H&H offers a household product safety site, which may be reached at http://householdproducts.nlm.nih.gov/index.htm . This site includes many specifically named commercial products commonly found around the home and discusses topics such as health effects, symptoms of exposure, first aid, physician notes, and many others.

Additional information may be found at <www.hedegaard.com/Minerals/Groups/Radioactives.html>. This link is fairly well written and may be included for those who wish to do additional reading:

[I’ve enjoyed sharing safety thoughts with AFMS people over this past year; hopefully, you found these articles different, interesting, and informative. -TJR]
Eastern Federation

The Gem, Lapidary & Mineral Society of Montgomery County, MD is proud to recognize Heather Felsen as our Rockhound of the Year. She does an excellent job chairing our annual show, managing a multitude of details: venue, dealer contracts, floor plan, and more. Few issues require firefighting at the show, due to Heather’s excellent planning. Heather enlists Society volunteers to present a wide range of activities, educational displays, and exhibits at our show. Her leadership shines and she gets results always remaining calm, cool, and collected!

submitted by Mark Dahlman, president

Midwest Federation

I would like to nominate a very deserving member as Rockhound of the Year — Tom Dilworth. A member of the Brukner Gem & Mineral Club, Tom is the Show Chairman and has been that for many years. He has held the offices of president and vice president for the club. He took faceting lessons, wire wrapping, and cabochons. He is not only a hard worker but is very active in all aspects of the club.

submitted by Yvonne Owen, president

Northwest Federation

The Mt. Hood Rock Club (Oregon) is proud to nominate Lamar and Merlia Tignor for Rockhounds of the year 2009. Members since 1972, they have taught hundreds the arts of Cabbing, Silversmithing, Beading, Wire-wrapping, Displaying, Judging, Earrings, Bead Knotting, and High-speed Sanding.

Lamar was the first President of the Portland Regional Gem & Mineral Show Association and created the Northwest Rockhound Retreat. He also negotiated a display case for our club in the Northwest Rice Museum of Rocks and Minerals. Merlia sews 400 grab bags each year and has been helping with Membership for over 20 years. Together they are invaluable to our club.

submitted by Stephen Petkovsek, President

It’s easy to recognize a member (or couple) from your club!

Just tell us in about 75-100 words why your club honoree is so valuable to your group. Each AFMS affiliated club may submit information about one member (or couple) per year and have it published in this newsletter.

Send your information to your regional ACROY chairperson or; if your federation does not have one, directly to me. Then watch this space!

Richard “Dick” Glimmang

January 12, 1930 – July 12, 2009

Dick Glimmang, a past president of the Northwest Federation and Golden Spike Gem & Mineral Society passed away this past July after a short battle with cancer. At the time of his death he was 79 years old.

A retired tool maker, Dick spent over 50 years in the hobby. Dick didn’t just join a club to be a member; he joined to participate! He joined the Intermountain Facets Guild and became one of it’s famed “Dare Devil” facetters. Dick also was a member of the Golden Spike Gem & Mineral Society and the Rock Artisans of Utah and in addition to holding numerous offices and chairmanships, he ultimately was elected president of each of the groups. This of course led to his election as president of the Northwest Federation in 1996. He also served as 5th and 4th Regional Vice President for the AFMS in 1999 and 2000.

Dick liked to show off his faceted stones at shows across the Northwest and occasionally at AFMS Conventions. This led him to become interested in competition and in working on the Uniform Rules. He served on the URC committee for three years, ultimately becoming its chairman.

Many people outside the Northwest knew Dick and his wife Bonnie from AFMS conventions throughout the United States. It was rare for them to miss attending whether the convention was on the east or west coast….or somewhere in between. He and Bonnie would always attend the Tucson shows each February and Dick could be seen purchasing gold mountings for the various faceted stones that the Dare Devil group auctioned off each year at either the Northwest or AFMS Convention to benefit the AFMS Scholarship Foundation.

Dick is survived by his wife Bonnie (former AFMS Club Rockhound of the Year chair), a son and daughter and four grandchildren. He is also survived by two brothers and a sister.

Those wishing to may make contributions in Dick’s memory to the AFMS Scholarship Foundation % of your local federation coordinator.

Carolyn Weinberger

Having Fun: Junior Activities

by Jim Brace-Thompson, Jr. Activities Chair

The 50 State Challenge Revisited

One year ago, I posed the question: What do the following states have in common? Alaska, Arkansas, Delaware, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Iowa, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Mississippi, Montana, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Jersey, North Carolina, North Dakota, Rhode Island, South Dakota, Utah, Vermont, West Virginia, and Wyoming.

I’m very pleased to note the following states into the fold: Alaska, Idaho, Illinois, and Utah. That’s better—but we still have 20 states to go to achieve our goal of an FRA-affiliated group of kids in each and every one of our glorious 50 states. Here’s my logic: I’m pretty sure there are rocks in each of those 20 remaining states, and I’ve noticed wherever there are rocks, there are rockhounds. And through our clubs and societies, rockhounds often meet other rockhounds. Under the right circumstances, pebble pups result. Ergo, I’m pretty sure there are pebble pups in each of those remaining 20 states, and wouldn’t it be great to give them a Future Rockhounds of America badge?!?

As of this writing, nationwide we now have 79 clubs with an FRA affiliation, with 1,558 Membership patches distributed, 2,636 activity badges awarded, and 93 kids who have earned at least 6 of the activity badges and thus have earned their Rockhound badge, symbolically graduating from pebble pups or “future” rockhounds to true-blue, full-blown rockhounds. The AFMS FRA program is intended to cultivate interest within the next generation of rockhounds by giving them a sense of belonging, both within their individual club and within their broader federation, with the long-term goal of sustaining our hobby well into the future. So here’s to spreading the word, spreading the FRA program into each and every state, and spreading the fun!
In the past six months several important pieces of legislation were bundled into a couple of major packages and passed by Congress that is going to have a drastic impact on our hobby. There seems to be a lot of apathy and lack of interest on the part of our membership about legislative matters, but the main problem is that we are just not well informed. Pending legislative matters that could adversely affect recreational activities on public owned lands have been covered by articles in the AFMS Newsletter for many years. The newsletters are available online and copies are sent to officers in every member society and area federation, but that is where the information seems to stop. Most of our members have never seen an AFMS Newsletter or their Federation’s Bulletins and important pending legislative matters are seldom mentioned at meetings or published in bulletins.

There is currently more legislation pending that could affect our hobby and their sponsors are working hard to bring them to the floor of the House and on to the Senate for a vote prior to the 2010 midterm election cycle. There are three in particular that I think we need to be aware of:


This is a massive bill (just the summary is 100 pages) that is going to devastate many rural areas and small communities that depend on mining for their livelihood. Most of the problems for activities like rockhounding are going to be the result of collateral damage. (This means we are going to get zapped even though the bill does provide for recreational activities like rockhounding.) This “Act” is going to affect both “public and private” lands. Not only is this going to limit a lot of desirable materials, it is also going to limit a lot of prime areas for outings. The bill is out of committee and on a fast tract for passage this fall. By the time you read this article it will probably be too late for contacting your Representatives, but we still have an opportunity to write our Senators and stop this insane legislation.


