Having Fun: Junior Activities

By Jim Brace-Thompson, Juniors Program Chair

Lapidary Arts

A Basic Wire Wrap Project for Kids & Adults Alike!

Kids love arts and crafts and making pretty things. Thus, one of the more popular units within our AFMS/FRA Badge Program is Lapidary Arts. I’ve heard that some clubs have actually banned kids from their workshop facilities, concerned about safety issues or damage to expensive machines like Genies or Pixies. However, as noted in our Badge Manual, there are many basic lapidary arts that don’t require any machinery at all. Suggested projects along this line include rock painting, making “rock critters,” crafting light-catchers with tumble-polished agates, sand art, beading, crafting wind chimes, or polishing soft stones by hand with wet-or-dry sandpaper. If you’re hesitant to have kids use rock saws and grinding units, check out these ideas and more in the Badge Manual at http://amfed.org/fra/fra_badge.htm.

Dennis Gertenbach and Jacque Mahan of the Flatiron Minerals Society (Colorado) recently contacted me about a project that proved especially popular successful for them. Their Junior Geologists had just concluded a basic wire wrap project that attracted more kids (33 in all!) than have attended any of their past lessons and activities. Using just two small pieces of wire and a tumble-polished stone, each child crafted a beautiful pendant. One of the leaders, Craig Hazelton, led the meeting and even produced a how-to YouTube video that is clear, direct, and easy to follow: https://youtu.be/pqOzlsFyXvI

I encourage junior leaders of all AFMS-affiliated societies to check it out, then give it a try with your club’s kids. It looks like any easy project for kids to do while, as always, having fun!

Many thanks to the Tar Heel Gem and Mineral Club for hosting a wonderful convention
The AFMS
Proudly Serving
Seven Regional
Federations

Officers:

President
Sandy Fuller
<MWFtreas at rock-biz.biz>

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Donna Moore
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Treasurer
Pat LaRue
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A Word from the President
by Sandy Fuller, President

Have you thanked a volunteer today? Each year, in mid-April, Americans and Canadians take time out of their busy schedules to recognize the tremendous contributions many by millions of volunteers from all walks of life and fields of interest.

In our clubs, volunteers are essential to each and every club. From officers to greeters, and all the other tasks, large and small, volunteers create a sense of community and caring.

In a healthy club, 100% of the members are also club volunteers. They help at club meetings and events by welcoming new and old, sharing skills, leading activities and providing critical behind the scenes support with newsletters, websites, shop maintenance and the myriad of tasks essential for group success.

Volunteering is rewarding. Research shows that volunteers are happier and healthier. In fact, the more a person volunteers the happier they are. In addition, skills developed through volunteering often help advance careers.

Finally, volunteering is a great way to get to know people. Within our clubs we have people from all walks of life. Bound by our common passion, the camaraderie developed as we work together often transcends any differences and helps to build long lasting friendships. It’s a win-win for everybody.

So, take time today to thank a volunteer and join them in helping to make your club better. Your own well-being depends on it.

National Volunteer Appreciation Week is April 15-22, 2018

For more information on the benefits of volunteering, check out this article: https://www.helpguide.org/articles/healthy-living/volunteering-and-its-surprising-benefits.htm

Spear Phishing Targets Rock and Mineral Clubs
by Mark Nelson, AFMS BEAC

We know that “phishing” is an attempt by criminals to use means, such as the Internet and emails, to obtain money. Using emails, there are two ways you can send phishing campaigns: the first is ‘spray-and-pray’ which is a shotgun approach. Get as many email addresses from the organization you can, and send them all an email that they might click on. The second approach is decide what data you are after, then figure out who has access to that data, and specifically target those people. That is the spear phishing approach. There are thieves out there who believe that they need the treasury of rock and mineral clubs more than do the members of those clubs! Spear phishing attempts are not typically initiated by random hackers, but are more likely to be conducted by perpetrators targeting specific people or groups for financial gain. This was first brought to my attention in 2015 and it is still affecting rock and mineral clubs throughout North America. Knowledge is the best armor against becoming a victim of these criminals!

Spear Phishing is an email targeted at a specific individual or department within an organization that appears to be from a trusted source. It’s actually cybercriminals attempting to steal confidential information or to convince a person to send them money. These criminals know that those in our hobby are staffed by volunteers untrained in cybersecurity. In our hobby we have web sites that serve to share our hobby with our members and prospective members. We post past issues of newsletters for reference and so that prospective hobbyists can see the enjoyment that we bring to those who will participate in it with us.

In a spear phishing attack, threat actors use their acquired knowledge of the potential victims to target them, and that approach allows them to tailor the attack. These emails are more convincing and harder to detect than regular phishing emails. The attacker knows exactly who and what they’re targeting.

