AN EXCEPTIONAL OPPORTUNITY!

The excitement is building as we unveil the first of what we hope will be many wonderful prizes for the 2012 AFMS Endowment Fund Drawing.

A little history of our first 4 items that are a VERY SPECIAL donation to the AFMS Endowment Fund by Hi-Tech Diamond Company. I was contacted in June by e-mail from Hi-Tech's President Neer Patel asking how they would like to donate some lapidary equipment to help benefit our Endowment Fund drawing. After communications with Neer I received four huge boxes just days before our convention in July. I made an announcement at the convention in New York and now I’m happy to offer the chance for you all to have the opportunity to purchase a ticket or two or three or four or five or six or seven….you get idea !!!

This year’s drawing is going to be different from those of the past in that the first four items will be available for you to pick which one you would like your tickets to be for should it be selected in the drawing. When tickets are purchased the prize # of either 1, 2, 3 or 4 will have to be written on the front of the ticket as to which prize item you would like your tickets to go towards. This will only be for the first four prizes -- the remaining prizes, to be announced during the coming months will be awarded via a random drawing.

Please PRINT your name and address clearly on the other side so that we can read who won - better yet put an address label on your ticket along with your phone number.

And now, let’s have a drum roll as we announce those first four prizes:

#1 CABBING-6V3 MACHINE is a direct drive 6” diameter diamond wheel grinding and polishing unit for all your cabbing needs. This system is based on an industry leading adjustable, independently controlled drip feed cooling system that drips clean water on the wheels instead of bubbling up dirty water. Included is an accessory kit that features a flat diamond lap for putting flats on the backs of cabs as well as a buffing disc with diamond paste. Donated by the Hi-Tech Diamond Company, it has a retail value of $1,500.00.

#2 SLANT CABBER MACHINE is an angled lap machine in a 8” diameter size. The machine's unique 45 degree grinding angle makes it easier to see your work piece as you grind flats, work crystals, or make cabochons. The system allows you to grind, shape and polish gem material immediately. Donated by the Hi-Tech Diamond Company, it has a retail value of $600.00.

continued on page 2
Hello, I am Lauren Williams your new AFMS President. I live in Idaho Falls, Idaho. My wife Shirlene and I have one son, Troy. I spent most of my life as a Draftsman, that’s making drawings so that things can be made; most of that time was for the government.

My first experience with AFMS was at the show in Ventura, CA in 1990. I served as AFMS Editor in 1991-1992 and became Northwest Federation President in 1992-93. I’ve also served as the Financial Investment Chair for AFMS for the past several years.

At the start of the new AFMS year 2012, it is time to take stock of the year that was. The Show and Convention at Syracuse was great. Thank you, Gem and Mineral Society of Syracuse and Eastern Federation for inviting the AFMS.

Think back to what you personally did to promote our hobby. Remember that protecting our collecting areas so that future ‘rough’ is available is part of promoting our hobby. Without rough material we have no hobby, nothing to work with and finish and fashion into whatever it is that we want the finished work to look like when we get through with it. Promoting the Juniors is another way to protect our hobby into the future and their futures. It is time for you to start thinking about your Competitive Exhibit for 2012 in Minnesota.

I would like to publicly give a big thank you to Bob Miller for the excellent and outstanding work that he did for us this past year as AFMS President. In addition, thanks to all the AFMS Committee people, Regional Vice Presidents and Past Presidents. Without their hard work and efforts the AFMS and its member Federations could not exist.

The holiday season starts this month so as you go “over the river and thru the woods”, slow down and be safe. Plan to leave early enough so that you do not have to hurry or to be rushed. There will always be road construction, accidents and reckless drivers along the way to slow you down.

Lauren

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**Endowment continued from page 1**

#3 ALL-U-NEED MACHINE is a horizontal lap machine in a 6” diameter size. You can grind flats, re-work crystals, or make cabochons. The system makes it possible for you to grind, shape and polish gem material immediately. Donated by the Hi-Tech Diamond Company, it has a retail value of $490.00.

#4 TRIM SAW MACHINE is a 6” machine with a diamond blade is ideal for trimming all kinds of stones. The saw has a large 15” x 9” working area. The durable housing is made of a rust-proof, unbreakable plastic. The motor is variable speed and ranges from 800 to 3400 RPM. Donated by the Hi-Tech Diamond Company, it has a retail value of $440.00.

Want to donate a prize yourself? Send me your donation. If it’s too heavy to mail, e-mail me a photo and description and we’ll discuss how to get it to me in time for the drawing in Minnesota this coming July. My contact information is: Pamela Hecht, 25393 Oak Street, Calumet, MI 49913 (906) 337-2274 e-mail: <steverox@up.net>.

Tickets are $5 each or 5 for $20. To order, make your check payable to “AFMS Endowment Fund” and mail it along with a stamped self-addressed envelope to your regional federation representative listed below. Be sure to include your name, address and phone number when placing your order.

