A Tribute to Carolyn Weinberger

by Shirley Leeson

Carolyn and I go back to a time when instant communication was just starting. When editors exchanged newsletters and met in person at the national shows at the Editor’s Breakfast. We began by exchanging bulletins, and met over those many years at editor’s events. As we rose through our own regional organizations, and began our involvement in national affairs. At the national show in Boise, Idaho, 1997 I introduced the Bulletin Editors Hall of Fame. Giving recognition to those editors we had all come to love and admire. Carolyn was at the top of the list for the Eastern Federation. She eventually took over the position as I needed to move on. This program is still going on, thanks to Carolyn.

The involvement of Carolyn and Steve at Wildacres was monumental. They enthusiastically urged me to attend and when the opportunity to help create the Judges Training program at Wildacres came along I was right there in the middle with Carolyn and Steve making the whole thing work like a well oiled mechanism. The drive down from Carolyn’s house to Wildacres each year I attended was also something special. They always stopped half way down, and people from all over the Eastern seaboard flocked to connect there before their final sweep into Wildacres. The Chinese Restaurant at this stop was like a homecoming and the folks at the restaurant gave us a huge banquet room in the back. Good memories.

We visited each year at Tucson, where Carolyn and Steve joined the Tucson Gem and Mineral Society and participated in helping in all the events there. She and Steve greeted people from all over the country and even many of those international visitors who repeated their visits each year. Their involvement in the AFMS came through Carolyn’s interest in editors, and Steve began working with the various committees, so that when Henry Bonar stepped down as Central Office, Steve stepped smoothly into the position. I can’t remember the year Carolyn became the AFMS Newsletter editor, but it was some time during this era.

They have been a fixture for so long that AFMS really means Carolyn and Steve. Their work for the AFMS has been monumental and will live on forever. And Steve even had time to become AFMS president, along with his duties as Central Office. Carolyn was a Regional Vice President on numerous occasions representing the Eastern Federation.

(Continued next page)
Carolyn, Diane Dare and I were asked to create something special for the AFMS’s 50th Anniversary. We decided on a booklet with all the Past Presidents and some of the things that went on during those presidencies. We contacted those past presidents still living, and families of those who had passed on, asking for something personal from them for a permanent exhibit. And memories of their term of office. The booklet was released at Jackson, Mississippi October 17 – 19, 1997.

In 2002 Steve served as AFMS President. He proposed a new AFMS Recognition Award, to be presented to someone who had served the AFMS far beyond what was expected in the Operating Procedures or in other areas serving the AFMS. The first recipient was June Culp Zeitner, and Steve and Carolyn drove by her home in South Dakota and presented the Award personally… That’s how Carolyn and Steve were, prepared, down to the last detail… That’s how Carolyn and Steve were, prepared, down to the last detail.

In 2009 Doc Bob Carlson, Past President of the AFMS (2007), awarded Carolyn and Steve with the AFMS Recognition Award. I can’t say it any better than what Bob said, “This year’s selection cannot be hidden when accomplishments are enumerated. Therefore, I wish to announce that this year’s award goes to a couple: Steve and Carolyn Weinberger. Steve was AFMS President in 2001–02. He took over the Central Office in 2004, and had done a yeoman’s job. Carolyn became AFMS in 1999 and continues to serve in that position today. Together, this couple has provided the AFMS with Communication and Organization, without which the AFMS could not exist.”

Since then they have served the AFMS with good humor, advice and strength. I will miss Carolyn terribly, it is a hole in my heart, and my thoughts and prayers go out to Steve and their beautiful poodle, Mocha, in his time of sorrow.

Carolyn will always be in our hearts......

Shirley Leeson,
friend and partner in all good things we did.
AFMS Past President, AFMS Past Historian and collector of chamber pots, due to Carolyn and Steve and others.
A Word from the President

by Doug True, President

What a great show put on by the Cedar Rapids Club and MWFMS! Thanks for all of the hard work.

This is one of the ways the AFMS is important: the value of various federation members getting together, sharing with each other, working on problems of interest, dealing with federation differences.

As AFMS, we are in the position to advise, not to control. The same is true for each of the regional federations. They are there to advise and support the local clubs.

With that in mind, working together makes for a stronger federation--building great relationships, getting new ideas, and applying them in other areas.

Spotlighting Your Best & Brightest Kids in Rock & Gem

by Jim Brace-Thompson, Juniors Program Chair

As many of you know, I write articles for the Kids’ Page of Rock & Gem magazine. Within this section, I have occasionally run articles about outstanding juniors in an informal series called “Spotlight on Juniors.” For instance, watch for the May issue of Rock & Gem for the latest in this series with an article honoring junior rockhound Lucia Hetrick of the Ventura Gem & Mineral Society. In addition to Lucia, for the past few years I have spotlighted seven other kids, but I—and Rock & Gem Managing Editor Toni Rahn—would like to spotlight many, many more. For this, Toni and I need your help!

The intent of our “Spotlight on Juniors” series is to highlight interests and accomplishments of especially outstanding kids, both to honor those who deserve special recognition and to provide role models for other kids. The junior rockhound of today goes on to be the professional of tomorrow. For instance, a young boy who called himself “Dino Bob” when I joined my very first rock club (the Carmel Valley Gem & Mineral Society) some 28 years ago wrote a monthly dinosaur column for the society newsletter. Well, Dino Bob is now a full-fledged paleontologist whose work was featured in no less than the pages of the journal Science not so very long ago.

Do you have a pebble pup or junior member (up to age 18) in your society who is completely “rock crazy” and gung ho for our hobby and who may be primed to be the next Dino Bob? If so, please contact me with names and details about kids whom you believe deserve special recognition, along with a photo or two. I’ll be happy to do a write-up on them for Rock & Gem Kids. I kindly ask all regional newsletter editors who receive the AFMS Newsletter—along with any local society officers who also receive this—to reprint this article and to promote this within your regional and local society newsletters and during your monthly club meetings.

As a start, you might consider kids that your society has nominated in the past for Junior Rockhound of the Year recognition. I know that many such kids have been honored in this way over the years. Please contact me (jbraceth@roadrunner.com, 805-659-3577) and we’ll get the ball rolling on an article within the pages of our national hobby magazine, Rock & Gem, honoring and sharing the unique and individual perspective, fun and joy that each and every child brings to our hobby!

AFMS Recognition Award: John Martin Honored

By Sandy Fuller, Past Presidents Advisory

Want to know the latest information on public lands access for recreational rock hounding? Your best source is the web pages of the American Land Access Association <amlands.org>. Webmaster John Martin continually monitors and identifies proposed and pending rule making and legislation (with the assistance of ALAA members) and posts the most up-to-date information.

As the AFMS Conservation and Legislation Committee Chair since 2008, he also digests and disseminates timely information through newsletter articles and contacts with his regional counterparts. Occasionally, he even travels across the country to meet with congressional members to help them understand the concerns of recreational rockhounds.

Having trouble finding photos of John? That’s because he’s the guy hiding behind the camera. John has photo-documented many AFMS conventions and can usually be identified as the man with the camera.

At the 2019 AFMS Convention, John Martin was awarded the AFMS Recognition Award for going above and beyond their prescribed duties to make a lasting contribution to the AFMS. The award is not given every year because it is reserved for very special people who are identified by four past AFMS Presidents.

