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AFMS Newsletter
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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Gems Along The Erie Canal
A Rousing Success!!!

By all accounts, the 2011 AFMS Convention hosted by the Gem & Mineral Society of Syracuse this past July was a rousing success. Those assembled were greeted by a cadre of eager and friendly club members, treated to warm hospitality, enjoyed comfortable accommodations and good meeting facilities.

Both the annual Uniform Rules Committee meeting and AFMS meeting went smoothly and quickly. The URC committee made a few changes that will take effect this coming January. Details of these will be forthcoming next month and revised pages for the Rules Book will be available in late December from your Regional Supplies Chair.

There were no major issues to be discussed at the AFMS meeting and most officers and committee chairs had submitted reports in advance of the meeting. New officers for 2011-12 were elected and the budget was approved. A new format for the popular Judges Training Seminars was approved with the new scheme beginning in spring 2012. Training sessions will be held in a different region each year, usually in conjunction with a club or federation show in the region. Participants—one from each regional federation—will be invited to attend and will receive a stipend to offset a portion of their expenses for attending.

Both the AFMS and EFMLS (host federation) normally hold a Cracker Barrel during their conventions. This year, following the theme “Gems Along The Erie Canal”, the Syracuse club invited everyone to a gathering along a portion of the historic Erie Canal which runs through the region. Those attending enjoyed a canal boat ride along the canal, delicious snacks, and an opportunity to view an aqueduct built to carry the canal over a local stream, restored canal store, and other exhibits.

The banquet and Editor/Web Master breakfasts also proceeded well with numerous awards (see elsewhere in this issue) presented to appreciative exhibiting, editors and webmasters. Keynote speaker for the banquet was none other than Bob Jones, Sr. Editor of Rock & Gem Magazine, the official magazine of the AFMS. Bob regaled the group with humorous stories about some of the important early lapidaries in the U.S.—along with some of their exploits.

And then there was the show itself! Sixty-six retail and wholesale dealers offered their wares for sale. In addition, the club had a variety of demonstrations in jewelry and cab making, held a variety of mini-jewelry classes that the public could attend for a modest fee; an active kids area, UV demo and display and had a wonderful roster of talks—including one featuring the AFMS Juniors Chair, Jim Brace-Thompson and local artist, Darryl Powell of “Diamond Dan” fame.

Numerous displays graced the hall—a dozen entered in competition. One earned a coveted “100” score—and it was a display entered by a junior exhibitor who chose to enter in the adult master category! Results of the competition are elsewhere in this issue. Non-competitive displays were also excellent and included a display of two of the large gems cut by John Sinkankas from the Smithsonian and a collection of unusual gems from the Lilian Turner collection as well as fossils, minerals, jewelry and local favorite, “Herkimer” Diamonds.

We certainly thank the members of the Gem & Mineral Society of Syracuse and the Eastern Federation for hosting a wonderful convention and week long event. The club, its members and especially those who did the major organizing have something to be proud of.
Missed It?

by Bob Miller, President

If you did not or were not able to attend the combined EFMLS/AFMS convention at Syracuse NY this past July you missed a really great time.

From the convenient location of the meetings and the banquet, the great accommodations, meals and a very relaxing educational cracker barrel picnic with rides on the historic Erie Canal to the following field trips for the hard won “hard rock” Herkimer Diamonds all was well organized by the friendly members of the Syracuse Gem and Mineral club.

On the behalf of myself and the officers, directors and committee chairs of AFMS I would like to thank the Syracuse club for the many hours they put into this to host a great convention.

Bob

Competitive Exhibit Awards

from B. Jay Bowman, URC Chair

In order to enter the AFMS display competition, an exhibitor must have received a score of 90 or above in the masters category from one of the regional federations in the category in which they are competing during the past twelve years. There were ten entries for AFMS trophies at the Syracuse show and seven of them received trophies for their high-quality displays.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Trophy</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Club</th>
<th>Federation</th>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Score</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>T-3</td>
<td>John Medici</td>
<td>Columbus Rock &amp; Mineral Club</td>
<td>MWF</td>
<td>BU-2X</td>
<td>97.6</td>
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<tr>
<td>T-7</td>
<td>Barbara Sky</td>
<td>Show-Me Gems &amp; Minerals Club</td>
<td>MWF</td>
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<td>T-9</td>
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<td>Delaware Mineral Society</td>
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<td>BF-12</td>
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<tr>
<td>T-13</td>
<td>Richard &amp; Betty Pankey</td>
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<td>CFMS</td>
<td>G-10</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Palmdale Gem &amp; Mineral Club</td>
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<td>95</td>
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<tr>
<td>T-28</td>
<td>Alex Moedl</td>
<td>Idaho Falls Gem &amp; Mineral Society</td>
<td>NFMS</td>
<td>EGC-1</td>
<td>100</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

In addition, Alex Moedl earned “Best in Show” and the Lilian Turner Award - a savings bond given to the junior whose exhibit earned the highest score in competition. Although a junior, Alex entered her display as an adult in the Masters category.

Next year the AFMS Convention will be held in Minnetonka, MN the weekend of July 26-29. I encourage everyone to seriously consider entering their display in competition at the convention. If you’ve not yet earned AFMS eligibility, enter at the Midwest level, sit back, and enjoy the adventure.

Trophy winning displays by John Medici...

...and Alex Moedl
Having Fun: Junior Activities

by Jim Brace-Thompson, Juniors Program Chair

AFMS Show Redux

I attended the AFMS Show & Convention in Syracuse seven years ago and was impressed, but I have to say the Syracuse Society outdid themselves as they stepped up to the plate and hosted the national show once again in July. As Juniors Chair, I’ll restrict my comments to that portion of the show, but it was, in all respects, simply outstanding. On behalf of Nancy and me—and speaking on behalf of the entire California Federation that I represent as CFMS President—thank you, Gem & Mineral Society of Syracuse!

First to catch my eye was the Juniors Activities booth filled with fun activities, around which there was always a crowd of kids. The huge sluice box stood out, and—judging by the clean-up job at the end—the soapstone carving station proved especially popular. Judy Cook, Patricia Egolf, and their fellow club members provided a fine example of the sorts of kids’ activities I wish we could see at every local show.

I was also pleased to see the many displays entered by junior members. It was neat seeing specimens kids had collected locally, as well as specimens that came from our new “Rock Pals” exchange program initiated by Pat Egolf of the Syracuse Society. (For details on how your kids can exchange rocks with kids in AFMS clubs across the country, go to the Kids Corner section of the AFMS web site and click on “Rock Pals.”) A stunning Educational Exhibit of azurite, malachite, and chrysocolla was entered by Alex Moedl, who traveled all the way from the Idaho Falls Gem & Mineral Society with her exhibit. Although only 16, Alex entered in the Master’s Division and won not just the trophy for that division with a perfect score of 100 points, but also thereby earned the Lillian Turner Junior Award for Outstanding Junior Exhibit.

The show committee invited me to host a junior activities discussion forum, and rather than go it alone, I invited Darryl “Diamond Dan” Powell to co-host it with me. Darryl and I first met the last time the AFMS Show was held in Syracuse, so this was something of a homecoming reunion for us. Both Darryl and I learned some new things, and we hope all in attendance took home new ideas and resource suggestions to try out. If you missed the talk but would like to receive the handouts, drop me a note. It was especially great seeing so many people I usually “see” only via email correspondence for our FRA badge program, like Michael Putney with his great Mineral Minds kids-only club in New York.

Finally, when I established that badge program in 2004, my plan was to update and enhance it every four years. We went from 9 activity badges and the Rockhound badge in 2004 to 15 activity badges in 2008—and a Rock Star pin in 2010 for kids who earn all the badges. At this year’s convention, I’m very grateful to AFMS for generously approving a budget line for me to add 5 new badges starting in 2012. I now have to roll up my sleeves in developing activities and badge designs for Fluorescent Minerals, Special Effects, The World of Miniatures, Reaching Across Generations, and Maps. If anyone has ideas for specific activities to include within these broad categories, especially activities you’ve tried out with school kids and junior members, I welcome suggestions (jbraceth@roadrunner.com; 805-659-3577).