Regional Salespersons:
California Federation: Colleen McGann
PO Box 224; Santa Clara, CA 95052
<Colleen.mcgann@hds.com>

Eastern Federation: Carolyn Weinberger
PO Box 302; Glyndon, MD 21071-0302
<editor@amfed.org>

Northwest Federation: Evelyn Cataldo
99509 Brandon Dr; Kennewick, WA 99336
<ecataldo@cbtabs.com>

Rocky Mountain Federation: Richard Jaeger
3515 E 88th St; Tulsa, OK 74137-2602
<RjgrSci@aol.com>

Midwest Federation: *
South Central Federation: *
Southeast Federation: *

*Ticket requests should be sent to me until someone is named.

With your help and support we can make this a rousing success!
Conservation & Legislation News

by John Martin, AFMS Chair

Status of Legislation Affecting Rockhounding on Public Lands

The following legislation before congress may have a direct or indirect affect on Rockhounding on Public Lands held in trust for the American People and managed by the BLM and/or USFS. As of September 1, 2011 these proposed bills are all held in committee and are being reviewed by these committees. No action has been completed since their introductions.

H.R. 758: National Monument Designation Transparency and Accountability Act - 23 cosponsors

H.R. 1581: Wilderness and Roadless Area Release Act of 2011 - 31 cosponsors

S. 1087: Wilderness and Roadless Area Release Act of 2011 - 5 cosponsors

S. 138: California Desert Protection Act of 2011 - No cosponsors

S. 268: Forest Jobs and Recreation Act of 2011 - 1 cosponsor

H.R. 1990: Saguaro National Park Boundary Expansion and Study Act of 2011 - No cosponsors


The full text and the current status of this pending legislation, that may have an affect on Rockhounding or collecting site access, may be found on the American Lands Access Association's website:

<www.amlands.org/6652/index.html>

For more information on Parks, recreation areas and trails see the following website:

<www.govtrack.us/congress/subjects.xpd?type=crs&term=Parks,%20recreation%20areas,%20trails>

The committee has not received any requests for investigations or concerns of conservation or legislation from any of the regional federations.

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.

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Content – Letters

Editorial Comments – Submissions

Any communication concerning the content or format of the Newsletter should be sent to the Editor:

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

Deadline is the 15th of each month preceding publication (i.e. April 1 for the May issue)

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**The 5-Minute Drill**

by Owen Martin, AFMS Safety Chair

I’ve written periodically over the last few years about emergency preparedness so that if some type of weather event may impact you that you have water, food, batteries, first aid kits etc. It typically made two assumptions, one being that you would have enough time to "pack and evac" in the case of something like a hurricane, or the other, that you were prepared to deal with the aftermath of a storm event like a tornado or storm front.

Unfortunately the recent wildfires in the southwestern USA has brought up another instance to consider for emergency preparedness.

Local emergency responders were forced to provide a “5-minute evacuation order” for hundreds of home owners in the vicinity of several wildfires. Those orders prompted a lot of discussion in the local media about how to comply and still save what you think is important. The first wave of feedback was to protect your loved ones and pets, and get in the car and go. That however did not reflect the fact that the authorities were providing a small amount of time to actually pack a few things before leaving.

In other words, don’t panic!

If you can organize yourself prior to such an event then you can practice it similar to a family fire drill.

At my home we determined that there would be a division of labor that would help us save more than just our skins and the clothes on our backs. So as an example:

- **Dad:** medicines and safe deposit box key, parent clothes

- **Mom:** photo albums

- **Child #1:** laptops and clothes

- **Child #2:** pets and pet food, clothes

- **Child #3:** clothes and school backpacks

Likely that gives everyone time for two quick trips to dump everything into the van, car or truck. Little things like family wall photos could certainly be grabbed on the way out, too. I might even grab a couple of fossils or an arrowhead! It would really depend on how quickly we could move.

The point being we prioritized what we would do, who would get what first and second trips, and then be ready to go.

I would recommend you consider a "5-minute" drill in your own household so that if you are forced to evacuate on short notice that you can do so in a calm and efficient manner, gather personal effects that have a high value to you, and still get out safely.

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**Why Create an All-American Club Yearbook?**

by John Washburn, AFMS All-American Chair

A few years ago, I compiled those articles into a booklet and took copies to the AFMS Convention & Show in Billings, MT. They were well received. How well? I kept returning to Office Depot to make more copies! This past year I sent out a few copies and we had two new entries, both of which received gold medals!

The booklet is called “An All American Club Yearbook: A Guide for Preparation.” If you didn’t keep a copy of the newsletters containing my articles and are interested in having a copy of the booklet, you can contact me for either an electronic copy in PDF format, or I can send you a hard copy. You can write to me: John Washburn, 107 Deer Creek Road, Rochester, IL, 62563-9220. You can e-mail me: <jrwashburn3@att.net> or you can call me at 217-498-7713. I would welcome the opportunity to be of help to you and your club.