Previous recipients of the AFMS Recognition Award include: June Culp Zeitner, Jim Hurlbut, Dee Holland, Dorothy and Glenn Lee, Marge Collins, Steve and Carolyn Weinberger, Ruth Bailey, Ed Romack, Anne Cook, Shirley Leeson, Pat LaRue, B. Jay Bowman, Dr. Robert Carlson, Jim Brace-Thompson and Richard Jaeger.
Rockhound of the Year: It’s Never Too Early
by Judi Allison, AFMS Rockhound of the Year Chair

Even though we are less than half way into the year, I want to remind you that you can name your special person for the year at any time. Remember, this is an honor that should be bestowed upon an individual, a couple or a Junior who has done something special for the club this year. There are those folks who are the spine of our organizations, and perhaps even the entire skeleton, who usually receive kudos of various sorts. But there are often those quiet background individuals who do some very special things without being noticed. Sure, it is great to acknowledge the folks you notice up front all the time, but don’t fail to notice the shy quiet workers in your midst.

We are implementing a method this year that, hopefully, will give a more immediate acknowledgement to your member. Remember, each area Federation has a Regional Rockhound of the Year Chairperson. Send your nominee to them and they, in turn, will pass on your information to your regional Newsletter. They will also send me a copy so that I can submit it to the AFMS Newsletter for publication. I will, in turn, create a certificate which I will email (or mail) to your Regional Chairperson. They then can send that certificate on to you on a timelier basis: either by email or with a hard copy, whichever you prefer. You can then present the certificate at the time you honor the person rather than having to wait until your Region’s Annual Meeting.

Each Regional Chairperson also has at their disposal a form that hopefully will be published in your newsletter or possibly appear on your Regional website. My hope is to have plenty of work to do, creating certificates and passing on write ups of honorees to the AFMS. Again, I urge you to take time to avail yourselves of this simple means of honoring all those unsung heroes.

Following is the list of your Regional Chairpersons:

California: Gary Levitt, PO Box 5474, Chatsworth, CA 91313, garytherockhound@sbcglobal.net  818-993-3802
Eastern: Ellery Borow, PO Box 47; Waterville, ME 04903-0047 (Currently no email) Phone 207-547-3154
Midwest: Steve Shimatzki, 4295 County Rd. 16, Woodville, OH 43469  sjs132@gmail.com  567-868-8794
Northwest: Laurie Ellis, PO Box 3326, Irrigon, OR 97844  65shark@gmail.com
Rocky Mountain: Sheri Johnson, 339 S. Milan St, Henderson, NV 89015  sherisrocks89121@gmail.com  702-525-0256
South Central: Chip Burnette, 2630 Polk Street, Killeen, TX 76543  burnette@aceweb.com  254-630-3573
Southeast: Marty Hart, 4935 Olivia Dr., Antioch, TN 37013  webmaster@amfed.org

If you have any difficulty reaching them, please let me know, and we’ll get the ball rolling.

WE HAVE WINNERS: The All American Club Awards
By Regina Kapta, AACA Chair

Congratulations to The All American Club award winners for the entries covering 2018. 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 2018 had three entries for the All American Club awards, and the winners are:

GOLD Award for the McPherson Gem & Mineral Club - with an average of 97 pts
For the second year in a row, this club has created a very informative entry that shows member activities in their community and with a focus on an active junior group. They have partnered with the state-wide Kansas 4H leadership, and play a vital roll in holding the annual 4H field trips. They are active with the AFMS and the regional chairs and committees.

GOLD Award for the Austin Gem & Mineral Club - with an average of 93 pts
Also for the second year in a row, the Austin Gem & Mineral club presented a great entry that reflected the activities and contributions of their members and to the community. 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.

SILVER Award for the Grand Junction Gem & Mineral Club, Colorado – with an average of 88
This club has a very active field trip schedule that makes other clubs jealous! They are also involved with the local 4H groups and support the local communities with talks and programs to local schools and events.

Sections of these award-winning books will be posted in the All-American Award portion of the AFMS website as examples of what it takes to be a successful club, fostering valuable contributions to their members and their communities.

Next year’s contest will cover Jan 1- Dec 30, 2019. I will need AFMS AACA entries by March 1st, 2020.
2019 AFMS Website Contest Results

By Don Shurtz AFMS Website Contest Chair

For the first time in many years we had participation from all seven of the Regional Federations in the AFMS Website Contest! The Regional Federation Chairs who made this happen were Merryan O’Neill (CFMS), David Nook (EFMLS), David Fanger (MWF), Cheri George (NFMS), Jennifer Gerring (RMFMS), Don Shurtz (SCFMS), and Jeff Ursillo (SFMS).

Our judges for this year’s Region Federation contests were Terry Yoschak, Jeff Ursillo, Don Shurtz, Jennifer Runion, Mike Bamfield, Robert Johnson, Gordon Galliger, Phyllis George, Jennifer Gerring, Jim Fosse, and Lauren Brown. Wes Lingerfelt again volunteered to be the judge for the AMFS Website contest. A big THANK YOU goes out to all judges who helped us this year.

The AFMS contest entries were the Best of the Best; only the top two winners in each Regional Federation contests were entered into the AFMS contest round. The winners for the AFMS Contest are:

**Top Three Place Winners**

**First Place**
Holly Worsham,
Gem and Mineral Society of the Virginia Peninsula, SFMS

**Second Place**
Brad Zylman
Michigan Mineralogical Society, MWF

**Third Place**
Terry Wilson
Ventura Gem & Mineral Society, CFMS

**Honorable Mention Winners,** alphabetical by webmaster’s last name

Mike Flannigan,
Clear Lake Gem and Mineral Society, SCFMS

Nancy Gallagher,
Daisy Mountain Rock & Mineral Club, RMFMS

Gordon Galligher,
Paleontological Society of Austin, SCFMS

Sue Goldman,
Nassau Mineral Club, EFMLS

Paul Gunther,
North Mississippi Gem and Mineral Society, SFMS

Denise Harrison,
Clackamette Mineral and Gem Club, NFMS

Brad Larson,
Owyhee Gem and Mineral Society, NFMS

Alyssa Meiszinger,
Sacramento Mineral Society, CFMS

Lisa Morris,
Eastern Indiana Gem & Geological Society, MWF

Jason A. Schulz,
Topeka Gem & Mineral Society, RMFMS

Richard S. Tracey,
The Gem and Mineral Society of the Palm Beaches, Inc., EFMLS

Congratulations to all the AFMS Website Contest Winners!

**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.
It is a privilege to see so many examples of excellent writing about our hobby, and this year’s AFMS Bulletin Editors’ Contest was no exception. Most of the categories were well represented despite the pressures imposed by early deadlines.

Whereas traditionally entries were submitted to the regional contests early in the new year and made their way to the AFMS judges within a couple of months, this year, as last year, saw judges working through the holiday season and into the new year. I think both the regional and national judges deserve a heartfelt thank you!

So, I’m sending a very big THANK YOU to the following AFMS Bulletin Contest judges:

- Karl Allemeyer (MWFMS), Claude Bolze (RMFMS), Jim Brace-Thompson (CFMS), Phyllis George (SCFMS), Bruce LaMarche (CFMS), Pat LaRue (CFMS), Sandra Rimmer (SCFMS), Mike Wall (NWFMS), Carolyn Weinberger (EFMLS), Elizabeth Weston (CFMS), Terry Yoschak (CFMS).

It looks as if the schedule for 2020 will be less intense than it was last year and this year. I encourage all you editors to review the score sheets used in your regional contests so that you can continue to give your authors advice that will help them place in the regional and national contests next year.