And beyond junior activities, we enjoyed that boat ride up the Erie Canal, collecting excursions for Herkimers and fossils, a tour of the Museum of the Earth, eating too much at Tully’s and the Dinosaur Bar-B-Que, and socializing with so many fine folks. I don’t know about everyone else, but this was one show where both Nancy and I could definitely be seen having fun!
Being Safe During Storms

from Owen Martin, reprinted with permission from CCS Corporation

Along with all the hot weather that is hitting us, also come those intense summer storms that can include not only rain but thunder, lightning, hail and in the worst case situations tornados. These types of storms appear to form in what seems like just a short period of time and then last from just a few minutes to a few hours.

All across the country most weather forecasts have storm warnings as a standard part of their daily reporting process.

Depending on where you are working paying attention to the weather forecasts can become a very important part of your day. Protecting yourself, your fellow workers, equipment and any other structures at the work site is sometimes not the easiest process, as these storms sometimes develop very quickly – so some preparation and knowledge of what to do in the event of these storms is always important.

Bolts of lightning can carry more than one million volts of electricity. These bolts of lightning can cause considerable damage and injury, both directly and indirectly. Personal injury is obvious when there is actual physical contact with lightning, but trees can also attract lightning and then channel an electrical charge through its root system to a work site building, trailer or piece of equipment, damaging wiring, appliances or other electrical devices.

When setting up a work site trailer, office, washroom, canopy, etc., always ensure the following:

- Ensure that all trailers (etc.) are properly grounded.
- If possible, try to locate trailers (etc.) away from tall trees or telephone poles.
- Set trailer (etc.) up in a dry area, where water will not collect or run into / through the area.
- Install the appropriate surge protectors on all appliances (micro-wave, fridges, water coolers, etc.) and other electrical devices (computers, printers, fax machines, etc…). Note that surge protectors are not a 100% guarantee for protection against lightning – but do greatly reduce the chance of contact.

Now that you have taken the precautions to ensure any site trailers (etc.) have been safeguarded – what should you do to properly protect yourself in the event of an electrical storm? It is always best to try and find shelter indoors, and remember then to:

- Stay away from the trailer’s (etc.) doors and windows – ensure that doors and windows are secure.
- Where applicable, avoid standing on or near bare concrete walls or floors.
- If and where possible, stay in an “inside room”; one which does not border onto an outside wall.
- Unplug all electrical appliances (Micro-wave oven, fridges, water cooler, etc….) in the trailer (etc.)
- Turn-off all other electrical devices (computers, printers, battery charger, etc…).
- Do not use water faucets or other plumbing facilities / devices.
- Do not use a hard-wired (land-line) telephone line. The leading cause of personal injury in lightning storms is contact through the telephone lines. Lightning can easily follow telephone or water lines. A cell phone is considered safe to use.
- Battery powered devices (walk-talkies, radios, etc..) are not affected by lightning.
- Then wait a minimum of 30 minutes after the last lightning flash before returning outside. A greater occurrence of people being struck by lightning takes place after they have believed the storm has ended rather than during the actual high point of the storm.

THE 30 – 30 RULE …

If you are outdoors, a simple guideline that you should use to help you know when to find safety, is what is known as the 30 – 30 rule.

- Take shelter when you have counted less than 30 seconds between a lightning flash and the actual crack of thunder.
- Then wait a minimum of 30 minutes after the last lightning flash before returning outside. A greater occurrence of people being struck by lightning takes place after they have believed that the storm has ended rather than during the actual high point of the storm.

What should you do if you find yourself outside / outdoors and have no available means of shelter?

Then you should follow these rules:

- Remove footwear with steel-toes
- Avoid being near metal objects like fences, poles, equipment, etc…
- Also avoid being near water, no matter what size – even puddles
- Stay away from trees or other tall objects – as electricity can easily travel from that object to things located around it. Do not go under trees just to stay dry.
- If you have a hard-topped vehicle, stay inside of it but do not touch anything that is metal. Park away from power lines or trees that may collapse on you. Roll up your vehicle’s windows and keep your hands on your body.
- If you do not have a vehicle, seek shelter in a ditch, valley or lowest part of the area you are in. Crouch or lie down as low as you can to ground level. In a wooded area seek shelter by smaller trees or bushes.

If you ever find someone who has been struck by lightning, remember that they have received an electrical shock and should be treated as such. They do not carry an electrical charge and can safely be touched and administered with standard first-aid treatment for electrical shock. You should immediately call emergency services (911) and start the mouth-to-mouth / CPR process if the injured person is not breathing.

Some real facts on lightning & thunder …

- The odds on getting struck by lightning is: 1 in 606,944 … being killed 1 in 2 million
- Southern Manitoba, Canada, has the greatest occurrence of nocturnal lightning in all of North America
- Annually, lightning strikes the CN Tower about 75 times and the Empire State Building about 23 times.
- Lightning is the greatest source of forest fires
- Thunder can only be heard about 12 miles away under good quiet outdoor conditions.
- Lightning bolts are extremely hot, with temperatures reaching 30,000 – 50,000 deg. Fahrenheit.

Remember To Always Keep Your Eye On The Weather!!!

As Always … Have A Safe Week, and always be aware of what’s happening around you when working outdoors or when travelling.

Not So Idle Thoughts

by Ye Olde Editor

Many of you are receiving the AFMS Newsletter for the first time since we’ve finally been able to update most of the contacts for the regional federations. Because so many of you have never seen or read the AFMS Newsletter before, I’ll renew my plea for communication.

Please send a copy of your monthly club bulletin to the AFMS President, President-elect, Editor and the Regional Vice President representing your own federation. With e-mail today, doing so will not cost you your club a penny, but will allow us to keep in touch with your club and follow the various activities it’s engaged in. Contact information for the officers can be found on page 2 and 3 of this issue.

You should also be sending copies of your club bulletin to your regional federation officers so they too can follow your activities.

Now is the time to prepare for entering your club bulletin, website and history book in the various regional federation competitions. Download copies of the current applications, study them and make any corrections to your website, bulletin or club archives to help you earn a better score. There’s still time to do this and entering is a wonderful way for you to gain feedback and learn how to create a better product for your members.

Your federation officers and I look forward to hearing from you each month and let us know if we can be of some assistance to you and your club.
AFMS Endowment Drawing Results

If you were not in Syracuse, New York in July for the AMFS/EFMLS Convention and Show you missed out on a wonderful weekend full of treasured memories by all who attended I'm sure. My hat is off to the Syracuse Club for hosting this event...you did a truly outstanding job!

I first would like to congratulate the 36 lucky winners of the drawing. Secondly I would like to thank everyone that purchased a ticket in support of this cause. Thirdly a BIG thank you to my regional reps that sold the 1412 tickets, and last but not least to those 36 folks that donated the prizes of this event....THANK YOU - THANK YOU - THANK YOU !!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

I'm so happy with the success of this event and having raised over $5,960 for the American Federation Endowment Fund. That is due to all of you. I am greatly appreciative of all the generous support I had to organize this event for the AFMS Endowment Fund. I'm looking forward to next years event with even greater success!