The deadline for entry in the AFMS contest is April 15th. Check with your regional chairs for their deadline. Application forms begin on page 9 of this issue.

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**National Rockhound & Lapidary Hall of Fame Inductees**

by Steve Weinberger

The National Rockhound and Lapidary Hall of Fame was founded in 1987 by June Culp Zeitner to recognize excellence in the earth sciences by inducting one or more persons each year in six categories: Minerals, Fossils, Metal Craft, Lapidary, Education and Tribute (Deceased). At this time we have inductees representing 44 states. All of the inductees are experts in their fields. Many of them have published several books and most of them have been active in community service.

The Hall of Fame is housed in the Pioneer Auto Show at Murdo, SD and features numerous gems, minerals and fossils from the collection of June Culp Zeitner and other HOF inductees as well as photographs of each inductee. As you head east or west on I-90, just watch for the loooooooong green car at the Murdo, SD exit.

It is with great pleasure that I announce the inductee of the "class of 2011".

**Lapidary - Harold Smith - North Carolina**

A retired professor of biochemistry and award winning faceter, he served on the SFMS Uniform Rules Committee and taught faceting at both the SFMS William Holland and Wildacres workshops.

**Minerals - George Rapp - Minnesota**

Professor of geology at the Univ. of Minnesota and AFMS Scholarship Foundation Honorary Recipient, Dr. Rapp is the author of 11 books including the Encyclopedia of Minerals (with Roberts) as well as many scientific papers.

**Education - Harold Brady - North Dakota**

A life-long rockhound, Harold was responsible for urging the state legislature to name a state fossil, and even in his 90's continues to teach classes and give presentations for his club, and always works at the club show of which he was the first organizer.

**Tribute - Jack Nelson - Maryland**

Jack was a well known gold panner, micromounter and lapidary. His patience at looking at the black sands found in gold panning, led to the discovery of cubic garnets in the sands. He loved writing and leading field trips, especially for children and often shared his “finds” with others.

To see a complete list of all inductees or learn how to nominate someone for consideration visit <www.rockhoundhalloffame.org>.
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 e-mail: <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.

AFMS Winning Articles
Our resourceful AFMS webmaster, Marty Hart, now has the 2011 Winning Articles and Poetry available on the AFMS website, <www.amfed.org>. These are free for you to download and reprint. Be sure to give credit to the author and publication as it is shown in the title of each downloaded page.

These are all .doc files with each page in single-column format. You should be able to edit the columns and move pictures to fit the format of your bulletin. Enjoy!

Where Have We Been? Do We Know Where We’re Going?
(excerpts from RMFMS Editor/Webmaster Breakfast, June 25, 2011 program by Linda Jaeger)

My favorite jeweler has an electronic marquis on his corner. Sometimes I drive by just to get a laugh, because he usually has some humor among the ads. Here’s one of his funnies: “My mother started walking when she was 60. Now she’s 87, and we don’t know where the heck she is!”

You can see where I’m going with this – are we as editors “walking,” not knowing where the heck we’re going?

Flashes from the past:
Before we had organized rock clubs with bulletins and editors, man recorded history with drawings. Witness petroglyphs from Azerbaijan dating from 50,000 – 50 years ago. The Sumerians made stone tablets during 1861 the USPS contracted with the Pony Express to deliver mail, but the transcontinental railroad was completed.

The Industrial Revolution of the 1800s made printing much faster with rotary printing presses, copying presses, and the typewriter. Louis Braille invented the Braille system in 1861. They recently celebrated their 125th anniversary! But think back to the 1800s – scribes were still copying works by hand, primitive presses were still being used, and the typewriter was a new-fangled gadget. Editing and printing a newsletter for rock clubs in the 1800s wasn’t what it is today!

Television, talking movies, radio, phonographs, telephones – these devices became available in the 1900s, and communication became increasingly electronic. Also important in the 1900s, rock clubs joined together in regional federations: CFMS (1935), NFMS (1938), MWF (1940), and RMFMS (1941).

AFMS began in 1947 when the regional federations that were formed in the 1930s and 1940s banded together to make a national organization. EFMLS joined in 1950, SFMS joined in 1954, and SFMS joined in 1993; thus, our present AFMS is made up of the seven regional federations.

Mineral News and Notes, the newsletter begun by CFMS in 1936, became the official AFMS magazine in 1950 and eventually became Gems & Minerals Magazine. In 1960 the AFMS Newsletter was separated from the secretary’s job, and a bulletin editor’s luncheon was held at the 1960 meeting. The first national editor’s breakfast was created by June Culp Zeitner at the national show in Washington, DC, and the first editor’s contest was suggested.

Remember the IBM Selectric Typewriter? It was the electric typewriter with “the ball” that revolutionized the typing world in 1961. Many of us remember reproducing our bulletin’s on hand-cranked spirit duplicators. When I first began teaching, this was how I reproduced tests for my students. It was a quick, albeit smelly (methyl alcohol) way to make lots of copies. Some of us also used stencils that we typed (“cut”) on our typewriters and then used as masters to make copies. In the 1960s and 1970s some of us even began printing our bulletins on colored paper!