These cyber criminals use a technique called

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Spear Phishing Targets Rock and Mineral Clubs
continued from page 2

“Water-Holing”. This technique takes advantage of our hobby websites that people regularly visit and trust. The attacker will gather information about a targeted group of individuals to find out who to target at those websites. Often there are emails listed for key people and they know that. They mine our websites for terms such as “president” and “treasurer”, and they read more to get the emails of the individuals that they will be targeting from those groups – particularly for the club’s treasurer. Cybergangsters create bogue profiles to try to trick the person with the information or money that they want. They will impersonate a celebrity or one of your friends or colleagues. These profiles look very much like the real thing, and it’s easy to get tricked. They try to impersonate a person that the bad guys already know you like and trust. They will then send fake emails to attempt to steal money or information.

These criminals are targeting institutions, businesses and individuals. The examples and defenses can take a lot of explaining, but this is typical of how it works in our hobby:

1. The cyber criminals (we’ll call them the Red Box group) have identified the Ace Mineral Club as one that is active and that has a lot of members and activities. They know that activities need money and that members equal money. They know that most of these groups have vendors from which they buy supplies, equipment parts and such. The criminals also know that our clubs may have annual shows and that at these shows are people we call vendors or dealers.

2. The Red Box criminals have identified Melinda Stone as the president and Alice Agate as the treasurer of this group.

3. With email providers such as AOL, Gmail, Hotmail and such, there is a simple way to have your outgoing emails read your name instead of your email address. This gives you the option to have your outgoing emails sent with a degree of personalization. Red Box changes the name on his email to Melinda Stone.

4. Alice Agate, the club’s treasurer, receives an email from Melinda Stone. It reads something like this:

   Alice,

   What’s the status of the payment to the vendor? Has it been processed yet? Please send $2,715.43 to Able Arnold, P.O. Box 243 in Random City as quickly as possible!

   I’m tied up in a project at work, please reply by email when this is done. ------- Melinda.

5. Alice has never been advised by Melinda to do anything that wasn’t in the interest of the Ace Mineral Club and she trusts her. What Alice does next will determine the fate of those club funds.

I know for a fact that these sorts of spear phish-
Congratulations to the The All American Club award winners for the entries covering 2017. This program highlights club activities thru the year in the community and the active participation of individuals in the club. Clubs are evaluated based on criteria that includes member activities and community involvement, and are not in competition with each other. The club yearbook reflects an active club that has incorporated proven aspects that guarantee a club will be successful for many years to come.

The award year covering 2017 had five entries for the All American Club awards, and the winners are:

**BRONZE Award** for the Santa Rosa Mineral & Gem Society - with an average of 74.5 pts

This club has a lapidary workshop that they support, along with the clubhouse, and do a class or workshop a month. Unfortunately, due to the devastating fires in their home towns, the club opted to cancel this year’s show. The fires were barely contained and the community is just starting to contemplate next steps. The show venue was used as an evacuation center. They did not receive full value point-wise for the 2017 show, but some credit was given as they normally do one. Sonoma County is now on the road to recovery and they are looking forward to hosting a great show in 2018.

**BRONZE Award** for the North Orange County Gem & Mineral Society - with an average of 75.5 pts

This club is using the FRA Badge program for their juniors. They have junior meetings separate from the regular meetings, and several workshops during the year, many field trips along with several community events. They have a very successful partnership with the local Chamber of Commerce and use these community events to get the word out about the club with demonstrations and displays, along with donating annually to the Youth Committee in La Habra, as well as their own scholarship awards for high school students.

**GOLD Award** for the Austin Gem & Mineral Club - with an average of 92 pts

Several club members are very active with their Federation and in support of the AFMS chairs and committees. They use the FRA Badge program, and has partnered with two separate interest groups – the Austin Paleontology Society and Texas Facetors – to expand the offerings and interests of their members. The club does a Cabbing Competition, and has a lapidary workshop, and has a series of field trips in Oct/Nov to some Texas ranches for collecting.

**GOLD Award** for the McPherson Gem & Mineral Club - with an average of 96 pts

This club has actively partnered with the statewide Kansas 4H leadership, and plays an active role in holding the annual 4H field trips – with about 300 participants in 2017. Truly an outstanding effort by this club. They are active with AFMS and the regional chairs and committees as well.

**FIRST PLACE Gold Award** for the Pasadena Lapidary Society, California Federation - with an average of 106 pts.

This large club is very focused on the junior members – with monthly quizzes, workshops and equipment for juniors, special recognition for junior members annually and a Junior Rockhound award. This is an exceptional emphasis on the juniors. Members are very supportive of the Regional and AFMS Scholarship funds and committees, serving as judges in AFMS contests.

Sections of these award-winning books will be posted in the All-American Award portion of the AFMS website, as examples of how to create and continue a successful club, fostering valuable contributions to their members and their communities. There will a sampling of photos of the McPherson entry as well.