# of sold tickets by Regional Chairpersons
328  MWF - John Washburn
327  EFMLS - Carolyn Weinberger

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<tr>
<th>NUMBER</th>
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<th>RECIPIENT</th>
<th>FEDERATION</th>
<th>DONOR</th>
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<td>Doris Keane</td>
<td>Midwest</td>
<td>Emerson Tucker (SCFMS)</td>
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<td>Faceted Spinel &amp; Agate Pendant</td>
<td>Ron Wise</td>
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<td>Watercolor Prints &amp; Notecards</td>
<td>Bob Tiffin</td>
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<td>Float Copper, Stock Certificate</td>
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<td>Pam Hecht (MFMS)</td>
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<td>“Underwater” Copper</td>
<td>Richard Hoff</td>
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<td>Bob Barron (MFMS)</td>
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<td>“Underwater” Datolite</td>
<td>Pat Tucker</td>
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<td>Datolite Specimen</td>
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<td>Amethyst Cathedral</td>
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<td>Polished Cabochons</td>
<td>Phyllis Dyer</td>
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<td>Anonymous</td>
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<td>Lighted Centerpiece</td>
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<td>Rose Blue</td>
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<td>Copper Pendant &amp; Tie Tack</td>
<td>DeLane Cox</td>
<td>Rocky Mountain</td>
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Donated items per federation:
Midwest - 22  Northwest - 5
South Central - 2  Eastern - 2
California - 2  Rocky Mountain - 2
with 1 donation unidentified for a federation.
Quick Tips for Editors

by Linda Jaeger, AFMS 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: <ljgrAlg@aol.com> or at home address: 3515 E. 88th St., Tulsa, OK 74137. If I cannot find an answer, we’ll publish the question and ask readers for their answers.

(Clip art above from Discovery Channel School Image Gallery, ©2003. Permission to use for educational, not for sale publications granted.)

To Our WONDERFUL Editors!

Congratulations to all of you, and thank you for entering the AFMS Bulletin Editors Contest. If your bulletin/article/poem/feature was judged in AFMS, you were a top 3 winner in your regional federation. Whether you placed in the top 10 in AFMS or earned Honorable Mention, you are tops among our rock club editors and authors.

Some reasons for entering the regional and AFMS contests are to: learn more about editing/writing, educate our members, improve our bulletins, and keep serving the needs of our clubs. Another reason for entering these contests is to give our outstanding editors and authors a well-deserved pat on the back. Consider yourself “patted”!

In that vein, please read judges’ comments on the items returned to you before presenting certificates and trophies to your winners. And pass on to our authors our praise and thanks for their efforts.

With an eye to next year’s contests, keep the following in mind (I’m trying to clear up some confusion and make judges’ jobs easier):

1-Direct entries to AFMS
• Must be ineligible for your regional contest.
• Must not win 1st place in that AFMS category either of the previous 2 years.
• Must be sent to your regional BEAC and marked “For AFMS Only” with a score sheet.
• Because of the first two qualifications, this means you can only enter that author’s work in the same category one time per year. It’s either a direct entry to AFMS, or it’s submitted to your regional contest, not both.
• Only 1 article/poem/feature per author per category per club per year.

2-Score sheets
• Every entry must be submitted with a score sheet attached to it.
• Please carefully fill out all of the top portion of the score sheet. This is how we know where and to whom to send certificates and awards. Include the zip codes!

3-What is an article?
Let’s get it in the right category.
• Generally an article is educational in nature, and the author has given references and suggestions for additional reading.

4-What is a written feature?
Let’s get it in the right category.
• Generally short:
  • president or field trip reports
  • hobbit-related humor
  • travelogue
  • shop hints
  • play on mineral or fossil names
  • special club contest
  • club history
  • member biography/accolade
  • website commentary
  • book review
  • review of program
  • report of presentation for a school or community

Happy editing! Contact me if I might be of help.

And finally, the results of the 2011 AFMS Editor’s Contest of bulletins and articles published during 2010. I’d like to thank all the hard working editors and authors whose work was entered in the contest and the judges who spent their time evaluating the entries and adding their comments and suggestions to each of the score sheets.

Copies of the “winning articles” will be placed on the AFMS website shortly so that editors can download and reproduce them in their own publications. When doing so, please remember to give credit to the author and original bulletin in which it appeared and also to recognize how the article fared in the contest.

Judges for this year were:
• Adult Articles - Advanced
  • Diane Dare — Holiday, FL
  • Judith Washburn — Rochester, IL
• Adult Articles
  • Barbara Fenstermacher — Aiken, SC
• Junior Articles
  • Jim Brace-Thompson — Ventura, CA
• Drawn Features
  • Gary Raham — Wellington, CO
• Mini Bulletins
  • Terry Yoschak — Rocklin, CA
• Small Bulletins
  • Merryan O’Neill — El Dorado, CA
• Large Bulletins
  • DeLance Cox — Bentonville, AR
• New Editors
  • Carolyn Weinberger — Glyndons, MD
  • Cecilia Duluk — Dearborn, MI
• Special Publications
  • Alan Hukill — East Lansing, MI

And here are the results:

1. Barite
   by Lois Larson
   McPherson Gem & Mineral Club (RMFMS)
   From: The Post Rock, 3/10

2. What Price Is the Right Price?
   by Karen M. Burns
   Houston Gem & Mineral Society (SCFMS)
   From: The Backbenders Gazette, 4/10

3. Stromer’s Riddle: The Predatory Dinosaurs of Morocco
   by Bob Farrar
   Maryland Geological Society (EFMLS)
   From: The Rostrum, 5/10

4. Franklinite – The Non-Fluorescing Mineral from Franklin, New Jersey
   by Brett Whitenack
   McPherson Gem & Mineral Club (RMFMS)
   From: The Post Rock, 9/10

5. Summary of the MSDC January Program (The Bridgewater Titanite Follies: A Presentation by Carter Rich)
   by Betty Thompson
   Mineralogical Society of the District of Columbia (EFMLS)
   From: Mineral Minutes, 2/10

6. Fluorite and Minerals Associated with the IL-KY Fluorspar District: Fluorite Series – Part II
   by Robert Beadle
   Chicago Rocks & Minerals Society (MWF)
   From: The Pick & Dop Stick, 2/10

7. Oceans of Kansas
   by Willis Knight
   Arlington Gem & Mineral Club (SCFMS)
   From: The Hound’s Tale, 1/10

8. A Mineralogist, Almost
   by Erich Grundel
   Mineralogical Society of the District of Columbia (EFMLS)
   From: Mineral Minutes, 3/10

9. ‘Fire Ice’ or Methane Clathrate (Hydrate)
   by Zeb William Ryke, III
   Pine Country Gem & Mineral Society (SCFMS)
   From: The Pineywoods Rooter, 9/10

10. Bonseki
    by Jennifer Zimmerle
    Klamath Rock & Arrowhead (NFMS)
    From: Dusty Rocks, 5/10

Honorable Mention

Spring Rains Give Us Mud (and Civilization)
by Heath Shive
Three Rivers Gem & Mineral Society (MWF)
From: Strata Data, 5/10

continued on next page
AFMS Newsletter – September, 2011

2011 Bulletin Editors’ Contest Results
continued from page 6

My Tucson Odyssey
by Maxine Wyman
Gemcrafters & Explorers Club (RMFMS)
From: El Gambriino, 3/10

Leaverites
by George Coursey
West Central Illinois Rock & Mineral Club (MWF)
From: The Post Rock, 8/10

Serpentine (July-Rock of the Month)
by Don Huber
McPherson Gem & Mineral Club (RMFMS)
From: The Post Rock, 8/10

Perils of the Hunt
by Jim Glenn
Magic Valley Gem Club (NFMS)
From: Magic Valley Gem News, 3/10

III. Original Adult Articles Advanced, Top 10
1. A Mammoth Discovery at the Florissant Fossil Beds
by Steven Wade Veatch
Colorado Springs Mineralogical Society (RMFMS)
From: Pick & Pack, 7/10

2. Geodes in Sedimentary Rocks
by Bob Carnein
Lake George Gem & Mineral Club (SCFMS)
From: Lake George Gem & Mineral Club News, 4/10

3. World of Minerals: Mineral Evolution
by Vivien Gornitz
New York Mineralogical Club (EFMLS)
From: Bulletin of the New York Mineralogical Club, 6/10