This bill is still in committee as I write this article, but remember I’m working a little more than a month in advance and it may well be on fast tract for passage by the time you read this Newsletter. In my opinion this bill is one of the largest power-based and massive land grabs in decades. The sheer scope of this proposed legislation is mind boggling. Every body of water from little streams to the Great Lakes and boundary lands “public and private” are going to be placed under government control. Millions of acres considered to be seepage areas that replenish subsurface aquifers are going to be severely restricted. “Wetlands” are going to be significantly expanded to include massive areas considered marginal under previous criteria. Even mountain, high plains, and desert runoff areas are going to be controlled and protected. The few things I’ve mentioned here are just the tip of the iceberg so to speak.


Effort to update this law is in the very early stages of committee work. This situation could change quickly as it has a lot of bi-partisan support. Don’t pick up any arrow heads, pottery shards, or anything else that looks old and man made, particularly on any state or federal lands. If this law is up-dated, it will more than likely include private property also.

There was not much effort made by our members to stop the recently passed legislation and while there seems to be some growing concern, there probably will not be much opposition to the pending legislation on our part in the near future unless there are some dramatic changes. A lot of effort to research and glean the information needed by our members is being done at all levels within AFMS and ALAA, but if this information is not passed on to the membership, we will never get the grass-root support needed to promote, change, or defeat legislative matters that affect our hobby.

Here is a listing of the upcoming Regional Federation Conventions. Please remember to inform me once your federation selects its date so that we can avoid conflicts. You will notice that the AFMS meetings for 2010 and 2011 have already been scheduled and these dates therefore should be avoided when scheduling your own federation convention.

### Upcoming Regional Federation Conventions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Federation</th>
<th>2009</th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>2011</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>California Federation</td>
<td>April 17-19</td>
<td>AFMS</td>
<td>AFMS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eastern Federation</td>
<td>San Jose, CA</td>
<td>June 18-20</td>
<td>July 7-10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Midwest Federation</td>
<td>Oct. 17-18</td>
<td>La Habra, CA</td>
<td>Syracuse, NY</td>
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<tr>
<td>Northwest Federation</td>
<td>May 16-17</td>
<td>March 6-7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rocky Mountain Federation</td>
<td>Billings MT</td>
<td>Newark, DE</td>
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<tr>
<td>South Central Federation</td>
<td>July 30 - Aug. 2</td>
<td>Oct. 2 - 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Southeast Federation</td>
<td>Oct. 10-11</td>
<td>Roswell, NM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Federation</td>
<td>Temple, TX</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Sept. 18 – 19</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Jacksonville, FL</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Quick Tips for Editors

by Linda Jaeger, Bulletin Editors Advisory Chair

If you have a question (or suggestion) about editing or writing, or the bulletin contest or something related, send it to me by email: <Lienda@msa.com> or at home address: 3315 E. 88th St, Tulsa, OK 74137. If I cannot find an answer to your question, we’ll publish the question and ask the readers for their answers.

Congratulations to all our winning editors, authors, and webmasters! Look for the list of winners elsewhere in this edition of the AFMS Newsletter. Then take a little breath and start looking at entries for the next contest. Remember that you can find sample score sheets online at the AFMS website, <www.amfed.org>, as well as good information on editing a newsletter.

**WHICH or THAT?—How do you know?**

As I read judges comments on this year’s entries in the articles and features categories, I noticed several comments about using “that” instead of “which” and vice versa. **So how do you know when to use each one?**

Let’s look at a couple of examples:

1. “We found limestone and sandstone, which are sedimentary rocks.” The phrase “which are sedimentary rocks” describes all limestone and all sandstone. In other words, limestone and sandstone are members of a group called sedimentary rocks. When nouns that are members of a group are being described by naming the group, we use a phrase beginning with “which.”

If we left the “which” phrase out of the sentence, it would not change the meaning of what it was we found. The “which” phrase just gives extra information about all sandstone and all limestone (they are sedimentary rocks) — this information could even go in parentheses.

2. “We found a geode that was filled with amethyst crystals.” In this example, notice we cannot say that all geodes have amethyst crystals. In other words, not all geodes are members of the group that has amethyst crystals. Only some geodes have amethyst crystals. When the descriptive phrase is a group that contains only some of the nouns being modified, we use a “that” phrase and no comma.

Consider the question, “which one (of the noun being modified)?” If the answer is “that one” (referring to the modifier phrase), then use a “that” phrase. If the answer does not make sense, it’s time to use a “which” phrase.

Okay. Test yourself with these sentences:

A. We have sapphires that came from Helena, Montana.

B. We have sapphires, which came from Helena, Montana.

C. Oklahoma is one of the states that has dinosaur remains.

D. Oklahoma is one of the states, which has dinosaur remains.

E. Our club belongs to the RMFMS that is a regional federation of the AFMS.

F. Our club belongs to the RMFMS, which is a regional federation of the AFMS.

G. A collection of petrified wood that has absorbed iron during petrifaction is inside the front door.

H. A collection of petrified wood, which has absorbed iron during petrifaction, is inside the front door.

**How’d you do?**

A. yes — only some sapphires come from Helena, Montana; which sapphires? — the ones from Helena.

B. no — to use “which,” all sapphires must come from Helena, Montana.

C. yes — only some states have dinosaur remains; which states? — the ones with dinosaur remains.

D. no -- to use “which,” all states must have dinosaur remains.

E. no — to use “that,” only some of the RMFMS can be a regional federation of AFMS; which RMFMS? — this sounds like there is more than one RMFMS and does not make sense!

F. yes — all of RMFMS belongs to a regional federation of AFMS.

G. yes — only some petrified wood has absorbed iron during petrifaction; which petrified wood? — the wood that absorbed iron.

H. no — to use “which,” all petrified wood must have absorbed iron during petrifaction.

**References:**


AFMS Webmasters Contest Report

by Phyllis George, Ad Hoc Webmasters Contest Chair

Well, it’s all over except for the shouting—and there definitely will be some shouting going on in the upcoming months. All the regional federation contestants have had the Web sites of their contestants judged, and the results have been e-mailed to the Webmaster Contest Committee Chairpersons for each regional federation. Three of the seven federations have already held their 2009 annual shows—California Federation, Midwest Federation, and Northwest Federation—and the CFMS, MWF, and NFMS certificates have been presented along with the and 1st and 2nd place animated GIFs (images with a moving part) that are to be placed on the top two regional Web sites as a symbol of the quality of the site. The SMFS show is tentatively set for September 18–19, and the RMFMS, SCFMS, and EFMFS shows are all scheduled for October, so the results of their contests will be announced then.