I would like to thank this year’s judges – Renee Hildebrandt and Mary Boesdorfer – for turning around the entries very quickly due to the shorter deadline. It takes time to evaluate a book, and include comments that the club can target areas of improvement next year. I am very appreciative of these volunteers willing to make the effort and take careful consideration in the judging.

Without the interest and efforts of the Regional chairmen, there would not be an AFMS award program. I am grateful for their time and efforts promoting and arranging judging on the regional level.

Next year’s contest will cover January 1-November 30, 2018, a short year, since the convention will be in Cedar Rapids, Iowa on March 16-17. I will need AFMS entries by February 2nd, 2019.

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**Web Site Contest Results**

I was a disappointed in the small number of entries in the Web Site contest this year. There were NO entries received from the Midwest or California Federations and only a small number from the others.

I hope that more clubs will enter next year since club web sites are now one of the standard ways of publicizing your club and club activities. The contest judging gives you feedback on things that you can do to improve your public image and message.

For 2018, the winners are:

1st place
Jackson Gem and Mineral Society - SFMS
2nd place
Topeka Gem and Mineral Society - RMFMS
3rd place
Austin Paleo Society - SCFMS
4th place
Cascade Gem and Mineral Society - NFMS
5th place
Clackamette Gem and Mineral Society - NMFS
6th place
Canon City Gem and Mineral Society - RMFMS
7th place
Ark-La-Tex Gem and Mineral Society - SCFMS
8th place
Withlacoochie Gem and Mineral Society - SFMS
9th place
Chesapeake Gem and Mineral Society - EFMLS
10th place
Baltimore Mineral Society - EFMLS
You are Being Watched

You are indeed being watched. While out on a club dig or field trip searching for some nice collectibles people are mostly interested in looking at the hole they are digging. Next, people are looking at the marvelous "sparklies" they are finding in the hole. Lastly, they are looking at the people all around them to see what is going on nearby. If you are near one of those intrepid diggers you are being watched by them.

So, because you are being noticed by other collectors, are you setting a good example for them? Are you wearing appropriate footwear? Do you have on suitable protective garments? Might the safety goggles you are wearing be proper for the site? Gloves, are they being worn? Seriously, people are watching you. Are you setting a good example for them?

Many a time it has been said kids sometimes do not take instructions well. They are, after all, moving toward finding their own independence. Kids however are also little sponges, soaking up information about everything and everyone around them. Kids can't wait to be grown ups, and so are always watching adults… what we are saying, what we are doing, what we are wearing… all while pretending to be ignoring us.

With all that said - kids are hungry for example setters and role models. Therefore, we adults should be aware of the examples we are setting for all the kids around us. So, I ask again, are you setting a good example for your kids, and all the other kids around you? Even adults learn from those who set good examples.

Please consider this: utilizing your personal protective equipment is great for you and your family... and it may also be setting a great example for those around you.

You can do this - wear good footwear, proper protective clothing, gloves, goggles, and keep those tools in good repair. Be a trend setter. Be a good example. As a bonus, you will be safer, and you will be helping other people learn to be safer as well!

Your safety matters, as does everyone else's!

Dan Caudle
August 4, 1922 – January 8, 2018

It is with sadness that we report the passing of AFMS Past President (1981) Dan Caudle.

Born in Dublin, TX, Dan served in the U.S. Air Force in the Philippines and Australia during WWII. After the war, he was stationed at Davis Monthan Air Force Base in Tucson, AZ before settling there after his discharge. Following his military years, Dan worked as an electrician.

He and his wife Betty married before he was sent overseas in 1943. After the war, they spent weekends together rockhounding in many of the old mines in the area. In 1955 he and a few fellow collectors founded the Tucson Gem and Mineral Society where Dan and his friend Clayton Gibson served as the first show chairs. Today that show has become world famous attracting thousands of people from all over the world. Who can ever forget Dan and Clayton opening the 50th anniversary Tucson show by arriving in a red, horse-drawn Wells Fargo stage coach!

Dan served as President of both the Rocky Mountain Federation and later the American Federation.

In addition to collecting rocks and minerals, Dan and his late wife Betty enjoyed camping, travel, and woodworking.

He is survived by his daughter, five grandchildren, and nine great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his wife Betty and son Kenny.

Contributions in Dan’s memory may be made to the American Federation Scholarship Foundation, % of your regional representative. Condolences may be sent to the family of Dan Caudle, 1345 E Kleindale Rd, Tucson, AZ 85710-1913.

Carolyn Weinberger

Recognition Award

by Ron Carman

The AFMS Recognition Award was begun in 1994 as a way of honoring individuals who have served the AFMS "above and beyone" the normal call of duty. The honoree is selected from nominations made by the AFMS Past Presidents with the final decision made by a committee of the past three presidents.