4. Off the Beaten Path: Hahn’s Peak
by Mike Nelson
Colorado Springs Mineralogical Society (RMFMS)
From: Pick & Pack, 12/10

5. What a Croc!
by Neal Immega
Cerro Colorado Gem & Mineral Society (RMFMS)
From: The Agatizer, 12/10

6. California Miocene Dreaming
by Michael Hutchins
Maryland Geological Society (EFMLS)
From: The Rostrum, 3/10

7. Sedimentary Structures and Trace Fossils
by Lawrence H. Skelton
Wichita Gem & Mineral Society (RMFMS)
From: Quarry Quips, 8/10

8. Pegmatites - HO!
by John Washbur
Lincoln Orbit Earth Science Society (MWF)
From: LOESS Bulletin, 12/10

9. Hunting Fossil ‘Bugs’ in Utah (Part II)
by Donald Baumgartner
Lincoln Orbit Earth Science Society (MWF)
From: LOESS Bulletin, 12/10

10. Crocodile
by David F. Hess
West Central Illinois Rock & Mineral Club (MWF)
From: Rock Chatter, 5/10

Honorable Mention
Digging 3 Dinosaurs in One Season
by Bob Simon
Richmond Mineral & Gem Society (EFMLS)
From: The Collecting Bag, 10/10

French Connection
by Ralph Bishop
Orecutt Mineral Society (CFMS)
From: Ove-Cuts, 2/10

Field of Dreams
by Andy Weinzaepfel
Arlington Gem & Mineral Club (SCFMS)
From: The Hound’s Tale, 3/10

Colorado’s Rock Arches
by Beth Simmons
Derby Gem & Mineral Guild (RMFMS)
From: Tips & Chips, 1/10

A Summer Visit to the Rice Northwest Museum of Rocks and Minerals
by Kenneth & Carol Paulay
South Bay Lapidary & Mineral Society (CFMS)
From: The Agatizer, 12/10

Most Minerals are Safe to Handle, A Few Require Real Caution
by Dr. Carl & Barbara Austin
Magic Valley Gem Club (NFMS)
From: Magic Valley Gem News, 9/10

Silicon Dioxide – The Wonder of the Mineral World
by DW Webb Varnum
Reno Gem & Mineral Society (CFMS)
From: The Conglomerate, 12/10

Junior Articles – Under 12, Top 10 (9 entries)
1. Stone Tools Made of Petrified Wood from Bijou Basin, El Paso County, Colorado
by Ted Reeves (10)
Colorado Springs Mineralogical Society (RMFMS)
From: Pick & Pack, 12/10

2. These Old Bones Museum: A Museum of Imagination
by Aaron Hendricks (11)
Colorado Springs Mineralogical Society (RMFMS)
From: Pick & Pack, 10/10

3. The Petroglyphs of New Mexico
by Hunter Womack (11)
Mother Lode Mineral Society (CFMS)
From: MLMS Ghost Sheet, 1/10

4. My First Auction
by Isabella Brandon (10)
Central Pennsylvania Rock and Mineral Club (EFMLS)
From: Rock Buxter news, 3/10

5. My First Cab
by Nathaniel Schahl (11)
Lincoln Orbit Earth Science Society (MWF)
From: LOESS Bulletin, 3/10

6. Benitoite
by Bennet Yamanaka (7)
Three Rivers Gem & Mineral Society (MWF)
From: Strata Data, 7/10

7. Michigan Petoskey Stones
by Emma Newhard (10)
Three Rivers Gem & Mineral Society (MWF)
From: Strata Data, 8/10

8. My Trip to Coalminga
by Miete Hutchinson (7)
Mother Lode Mineral Society (CFMS)
From: MLMS Ghost Sheet, 3/10

Junior Articles – 12 to 17, Top 10 (7 entries)
1. Diggin’ Dinos in North Dakota – Becoming a Real Paleontologist
by Alex Brenner (15)
The Northern Virginia Mineral Club (EFMLS)
From: The Mineral Newsletter, 11/10

2. Exploring Earth Science at the Frontiers of Discovery: Redhill Ridge’s Dakota Sandstones Contain Certain Trace Fossils
by Chris Retzlaff (13)
Colorado Springs Mineralogical Society (RMFMS)
From: Pick & Pack, 4/10

3. Ancient Artifacts: Ornamental Beads from Egyptian Tombs
by Juniors groups from Colorado Springs Mineralogical Society & Lake George Gem & Mineral Club (RMFMS)
From: Pick & Pack, 12/10 and LGGM Club News, 12/10

4. Uses of Gold
by Adriana Yamamaka (12)
Three Rivers Gem & Mineral Society (MWF)
From: Strata Data, 12/10

5. Just Keep Diggin’
by Mitchell Murphy (13)
McPherson Gem & Mineral Club (RMFMS)
From: The Post Rock, 10/10

6. Seismologists
by Saufina Kemp (13),
Strata Data, 8/10

7. Gypsum
by Julia Kuhn (12)
Three Rivers Gem & Mineral Society (MWF)
From: Strata Data, 6/10

continued on page 8
2011 Bulletin Editors’ Contest Results

Written Features, Top 10
1. How the Opal Got Its Color
   by Betsy Oberheim
   Central Pennsylvania Rock & Mineral Club (EFMLS)
   From: Rock Buster News, 2/10

2. Adventures in the Wild West Desert of Utah
   by Mike Nelson & the Desert Group
   Colorado Springs Mineralogical Society (RMFMS)
   From: Rock Buster News, 2/10

3. A Visit with Two Australian Collectors
   by Steve Blyskal
   Houston Gem & Mineral Society (SCFMS)
   From: The Backbender's Gazette, 12/10

4. Roxbury Garnet Trip - 2010
   by Dave Mills
   Gem & Mineral Society of Syracuse (EFMLS)
   From: Crack ‘n Cab, 7 & 8/10

5. CSMS Scholarship 2009
   by Michael Mitchell
   Colorado Springs Mineralogical Society (RMFMS)
   From: Pick & Pack, 7/10

6. How I Became a Rockhound
   by Jerry Kubat
   Show Me Gems & Minerals Club (MWF)
   From: Show Me Geode, 9/10

7. Canadian Field Trip
   by Chet Perkins
   Three Rivers Gem & Mineral Society (MWF)
   From: Strata Data, 9/10

8. Notes from the Field (Museum)
   by Sue Robert
   Chicago Rocks & Minerals Society (MWF)
   From: Pick & Pack, 7/10

9. Making Intarsia
   by Carolyn Weinberger
   Gem Cutters Guild of Baltimore (EFMLS)
   From: Gem Cutters News, 4/10

10. Trip to Franklin, North Carolina
    by Sarah Mesta
    Houston Gem & Mineral Society (SCFMS)
    From: The Backbender's Gazette, 12/10

Honorable Mention

Did You Know?
by Tom Stringfellow
East Texas Gem & Mineral Society (SCFMS)
From: Rock-N-Rose, 6/10

Field Trip – The Musical
by Michael Wheat
Colorado Springs Mineralogical Society (RMFMS)
From: Pick & Pack, 4/10

Shake, Rattle, and Roll
by Ed Wagner
Lincoln Orbit Earth Science Society (MWF)
From: LOESS Bulletin, 4/10

A Day of Fossil Discoveries at FFBNM
by Steven Wade Veatch
Colorado Springs Mineralogical Society (RMFMS)
From: Pick & Pack, 9/10

Drawn Features (3 entries)
1. Turquoise Knife – 56th Anniversary
   by Saulfina Kemp (13)
   The Three Rivers Gem & Mineral Society (MWF)
   From: From The Strata Data, 12/10

2. Cartoon – “Mom I think you picked up one too many rocks.”
   by Susan Burch
   East Texas Gem & Mineral Society (SCFMS)
   From: Rock-N-Rose, 12/10

