Partnering With Our Federation Show Hosts: Do’s and Don’ts

by Jim Bruce-Thompson, Junior Activities Chair

In lieu of my usual Juniors Report, this month I offer the following thoughts about Federation shows. Serving on the 2013 California Federation show committee was a true honor—and a blast! From comments we’ve heard, the show was well received, and I definitely encourage other clubs to step up to the plate and serve as show hosts for both regional and national Federation shows. In fact, this was my third time in 15 years on a California Federation show committee, and I’d do it all over again. This article, though, isn’t directed to potential hosts, but to my fellow Federation officers and committee members (both CFMS and AFMS). It’s about how to approach and work with your hosts. The Tri-Clubs of Ventura County had varied encounters—good, bad, indifferent—with CFMS officials, and I related some to the CFMS Executive Committee during their meeting at the show. They asked me to provide thoughts on best practices for working with clubs who do step up to the plate and serve as show hosts. So at the CFMS EC’s urging, here goes. I’ll focus mostly on the good, since that’s where we as an organization, and as individuals, should maintain our focus, but I’ll start with 3 examples of some of the bad we experienced.

Our Programs Chair spent 2 years lining up her schedule of speakers when, at the 11th hour, we were approached by a representative of a group only tangentially connected to CFMS who suggested we get rid of our Sunday afternoon speaker and give her group use of that space and time slot. You can imagine the universal reaction when this “request” hit the show committee. In another instance, we had a CFMS chair call and ask, “Don’t you know who I am?” She said she didn’t, but she sure made himself sound like God. Finally, while the local club members were sweating like dogs to get the show set up, a large number of CFMS committee chairs pushed up in RVs, settled into campsites, and gathered in gab-fests while offering no help whatsoever with preparations—not with tear-down after the show. These are just a few prime examples we experienced of how not to approach and work (or not work) with your local show partners.

On the other hand, we had several instances of very positive interactions. For instance, as we began our efforts two years ago, we held a Tri-Club picnic to bring together members of all 3 societies in Ventura County for a fun, unifying event. CFMS President Bud McMillin took on a 12-hour round-trip drive to join the picnic, offer his support, and personally meet with our local show committee members. CFMS 1st VP Jennifer Haley prepared and mailed spinning wheel prizes for the Kids Booth unrequested and entirely on her own initiative in a gesture that was genuinely appreciated. Pat and Bural LaRue donated 75 backpacks that we gave away to the first kids arriving on Saturday and Sunday mornings. And Marion Roberts pitched in during show tear-down, asking where and how he could help.

So what are the lessons learned? I offer three in particular. First and foremost, approach and treat a Federation show committee with the respect they deserve for having stepped up to the plate and put their personal club treasury at stake, as well as their sweat, blood, and tears for months or years leading up to the show. Keep foremost in mind that they are our hosts, not mere staff to be ordered around. Simply because we hold a Federation title doesn’t mean we are “entitled.” Second, treat your show hosts as colleagues engaged in a joint venture intended to benefit not just the local club but the Federation as a whole. Just as we’ve asked them to step up to the plate to host the show, step up to the plate yourself and offer your services during the long show prep period, during set-up, during the show itself, and during tear-down. Don’t just be a visitor, gabbing with your hat-clad clique in the RV area—a helpful participant. Third, should you and/or your committee desire time and space at the show, approach the committee early. Let them know clearly and in specific detail of any needs or special requests for your committee so they can be worked into the planning when there is still maximum flexibility with schedule and facilities.

