Get 'Em While You Still Can!

We have some exciting additions to our AFMS Endowment Fund Raffle lineup to showcase:

#15. One full year “silver” membership in the “Mineral of the Month Club”. Mineral of the Month selects minerals very carefully by going to various shows and meeting dealers and miners from around the world to bring you the best quality and selection for our club members. Each specimen comes with a thorough write-up about the specimen. Most of the specimens are between 5” by 5” and 2” by 2”, with some smaller, and some larger. Annual membership value: $120.00 which includes shipping and handling.

#16. Framed print depicting a gold specimen. Framed by Marilyn’s Rockpile, the 16” x 16” print was donated by AFMS and EFMLS Past President Fred Schaefermeyer and has an estimated value of $150. (EFMLS)

#17. Framed print depicting a much coveted Sweet Home Mine Rhodochrosite on Quartz specimen. The 16” x 16” print was framed by Marilyn’s Rockpile and donated by AFMS and EFMLS Past President Fred Schaefermeyer. Estimated value: $150. (EFMLS)

#18. Framed print depicting an Aquamarine on Feldspar specimen. The 13” x 17” print was framed by Marilyn’s Rockpile and donated by AFMS Past President Fred Schaefermeyer. Estimated value: $150. (EFMLS)

#19. A lovely wire-wrapped pendant made of Benite (the Tulsa cousin of “Fordite”). The cab was cut and donated by Ben Thomas of the Tulsa Gem & Mineral Society and the 14k gold-filled mounting was designed and made by DeLane Cox, president of the Rocky Mountain Federation. Estimated value: $150. (EFMLS)

#20. “Cauliflower” Calcite from Mexico. Donated by Irwin & Lorraine Hammer the specimen has an estimated value of $150. (EFMLS)

#21. An Anhydrite specimen from Naica, Mexico (where the famous “Cave of Swords” is located). Donated by Irwin & Lorraine Hammer the specimen has an estimated value of $100.00. (EFMLS)

#22. A lovely quartz crystal from Galiliea, Minas Gerais, Brazil with a small pale citrine crystal at the base. The crystal measures 6” in height and is mounted on a wooden base. Donated by K. C. Foster, the specimen has an estimated value of $150. (EFMLS)

I am so thankful for these wonderful additions, but would still like more. Please feel free to contact me at <roqfreq@rjharris.com> regarding donations. Or just mail them to me - my address is on page ___ of this issue.

You still have time to purchase tickets! All proceeds go into a permanent fund and the interest generated by the fund is used to support various AFMS projects that can benefit YOUR club. Tickets can be purchased from:

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>

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Billie Wright
July 6, 1935 – April 10, 2013

Billie Wright, wife of former AFMS Boundaries Chair John Wright passed away after a lengthy heart illness on April 10, 2013. She was a past president of the Mississippi Gulf Coast Gem & Mineral Society, and member of both the Harrison County and Mobile Gem & Mineral Societies.

Before her illness, she and John were familiar figures at all AFMS conventions, especially while John served as AFMS Boundaries Chair. As Billie’s health declined, John had to resign his chairmanship, but remained active in the American Lands Access Association, keeping members of the Southeast Federation apprised of events which could impact their collecting on public lands.

Our deepest sympathy to John and his family.

Contributions in Billie’s memory may be made to the AFMS Scholarship Foundation % of your regional federation coordinator. Checks should be made payable to “AFMS Scholarship Foundation”.

The AFMS

Proudly Serving
Seven Regional Federations

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<president@amfed.org>

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Richard Jaeger
<rjgrsci@aol.com>

1st Vice President
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The Way I See It
by Don Monroe, President

Why Not Be a Mentor?

All of us who have been involved in various lapidary activity, federations, clubs, etc. know many, many talented people and many of them serve as instructors. There seems to be a nearly universal complaint from all of us, “No one from our gene pool (relatives or friends) wants to learn what we do”. In my family, including our children and our grandchildren, there seems to be only one person who shows any interest in learning the skills that we take pride in.