Today we love our laptop computers, our cell phones with apps, our FAX machines, our do-everything copiers, the Internet, and our electronic mail. It’s all quite amazing when you consider that the ENIAC computer in 1953 took up the space of a whole floor at Aberdeen Proving Ground.

Science and technology have made incredible progress since 1886 (time of the first rock club), making it easier and faster for us to write, edit, duplicate, and share what we have to say!

So, what are we doing right?
1-We create bulletins that meet the needs of our clubs:
-8th grade reading level, clear and concise (see <www.impact-information.com/impactinfo-newsletter/jwlwork15.htm> for more information),
-consistent type face
-at least 12 pt in size
-plenty of white space
-graphics, photos, illustrations (about 80% of people are mainly visual learners)
-educational articles
-a variety of hobby-related subjects
-eye-catching titles

-good grammar and spelling

As a kid, did you ever use a tin-can telephone? Notice the clipart here! The cans are connected. For us to communicate we still need some kind of a connection!

2-We promote good communication:
-common courtesy – returning calls and emails quickly
-listening with an open mind
-working together for common good
-willingness to learn
-P.E.P (praise-encourage-praise – this is a great way to teach and to handle making a criticism; the best coaches my kids ever had were the ones who coached using P.E.P – “You’re doing a great job on this, let’s work on that by doing…” and look how much you’ve improved on this!”)

And where are we going?
Innovations:
-hard copy and e-bulletins
-blogs, YouTube, Facebook, Twitter, websites
-junior groups and teaching them to write (AFMS Future Rockhounds of America, writing articles jointly, Rock pals – rock exchange program for kids on AFMS website)
-rockhound forums (groups or lists)

You’ll notice that many of these are rooted in our electronic age. We make hard copy available for those who don’t use computers, and we send e-bulletins to those who do use computers.

The second bulleted list may sound like a foreign language! If you use a computer, try going to <pebblepups.blogspot.com>-. This is Steven Veatch’s blogspot for the pebble pups groups he leads in Colorado. You will find a delightful assortment of activities past-present-future, as well as photos and short videos made by the kids.

If you are looking for a short video about something in the earth sciences, try going to <www.YouTube.com> and doing a search for your subject, such as “volcanoes.” These can be appropriate for a small group of juniors to view together as part of their meeting. Or perhaps a club member (kid or adult) might use these as a jumping off point for writing an article! Facebook and Twitter are social media where you can share all kinds of information.

The remaining items in my very short list are all available from the AFMS website, <www.amfed.org>, and are also great starting places for articles.

Yogi Berra once said: “If you don’t know where you’re going, you might wind up someplace else.” Technology has made typing and duplicating much easier for us. As editors we are responsible for making good communication a priority. So, do we know where WE are going? Yes! We COMMUNICATE, whatever the media!
AFMS Club Rockhound of the Year

California Federation

The Reno Gem & Mineral Society is pleased to designate Elmer Kitchell as our AFMS Club Rockhound of the Year. Elmer has been a member of club since 1958, joining just a couple of months after the club was formed. He has held numerous offices in the club including program chairman and field trip chairman. He has participated in our shows in several capacities. Elmer, and his late wife Marie, ran a rock shop for a number of years that kept our members supplied in lapidary equipment and supplies. Elmer is in charge of acquisitions, receiving equipment and specimens, for the club. He was instrumental in helping to set up our club workshop and in repairing donated equipment. Elmer is a certified gemologist and teaches faceting to club members. Elmer Kitchell is a valuable member of the Tulsa Rock & Mineral Society who seeks to promote our club and hobby and to share his knowledge with others.

submitted by Richard D. Jaeger

The Tulsa Rock & Mineral Society is pleased to designate Jimmy Stirling as our AFMS Junior Club Rockhound of the Year. Jimmy joined our club in 2009 and has been active ever since. Jimmy has become an excellent cabochon maker through working at our club workshop. He has helped out at our club shows and at Gem Faire and the Tulsa Bead Show in which we participate. At our show he has helped to sell grab bags and has run the wheel game. Jimmy has done the same at Gem Faire as well as demonstrated cabochon making there; he loves to share his hobby with others. He has also put in exhibits at those shows. Jimmy also enjoys minerals and field trips. Jimmy is a valuable member of the Tulsa Rock & Mineral Society and we feel he is fully deserving of this award.

submitted by Richard D. Jaeger

New Officers?

As your club elects new officers, please let the AFMS Central Office know who they are so that we can continue to send the AFMS Newsletter each month to them. And, if an officer moves, please notify us of the new address. Returned newsletters cost the AFMS $5.00 (50¢ per returned issue).