Also In This Issue

The Way I See It..........................2
Conservation & Legislation.....................2
Safety Note 3.............................4
All American Awards..........................4
Upcoming Conventions .........................4
Endowment Drawing News......................5
Quick Tips for Editors..........................6
Club Rockhounds.............................6
Committee Chairs............................7
Code of Ethics............................8
Land Use Policy............................8

Don’t pop up during the 11th hour and expect to be accommodated, especially if it means extra facilities and expenses that have not been planned. As the saying goes, “Your lack of planning does not constitute my emergency.” Just as soon as a club steps forth to host a Federation show, kindly touch base with them, introduce yourself, let them know of any specific desires or needs on behalf of your committee, and most of all, offer your help, kindly, graciously, and with generosity of spirit, showing the sort of respect you might desire, per the Golden Rule. Treat others as you would have them treat you. Then, when the show comes, we can all have fun!
Lend a Hand

Recently a couple of things have happened which have convinced me that lending a hand can really mean a lot. Ann and I were on a field trip with the South Central Federation and the location was in a challenging area which involved rough terrain. Many of the participants (including us) found it to be difficult to get in the best place to collect specimens. It was down in a shallow ditch but definitely worth the effort. The club members helped us both in and out. They really did lend a hand.

Our most recent trip involved a rather long flight from Atlanta to Salt Lake City. Although my job involved long trips around the world for many years I can assure you that it is no longer fun to fly. This recent trip was on a full flight with three abreast seating and I guess we have gotten old because the amount of room seems to have shrunk. Sitting by the aisle can be helpful, but I still had to get up often to let the other folks on that row get out. Well, the gentlemen next to me would place his hand in my back when I got up and really lent a hand. He was really nice and I told him that his assistance was really appreciated and his reply was that his parents are about our age and he hoped that folks would lend them a hand.

We have a new dog which we rescued and she is the love of our life. However we spoil her and let her sleep on our bed, but often she can’t jump up high enough. When she needs help one of us lifts her up so, even our pets need us to lend a hand.

Many of our visitors at our home are older than we and may need assistance. We have recently added more handrails on our stairs to lend a hand.

If I can leave you with one thought it would be that none of us should be too embarrassed to ask for help. Never risk a fall or injury because of foolish pride and unwillingness to ask for help.

I’m looking forward to seeing you in Jacksonville mid-September for the combined SCFMS and AFMS Convention. When you see me, stop by and introduce yourself!

Don

Conservation and Legislation

Greetings to all Federations and Rockhounds from Southern California,

That’s correct Southern California and as such it is very difficult to know what is happening in the Rockhound Community in North Carolina or any of the other 49 states where Rockhounds live and play.

Without your watchful eye both the positive and negative experience of rockhounding gets overlooked and is missed. So, in order to move forward and remain fair and balanced to all seven regional federations and Rockhounds in all 50 states your help is greatly needed. When legislative or conservation issues arise in your Rockhounding area, whether on public lands, (BLM, USFS, State, County or City), or even on Privately owned land let the AFMS Conservation and Legislation Committee know about the issues and the details that are affecting your Rockhounding Experience. Then they can be investigated and a course of action may be suggested to help correct or enhance the issue. When noteworthy Rockhounding issues pop up just drop an email to the AFMS Legislation and Conservation Committee at <afms-conservation@antelecom.net> with the details of the issues and concerns then they can be addressed.

See you in Jacksonville, Florida this September.
Safety Note: Keep Benadryl in your... by Owen Martin, AFMS Safety Chair

Ok, first as a disclaimer I am not solely endorsing Benadryl - any similar generic or pharmacy brands with the same active ingredient (Diphenhydramine) are helpful.

But as to the point of the discussion...

As many of you know I work as a safety manager for an oil field services company. Over the last few weeks we were lucky enough to have a good bit of rain at one of our facilities in south Texas, an area that is usually really dry this time of year. The result was the flowering of many types of plants that are typically in some state of dormancy during the dry times. And along with the flowers came the BEEs! They weren’t exactly swarming, but they still seemed to be everywhere.

To that point over the past week we’ve had three employees stung by bees at the facility. Luckily none of these employees had strong allergic reactions to the stings, but it did make us reevaluate how we respond to such situations.

We do have an employee at the site who is allergic to bees and as a result has an Epi pen in case he is stung, however Epi pens require a doctor’s prescription so I can’t stock up any in our First Aid kits.