Well, you may have to give up on your kids and grandchildren. An old expression is that you can lead a horse to water but you can’t make him drink. We have concluded that if you want our hobby to grow and prosper, you may have to cast your net out wider and find an interested person, preferably a younger one, to mentor.

Ann and I are most fortunate to find a small family (two children) who really want to learn what it is we do. They want to acquire skills and create “stuff” and do fun things. There is nothing more rewarding than teaching someone who really wants to learn and, frankly, schools do not always meet the needs of the young people. I cannot tell you how to find someone to mentor. Take every available opportunity to demonstrate your craft and speak to any groups who will let you have the floor. Be sensitive to the reactions of the audience and you will find those who want to learn.

I’m looking forward to meeting many of you when the AFMS and SFMS hold their joint convention this September 18 – 22 in Jacksonville, FL. More information should be available on the AFMS web site shortly.

Don

Get ‘Em While You Can
continued from page 1

Northwest Federation: Chris Blickfeldt
236 Tollgate Rd; Boise, ID 83716
<grumpies@q.com>

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

Midwest Federation: J C Moore
25235 N State Route 97, Cuba, IL 61427
<JCMoore3rd@gmail.com>

South Central Federation: Catherine E Rouchon
5845 Winchester Lane, Clinton, LA 70722
<rouchonc@starband.net>

Southeast Federation: Barbara Green
116 Sycamore Dr.; Marietta, SC 29661
<greenot@bellsouth.net>

Be sure to indicate the name, address and phone number that should go on the tickets and include a self-addressed and stamped envelope with your request. All mail orders should be received by September 5th. Checks should be made payable to “AFMS Endowment Fund”.

Thank you in advance for supporting this endeavor.

Our凋亡”的表达方式，表明了“AFMS Endowment Fund”可能是指某种支持性的基金或计划。
Ruth Bailey
May 18, 1925 – April 27, 2013

Gone but not forgotten, ever

Ruth Bailey passed away peacefully with her family by her side, Saturday, April 27th, 2013.

Ruth was someone everybody knew. Her accomplishments were legendary, but she never mentioned all she had accomplished in her lifetime. Throughout her life she continued to offer her time, expertise and knowledge to each person who asked for her help. She hated to say “no” to anyone who needed her.

She was a staunch member of the Santa Clara Valley Gem and Mineral Society in San Jose, California. She was involved in lapidary and jewelry both at the club level, at the CFMS level and later at the AFMS level displaying her work and later judging competitive exhibits and giving support and help to beginners. Over the years she served as by-laws chair and parliamentarian many times for both CFMS and AFMS.

Ruth was CFMS President in 1983. She was there during good times as well as bad. She was awarded the highest achievement in CFMS, the Golden Bear in 1989. And was the honoree for the CFMS Scholarship in 1986-87.

She went on through the AFMS chairs culminating in the AFMS presidency in 1994 in Houston, Texas. She was recognized as Honoree for the AFMS Scholarship in 2003 by the CFMS, and chose two students from Stanford University. Ruth was also honored along with Ed Romack in 2009 at the AFMS Billings, Montana AFMS/NFMS Convention and Show, with the highest award given “The AFMS Recognition Award.”

Not one to sit on her laurels, she involved herself in competitive judging, at both the CFMS and AFMS level, attended the Judges Training class held in conjunction with the EFMLS Wildacres Workshop, was a member of both the CFMS and AFMS uniform rules committees and helped with raise endowment funds for both CFMS and AFMS. Beginning in 1998 and continuing until her death, she was AFMS Scholarship Foundation secretary. She was also a charter member of S.C.R.I.B.E. an editor’s thing…. and was a one of the judges for both the CFMS and AFMS editor’s contest for many years.

Over the years in her lighter moments she attended many Northern California club events, always bringing an exhibit to share, even when the cases became too heavy for her to put in her car by herself. She also enjoyed the early years at Quartzsite and Tucson. I’m exhausted just writing and remembering and truly wish I had half her energy! Most people would be proud of even one of her many accomplishments, but she never thought about it in that vein.

