Greetings fellow rockhounds. It is now the first week in May, and this is the last newsletter until September. About half the states are entering Phase 1 of reopening. In Florida, Phase 1 has restaurants and businesses at 25% capacity and no groups larger that 6 people. My local club is still shut down. William Holland Lapidary School has made the difficult decision to not open this year. Most clubs and federations have had to make difficult decisions about shows, field trips, meetings and workshops, but it all depends on where you are physically and the status of the virus in your area.

Unfortunately, at this time, the AFMS annual meeting for October is on hold. Meetings and conventions cannot be held until we are in Phase 3. Phase 2 only permits groups up to 50 people, and no show can be successful with only 50 people. The ability to hold a convention will depend mostly on the geographic area. Ours is scheduled for Knoxville, Tennessee. While a lot of Tennessee opened up to Phase 1, Knox county is still on total lockdown. The venues and hotels are not taking reservations for a conference. We are unable to confirm plans at this time.

A lot can change in the next 6 weeks. We might find things get better quickly, or a resurgence of the virus. The AFMS does not have the ability to do an email blast. (Maybe we should look into this.) We will have to rely on the ability of the different regions to do an email blast to get out more information about the annual meeting when we know more.

While we are in our lockdown, I encourage everyone to take advantages of some of the offerings from Rock & Gem Magazine, which is our official magazine. They have a selection of Virtual Adventures on their website. Check out rockngem.com for their offerings. All club members are offered a discount subscription rate of 12 issues for $24 using code RG24, and I have been told it can be used for multiple year subscriptions. When we get back to having shows, they have a nice club directory and show listing, with additional advertising options. Contact Talvarez at beckett.com.

In Defense of Rocks

The use of the phrase “Dumb as a Rock” appears to be on the increase, especially by politicians, and it is time to stand up for rocks. I love and adore rocks, collect them, play with them, hoard and board them, display them, sell them, and put them to work. But I have never met a dumb rock. Met a few that were hard and somewhat ugly and of little use, some that made my back ache and a few that tried to remove my big toe. But through it all, they were rocks, not dumb rocks. The origin and use of the term are somewhat hazy, and an online search will give you multiple answers and opinions. So, stand up for rocks, collect them, appreciate them and keep on rocking. Addendum. Rocks are a perfect companion and activity for social distancing.

From the April 2020, MAGS Rockhound News.
Safety Matters:

_size Matters_

Size matters with safety masks and so does fit. While there is special concern about wearing safety masks due to the Covid-19 virus issues, we as rockhounds have numerous reasons for wearing masks.

Most of the mask use in our hobbies revolves around dust—dust from rock drilling, grinding dust, hammering dust, rock sawing dust. Most, but not all, of that dust may be controlled by keeping things wet. The rest may be mitigated by wearing a suitable dust mask. Another use for masks is with regard to chemical fumes. For fume mitigation much more stringent requirements are made of masks and will be discussed in a future Safety Matters article.

The reason for this timely mask story relates to our hobby but perhaps more importantly is in regard to the Covid-19 virus problem. Not all masks are the same, so how we select, use, and wear the mask makes a difference. For use in our hobby activities, and for all intents and purposes, most dust masks will match the tasks we regularly face.

Virus protection masks require numerous additional considerations. Is one concerned about inhaling air containing droplets, particles, or some carrier of a Covid-19 virus? Is one concerned with exhaling air with particles which may, unknowingly, carry the Covid-19 virus? How long will we need to wear the mask? What are the proximity to possible virus issues? We need to make decisions about what we want the mask to accomplish.

Masks being used for Covid-19 include surgical masks, N95 masks, painters masks, dust masks, VOC masks, many, many types of home-made masks, as well as ski masks, scarves pulled over face, kerchiefs, sleeved arm held across mouth and nose. Well, books can be written about all those options. For now it is wise to, if one can find masks in the store, read the information on the mask's packaging and select a mask suitable for virus mitigation. Virus are indeed very small however, the particles they ride on are generally quite a bit larger in size. It is currently thought safe to use N95 masks, the others offer varying degrees of protection depending upon one’s needs. Please check trusted sources for information on mask types, use, and recommendations...

With the common use of N-95 masks there too are issues to be addressed. Actually, many of the other mask options have similar issues. Is the mask the right size? Size does matter. For a small face, such as with children, the N95 may not fit sufficiently well to offer suitable protection. A mask's fit around the contours of the nose can be a problem area. Many of the better masks have special spongy sealing foam to seal around the nose. Some masks have a thin metal strip which can be pressed around the nose to contour the mask and ensure a proper fit around the nose. If air is moving in or out around the mask edges, especially in the nose area the mask's effectiveness is greatly reduced. If one's glasses are being fogged while wearing a mask that is a classic sign the mask's fit is not as effective as it should be. A hand moved close to the mask's perimeter can be used to detect air leaks around a mask. The breeze of moving air can easily be detected by ones hand as it is moved around the mask as one is breathing in and out.

