Get Organized, Get It Together and Create that All American Club Yearbook!

by Regina Kapta, All American Chair

Begin RIGHT NOW to plan out your entry for the All American Club Yearbook award for 2018. Entries will be due earlier this year – February 15, 2018 is the deadline, so the awards may be handed out at the AFMS Convention in April 2018. This year, since the Convention is so early, the regional contest and AFMS contests will run concurrently. Club entries will still be sent to your Regional Chair, and they will pass it on to the AFMS.

No other changes have been made to the contest for 2018. As last year, emphasis will be on junior activities and AFMS support, such as participating in AFMS contests, participation in Competitive Displays, utilization of the FRA junior program, and for volunteering as Judges for any of the AFMS sponsored contests.

The All American Club Award is given to the individual club Yearbook that highlights a club’s activities for the past year. Group activities, individual member participation, workshops and shows are all part of a great club. Credit is given for member attendance at regional and national shows, holding officer positions on various committees, writing to state representatives, involvement in ALAA, and junior programs and workshops - activities that reflect an active club that makes membership worthwhile for everyone. The AACA awards are recognition of these activities, with bronze, silver and gold levels and an overall 1st place gold award. First place Gold and Gold award winners will be posted to the AACA section of the AFMS website.

If you submit a pdf of the yearbook, it should have bookmarks for each section. Most pdf software includes tools to generate bookmarks, so you can go to each section and designate a bookmark for that section. The pdf may have internal links – for example, you can link Section 2 of the entry form to the first page of Section 2. Even individual items listed in the criteria for Section 2 may link to that specific page of supporting documentation. However, no external links to websites should be in the pdf. For instance, don’t link to the photo album on your website as documentation for a show. The judges may NOT be able to open or access that piece, so do not build your documentation around it. Include all your documentation in the main Yearbook pdf – you can refer to John Washburn’s article in the AACA section that explains what the judges are looking for in your yearbook entry.

REMEMBER that the deadline for entry in the AFMS contest is **February 15 2018**. Please make sure you have downloaded the new entry form for contest year 2017 from the AFMS website. It’s available in both pdf and Word.

If you have any questions about the contest, please contact me at rmkapta@comcast.net. I’m happy to clarify anything and always welcome suggestions!
Just a Few Words...  

by Sandy Fuller, President

It is a pleasure to serve as your 2017-18 President. I am looking forward to working with our seven federations on behalf of all our affiliated clubs. So allow me to introduce myself.

As is common among the rockhound crowd, as a child, my pockets often overflowed with geological treasures I found as I explored the world around me. One memory is a backpacking trip where we weighed out before embarking on our three-day journey and then weighed in upon return. Unlike everyone else, my pack was now 3 pounds heavier instead of lighter. I still have the treasures I found on that trip.

Serious rockhounding had to wait, until I moved in Minnesota and discovered local mineral club shows. It wasn’t long before a dealer invited me to come to a mineral club meeting. I joined that night and soon got active in the club.

During my first field trip, I marveled that a club member could just walk around for a few minutes and then return to show us specimens that we could find at the site. I had been in the field before, but rarely experienced this kind of success.

A few years later, we were in the lead vehicle on a field trip, checking to make sure the road was passable. After confirming acceptable driving conditions, I briefly wandered around picking up samples to share with the rest of our group. As I shared my finds I recalled the not long ago feeling of awe. I was learning so much from my fellow club members.

Like most folks, I joined a club to learn about minerals and related fields but I stayed because of the people. Over the years, I met people from all walks of life. We are all so different and yet we are bound together by our common interest in geological things. We became a “family” that cares about each other.

As I got more involved in our hobby, I heard about an opportunity to attend a federation meeting and participate in some interesting field trips. My club needed a delegate, so I volunteered. The discussion got interesting, so I added my thoughts to the conversation. After the meeting, someone asked if I would like to get more involved. And as they say, the rest is history.