E-mail or mail the information to me at AFMS Central Office
PO Box 302
Glyndon, MD 21071-0302
or <central_office@amfed.org>

Having Fun: Junior Activities

Seeking Activity Suggestions for Our New Badges

As noted in my prior articles, I'm in the midst of developing five new badges for our AFMS Future Rockhounds of America badge program. This month, I invite your suggestions. Based on a survey of clubs most actively utilizing our program, here are the five new badges we'll start offering in 2012:

The World in Miniature. Learning about miniature, thumbnail, and micro-mount minerals and fossils, plus a unit on sand collecting.

Special Effects. Learning about rocks and minerals exhibiting such neat characteristics as magnetism, triboluminescence, double refraction, chatoyancy,"TV stone," etc., and holding an Amazing Mineral Magic Show" to demonstrate such characteristics.

Fluorescent Minerals. Learning why some minerals fluoresce, building a basic fluorescent mineral collection, learning about famous localities like Franklin, NJ, etc.

Reaching Across Generations. Pairing junior members with senior members to share knowledge and fun stories, with a follow-up activity to share what's been learned. (Note: This badge was suggested by Erica Nathan, a junior member of the Coquina Kids in Florida based on her fond experiences with a senior member of her club!)

Maps. Learning about different map types and how to use them, sources of maps, how to make basic maps, using GPS, etc.

I'm now developing specific activities to go with each badge and drafting basic designs for each. If you have suggestions of activities you've tried in any of these areas, please share them with me (805-659-3577; <jbraceth@roadrunner.com>). For instance, Anne Lowe-Salmon in Connecticut has pointed me to the International Sand Collectors Society and other neat resources to consider for the World in Miniature badge. And Dennis Gertenbach, the leader of the Junior Geologists of the Flatirons Mineral Club of Colorado has told me about a geocaching activity he's done with his juniors to give them hands-on experience learning about GPS while having fun! I welcome fun activities you might suggest.
Posting Information on Your Club Web Site

from Cheri George, Web Site Contest Chair

During this last year of website contest judging, it has been brought to my attention that there could possibly be some problem with the way we list our members names and personal information on our Web Sites. One of our judges has brought to our attention the document that his club uses to insure there are no legal repercussions to their club. This is not a mandatory requirement for clubs to have available for their Web Sites, but it could help keep your club from harm.

Internet Acceptable Posting Policy (APP) for Officers & Members

Rationale: Web pages are public documents welcoming the outside world to the Society and linking Officers and members to sources of information. Guidelines are required in the construction of club web pages to ensure that information on the pages is appropriate for any Internet user from within the community and around the world to access. Web pages should support the charted aims of the club or society.

In producing web pages, the following goals should be considered:

1. Introducing outside visitors to the Club/ Society and/or Committees and its programs,
2. Fostering communication of information between the Society and the community,
3. Sharing the Club/Society successes with the world,
4. Linking users to good information resources, and
5. Providing top-quality, family-friendly content that is appropriate to and in compliance with the mission statement, educational goals and objectives of Club/Society.

Posting Requirements:

1. Club/Society Webmaster

The setting up of a home page shall have a Webmaster appointed by the Board of Directors. The Club/Society Webmaster shall assist the Board of the Club/Society in ensuring that these guidelines are adhered to and that the content of the web pages meets the Board’s approval. The Club/ Society Webmaster is the only person in the Society authorized to upload files to the web server. The Board must review and approve the Club/Society website after posting of any modified content.

2. Club/Society Home Page

The Club/Society home page shall be located on the board approved hosting server. If the Club/ Society has additional web pages on one or more sites on external web servers, then the Club/Society home page shall provide direct links to all sites. All Club/Society web pages must conform to these guidelines regardless of the location, whether on the approved web server or an external web server. The Club/Society home page shall indicate the date of the last revision.

3. Content of Web Pages

The content of all Club/Society web pages must be consistent with the educational aims of the Club/ Society and with the policies and spirit of the Club/ Society Board of Directors. Prior permission must be obtained before any Society members personal information is posted on the Internet web pages.

4. Communication Links

No web page content may allow people accessing the page to contact any Society member directly as a matter of default unless allowed under paragraph 3 above. Communication with respect to the content of any page must be directed to the Webmaster of the Club/Society. Club/Society pages must include a “mailto:” link to the Webmaster.

5. Advertisements

Club/Society web pages may contain small acknowledgments of Club/Society sponsorships or sponsorships. Web pages may provide links to partners or sponsors’ web pages. A special section or page may be devoted to the sale of lapidary items donated to the Club/Society.

6. External Links

All links connecting to external sites must be approved by the Club/Society Webmaster, and are subject to final approval by the Board, which includes separate member web pages hosted on external servers.

7. Identification of Junior Class Members

For a junior member first name and/or picture and/or information about the junior to appear on any Club/Society web page, the Club/Society must obtain parental permission on the Internet Information Release Form. This form is provided to the parent/guardian in the Club/Society enrollment package. This form must be renewed each year. Only number, topic, event or first name may be used to identify junior member work. A junior’s full name or e-mail address may NEVER appear on a web page. Junior work may include but is not limited to: web pages, artwork, graphic design, written documents, multimedia presentations, projects, etc.