### Bulletin—New Editor

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### Large Bulletins

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<td>Rock Rustler’s News</td>
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### Special Publications

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<tr>
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<td>The 100: A Practical Guide to Mineral Collecting in Today’s World</td>
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<td>Chicago Rocks and Minerals Society</td>
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<td>MWFMS</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>7th Place</th>
<th>Jim &amp; Judy Budnik, Editors</th>
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<tr>
<td>The Quarry</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cincinnati Mineral Society</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>8th Place</th>
<th>Rosina Echols, Editor</th>
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<tr>
<td>Rocky Echoes</td>
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<tr>
<td>San Antonio Gem &amp; Mineral Society</td>
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<td>SFMS</td>
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<tr>
<th>9th Place</th>
<th>Barbajosa</th>
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<tr>
<th>10th Place</th>
<th>Bill Shelton</th>
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<tr>
<td>The 100: A Practical Guide to Mineral Collecting in Today’s World</td>
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<td>The New York Mineralogical Club, Inc.</td>
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<tr>
<th>2nd Place</th>
<th>Mitchell Portnoy</th>
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<td>Official Designations</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>3rd Place</th>
<th>Robin Wildes and Mitchell Portnoy</th>
</tr>
</thead>
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<tr>
<td>Vintage Mining &amp; Mineral Postcards—2019 Calendar</td>
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<tr>
<th>4th Place</th>
<th>Cassandra Franklin- Barbajosa</th>
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<tr>
<td>2018 Auction Flyer</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Gem, Lapidary &amp; Mineral Society of Washington, DC</td>
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<tr>
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</tbody>
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### Gem & Mineral Journal

- Gem, Lapidary & Mineral Society of Washington, DC
- North Mississippi Gem & Mineral Society
- South Florida Gem & Mineral Society
- SFMS
- NMGS
- EFMLS
- MWFMS
- RMFMS
- SCFMS
- NFMS

### Race for the Nutt

- 1st Place: North Mississippi Gem & Mineral Society
- 2nd Place: South Florida Gem & Mineral Society
- 3rd Place: East Texas Gem & Mineral Society
- 4th Place: Gem & Mineral Society of the Virginia Peninsula

### AFMS Newsletter—April—May 2019
Editors’ Contest Results
Continued from page 6

5th Place
Eric Brosius
50th Anniversary Special Edition
Rock & Mineral Club of Lower Bucks County, PA
EPMMS
6th Place
Caleb Smith
DGMG 2018 Calendar
Denver Gem & Mineral Club
RMFMS
7th Place
Sharon Richards
Show Programs—Gem & Jewelry Show
Tulsa Rock & Mineral Society
RMFMS
8th Place
Beverly Pettigrew Kraft
MGMS 59th Annual Show Is February 25-27
Mississippi Gem & Mineral Society
SFMS

Original Adult Article
1st Place
Nancy Roberts
Safety: Be Prepared
The Nugget
North Mississippi Gem & Mineral Society
SFMS
2nd Place
Dennis Gertenbach
History and Geology in Your Neighborhood:
Purvington Pavers
Flatirons Facets,
Flatirons Mineral Club
RMFMS
3rd Place
Stephanie Hagihara
A Visit to the UCLS Meteorite Gallery
The Rock Bag,
Oxnard Gem & Mineral Society
CFMS
4th Place
Chase Jennings
A Journey to the Amber Mines of Chiapas
The Backbender’s Gazette,
Houston Gem & Mineral Society
SCFMS
5th Place
Bev Jenkins
Montana Agate
The Strata Data,
Three Rivers Gem & Mineral Society
MWFMMS
6th Place
Shannon Phillips
The Extraordinary George Frederick Kunz
Crack & Cab,
Gem & Mineral Society of Syracuse, NY
EPMMS
7th Place
Aletha Hoogterp
Rockhounding in the South Dakota Grasslands
Rock Dust,
Sioux Empire Gem & Mineral Society
MWFMMS
8th Place
Dale Swortout
Rock On
The Conglomerate
Reno Gem & Mineral Society
CFMS
9th Place
Mike Kaas
Profile of the Kennecott Mine in Alaska
The Mineral Newsletter,
Northern Virginia Mineral Club
EPMMS
10th Place
Nikki Kenney
Credit Cards: Void Them and Save Them
The Nugget,
North Mississippi Gem & Mineral Society
SFMS

Honorable Mention
Harlan Unruh
Barite: The Unknown Industrial Workhorse
The Post Rock
McPherson Gem & Mineral Society
RMFMS
Elisabeth Nybo
Mission to Mars: The Ultimate Armchair Geologic Field Trip or How I Experienced the Making of History from My Street
Ore-cutts
Orcut Mineral Society
CFMS
Don Shurtz
Blue Quartz
Pleasant Oaks G&M Club of Dallas
SCFMS
James Wark
Junior Precious Metal Recycling
The Backbender’s Gazette,
Houston Gem & Mineral Society
SCFMS
Duane Flackus
Definition of the Month—Limb Cast
Clackamette Gem
Clackamette Mineral & Gem Society
NFMS
Susan Reimer
Thailand and Phangnga Bay
The Post Rock,
McPherson Gem & Mineral Society
RMFMS
Jake Slagle
Baltimoreite
The Conglomerate
Baltimore Mineral Society
EPMMS
Paul Gunther
A Week at William Holland
The Post Rock,
North Mississippi Gem & Mineral Society
SFMS

Original Adult Article Advanced
1st Place
Harold Moritz
Bierman Quarry, Bethel Connecticut
Chip n Pick,
Lapidary & Mineral Society of Central Connecticut
EPMMS
2nd Place
Vivien Gornitz
Swiss Mystery Rock from the Depths of the London Mine
Eureka It’s Specific Gravity
The Backbender’s Gazette
RMFMS
3rd Place
Vivien Gornitz
Inclusions in Giant Diamonds:
A Window into the Earth’s Interior
The Golden Dinosaur from the Depths of the London Mine
The Backbender
Oxnard Gem & Mineral Society
CFMS
4th Place
Mike Nelson
Keep Your Eyes Down When You Wander
Junior Precious Metal Recycling
Orcut Mineral Society
CFMS
5th Place
Richard Armstrong
Eureka It’s Specific Gravity
Rock-N-Rose Newsletter,
East Texas Gem & Mineral Society
SCFMS
6th Place
Ralph Bishop
Whispering Pines
Ore-cutts,
Orcut Mineral Society
CFMS
7th Place
Terrell Williams Proctor
The Unlikely Story of Gold’s Creation
The Backbender’s Gazette,
Houston Gem & Mineral Society
SCFMS
8th Place
Steven Wade Veatch & Teresa L. Stober
The Mystery of Genevieve: The Golden Dinosaur from the Depths of the London Mine
The Post Rock,
Oxnard Gem & Mineral Society
CFMS
9th Place
Stephen P. Mulqueen
Mining History of Silver Reef: Silver Reef Mining District near Leeds, Utah
The Rock Bag,
Northern Virginia Mineral Club
SCFMS
10th Place
Barbara Bilyeu
Five “Fine” Jaspers
Hill Country Field Trip, 2018
The Backbender’s Gazette,
Houston Gem & Mineral Society
SCFMS

Honorable Mention
Paul T. Brandes
Hill Country Field Trip, 2018
The Backbender’s Gazette,
Houston Gem & Mineral Society
SCFMS