So as an alternative we stock Benadryl in our kits and offer it to employees if they are stung. Keep in mind that Diphenhydramine will not prevent or stop anaphylaxis (allergic shock) like an Epi pen however it can delay the onset or otherwise mitigate symptoms of a bee sting. By delaying the onset of anaphylaxis First Responders can be afforded more time to react to any shock symptoms. This extra time can save lives!

Anaphylaxis is a serious allergic reaction that is rapid in onset and may cause death. It typically causes a number of symptoms including an itchy rash, throat swelling, and low blood pressure. Common causes include insect bites/stings, foods, and medications.

My recommendation is that you all consider stocking liquid Diphenhydramine in your medicine cabinets and First Aid kits. This is especially important for those of us who like to spend a lot of time in the field.

Sponsored by the Jacksonville Gem and Mineral Society, Inc

http://www.jaxgemandmineral.org/ A 501(c)(3) not for profit organization

25th Annual Gem & Mineral Show and Sale
September 18-22, 2013
Jacksonville, FL
Marriott, Jacksonville, 4670 Salisbury Road
Jacksonville, FL 32216, 904-266-2222 or 1-800-963-9786
Mention AFMS meeting for S82 room rate. Offer Exp: August 9, 2013
(This rate is good from lab 13 to 25)

AFMS Uniform Rules - Wednesday 7pm
AFMS Annual Meeting – Thursday 9am
AFMS Scholarship foundation- After Annual Meeting

You are invited Thursday Night to Hanna Park at the beach. Star Gazing with Northeast Florida Astronomy Society members and Telescopes (Saturn will be spectacular!) Cook out provided by host society JGMS.

AFMS Annual Show and Sale Starts – Friday 1pm
SFMS Cracker Barrel Meeting – Friday 7pm
AFMS Annual Meeting – Saturday 9am
ALAA Meeting – Saturday 2:30pm
Awards Banquet – Saturday 6pm

40+ retail dealers, Fantastic exhibits and speakers from around the country. See the NASA Moon Rock, Lectures on near earth bodies, meteorites, demonstrations, workshops, hourly door prizes, silent auctions and more.

Enjoy the Annual Jacksonville Gem Show!!!

Purpose of the AFMS: To promote popular interest and education in the various Earth Sciences, and in particular the subjects of Geology, Mineralogy, Palaeontology, 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 to and through such means to strive toward greater international good will and fellowship.

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

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central_office@amfed.org

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AFMS Newsletter – September, 2013
PAGE 3
Use the All American Yearbook as a tool that works for your club! The 2013 All American Club entries covering 2012 are wrapped up and winners will be announced in an upcoming issue of the AFMS newsletter. Thank you to the judges, who took time and careful consideration of each entry. Congratulations to the award winners for excellent work in creating an effective marketing tool and historical document for their club.

Now clubs can look to the final months of 2013 to consider – not only rocks and minerals - but activities and events that can help give your club the edge in the 2014 All American Club Awards. It’s the perfect time to canvas members for details about their activities, interview members about lobbying efforts, collecting trips, shows they’ve volunteered at, and displays they have created. Contact your members now, organize photos, get copies of letters and documentation needed for those points in the contest. Canvas members for any missing information, letters, flyers or other materials, that could fill some gaps that just might make the difference between a good club and a great Cub Yearbook entry.

If your club hasn’t organized one yet, get a group together and delegate some of the areas for members to get involved in – one person to collect photos from other members, another to compile show documents, another to canvas members for their volunteer efforts in the community. Ask members what lobbying efforts they are working on, and involve other members to put the yearbook together – you can even make it a club activity instead of a DVD or taped program. Give specific goals for each group, specific dates to submit the information to a designated person, and help everyone become aware of the deadlines for the club yearbook to be entered in next year’s contest – the 2014 contest will cover the yearbook for 2013. The more members are involved, the stronger the club can grow.