Ruth was also involved in ALAA, the American Lands Access Association from the very beginning of the organization in 1992. Ruth was there in Brunswick, Ohio, was a charter member and director until she became the Treasurer in 2009. In that capacity she kept the books straight and the officers and directors straight too! She also served as ALAA membership chair until a few months ago when we wrestled the chairmanship away from her so she could get some much needed rest.

Ruth, you are already missed...but we know you would say, “get on with it, we have work to do.”
Shirley Leeson, AFMS Historian and friend

Contributions in Ruth’s memory may be made to the AFMS Scholarship Foundation % of your regional federation coordinator. Checks should be made payable to “AFMS Scholarship Foundation”. Those in the Southeast Federation wishing to make contributions should send them directly to Jon Spunaugle, Scholarship Foundation treasurer. His address is available on the AFMS web site.

Purpose of the AFMS:
To promote popular interest and education in the various Earth Sciences, and in particular the subjects of Geology, Mineralogy, Paleontology, Lapidary and other related subjects, and to sponsor and provide means of coordinating the work and efforts of all persons and groups interested therein; to sponsor and encourage the formation and international development of Societies and Regional Federations and by and through such means to strive toward greater international good will and fellowship.

The A.F.M.S. Newsletter is published monthly except January, July and August by the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies

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CONTENT – LETTERS

Editorial Comments – Submissions
Any communication concerning the content or format of the Newsletter should be sent to the editor:
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410-833-7926
editor@amfed.org

DEADLINE IS THE 1ST OF EACH MONTH PRECEDING PUBLICATION
(i.e. April 1 for the May issue)

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May 2013 – June, 2013
Honorary Scholarship Foundation Recipients and Students
by Dee Holland, Scholarship Foundation President

It’s my pleasure to publicly acknowledge the honorary AFMS Scholarship recipients for 2013. Each has already selected their students who will receive a $4,000 grant later this year for use during the next school year.

It’s through your donations to the AFMS Scholarship Foundation that these grants are possible. Please keep these important donations coming—our students are most appreciative of the grants they receive thanks to you and your club’s generosity. Contributions should be sent to the AFMS Scholarship Foundation, % of your regional federation chairperson. Those wishing to donate from the SFMS should send their donations directly to Jon Spunaugle (see the AFMS web site for his address).

California Federation:
Dr. Peter M. Sadler, UC, Riverside

Students:
- Leanne Grace Hancock, Dept of Earth Sciences, Riverside, CA Ph.D. Biogeochemistry
- Emily E. Haddad, Dept of Earth Sciences, Riverside, CA Ph.D. Paleocology, Organic Geochemistry

Eastern Federation:
Dr. Gilbert Hanson, Stony Brook University, NY

Students:
- Courtney Melrose, Stony Brook University Geology
- Joseph Tamborski, Stony Brook University Geology

Midwest Federation:
Robert B. Swanson, Director, USGS Nebraska Water Science Center, Lincoln, NE

Students:
- Rebecca Putna, University of Nebraska

Northwest Federation:
Doug True, Past NFMS President

Students:
- Amber N. Johnson, South Dakota School of Mines & Tech, Rapid City, SD Masters in Paleontology
- Dustin A. Jensen, Montana Tech, Butte, MT Masters, Geological Engineering

Rocky Mountain Federation:
Arlene Burkhalter, former AFMS Scholarship Treasurer

Students:
- Bryan William Turner, University of Oklahoma
- James L. Maner, University of Oklahoma Masters

South Central Federation:
Ron Carman, Past SCFMS & AFMS President

Students:
- Elyse Zavar, Texas State University, San Marcos, TX Ph.D in Environmental Geography
- David Yelacic, Texas State University, San Marcos, TX Ph.D in Environmental Geography

Upcoming Regional Federation Conventions
from Bob Livingston, Show Consultant

Here’s the latest listing of the upcoming regional federation conventions. Unfortunately this year we have two federations (EFMLS and CFMS) meeting on the same weekend - something we really want to avoid in future years.