The NFMS/AFMS show was July 31–August 2 in Billings, Montana. The seven regional federation first-place Web sites were judged by Wes Lingerfelt and Bob Keller (of Bob’s Rock Shop fame), and the AFMS results were announced at the Breakfast with the Editors and Webmasters on Sunday, August 2. The AFMS first-place winner received a plaque, and the top three places received animated GIFs for inclusion on their Web sites—a symbol of excellence. All entrants received certificates for their achievement. The AFMS Webmaster Contest winners are listed on the next page of this newsletter.

The AFMS annual meeting was held July 29 during the AFMS/NFMS Show and Convention. A name change for the Webmasters contest was proposed to the attendees.

Everyone involved with the AFMS 2009 Webmasters Contest has been very pleased with the enthusiastic response the new contest received in spite of its sudden and unexpected appearance into the contest world during the final months of 2008. A total of 46 Web sites were entered into the contest. California had the highest number of entries with 12, and the rest of the federations had four to eight entries. I expect that each federation will receive more entries for the 2010 contest.

The Contest Committee Members and all the judges have thoroughly reviewed the 2009 contest Score Sheet, the Guidelines for a good Web site, and the Entry Form. The contest for 2010 will be even better than the contest for 2009. The goal of the contest is for every club to have a Web site that makes viewers want to learn more about the club and about rockhounding, provides club members with current club activity information, and gets new members for the club.

continued on page 7
AFMS 2009 Webmaster Contest Report

continued from page 6

Forty-five websites were entered in our first ever AFMS Webmaster Contest. These were first judged at the regional level with the best then forwarded to our two crack AFMS judges - Wes Lingerfelt and Bob Keller - for re-evaluation. Based on the comments of all the judges, we will be making a few revisions to the score sheet for 2010, and your AFMS Board of Directors has just approved renaming the contest the “Website” since judges aren’t looking at the webmaster, but rather the content of the website.

Here are the results of the 2009 competition. Congratulations to all who entered.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Webmaster</th>
<th>Club</th>
<th>Club Location</th>
<th>Website</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 CFMS</td>
<td>Terry Yoschak</td>
<td>Roseville Rock Rollers Gem &amp; Mineral Society</td>
<td>Roseville, Ca</td>
<td><a href="http://www.rockrollers.com">www.rockrollers.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 SFMS</td>
<td>Mike Baldwin</td>
<td>Memphis Archeological &amp; Geological Society</td>
<td>Collierville, TN</td>
<td><a href="http://www.memphisgeology.org">www.memphisgeology.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 NFMS</td>
<td>Susan Appleby</td>
<td>Willamette Agate &amp; Mineral Society</td>
<td>Salem, OR</td>
<td><a href="http://www.wamsi.org">www.wamsi.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 SCFMS</td>
<td>Phyllis George</td>
<td>Houston Gem &amp; Mineral Society</td>
<td>Houston, TX</td>
<td><a href="http://www.hgms.org">www.hgms.org</a></td>
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<td>6 EFMLS</td>
<td>Joe Mulvey</td>
<td>Micromounters of New England</td>
<td>Nashua, NH</td>
<td><a href="http://www.micromountersofnewengland.org">www.micromountersofnewengland.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>7 MWF</td>
<td>Milton &quot;Mike&quot; Barnfield</td>
<td>Parma Lapidary Club</td>
<td>Cleveland, OH</td>
<td><a href="http://www.parmalapidary.com">www.parmalapidary.com</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2009 Webmaster Contest Results

from Phyllis George, Contest Chair

2009 All American Club Award Winners

by John Washburn, Chair

The 2009 All American Club Award Competition is now history and I was delighted to be able to announce the results during the banquet at Billings, MT on August 1. The judges and I were very impressed with the entries we received and delighted to see the many activities in which these clubs and their members are engaged. I hope that this coming year will see more clubs compile a yearbook of their activities and enter. Guidelines and score sheets will be available in an upcoming AFMS Newsletter.

The competition this year was for club activities during the 2008 calendar year. And the winners are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Club</th>
<th>Federation</th>
<th>Award</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Small Clubs</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waco Gem &amp; Mineral Club, Woodway, TX</td>
<td>SCFMS</td>
<td>Bronze Medal Award</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lincoln Gem &amp; Mineral Club, Lincoln, NE</td>
<td>MWF</td>
<td>Silver Medal Award</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sutter Buttes Gem &amp; Mineral Society, Marysville, CA</td>
<td>CFMS</td>
<td>Silver Medal Award</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Central Illinois Rock &amp; Mineral Club, Macomb, IL</td>
<td>MWF</td>
<td>Silver Medal Award</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wisconsin Geological Society, West Allis, WI</td>
<td>MWF</td>
<td>Silver Medal Award</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Large Clubs</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Clackamette Mineral &amp; Gem Corp., of Oregon Oregon City, OR</td>
<td>NFMS</td>
<td>Silver Medal Award</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Delta Rock &amp; Mineral Society, Tulsa, OK</td>
<td>RMFMS</td>
<td>Silver Medal Award</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>El Dorado County Mineral &amp; Gem Society, Placerville, CA</td>
<td>CFMS</td>
<td>Gold Medal Award</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mother Lode Mineral Society, Empire, CA</td>
<td>CFMS</td>
<td>1st Place Gold Medal</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Endowment Fund Drawing Results

by Dee Holland, Chair

The AFMS Endowment Fund Drawing for 2009 is now history. I want to thank those who donated the various prizes as well as those who sold the tickets. The interest earned from the funds raised over the years for the Endowment fund helps provide for various AFMS programs including the badges for our Juniors program and digitizing many of our slide programs in order to preserve them.

And the winners are...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prize</th>
<th>Donor</th>
<th>Winner</th>
<th>Federation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 - Crystal Vase</td>
<td>B. Jay Bowman</td>
<td>Skeeter Kish</td>
<td>MWF</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 - Opal Pendant</td>
<td>Joyce Speed</td>
<td>Steve Fordham</td>
<td>EFMLS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 - Amethyst Clock</td>
<td>Gulf Coast Gem &amp; Mineral Soc.</td>
<td>Fred Schaefermeyer</td>
<td>EFMLS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 - Sphalote-All Metallic</td>
<td>David Gheesling</td>
<td>Manuel Garcia</td>
<td>CFMS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 - Brazilian Agate w/stand</td>
<td>Ellery Borow</td>
<td>Robert Artis</td>
<td>MWF</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 - Intarsia Bola</td>
<td>Jerry Blimka</td>
<td>T. Kapta</td>
<td>MWF</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 - Oval Carving</td>
<td>James Gaddey</td>
<td>Lakeside G &amp; M Club</td>
<td>NFMS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 - Dogwood Carving</td>
<td>Ken Neaves</td>
<td>Ida Anderson</td>
<td>NFMS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 - Faceted Citrine Pendant</td>
<td>Steve Weinberger</td>
<td>Daleen Caldwell</td>
<td>RMFMS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 - Meteorite Slab</td>
<td>Carl Shugart</td>
<td>Beryl Ferguson</td>
<td>SFMS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 - Wire-wrapped Smokey Qtz</td>
<td>Jennifer Rhodes</td>
<td>PWGMS</td>
<td>SCFMS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 - Beaded Pendant</td>
<td>Mia Schulman</td>
<td>Sean Branigan</td>
<td>SFMS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14 - Dolphin Carving</td>
<td>Ken Neaves</td>
<td>Don Ogden</td>
<td>CFMS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 - Agate &amp; Jasper Book</td>
<td>Ron Gibbs</td>
<td>Fred Ott</td>
<td>CFMS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 - Agate &amp; Jasper Book</td>
<td>Ron Gibbs</td>
<td>Russell Oliger</td>
<td>MWF</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17 - Obsidian Bear Carving</td>
<td>Costigana Minerals</td>
<td>Lamar Tilger</td>
<td>NFMS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18 - Beaded Pendant</td>
<td>Cheri George</td>
<td>Water-Oak G &amp; M Soc.</td>
<td>EFMLS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19 - Palm Wood Slab</td>
<td>Eugene Powell</td>
<td>Inez Berg</td>
<td>CFMS</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Winning Articles Available

