Happy March to all. Hopefully the weather near you is becoming more like spring. I know everyone is anxious to get back outside after winter. More clubs are getting into show season up north, while show season in Florida is winding down until fall. The different Federations will be having their annual meetings and shows between now and October. Why not make your plans now to attend?

The Eastern Federation will be holding their annual meeting in Hickory, NC, hosted by the Catawba Valley Gem & Mineral Club. The dates are March 27-30, 2020. The Northwest Federation’s annual show is in Ogden, UT this year. The Golden Spike Gem & Mineral Society is hosting the show from April 10-12, 2020. Judges Training is also planned at the NFMS meeting.

As I mentioned last month, Leslie and I became involved with the AFMS because of attending a judges training class. This class is a wonderful way to learn how to display a show case, whether for competition or non-competition. I want to encourage ALL members to display a case and exhibit their skills and crafts. This has proven to be an excellent way to introduce show visitors to what a club has to offer. If you do not understand the Uniform Rules book, do not be afraid to contact the Uniform Rules Committee, either for the AFMS or your local region. These are the people who can explain the rules to you and help you understand how to get a display case ready for showing.

Read The Book: The Rule Book, That Is

There is one page in the Rule Book that changes every year, even if no rules were changed, added, or deleted. This is page S-13-2020, for this year. This page has the current AFMS rules chairman, and the two follow ups. If you have read the book, you know that page has had only the federation the person should be in, but no name. A month before the 2019 meeting was supposed to be held, I got an email from a man who said he was the chairman—now what is he supposed to do? I was not able to attend that convention, and as far as I know, there was no meeting. That being said, on November 30th of this year Leslie Wayment, became the chairman, Lee Whitebay, the second chair, and again no name for the third chair, only the federation, SCF. They have not sent me a name yet. Enough about that page; let’s talk about rules. I will not give the rule number or page. If you look it up, you will remember it longer.

First, after the host society receives the application for a competitive exhibit, the only thing that can be changed is the Class. That can be changed by a request from the exhibitor, or the judges can change it if they believe the case would receive a higher score in a different class.

In a regional federation show, a minimum of two judges will judge each class. The judges will judge each case together and come up with a score for that case. In the AFMS show a minimum of three judges will judge each class. The same way, all judges will judge together and come up with a score.

Prior to the completion of all judging there will be nothing in the case or on the outside of the case telling whose case it is or the group of the exhibitor. The groups consist of Master, Advanced, Novice, Junior, Society. Junior Society. In a society or junior society there must be a maximum of 5 people participating, no person can put more than 20% of the items in the case. All cases of the class should be together in one area; the judges should not have to tour the room looking for the cases. Exhibit numbers should follow in normal counting, Exhibit Number two showed be between One and three.

Who should read the book? Everyone who has anything to do with a show. It is not necessary for everyone to read the whole book, but depending on your role in the exhibit, you should read what your duties are. Competition exhibitors should first read the pertinent rules for exhibit groups, class, and so forth. Then you should go to section two and read the rules for what you are exhibiting.

In a recent Rocky Mountain Federation there were so many rules broken that if I was rules chairman this year, I would have in my agenda that all score from that completion to be null and void. Please Read the Book.
Uniform Rules: You’ve Decided To Exhibit, What Now? Leslie Wayment

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Proudly Serving
Seven Regional
Federations

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You’ve decided to exhibit, and you know what subdivision to enter. All your specimens are ready. Now what do you do? It’s time to work on your display case. While it is better for you to have your own case, that is not always possible, especially when you are exhibiting far away from home and might be borrowing a case. Where do you look for information on cases?

Two excellent sources for information are found on the SFMS website. On the home page, in the top left-hand block under publications, click on the SFMS Publications Webpage. Then click on SFMS Display Showmanship for Prize Winning Exhibits. http://www.amfed.org/sfms_pdf/SFMS_Publications/SFMS_Display_Showmanship_for_Prize_Winning_Exhibits_by_Jessie_Chitte

While this is an older publication, written for the California Federation, there is still a lot of excellent information about “building” the inside of a display case. Most cases I have seen are plywood boxes. Do not put your money and effort on the outside of the case. You want the viewers to look into the case, not at the case.