The person who was recognized this year served several times as a Regional Vice President representing the Rocky Mountain Federation and later as AFMS President. He’s served as chair of the Ways and Means Committee, and was a member of the Nominating Committee, and Vice President of the AFMS Scholarship Foundation.

In addition, he’s served as President of the Rocky Mountain Federation and handled numerous committee and officer positions for his own local club.

It is with pleasure that we recognize none other then Richard Jaeger.
Endowment Fund Drawing  
by Cheryl Neary, Chair

It is with much pleasure that I can report that this year we have broken my record for total sales of the Endowment Fund tickets. (and with the less prizes being offered!)

I first want to extend my gratitude to all who have donated prizes for this years’ drawing. We had a total of 18 items, with the last one donated by our current president Sandy Fuller at the convention.

Second, thanks to all the representatives for selling the tickets! It isn’t easy selling tickets for items not yet donated!

Drum roll please ……… the EFMLS sold over 36% of the tickets with a total of $1,155.00. Thanks to Carolyn Weinberger for all her efforts! JC Moore of the Midwest Federation was close to 20% of the ticket sales!

Many of the items won were picked up at the convention by either the winners themselves or representatives of the winner – so luckily- I only have one item to ship!

And now for the winners:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ITEM #</th>
<th>ITEM</th>
<th>DONATED BY</th>
<th>WINNER</th>
<th>FEDERATION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Kyanite Pendant Set</td>
<td>Doris Keane (MWF)</td>
<td>Ellery Borow</td>
<td>EFMLS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Set of 2 Bolos</td>
<td>Bob &amp; Jean Stultz (CFMS)</td>
<td>Mary Shaffer</td>
<td>CFMS</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Miner metal buckle and bolo</td>
<td>Bob &amp; Jean Stultz (CFMS)</td>
<td>Susie Lamb</td>
<td>EFMLS</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Silver Miner Bolo</td>
<td>Bob &amp; Jean Stultz (CFMS)</td>
<td>Dave Korzendorfer</td>
<td>EFMLS</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Amethyst Crystal Slice with wood base</td>
<td>Suffolk Gem &amp; Mineral Society (EFMLS)</td>
<td>Pat Rusch</td>
<td>CFMS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Jasper Pendant</td>
<td>Pamm Bryant (EFMLS)</td>
<td>Pam Hecht</td>
<td>MWF</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Petosky Stone Pendant</td>
<td>Pamm Bryant (EFMLS)</td>
<td>Hideki Kira</td>
<td>NFMS</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Fossil Fish</td>
<td>Richard Jaeger (RMFMS)</td>
<td>David Wayment</td>
<td>SFMS</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Agatized Coral Pair</td>
<td>Jean &amp; Matt Charsky (EFMLS)</td>
<td>Julie Whitlach</td>
<td>MWF</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Freshwater Pearl Necklace</td>
<td>Jean &amp; Matt Charsky (EFMLS)</td>
<td>Robert Regner</td>
<td>RMFMS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Spinel Crystal</td>
<td>Jean &amp; Matt Charsky (EFMLS)</td>
<td>Barbara Ringhiser</td>
<td>EFMLS</td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Palm Wood Sphere</td>
<td>Liz &amp; Ben Thomas (RMFMS)</td>
<td>Bob Livingston</td>
<td>EFMLS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Spencer Idaho Opal in Silver</td>
<td>Southern Gem, Minerals &amp; Fossils (EFMLS)</td>
<td>Katie Collins</td>
<td>EFMLS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Field Trip in a Box</td>
<td>Jennifer Haley (CFMS)</td>
<td>Virginia Adian</td>
<td>SCFMS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Quartz Geode with Stand</td>
<td>Long Island Mineral &amp; Geology Society (EFMLS)</td>
<td>Doris Keane</td>
<td>MWF</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Shattuckite, Pearl &amp; Topaz Pendant</td>
<td>Joyce &amp; Delbert Speed (SCFMS)</td>
<td>Bill Desmarais</td>
<td>MWF</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Amethyst Plate</td>
<td>LaReene Heath</td>
<td>Carrie Meyers</td>
<td>EFMLS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Metal Trilobite Sculpture</td>
<td>Sandy Fuller (MWF)</td>
<td></td>
<td>EFMLS</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

The good news is that Doug True donated a large amethyst plate and metal stand for our 2019 Endowment Fund – and I already have contributions from MWF of several spheres! So please start checking the website for the pictures of the 2019 donations (which will be posted shortly). Please remember we ask for all donations to be of a minimum value of $75.00 and no more than 5 pounds (due to shipping costs that may be incurred).

As a reminder, the interest from the money generated is used for AMFS special projects, such as: junior badges; judges training; and digitizing of slide programs – just to name a few!