To do that, each regional federation needs to let me know their convention dates as soon as possible. You also need to be aware of the calendar below since some federation conventions for 2014 are already scheduled.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>California Federation</th>
<th>Eastern Federation</th>
<th>Midwest Federation</th>
<th>Northwest Federation</th>
<th>Rocky Mountain Federation</th>
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<th>Southeast Federation</th>
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<td>2013</td>
<td>May 31-June 2</td>
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<td>April 6 - 7</td>
<td>August 9-11</td>
<td>May 17-19</td>
<td>August 17- 18</td>
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<td>Ventura, CA</td>
<td>Smithtown, NY</td>
<td>Lincoln, NE</td>
<td>Butte, MT (75th NFMS Anniv.)</td>
<td>Sandy, Ut</td>
<td>Bossier City, LA</td>
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<td>2014</td>
<td>March 29-30</td>
<td>Oct. 18-19</td>
<td>August 15-17</td>
<td>AFMS</td>
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<td>Plymouth Mtg, PA</td>
<td>Des Moines, IA</td>
<td>Hermiston, OK</td>
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<td>July 9 - 13</td>
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AFMS Newsletter – June, 2013
Having Fun: Junior Activities
by Jim Brace-Thompson, Junior Activities Chair

Future Rockhounds of America Badge Program:
An Overview for Newcomers – and Us Golden Aiers Too!

Those of us who have been affiliated as officers or committee members with a particular organization for a good many years often take it for granted that everyone else knows everything there is to know about the organization and all it has to offer. It’s good to reexamine that assumption now and again and to put ourselves back into the shoes we wore when we were newcomers. Thus, I dedicate this month’s column to all you newcomers out there, and I want to introduce you to the AFMS Future Rockhounds of America Badge Program. And may this provide a refresher for those of us now in “golden oldie” status, too! (I say that having received a shock recently when I was handed the “Senior menu” at a local restaurant.)

Sponsored and underwritten by the AFMS, the Future Rockhounds of America Badge Program is a free program of guided activities to provide kids and youth leaders in local AFMS-affiliated societies with 118 individual activities in 20 basic areas of our hobby: Rocks & Minerals, Earth Resources, Fossils, Lapidary Arts, Collecting, Showmanship, Communication, Field Trips, Leadership, Earth Processes, Earth in Space, Gold Panning & Prospecting, Gemstone Lore & Legend, Stone Age Tools & Art, Rocking on the Computer, The World in Miniature, Special Effects, Fluorescent Minerals, Reaching Across Generations, and Maps. All kids receive a Membership patch upon enrolling. They earn badges by completing a minimum of 3 activities in any one badge unit. Kids earning a minimum of 6 badges earn a “Rockhound” badge as a mark of accomplishment and distinction. And those superstars earning all 20 badges become “Rock Stars” and receive an AFMS cloisonné pin. Both Rockhounds and Rock Stars have their names included in “Honor Rolls” posted to the AFMS web site.

The requirements are few and basic: 1) the program is open for kids up to the age of 18; and 2) the kids must be members of their regional AFMS-affiliated federation, either through a local club or through an independent application into the local federation. The program can be used in a formal group setting at monthly club meetings, workshops, and field trips, or kids can pursue their badges in a less formal, individualized “home-schooling” way. A back-up sheet provides tips on different ways to use the program, with an emphasis on flexibility.

A 223-page Badge Manual, along with an FRA Membership Certificate, is provided to a local juniors activities leader upon enrolling the kids of his or her society. In addition to checklists and activity sheets, this manual includes back-up pages to provide essential information and pointers that make it easy for anyone—even a rookie rockhound—to guide kids through the activities. Again, an emphasis is on flexibility and on adapting activities to match the age ranges and abilities of the kids involved.

The full FRA Badge Manual is available on-line under the “Kids Corner” tab on the AFMS web site (www.amfed.org/kids.htm), and I’m always happy to provide more details (phone, 805-659-3577, evenings and weekends; email, jbracht@roadrunner.com). Once again, this is a free service made available through the good graces of the AFMS to all affiliated societies to help ensure the future of our hobby by involving and educating our kids about it—while having fun!