The All American Club Award is given to the club Yearbook that reflects a club’s activities, not only for local community activities, but shows the role of the club in the larger picture – credit is given for participation at the regional and national levels as well. Attendance at regional and national shows, participation at meetings, holding officer positions on various committees, writing to state representatives, involvement in ALAA; all the pieces create an active club that contributes to our hobby as a whole.

I’ll admit, the hardest area to earn points in is the lobbying/government agencies and legislative relations section. Encourage members to write their congressman or senator about issues raised by ALAA regarding land access, as well as responding to local environmental policies, water issues, paleo and archeology concerns, restricting collecting sites, mine regulations, old mine reclamation efforts, conservation issues and fracking. Any of these can impact our rock-hound hobby in the future – help give your club members a voice, and it will count in many ways.

Use your club’s Yearbook to highlight and recognize members that have actively participated throughout the year and help give credit where credit is due. The more members contribute to it, the more completely it can serve as a historical document for the club as well as an excellent marketing tool to be shown to prospective members.

Take advantage of the excellent guide that is on the AFMS web site written by John Washburn. “An All American Club Yearbook: A Guide for Preparation.” This gives an explanation of each section, and what judges look for in rating the entries. It also highlights areas that are usually the weakest for many clubs and offers suggestions to improve those areas, as well as hints and tips for organizing.

The deadline for entry in the AFMS contest is April 15th, 2014. Check with your regional chairs for their deadline. A copy of the 2014 entry form will be posted on the AFMS web site later this year.

### Upcoming Regional Federation Conventions

**By the time you read this, all our regional federations except Southeast will have held their 2013 Conventions. As you can see on the calendar below, several of the regional federations have already informed me of their 2014 dates we’re even starting to fill in the blanks for 2015 and 2016!**

It critical that as soon as you’ve confirmed your regional federation convention dates that you send me an e-mail giving the date and location. As always, we’re trying to avoid conflicts between the federations so that the AFMS officers wishing to attend your convention can do so without having to make tough choices. And, at all costs, we must avoid any conflict with the Federation hosting the AFMS Convention since officers from all federations are on the AFMS Board and therefore expected to attend the AFMS meetings. My e-mail address is on page 7 of this issue.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<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>
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<tr>
<td>May 31 - June 2</td>
<td>June 1 - 2</td>
<td>April 6 - 7</td>
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Endowment Drawing News -- The Deadline is HERE!

by RJ Harris, Chair

Convention time is almost here so there are only a few short days to get your tickets for the annual endowment fund raffle. If you’ve not yet ordered your tickets, you can still do so by sending your check (payable to AFMS Endowment Fund) to Carolyn Weinberger, PO Box 302; Glyndon, MD 21071-0302. Deadline for all mail order tickets will be September 10th. Please include your name, address, and phone number as well as a self-addressed stamped envelope for returning the ticket stubs to you.

We have had some incredible additions to our lineup over the summer months while the newsletter was on hiatus.

Prize #23 is a fabulous Intarsia consisting of a 2,055 carat opal cabochon with a 1.80 carat oval faceted almandine garnet and a .15 ct brilliant cut diamond. The pendant is set in 14 k gold and was created and donated by Bob Rush, President of the Jacksonville Gem & Mineral Society. The piece has an estimated value of $1,865.00 (SFMS).

Prize #24 is a pair of 6 x 4 oval cut Brazilian emeralds having a total weight of 0.83 cts. Donated by D. L. Brooks, they have an estimated value of $300 (SFMS).

Prize #25 – A checkerboard cut amethyst weighing 3.03 ct. Donated by D. L. Brooks, it has an estimated value of $100 (SFMS).

Prize #26 – An Indian Blackskin agate cabochon. It’s 4.5” wide and was made and donated by Bob Rush, President of the Mother Lode Mineral Society. The cabochon has an estimated value of $100 (CFMS).

Prize #27 – A special thank you to Jennifer Haley, 1st VP of CFMS for the donation of a citrine necklace, bracelet and earring set. The craftsmanship is incredible! The set has an estimated value of $250 (CFMS).

