But It’s OK Because I Got It from the Internet!”

by Sue Webb, BEAC Chair

When Doug True asked me to serve as the AFMS Bulletin Editors Aids Chair, I was a little reluctant. After all, even though I’m retired, I’m busy, and, like so many of my retired friends, I wonder how I got it all done when I was working. I didn’t know what I really could contribute to the job. But friends encouraged me by reminding me that I had spent my entire professional career teaching writing and rhetorical theory to college instructors-in-training and editing 6 editions of what was in those days the best-selling college writing handbook. How could this be different? I’ve also already served a couple of years as the BEAC for the California Federation, so I know the ropes at least a little. I understand that in addition to overseeing the AFMS bulletin contest, part of my duties will be to write an article for the AFMS newsletter, most months. For future topics, I’ll rely at least in part on the questions and suggestions about editing, writing, designing and producing a bulletin, or the bulletin contest that you send to me at rpgms.bulletin@gmail.com. For this first article, I’ll address making sure the articles we publish in our newsletters give proper credit to their sources.

It’s not only a matter of ethics to acknowledge a debt to the words or ideas of another. It may also be a legal matter. Of course, information that comes from our personal or professional experience doesn’t usually require citation. But, any time we look something up before we write about it, any time we find a particularly apt way of saying something, we need to state our source. There’s also a murky area called general information which is that information the average person may be expected to know such as the name of the President of the US, or this year’s date for Thanksgiving, or what a leap year is. General information need not be cited unless we use the actual words another person has used to express it. That’s one of the times we need to use quotation marks. Actually, we need to use them any time we use combinations of words from other sources. And our use of sources, today, goes well beyond books, periodicals and newspapers. I’ve also heard people say that if they found it on the Internet, they don’t have to cite it. Wrong. We do—the web site and the date we found it. What do we do about images we find—photos, charts, graphs, drawings? We have to state where we got the image and who owns it. The crediting of images is even stricter than is the crediting of text. Well, what if we change the words around and write the ideas up that way? Do we still have to say what the source is? You bet we do! That’s called “paraphrase,” and the source must always be acknowledged.

So what, as an editor, do we do when one of our society members sends us an article that we want to publish but that clearly contains information derived from sources? When I get those articles, I really do want to print them in our newsletter, but my job is to work with the writers to give proper credit to the sources. I might respond something like this: “Hi, Elswyth, thanks so much for your very interesting article on plate tectonics. I think our members will value the information you’ve provided there. However, we have to take an additional step before your work can become public. Can you provide me with a list of sources you used to gather all this information? The easiest way is just to insert at the relevant location information about author, title, date and page numbers of the books and periodicals you used, and the location and date of access for web sites consulted. If you got the information by a conversation with someone or from an email, you need to acknowledge that, too. And please, can you help me out by putting quotation marks around the words you used directly from those sources? Thanks. I’m looking forward to hearing from you soon so we can meet our deadline.”

continued on page 3
A Word from the President

by Doug True, President

Welcome from Montana. By now summer is waning, fall is here and winter is showing her ugly head in some places around the country.

We are now getting ready to make our way down to Quartzsite, Arizona for the winter months. You should visit some time, as thousands of collectors come to see the beautiful things that are found on this great land of ours, Quartzsite grows from 3000 to well over 150,000 in January every year. Gems, Minerals, Fossils, Jewelry and many other unrelated items are for sale. Come take a field trip into the desert, see the uniqueness of the Southwest.

When New Years gets here and it is time to make that new years resolution, why not reach out and ask someone to attend your next gem club meeting. Statistics show that for every member in the US there are at least 20 others out there who collect rocks, minerals, fossils, artifacts, items related to the earth sciences. That means we have a lot of work to do. Also I would like to ask everyone to look at what they have made or collected, purchased or traded and enter it into your next local or federation show.

Happy Holidays

Doug

Having Fun: Junior Activities: It’s In the Cards

by Jim Brace-Thompson, Juniors Program Chair

While on family vacation trips, during rainy days at summer camp, or late at night in college dorm rooms, card games were always a fun diversion. With a standard deck of playing cards, you can enjoy any number of games as complex as bridge or as simple as “pig”.

When seeking a simple and fun diversion for your club’s kids, consider card games. You can use a standard deck—or any number of cards now available with a rock-and-gem theme that you can find on-line or in gift shops of natural history museums. For instance, in recent months I’ve purchased decks of standard playing cards embellished with special photos and background info. Three decks that I have readily at hand are entitled “Agates of Lake Superior”, “Gem & Mineral Rummy” (from the Smithsonian Institution), and “Discover Volcanoes & Earthquakes”. Each is both a standard deck of playing cards and a font of earth science info.