Filenames for pages and images should be checked to ensure that juniors’ names do not appear there, e.g., marysmith.gif, jimpaull.html. Permission must be obtained from any Society member prior to displaying his/her photograph or information.

8. External Member Web Pages

External member web pages will promote learning and must be consistent with the educational aims of Club/Society. The creator of the page is responsible for the content of any external links. The page must adhere to the rules above for posting of junior member work. We encourage lapidary related web pages to be linked from the Club/Society site. Contact the Club/Society Webmaster with the appropriate site address or files for uploading to the Club/Society site.

9. Personal Home Pages

It is not permitted for personal home pages for Society members to be linked from the Club/ Society web site unless they are related to the Club/Society mission. Junior Members may create “content” pages under the supervision of the Webmaster, but not personal pages about themselves. Similarly, members may create pages that are educationally oriented. Linking to a juniors or member’s personal (non-mission) page on an external site is not permitted.

10. Respecting Copyright

Copyright must be respected. The author of the web page must not use copyrighted materials without permission. This includes icons and “buttons”, images, background watermarks, sounds and video.

11. Claiming Copyright

The author for his/her own original work may claim copyright.

Style Guide: (The following items are suggestions - not mandatory, but recommended.)

1. Avoid “Under Construction” signs on a home page; construct the page before placing it on the Web. If UNDER CONSTRUCTION graphics are necessary, please do not keep them on any page longer than four(4) weeks.

2. The date of the last update to the page should be clearly identified for page viewers.

3. Images should be displayed with width and height set. Large images should be avoided.

4. Pages should accommodate a variety of browsers, including text-only browsers when feasible. Avoid making pages that require unusual plugins.

5. Pages should be checked for spelling and proofread before they are displayed.

6. Internal documentation should be maintained along with the source code. It should consist of the author’s name (guardian’s name may be more appropriate if author is a junior), and creation and revision dates. Any unusual content or styles should be noted. Written permission authorizing the use of any copyrighted material must be maintained.

7. Facilitate travel through your web pages. Provide hypertext links wherever possible. Keep URL’s as simple as possible.

Restrictions:

Society Members are Precluded from:

1. Posting, linking to or sending any transmisions or files constituting or encouraging conduct that would constitute a criminal offense, giving rise to civil liability, or otherwise violating any local, state, national or international law, including without limitation the U.S. export control Laws and regulations.

2. Posting or transmitting any information or software that contains a virus, worm, malware,
In an effort to lower the costs and encourage more attendance, the AFMS Directors voted to revise the Judges Training Program. An annual class will now be held in conjunction with a regional local show. The first of these will be held in Reno, NV during the Reno Gem & Mineral Societies annual show this coming May 10-13.

Participants will have two options when attending this event. You can stay at the Holiday Inn, Sparks/Reno Hotel or you can make arrangements for camping space at the Reno Club’s show site - the Reno Events Center.

To stay at the hotel, contact the them at: 1-775-358-6900. Be sure to tell them you are with the AFMS Judges Training Seminar. Cost is $75. per night for a king or 2 queen bed room. This includes taxes. For camping, you'll need to use a separate application which should be on the AFMS website (www.amfed.org) shortly. There is no camping allowed at the hotel.

If attending, you are encouraged to bring an exhibit for the show. A separate application from the Reno club is pending, and will be on the AFMS website (www.amfed.org) as soon as possible. The club has a LIMITED SUPPLY OF EXHIBIT CASES, that are on a 'first come, first serve' basis.

As in the past, one person from each Regional Federation will receive a stipend of $350 to offset their expenses. The person receiving this will be determined by the Judges Training Chair from the applications received. This will not be paid until after the end of the class. All others who wish to attend will have to pay their own expenses. The cost for all attending will be $20 per person which includes lunch on Friday and Saturday. The Holiday Inn has a restaurant on the premises for breakfast and dinner.

We are fortunate in having Jay Bowman, who has done the class instruction since the inception of these training programs again as our instructor. Jay brings a wealth of knowledge and insight to this special event.

CLASS SCHEDULE
Thursday evening, 7pm, Orientation Session (Holiday Inn)
Friday & Saturday 9 – 5 Classes (Holiday Inn; lunch on premises)
Sunday Morning 9 am – Evaluation of Exhibits (Reno Events Center, 1350 N. Wells Ave). Evaluation of the program immediately following.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: April 16, 2012
All applications received, will be confirmed.