One area that has vastly changed since the article was written is the options for lighting. In the past, lights in the display cases produced a lot of heat, which created its own set of problems. Consider using the new CFL or LED lights available. Make sure you use Daylight bulbs. If you can find a rating of between 5,000K and 6,000K, you’ll have the best light.

When you set up your display at home, keep it up for about a week. Take photos of it. Look at it each time you pass by. Tweak it. If you don’t like the result, refer to your photos to put it back how you had it. When everything is set how you want it, take LOTS of photos from different angles. If you take the photos with your cell phone, you will have them with you when you set up, but remember to delete the ones for the setup you didn’t like so you won’t set it up wrong.

The travel box of emergency supplies can be your best friend. Better to take too much with you than too little. Other items you may want to include are a lint roller, ruler and small drafting square.

The other article to read is from the AFMS: http://www.amfed.org/rules/AFMS_Rules_2017_Updates.pdf

Read the general information on this page, and then read the 2002 Guidelines for Exhibitors. You will find some of the same information presented in the first article, but other information as well.

Remember, the goal of exhibiting is to show off your work, and have it judged against an ideal, not another exhibitor. The judges will point out your strengths, and areas for improvement. Even if you are a master of your craft, but have not exhibited before, you may enter as a Novice so you can improve your showmanship. Please remember, only those cases entered as Master, and receiving a score of 90 or better, may progress to be shown at the AFMS competition.

There is still time to prepare a good exhibition case and enter in the SFMS Annual Show and Meeting this October. If you aren’t sure what to do, consider an educational case. These are often overlooked as a way to get your feet wet exhibiting.
Uniform Rules: Just What Are They Anyway and How Do I Understand Them? Leslie Wayment
SFMS Uniform Rules Chair

For years I had been hearing about Uniform Rules, not knowing just what they were. Once I tried to look at them on the SFMS website and got so confused, I decided I didn’t want to show my work in competition. Having been involved in the SFMS workshops, as students, teachers, registrars and directors, encouraging students to display their work and enter the judging competitions seemed like a natural progression. This is where the Uniform Rules come in. The rules have been compiled over the years to make competing and judging at all shows in the AFMS and the 7 regions the same. All competitors will know what is expected of them, as well as having all judges follow the same rules to eliminate personal bias in judging as much as possible.

How to understand the Uniform Rules

Each year at the AFMS annual meeting the AFMS Uniform Rules committee meets to review and vote on any suggested changes to the rules. Changes go into effect on January 1 of the next calendar year. Any changes made at the AFMS annual meeting held in Knoxville, TN will go into effect on January 1, 2021. Therefore, it is imperative that the current year’s rules be downloaded in January of every year, by both judges and competitors. Once you have your copy, how do you understand it?

First off, the Uniform Rules is divided into SECTION I and SECTION II.

SECTION I has been divided into PART I and PART II.

Part I is the definitions, saying who can compete, what the levels are, what trophies and awards are given out, etc.

Part II is for the show committee and judges, saying who is in charge of what.

SECTION II is the meat of the rules. This is where you get into specifics of the “divisions.”

Divisions are the category of display cases, such as mineral, beading or lapidary.

The rules for the entire division are in this section. The rules will always refer you back to Section I. Criteria for labeling is in this area. Pay close attention to this, as many points are lost in labeling. This will also define any restricted classes.

Subdivisions further break down the divisions. For example, minerals are broken down into subdivisions, such as unlimited by size, cabinet minerals or thumbnail.

Under the subdivision are the specific rules for quantity of specimens, how things should be displayed, etc. You will always be referred back to the rules for the entire division.

Subdivisions are further broken down into classes. Under thumbnail minerals you have classes for “any type mineral,” “single crystal with or without matrix,” “crystals with inclusions” and “pseudomorphs.”

If you wanted to show a case of pseudomorph thumbnail crystals, you would be showing as BT-4X, B for mineral division, T for thumbnail subdivision and 4X for pseudomorphs, a restricted class.