Looking For a "Few Good Programs"
by Marge Collins, Program Chair

The deadline for the 2013 Program Competition has just passed — but this is a great time to get ready for 2014! Will you be going on a field trip, visiting a museum with a fine exhibits or teaching a class to share what you’ve learned with others? Why not document your activity with pictures or video. Make notes for narration, and then use PowerPoint (or another program) so you can first show your presentation to fellow Club members in the fall. It doesn’t have to end there. You can enter your presentation in AFMS Program Competition next April.

It will be eligible for a cash award and would be duplicated so that Clubs across the country can watch and learn from your experience.

For more information about Program Competition see AFMS web site: www.amfed.org or contact your Regional Program Librarian or AFMS Program Competition Coordinator, Marge Collins. Email: <margaret@qtm.net> Phone: (269)695-4313

Clubs across the country are looking forward to new programs! Will you be a winner and share with them?

Club Rockhounds of the Year
from Evelyn Catulda, ACRYO Chair

California Federation:
In addition to being a Past President and past Show Chairman, Karl Gibson has served on the Board of Directors for the Delvers Gem and Mineral Society for over twenty years. For several years, when the Delvers needed a location for our Memorial Day field trip, Karl volunteered his home so that we could spend a couple of days collecting tourmaline near Nuevo. He even let us polish a few stones in his workshop! Each month, Karl calls other Delvers on the telephone and talks with them about coming to our meeting and other topics. When we need something done, he is there volunteering his time and energy. The Delvers are delighted to name our good friend Karl Gibson as our Rockhound of the Year.

Submitted by Jon Fults

Northwest Federation
Glackernette Mineral & Gem of Oregon City. Oregon is pleased to select Jim Heiman as our Rockhound of the Year. Jim has been a club member for 17 years and has contributed untold hours of his time and energy to make the club a success. He led the club in obtaining its 501-c-3 rating during his two year presidency. He is a voice of reason and detail, guiding the club through efforts to obtain that rating. Though he does so much he’s away from taking credit or recognition for his efforts. Jim's specialty is making spheres, which he largely gives away. He demonstrates his sphere making abilities at our annual shows and is a willing teacher. He has lead field trips and has a keen eye for finding beautiful material in the Hampton Butte area.

Submitted by Jan Hietpas, Federation Director

The Mount Hood Rock Club of Gresham, Oregon has chosen Troy and Lenora Smith as their 2013 Rockhounds of the Year. The Smiths joined the club in 1993. Both are dedicated rockhounds with Troy being a real Petrified Wood Man. While Lenora can move a lot of dirt, she also does wire wrapping and beading. Both are representatives to the Oregon Council of Rockhounds and both are involved in the Greater Portland Regional Show. They volunteer their time and efforts whenever there is a need. Troy has been Treasurer of our club for a number of years and Lenora is a Past President. This is a couple that any club would be proud to have as members.

Submitted by Dan Espeland

Be sure to send in the information about YOUR club Rockhound of the Year to your regional federation ACRYO chair. Each club can designate on member (or a couple) each calendar year.

AFMS Newsletter – June, 2013
The National Rockhound and Lapidary Hall of Fame was founded by the late June Culp Zeitner in 1987 to recognize excellence in the earth sciences. Her intent was to induct one or more persons each year in six categories: Minerals, Fossils, Metal Craft, Lapidary, Education and Tribute (Deceased).

The Hall of Fame is currently housed at the Pioneer Auto Museum in Murdo, South Dakota and consists of a collection of lapidary, mineral, and fossil items as well as a picture of most inductees and several plaques listing all. Of the current inductees are experts in their fields. Many of them have published several books and most of them have been active in service to the rockhound community.

June passed away in 2009. Since that time, interest in the Hall of Fame has waned. The current group of selectors (Diane Dare, Emerson Tucker, Doug True, Izzie Burns, Fred Schafermeyer, Margaret Collins and Steve Weinberger) are intent on reviving interest and continuing her legacy of promoting the hobby and recognizing outstanding contributors.

A new web site is being constructed and will be online by the time you read this issue. You should be able to find it by searching for “Rockhound Hall of Fame”. It will contain a complete listing of all current honorees as well as a few photos of the museum.