Junior Article Under 12
1st Place
Spencer Mr Meadows
Looking for a Star
T-Town Rockhound,
Tulsa Rock & Mineral Society
RMFMS
2nd Place
Annika Jacobson
The Mystery of Genevieve: The Golden Dinosaur from the Depths of the London Mine
The Post Rock,
Oxnard Gem & Mineral Society
CFMS
3rd Place
10th Place
Mike Kaas
How I Experienced the Making of History from My Street
The Post Rock,
North Mississippi Gem & Mineral Society
SFMS
4th Place
Nikki Kenney
Credit Cards: Void Them and Save Them
The Nugget,
North Mississippi Gem & Mineral Society
SFMS
5th Place
Harlan Unruh
Barite: The Unknown Industrial Workhorse
The Post Rock
McPherson Gem & Mineral Society
RMFMS
6th Place
Nikki Kenney
Credit Cards: Void Them and Save Them
The Nugget,
North Mississippi Gem & Mineral Society
SFMS
7th Place
Elisabeth Nybo
Mission to Mars: The Ultimate Armchair Geologic Field Trip or How I Experienced the Making of History from My Street
Ore-cutts
Orcut Mineral Society
CFMS
8th Place
Don Shurtz
Blue Quartz
Pleasant Oaks G&M Club of Dallas
SCFMS
9th Place
Don Shurtz
Blue Quartz
Pleasant Oaks G&M Club of Dallas
SCFMS
10th Place
Don Shurtz
Blue Quartz
Pleasant Oaks G&M Club of Dallas
SCFMS
Editors' Contest Results
Continued from page 7

3rd Place
Sophie Gunther
Believe It or Not, I Found Shark Teeth
The Nugget,
North Mississippi Gem & Mineral Society
SFMS

4th Place
Walter Atkinson
My Day at the Museum
The Nugget,
North Mississippi Gem & Mineral Society
SFMS

9th Place
Bob Jarrett
Gleams from the World of Gold
(Intentionally Light as Well as Factual)
Tips and Trips,
Georgia Mineral Society
EFMLS

10th Place
Terry Roberts
South Texas Field Trip
Rock-N-Rose,
East Texas Gem and Mineral Society
SCFMS

Honorable Mention
Masaki Tsukada
Field Trip to Herkimer, New York
Flatirons Facets,
Flatirons Mineral Club
RMFMS

1st Place
Brandon Poy
Odd One Out in the World of Minerals
The Pick and Dog Stick,
Chicago Rock & Mineral Society
MWFMS

2nd Place
Cassandra Franklin- Barbajosa
Vintage Baubles for the Well-Dressed Woman
The Nuggets,
The Gem, Lapidary and Mineral Society
of Washington, DC
EFMLS

3rd Place
Nancy Carper
"Field Tripping" on a Shoestring
The Strata Data,
The Three Rivers Gem & Mineral Society
MWF

Carrie Meyers
Carrie’s Corner
Rock Buster News,
Central Pennsylvania Rock & Mineral Club
EFMLS

Kenny Ford
ETGMS Field Trip Schedule Summary 2018
Rock-N-Rose,
East Texas Gem & Mineral Society
SCFMS

Marilyn Russell
Inferno (Part II)
The Strata Data,
The Three Rivers Gem & Mineral Society
MWF

Wayne Mills
Reading a Lot into Geology
Ore-Cuts,
Orcutt Mineral Society, Inc.
EFMLS

Elizabeth Nybo
The Value of Volunteering
Ore-Cuts,
Orcutt Mineral Society, Inc.
CFMS

Duane Flackus
How You Fit In
Clackamette Gem,
Clackamette Mineral & Gem Society
NFMS

Juniors Drawn Feature Under 12
Katherine Nybo
Mountains
Ore-Cuts,
Orcutt Mineral Society, Inc.
EFMLS

Juniors Drawn Feature 12-17
Katherine Nybo
Mountains
Ore-Cuts,
Orcutt Mineral Society, Inc.
EFMLS

Adult Poetry

1st Place
Jessica Lippy
The Collection
Rock Buster News,
Central Pennsylvania Rock & Mineral Club
EFMLS

2nd Place
Stephen Wilkerson
A Craftsman’s Eye
The Backbender’s Gazette,
The Houston Gem & Mineral Society
SCFMS

3rd Place
Steve Wade Veach
The Jurassic Snail
Pick & Pack,
Colorado Springs Mineralogical Society
RMFMS

4th Place
Mary Becker
Renaissance Man
Tips and Chips,
Denver Gem & Mineral Society
RMFMS

5th Place
Janet Nourse
Malachite
The Crinoid Courier,
Show Me Rockhounds
MWF

6th Place
Rick L. Janson
Eons of Eons
Rock Dust,
Sioux Empire Gem & Mineral Society
MWF

7th Place
Florence Stren
Old MacDonald Update
The Rostrum,
Maryland Geological Society
EFMLS

8th Place
Kinney Polve
The Editor’s Poem
Rock-N-Rose,
East Texas Gem & Mineral Society
SCFMS

9th Place
Fred Mahaffey
A Rockhound’s Treasure
Rock-N-Rose,
East Texas Gem & Mineral Society
SCFMS

10th Place
Linda Benedict
Gemming at Leisure
Northern Virginia Mineral Club
EFMLS

Juniors Poetry

1st Place
Katherine Nybo
My Reflections on Mountains
Ore-Cuts,
Orcutt Mineral Society, Inc.
CFMS

2nd Place
Eddie Gonzalez
Gold
Chip n Pick
Lapidary & Mineral Society Central Connecticut,
EFMLS
AFMS Committees: 2018 – 19

Here is the listing of 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.

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Central Office Administrator
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479-254-0894 <wayne36@earthlink.net>

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(408) 266-1791 <rockyfiv@aol.com>

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Sandy Fuller (see Long Range Planning)

Parliamentarian
Steve Weinberger (see Bylaws Revisory)

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

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John Martin (see Conservation)

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AFMS Scholarship Foundation
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<slhariur@msn.com>

AFMS Newsletter 
April—May 2019

Nominating
Sandy Fuller (see Long Range Planning)

Parliamentarian
Steve Weinberger (see Bylaws Revisory)

Past President’s Advisory
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Website/Webmaster
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<slhariur@msn.com>

Sandy Fuller, Vice President
Margaret Kolacyzk, Secretary
Barbara Ringhiser, Treasurer
Rockhound Soapbox
by John Martin, AFMS Conservation and Legislation Committee  afmsclc@antelecom.net


Natural Resources Management Act Summary
This bill sets forth provisions regarding various programs, projects, activities, and studies for the management and conservation of natural resources on federal lands.
Specifically, the bill addresses, among other matters
- land conveyances, exchanges, acquisitions, withdrawals, and transfers;
- national parks, monuments, memorials, wilderness areas, wild and scenic rivers, historic and heritage sites, and other conservation and recreation areas;
- wildlife conservation;
- helium extraction;
- small miner waivers of claim maintenance fees;
- wildland fire operations;
- the release of certain federal reversionary land interests;
- boundary adjustments;
- the Denali National Park and Preserve natural gas pipeline;
- fees for medical services in units of the National Park System;
- funding for the Land and Water Conservation Fund;
- recreational activities on federal or nonfederal lands;
- a national volcano early warning and monitoring system;
- federal reclamation projects; and
- Search-and-recovery missions.