3. Drawing of Favorite Minerals
   by Harrison Smith (9), Mineral Minds (EFMLS)
   From: Mind Your Minerals, 10/10

Adult Poetry, Top 10
1. You Can Tell A Rockhound
   by Betsy Oberheim
   Central Pennsylvania Rock & Mineral Club (EFMLS)
   From: Rock Buster News, 9/10

2. Bess’ Wish: A Rockhound’s Last Request
   by Betty Novak
   Chicago Rocks & Minerals Society (MWF)
   From: Pick & Dop Stick, 9/10

3. Where Shiny Heart Cabs Come From
   by Mary Ann Mitscherling
   Houston Gem & Mineral Society (SCFMS)
   From: Backbender's Gazette, 8/10

4. Our Junior Rockhounds
   by Yvonne Liblanc
   Gem & Mineral Society of Syracuse (EFMLS)
   From: Crack ‘n Cab, 12/10

5. Geology 101
   by Mary Hanjes
   Contra Costa Mineral & Gem Society (CFMS)
   From: Diablo Diggins, 9/10

6. The Rockhound
   by Paul Black
   Contra Costa Mineral & Gem Society (CFMS)
   From: Diablo Diggins, 9/10

7. Rockhound’s H1N1
   by Carl Wells
   Arlington Gem & Mineral Club (SCFMS)
   From: The Hound’s Tale, 3/10

8. First Hunt
   by Michele Yamanaka
   Three Rivers Gem & Mineral Society (MWF)
   From: Strata Data, 12/10

9. The Rock Collector
   by Mary Owens
   East Texas Gem & Mineral Society (SCFMS)
   From: Rock-N-Rose, 12/10

10. Not Gold
    by Bev Jenkins
    Three Rivers Gem & Mineral Society (MWF)
    From: Strata Data, 12/10

Junior Poetry, Top 10 (7 entries)
1. An Ode to Back Benders
   by Noelle Skubal (10)
   Houston Gem & Mineral Society (SCFMS)
   From: Backbender’s Gazette, 3/10

2. Ruby
   by Angie White (13)
   Wichita Gem & Mineral Society (RMFMS)
   From: Quarry Quips, 7/10

3. A Rock Is a Rock
   by Destiny Clark (9)
   East Texas Gem & Mineral Society (SCFMS)
   From: Rock-N-Rose, 12/10

4. Rocks
   by Brent Post (9)
   Mineral Minds (EFMLS)
   From: Mind Your Minerals, 10/10

5. My Gem & Me
   by Athena Smith (9)
   Mineral Minds (EFMLS)
   From: Mind Your Minerals, 10/10

6. True Beauty
   by Autumn Carpenter (9)
   Mineral Minds (EFMLS)
   From: Mind Your Minerals, 10/10

7. The Pits
   by Kathy Jenkins (12)
   Three Rivers Gem & Mineral Society (MWF)
   From: Strata Data, 12/10

8. Dinosaurs Everywhere
   by Julia Hartz (10)
   Arlington Gem & Mineral Club (SCFMS)
   From: The Hound’s Tale, 1/10

New Editors, Top 10 (8 entries)
1. F-Town Rockhound, 8/10
   Scott Robb & Kay Waterman, Editors
   Tulsa Rock & Mineral Society
   Tulsa, OK (RMFMS)

2. Rockhound Ramblings, 12/10
   Mark Nelson, Editor
   Pasadena Lapidary Society
   Pasadena, CA (CFMS)

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2011 Bulletin Editors’ Contest Results

continued from page 8

Large Bulletins, Top 10
1. The Clackamette Gem, 12/10
Beth Heesacker, Editor
Clackamette Mineral & Gem Club
Oregon City, OR (NFMS)

2. Gem Cutters News, 6/7/10
Carolyn Weinberger, Editor
Gem Cutters Guild of Baltimore
Baltimore, MD (EFMLS)

3. MLMS Ghost Sheet, 5/10
Chris Whittier, Editor
Mother Lode Mineral Society
Modesto, CA (CFMS)

4. Tips & Chips, 4/10
Beth Simmons, Editor
Denver Gem & Mineral Guild
Denver, CO (RMFMS)

5. The Hound’s Tale, 3/10
Michael Hartz, Editor
Arlington Gem & Mineral Club
Arlington, TX (SCFMS)

6. The Backbone’s Gazette, 10/10
Phyllis George, Editor
Houston Gem & Mineral Society
Houston, TX (SCFMS)

7. LOESS Bulletin, 3/10
Ed Wagner, Editor
Lincoln Orbit Earth Science Society
Rochester, IL (MWF)

8. The Agatizer, 5/10
Terry Vasseur, Editor
South Bay Lapidary & Mineral Society
Torrance, CA (CFMS)

9. LGGM Club News, 4/10
Bob Carnein, Editor
Lake George Gem & Mineral Club
Lake George, CO (RMFMS)

Raymond Lynch, Editor
Hot Springs Geology Club
Hot Springs, AR (SCFMS)

Honorable Mention
The Rostrum, 3/10, Gerald Elgert, Editor
Maryland Geological Society
Baltimore, MD (EFMLS)

The Vug Examiner, 4/10
Edward Mattson, Editor
The Stamford Mineralogical Society
Stamford, CT (EFMLS)

Special Publications (no entries)

Mini Bulletins, Top 10 (2 entries)

1. The Mineral Mite, 10/10
Kathy, Julia, & Michael Hrechka, Editors
Micromineralogists of the National Capital Area
Alexandria, VA (EFMLS)

2. Stepping Stones, 3/10
Colleen Reign, Editor
Lockheed Rockhound Activity Stone Steppers
Fort Worth, TX (SCFMS)

Small Bulletins, Top 10

1. Crack ‘N Cab, 6/10
Keith Gilmer, Editor
The Gem & Mineral Society Of Syracuse
Syracuse, NY (EFMLS)

2. Hound’s Howl, 10/10
Barbara Fenstermacher, Editor
Aiken Gem, Mineral & Fossil Society
Aiken, SC (EFMLS)

3. The Strata Data, 12/10
Michele Yamana, Editor
The Three Rivers Gem & Mineral Society
Ft. Wayne, IN (MWF)

4. El Gambrisino, 3/10
Maxine Wyman, Editor
Gemcrafters & Explorers Club
Las Cruces, NM (RMFMS)

5. Rock Buster News, 3/10
Maxine Nicholas, Editor
Central Pennsylvania Rock & Mineral Club
Harrisburg, PA (EFMLS)

6. The Quarry, 5/10
Jim & Judy Budnik, Editors
The Cincinnati Mineral Society
Cincinnati, OH (MWF)

7. Ore-Cuts, 12/10
Deborah Hood, Editor
Ore cutoff Mineral Society
Santa Maria, CA (CFMS)

8. Dusty Rocks, 7/10, Jennifer Zimmerlee, Editor
Klamath Rock & Arrowhead Club, Klamath Falls, OR (NFMS)

9. The Pineywoods Reporter, 2/10, John D. Nash, Editor
Pine Country Gem & Mineral Society, Jasper, TX (SCFMS)

10. The Post Rock, 7/10
Sara Murphy, Editor
McPherson Gem & Mineral Club
McPherson, KS (RMFMS)

Honorable Mention
The Rockfinder, 10/10
Tom Noe, Editor
Michiana Gem & Mineral Society
South Bend, IN (MWF)

The Collecting Bag, 12/10
Barbara Hadley, Editor
Richmond Gem & Mineral Society
Richmond, VA (EFMLS)

Coastal Waves, Spring 2010
Carol Willey, Editor
Oregon Coast Agate Club
Newport, OR (NFMS)

The Pick & Shovel, 5/10
Andrea Dougherty, Editor
Long Beach Mineral & Gem Society
Long Beach, CA (CFMS)

The Voice, 8/10
Cheryl Christensen, Editor
El Paso Mineral Society
El Paso, TX (RMFMS)

Rock-N-Rose, 3/10
Susan Burch, Editor
East Texas Gem & Mineral Society
Tyler, TX (SCFMS)

The Rockhound Record, 10/10
Lois Splendoria, Editor
Mineralogical Society of Arizona
Phoenix, AZ (RMFMS)

Magic Valley Gem News, 8/10
Shirley Metts, Editor
Magic Valley Gem Club
Twin Falls, ID (NFMS)

Honorable Mention
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Lois Splendoria, Editor
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Magic Valley Gem News, 8/10
Shirley Metts, Editor
Magic Valley Gem Club
Twin Falls, ID (NFMS)

AFMS Newsletter – September, 2011
We just returned home from the AFMS Meeting in Syracuse, New York and the first thing I want to do is thank the Syracuse Club for hosting this show. It was a wonderful show and all the meetings were very convenient to get to. As a matter of fact the entire staff at the Ramada Inn was wonderful.