Use such cards to play fun games while teaching your juniors and pebble pups about our hobby. The cards I have in these special decks contain tidbits of info to learn from. Step it up a bit to offer gems, minerals, and fossils as special prizes for each round of whatever game you choose to play, and your kids are sure to learn while, as always, having fun!

You can find information about the Future Rockhounds of America (Junior Activity Program) on the AFMS Web Site (www.amfed.org/fra/fra_badge.htm).
Purpose of the AFMS:
To promote popular interest and education in the various Earth Sciences, and in particular the subjects of Geology, Mineralogy, Paleontology, Lapidary and other related subjects, and to sponsor and provide means of coordinating the work and efforts of all persons and groups interested therein; to sponsor and encourage the formation and international development of Societies and Regional Federations and by and through such means to strive toward greater international good will and fellowship.

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Steve Weinberger
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<central_office@amfed.org>
410-833-7926

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2019 AFMS/MWF Convention Information

Information, Schedule, Registration, and flyer for the 2019 AFMS / MWF Convention and Show can be found on https://cedarvalleyrockclub.org/AFMSHome.html or on the AFMS web site (www.amfed.org).

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But I Got it From the Internet!

But maybe Elswyth doesn’t remember where she got everything. Then I can’t put her article in our newsletter. It’s as simple as that. Now, if you’re like me, you would really like to publish the article. It’s tempting, but resist. While it is unlikely that an author or publisher would pursue such a case of unwitting plagiarism, it isn’t worth the risk either legally or to the reputation of your newsletter and your society. (And just to set your minds at ease, the information in this article came from my personal and professional experience.)

continued from page 1

AFMS Endowment Fund
by Cheryl Neary, Endowment Chair

Why contribute to the Endowment Fund? Simply, your donation of either an item donated to the fund or the purchase of tickets helps tremendously with this important fundraiser for the Federation. The interest from the monies generated is used for AFMS special projects, such as, junior badges, judging training, digitizing of slide programs, to name a few.

Tickets for the drawing are $5.00 per ticket or 5 for $20.00. You may purchase your tickets from your Federation’s representative as follows:

California Federation: Heidi Hall
233 Fairway Dr; Santa Rosa, CA 95409
hdafler@yahoo.com

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

Midwest Federation: J.C. & Donna Moore
25235 N State Route 97; Cuba, IL 61427
J.C.: jcmoore3rd@gmail.com
Donna: mwfsecretary@midwest.org

Northwest Federation
Judi Allison, 1701 NW 11th St; Hermiston, OR 97838
jall@eotnet.net

Rocky Mountain
Delane Cox, 8152 Spanker Ridge Dr
Bentonville, AR 72712
delanec3@earthlink.net
Richard Jaeger, 3515 E 88th St; Tulsa, OK 74137
rjgrsci@aol.com

South Central
Joyce Speed, 4680 Wisteria St; Dallas, TX 75211
llispeed2@gmail.com

Southeast Federation
Leslie & Dave Wayment
PO Box 780791; Sebastian, FL 32978
aastainedglass@bellsouth.net

At this time we have several donations from various Federations. Don’t miss the opportunity to have your Federation, Club or Member mentioned as a donor for this great fund!

New items donated since the last AFMS Newsletter are as follows:

#2 Kambaba Jasper Sphere, Madagascar donated by Lavin Gems & Jewelry - Estimated value $85.00 (MMF)

#3 Snowflake Obsidian Sphere donated by R.M. Kapta, Decatur, IL - Estimated value $85.00 (MWF)

#4 Golden Sheen Obsidian Sphere donated by R.M. Kapta, Decatur, IL - Estimated value $85.00 (MWF)

#10 Vanadinite, Morocco Donated by Southern Gems, Minerals & Fossils – Est. value $350.00 (EFMLS)

#13 Painting on Brazilian Agate – Donated by Richard Jaeger

All pictures of the items and any new donations will be listed on the website.

If interested in donating a mineral specimen or piece of jewelry or equipment, the criteria is a minimum value of $75.00 and not heavier than five (5) pounds (with exceptions to equipment – if it can be brought to and distributed at the convention!)

Please contact me at ciervo.neary@gmail.com if you have a donation.

Remember, the Endowment Fund helps support the future of our organizations and our hobbies, including minerals, fossils and geology to name a few!