I have met people from across my region and across the country. We have gotten to know each other, shared ideas and worked together to help our clubs better serve their members and support the work of our regions. Thank you for this opportunity to serve as your national president and work with you to make our local clubs stronger.

Sandy
Rockhound Soap Box: “National Monuments”
by John Martin AFMS - Legislation and Conservation Committee

For the last ten months there have been a lot of discussions on the future of our National Monuments. There has been a lot of miss-information presented by many political and environmental groups mainly to justify their agendas and positions. The Proclamation signed by the President only asks that a Review of the National Monuments, which was created by Presidential Action, be reviewed for compliance with the Antiquities Act of 1906. There was nothing in the Proclamation that authorized any change, reduction or elimination of any standing National Monuments under review. The review has been completed and the report has been released by the Department of the Interior (DOI). The preliminary DOI report has been sent to the President for consideration on the 29 National Monuments under review. A final DOI report has been sent to the President with recommendations for consideration. The report is yet to be released to the public; however there has been a copy of the report leaked from the DOI.

The leaked DOI Final Report recommends some changes to 10 of the 29 National Monuments. These monuments are: Bears Ears National Monument, Utah; Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument, Oregon; Gold Butte National Monument, Nevada; Grand Staircase-Escalante, Utah; Katahdin Nation Monument, Maine; Northeast Canyons and Seamounts Marine National Monuments, Massachusetts; Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks National Monument, New Mexico; Pacific Remote Islands Marine National Monument; Rio Grande Del Norte National Monument, New Mexico; Rose Atoll Marine National Monument, American Samoa.

The leaked DOI Final Report recommended changes be made to these National Monuments, but did not provide or define the changes. It did recommend that the changes be made in accordance with established laws and regulations and should include public input. Will the President accept the recommendations in the leaked DOI Final Report? It remains to be seen.

Will this review have an effect on Recreational Rockhounding? If there are changes made to the National Monuments it will be up to concerned Rockhounds to make sure that the voice of the Rockhounds is heard and Recreational Collecting is included in the changes to the affected National Monuments where applicable. A few words on the American Antiquities Act of 1906 as amended and its usage to create National Monuments without the consent of Congress or input from the Public.

The act stipulates that “The President may, in the President’s discretion, declare by public proclamation historic landmarks, historic and prehistoric structures, and other objects of historic or scientific interest that are situated on land owned or controlled by the Federal Government to be national monuments” and “The President may reserve parcels of land as a part of the national monuments. The limits of the parcels shall be confined to the smallest area compatible with the proper care and management of the objects to be protected”. (https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/USCODE-2016-title44/html/USCODE-2016-title44-subtitleIII-chap3202-sec320301.htm) On these statements most Americans can agree and in most cases when used with common sense and best management practices are acceptable for preserving and protecting the as stated, historic and prehistoric structures, and other objects of historic or scientific interest on public lands. However, when the laws are manipulated for political purposes or for special interest groups, the people, Congress and the President have the right to question these actions, which is the case with the current National Monument Review. Were these 29 National Monuments under review, created adhering to the actual requirements of the American Antiquities Act of 1906 as amended or for political purposes?

Only time will tell.
First, I want to say how tickled pink I felt when I was given the AFMS Historian files beginning with the year 1947, which is the year the AFMS was founded. Who doesn’t love history going back that far, and isn’t curious about what the Annual AFMS Show & Conventions looked like, and what was happening with societies then?

If any of you federation historians would like to see some history of when your federation hosted the combined Annual AFMS Show & Convention during the early years, please let me know. I can scan a good collection of memorabilia you can share for your newsletter or put in your files if you are missing some. Usually there are photos, programs, novelties and written history I can photocopy for you.

The photos of the conventions I think are some of my favorites. The convention rooms were huge and filled-to-the-gills. Imagine the stories those photos could tell about the travel along the highways and country roads people took to get there, and all the stops along the way for rock and fossil collecting.