In addition, the bill reauthorizes the Historically Black Colleges and Universities Historic Preservation Program and the National Cooperative Geologic Mapping Program.

How the law may affect Recreational Rockhounding
This change in the law has an effect on Public Lands in all 50 states. Some of these legislative changes will and do have an effect on how and where Recreational Rockhounding activities may be accomplished.
The bill (S-47) and the enacted law are 260 pages and too large to print here or to go into very much detail. However, just in California alone 118,653,020 acres of BLM-managed lands have been converted to wilderness areas including some areas near the Hauser Geode Beds. This land has no motorized access, but collecting may be allowed provided it can be collected without wheeled access or any mechanical collecting devices. The National Park Service managing Death Valley Nation Park and Joshua Tree National Park added 92,525 more acres where no Recreational Rockhounding is allowed and the USFS added 7,141 acres to existing wilderness areas. This land, most of which is removed from Recreational Rockhounding, equals over 185,551 Square Miles of Public land. There were some positive effects of the law in California. Six OHV areas were declared in the law and can not be changed by any future legislation, and several Wilderness Study Areas, (WSA) were removed and returned to public multipurpose usage, where Recreational Rockhounding is again temporarily permitted. The BLM has 2 years to create a Management Plan in which Recreational Rockhounding must be included as a recognized Recreational Activity or the Rockhound Community may lose access to these collecting areas. The fate of collecting lies in the hands of the Rockhound Community.

If you are interested in learning about any of the Public land actions in your state or area, the bill (S-47) and law may be read at: https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/BILLS-116s47enr/pdf/BILLS-116s47enr.pdf.
Currently over 87 bills before Congress may have an adverse affect on your ability to exercise your right to collect Rocks, Minerals and Fossils for your personal use. All Recreational Rockhounds need to join together and speak

Upcoming AFMS and Regional Federation Conventions

<table>
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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>2019</td>
<td>March 8 - 10</td>
<td>June 1 - 2</td>
<td>AFMS March 23-24</td>
<td>October 18-20</td>
<td>August 2-4</td>
<td>January 19-20</td>
<td>Hickory, NC</td>
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<td>Pomona, CA</td>
<td>Monroe, NY</td>
<td>Cedar Rapids, IA</td>
<td>Lewiston, ID</td>
<td>Prescott, AZ</td>
<td>Fredericksburg, TX</td>
<td>Big Piney, WY</td>
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<td>2020</td>
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<td>2021</td>
<td>AFMS April 21 - 25</td>
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<td>So. Jordan, UT</td>
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This year the BLM and the Department of the Interior are on a huge enthusiastic campaign to encourage the public to enjoy their public lands, Recreationally, more than ever. I receive one if not more announcements every week from both agencies which include photographs in support of their efforts regarding this. Why?

After reading the Revenues to Federal Government Programs report, it is very clear Recreational use fees amounts for over half of all the combined revenues collected from Forest Products Permits; Forest Service Maps; Grazing Fees and Recreation Fees. None of the other uses mentioned above comes close to Recreational use revenues, and that is what BLM and the Department of the Interior realize. What used to be common uses, isn’t any more for a variety of reasons. Recreation Fees and Recreation Special Use Permits amounts to $530,851 of the $945,471 received last year. Second to Recreation is Grazing at $265,275. Times have changed and the Public Lands agencies have woken up to this fact by looking at the numbers in dollar signs.

We have a great opportunity here as Recreational Rockhounding Clubs/Societies to enliven our hobby. The timing is right, so get out there and do what you do best while enjoying your public lands. Reintroduce yourselves to BLM and other park agencies where collecting is allowed. You might even think about talking to a ranger station or park office about bringing your junior members out for a program to help earn a badge from the AFMS Future Rockhounds of America Badge Program, or offering a field trip or a short earth science program for the day.

If we don’t get involved ourselves and create our own excitement, there isn’t anyone who is going to do it for us. We have to create our own public awareness for our hobby, to get the name, Recreational Rockhounding, in the same sentence as other the other common recreational activities; camping; hunting; boating; fishing; hiking. BLM and the Department of the Interior do have an area on their websites recognizing Rockhounding, but it’s not usually mentioned in the same sentence as the other recognized activities. I think it is because we are less known as the historical American hobby that we are.

Our favorite Rockhounds who came before us, carried the hobby for many years on our behalf. They were wise enough to see changing times coming for our hobby, and created the American Lands Access Association to help keep public lands open to us. We’ve lost and won some battles along the way. Fieldtrips and various programs have been the highlight of our hobby for close to 83 years when the Recreational Rockhounding community formally began organizing their Clubs and Societies. Please do your part. Finding a way is actually easy.

I want to emphasize as I did in our most recent ALAA newsletter, that every Federation needs the involvement and support of each other when it comes to our collecting sites. The potential closure of roads to any collecting site actually threatens the closure of that site to every society and individual, who is a member of the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies, and the public who will become our future club members. We have a future to fulfill for our hobby. Let’s stay involved as societies and people working together to accomplish that goal and enjoy the hobby with others as we go about it.

Public education is also about doing great public relations for our hobby.

**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.
Our Hobby's History: It Started with a Passion and a Sharing of Ideas

by Jennifer Haley AFMS HISTORIAN

I’ve been hitting the books again, investigating the earliest AFMS Historian files to see what gems of information I could write about for you. 1928 is a year to remember. The first radio and telephone connection between the Netherlands and U.S.A. occurred, American aviator Amelia Earhart became the 1st woman to fly across the Atlantic Ocean, sliced bread was sold for the first time, and Scottish bacteriologist Alexander Fleming discovered penicillin while studying influenza.

And in 1928 an earth science teacher noticed the need to have the earth sciences taught at schools below the college level. Unfortunately, I do not have the gentleman’s name, but what we do know is that he started a club for his students and community. The club was such a big hit, he hoped something similar could go national. Peter Zodac, founder and first editor of Rocks & Minerals Magazine was a big supporter of the idea, and began writing monthly articles which appeared in his magazine about forming earth science clubs. In those articles were ideas for programs and activities, and of course information about minerals. Learning about minerals and collecting minerals was becoming extremely popular, and was the main focus of our hobby in the beginning. Individuals and families were fascinated with what they could learn, and were enchanted by the adventures they were exploring.

Mineral societies slowly but in a big way began to spring up around the country. The first two in California in 1931, 1932, and the third in Oregon in 1933 which was called the Oregon Agate and Mineral Society.

The Oregon club got busy promoting themselves and started a bulletin. The club grew by leaps and bounds it’s first year, becoming what was believed to be the largest club of its kind in the world at that time. The monthly bulletin was called the Oregon Mineralogist. By its second year a person you are now familiar with from a recent AFMS Historian article, Dr. Dake, became their editor and renamed the bulletin The Mineralogist Magazine.

Two other publications were born from the excitement of the hobby, Earth Science Digest and Mineral News and Notes. Advertisements for lapidary equipment became a popular aspect of the magazines. Clubs across the country were corresponding with one another, visiting each other’s club meetings and venturing out together to collecting sites for minerals.

With so many clubs forming an idea was sparked to form a Federation. Those first visionaries of our hobby wanted to keep the spirit and the knowledge of the science and the hobby alive instead of seeing it dwindle over time. As a synergy, they felt their combined efforts would be far greater than the sum of what an individual club could do on their own.