Prize #28 is a lovely jade sculpture. The blossom is a pale green/gray jade and the leaves a pale yellow. Donated by Cynthia Payne, it has an estimated value of $100 (EFMLS).

And don’t forget the rest of the terrific prizes that have been described in previous months. You can view color photos of all the prizes at <www.amfed.org/endow2013.htm>.

#1 - Two-strand Amethyst necklace and matching earrings. Estimated value $75 (EFMLS)

#2 - Chalcopyrite specimen from French Creek Mine, Chester Co. PA. Estimated value $50 (EFMLS)

#3 - Homelite and Onyx necklace and earring set. Estimated value $75 (EFMLS)

#4 - Float copper specimen from Keeweenaw Peninsula, MI plus a Calumet & Heckla Mine Stock Certificate. Estimated value $25 (EFMLS)

#5 - “Gem Cutting Shop Helps, The Best Selected from 17 Years of Lapidary Journal”. Estimated value $25 (EFMLS)

#6 - Caveman Clothes Pin made of Eastern Washington Petrified Wood. Estimated value $75 (NFMS)

#7 - Two-strand jasper necklace with matching earrings. Estimated value $75 (EFMLS)

#8 - Fern Fossil from St Clair, PA. Estimated value $25 (EFMLS)

#9 - Framed Fossil Fish. Estimated value $100 (RMFMS).

#10 - Stacked “Jerry Quartz” crystals from Arkansas. No value estimate. (SFMS).

#11 - Channel inlay featuring agate and jasper inlay in sterling silver. Estimated value $350 (AFMS).

#12 - Acanthite specimen from the Imiter Mine, nr. Tinerhir, Morocco. Estimated value $100 (EFMLS).

#13 - Calcite from Charcas, San Luis Potosi, Mexico. Estimated value $100 (EFMLS).

#14 - Argentinian Rhodochrosite clock. Estimated value $100 (EFMLS)

#15 - one year membership in the Mineral of the Month Club. Estimated value $100 (EFMLS).

#16 - Framed print of gold specimen. Estimated value $150 (EFMLS).

#17 - Framed print of Rhodochrosite on Quartz from the Sweet Home Mine, CO. Estimated value $150 (EFMLS).

#18 - Framed print of Aquamarine on Feldspar specimen. Estimated value $150 (EFMLS).

#19 - Wire wrapped “Benite” pendant (14k gold). Estimated value ????? (RMFMS).

#20 - “Cauliflower” Calcite from Mexico. Estimated value $150 (EFMLS).

#21 - Mexican Anhydrite specimen. Estimated value $100 (EFMLS)

#22 - Brazilian quartz crystal with a small, pale citrine crystal on base. Estimated value $150 (EFMLS).

If you’re attending the convention, tickets will be available during the AFMS meeting on Thursday and at the SFMS meeting on Saturday morning. They remain $5 each or 5 for $20 with all proceeds going towards the principal of the AFMS Endowment Fund. Interest generated by the investments is used to fund several AFMS programs that benefit clubs including the juniors badge program and digitization of the AFMS slide programs that are given to each Regional Federation for club use.

Carolyn Weinberger will conduct the raffle at an announced time. Prizes will be available in Jacksonville for those in attendance who win, other winners will receive their prizes via USPS as soon as a is reasonably possible.

I want to thank our regional sellers and each and every one who made a donation or purchased tickets. Your kindness and dedication to our hobby is well appreciated. A special thank you to Carolyn for taking care of business for me in so many ways.

We’ll have a list of the winners in the November AFMS Newsletter.

Buy lots of tickets and good luck to all!
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: <lgralg@aol.com> or at home address: 3515 E. 88th St., Tulsa, OK 74137. If I cannot find an answer to your question, we’ll publish the question and ask the readers for their answers.

TAG – You’re It! (The Acronym Game)
Answers are at the end of the article.