In the collection of history is a 64 page of booklet called MINERAL CLUB HISTORY by H.C. Dake, editor of THE MINERALOGIST MAGAZINE. At that time there were five federations; California Federation of Mineralogical Societies, Mid West Federation of Geological Societies, Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies, Rocky Mountain Federation of Mineralogical Societies and Old Timer’s Mineral Club.

The author noted the growth and development of mineralogical and gemological clubs during the previous fifteen years (from 1928), was remarkable. Dake followed this movement closely from the beginning of the hobby. Publicity he noted was a dominant factor in the rapid growth and development of the then 115 or more earth science organizations across the nation. Newspapers were generous with space for local clubs. Clubs realized then as we do today, that they needed to constantly attract new membership to help keep their organization active and running well, to help fill in the gaps of members who become inactive for various reasons. It was common for small societies starting out with a handful of members to grow to over one hundred members by the end of the year.

When you think about it, our rock and gem organizations really have given to the spirit of the earth sciences in so many aspects and continue to do so today. Our hobby has inspired wonderful things; new inventions, better machinery, museum specimens, the discovery and uncovering of beauty, education, teaching, leadership, the sciences, and last but not least, a lot of happiness and fun and a sense of community. History can be a beautiful thread that can weave longevity and meaning into the things we do today. Go out and play, celebrate the joys of the Earth Sciences and the Practice of Lapidary Arts & Crafts. It is our gift to give, always has been and will always be. Never forget to create fun and beautiful memories for others, for in time, they will become a special part of history.

Hobbies, The American Way of Life
by Jennifer Haley, AFMS Historian

Hobbies became an important part of the American Way of Life during the 1920’s and forward. Rock and gem clubs met the requirements of people from every walk of life and age. Many new mineral species were first noted by amateurs while on field trips, later identified as such by the professionals.

Fluorescent minerals and the art of gem cutting became wildly popular among members. Our hobby spread so far and fast that the home gem cutting shop was close to being called, a tradition in the family home. Prior to the 1930’s ready to use lapidary equipment was very limited, unlike what we know today. The demand for factory built lapidary equipment became a reality to replace the homemade equipment that often didn’t fully support the lapidarian with all their needs.

Following his military service in WWII, James “Jim” Hurlbut graduated from the University of Wisconsin, then the University of Denver. After his move to Colorado in 1947, he joined the Colorado Mineral Society, and has been a force in the hobby ever since. He was president of the Rocky Mountain Federation in 1956 and AFMS president in 1993. He received the AFMS Recognition Award in 2004. He was also a member of Denver chapter of Friends of Mineralogy and the Littleton Gem & Mineral Club.

His primary interest was in micro-minerals and in 2011 was inducted into the Micromounters Hall of Fame. Long a friend of fellow micromounter late Paul Seel, Jim volunteered to curate Paul’s extensive micromount collected after it was donated to the Denver Museum of Science and Nature following Seels’ death in 1982.

Throughout the period Jim lectured to both amateur and professional mineral societies, published articles in domestic and international mineralogical journals and acted as a judge in numerous micromount competitions.

He is survived by two children and his wife Bette.

Contributions in Jim’s memory may be sent to the AFMS Scholarship Foundation, % of your local federation representative.

Carolyn Weinberger

James F. Hurlbut
1921 - Sept. 19, 2017

Elected New Officers?
by Steve Weinberger, AFMS Central Office

If your club has elected new officers, please remember to send their information to the AFMS Central Office (central_office@amfed.org). We’ll need the name of your club, and the name, address and office held for each newly elected officer. By sending us this information we can continue to send the AFMS Newsletter to the correct officers in your club.
Having Fun: Junior Activities
by Jim Brace-Thompson, AFMS Juniors Chair

KIDS ROCK!
Help Them with Displays & Articles for Competition

As a member of the Host Society in my hometown of Ventura, California, I was involved with the 2017 AFMS Show & Convention in varied ways, including service as Publicity Chair, Kids Booth Chair, Exhibits Judge for Meteorites, and Judge for Kids Articles in the Bulletin Competition. Of all these, I especially remember and appreciate my work with the Kids Booth and with judging Kids Articles. While we had fewer entries in the bulletin contest than last year, those submitted were of high quality, and it was great to see Alyson Nashimura of the Pasadena (CA) Lapidary Society earn First Place for Junior Articles Under Age 12 and Jack Shimon of the Lake George Gem & Mineral Club (CO) earn First Place for Junior Articles Age 12-17. Well done to both of these great kids!