from Linda Jaeger

If you would like your own copy of the winning articles and poetry (including honorable mentions), you can purchase the Winning Articles booklet in either hard copy or on CD.

There are a limited number of hard copies, so reserve a hard copy by emailing me first <LjgrAlg@aol.com>. I will send a reply email letting you know your copy is reserved - then you can send a check to me (Linda Jaeger) for $8.50. The price covers printing and mailing.

If you would like to purchase the CD version (all articles and poems are in both pdf format and Microsoft Word, or .doc form), just mail a check to me (Linda Jaeger) for $3.50. The price covers the cost of producing the CD and mailing.

Orders should be sent to me at:
Linda Jaeger
3515 E. 88th Street
Tulsa, OK 74137-2602
The 2009 AFMS Bulletin Editors Competition is now history. The results are printed below.

I’d like to thank the hard working regional BEAC chairs and our AFMS judges for helping to make the contest so successful.

Regional Federation Bulletin Editors Chairs:
- CFMS - Doug Arnold
- EFMLS - Natalie Darling
- MF - Celia Tiffany
- NFMS - Darlene Denton
- SCFMS - Don Schurta
- RMFMS - Linda Jaeger
- SFMS - Ed Johnson

AFMS judges. These folks were responsible for evaluating the bulletins and articles submitted from the regional federations.

- Mini Bulletins
  - Terry Yoschak, Rocklin, CA

- Small Bulletins
  - Dan Imel, Fairport, NY

- Large Bulletins
  - Diane Dare, Holiday, FL

- New Editors
  - Carolyn Weinberger, Glyndon, MD

- Adult Articles
  - Judith Washburn, Rochester, IL

- Adult Articles, Advanced
  - Claude Bolte and Richard Jaeger, Tulsa, OK

- Junior Articles
  - Kay Atkinson, Claremont, OK

- Feature Articles
  - Barbara Fenstermacher, Aiken, SC

The 2010 contest rules will be announced shortly by your regional federation chair. Be sure to follow the guidelines established for your federation and, if your entry earns a high enough score at the regional level, it will be forwarded for the AFMS competition with results announced next June during the AFMS/CFMS convention in LaHabra, CA. If you did not enter this year, do consider doing so for this coming year. All entries must have been published (or written) during the 2009 calendar year.

And now, without further ado, here are the results...

**Original Adult Articles, Top 10**

1. Belemnites of the Chesapeake, A Look at the Delaware State Fossil by Bruce Hargreaves
   - Maryland Geological Society
   - From: The Rostrum, 1/08

2. Coal by Brett Whitehead
   - McPherson Gem & Mineral Club
   - From: The Post Rock, 11/08

3. Herb Bastuscheck
   - American Master of an Ancient Japanese Art
   - Houston Gem & Mineral Society
   - From: The Backbender’s Gazette, 10/08

4. Visit to the Black Hills Institute – Home of Stan and MNM’s Wyrex by Phyllis George
   - Houston Gem & Mineral Society
   - From: The Backbender’s Gazette, 8/08

5. Field Trip Do’s & Don’ts – Things to Think About by Bill Cain
   - Colorado Springs Mineralogical Society
   - From: Pick & Pack, 10/08

6. Why Micromounts? by David Brand
   - New York Mineralogical Club
   - From: Bulletin of the New York Mineralogical Club, 7/08

7. Quartzite by Lois Larson
   - McPherson Gem & Mineral Club
   - From: The Post Rock, 9/08

8. A Blast from the Past
   - The Iron Age of Bartow County
   - Tom Batcha, Georgia Mineral Society
   - From: Tips and Tricks, 3/08

9. Hunting Apatite at the Ray Mica Mines by Edward J. Wagner,
   - The Southern Appalachian Mineral Society
   - From: Mountain Mineral Monthly, 5/08

    - From: The Rockhounder, 1/08

**Honorable Mention**

- Funk’s Museum
  - by Kathy Anane
  - Lincoln Orbit Earth Science Society
  - From: LOESS Bulletin, 12/08

- It Makes a Gneiss Paperweight
  - by Steve Morse
  - Lincoln Orbit Earth Science Society
  - From: LOESS Bulletin, 9/08

The Care and Feeding of Diamond Saws by Wayne Barnett
- The Houston Gem & Mineral Society
- From: The Backbender’s Gazette, 4/08

Oldest Turtle Footprints Found in Colorado Rocks? by Terry Beh
- Colorado Springs Mineralogical Society
- From: Pick & Pack, 6/08

Jane the Mystery Dinosaur by Mary Bertram
- Lincoln Orbit Earth Science Society
- From: LOESS Bulletin, 2/08

Try a Club Awareness Project by John Eichhorn
- Santa Clara Valley Gem & Mineral Society
- From: Breccia, 2/08

Credibility & Character, A Necessary Aspect of Our Hobby and Our Future by Jennifer Hately
- Napa Valley Rock & Gem Club
- From: NAPA GEAMS, 12/08

Thundereggs & Geodes by Robert Rose
- Sweet Home Rock & Mineral Society
- From: Nuggets & Pebbles, 7/08

Rock Club Outing to Saddle Mountain as experienced by Ralph Trethewey
- Ralph Trethewey
- Marcus Whitman Gem & Mineral Society
- From: The Rock Licker, 5/08

Rockhounding with the Obermeyers by Ed and Diane Obermeyer
- Oregon Coast Agate Club
- From: Coastal Waves, Fall 2008

How Not to Go on a Field Trip, A Fairy Tale by Debbie Hood, Orcutt Mineral Society
- From: Ore-Cuts, 8/08

III. Original Adult Articles Advanced, Top 10

1. Evidence Supporting the Existence of an Island in the Late Cretaceous Period by Ben W.Vrana, Ph.D.
   - The Loup Valley Gem & Mineral Society
   - From: The Loup Scoop, 5/08

2. A Walk in the Mountains: Horseshoe Cirque by Mike Nelson
   - Colorado Springs Mineralogical Society
   - From: Pick & Pack, 10/08

continued on page 9
3. A Rockhound Visits a Museum of Ancient Art  
by Walt Kubilius  
Aiken Gem, Mineral, & Fossil Society  
From: Hound’s Howl, 1/08