Backed by the eagerness and the efforts of the clubs over a course of years, the seven federations one by one were formed. California Federation-1936; Northwest Federation-1938; Midwest Federation-1940; Rocky Mountain Federation-1941. During the time of WWII efforts to advance the federations was suspended. In 1946 came the inspiration for forming a national federation, and by 1947 the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies was born. Two other federations followed with the formation of the Eastern Federation of Mineralogy and Lapidary-1950, and the Southwest Federation-1976.

When you hear society members asking why we have the federations and the AFMS, you now have a great story to tell them that they can take to heart.
AFMS Endowment Fund 2019-2020

Cheryl Neary, Chair

First, I would like to thank all who have contributed to another successful drawing. This year the endowment fund was able to raise almost $6,000.00. The majority of the sale was by Carolyn Weinberger, during the late Spring period of 2018, after the 2018 Convention held in Raleigh, North Carolina. For the record, although the sale was for the 2019 Endowment Fund, monies were reported in the 2018 calendar year – just in case anyone was wondering!

Thanks to Carolyn for all the time and effort she had contributed to the Endowment Fund, for as long as I can remember, and as you see, even while so sick – I will miss Carolyn. . . .

This year, Larry Huffman has so generously volunteered to fill the shoes of Carolyn.

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, judges training, digitizing of slide programs, just 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:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Federation</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>California (CFMS)</td>
<td>Heidi Hall</td>
<td>233 Fairway Dr.</td>
<td><a href="mailto:hdafler@yahoo.com">hdafler@yahoo.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eastern (EFMLS)</td>
<td>Larry Huffman</td>
<td>PO Box 2444</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ldhuff314@embarqmail.com">ldhuff314@embarqmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midwest (MWF)</td>
<td>J.C. &amp; Donna Moore</td>
<td>25235 N. State Route 97</td>
<td><a href="mailto:icmoore3rd@gmail.com">icmoore3rd@gmail.com</a></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Cuba, IL 61427</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mwfsecretary@gmail.com">mwfsecretary@gmail.com</a></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>So far,</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Northwest (NFMS)</td>
<td>Judi Allison</td>
<td>1701 NW 11th St.</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jall@eotnet.net">jall@eotnet.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rocky Mountain (RMFMS)</td>
<td>DeLane Cox</td>
<td>8152 Spanker Ridge Dr.</td>
<td><a href="mailto:delanec3@earthlink.net">delanec3@earthlink.net</a></td>
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<td></td>
<td>OR</td>
<td>Bentonville, AR 72712</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Richard Jaeger</td>
<td>3515 E. 88th St.</td>
<td><a href="mailto:rjgrsci@aol.com">rjgrsci@aol.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Tulsa OK 74137-2602</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Central (SCFMS)</td>
<td>Joyce Speed</td>
<td>4680 Wisteria St.</td>
<td><a href="mailto:llispeed2@gmail.com">llispeed2@gmail.com</a></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Dallas, TX 75211</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southeast (SFMS)</td>
<td>Leslie &amp; Dave Wayment</td>
<td>PO Box 780791.</td>
<td><a href="mailto:aastainedglass@bellsouth.net">aastainedglass@bellsouth.net</a></td>
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<td>Sebastian, FL 32978</td>
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So far, I have received the first donation, while at this year’s convention. Please remember to donate to such a worthy cause in our organization! Also, please remember these guide lines:

Each object should weigh no more than 5 pounds;

Each object or combined set of objects should have a minimum value of $75.00.

If you are considering donating, either contact your Federation Representative or email me at: ciervo.neary@gmail.com

Thanks!

The item donated to date is as follows:

**Northwest – #1 Amethyst Plate and holder**

Donated by Doug True, President of AFMS (2018-2019)

Estimated value $375.00
Early Native Americans Collected Fossils  

Have you ever wondered if the early Native American Indians not only found but treasured fossilized dinosaur bones before the early settlers arrived? I was curious and looked for information about that subject to add to what we know about early paleontology. I found a gem of a thick book called, FOSSIL LEGENDS of the FIRST AMERICANS, by Adrienne Mayor. The information in the book is sourced from paleontologists, archaeologists, artifacts, pictographs and oral histories. The book includes some photographs.

There is evidence the early Native Americans were familiar with finding large dinosaur fossil tracks. Often smaller fossils such as mammoth teeth and other types of bones were used in medicine pouches, and a range of various fossils was used by Medicine Men and Medicine Women.

There were great stories and myths about the creatures belonging to the larger fossils which became legends in their culture, full of rich imagination and surprisingly close in some instances to what paleontologists now know about some of the "giant lizards" who long ago roamed our earth.

There is wonderful information in the book to share around the campfire and for articles in your newsletters. Juniors have great imaginations and would love to hear about this fascinating period in paleontology history. FOSSIL LEGENDS OF THE FIRST AMERICANS, by Adrien Mayer, would be a great addition to your society libraries, too.

More Photos of Carolyn
President Doug True called the meeting to order.

Ronna Watkins gave the invocation.

Richard Jaeger led the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

Memorials were read by the respective federation presidents:

California – Tony Fender had three names including Izzy Burns, past AFMS president; Jean Klotz, legal advisor; and Jack Rhodes, Museums Committee.

Eastern – David Nock reported Lisa Carp from the Gem, Lapidary and Mineral Society of Washington, DC and Gerry Cox, Northern Virginia Mineral Club.


Northwest – Mel Wilks, Hells Canyon Gem Club; Richard Clark, Idaho Gem Club; Richard Neal (Dick) Thomas, Golden Spike Gem & Mineral Society;


South Central – Richard Cline, the last charter member of the Gulf Coast Gem & Mineral Society; Dee Shade and Gene Shade from the Gulf Coast Gem & Mineral Society; Dan and Angie Dietz from the Florida Gold Coast Gem & Mineral Society. Chester Hohmann from the Fredericksburg Rockhounds; and Charles Schuler from Clear Lake Gem & Mineral Club.

President Doug True welcomed everyone to Cedar Rapids, Iowa. He said a couple of weeks previous the temperature had been -30 degrees. It was a pleasure to be here.

MWF President Kevin Ponzio also welcomed everyone to the Midwest Federation. He noted the Cedar Valley club had a nice show and they had given us a warm welcome. He said we needed to thank them.

Ray Anderson, Vice President of the host club welcomed everyone. He said it appears spring has finally sprung! He noted the show was just down the road and was open 8:30-5 Saturday, 9:30-4 on Sunday. Please enjoy the show. It was a treat to have everyone there.

Doug True asked the Officers and Directors to introduce themselves. Past Presidents who were in attendance included Sandy Fuller, Lauren Williams, Shirley Leeson, Richard Jaeger, Matt Charsky, Ron Carmen.

Doug asked if there was a quorum. Secretary Donna Moore confirmed there was a quorum.

Roger Burford moved for adoption of the rules of the meeting. Susan Stanforth seconded the motion, which carried.

Tony Fender moved to adopt the agenda. J.C. Moore moved to second the motion, which carried.

Doug introduced the parliamentarian for the meeting, Sandy Fuller.
AFMS Minutes

Donna Moore reported the minutes of the 71st Annual Meeting in 2018 in Raleigh, North Carolina had been printed in the AFMS Newsletter. Leslie Wayment moved to accept the minutes. Ronna Watkins seconded the motion, which carried.

Reports of Officers

President True had a written report in the packet. He added it had been a short year so far, he still had months to go. It was great to meet so many people.

President-Elect David Wayment said it was still early and he didn’t have anything to report except he had worked on the budget for next year.