We also saw good representation by kids with competitive displays. For instance, the following all earned AFMS trophies: Brynleigh Elliott (Open Division), Jennifer Nisimura (Specialized Techniques), and—from my own Ventura society—Joey Looby (Fossils). A wonderful group display by the Bakersfield Mineral Mites (CA) earned the Lilian Turner Junior Award. It included great photographs of kids involved in rockhounding and lapidary activities—photographs that brought real life to the specimens and lapidary materials on display.

I encourage one and all to assist kids in local clubs in entering such competition in the future. Start today! Let’s see articles written by kids in each and every one of your individual club and society newsletters throughout 2018, and here’s to helping and encouraging kids to enter competitive displays at the 2018 AFMS Show come April 6-8 in Raleigh, North Carolina. That date may seem far off, but it’s closer than you think. Start today in organizing a workshop (especially if you live within convenient driving distance of North Carolina) to help your club’s kids learn the intricate and involved rules and regulations involved with competitive exhibiting, then gather kids together in a forum to provide help—and to encourage fun!

Upcoming Regional Federation Conventions
from Emerson Tucker

Listed below are the regional federation conventions that I have dates for through 2019. Please remember to send me the dates for all upcoming regional conventions as soon as you establish them so we can get them on the calendar and avoid any conflicts of two federations having conventions on the same date as we have this year with Eastern and Southeast.

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<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>
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<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>AFMS June 9-11</td>
<td>October 21-22</td>
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<td>March 18-19</td>
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<td>Ventura, CA</td>
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<td>Brainerd, MN</td>
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<td>2018</td>
<td>AFMS April 6-8</td>
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<td>Raleigh, NC</td>
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<td>2019</td>
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Editor’s Corner

by Mark Nelson, BEAC Chair

I heard a club president say, recently, that the hobby relating to rocks and minerals is a dying hobby. His opinion was that his club’s membership would continue to decline until it went out of business from lack of interest. This attitude may be a self-fulfilling prophecy, and I know that some of our editors will take issue with it!

Let’s be realistic – we compete for members in an arena where supermarket tabloids inform shoppers that Martians have landed – and more! Why read a rock collecting publication when TV and movie stars are screaming from the headlines? I can’t emphasize too strongly that the bulletin reflects the strength of the club! For our hobby to continue to be healthy our clubs need to start with attractive bulletins. Couple an interesting bulletin with a board of directors that looks for ways to be progressive, one that maintains a safe environment for the shop and on field trips – and you have a club that is growing!

Most of our clubs have a bulletin editor who is not a professional writer. They have been fire fighters, plumbers, teachers, farmers and a myriad of other professions. For them to succeed in building the enthusiasm of the club they need help and input from wherever they can get it! The bulletin editor’s contests held by each of the seven federations are a great way to improve and motivate editors. The feedback received from the regional and AFMS judges are so very important to the improvement of an editor and of his product – the bulletin.

I hope that all of our clubs encourage their editors enter their regional contest, and I’m asking that you veteran editors and club members help encourage them with this! The feedback that they receive from the judges will only result in a better bulletin – one that can compete with the tabloids, video games and Martian landings! Not only will it strengthen our clubs, but it will strengthen our hobby!

Your comments are welcome!