Now that you have decided to enter a display case, the first thing to determine is how you want to enter as an exhibitor. Start at SECTION I, Part I, where exhibitor is defined. You may enter as an individual or Exhibitor Group, and at different levels of expertise. There are six exhibitor groups. The first three exhibitor groups are based upon level of experience: Novice, Advanced and Master. The other three groups are Junior, Society and Junior Society. You can compete in different exhibitor groups in different classes. You may be in the Master group for Faceting but a Novice in Jewelry and Art Metalcraft. It is important to remember that you cannot compete against yourself. You may not enter in a family or society group and as an individual in the same class. Hopefully this brief explanation has helped take some of the mystery out of the Uniform Rules.
The December issue of the AFMS Newsletter had a short article on the history of Quartzsite, AZ. I previously had no idea how Quartzsite became the Mecca for recreational rockhounds every January. It really piqued my interest and I wanted to know more.

In 1856 Charles Tyson and his wife Victoria arrived in the area. In the early years of the American gold rush, panhandlers began to arrive in Arizona searching for the precious metal. Gold deposits were discovered in the desert mountains of Plomosa and Dome Rock in the area, and a boom in the mining industry followed. Charles Tyson was a miner who foresaw the mining potential of the area.

The Yavapai Indian Tribe (Mojave-Apache) resented the arrival of these white settlers. The water supply was their main target. In 1856 Charles Tyson built his own private fort, Fort Tyson, for protection against the Indian raids.

In 1864 Tyson hand dug a well. Between 1866-1867 the Tyson’s Well Stage Station was built. It was a stop on the famous Butterfield Overland Mail route between Ehrenburg and Prescott, AZ and Riverside, CA. In 1875 a traveler described the place as being “the most melancholy and uninviting place that they had ever seen. It reeks of everything unclean, morally and physically.” The route was used to transport not only travelers but supplies to support the miners and US Army.

Hadji Ali (1828—December 16, 1902) also known as "Hi Jolly" and "Philip Tedro", was a Turkish citizen of Greater Syria, who was among the men hired by the US Army to introduce camels as beasts of burden to transport cargo across the "Great American Desert." In 1857 the US Army brought in 77 camels for building projects as they could carry 2 to 3 times the weight of mules and could survive on less water. Ali was the lead camel driver during the US Army's experiment with the US Camel Corps. The cost of the American Civil War resulted in Congress did no longer approving more funds for the Corps. The camels were auctioned in 1864. Ali was discharged from the U.S. Army at Camp McDowell in 1870.

He next ran a freight service between the Colorado River and the mining establishments further east, using the few camels he had purchased. His business was unsuccessful, however, and he released his camels into the desert near Gila Bend. With his camel adventures now in the past, he became a legend of sorts, talked about as a strange yet skillful and funny person running camels in the American desert. In 1880 Ali became an American citizen using his birth name Philip Tedro.

Ali was hired in 1885 by the US Army in Arizona, under the command of General George Crook during the Geronimo Campaign where he was in charge of packing mules. Later Ali moved to Quartzsite, AZ with his wife Gertrudis Serna and family. During his years as a resident of Quartzsite, he did some mining in the local mines and on occasion served as a scout for the US government. He ended his life as a failed prospector. Local merchants helped him with handouts. Congressman Mark Smith even tried to get him a pension, but since he was never an official soldier in the Calvary the paperwork wasn’t processed. He died in 1902 and was buried in the Quartzsite Cemetery which was renamed the "Hi Jolly Cemetery" in 1903, in honor of Hadji Al.

Hi Jolly lived well into his seventies. The locals were so fond of him that when he died that they spent several weeks building Hi Jolly a special pyramid tomb, made of multicolored petrified wood and quartz. It was dedicated on Jan. 4, 1903. Thirty-three years later the Arizona Highway Department came along and cemented a bronze plaque to the tomb, telling Hi Jolly's story, and topped the pyramid with a metal camel silhouette.