4. Neogene Sharks Teeth from Along the Texas Gulf Coast  
by Albert J. Robb III and George Wolf Sr., Houston Gem & Mineral Society  
From: The Backbender’s Gazette, 8/08

5. Cache Creek Park: A Chaffee County Gold Rush  
by Steven Watch  
Colorado Springs Mineralogical Society  
From: Pick & Pack, 8/08

6. Diamond Wrongs  
by Dr. Bill Cordua, St. Croix Rockhounds  
From: The Post Rock, 4/08

7. Witherite  
by David Hess, West Central Illinois Rock & Mineral Club  
From: Rock Chatter, 1/0/8

8. Mining the Deep Sea  
by Dr. Vivien Gornitz  
New York Mineralogical Club  
From: The Bulletin of the New York Mineralogical Club, 2/08

9. The Spectroscope in Mineralogy  
by Michael Kuhn  
Lincoln Orbit Earth Science Society  
From: The Vug Examiner, 9/08

10. Junior Report -- Malachite  
by Sam Anguiano (9), Lakeside Gem & Mineral Club  
From: Geode, 9/08

VI. Junior Articles – 12 to 17, Top 10 (8 entries)

1. Rockus Collectralus: A Case Study  
by Chris Lee (17), Georgia Mineral Society  
From: Tips and Tricks, 1/08

2. Of Whales and Needles  
by Eliyah Kemp (16)  
The Three Rivers Gem & Mineral Society  
From: The Strata Data, 1/10

3. Uncovering Kansas – Interesting Facts About the Eleven Geological Sections of Kansas  
by Katherine Vasper (17)  
The Gem & Mineral Society of Franklin, NC  
From: The Mountain Gem, 11/08

4. First Cabochon  
by Mary Boesdorfer (15)  
Lincoln Orbit Earth Science Society  
From: LOESS Bulletin, 3/08

5. From Trash to Treasure  
by Elizabeth Siegfried (17)  
The Gem & Mineral Society of Franklin, NC  
From: The Mountain Gem, 11/08

6. A Day With the Gmethrees  
by Michael Kuhn  
Three Rivers Gem & Mineral Society  
From: The Strata Data, 4/08

7. Thanksgiving at Lavic Siding  
by Rodney Duncan (12)  
Mother Lode Mineral Society  
From: MLMS Ghost Sheet, 1/08

8. Pizza Blast for Juniors  
by Morgan Graham (16)  
Mississippi Gem & Mineral Society  
From: Rocky Echoes, 11/08

VII. Written Features, Top 10

1. Lake Texoma 2008 – Ammonites, Urchins, and Oysters on Memorial Weekend  
by Neal Immega, Houston Gem & Mineral Society  
From: The Backbender’s Gazette, 7/08

2. Kunzite  
by Erik Spande, West Suburban Lapidary Club  
From: The Opal, 3/08
Editors Contest Results

3. Faux Pas, uhh, Rather Palm, ‘Faux Palm,’ that is
by Owen Martin, Houston Gem & Mineral Society
From: The Backbender's Gazette, 4/08

4. President's Message – Review of Water'exhibit at the AMNH
by Anna Shumate, New York Mineralogical Club
From: Bulletin of the New York Mineralogical Club, 3/08

5. Web Sites: Spy on These
by Wendell Mohr, Gem, Lapidary, & Mineral Society
From: The Rockhounder, 10/08

6. This is My Quest
by Jane Owen, Richmond Gem & Mineral Society
From: The Collecting Bag, 9/08

by Chet Perkins
The Three Rivers Gem & Mineral Society
From: The Stratata Data, 8/08

8. President’s Message
by Bill Waggener, Georgia Mineral Society
The Three Rivers Gem & Mineral Society
From: The Stratata Data, 8/08

9. Installation of 2008 Officers
by Bill Stonecipher
Marcus Whitman Gem & Mineral Society
From: The Rock Licker, 1/08

10. Earth Angel
by Wayne Mills, Orcutt Mineral Society
From: Ore-Cuts, 6/08

Honorable Mention

My Love of Rocks
by Mary Owens
East Texas Gem and Mineral Society
From: Rock-n-Rose, 12/08

A True Tale of the Morefield Mine... on Christmas Eve Eve Eve
by Dave Lines
Southern Maryland Rock and Mineral Club
From: Rock Talk, 1/08

The Search
by Scott Mayeaux
ARK-LA-TEX Gem and Mineral Society
From: Rock Rattler Special Edition, 12/08

My Grandma
by Betty Hicks, Magic Valley Gem Club
From: Magic Valley Gem News, 9/08

Tick Tock. We Rock!
by Floy Hawkins
North Mississippi Gem & Mineral Society
From: North Mississippi Gem & Mineral Society Newsletter, 12/08

From atop the Rock Pile
by Malcolm Wheeler, Sr.
Boeing Employees Mineral Society
From: The Tumbler, 12/08

X. Adult Poetry, Top 10

1. The Collecting Cycle
by Betty Thompson
Mineralogical Society of the Districts of Columbia
From: Mineral Minutes, 3/08

2. Hard Rockers
by Vern Ricker, Anoka County Gem & Mineral Club
From: Hidden Treasures, 5/08

3. A Rock is a Rock is a Rock To Rockhound Friends -- Everywhere
by Terry Proctor, Houston Gem & Mineral Society
From: The Backbender’s Gazette, 11/08

4. Stones
by Mary O. Lisby
East Alabama Gem & Mineral Society
From: Boulder Bouncer, 12/08

5. Collector
by Rosie Miller
Three Rivers Gem & Mineral Society
From: The Stratata Data, 2/08

6. Ode to Rose Bud Creek
by Sandy Grych
North Mississippi Gem & Mineral Society
From: North Mississippi Gem & Mineral Society Newsletter, 2/08

7. Have You Seen My Mind?
by Jackie Sullivan
West Central Illinois Rock & Mineral Club
From: Rock Chatter, 12/08

8. False Clues
by Betsy Oberheim
Central Pennsylvania Rock and Mineral Club
From: Rock Buster News, 4/08

9. Installation of 2008 Officers
by Bill Stonecipher
Marcus Whitman Gem & Mineral Society
From: The Rock Licker, 1/08

10. Earth Angel
by Wayne Mills, Orcutt Mineral Society
From: Ore-Cuts, 6/08

Honorable Mention

The Gold Bug
by Jim Barton, Roseville Rock Rollers
From: The Rollin’ Rock, 11/08

Be a SHOW-OFF!
by Terry Toschak, Roseville Rock Rollers
From: The Rollin’ Rock, 1/08

WAMS Coast Trip Feb. 16-17
by Emily Start, Willamette Agate & Mineral Society
From: WAMS Rockhound Rumbling, 3/08

I Always Need to Dig!
by John Casto
Colorado Springs Mineralogical Society
From: Pick & Pack, 2/08