Experience Wanted

Our federations have been blessed with hard-working Bulletin Editor Advisory Committee (BEAC) chairs and judges. Each federation has people who judge a portion of the material submitted to the BEAC in the Bulletin Editors Contest. This material can be poetry; written or drawn features; mini, small or large bulletins; original and advanced articles; new editor bulletins; Juniors articles and Special Publications. Often these judges have had many years of experience in these fields. Other times they are people who enjoy reading and have a desire to help further the hobby by helping to improve the quality of the bulletin. In my opinion it is better to have a number of judges who can gain experience by judging a particular category instead of just a few who sit around a table and have many entries to review. Judges don’t have to live in the federation which they assist as a judge.

Judges: We have a condition where there have been turnovers in federation judges. I’ve been asked to help recruit people to serve as judges for regional Bulletin Editors Contests. If you, or someone who you know, are willing to serve as a judge please let me know. Send me a name, contact info and areas that the person is willing to serve as a judge. If the person has experience in a particular field please add that, as well.

Editor: S.C.R.I.B.E., the organization for rockhound club editors, is seeking someone to replace its award-winning editor — Jeff Ursillo. Jeff found this job so easy that he increased the frequency of the newsletter from quarterly to six times a year. At S.C.R.I.B.E. the editor receives the articles from members, prepares and e-mails out the newsletter. Any expenses incurred are reimbursed by the treasurer who provides a current e-mail list of members.

Let’s work together to keep our hobby healthy and strong. If you are able to serve the hobby as a judge or as the editor of SCRIBE, please let me know. I can be reached at <mnelsonair@aol.com>.

The National Rockhound & Lapidary Hall of Fame

by Steve Weinberger, Chair

In 1987, June Culp Zeitner established the National Rockhound and Lapidary Hall of Fame in order to honor those individuals who have demonstrated outstanding achievement in various fields of our hobby.

Since that time many noteworthy people have been inducted in such fields as metal craft, lapidary, minerals, fossils, education, and tribute (deceased.)

Each year the Board of Consultants reviews the nominations of the potential inductees and chooses those candidates best qualified.

This year, I am pleased to announce our latest inductees in three categories.

Russ Kaniuth—Lapidary - California
Darryl Powell—Education – New York
Ronald L. Gibbs—Tribute – North Carolina

To be eligible, a person must be outstanding in the field of earth science, lapidary arts, or metal craft for at least fifteen years, well recognized for his or her contributions, and be nominated by at least one person who gives a full account of his or her accomplishments.

Our website <www.rockhoundandlapidaryhalloffame.org/> can give you the form and details of how to nominate someone and where to send the form. The idea is to list the accomplishments without overwriting with extraneous material. The site also lists all former inductees, a photo gallery, and some information about a few notable inductees.

The Hall of Fame is located in the Pioneer Auto Show (Museum) in Murdo, South Dakota. If you have never visited and can go, you are in for quite a treat. It houses a vast collection of nostalgic memorabilia such as classic cars, equipment, and many other items of general interest.

Steve Weinberger, Chair
Here is the listing of the people who have agreed to serve as Committee Chairs for 2017 - 18. Please feel free to contact these people if you need information, have questions or would like to share ideas.

**AFMS Committees: 2017 – 18**

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

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

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

- **Boundaries**
  - Bob Carlson
  - <illegitimusnoncarborundum at inbox.com>

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

- **Bulletin Editors Advisory**
  - Mark Nelson
  - <MNelsonair at aol.com>

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

- **Central Office Administrator**
  - Steve Weinberger (see Bylaws Revisory)

- **Commemorative Stamps**
  - Wendell Mohr
  - <wmohr at erols.com>

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

- **Convention Advisory**
  - Emerson Tucker
  - <emertuck at gmail.com>

- **Endowment Fund**
  - Cheryl Neary
  - <ciervo.neary at gmail.com>

- **Financial Investment**
  - Wayne Cox
  - <wayne3 at earthlink.net>

- **Historian**
  - Jennifer Haley
  - <ladyuglane at napablogger.com>

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

- **Judges Training Seminar**
  - Marion Roberts
  - <mvroberts1 at comcast.net>

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

- **Long Range Planning**
  - Matt Charsky
  - <matt2430 at comcast.net>

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

- **Nominating**
  - Matt Charsky (see Long Range Planning)