1st Vice President Judy Beck had a written report with nothing new to add.

2nd Vice President Margaret Kolczyk was not present and had no report.

3rd Vice President Cheryl Neary had brought a report.

4th Vice President Roger Burford said he had no input from his committees, so he had nothing to report.

5th Vice President J.C. Moore had a written report that he had contacted his committees, but no one had asked for assistance.

Secretary Donna Moore had a written report telling of taking minutes that were then published in the AFMS Newsletter and answered questions as needed. She also prepared attendance and name plaques for the meeting.

Treasurer Pat LaRue had e-mailed that she was not able to come because of tax season. She will prepare a financial report and e-mail it later. Vouchers were available for reimbursement as needed.

Directors Reports

California President Tony Fender reported they have made major updates to the CFMS By-Laws. They are now planning to update their operating procedures. Their show and convention for 2019 has been held.

California Vice President Marcia Goetz had nothing to report.

Eastern Federation President David Nock reported that the Eastern Federation had hosted the AFMS last year. He was glad to see last year’s show chair in attendance. Everything seemed to be successful. They were focusing on operating procedures. Cheryl Neary is working on the Eastern Federation convention. He added that Carolyn Weinberger had been battling cancer and has been placed in hospice care. Our thoughts and prayers are with her and Steve.

Eastern Federation Vice President Representative Barbara Ringhiser had no report.

Midwest Federation President Kevin Ponzio reported they had been encouraging living memorials. The clubs that paid their dues on time were getting Diamond Dan’s Mini Miners Monthly at Midwest Federation expense. They had an increase in membership and a new club.

Midwest Federation First Vice President Representative Susan Stanforth reported she was standing in for John Donker who was in charge of MWF Vice.

Northwest Federation President Ronna Watkins thanked the organizers for all they had done so we could meet.

Northwest Federation Vice President Kenneth Zahn said they were working on their operating procedures trying to bring it in sync with the AFMS. They were planning to print it in their newsletter. The U.S. Department of Interior selectee by President Trump was Ryan Zinke. He worked a long time on saving the sage grouse to be managed on U.S. level. Ten million acres in the West had been removed from access. The BLM withdrew and hobbyists were trying to access some of that land again.

Rocky Mountain President Liz Thomas had a written report. She added that they had lost one club. Their convention this year will be in Prescott, Arizona. That group has never hosted before.

Rocky Mountain Vice President Bob Regner reported a big problem near Albuquerque, New Mexico. Access had been lost to a million and a half acres.

South Central Federation President Roger Burford reported they had succeeded in getting the New Orleans society to join the South Central again after being in the Southeast Federation for some time. The South Central is mostly Texas. Clubs had grown. Things were running smoothly.
Southeastern Federation President Reggie Bolton reported that they were doing by-laws review. They were improving youth programs. He offered a thank you for the Young Rockhounds Programs of the AFMS. They had brought in new members. Their convention is scheduled for Huntsville, Alabama on October 11-13, 2019. They have a region wide rock swap scheduled May 17-19 in northern Florida.

President True called for Committee Reports

AFMS All American Club, Regina Kapta had a report in the packet. She is asking to be replaced as chairman.

AFMS Boundaries, Bob Carlson had sent no report.

AFMS Club Rockhound of the Year, Judi Allison had a report in the packet.

AFMS Newsletter, no report.

Auditing/Review, there was no report.

Bulletin Editor’s Advisory, Sue Webb said awards would be handed out at the Editor’s Breakfast on Sunday.

Bulletin Editors’ Hall of Fame, no report.

Bylaws Revisory, Steve Weinberger reported no recommended changes to either the AFMS Bylaws or Operating Procedures this year.

Central Office, Steve Weinberger had a written report, which outlined the duties covered by this office.

Commemorative Stamps – Wendell Mohr had sent no report.

Conservation and Legislation, John Martin had sent a report in the packet.

Endowment Fund, Cheryl Neary had a written report to which she added that she had twenty one prizes this year. She and MWF Representative J.C. Moore were still selling tickets. She listed the representatives from the seven federations. She suggested that others offer to sell at their shows. A specimen collected by Bob Regner will be auctioned off at the banquet. She is looking for donations for prizes for 2020, which should be worth at least $75 and weigh less than five pounds.

Historian Jennifer Haley had a report in the packet.

Inter-Regional Field Trips, Doug True said he is looking at several possibilities for next year.

Junior Programs, Jim Brace-Thompson had sent a written report.

Judges Training, Marion Roberts had not sent a report. But the possibility of finding some new trainers was discussed at the Uniform Rules Meeting.

Long Range Planning, Sandy Fuller had a written report. In addition as she had traveled from region to region last year as president, she was asked repeatedly, “What does the AFMS do for us?” She asked everyone to write in ten words or less their thoughts on the answer to this.

Name Badge Committee, no report. It was noted that the Central Office normally orders new name badges as needed.

Nominating Committee, Sandy Fuller presented the slate of officers that were nominated for 2020. President, David Wayment; President Elect, Judy Beck; First Vice President, Jim Brace-Thompson; Second Vice President, Cheryl Neary; Third Vice President, Jerold Simpson; Fourth Vice President, J.C. Moore; Fifth Vice President, James Bosely; Secretary (for a two year term) Donna Moore; and Pat LaRue confirmed for the second year of her two year term as treasurer.

Past President’s Advisory, no report.

Photography, John Martin was not able to attend. Dennis Westman from the MWF took photos at the banquet.

Program Competition, Darrell Watkins had a report in the packet. He added that he had obtained permission to publish the nationally recognized Nick Zentner’s “Central Rocks” videos for the AFMS regions to use for club programs. He wants to hear from librarians in the federations. He plans to purchase copyrighted programs for our regional libraries. He encouraged each federation to purchase programs to transfer old slide media to DVD for preservation.
Public & International Relations, Bob Jones had a written report. 

Publications, B. Jay Bowman had no report.

Safety, Ellery Borow had a written report. He continues to write articles for the newsletter.

Scholarship Foundation, Lauren Williams announced their meeting would be fifteen minutes after this meeting.

Show Consultant, Emerson Tucker had a wrap up report of the 2018 Convention hosted by the Tar Heel Gem and Mineral Club in Raleigh, North Carolina, in the packet.

Uniform Rules, Barbara Sky had sat in as chairman for Marion Roberts at the Uniform Rules Meeting. There were no rules to cover and no votes taken. Ron Carman had taken notes as secretary. Most of what was discussed was housekeeping. She said there were three cases to judge here as well as a junior in non-competition who should qualify for the Lillian Turner Award if deemed worthy by a panel of judges. Also, Jennifer Haley had a report in the packet that she was updating the AFMS Uniform Rules Judges Roster. She asked anyone with an AFMS Judges Card to contact her.

Uniform Rules Eligibility Files, Josie Middleton had a report in the packet and had sent copies of a file listing competitive entries in each federation to be filled out by the Uniform Rules Chairmen and sent to her.

Ways and Means, Richard Jaeger reported no activity.

Website/Webmaster, Marty Hart had a report in the packet. There was concern that the website was not up to date. It was explained that much of what is on the website must first go through the Central Office, and that had not been done with Carolyn’s illness.

Web Site Contest, Don Shurtz had a report in the packet. He had sent awards for the website competition to be given out at the Editor’s Breakfast by David Nock. He is hoping to increase participation in the website competition.