In 1897 there was a small mining boom. The establishment of the railroad affected the commercial aspect of the area since most people preferred to travel by train. However, Tyson’s Well stage station continued to provide rest and refreshment to travelers and freight drivers plus general supplies and mining supplies. It’s reported that Tyson Wells had 3 general stores, 11 saloons, a hotel, a barber shop and a Chinese restaurant and a short lived post office. With the boom and arrival of the railroad it became necessary to reopen the post office. A new name had to be found so that the post office did not permit offices to reopen under formerly used names. It was suggested the name Quartzite, since quartzite is actually found in the town and surrounding area, was a few hundred at this time. February 1967 the first POWWOW was held in an old school building on 1 acre of ground. Historical records are not clear but it suggests 20 vendors “taggled” outdoors with estimated attendance of 1,000. In 1968 there were 42 tailgaters outside and 242 exhibitors inside, all on 4 acres.

The shows began to bring in more people and snow-birds and the town began to grow. The population in 1920 is estimated at 3,766. Growing at approximately 100 people a year.

By 1900, less than 20 people lived in town. The major problem was the lack of water at the mines, which affected production. Water brought from La Paz, AZ sold for $1 a gallon to $5 a barrel. Most gold was recovered by primitive dry washing. From 1900 to 1960, election records listed a population from as few as 14 to a few hundred during the Depression, to 50 in 1960 on a permanent basis.

In 1936 SR95 was extended north through Quartzsite to SR72 in Bouse, AZ. It became US95 in 1960.

In 1965 the Quartzsite Improvement Association was formed with 44 members. The population of city and surrounding area was a few hundred at this time. February 1967 the first POWWOW was held in an old school building on 1 acre of ground. Historical records are not clear but it suggests 20 vendors “taggled” outdoors with estimated attendance of 1,000. In 1968 there were 42 tailgaters outside and 242 exhibitors inside, all on 4 acres.

The shows began to bring in more people and snow-birds and the town began to grow. The population in 2019 is estimated at 3,766. Growing at approximately 100 people a year.

Today well over 2,000 vendors go to Quartzsite every year to sell rocks, minerals, gems, fossils, and jewelry. Setting up outside is not easy for the dealers. Besides the unpredictable weather, dust covers everything and it is a daily, never-ending chore to keep the bins and displays clean. Vendors also have to secure their merchandise, tables, and tents every night, not only against theft but primarily against potential rain or wind damage. Altogether there are about 10 shows in Quartzsite from late December to late February. Today attendance tops well over 1 million people.

So I guess in conclusion, Quartzsite is known for three things: it’s rich American history in the movement west, Hi Jolly and the Annual Quartzsite Pow-Wow.

Sources: Source: Fort Tyson, Wikipedia, Quartzsite AZ, Wikipedia, List of historic properties in Quartzsite, AZ

Page 4
**Having Fun: Junior Activities**

Jim Brace-Thompson, AFMS Juniors Program Chair

*Host a “Writers’ Workshop” for Your Club Kids*

In judging junior entries in Federation bulletin contests for a good many years, one thing has become painfully obvious to me. Fewer and fewer kids are gracing local club bulletins and newsletters with their thoughts and creative articles. For instance, last year I had just 6 entries to judge at the AFMS level, down from only 9 the year before. I’m talking about junior entries from all across the seven regional Federations, encompassing something like 600 local clubs and societies. Just 6 entries. In addition, our AFMS Future Rockhounds of America Badge Program offers a Communication badge for kids who give a brief presentation or show-and-tell at a club meeting, write a newsletter article or draw a cartoon, prepare a poster board display, etc. Regrettably, this is one of the least awarded among our 20 badges.

What to do?

Lynn Varon, newsletter editor for my own Ventura Gem & Mineral Society, has come up with a creative idea that we will “road test” this month at our regularly scheduled gathering of kids enrolled in our VGMS Pebble Pups Program. A couple of us with writing experience will sit down with the kids to offer ideas about topics to consider (your favorite rock, a fun field trip adventure, a visit to a museum, etc.). We’ll offer very brief pointers on structuring a basic article and then jump in. The goal will be to keep the lesson stuff to a minimum and hands-on writing to a maximum for the period of our 2-hour session. If kids hit a block, we’ll be right there to help them through it. Perhaps one child may want to draw a picture to help jump-start her thoughts. Perhaps another might want to start with an outline or story board to get going. The most important thing: getting going and getting words on the page!