Personal Limits
by Ellery Borow, AFMS Safety Chair

No doubt all safety-aware persons are mindful of various rules, regulations, guidelines and limits imposed upon us by all manner of property owners, equipment manufacturers, various state and federal agencies.

Those rules, regulations, guidelines and limits have been thoroughly researched, reviewed, relevancy tested, and released for all of our collective safety concerns.

Where however, do own personal limits come into play? Our various medications, concerns about our less then satisfactory balance, our less then sharp eyesight, and our less than optimal motor skills all suggest limitations to which we should also pay attention as we engage in our rockhounding activities.

Is that a slope we could easily climb or is it something we could no long ascend? Is a large lapidary project something we should no longer attempt, considering the weakness in our hands? Should we cut back on certain faceting designs because of eyesight issues?

While rules, regulations, guidelines and limits imposed upon us are thoughtful and well intentioned, we would be well advised to be aware of our personal limits and mind them as well. Our personal limits are, well, personal. We are the ones most suited to judging and minding our own personal limits. How ar we able agencies.

Some limitations have work-arounds. Oe can add wheels to their collecting bags, or support jigs and fixtures to support heavy lapidary work, or use a longer trail instead of the steep slope. Those are all work-arounds.

Ones own personal limits are important to mind. One might injure themselves by disregarding equipment manufacturers recommendations, but one might also injure themselves when disregarding a personal limitation such as when taking too steep a trail.

Please be safe – your safety matters, no matter the source of a limitation.
It gives me great pleasure to share with you the names of the participating regional federation Scholarship Honorees and the students each has selected.

Eastern Federation:  
**Dr. David Warburton**; Associate Professor and Assistant Chairperson at the Florida Atlantic University in Boca Raton, Florida. Dr. Johnson has chosen as the following two students for the Eastern Federation:  
- **Mr. Alexander Modys** who is pursuing his Ph.D. degree in Marine Geosciences at Florida Atlantic University.  
- **Mr. Greg Cook** who is pursuing his Masters Degree in Geosciences at Florida Atlantic University.

Midwest Federation:  
**Dr. Bernice McCloskey**; is a retired professor from of the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. Dr. McCloskey has held many Midwest Federation positions including being a Passed President of the Midwest Federation. Dr. McCloskey has chosen the following two students for the Midwest Federation:  
- **Ms. Libby Ives** is pursuing her PH.D degree in Geosciences with an emphasis on Sedimentology at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.  
- The second student **Mr. Kyle Tollefson** is pursuing his Masters degree in Geology at Louisiana State University-Baton Rouge.

South Central Federation:  
**Dr. Darrell Henry** is a Professor of Geology at Louisiana State University-Baton Rouge. Dr. Henry has chosen as the following two students for the South Central Federation:  
- **Mr. Kyle Tollefson** is pursuing his Masters degree in Geology at Louisiana State University-Baton Rouge.  
- The second student, **Mr. Larry Cliff-Tuttle** is pursuing his Masters degree in Geology at Louisiana State University-Baton Rouge.

Rocky Mountain Federation:  
**Dr. Matthew Brueseke** is Associate Professor at the Department of Geology at Kansas State University, Manhattan, Kansas. Dr. Brueseke has chosen as the following two students for the Rocky Mountain Federation:  
- **Ms. Emily Fenner** is pursuing her Masters degree in Geology (local Kansas Kimberlites) at Kansas State University in Manhattan, Kansas.  
- The second student **Ms. KayLeigh Rogers** is pursuing her Masters degree in Geological Sciences (epithermal Au-Ag deposits in the Great Basin) at Kansas State University in Manhattan, Kansas.

California Federation:  
**Dr. Craig Poole** is Assistant Professor of Planetary Science at the Jet Propulsion Science Laboratory California State University-Fresno. Dr. Poole has chosen the two following students for the California Federation:  
- **Mr. Jessie Shields** is pursuing his Ph.D degree in Geological Sciences at California State University-Fresno, Fresno, California.  
- The second student **Ms. Amalie Larsen** is pursuing her PhD. Degree in Geological Sciences at California State University-Fresno, Fresno, California.

Northwest Federation:  
**Mr. Evan Day**. Evan has held many positions in the Northwest Federation. Evan has chosen the following two students for the Northwest Federation:  
- **Mr. Keegan Melstrom** is pursuing his Ph.D degree in Geology and Geophysics at University of Utah, Salt Lake City, Utah.  
- The second student **Mr. Tylor Birthisel** is pursuing his Masters degree in Paleontology at the University of Utah, Salt Lake City, Utah.