THANKS again to all who have made this year successful!
I was delighted to announce and present awards to many editors at the AFMS Convention in Raleigh, NC a couple of weeks ago. Thanks to the judges for their hard work and helpful comments.

It's now time for all editors to prepare bulletins for evaluating in the next contest. Due to the early convention (March), we’ll be using bulletins published from January 1 to November 2019 for the contest. Your regional federation chairperson will give you their entry deadlines in the next few months.

In the meantime I encourage you to review your regional federation score sheet to be sure you include all the elements that are up for evaluation.

New Editors:

1st Place
Rockonteur
Santa Lucia Rockhouns
Laurie Pudwell, Editor (CFMS)

2nd Place
The Show Me Geode
Show Me Gems & Minerals Club
Ming Zhu, Editor (MWF)

Mini Bulletins:

1st Place
Crack n' Cab
Gem & Mineral Society of Syracuse
Daniel Andrianos, Editor (EFMLS)

2nd Place
The Hound's Howl
Aiken Gem, Mineral & Fossil Society
Shellie Newell (SFMS)

3rd Place
The Collecting Bag
Richmond Gem & Mineral Society
Barbara Hadley, Editor (EFMLS)

Small Bulletins:

1st Place
The Hound's Howl
Aiken Gem, Mineral & Fossil Society
Shellie Newell (SFMS)

2nd Place
The Strata Data
Three Rivers Gem & Mineral Society
Michelle Yamanaka, Editor (MWF)

3rd Place
The Pick & Dop Stick
Chicago Rocks & Minerals Society
Racele L. Best, Editor (MWF)

6th Place
Ore-Cuts
Orcutt Mineral Society
Wayne Mills, Editor (CFMS)

7th Place
The CMS Tumbler
Cascade Mineralogical Society
Keith Morgan, Editor (NFMS)

8th Place
The Red Stick Rockhound News
Baton Rouge Gem & Mineral Society
Liz Burford, Editor (SCFMS)

Large Bulletins:

1st Place
Rollin' N Stones
Northern Virginia Mineral Club
Hutch Brown, Editor (EFMLS)

2nd Place
Chippers Chatter
Chesapeake Gem & Mineral Society
Carolyn Weinberger, Editor (EFMLS)

3rd Place
The Virginia Pen
Gem & Mineral Society of the Virginia Peninsula
Daniel Fontaine, Editor (EFMLS)

4th Place
The Rockhound Record
Mineralogical Society of Arizona
Chris Whitney-Smith, Editor

5th Place
The Clackamette Gem
Clackamette Mineral & Gem Club
Beth Heesacker, Editor (NFMS)

6th Place
T-Town Rockhound
Tulsa Rock & Mineral Society
Kay Wateran, Editor (RMFMS)

7th Place
The Backbender's Gazette
Houston Gem & Mineral Society
Phyllis George, Editor (SCFMS)

8th Place
Grindings
Idaho Gem Club
Linda Barlow, Editor (NFMS)

9th Place
The Conglomerate
Michigan Mineralogical Society
Dawn Niedermiller, Editor (MWF)

10th Place
Ozark Earth Science News
Ozark Earth Science Club
Madelynn Anderson, Editor (MWF)

Honorable Mention

Rocky Echoes
Mississippi Gem & Mineral Society
Rosina Echols, Editor (SFMS)

The Hot Springs Bulletin
Hot Springs Geology Club
Raymond Lynch, Editor (SCFMS)

MAGS Rockhound News
Memphis Archaeological & Geological Society
Matthew Lybanon, Editor (SFMS)

Rock Pickings
Eastern Indiana Gem & Geological Society
Lisa Morris, Editor (MWF)

Flatirons Facets
Flatirons Mineral Club
Dennis Gertenback, Editor (RMFMS)

1st Place
Mineral of the Month - Sphalerite
Sue Marcus, Author
Northern Virginia Mineral Club

2nd Place
No Fooling, It's Iron Pyrite
Cheryl Ogletree, Author
Pleasant Oaks Gem & Mineral Club of Dallas

3rd Place
Petra
Susan Reimer, Author
McPherson Gem & Mineral Club

4th Place
Rhodochrosite
Don Shurtz, Author
Pleasant Oaks Gem & Mineral Club of Dallas

5th Place
The Clackamette Gem
Clackamette Mineral & Gem Club
Beth Heesacker, Editor (NFMS)

6th Place
T-Town Rockhound
Tulsa Rocks & Minerals Society
Kay Wateran, Editor (RMFMS)

7th Place
The Backbender's Gazette
Houston Gem & Mineral Society
Phyllis George, Editor (SCFMS)

8th Place
Grindings
Idaho Gem Club
Linda Barlow, Editor (NFMS)
Editor’s Contest Results

5th Place
How Does A Club Begin?
Cathy Brandt, Author
Austin Gem & Mineral Society
Carolyn Perkins, Editor (SCFMS)