Sometimes our lives seem to be ruled by the letters of the alphabet. Do you know KFC, HP and MTV? How about M&M, TASER, A&W, and IKEA? You probably use 3M and IBM, might like to use BMW, and probably have to occasionally use CVS.1

If you’re part of the texting generation, do you know these?

• BRB
• BTW
• DBEYR
• IMHO
• UOL
• MHOYT
• RBTL
• TMI
• VBG
• XO

Earth science and the rock and mineral hobby play TAG, too. I hope you know these!

• AFMS
• EFMLS
• SFMS
• MWF
• RNFMS
• SCFM
• CFSM
• NFMF
• BLN
• NASA
• USGS
• EPA
• ALAA

You may not know the following, but they all come from the earth sciences:
• CDEX (Center for Deep Earth Exploration)
• EROS (Earth Resources Observations System)
• GIGOLO (Global Information on Gravity Over Land and Ocean)
• GCOES (Geosynchronous Operational Environment Satellite)
• IGGBP (International Geosphere/Biosphere Programme)
• MAGSAT (magnetometer satellite)
• MSL (mean sea level)
• POEM (Polar Orbiting Earth Mission)
• SAFE (San Andreas Fault Experiment)

When you look at some of these acronyms, you have to know that people surely have a sense of humor. Come on, now – GIGOLO?!! You may notice that some of the acronyms form words that can be pronounced. Others don’t form a word we can say, but these are still acronyms known as initialisms.2

We certainly like our shortcuts. Even each of our states has its own acronym, as well as each of our local rock clubs. Do you know your acronyms?

Industrial Answers:
KFC – Kentucky Fried Chicken
HP – Hewlett Packard
MTV – Music Television
M&M – Mars & Murrie’s
TASER – Thomas A. Swift’s Electric Rifle
A&W – Allen & Wright
IKEA – Ingvar Kamprad Emtaryd Agunnaryd
3M – Minnesota Mining and Manufacturing
IBM – International Business Machines
BMW – Bavarian Motor Works (in English!)?
CVS – Consumer Value Stores (now, Customer, Value and Service)

Texting Answers:
Be Right Back
By the Way
Don’t Believe Everything You Read
In My Humble Opinion
Laughing Out Loud, Lots of Love, Living on Lipitor
My Hat’s Off to You
Read Between the Lines
Too Much Information
Very Big Grin
Hugs and Kisses

Earth Science Answers:
American Federation of Mineralogical Societies
Eastern Federation of Mineralogical and Lapidary Societies
Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies
Midwest Federation of Mineralogical and Geological Societies
Rocky Mountain Federation of Mineralogical Societies
South Central Federation of Mineral Societies
California Federation of Mineralogical Societies
Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies
Bureau of Land Management
National Aeronautics and Space Administration
United States Geological Survey
Environmental Protection Agency
American Lands Access Association

1From <www.businessinsider.com/pap-quiz-do-you-know-what-these-brand-name-acronyms-stand-for-2012-6?op=1>, 7/31/2013 (This site is a very interesting read.)

2From <www.acronymresearch.com/documents/FAQ001.htm>, 7/31/2013

Club Rockhounds of the Year
from Evelyn Cataldo, AFMS Chair

I’m pleased to share with you the latest club honorees as AFMS Club Rockhounds of the Year.

California Federation
The North Orange County Gem & Mineral Society is honoring Richard & Nancy O’Connor as their Rockhounds of the Year. They have been members for four years. They have their attachment to rocks through Nancy’s father who was quite a rockhound and carver. They are both the kind of people that see the need and take care of it. They have served on numerous committees and filled lots of cracks. We are thankful to have them in our club and honor them as members of the year.

submitted by Loreta Ogden, Federation Director

The Conejo Gem and Mineral Club is proud to honor Robert & Deb Sankovich as Rockhounds of the Year. Rob is in his fifth year of serving as President, Vice-President of Field Trips, and Show Chairman. With remarkable energy, he also is President of the Ventura G & M Society, Show Chair for the 2013 CFMS Tri-Club Federation show and Secretary for the CFMS Board. Rob entered five cases in the Federation show; one which was competitive and won a master’s trophy!