Staurolite Field Trip to Taos, NM
by Roger Pittman
Colorado Springs Mineralogical Society
From: Pick & Pack, 8/08

Karnes County Field Trip Recap
by Alan Cherepon, Austin Gem & Mineral Society
From: The Stone Chipper, 3/08

Writing Directions for Rockhound Digging Sites
by Randy Vandehey
South Douglas Gem & Mineral Club
From: Rock Scoop, 1/08

Our Tonopah Field Trip
by Fran Wolff
South-Washington Mineralogical Society
From: Carry Hound, 11/08

More Mine Visits
by Gail Notestine
The Gem & Mineral Society of Franklin, NC
From: The Mountain Gem, 8/08

New Rock Name
by Mike Wheat
Colorado Springs Mineralogical Society
From: FACETS, 12/08

IX. Drawn Features (2 entries)

1. Indian Artifacts
by Marie Zigler
Three Rivers Gem & Mineral Society
From: The Stratata Data, 8/08

2. Navette
by Jim Hoeschen
Columbia-Willamette Faceters Guild
From: FACETS, 12/08

XII. Junior Poetry (5 entries)

1. Christmas Rocks
by Austin Reeves (11), Mother Lode Mineral Society
From: MLMSS Ghost Sheet, 12/08

2. Amazing Agate
by Blake Sullivan (9)
West Central Illinois Rock & Mineral Club
From: Rock Chatter, 12/08

continued on page 12
XIII. New Editors, Top 10

1. No first place winner

2. Diablo Diggins, 12/08
   Bonnie Eichler, Editor
   Contra Costa Mineral & Gem Society
   Walnut Creek, CA (CFMS)

3. The LOESS Bulletin, 12/08
   Ed Wagner, Editor
   Lincoln Orbit Earth Science Society
   Rochester, IL (MWF)

4. The Crystal & Gem News, 9/08
   Vi Jones, Editor
   North Puget Sound Faceting Guild
   Marysville, WA (NFMS)

5. The Conglomerate, 10/08
   Barbara Hardman, Editor
   Reno Gem & Mineral Society, Sparks, NV (CFMS)

6. Rocky Echoes, 11/08
   Janie Hand, Editor
   Mississippi Gem & Mineral Society
   Florence, MS (EFLS)

7. Cabber Grabber, 8/08
   Bonita L. Harris, Editor
   Mobile Rock & Gem Society, Mobile, AL (NFMS)

8. Rock Chips, 10/08
   Dorothy Tonnecliff, Editor
   Stockton Mineral & Lapidary Club
   Stockton, CA (CFMS)

9. Rock Talk, 2/08
   Jessica Thomson, Editor
   Southern Maryland Rock & Mineral Club
   Clinton, MD (EFLS)

10. El Gambrinos, 10/08
    Maxine Wyman, Editor
    Gemcrafters & Explorers Club
    Las Cruces, NM (RMFMS)

Honororable Mention

Stone Age News
10/08, Bill Moser, Editor
Marysville Rock & Gem Club
Marysville, WA (NFMS)

3. Realgar
   by Eliyah Kemp (16)
   The Three Rivers Gem & Mineral Society
   From: The Three Rivers Gem & Mineral Society
   Ft. Wayne, IN (MWF)

4. Similar
   by Tori Laster (11)
   ARK-LA-TEX Gem and Mineral Society
   From: The Rock Rattler, 12/08

5. The Journey of Kate
   by Anne Hoffman (7)
   Three Rivers Gem & Mineral Society
   From: The Three Rivers Gem & Mineral Society
   Ft. Wayne, IN (MWF)

XV. Mini Bulletins, Top 10 (7 entries)

1. Rock Rollers, 10/08
   Randy Vandehey, Editor
   Rock Rollers Club, Spokane, WA (NFMS)

2. Rock Chatter, 10/08
   Donna Moore, Editor
   West Central Illinois Rock & Mineral Club
   Macomb, IL (MWF)

3. Greater Cincinnati Lapidary & Faceting Society Newsletter, 9/08
   Jim & Judy Budnik, Editors
   Greater Cincinnati Lapidary & Faceting Society
   Cincinnati, OH (MWF)

4. Rock Scoop, 3/08
   Amanda Newnham, Editor
   Rock & Arrowhead Club
   Klamath Falls, OR (NFMS)

5. The Nugget, 3/08
   Sandy Grych, Editor
   Mississippi Gem & Mineral Society
   Mathisston, MS (MWF)

6. The Lake Rocker Newsletter, 9/08
   KITT Kitterman, Editor
   Osage Beach Rock & Mineral Club
   Osage Beach, MO (MWF)

7. Dusty Rocks, 6/08
   Amanda Newnham, Editor
   Rock & Arrowhead Club
   Klamath Falls, OR (NFMS)

XVI. Small Bulletins, Top 10

1. The Stone Chipper, 3/08
   Laura & David Dow, Editors
   Austin Gem & Mineral Society
   Austin, TX (SCFMS)

2. Ore Cutts, 5/08
   Deborah Hood, Editor
   Orcutt Mineral Society, Santa Maria, CA (CFMS)

3. Rock Buster News, 6/08
   Maxine Nicholas, Editor
   Central Pennsylvania Rock & Mineral Club
   Harrisburg, PA (EFLS)

4. The Strata Data, 12/08
   Michele Yamanaka, Editor
   The Three Rivers Gem & Mineral Society
   Ft. Wayne, IN (MWF)

5. High Country Gleamings, 12/08
   Margaret L. Johnson, Editor
   Henderson County Gem & Mineral Society
   Hendersonville, NC (SFMS)

6. Hound’s Howl, 5/08
   Barbara Fenstermacher, Editor
   Aiken Gem, Mineral & Fossil Society
   Aiken, SC (SFMS)

7. The Rockhounder, 7&8/08
   Wendell Mohr, Editor
   Gem, Lapidary, & Mineral Society of Montgomery Co., MD, Gaithersburg, MD (EFLS)

8. Crack ‘N Cob, 3/08
   Loren Patterson, Editor
   Gem & Mineral Society of Syracuse
   Syracuse, NY (EFLS)

9. The Quarry, 8/08
   Jim & Judy Budnik, Editors
   Cincinnati Mineral Society, Cincinnati, OH (MWF)

10. Canaveral Moonstone, 5/08
    David Jacobson, Editor
    Canaerval Gem & Mineral Society
    Melbourne, FL (SFMS)

Honorable Mention

The Hard Rock News, 6/08
    Kathy Reimers, Editor
    Kitsap Gem & Mineral Society
    Silverdale, WA (NFMS)

The Opal, 3/08
    Mary Prosek, Editor
    West Suburban Lapidary Club, Lyons, IL (MWF)

Rock Writing, 5/08
    Jeanne Boone, Editor
    Nevada County Gem & Mineral Society
    Nevada City, CA (CFMS)

Coastal Waves, Spring-08
    Carol Willey, Editor
    Oregon Coast Agate Club, Newport, OR (NFMS)