6th Place
Stromatolites in Fremont County
Beverly Keith, Author
Lake George Gem & Mineral Club
Carl Carnein, Editor (RMFMS)

7th Place
California Blues
Debbie Hood, Author
Orcutt Mineral Society
Wayne Mills, Editor (CFMS)

8th Place
Spruce Grove "Mudfest" Yields a Herd of Topaz
for David Gilliam and a Trophy Smoky Quartz
for Katie Meier
Paul Combs, Author
Lake George Gem & Mineral Club
Carl Carnein, Editor (RMFMS)

9th Place
Volunteer!
Thomas Nichols, Author
Reno Gem & Mineral Society
Sue Webb, Editor (CFMS)

10th Place
How to Crack Geodes
Charles Carter, Author
Georgia Mineral Society
Bob Jarrett, Editor (SFMS)

Honorable Mention
What are Mineraloids?
Kat Koch, Author
Cascade Mineralogical Society
Keith Morgan, Editor (NFMS)

What’s a “Cab”?
Gary Bergholdt, Author
Gem & Mineral Society of the Virginia Peninsula
Daniel Fontaine, Editor (EFMLS)

A Delionation
Matthew Lybanon, Author
Memphis Archaeological & Geological Society
Matthew Lybanon, Editor

Seattle Rocks – North Wind's Weir
Audrey Vogelpohl, Author
West Seattle Rock Club
Michael Wall, Editor (NFMS)

Adult Articles - Advanced

1st Place
Science and Art in Stone
Rachele L. Best Author
Chicago Rocks & Minerals Society
Rachele L. Best, Editor (MWF)

2nd Place
MSA Field Trip Report: New Mexico Field Trip
April 21–25, 2017
Cody Schwenk, Author
Mineralogical Society of Arizona
Chris Whitney-Smith, Editor (RMFMS)

3rd Place
There Once Was a Goat Named Käre — Over a Millennium of Mining at Falu Gruve, Sweden
Dr. Nathalie Brandes, Author
Houston Gem & Mineral Society
Phyllis George, Editor (SCFMS)

4th Place
Mining Miniatures of the Victor Trading Co.
Bob Carnein, Author
Lake George Gem & Mineral Club
Carl Carnein, Editor (RMFMS)

5th Place
Minerals and Life’s Beginnings.
Part I: The Birthplace of Life
Vivien Gornitz, Author
New York Mineralogical Club
Mitch Portnoy, Editor (EFMLS)

6th Place
Lake Drummond: A Carolina Bay? -- Part I
Hutch Brown, Author
Northern Virginia Mineral Club
Hutch Brown, Editor (EFMLS)

7th Place
Ethical Kaolin Mining in Aiken:
A Field Trip to the W. R. Grace Mining Company
Shellie Newell, Author
Aiken Gem, Mineral & Fossil Society
Shellie Newell, Editor (SFMS)

8th Place
Diamonds: Tradition, Trucks and the Truth
Heath Shrive, Author
Three Rivers Gem & Mineral Society
Michele Yamanaka, Editor (MWF)

9th Place
Relic Cretaceous Fossils from the Texas Panhandle
Albert J. Robb III, Author
Houston Gem & Mineral Society
Phyllis George, Editor (SCFMS)

10th Place
Did You Know?
Jim Mills, Author
Santa Lucia Rockhounds
Laurie Pedwell, Editor (CFMS)

Honorable Mention
Secret Canyon - Son of Stone
Ralph Bishop, Author
Orcutt Mineral Society
Wayne Mills, Editor (CFMS)

Something Blue in Big Sky Country
Diana Jarrett, Author
New York Mineralogical Club
Mitch Portnoy, Editor (EFMLS)

Do Echinoderms Have a Point? Part 2
Jerry Lipsky, Author
Aiken Gem, Mineral & Fossil Society
Shellie Newell, Editor (SFMS)

Mineral of the Month, Wulfenite
Raymond Grant, Author
Mineralogical Society of Arizona
Chris Whitney-Smith, Editor (RFMS)

Longwave UV LED Flashlights and Fluorescent Minerals
Philip Neuhoff, Author
Idaho Gem Club
Linda Barlow, Editor (NFMS)

Rockin Out in Michigan’s Upper Peninsula
Paul Brandeis, Author
Houston Gem & Mineral Society
Phyllis George, Editor (SCFMS)

Some Wild Plants Are Tattletales of Hidden Riches
Dee Davis, Author
High Desert Rockhounds of Morongo Basin
Dee Davis, Editor (CFMS)

Minerals and Microminerals of Graves Mountain with John Whatley
John Whatley, Author
Aiken Gem, Mineral & Fossil Society
Shellie Newell, Editor (SFMS)