Our hope is that by the end of this single session, all kids will have produced a brief article while having fun in a group experience. We also hope that we’ll have a full set of articles that Lynn can then spread out and publish in the VGMS newsletter throughout the remainder of the year. We think this will produce immediate concrete results rather than holding a dull and boring classroom lecture then sending everyone off with a “homework” assignment and naively expecting to receive articles in the weeks or months to follow. Hopefully, the kids will be having so much fun, they won’t even realize they were actually learning! I’ll keep you posted with results!

**Bulletin Editors Are Special & Should Be Treated As Such**

Shirley Leeson

2020 AFMS Bulletin Editor's Hall of Fame

I have taken over the AFMS Bulletin Editor's Hall of Fame. This year we should be honoring editors from the Southeast Federation, but since Carolyn Weinberger was having severe health problems, this particular item went by the wayside. So, if you have someone in the Midwest, Eastern or Southeast who you feel is deserving to be recognized, please contact me. This may NOT come from a club for their editor. It should come from an exchange editor or regional Bulletin Aids chair.

Thank you for your time and interest; bulletin editors are special.

**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 insist on 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.

**New ALAA Recommendation to All AFMS Federations & Your Societies.**

We are encouraging you to work closely with your societies to create a display case of the rocks, gems, minerals and fossils of the closed collecting sites in your territory due to public lands regulation, and to display the case(s) at your annual shows and conventions, and at the local society shows whenever possible. If every federation would show a representation of this, it will make a big impression on your members to become more collectively involved in protecting your current field trip areas now and for the future. Take photos of the material along with identifying it and note where the collecting site was. Include this information in your federation and society newsletter issues. ALAA would like to have this information for it’s database, website and newsletters, and for articles in the AFMS newsletter. Let’s get Rock ‘N’ on this project so we can keep on Rock’N our collecting sites.
Help for Editors

Mark Nelson
AFMS BEAC

I enjoy talking to editors! They come from many backgrounds and share a common bond: they are giving a lot of their time to be a major part of the glue that binds a rock and mineral club together! I am disappointed when (rarely) I hear that the club’s new editor seems to produce a bulletin that is sterile and uninteresting. It’s my goal, and that of the AFMS and S.C.R.I.B.E., to help those editors meet the challenges involved in producing an interesting and effective bulletin! Here are things to keep in mind:

Include current club information

Being informative and relevant is a main reason why a member should read a bulletin or newsletter. Not all members can attend every meeting, and they look to the bulletin to tell them what is going on and upcoming! If your mailed or emailed piece looks like a newsletter, but isn’t full of valuable, interesting, educational content, then it isn’t really a newsletter, is it?

According to the Nielsen Norman Group, a respected research and consulting firm, more than 40 percent of users said that each of the following aspects make for valuable email newsletters:

- Club-related news or actions
- Items about the hobby
- Items about events, deadlines, and other important dates
- Tips, tactics, how-to’s, and tutorials
- Federation and AFMS news
- Events, dates to remember, and holidays
- Interesting facts
- Reviews
- Photos
- Contests/contest winners
- Resources
- Hobby news: updates, improvements, new products, awards, volunteer projects, etc.
- Infographics
- Useful webinars or videos
- Testimonials
- Recipes
- Fan photos

Keep it brief and to the point

Our average bulletin is 8 pages long. Research has determined that the average person spends 51 seconds reading a newsletter. By keeping your content scannable with content blocks, brief blurbs, snapshots, takeaways, or bullet points you will have a better chance of having your bulletin or newsletter read and appreciated! Think of it this way: The point of a newsletter isn’t to make a sale; it’s to build a relationship with your audience, to inform and educate.