Snoopy Gems, 6/08
    Billie G. Wright, Editor
    Mississippi Gulf Coast Gem & Mineral Society
    Ocean Springs, MS (SFMS)

Rockhound Special, 11/08
    Karen Hinderman, Editor
    Mt. Baker Rock & Gem Club
    Bellingham, WA (NFMS)

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Editors Contest Results

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The Pineywoods Rooter, 6/08
John D. Nash, Editor
Pine Country Gem & Mineral Society
Jasper, TX (SCFMS)

Chips and Chatter, 12/08
Anita Dresner, Editor
Pleasant Oaks Gem & Mineral Club of Dallas
Richardson, TX (SCFMS)

VIII. Large Bulletins, Top 10

1. Petroglyphs, 5/08
Merryan O’Neill, Editor
El Dorado Mineral & Gem Society
Placerville, CA (CFMS)

2. Pick & Pack, 12/08
Betty Cain, Editor
Colorado Springs Mineralogical Society
Colorado Springs, CO (RMFMS)

3. The Mountain Gem, 7/08
Linda Behr, Editor
The Gem & Mineral Society of Franklin, NC
Franklin, NC (SFMS)

4. T-Town Rockhound, 8/08
Mary Watts, Editor
Tulsa Rock & Mineral Society
Tulsa, OK (RMFMS)

5. Gem Cutters News, 1/08
Carolyn Weinberger, Editor
Gem Cutters Guild of Baltimore
Baltimore, MD (EFMLS)

6. Breccia, 11/08
June Harris, Editor
Santa Clara Valley Gem & Mineral Society
San Jose, CA (CFMS)

7. Pebbles, 3/08
Shawn van der Putten, Editor
Everett Rock & Gem Club, Everett, WA (NFMS)

8. Ghost Sheet, 5/08
Chris Whittier, Editor
Mother Lode Mineral Society of California
Modesto, CA (CFMS)

9. Tips and Trips, 9/08
Tom Batcha, Editors
The Georgia Mineral Society, Atlanta, GA (SFMS)

10. Mountain Mineral Monthly, 8/08
Sylvia Forward, Editor
The Southern Appalachian Mineral Society
Asheville, NC (SFMS)

Honorable Mention
Pick & Shovel, 2/08
Jim Atkins, Editor
Lincoln Gem & Mineral Club, Lincoln, NE (MWF)

The Hot Springs Bulletin, 9/08
Raymond Lynch, Editor
The Hot Springs Geology Club
Hot Springs, AR (SCFMS)

The Vug Examiner, 6/08
Edward Mattson, Editor
The Stamford Mineralogical Society
Stamford, CT (EFMLS)

XX. Special Publications (3 entries)

1. October 2008 Field Trip to Wabaunsee County
by Lois Larson
McPherson Gem & Mineral Club
McPherson, KS (RMFMS)

2. Junior Rockhound Meetings:
Let’s Take a Closer Look at Rocks
by Bonita L. Harris
Mobile Rock & Gem Society
Mobile, AL (SFMS)

by Ed Miller
Michiana Gem & Mineral Society
Southbend, IN (MWF)

Bon Apetite! The Rockfood Table

Bill & Lois Pattillo brought their fabulous Rock Food Table to Billings.

AFMS Newsletter - September, 2009
Page 13
AFMS Recognition Awards Presented

With the cancellation of the 2008 AFMS meeting in Houston, TX due to Hurricane Ike, the presentation of the Recognition Award was delayed until this year. As a result, both the 2008 and 2009 awards were presented at the Awards Banquet held on August 1.

AFMS Past President Shirley Leeson presented the award for 2009 with the following citation:

"Tonight we will honor not one, but two people. The first honoree is soft spoken and likes to keep things moving along smoothly.

This person moved through the officer chairs in both her regional federation and AFMS, and has been an exhibitor, judge, parliamentarian. Upon reaching the lofty status as AFMS president, she didn't retire to sit on her laurels, but continued to work for the AFMS and its sister organization, the AFMS Scholarship Foundation.

Ask her to do a job, even now, and she steps in to help.

Today she holds the office of Secretary of the Scholarship Foundation, Treasurer for the American Lands Access Association, and during this show served as a judge of competitive displays.

Join me as we honor none other than Ruth Bailey."

AFMS Junior Trophy Winners!!!

Dr. Robert Carlson, AFMS Past President presented the Recognition Award for 2008 with the following citation:

"The AFMS Recognition Award is a very prestigious award. It is awarded by Past Presidents of the AFMS for service and dedication that is outstanding. There are only a few people that can meet these requirements.

This year’s selection cannot be hidden when accomplishments are enumerated. Therefore, I wish to announce that this years award goes to a couple: Steve and Carolyn Weinberger.

Steve was AFMS President in 2001-02. He took over the Central Office in 2004, and has done a yeoman's job.

Carolyn became AFMS Editor in 1999 and continues to serve in that position today.

Together, this couple has provided the AFMS with Communication and Organization; without which the AFMS could not exist.

AFMS Recognition Awards Presented

With the cancellation of the 2008 AFMS meeting in Houston, TX due to Hurricane Ike, the presentation of the Recognition Award was delayed until this year. As a result, both the 2008 and 2009 awards were presented at the Awards Banquet held on August 1.

AFMS Past President Shirley Leeson presented the award for 2009 with the following citation:

"Tonight we will honor not one, but two people. The first honoree is soft spoken and likes to keep things moving along smoothly.

This person moved through the officer chairs in both her regional federation and AFMS, and has been an exhibitor, judge, parliamentarian. Upon reaching the lofty status as AFMS president, she didn't retire to sit on her laurels, but continued to work for the AFMS and its sister organization, the AFMS Scholarship Foundation.

Ask her to do a job, even now, and she steps in to help.

Today she holds the office of Secretary of the Scholarship Foundation, Treasurer for the American Lands Access Association, and during this show served as a judge of competitive displays.

Join me as we honor none other than Ruth Bailey."

Competitive Exhibit Results

With 60 competitive exhibits to judge at the convention, all the judges were kept busy. The assembled displays were some of the finest ever seen at a show and the exhibitors are to be commended for their work. Here are the trophy winners:

A-7 Open Mixed
Alex Moedl, Junior Exhibitor
Idaho Falls Gem & Mineral Club

A-1 Open Minerals
Gary Buhr, Everett Rock & Gem Club

BU-1 Minerals
Alexander Carrington, Junior
Everett Rock & Gem Club

BU-1 Minerals
Joe Slouber, Butte Mineral & Gem Club

BU-7X Minerals
Larry Hulstron, Lakeside Gem & Mineral Club

BC-1 Minerals
Sue & Al Liebetrau, Lakeside Gem & Mineral Club

BS-6X Minerals
Paul Otto, NW Arkansas Gem & Mineral Club

BT-1 Minerals
Alexander Schauss
Puyallup Valley Gem & Mineral Club

BT-7X Minerals
Alexander Schauss
Puyallup Valley Gem & Mineral Club

CC-7 Lapidary
Steve Gustafson, Mt. Hood Rock Club

CC-1 Lapidary
Ransom Cutshall, Junior
Everett Rock & Gem Club

CC-2 Lapidary
Laura Cimolino, Everett Rock & Gem

DST-6 Jewelry Wirewrap
Char Jorgensen, Everett Rock & Gem

EGC-Educational
Laura Cimolino, Junior
Everett Rock & Gem

EGC-1 Educational
VI Jones, North Puget Sound Faceting Guild

CW-6 Intarsia
Linn Erger, Hells Canyon Gem Club

EIC-5 Educational
Chris Blickfeldt, Idaho Gem Club

UV-1 Fluorescent
Al & Sue Liebetrau, Lakeside Gem & Min. Club

CA-7 Carving
Dick Fresen, Livermore Valley Lithophiles

AFMS Newsletter -September, 2009
2009 AFMS Committees

Here is the listing of the people who have agreed to serve as Committee Chairs for 2008-09. Please feel free to contact these people if you need information, have questions or would like to share ideas with them.