Hiking Through the Geological Wonders of the Catalina Mountains of Tucson, Arizona
Antonio Peso, Author
Chicago Rocks & Minerals Society
Rachele L. Best, Editor (MWF)
Junior Articles (Under age 12)  
1st Place  
Emeralds  
Paris Pugh, Author  
Three Rivers Gem & Mineral Society  
Michele Yamanaka, Editor (MWF)  

2nd Place  
Quartz Crystals  
Annika Jacobson, Author  
Flatirons Mineral Club  
Dennis Gertenbach, Editor (RMFMS)  

Junior Articles (Age 12 - 17)  
1st Place  
Asterism  
Paolo Sanchez, Author  
Pasadena Lapidary Society  
Mark Nelson, Editor (CFMS)  

2nd Place  
Sand: More Complex Than You’d Think  
Brandon Poy, Author  
Chicago Rocks & Minerals Society  
Rachele L. Best, Editor (MWF)  

3rd Place  
Tourmaline  
Charles Creekmur, Author  
East Texas Gem & Mineral Society  
Kinney Polve, Editor (SCFMS)  

4th Place  
President’s Message  
Robin Devisser, Author  
Reno Gem & Mineral Society  
Sue Webb, Editor (CFMS)  

5th Place  
Classic Minerals from the New Jersey Traprock  
Ton Batcha, Author  
Georgia Mineral Society  
Bob Jarrett, Editor (SFMS)  

6th Place  
Our Summer Excursion to Franklin, NC  
John Kolmar, Author  
Aiken Gem, Mineral & Fossil Society  
Shelli Newell, Editor (SFMS)  

7th Place  
A Georgia Field Trip - July 2017, Part 2  
Marilyn Russell  
Three Rivers Gem & Mineral Society  
Michele Yamanaka, Editor (MWF)  

8th Place  
A Rockhounder’s Checklist  
Kevin Colvin, Author  
Reno Gem & Mineral Society  
Sue Webb, Editor (CFMS)  

Written Features  
1st Place  
Super-Sized Diamonds  
Vivian Gornitz  
New York Mineralogical Club  
Mitch Portnoy, Editor (EFMLS)  

2nd Place  
Jr. Geologists Dig for Dinosaur Bones  
Dennis Gertenbach, Author  
Flatirons Mineral Club  
Dennis Gertenbach, Editor (RMFMS)  

3rd Place  
Tourmaline  
Charles Creekmur, Author  
East Texas Gem & Mineral Society  
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A Rockhounder’s Checklist  
Kevin Colvin, Author  
Reno Gem & Mineral Society  
Sue Webb, Editor (CFMS)  

9th Place  
Memories of Ray Berry  
Kevin Witte, Author  
Colorado Springs Mineralogical Society  
Larry Jones, Editor (RMFMS)  

10th Place  
From the Editor’s Desk  
Susn Burch, Author  
East Texas Gem & Mineral Society  
Kinney Polve, Editor (SCFMS)  

Honorable Mention  
“Spring” Into Action or “Fall” Behind  
Steve Weinberger, Author  
Baltimore Mineral Society  
Mike Seeds, Editor (EFMLS)  

Eclipse!  
Michele Sauder, Author  
Three Rivers Gem & Mineral Society  
Michele Yamanaka, Editor (MWF)  

Mineral Group October Monthly Meeting  
Kelly Ford, Author  
East Texas Gem & Mineral Society  
Kinney Polve, Editor (SCFMS)  

China Hollow Field Trip  
Bob Carson, Author  
Hatrockhounds Gem & Mineral Society  
Judith Allison, Editor (NFMS)  

MAGS, A Gracious Host  
Debbie Schaeffer, Author  
Memphis Archaeological & Geological Society  
Matthew Lybanon, Editor (SFMS)  

Mistakes Along the Way  
Rachele L. Best, Author  
Chicago Rocks & Minerals Society  
Rachele L. Best, Editor (MWF)  

April 4th Program  
Skyelar Coffee, author  
Enid Gem & Mineral Society  
Sue Ogden, Editor (RMFMS)  

Escaping from the Pacific Northwest  
Cold and Ice  
Beth Heesacker, Author  
Clackamette Mineral & Gem Club  
Beth Heesacker, Editor (NFMS)
Editor’s Contest Results  
continued from page 9

Gemstones 101
Beverly Eisenacher, Author
Central Pennsylvania Rock & Mineral Club
Beverly Eisenacher, Editor (EFMLS)

4th Place
The Old “Rocks’n’ Chair
Marilyn Gilbreath, Author
Austin Gem & Mineral Society
Carolyn Perkins, Editor (SCFMS)

5th Place
Oh, Where is my Specimen?
Blake Beher & Susan Freeman, Authors
Colorado Springs Mineralogical Society
Larry Jones, Editor (RMFMS)

6th Place
A Lyrmic
Lynn Metcalf, Author
East Texas Gem & Mineral Society
Kinney Polve, Editor (SCFMS)