The Website Contest for 2011 is a done deal; I hesitate to announce the winners in this article as some of the regional shows have not taken place as of this time, but since this article will appear in the September newsletter I guess I can let the cat out of the bag.

Firstly, I want to thank each and every one of you for entering your websites in this year's contest. The regional winners will be notified by their regional chairman but the AFMS award winners are being sent their score sheets and certificates in the mail.

Congratulations to the AFMS Website Contest winners for 2011. They are listed below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Score</th>
<th>Federation</th>
<th>Webmaster</th>
<th>Club</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Website</th>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>94</td>
<td>CFMS</td>
<td>Stephanie Hagiwara</td>
<td>Oxnard Gem &amp; Mineral Society</td>
<td>Oxnard, CA</td>
<td><a href="http://www.oxnardgem.com">www.oxnardgem.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>93</td>
<td>EFMLS</td>
<td>Jeff Ursillo</td>
<td>Gem &amp; Mineral Society of the Palm Beaches</td>
<td>W. Palm Beach, FL</td>
<td><a href="http://www.gemandmineral.cc">www.gemandmineral.cc</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>91.5</td>
<td>NFMS</td>
<td>Donn Ullery</td>
<td>West Seattle Rock Club</td>
<td>Seattle, WA</td>
<td><a href="http://www.westseattlerockclub.org">www.westseattlerockclub.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>91</td>
<td>SCFMS</td>
<td>Michael Smith</td>
<td>Paleontological Society of Austin</td>
<td>Austin, TX</td>
<td><a href="http://www.texaspaleo.com/psa/">www.texaspaleo.com/psa/</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>90.5</td>
<td>MWF</td>
<td>Lauren Vaughn</td>
<td>Grand Traverse Area Rock &amp; Mineral Club</td>
<td>Interlochen, MI</td>
<td><a href="http://www.tcrockhounds.com">www.tcrockhounds.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>SFMS</td>
<td>Jennifer Thormans</td>
<td>Mobile Rock &amp; Gem Society</td>
<td>Mobile, AL</td>
<td><a href="http://www.mobilerockandgem.com">www.mobilerockandgem.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>86.5</td>
<td>RMFMS</td>
<td>Ron Ginn</td>
<td>White Mountain Gem &amp; Mineral Club</td>
<td>Show Low, AZ</td>
<td>whitemountain-azrockclub.org/</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

It seems as though every time I talk to a webmaster he or she tells me that their website isn't good enough, or they are afraid to enter for whatever reason or other. It is not necessary to feel as though you are not good enough to enter. If for no other reason, consider the helpful comments you will receive that will help you improve. 2012 is another chance for you to win.

To my disappointment there were only six entries for the All American Award submitted this year for AFMS Judging. I'm disappointed because putting together an All American entry is an excellent way for you to sit back and look at the positive aspects of your club as well as the elements that perhaps you want to improve on in the coming year. If you start now you should have all the documentation—newspaper clippings, photographs, club bulletins, etc. together by the time this calendar year ends and you start putting together your club yearbook.

Meanwhile, the entries received this year were all excellent and I salute the clubs and editors who submitted the books for the 2011 competition (2010 club year events). Our judges truly enjoyed the task of reading them and I can tell you, had a difficult time deciding the results.

You can get a preview of what's asked for in your entry by downloading the 2010 application at <www.amfed.org/AACA.htm>.
AFMS Club Rockhounds of the Year

from Loretta Ogden, AFMS Chair

Eastern Federation

The Water-Oak Gem and Mineral Society would like to submit its Secretary, Phyllis Fernold, to be our Club Rockhound of the Year. Phyllis has been the public face of the club. Phyllis' smiling face has been the first one the public sees at our club shows for many years. Recently, Phyllis has also been serving as the club secretary.

Between these two important duties, Phyllis has always been first in line to volunteer for numerous club needs and activities - banquets, picnics, auctions - all have benefited from Phyllis' kind words and expert help. Phyllis truly deserves to be our Club Rockhound of the Year.

Submitted by Eli Lee Morris

Northwest Federation

The Blackamette Mineral & Gem Club of Oregon City, Oregon is honored to nominate Rick and Stacy Mauer as our 2011 Rockhounds Of The Year. Rick has served as Education Chairman, 1st Vice President, Show Chairman and has been willing to fill positions on a temporary basis in order to keep our group running smoothly. He has the innate ability to investigate issues and offer solutions to the problems we face. We are lucky to have someone with Rick's varied abilities and experience. Stacy contributes a great deal of her own time and energy to our group assisting where she can. Both Rick and Stacy are real assets and key members of our club, they contribute greatly to its successes.

submitted by David Hanna, Federation Director

The Hell's Canyon Gem Club of Lewiston, Idaho has a real gem of a guy in Lynn Enger. He has in an easy-going good-humored way of ably guided our club through years of adventures. He is always accessible, willing to share his knowledge, and willing to take on office after office for the betterment of our club. Equally at home guiding our acquisition of a claim, teaching us to muck around on it and identify our finds, balancing the budget, or explaining intarsia, this gentleman is an all-around good guy.

The Hatrockhounds Gem and Mineral Society of Hermiston, Oregon, nominate Jackie Koppany for our Rockhound of the Year for 2011. Jackie has tirelessly worked to make our club an active, exciting group to participate in. She has created ideas for more hands-on meetings and even taken charge of most aspects of making them successful.

She created and maintains our club website and continues to improve on its content. Jackie is our NFMS Director. She donates her time, talents and goodies to help make our club successful. She even donated a bracelet she made to the AFMS Endowment Fund. Jackie is truly our "Rockhound of the Year."

submitted by Judy Allison, Secretary/Treasurer

The Lakeside Gem and Mineral Club of Kennewick, WA is proud to name Thora Trumbo, our Junior Club Leader, as our Rockhound of the Year. Thora's background in education provides the juniors with valuable learning experiences in creative hands-on projects, i.e., plate tectonics using orange peels; sands, rocks and water to teach mountain formation; marsh-mallows and pretzels to demonstrate crystal formation. Juniors are rewarded by Thora for choosing a mineral and then giving a monthly written and oral report during club meetings.

This Show and Tell session gives them experience in public speaking and they get to keep the mineral. Thora also arranges field trips, engages guest speakers and craft sessions for juniors -- encouraging Scout troops and home schoolers to participate. She supports the AFMS Future Rockhounds of America badge program. The Annual Show Kid's Corner is fun and educational for juniors and Thora makes sure there are lots of polished rocks for activities.