AFMS Judges Training Seminar
Thursday May 10 – Sunday, May 13, 2012
Sparks (Reno) Nevada, Holiday Inn
55 E. Nugget Ave, 1-775-358-6900
This program/seminar is for judges and exhibitors and sponsored by the AFMS

Please fill out the application below and return to:
Dee Holland, AFMS Judges Training Chair
P.O. Box 23, Tendoy, ID 83468

Registration Deadline: April 16, 2012

PLEASE PRINT
NAME ____________________________________________
ADDRESS_____________________________________________
CITY ____________________ STATE _______ ZIP ____________
EMAIL ____________________________
REGIONAL FEDERATION _________________________________
CLUB/SOCIETY __________________________________________
Division(s) You Are Interested In:
Open_____ Minerals:_____ Lapidary_____ Jewelry_____ Education_____
Fossils_____ Petrified Wood______ Scrimshaw______ Beading_____ UV_____

YOU MUST HAVE AN AFMS RULES BOOK, updated to 2012 (available after January 1, 2012)

There is a $20 charge per person that includes lunch on Friday and Saturday.
Checks should be made payable to “Dee Holland” and must accompany the application.

You must make your own hotel or camping reservations:
Holiday Inn, Reno/Sparks: 1-775-358-6900. $75 per night.
Be sure to indicate that you are with the AFMS Judges Training Seminar
Camping: See the AFMS Website for application (www.amfed.org)

Do you plan to stay at the hotel? _____ Camping at the Reno Events Center?_____
I'm bringing an exhibit for evaluation _______

Welcome to the New AFMS Committee Chairs

A complete listing of the AFMS Committee Chairs for this year can be found on page 11. You’ll notice that several committees – Club Rockhound of the Year, Boundaries, Long Range Planning, Nominating, Past Presidents’ Advisory, Publications and Web Site Contest — have new chairpersons.

We certainly thank our outgoing chairs -- Loretta Ogden, John Wright, Emerson Tucker, Jay Bowman and Phyllis George – for the job well done.
cancelbot or other harmful component.

3. Uploading, posting, publishing, transmitting, reproducing, distributing or participating in the transfer or sale of any information, software or other material obtained through the Internet which is protected by copyright or other proprietary right or derivative works with respect hereto, without obtaining permission of the copyright owner or right holder.

4. Abusing or fraudulently using the Web Posting Service in any way not specifically set forth above.

Additionally,

5. Chain letters are not allowed to be posted.

6. Irresponsible postings that result in large numbers of complaints to Club/Society Administration will result in posting privileges being disabled.

7. Illegal postings, such as harassment, pornography or copyrighted software or other data (such as mp3 sound files) are grounds for immediate termination of the user's web-posting privileges and/or website update access, and will result in subsequent disciplinary action and/or prosecution. Any disregard for the above conditions may result in your website update access privileges being disabled, along with any and all other appropriate District, local, state, national and international actions including prosecution of all involved perpetrators.

Web Page Posting Ethics:

Before posting any material on the web, ask yourself this question:

1) Would I put this in a local or national newspaper for anyone to read? If you answered "no", then it doesn't belong on a web page.

Penalties and Disciplinary Actions for APP Violations:

Violations of the Club/Society Acceptable Posting Policy (APP) are treated as violations of the Club/Society Operating Regulations and qualify the offender for any and all appropriate actions and punishments as set forth in the Operating Regulations, including suspension and/or expulsion of membership.
Over the last several weeks I have received numerous e-mails announcing the release by the BLM of Draft Land Use Plans and announcing meetings for public comment. In a few cases there were announcements of “Call for Input” and “Scoping Meetings”, the first step in developing a Land Use Plan, the plan on how the BLM or USFS is to manage the land for which they are responsible for the benefit of the public and for the land. By law the BLM and USFS are required to have public input at all stages of a Land Use Plans. That is where we, the rockhounds, the users and recreationist of public lands come in – We are the Public. We have a right and obligation to express our ideas and our wishes on how the land is to be managed and used.

How can we do this? We can write letters and e-mails responding to other people’s ideas; often those of conservationist/preservationists, people who want to restrict access and use. Or we can be proactive and we can get involved directly in the regulatory process. To do this we need you, the rockhounds and users of our public lands, to get directly involved with each and every BLM and USFS district and office. All of us and every society lives within 100 miles or less of a BLM or USFS office or we often drive past one. The next time you see an office stop and go in. Ask to speak with the Recreation Officer, Land Use Planner or Geologist. Ask about things you are interested in: collecting, camping, road access/closures, and ask about their Land Use Plan. This is a start to being involved with the regulators.

How can you get involved? It is easy. First check out the BLM and USFS web sites. These sites give you information about the regulators; about the staff and the location of the District and the Field Office.