Unfinished Business

None was brought up.

New Business

Approval of the 2019-20 Budget – David Wayment had copies available on the table. He had included what was proposed for 2017-18 and 2018-19. In 2019-20 he had a few minor changes on what was actually spent. The cost of plaques had been raised from $100 to $200. Last year they had actually cost $190. Some line items were down because they were not being used. Travel is in one lump sum. He proposed $56,885, which is up just a bit from last year.

Liz Thomas moved to accept the budget. J.C. Moore seconded the motion, which carried.

Election of Officers – Sandy Fuller read the slate and moved to accept the slate by unanimous vote. Roger Burford seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Proposed Bylaws Change – John Martin had proposed rotating the Chair position of the AFMS Conservation and Legislation Committee throughout the federations with the current chair being the one in the federation hosting the annual meeting and convention. This was read by Tony Fender. After much discussion which included such points as there is no way one person in each region can keep track of issues throughout the U.S.; the chairmanship should have continuity for several years; each region needs to participate with input; this is not as relevant in the East, Southeast, and even the Midwest. Matt Charsky brought up that he had worked with the California Federation over losing access to land, the Northwest concerning the sage grouse issue, and the Rocky Mountain with access issues. He noted that federal elections change the face of the situation often.

It was decided this is a bylaw issue, not an operating procedure matter, so needs to go through the proper procedure of allowing sixty days for all federations to consider the change. The final decision was to return this to John Martin and ask him to reform his proposal. Doug True said he would get in touch with John.

Liz Thomas asked for a conclusion or interpretation of “out of bounds”. Article XIII Sec. 6 of the Bylaws was read. The question was in reference to the out of bounds Southern Nevada Gem & Mineral Society (Las Vegas) that had voted to hold the Rocky Mountain Convention. The Rocky Mountain Federation had sent a letter asking the California Federation for permission to hold their convention in Las Vegas since it was an out of bounds club. They denied permission, so the convention had to be moved to Prescott. California has been having federation field trips to Rocky Mountain locations without asking permission. Richard Jaeger reported between 2006 and 2016, fifteen field trips were written up in the CFMS Bulletin that all or part were in Arizona or Utah. These were field trips for California members only. It was noted that California has asked the Nevada club to sign a waiver when they left the federation that they would not host any activities for the Rocky Mountain including conventions. Sherry Johnson, representative from the Southern Nevada Gem & Mineral Society was not aware of such a letter. There was some concern that the original withdrawal was for financial reasons. Matt Charsky said that last year the Eastern Federation held their convention and the AFMS Convention in Raleigh, North Carolina, which is in the Southeast Federation. The Eastern Federation asked permission and the Southeast Federation agreed. The question was how
can this situation be resolved. They all need to re-look at the situation. There was consideration that California had paid insurance for the Nevada club before they pulled out of the California Federation. Sheri Johnson said she had a check for $750 to pay back the California Federation with a document granting permission for them to host a Rocky Mountain Federation Convention.

Doug True asked, “Why are we here?” We don’t want federations grabbing clubs. There needs to be more comradie. We need to work together. It took fourteen years to get an agreeable resolution for the Eastern and Southeast Federations to split. He didn’t want this to last that long. He said he would sit down with the federations and talk this out. They needed to get personalities out of the discussion and try to work it out. He called upon Sandy Fuller, Matt Charsky, Richard Jaeger, David Wayment, Liz Thomas and Tony Fender to meet following this meeting to see what could be worked out. Doug noted that the AFMS leads from behind. We don’t tell the federations what to do. Committees need to address issues. We are here to help by bringing in resources.

There was a question if a club wanted to go into another federation for a field trip, did they need to ask permission. It was noted that the complaint here was federation sponsored field trips, not club trips.

Shirley Leeson addressed the group on the revival of ALAA. A skeleton crew had been holding the group together since Doug True stepped down as president. A group met in Quartzite this year to try to make improvements. She agreed to be president. Hidemi Kira offered to be vice president. Bob Carlson had asked to be replaced as Rocky Mountain representative. They are committed to working hard with each federation with what is going on and what is being done. She asked each person to make a commitment to make yourself aware of your area. She noted she has two new forms – one for grasslands, BLM, forestry service, etc. and the other for private property including quarries, mining sites, etc. These forms are to document field trips and will be filed with ALAA so data is available if needed to be presented to federal entities holding hearings. Shirley wants to hear from clubs about their experiences.

Doug True announced that in wake of Carolyn Weinberger’s illness, Sue Webb would be taking over as editor of the AFMS Newsletter.

Bob Regner reported that the AFMS Website was out of date. The Bylaws are not there, scholarship honorees had not been updated, and officers were not up to date. Doug noted that a lot of things had to go through the Central Office, and that was not being done. Steve Weinberger indicated that he would be stepping down from the Central Office management at the end of the year. Cheryl Neary has offered to take on this job. In the budget there is a contract with the Central Officer. Cheryl will be accepting the same contract, money, etc. Only the name needed to be approved instead of Steve Weinberger, starting November 1, 2019. Roger Burford moved to approve this change. Judy Beck seconded the motion, which carried. Doug noted there are other jobs that are looking for people to fill. If you get a call, please accept.

Future AFMS Meetings – 2020 was on slate to meet in Jacksonville, Florida, but the venue is being demolished. The Southeast Federation is thinking maybe the convention will be held in Knoxville in October. Their annual meeting is October 11-13 in Huntsville, so the convention for 2020 should be finalized by then.

Liz Thomas reported the 2021 AFMS and Rocky Mountain Federation Conventions will be in Sandy, Utah at their Equestrian Center. The date is usually May, late spring, so it is thawed out. Ron Carman said discussion was being held about possibly hosting the AFMS in East Tyler, Texas in 2022.

Doug True thanked the local club and the Midwest Federation for hosting the AFMS Convention.

Bob Regner moved to adjourn the meeting. Ronna Watkins seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.
From the editor—

This is a very long newsletter, and I have no wish to make it longer. However, there’s information that should be made available.

1. The submission deadline will be the 5th of the month preceding the month the newsletter is to be published. So, January 5 for the February newsletter, and so on. The May 5 deadline for the June newsletter can be a little fluid, but it will firm up for later issues.

2. Carolyn Weinberger did not publish a newsletter in July, August, or January. I’m willing to publish a newsletter this July if there is need for one since we didn’t have a couple of issues earlier in the year. So don’t hesitate to send in LOTS of articles! There will be no issue in August, so you can ignore the 5th of the month deadline in July.

3. Please send submissions to AFMSeditor@gmail.com. I don’t have access to editor@amfed.org mail. For those who wish to send physical copy, my USPS address is 9895 Kerrydale Court, Reno, NV 89521.

4. Please feel free to send suggestions, critiques, or complaints to me at AFMSeditor@gmail.com. I need all the help I can get.

I’m guessing that Carolyn must have worn at least a size 22 shoe—big ones to fill. I can never hope to match that size, but with your help and forbearance, we’ll muddle along.

Thank you,

Sue

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

The A.F.M.S. Newsletter is normally published monthly except January, July and August by the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies. Each Regional Federation Club is entitled to receive three (3) copies of the AFMS Newsletter. These are usually sent to the President, Editor and Federation Director or Secretary.

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Content – Letters, Editorial Comments – Submissions
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Deadline: 5th of the month preceding publication (i.e. May 5 for the June issue); however, circumstances dictate that the 2019 May deadline can be relaxed a few days.

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