Deb is Vice-President of programs for both clubs as well as President of Membership and Publicity for Conejo. She tirelessly volunteers at meetings and at the annual Conejo gem show. At the Federation show, Deb was responsible for outstanding programs and helped with hospitality.

submitted by Mike Havstad, Federation Director

Eastern Federation
The members of the American Fossil Federation (AFF) have selected Bill Palmer, Sr. as our 2013 Fossilhound of the Year.

Since joining the AFF in 2009, Bill has brought, with enthusiasm, his vast experience in engineering, volunteer work at the Charleston Museum, and expertise in fossil collecting to club activities. Bill has had species named in his honor and discovered five new species of whales.

Bill has offered to share his vast background and experience through club programs, building special display cases, and especially volunteering to use his modeling techniques to help create replicas of marine fossils for AFF members. In addition, Bill is currently serving as AFF webmaster; building the site virtually from scratch.

We are pleased to recognize Bill as an active and valued member of our club and as our 2013 Fossilhound of the Year.

submitted by Betty F. Hallman, Secretary AFF

continued on page 8
Here is the listing of the people who have agreed to serve as Committee Chairs for 2012-13. Please feel free to contact these people if you need information, have questions or would like to share ideas with them.

**All American Club**
Regina Kapta  
<cgmc at comcast.net>

**AFMS Club Rockhound of the Year**
Evelyn Cataldo  
<cataldoevelyn at yahoo.com>

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

**Boundaries**
Marion Roberts  
<myroberts at bigvalley.net>

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

**Bulletin Editors Advisory**
Linda Jaeger  
<ljaerg 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 erols.com>

**Conservation and Legislation**
John Martin  
<afms-conservation at antelem.com.net>

**Endowment Fund**
RJ Harris  
<roqfreq at rjharris.com>

**Financial Investment**
Lauren Williams  
<slharuir at msn.com>

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

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

**Inter-Regional Field Trip**
Doug True  
<dtruefossils12 at yahoo.com>

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

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

**Long Range Planning**
Lauren Williams  
<slharuir at msn.com>

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

**Nominating**
Lauren Williams  
<slharuir at msn.com>

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

**Past President’s Advisory**
Lauren Williams  
<slharuir at msn.com>

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

**Program Competition**
Marge Collins  
<margaret at qtn.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**
Jim Robinson  
<jimhrobinson at att.net>

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

**Ways and Means**
Lauren Williams  
<slharuir at msn.com>

**Web site/Webmaster**
Marty Hart  
<webmaster at amfed.org>

**Web Site Contest**
Dan Irwin  
<lapidary at aol.com>

**AFMS Scholarship Foundation**
Dee Holland, President  
(see Judges Training)  
Lauren Williams, Vice President  
Ruth Bailey, Secretary  
Jon Spunaugle, Treasurer
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.

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 continued 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 Land Use Policy

Club Rockhounds

continued from page 6

Northwest Federation
Hatchrockhound Gem and Mineral Society of Hermiston, Oregon honor Mike Filarski as its Rockhound of 2013. As Show Chairman, Mike has provided our community with an excellent show the last seven years. As Vice President, he gives of himself to share his knowledge, gives presentations to local schools and is a generous, valuable member. We are proud to have Mike among our membership and hope to have the privilege of his fellowship for many years to come.

submitted by Judi Allison

It's not too late for you to submit information about your club rockhound of the year for 2013. Send a short paragraph (75 words or so) to your regional ACROY chairperson telling who your person is, the name of your club and why you wish to recognize the individual (or couple) in your club. Doing so is a nice way to say "we appreciate all you do for the club". Submissions will be printed in the AFMS Newsletter so you can share your good fortune with others. Each club may submit the name of one member (or couple) each calendar year plus one junior member.