### Regional Federation Conventions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>California Federation</th>
<th>Eastern Federation</th>
<th>Midwest Federation</th>
<th>Northwest Federation</th>
<th>Rocky Mountain Federation</th>
<th>South Central Federation</th>
<th>Southeast Federation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>Ventura, CA</td>
<td>April 5 - 7 Long Island, NY</td>
<td>AFMS</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>AFMS Sept. 20-23 Jacksonville, FL</td>
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<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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<td>AFMS</td>
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<tr>
<td>2015</td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>AFMS Austin, TX</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Here is the listing of the people who have agreed to serve as Committee Chairs for 2011 – 12. 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**
Evelyn Cataldo  
<cataldoevelyn at yahoo.com>

**AFMS Newsletter**
Carolyn Weinberger  
<editor at amfed.org>

**Boundaries**
Marion Roberts  
<br更多 at bigvalley.net>

**Bulletin Editor Hall of Fame**
Carolyn Weinberger  
<editor at amfed.org>

**Bulletin Editors Advisory**
Linda Jaeger  
<Jlgralg at aol.com>

**Bylaws Revisory**
Steve Weinberger  
<central_office at amfed.org>

**Central Office Administrator**
Steve Weinberger  
<central_office at amfed.org>

**Commemorative Stamps**
Wendell Mohr  
<wmohr at eols.com>

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

**Endowment Fund**
Pam Hecht  
<steverox at up.net>

**Financial Investment**
Lauren Williams  
<president at amfed.org>

**Historian**
Shirley Leeson  
<shirleyleeson at cox.net>

**International Relations**
Bob Jones  
<jonesb52 at gmail.com>

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

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

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

**Long Range Planning**
Bob Miller  
<kanbrock at att.net>

**Name Badges**
Frank Mullaney  
<rockyfiv at aol.com>

**Nominating**
Bob Miller  
<kanbrock at att.net>

**Parliamentarian**
Dee Holland  
<beauholland at centurytel.net>

**Past President's Advisory**
Bob Miller  
<kanbrock at att.net>

**Photography**
Steve Weinberger  
<central_office at amfed.org>

**Program Competition**
Marge Collins  
<margaret at qtm.net>

**Publications**
Ron Carman  
<rcarman at centurytel.net>

**Safety**
Owen Martin  
<owenmartin at yahoo.com>

**Show Consultant**
Bob Livingston  
<gemguy at verizon.net>

**Uniform Rules**
Anne Cook  
<secretary at amfed.org>

**URC Eligibility Files**
Anne Cook  
<secretary at amfed.org>

**Ways and Means**
Bob Miller  
<kanbrock at att.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 Judges Training)  
Lauren Williams, Vice President  
Ruth Bailey, Secretary  
Jon Spunauge, Treasurer
SECTION 5 - COMMUNITY RELATIONS (15 POINTS POSSIBLE)

Members gave talks or demonstrations at local schools: Yes_____ No_____
*Include a separate list of those given.

Members gave talks or demonstrations to local groups: Yes_____ No_____
*Include a separate list of those given.

Members maintained displays at local public sites: Yes_____ No_____
*Include a separate list of sites.

Members maintained a booth, or an activity, at a local event: Yes_____ No_____
*Include a separate list of events.

Members donated materials to school, nursing home, etc.: Yes_____ No_____
Members active in local affairs: Yes_____ No_____
*Include a separate list of organization(s).

Supporting materials should include details for all of the above items, reports from club newsletter, etc.

SECTION 6 - GOVERNMENT AGENCY AND LEGISLATIVE RELATIONS (10 POINTS POSSIBLE)

Members served on governmental agency committees: Yes_____ No_____
*Include a separate list of those who served.

Members provided comments on governmental agency proposals, etc: Yes_____ No_____
*Include a separate list of proposals and participants.

Members contacted congressional representatives regarding legislation affecting access to sites, and collecting from same: Yes_____ No_____
*Include a separate list of representatives contacted and legislation.

Club or members supported access/collecting lobbying organizations: Yes_____ No_____
*Include a separate list of organization(s).

Supporting materials should include details for all of the above items, reports from club newsletter, and should include copies of correspondence.

SECTION 7 - OVERALL FORMAT AND PRESENTATION - (10 POINTS POSSIBLE)

This section evaluates the entry on neatness, organization, grammar, spelling, and overall presentation of material

SCORING AND AWARDS

Gold All-American Club Award: 90 - 100 points (average of three judges)
Silver All-American Club Award: 80 - 89 points (average of three judges)
Bronze All-American Club Award: 70 - 79 points (average of three judges)
Honorable Mention: Less 70 points (average of three judges)

Instructions for completing the entry form:

1. Each entry is to be submitted as a single document, limited to a maximum of 100 pages (one- or two-sided), including text and graphics. A loose leaf notebook or a scrapbook are suitable binders.

2. The document should have six (6) sections, divided with the numbers 1 - 6, with the entry form in section 1 and the supporting documentation for each of the entry sections following the appropriate divider. There is no restriction on the number of pages in any one section, PROVIDED THE TOTAL OF ALL SECTIONS DOES NOT EXCEED 100 PAGES.

3. When filling out the entry form, mark all appropriate blanks and entry numbers, or other information where requested. Assemble requested supporting materials and lists following the appropriate section divider and insert photos and other graphics following the typed information.

4. All requested material is for the year 2011.

5. Check with your regional chairs for their deadlines for submitting your entry.