A Reminder

There will be no AFMS Newsletter in January.  
The deadline for the next issue (February, 2019) is January 1, 2019.

While we’re away, we hope that all of you have a very Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukah, Joyous Kwanza and of course a very happy, healthy and prosperous New Year.

Steve, Carolyn and Miss Mocha
**AFMS Club Rockhounds of the Year**

*from Judi Allison, AFMS ACROY Chair*

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**California Federation**

The San Joaquin Valley Lapidary Society in Bakersfield would like to honor **Marvin Neabeack** as our 2018 Rockhound of the Year. He has been very active in our club for years. Marvin has shown his lapidary skills with award winning show cases at our Kern County Fair. He has been our CFMS Director for many years, representing us honorably and faithfully. In our workshop, Marvin has taught new club members the basic lapidary techniques. He has attended the CFMS Earth Science Studies (Camp Paradise) for several years, bringing back the new techniques he has learned. We recently celebrated his 22nd birthday...oh, wait he was born in a leap year...we celebrated his 90th birthday this year, and he is still going strong for our club. Thanks Marvin for all your help and guidance. We honor Marvin Neabeack as our 2018 Rockhound of the year.

*submitted by Barbara Louden, Secretary*

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**Vallejo Gem and Mineral Society**

believe **Mark and Sue Samms** are well deserving of Rockhound(s) of the Year due to their yearly contributions to the club. The Samms are dependable volunteers at all the annual VGMS events helping out the Silent Auction, AG Day, Fair and for the scheduled shop clean-ups. They can be counted on to consistently volunteer in providing shop foreman coverage on a weekly basis and will cover on short notice when needed. Although Sue is not a shop foreman, she assists Mark at the shop when he is performing maintenance or shop upkeep. Mark has a talent for knapping (we are talking about making arrowheads here) and has taught a knapping class for VGMS. The Samms often attend many VGMS scheduled field trips. Mark’s claim to fame in the field is pulling his dolly up and down the slopes filling his bucket with rocks. In addition, the Samms are often in the top 3 prizes in the quarterly Cabochon Contests and are usually the team to beat!

*submitted by Aubrey Daniels, Federation Director*

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**Oxnard Gem & Mineral Society**

would like to nominate **Miriam Tetreault** for 2018 Rock Hound of the Year. For over three decades, (since 1967) Miriam has participated in our Society activities. Over the years, she has held just about every office, taught silversmithing classes and back in 1993, worked with her husband Gene to customize the interior of the Show Trailer for our needs. This year Miriam served again as the Show Chairman and Treasurer. She has been our rock for three decades. Despite the fact I am fully aware she does not need any more stuff, I wanted to honor Miriam’s contributions to our Society anyway! We appreciate all that you do. Thank you.

*submitted by Stephanie Hagiwara, President*

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**Rocky Mountain Federation**

Cañon City Geology Club, Cañon City, Colorado nominates **Daniel Cobler** for the Rock Hound of the Year award. During the time that Dan served on the board, he worked tirelessly on two of the club’s main goals for the year. Dan organized a scholarship committee that wrote procedures for this activity. The club gave a $1,000 scholarship for 2018, and will do the same this year. He also created a board handbook containing the needed information for functioning. This has become a reference for the workings of the club and for new board members.

The club is extremely grateful to Dan for his completion of these two projects, and we wish him the best in his college studies.

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**Upcoming AFMS and Regional Federation Conventions**

*from Emerson Tucker*

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AFMS Committees: 2018 – 19

Here is the listing of the people who have agreed to serve as Committee Chairs for 2018-19. 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
<cigmc at comcast.net>

AFMS Club Rockhound of the Year
Judi Allison
<jms46 at outlook.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
Sue Web
<bulletin@gmail.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
<ssmartin at 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
Sandy Fuller
<mwftreas at rock-biz.biz>

Name Badges
Frank Mullaney
<rockyfive at aol.com>

Nominating
Sandy Fuller (see Long Range Planning)

Parliamentarian
Steve Weinberger (see Bylaws Revisory)

Past President’s Advisory
Sandy Fuller (see Long Range Planning)

Photography
John Martin (see Conservation)

Program Competition
Darrell Watkins
<darrekk8418 at aol.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
Barbara Sky
<bskysky at aol.com>

URC Eligibility Files
Josie Middleton
<jemzrocz@gmail.com>

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

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

Web Site Contest
Don Shurtz
<don.shurtz at gmail.com>

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

Doug True, Vice President
Margaret Kolacyzk, Secretary
Barbara Ringhiser, 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.

AFMS Land Use Policy

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 continuing 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.