The take-aways are: one needs to select a suitable mask for the task; and the mask's size and fit must also be correct.

Sources of additional information include:

- WHO - World Health Organization
- CDC - Center for Disease Control
- NIH - National Institute of Health
- NIAD - National Institute of Allergies and Infectious Diseases

Checking with the above sources, as well as your own personal and trusted sources, plus your state and local sources, would be wise in order have the most current safety mask advice.

Your safety matters. Please be extra cautious in this current Covid-19 virus day and age. The disclaimer—understand that this article does not profess to offer medical advice but merely compiles data from several sources about masks and the Covid-19 virus. For cur-

**Editor's Corner: Remember**

by Suzanne Webb

The AFMS Newsletter will not publish an issue in July or August—that’s when we should all be out rock hounding, if Cov-19 will let us. Articles for the September issue are due to the editor by August 5. We are also anticipating a small format change with that issue and we hope you like what you see.
With social distancing and stay-at-home orders, school closures, and mandates barring group gatherings in light of the COVID-19 pandemic, we in my own Ventura Gem & Mineral Society have had to cancel membership and board meetings, workshop days, educational outreach efforts, and our monthly Pebble Pup activities. If you are like us, you are searching for ways to keep your society relevant and meaningful to club members and your broader community.

To hold our group of Pebble Pups together, here are some things we in the Ventura society are trying. Lisa Batchelder Hetrick, our Pebble Pups Program Coordinator, is scouring the web and Facebook pages to seek activities kids can do at home. She’s found one that incorporates food (as well as other fun things) at [www.teachjunkie.com/sciences/rocks-for-kids-15-fun-activities](http://www.teachjunkie.com/sciences/rocks-for-kids-15-fun-activities). She also stumbled across a National Fossil Day poster contest sponsored by the U.S. National Park Service which I’ll describe in next month’s AFMS Newsletter (meanwhile, see [www.nps.gov/subjects/fossilday/art-contest-2020.htm](http://www.nps.gov/subjects/fossilday/art-contest-2020.htm)).

We’re also encouraging families with Pebble Pups to try working through activities on their own that are part of the AFMS Future Rockhounds of America Badge Program (see [www.amfed.org/fra/fra_badge.htm](http://www.amfed.org/fra/fra_badge.htm)). For instance, one that is easily done at home is the “Rocking on the Computer” badge. This might also be a good opportunity to help a child organize his or her collection toward earning the “Collecting” badge. You don’t need to have a full group meeting to earn badges in the AFMS/FRA Badge Program; in fact, we welcome home-schooling that brings together kids and their parents! The web address I’ve just provided takes you to a page with a link to the full Badge Manual. Share it with parents in your society!

Finally, just today I’ve kicked off a contest for our Pebble Pups that I hope to conduct weekly, a contest I’ve entitled “Name the Specimen — And It’s Yours!” Once a week, we’ll email a photo of a mineral, rock, or fossil to our Pebble Pups and Junior members and will give them one week to get back to me with a correct identification. The child who provides the most accurate and complete answer gets the specimen. If multiple kids send the same answer, their names will be put in a hat to select the winner. The main goal is to keep our club kids engaged and excited so that they’ll still be with us when once again we are all able to meet in-person.

I hope these ideas spur further thinking within your club, and I welcome hearing about other creative ideas—and not just ideas geared toward kids. What ways are you exploring to stay meaningful and relevant to your adult members and within your broader community? I’d love to hear what’s being tried. Email your thoughts to me at jbraceth@roadrunner.com. Despite the pandemic and social distancing, there are ways of engaging our kids at a distance while still having fun!
The Bragging Rights theme for our May general meeting is fossils. I saw a David Attenborough documentary, “Attenborough and the Giant Dinosaur” on PBS, and I learned so much about the information that can be gathered and inferred from fossils and from the location where the fossils are found. I gained great respect for fossils from viewing this documentary, and I wish to share it with you. Think about it as you view whatever Bragging Rights entries are entered in our contest at our May meeting.