All American Club
John Washburn
<jrwashburn2@msn.com>

AFMS Club Rockhounding of the Year
Loretta Ogden
<donogden@aol.com>

AFMS Newsletter
Carolyn Weinberger
P.O. Box 302, Glyndon, MD 21071-0302
410-833-7926 <editor@amfed.org>

Boundaries
John Wright
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Bulletin Editor Hall of Fame
Kitty Starbuck
<greenstone@iserv.net>

Bulletin Editors Advisory
Linda Jaeger
<ljgralg@aol.com>

Bylaws Revisory
Steve Weinberger
P.O. Box 302, Glyndon, MD 21071-0302
410-833-7926 <central_office@amfed.org>

Central Office Administrator
Steve Weinberger (see Bylaws Revisory)

Commemorative Stamps
Wendell Mohr
<wmohr@erols.com>

Conservation and Legislation
John Wright (see Boundaries)

Endowment Fund
Dee Holland
<beauholland@centurytel.net>

Financial Investment
Lauren Williams
<shiahaur@msn.com>

Historian
Shirley Leeson
<shirleyleeson@msn.com>

International Relations
Bob Jones
<jonesb52@gmail.com>

Judges Training Seminar
Dee Holland (See Endowment)

Junior Programs
Jim Brace-Thompson
<jbraceth@roadrunner.com>

Long Range Planning
Shirley Leeson (See Historian)

Name Badges
Frank Mulaney
<rockyfiv@aol.com>

Nominating
Shirley Leeson (see Historian)

Parliamentarian
Dee Holland (See Endowment)

Past President’s Advisory
Shirley Leeson (see Historian)

Photography
Steve Weinberger (see Bylaws Revisory)

Program Competition
Marge Collins
<margaret@qtm.net>

Publications
B. Jay Bowman
<bjbowman@wildblue.net>

Public Relations
Fran Sick
<ednfran@epix.net>

Safety
Ted Rieth
<tjrieth@epix.net>

Show Consultant
Bob Livingston
<gemguy@verizon.net>

Uniform Rules
Barbara Jacobsen
<bbarb@embarqmail.com>

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

Ways and Means
Marve Starbuck
<greenstone@iserv.net>

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

Ad Hoc Webmaster Contest
Phyllis George
<pgeorge4@comcast.net>

Ad Hoc Competition Study
Ron Carman
<rrcarman@centurytel.net>

Ad Hoc Inter-Regional Field Trip
Dick Pankey
<rickpankey@juno.com>

AFMS Scholarship Foundation
Dee Holland, President
(see Endowment Fund)

Joy Bourne, Vice President
Rush Bailey, Secretary
Arlene Burkhalter, Treasurer
What’s Happening with ALAA

The Omnibus Public Lands Bill passed the House and the Senate, was signed by the President and is now the law. However, the exact effect on the public, on rockhounds, on our rights to access our Public Lands is still not known. And it will not be determined until each BLM District office, each Forest Service District office, each of the other affected governmental agencies interprets these laws, and incorporates them into their specific Management Plan. This is where we can still have a voice and have affect on the final implementation. How? By becoming involved in the process. By talking with the managers of our Public Lands; by participating in the meetings called for public input; by providing our ideas and wishes with letters, e-mails and telephone calls. By being involved in the process.

How do we, how do YOU get started? All of us live less than 100 miles from a BLM, FS or other agency office. Better yet go to the office that manages the land where your favorite collecting site is. The first step is to get acquainted with the office and the personnel. Get signed up to receive notices of public meetings and/or get on their general mailing list. Next get involved – attend meetings, learn how that office implements the current laws and how they propose to implement the Omnibus Laws, provide comments and get others involved with your efforts. More on this topic in future articles.

New legislation that will affect us has been introduced in Congress; S 796 Hard rock Mining and Reclamation Act and HR 699 Hard rock Mining and Reclamation Act of 2009 which propose significant changes in the Mining Law of 1872, and SB68. The Fee Repeal Act and Expanded Access Act of 2009 which would revoke authority given to the FS to charge new and higher user fees. Now is the time to learn about and comment on this developing legislation; now is the time we can be proactively involved.

The American Land Access Association held its annual meeting during the NFMS/AFMS convention at Billings, MT on August 1. During the meeting new officers and directors were elected, a few changes to the bylaws and operating procedures were adopted and various officer and committee reports were read.

Joyce Hanshu has been carrying a double load for ALAA – Secretary and Treasurer. And she is ready to give up her jobs. Thank you Joyce for picking in and doing this very important job after Norm passed away.

Ann Cook has been elected as Secretary. Ann is also the secretary for the AFMS. I have also appointed Ruth Bailey as Treasurer. We are currently transitioning the files and duties from Joyce to Ruth. Ruth is a long time active member of ALAA and many AFMS and CFMS committees.

My initial focus as president of ALAA is member-ship. The AFMS has 633 societies with over 49,000 individual members. Currently ALAA has less than 100 individual members and less than 30 society members. Our growth potential, our membership potential, our financial support potential is GREAT. The potential of our Voice is great. We represent and advocate for over 49,000 AFMS members plus their families. We are significant. However, to represent them adequately we need their support. And how do we calculate/estimate the number of unaffiliated rockhounds. And how do we calculate/estimate the number of kids and families, teachers, and people that just like to pick up “pretty rocks” or participate in some other form of recreation on our public lands. We represent and advocate for these people, too.

Shirley Leeson has volunteered and will be focusing on her efforts on membership. I request that all current members join the membership committee. That is become an advocate, a promoter of ALAA and our mission. Keep your society and its members informed with the news from ALAA. Encourage participation in our calls to action for response to legislation and management plans. Be involved, be an advocate and participate in the legislative and regulatory process.

If you’re not already a member of ALAA, please consider joining us! Membership for individuals (or husband and wife) is $25 per year. Clubs can also join, but so many more people are covered, the membership fee is $50 per year. You can read more about the American Lands Access Association (ALAA) on our website <http://amlands.org> where you can also download a membership application.

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 of 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.