Thora goes above and beyond for our juniors and is our Rockhound of the Year nominee for 2011.

submitted by Pat Lambert, Membership Chairman

The Bozeman Gem and Mineral Club in Bozeman, Montana voted Dan Carter as our Rockhound of the Year. Dan has served as President of our club and on the executive board. He has been the Chairman of the annual Gem and Mineral Show for ten years, competently dealing with multiple details, people, and schedules. Over the years, he has given many interesting programs and demonstrations during monthly meetings, and led multiple field trips. Dan has helped newer members to find great specimens by example and instruction. His advice about where and what to look for while rock hunting is priceless. Members like Dan help keep our club strong and active.

submitted by John Usher, President

AFMS Newsletter – September, 2011
Minutes of the 64th Annual Meeting, July 7, 2011
Syracuse, New York

The annual meeting of the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies was called to order at 9 AM on Thursday, July 7, 2011 by President Robert Miller at the Ramada Inn, Syracuse, NY. 3rd regional vice president Dick Pankey gave the invocation. Bob lead the assembled directors and others present in the Pledge of Allegiance. Cathy Patterson, show chairman, welcomed everyone to Syracuse, and to the show set-up on Friday, and the show itself Saturday and Sunday. Memorial tributes were given by officers and directors for those members of their regional federations who had passed away during the previous year. Particular notice was given to the passing of Dan Lingelbach, a past AFMS president. A moment of silence followed. Bob greeted all those present, as did Betsy Oberheim, Eastern Federation President. Bob then introduced the officers, directors, and past AFMS presidents.

Anne Cook, secretary, reported that all officers and directors were either present or had sent delegates, and so a quorum was present. Bob Carlson moved the adoption of the rules of the meeting; MOTION PASSED. Bob Carlson also moved the adoption of the agenda; MOTION PASSED. Bob Miller appointed Dee Holland as parliamentarian. He then called for any corrections or additions to the minutes of the 63rd annual meeting; John Wright, Boundaries Committee chair, noted that two of the problems that his committee had to face had been taken care of, not just one, and the third was still being worked on at that time. Bill Smith moved that they be approved as corrected, and the MOTION PASSED.

All of the officers had reports in the packet except the Treasurer, Pat LaLue, who had her report on the table at the back of the room so that it would be as up-to-date as possible. Likewise, all of the directors had reports of their activities though the year either in the packet or gave vocal reports, except the vice presidents of Rocky Mountain, South Central, Eastern, and Southeast, who had no reports. Then it was time for committee reports. Loretta Ogden, Club Rockhound of the Year chair, and Kitty Starbuck, Bulletin Editors Hall of Fame, had no reports. Pat LaRue for Mike Kokinos reported that the audit was held and found her books in good order. John Wright, Boundaries Committee, said that the problem remaining from last year had been taken care of, and there were no new ones. Carolyn Weinberger, Bulletin Editor, Linda Jaeger, Bulletin Editors Advisory, Steve Weinberger, for Bylaws Revisory, Photographer, and Central Office, and Wendell Mohr, Commemorative Stamp chair, all had reports in the packet. Wendell was congratulated for his long and continuous service to the Federations. John Martin, Conservation & Legislation chair, John Washburn, Education - All American Club Awards chair, and Pam Hecht, Endowment Fund chair, all had reports in the packet, and Pam added a vocal plea for ticket sales for the raffle. There were reports in the packet for Lauren Williams (Financial Investment chair), Shirley Leeson (Historian), who also had a quiz on our history, Bob Jones (International Relations), Doug True (Inter-Regional Field Trips), and Jim Brace-Thompson (Junior Programs), who also made a plea for trading of local specimens typical of one region among junior groups in other regions. Dee Holland suggested training for exhibitors and judges at a limited number of major shows, and said a motion would be made under “New Business”. Emerson Tucker had reports in the packet for both Long Range Planning and the Past Presidents’ Case, which now fills 2 cases, as well as the Nominating Committee and the Past Presidents’ Advisory. Frank Mullany had no report for Name Badges. Marge Collins had a report in the packet, but added comments about the Program Competition. Reports were in the packet for B. Jay Bowman (Publications), Fran Sick (Public Relations), Owen Martin (Safety), Dee Holland (Scholarship Foundation), and Bob Livingston (Show Consultant). B. Jay Bowman gave comments about the changes made at the Uniform Rules Committee meeting the previous day. They will be effective Jan. 1, 2012, and will appear on the web site. Anne Cook (Uniform Rules Eligibility Files), Marve Starbuck (Ways & Means), Marty Hart (Webmaster), and Phyllis George (Web Site Contest) all had reports in the packet. Phyllis has now resigned, and Cheri George chairs the contest. ALAA president Dick Pankey had a report in the packet, and supplemented it verbally.

Bob then called for a 15 minute recess. Following that, he took up unfinished business. At the meeting in California last year, the question of hats or other clothing with the AFMS logo was brought up, and Emerson agreed to look into it. He had done so, and now Don Monroe moved that “Emerson Tucker be authorized to offer for sale hats with the AFMS logo. Proceeds will defray Emerson’s out-of-pocket expenses. Any excess funds will be contributed to the AFMS Endowment Fund.” MOTION PASSED. Dee Holland’s proposal for training of judges and also training exhibitors as to what judges look for, was next brought up. Dee, Jay Bowman, and perhaps other judges, would spend two days before a show going over the rule book with trainees, then at the show observe the actual judging, and go back and discuss what they had seen. Bob Carlson moved to give Dee $350. for expenses to try the idea. MOTION PASSED. Jim Brace-Thompson spoke of adding an additional 5 new badges for junior rockhounds. He was told to go ahead; it needed no motion since funds were already allocated for this in the 2011-12 budget. Lauren Williams presented the budget for the 2011-2012 year. Several changes were made, then Lauren moved that it be adopted, and the MOTION PASSED.

The slate of officers for next year was presented: Lauren Williams, president; Don Monroe, president-elect; Richard Jaeger, 1st v.p., C. J Quitoriano, 2nd v.p., Carolyn Weinberger, 3rd v.p., Sue Dale Miller, 4th v.p., Sandra Fuller, 5th v.p., Anne Cook, secretary (2 year term). Pat LaRue continues her second year as treasurer. Bob called for any additional nominations; hearing none, Dick Pankey moved to elect the slate by acclamation. MOTION PASSED. Members were advised of an invitation from the American Geological Institute for AFMS to join their group. Further information about this will be obtained in the coming year. Sandy Fuller invited everyone to come to next year’s annual meeting at Minnetonka, Minnesota, July 26-29, 2012. Dee Holland invited the group to stay for the scholarship foundation meeting, immediately following this one. The meeting adjourned at 11:30.
Where Are They Now?

by Jon Spunaugle, Scholarship Foundation Treasurer

Since the inception of this AFMS project in 1964, the number of students who have benefitted from educational grants numbers 566 and the amount of educational grants paid totals over $1,500,000.00. But, have you ever wondered who the students are, and what have they accomplished after finishing their educational pursuits? In 1965 the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies (AFMS) paid out its first educational grant to a student seeking an advanced degree in earth sciences. The following articles should help answer this question. Remember, your donations to the Foundation keep on giving, year after year, as only the income from your donations are used to finance each year's educational grants. For several years now the grants made total $48,000.00 each year. But what about our students?

The first student, Victor Lee was selected by the AFMS's first president and author, Dr. Richard M. Pearl. Mr. Lee attended the University of Colorado at Boulder. He received a $600 educational grant in 1965. Unfortunately the Foundation has little additional information on Mr. Lee. Perhaps he is residing in Asia.

The second student, Richard Bideaux, was selected by Dr. Fredrick Pough, author and director of the San Bernardino Museum of Natural History. Mr. Bideaux attended the University of Arizona in 1966 and was awarded an $800.00 AFMS Scholarship Foundation educational grant. We believe that Mr. Bideaux, like his father, went on to become a recognized mineralogist, author, and mineral dealer. He finished his masters degree at Harvard University. In 1970 he founded, with several friends, the "Mineralogical Record" and wrote "The Collector" column for that highly regarded publication. In 1980 he co-authored, with several associates, the six volume "Handbook of Mineralogy" one of the most important handbooks of its kind. Richard was a founding member of the Friends of Mineralogy and its first President as well as a longtime patron of the University of Arizona Mineralogical Museum and a main stay of the Tucson Gem and Mineral Society, and it's annual gem show. Richard Bideaux died in 2004 at the age of 69. The mineral bideauxite was named for Richard Bideaux by Sid Williams in 1970.