- **Parliamentarian**
  - Steve Weinberger (see Bylaws Revisory)

- **Past President’s Advisory**
  - Matt Charsky (see Long Range Planning)

- **Photography**
  - Steve Weinberger (see Bylaws Revisory)

- **Program Competition**
  - Doug Moore
  - <steinhund at gmail.com>

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

- **Public Relations**
  - Bob Jones
  - <jonesb52 at gmail.com>

- **Safety**
  - Ellery Borow
  - 207-547-3154

- **Show Consultant**
  - Emerson Tucker
  - <emertuck at gmail.com>

- **Uniform Rules**
  - Marion Roberts
  - <mvroberts1 at comcast.net>

- **URC Eligibility Files**
  - Josie Middleton
  - <jcjems55 at yahoo.com>

- **Ways and Means**
  - Richard Jaeger
  - <rjgrsci at aol.com>

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

- **Web Site Contest**
  - Dan Imel
  - <lapidry at aol.com>

- **AFMS Scholarship Foundation**
  - Lauren Williams, President
  - 957 E Elva St; Idaho Falls, ID 83401
  - <slhariur at msn.com>

  - Sandy Fuller, Vice President
  - Cheri George, Secretary
  - Gene Maggard, Treasurer
Most likely everyone knows about a field trip, mine master, dig leader. But, what about a field trip follower? You know - follower, the last one in line, the person who helps the stragglers and others not so quick to get to the mine.

The story: Some few folks know I am a hiker and a person who can run up a mountain and take nary a deep breath. A group was going up a local mountain and, probably because of my hiking background, invited me along. This was a mixed group of various ages and abilities, with few having hiking experience. As I'd been up the mountain many a time, I was sort of the guide/leader of the excursion.

While still in the parking lot at the base of several of the young bucks and bucketts decided to go on up ahead. I had no difficulty or concerns about that because the trail was very well marked, and next to impossible to go astray. This was a church group mind you.

So, I appointed myself the field trip follower. Much of the group had gone on ahead and I sort of stayed with the last fellow in line. I did not let on that I was going slow simply to match his pace. He looked enthused about the hike but I had some reservations about his abilities.

The climb was modestly steep along several stretches of the trail. Perhaps 1/2 way up, with the others well ahead of us, the fellow again stopped to rest. He casually mentioned that he had forgotten to bring his heart meds. That was the first moment in the hike when I thought I was going to be the one to need heart meds for myself. Instead of slapping my forehead and enquiring of the fellow, “What were you thinking?” I kept my poker face, kept calm, and tried to maintain my composure. I assured him that I too liked frequent rest stops. I posed the question of turning back and his comment was as expected, he was going on, no matter what. Hmmmm, well, that was the second time I thought I might need heart meds. Okay, all right, we pressed on. We ‘aided’ one another with frequent stops for rest and conversation. I found many reasons to stop, talk and admire the beauty of the trail and undergrowth. Perhaps 3/4 of the way up some of the young bucks and bucketts passed us as they headed down. The fellow and I did make it to the top, enjoyed the view, and soon headed back down - all the while taking almost as many rest breaks as we did on the way up.

Returning to the parking lot to join the picnic, things appeared to return to normal...ish. I’m not sure my heart had relaxed yet.

That trip occurred years ago, in the pre-cellphone era. From that day onward I often became the self-appointed follower. A self-appointed follower when hiking, field tripping, jogging, ice climbing, biking, kayaking, cross-country skiing—whatever.

Does your club’s field trip, mine master, dig leader also have a follower? Might be something to consider. Sometimes at the top of a mountain or mine folks are so busy they may not take note that a person did not show up. Even in this day and age, in the wild and woolies of the mountains, cellphones can be problematic. Besides, someone might be hurt enough so as to be unable to use one to call for help.

There are a great many ways of keeping members safe, please consider taking advantage of all of them. Even being a follower is good. Your safety matters.

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.