Some notable inductees include:

Washington Roebling (Tribute), designer of the Brooklyn Bridge. Roebling had an extensive mineral collection which was given to the Smithsonian. Many of the Roebling collection pieces are on display in the mineral gallery there.

Joseph Lizzadro (Tribute), lapidary master-piece collector who established the Lizzadro Museum of Lapidary Arts in Elmhurst, IL.

Bob Jones (Mineral), well known author, collector and speaker. Current Sr. Editor of Rock & Gem Magazine.

Candidates for induction are chosen by the selectors from a pool of nominations submitted by members of rock and mineral clubs across the country. Nominations are always accepted although voting for new members usually takes place during the spring of each year.

So here’s where you come in. Do you know of an individual or several individuals whose work in our hobby should be recognized? If so, please take a few minutes and write down who they are, what they’ve accomplished and why you believe they should be in the Hall of Fame. Nominees should have been involved in the hobby for at least fifteen (15) years. Please include your name, address and e-mail as well as the contact information for your nominee(s) and category you feel they should be in. (If you have a photo of your candidate that you can send along, that would be terrific too.)

We strongly suggest that you NOT mention the nomination to your candidate. If selected, your candidate should be surprised. And, if not selected for the current year, you would not wish to disappoint your person.

All nominations will be retained and considered in future years.

Please take a moment or two, gather your thoughts and send a nomination for someone you believe should be considered for induction. Although e-mail is preferable [central_office@amfed.org], you can mail your nomination to me at Steve Weinberger PO Box 302
Glyndon, MD 21071-0302

June Culp Zeitner was a world-renowned mineralogist who contributed greatly to the study and knowledge of minerals and fossils through her research and published writings. During her lifetime she published a dozen books and more than 1,000 articles dealing with various aspects of the earth sciences.

She was known as the “First Lady of Gems”, a title bestowed on her during a ceremony honoring the 25th Anniversary of our AFMS in 1976 that was held in the Rose Garden of the White House during the Ford Administration. It was at that time that June arranged for the creation of the 50 state stone exhibition that for years graced the old mineral hall at the Smithsonian.

June was the force behind the State Stone Program which encouraged each state to select an official stone, mineral and fossil. Today 35 of our 50 states have designated at least one of these. Her “Gem Trails” series gave specific directions to many of the collecting areas that she and her husband Albert enjoyed visiting during their 30+ year odyssey of travel throughout the United States. Her personal collection was filled with self-collected items reflecting these trips and many of them were documented through articles in Lapidary Journal and Rock & Gem magazines.

The recipient of numerous awards, June was the first recipient of the AFMS Recognition Award in 2003 and the recipient of the Carnegie Mineralogical Award in 2006.
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Committee</th>
<th>Chair</th>
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<td>Regina Kapta</td>
<td>cigmc at comcast.net</td>
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<td>AFMS Club Rockhound of the Year</td>
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<td>Lauren Williams</td>
<td>slharuir at msn.com</td>
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<td>Parliamentarian</td>
<td>Dee Holland</td>
<td>beauholland at centurytel.net</td>
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<td>Past President’s Advisory</td>
<td>Lauren Williams</td>
<td>slharuir at msn.com</td>
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<td>Photography</td>
<td>Steve Weinberger</td>
<td>central_office at afmed.org</td>
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<td>Program Competition</td>
<td>Marge Collins</td>
<td>margaret at qtm.net</td>
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<td>Publications</td>
<td>Ron Carman</td>
<td>rcarman at centurytel.net</td>
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<td>Safety</td>
<td>Owen Martin</td>
<td>owenmartin at yahoo.com</td>
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<td>Show Consultant</td>
<td>Bob Livingston</td>
<td>gemguy at verizon.net</td>
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<td>Uniform Rules</td>
<td>Jim Robinson</td>
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<td>URC Eligibility Files</td>
<td>Annie Cook</td>
<td>secretary at amfed.org</td>
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<td>Ways and Means</td>
<td>Lauren Williams</td>
<td>slharuir at msn.com</td>
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<td>Website/Webmaster</td>
<td>Marty Hart</td>
<td>webmaster at amfed.org</td>
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<td>Web Site Contest</td>
<td>Dan imel</td>
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<td>AFMS Scholarship Foundation</td>
<td>Dee Holland, President</td>
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<td>Lauren Williams, Vice President</td>
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<td>Ruth Bailey, Secretary</td>
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<td>Jon Spunaugle, Treasurer</td>
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We Need You!