The third student, Robert B. Cook, was selected by Paul Desautels, Curator of the Smithsonian in 1967 and received a $1,000.00 grant from the Scholarship Foundation. Mr. Cook attended the University of Georgia where he received his Masters Degree in 1968 and went on to earn his PhD in Geology in 1971. His career includes: assistant Professor, associate Professor and a full Professorship at Auburn University in its Geology Department. Dr. Cook earned tenure in 1977, and was appointed the Department Head in 1984, a position he holds today. During the early days of his career, he was the "Speaker-in-Residence" at two EFMLS Wildacres Workshops. He is the recipient of numerous large contract and grant proposals. He is currently an Executive Editor of "Rocks & Minerals Magazine", and a member of the Friends of Mineralogy Board of Directors. Professor Cook has done extensive consulting and served numerous Geological Societies and Associations as well as has been a highly regarded teaching Professor.

The fourth student, William M. Dalness, was selected, as one of two students, by Dr. Armand J. Eardley, Professor of Geology at University of Utah. Mr. Dalness received a grant of $500.00 in 1968 toward his Masters Degree at Utah University. An Internet Inquiry in 2011 indicates that Mr. Dalness is retired from the Department of Interior in Santa Fe, New Mexico. Internet records also indicate that Mr. Dalness worked on identifying potential oil sands in the State of Utah by doing some of the sampling of oil sands for a Utah University study. He has made a career in the area of energy research and development.

The fifth student, also selected by Dr. Armand J. Eardley, was Stephen D. Olmoro. Mr. Olmoro also received a $500.00 educational grant to attend the University of Utah to work on his Masters Degree. He continued his studies in Geology at the University of Utah earning his PhD. Dr. Olmoro has continued to work in the mining industry as a geologist and mining engineer working in several countries in the world as a certified Professional Geologist (AIPG), including China, Montana, Kentucky, Namibia, and Nevada. Dr. Olmoro is the founder of "sd0-asc" an independent licensed consulting firm started in the State of Florida in 2002 and, because he is fluent in Spanish, he was interviewed by "CNN en espanol" on the Haiti earth quake in 2009.

Student number six, Alan F. Edwards, was selected by Dr. Ian Campbell, California State Geologist. He received a $1,000.00 educational grant in 1969 to attend the University of Oregon. Alan Edwards graduated with a Masters Degree in geology from the University of Oregon in 1973. His professional experience consists of 30 years of work as an exploration geologist and manager of international exploration projects in Egypt, Spain, Mexico, Argentina, and as the manager of production and exploration geology at Freeport McMoRan's Grasberg mine in Indonesia. His was successful in adding reserves to Texas Gulf's reserve base and many others in his 30 years before retiring in 2000. More recently he has worked for Crescent Technology, Inc, the outsourcing engineering group for Freeport McMoRan and for VANE minerals.

Student number seven was also selected by Dr. Ian Campbell, California State Geologist and received the same $1,000.00 educational grant. Mr. Ristvet attended Northwestern University where he received his PhD in 1973. He was an ROTC student and was assigned to the Air Force Weapons Lab. He spent time on Bikini in the South Pacific and later did ground studies for the Department of Defense at the Nevada Nuclear Test sites and Minuteman locations. He spent his career as a containment scientist for the Department of Defense. Byron is also credited with providing nuclear footage for the movie "Thirteen Days" released in 2000 and starring actor Kevin Costner.

Student number eight, Robert A. Rich received a Foundation Grant of $1,000.00 to attend Harvard University in 1969 seeking his masters degree. Should anyone have information on Mr. Rich, please help us update our records.

The same applies to student Irine, Austin A. Sartan. Jr. who attended Southern Methodist University the same year and received a $1,000.00 grant in 1970 towards his masters degree.

The next student we have some information for is student number ten, Karl W. Kaufman. Mr. Kaufman attended the University of Chicago in 1970 working on a Masters Degree. Mr. Kaufman's area of interest was birds, especially tropical birds, and he has contributed to written books and articles on the subject including writing for the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute, in Panama. Many of his bird pictures are featured in several publications. In June, 2011 Mr. Kaufman attended the Panama Audubon Society's Reunion and is pictured in the Internet Web site for the Society.

It would appear that our early students, at least seven of the first ten, have done themselves proud as well as rewarded us for our effort and generosity. In the ensuing months I will try to continue to report on "our students".

As we approach our 50th Anniversary year (2014) we hope you will help support this most successful AFMS Program. Remember your donation is tax deductible. Just a dollar per member would add another $40,000 or so to the trust.

[You can find a list of scholarship recipients by visiting <www.amfed.org/scholar/histschl.htm>]

AFMS Newsletter – September, 2011
**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.

**AFMS Land Use Policy**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

9. The AFMS urges its members to work with any or all government authorities to achieve a good working relationship in order to improve the “Public Image” of recreational collectors.
AFMS Committees: 2010 – 2011

Here is the listing of the people who have agreed to serve as Committee Chairs for 2010 – 11. 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  
<jrwashburn3 at att.net>

AFMS Club Rockhound of the Year
Loretta Ogden  
<Flirkit1 at aol.com>

AFMS Newsletter
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P.O. Box 302, Glyndon, MD 21071-0302  
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Boundaries
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<osjbw at datasync.com>

Bulletin Editor Hall of Fame
Kitty Starbuck  
<greenstone at iserv.net>

Bulletin Editors Advisory
Linda Jaeger  
<ljalrg1 at aol.com>

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

Commemorative Stamps
Wendell Mohr  
<wmohr at erols.com>

Conservation and Legislation
John Martin  
<smartin at antelecom.net>

Endowment Fund
Pam Hecht  
<steverox at up.net>

Financial Investment
Lauren Williams  
<slharuir at msn.com>

Historian
Shirley Leeson  
<shirleyeleeson at cox.net>

International Relations
Bob Jones  
<jones52 at gmail.com>

Inter-Regional Field Trip
Doug True  
<dtruefossils at yahoo.com>

Judges Training Seminar
Dee Holland  
<beauholland at centurytel.net>

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

Long Range Planning
Emerson Tucker  
<emersont at suddenlink.net>

Name Badges
Frank Mullaney  
<rockyfiv at aol.com>

Nominating
Emerson Tucker  
(see Long Range Planning)

Parliamentarian
Dee Holland (See Judges Training)

Past President’s Advisory
Emerson Tucker  
(see Long Range Planning)

Photography
Steve Weinberger (see Bylaws Revisory)

Program Competition
Marge Collins  
<margaret at qtm.net>

Publications
B. Jay Bowman  
<bjb at wildblue.net>

Public Relations
Fran Sick  
<ednfra at epix.net>

Safety
Owen Martin  
<owenmartin at yahoo.com>

Show Consultant
Bob Livingston  
<gemguy at verizon.net>

Uniform Rules
B. Jay Bowman  
(see Publications)

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

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

Web Site Contest
Cheri George  
<lizardwoman3 at yahoo.com>

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

Bob Miller, Vice President
Ruth Bailey, Secretary
Jon Spunaugle, Treasurer

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Upcoming Federation Conventions

from Bob Livingston, AFMS Coordinator

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<th>Eastern Federation</th>
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<td>2012</td>
<td>July 13-15 Riverside, CA</td>
<td>Sept. 15-16 Harrisburg, PA</td>
<td>AFMS July 26 - 29 Minnetonka, MN</td>
<td>May 18 - 20 Kennewick, WA</td>
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<td>2013</td>
<td>Ventura, CA</td>
<td>April 5 - 7 Long Island, NY</td>
<td>AFMS Sept. 13-15 Denver, CO</td>
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