Have a compelling opening page

First impressions are important for establishing any type of relationship, professional or personal. In personal relations, how you introduce yourself to someone can pique or fizzle the listener’s interest in continuing a conversation. The same goes for your newsletter’s subject line or first page. If the first thing your readers see isn’t compelling, interesting, intriguing, or thought provoking, your reader may not make it to the rest of the publication. Make the first page something special! Use color, photographs and something that will make the reader want to look further!

It may seem obvious but, if your bulletin is emailed, state clearly in the “From” section of the email that it is coming from the club and contains the bulletin! When crafting your newsletter subject line, avoid using generic lines like: June Newsletter. Instead, consider something related to an article in the publication like “Oldest known scorpion fossil found in Wisconsin! See page 5 of the bulletin!”

As the website Vertical Response.com notes: Creating a personable, presentable, and effective email newsletter takes work, but it creates a friendship with your members that most marketing strategies can’t. Let’s keep these tips in mind when creating our bulletins!

Do these tips sound familiar? It is very much like the scoring categories in the AFMS Bulletin Editors Contest for scoring bulletins. I recommend that all of us print this scoring sheet and use it to score our own bulletin!

Rockhound of the Year, 2020

Judi Allison
Rockhound of the Year AFMS Chair

Northwest Federation 2020

Cascade Mineralogical Society nominates Mark Hohn as Rockhound of the Year. Mark joined our club in 2014, was new to rock collecting and lapidary work, but jumped in with both feet! He immediately became a very valuable asset to our club. As Membership Chairman, he created a database and mass club email ability. He rewrote our website, and traffic has since soared. We consistently get new members via the site. He setup the ability to join or renew membership online via credit card, and buy booth space online. Mark was elected to our Board of Director’s. As Show Chairman, he managed advertising, social media accounts, set up, and led our club to the production of extremely successful shows. This enabled us to establish 2 annual grants for Earth Science students at Green River College. He also does woodcarving, and beekeeping!
AFMS Committees: 2019 – 20

Here is the listing of Committee Chairs for 2019-20. 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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**Nominating**
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**Parliamentarian**
Steve Weinberger (see Bylaws Revisory)

**Past President’s Advisory**
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2227 Crescent Drive
Alhadena, CA 91001

sandie.fender at gmail.com

Sandy Fuller, Vice President
Margaret Kolaczyk, 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 or 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.

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 related subjects, and to sponsor and provide ways to coordinate the work and efforts of all interested persons and groups; to sponsor and encourage the formation and international development of Societies and Regional Federations and thereby 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, Federation Director and Editor.

Subscription Information, Distribution Questions and address changes should be sent to the AFMS Central Office. Subscriptions are $5.00 per year. Checks should be made payable to “AFMS” and sent to Cheryl Neary, AFMS Central Office, 42 Jefferson Avenue, Patchogue, NY 11772-1008.

516-449-5341 <ciervo.neary at gmail.com>

Content – Letters, Editorial Comments – Submissions

Any communication concerning the content or format of the newsletter, and questions should be sent to the Editor. Suzanne Webb 9895 Kerrydale Ct. Reno, NV 89521-4401 775-624-8446 <AFMSeditor at gmail.com>

Deadline: 5th of the month preceding publication

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Upcoming AFMS and Regional Federation Conventions

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<td>March 8 - 10 Pomona, CA</td>
<td>June 1 - 2 Monroe, NY</td>
<td>AFMS March 23-24 Cedar Rapids, IA</td>
<td>October 18-20 Lewiston, ID</td>
<td>August 2-4 Prescott, AZ</td>
<td>January 19-20 Fredericksburg, TX</td>
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<td>Oct. 1. 11-13 Huntsville, AL</td>
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<td>2021</td>
<td>July Syracuse, NY</td>
<td>Sept 10 - 12 Toledo, OH</td>
<td>AFMS April 21 - 25 So. Jordon, UT</td>
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<td>2022</td>
<td>Sept. Harrisburg, PA</td>
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<td>AFMS January 29 - 30 Tyler, TX</td>
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