Junior Poetry
1st Place
Mammoth Site
Gavin Seltz, Author
Colorado Springs Mineralogical Society
Larry Jones, Editor (RMFMS)

2nd Place
Daddy’s Rocks
Evie Harvin, Author
Catawba Valley Gem & Mineral Club
Slade Harvin, Editor (EFMLS)

Special Publications
1st Place
NVMC Editor’s Handbook
Hutch Brown, Author
Northern Virginia Mineral Club
Hurch Brown, Editor (EFMLS)

2nd Place
Dr. Ray Grant Commemorative Poster
Don Bouschell, Author
Mineralogical Society of Arizona
Chris Whitney-Smith, Editor (RMFMS)

3rd Place
Resurfacing Diamond Wheels
Kinney Polve, Author
East Texas Gem & Mineral Society
Kinney Polve, Editor (SCFMS)

4th Place
Baton Rouge Mini Maker Faire
Liz Burford, Author
Baton Rouge Gem & Mineral Society
Liz Burford, Editor (SCFMS)

Congratulations
to all our authors and editors.
You are a winner
by being in the AFMS contest no matter
where you placed.

AFMS Club Rockhounds
from Evelyn Cataldo, Chair

Eastern Federation
The Gem & Mineral Society of the Virginia Peninsula is pleased to proclaim Gary Bergtholdt as our 2018 Rockhound of the Year. Gary has been our club’s treasurer for many years and is now Treasurer for the EFMLS as well.

A regular contributor to our newsletter, he writes on matters of improving lapidary skills, field trips and the EFMLS. One article for both newsletter and web site described detailed slab to cab lapidary procedures.

No matter the activity, gem tree making to fund raising, Gary is involved in leading or helping tirelessly to make the GMSVP a better club. As I heard someone say, every club needs

2019 AFMS Officers:
From left: Donna Moore, Secretary; J.C. Moore, 5th Regional VP (MWF); Margaret Kolacyzk, 2nd Regional VP, (CFMS); Judy Beck, 1st Regional VP (RMFMS); Dave Wayment, President-elect (SFMS); Roger Burford, 4th Regional VP (SCFMS); Doug True, President (NFMS)
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.

All American Club
Regina Kaptar
<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
<waynec3 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
<rockyfive 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
2018 Bulletin Editors Hall of Fame Honorees

from Carolyn Weinberger, Chair

The Bulletin Editors’ Hall of Fame was established in 1995 as a way to recognize and honor the hard working editors of local gem and mineral clubs throughout the United States, Canada and other areas of the globe where there are organized clubs.

Announcement of new honorees is normally made each year during the AFMS Annual Convention with certificates presented at the annual AFMS Breakfast with the Editors and Webmasters. Initially editors from each Federation were inducted into the “Hall” each year, but because so many could not be at the AFMS Convention this policy was changed in 2004, so that, unless unusual circumstances prevailed, only editors from the federation hosting the AFMS Convention would be those inducted. The idea, which has worked well, is for the new Hall of Fame editors to be recognized before a group of their friends and peers within their own regional federation.

In 2018 Editors from the Eastern Federation were recognized during the AFMS Convention in Raleigh, NC. Editors from the Midwest Federation will be recognized during the 2019 breakfast in Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

Those recognized this year are:

- Kathy Hrechka
  *The Mineral Mite*
  Micromineralogists of the National Capital Area
  Alexandria, VA

- Jim Patzer
  *Fossil Finder*
  American Fossil Federation
  Bowie, MD

- Rick Smith
  *The Rostrum*
  Maryland Geological Society
  Bowie, MD

- Joe Mulvey
  *Micromounters of New England Newsletter*
  Micromounters of New England
  Nashua, NH

- Mitch Portnoy
  *Bulletin of the New York Mineralogical Club*
  New York Mineralogical Club
  New York, NY

Bev Eisenacher
*Rock Buster News*
Central Pennsylvania Rock and Mineral Club
Harrisburg, PA

Daniel Fontaine
*The Virginia Pen*
Gem & Mineral Society of the VA Peninsula
Hampton, VA

Hutch Brown
*The Mineral Newsletter*
Northern Virginia Mineral Club
Alexandria, VA

A full list of past inductees can be found on the AFMS web site (http://www.amfed.org/HallOfFame.pdf). The updated listing will be there be posted by May 1.

To suggest an editor for inclusion in the Hall of Fame, contact the AFMS Chair at <editor@amfed.org>

Upcoming Regional Federation Conventions

from Emerson Tuoker, Show Coordinator

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<th>California Federation</th>
<th>Eastern Federation</th>
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<th>Northwest Federation</th>
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<td>2018</td>
<td>Sept. 15-16</td>
<td>AFMS</td>
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<td>April 27-29</td>
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<td>Chico, CA</td>
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