by Shirley Leeson, President, ALAA (president@amlands.org)

With the push by the ultra environmentalists to close even more public lands, I am urging all rockhounds to join ALAA. If we are united in our cause, and can produce numbers large enough to impress governmental officials we might have a chance at getting our voices heard. We have been in touch with like-minded organizations all over the country in a loose coalition to hold back the tide of special interests and many of these organizations have taken the time to share their expertise and knowledge to bring us up to speed.

What is happening to our public lands?? Sometimes it’s just a small, charming animal who desperately needs hundreds of acres of land to exist and has the clout behind it to make it happen. Other times it’s beautiful scenery that must not be sullied. Let the professionals take pictures, put it in a book and sell it to you to look at, instead of being there to see it yourself. And most recently it’s wind farms and solar panels….these are rising up like phoenixes all over the western public lands landscape. Why not use public lands, it’s there for them to take. All they need is an order to release public lands for GREEN (commercial) purposes…the government will get their money back.

Well, the dirty little secret is many have gone belly up on more than one occasion. Many of the projects are now being run by foreign companies…. And the public lands shrink to next to nothing. Question: when public lands aren’t there any more, where will the special interests go? Eminent Domain?

Recently there was news of a Congresswoman from New York, Carolyn Maloney, who was advocating for an additional 23 million areas of wilderness in Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Washington and Wyoming. Tell me what she knows about these states and would she consider putting New York’s Central Park in “Wilderness.”? This is why we need rockhounds from the Eastern states to step up and ask, “What do you know about wilderness in the western states? Why is someone from the east advocating wilderness in the west???”

But I digress…. WE NEED YOU. First we need you to join - to swell our ranks to a proportion that will make the government take notice. And then, we need you to get involved.

Please go to <www.amlands.org> and look on the left side for JOIN-APPLICATION, (or print the one elsewhere on this page). Our membership chair, Colleen McGann, will cheerfully accept your checks and sign you up. Or we can sign you up at several of the regional shows throughout the year.

I can tell you that in the 1970’s and 80’s, rockhounds were known by the BLM and Forestry…in the Western States, then we faded away. With our “ALAA Clean-up Program” we are being recognized, and that’s a good thing.

Join Us and help us keep our public lands open for the public.

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American Lands Access Association
New Membership and Annual Renewal Form

Please print all information

Member/Contact Name: ____________________________________________

Last          First

Last          First

Organization Name: ____________________________________________

Address: _______________________________________________________

Street          City          State          Zip

Mailing Address: ____________________________________________

(If different than above)

Phone Number: ___________________________________________________

Primary Residence          Primary Business (if any)

Email Address: ___________________________________________________

Name          Address

Name          Address

Member Signature_________________________ Date: ______________

New Member _____ (V) Renewal _____ (V) Dues are: $25.00 for individual/couple

$50.00 for a club or society

Amount Enclosed $_________

Send Completed form with Dues to: American Lands Access Association ALAA
C/O Membership Chairman ALAA Newsletter by Email (V) or Snail Mail (V)
P O BOX 54398
San Jose, CA 95154
Email to: membership@amlands.org

Make Checks payable to: American Lands Access Association (ALAA)

ALAA is a grassroots 501-C-4 Educational, non-profit organization

dedicated to keeping public lands multiple use for all.

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Many of our AFMS affiliated clubs suspend meetings during July and August. It’s a time for field collecting, travel, attending various club and federation shows, and just relaxing.

Your AFMS Newsletter is not published during July and August. The next issue (September) will have an August 1 deadline and will be mailed to all clubs and will be delivered to the clubs sometime before September 1.

In the meantime, your AFMS editorial staff wish you a safe and healthy summer. We’re looking forward to seeing many of you in Jacksonville in September.

Information about the AFMS/SFMS Convention should be on the AFMS web site by the time you receive this issue.