One of the richest areas in the world for fossils is the Cerro Barci¬no Formation in Chubut Province, Patagonia, Argentina. My understand¬ing is that through time, wind erosion swept away layers and layers of dirt, finally exposing this rich fossil bed, with fossils so dense that it is difficult to avoid stepping on them as you walk around. Among the beautifully preserved fossils such as whole fossil dino¬saurs and mineralized skin, was the lower thighbone of a young adult Titanosaur (Patagotitan Mayorum) that was 121 feet long. How could such a massive animal survive?

The titanosaur required a circulatory system that could nourish his whole body including the lower extremities. The scientists looked at one of our largest land mammals, the African elephant, to see how it managed this. It was done by thick fat pads on the feet and thick elastic skin above the feet, which worked together, as it walked to help pump the blood back up to the four chambered heart for reoxygenation.

Why did the titanosaur grow so huge? Much of the titanosaur is long neck and long tail that balances the neck. The long neck enabled the titanosaur to sweep its head through the tops of tall trees and to eat all that was required to nourish its huge body. The teeth where the upper and lower teeth met were like the opposing blades on a pair of scissors that when brought together could snap and shred the branches. The long neck and body contained a long gut where the food took ten days to digest.

Much more was learned as the scientists examined fossilized remains. But there were other questions to be answered, not an easy task, be¬cause these fossils were from animals that lived about 131 million years ago. For example, as the dig progressed, some layers had fossil¬ized remains, and other layers did not. Between the layers was evi¬dence of volcanic ash. Over time, the volcanoes erupted and killed all the creatures and then in time when the volcanoes were quiet, the ani¬mals returned. The cycle repeated itself many times. So why did the area become repopulated again and again? The answer was that it was an area with plenty of water, an area hospitable to life.

This is part of what I learned as I watched this program, and it gave me an renewed respect for fossils and their importance to us in understand¬ing our world. The fossils have a story to tell us about our earth long ago, in this example, the early part of the Cretaceous period.

I had the opportunity to dig for fossils on a ranch in Montana. Among the fossils that I found were beautiful, perfect teeth, one from an Ankylosaur and one from a Tyrannosaur. Both are too small to be impressive to the eye, but they are 65 million years old! What a beautiful way this was for me to see a little of the past.

As you decide what fossils to enter into the Bragging Rights contest for our May meeting, try to learn a little about them and the era in which the plant or animal lived. It will make you value your fossil even more than you do now.

From the May, 2020 Breccia, the newsletter of the Santa Clara Valley GMS.

The earth is one gigantic and fascinating novel if we know how to read it. Within its great story, filled with so many mysteries yet to be discovered and treasures to be found, the earth even holds knowledge beyond our cur¬rent beliefs of what once was and what can be. And there is an endless beauty in those rocks we love so much, isn’t there? I find it so enchanting working with a stone to discover what beauty it holds that can’t always be seen from the outside. Aren’t we the lucky ones to have fallen in love with the hobby of the Earth Sciences, and the Lapidary Arts and Crafts.

I imagine many of us have been more focused on making homemade face masks instead of grab bags so far this year, but we can still have fun getting ready for what we love and enjoy, with those we want to be close with again within our dear hobby. I am daydreaming of the day when that will happen, and it will happen. Just think of all the wonderful society “show and tell” programs we’ll have once we can get together again.

I love making obsidian beads, but never tumbled the rough I’ve collect¬ed, so I have that in the works. There are always cool ties to make in preparation for the hot summer field trips and for working in the garden, to give away. I have yards of grab bag fabric with a frog and toad print that are fun to make right now, in preparation for when the shows start again and when we can get together with the kids of friends. This time of being separated from people except by phone and computer has of¬fered me the space and time to think about what new adventures I’d like to explore and create related to the hobby, and I am finding there are many.

A company that specializes in carving New Zealand jade came up with a beautiful idea of offering two pendants cut, carved and polished from the same stone, so two people who can’t be together right now because of the social distancing, can feel still feel a closeness by wearing a stone cut from the same piece of jade. It gave new meaning to how we can look at a slab, apart from just to seeing how many good cabs we can squeeze out of the piece.

Earth Science Historical Spotlight: Did you know, it was the mining and mineral companies who developed the N95 mask which has been so important to protect our frontline workers from the Covid-19 virus? Here’s a great link to more information about it. https://www.fastcompany.com/90479846/the-untold-origin-story-of-the-n95-mask

Did you know, that a key ingredient in the coronavirus tests is found in the hydrothermal waters at Yellowstone National Park and Lassen Volcanic National Park? Here’s a link to explain it more. https://www.whoi.edu/news/insights/content/finding-answers-in-the-ocean/

After WWII, memberships in rock and gem societies grew exponential¬ly. This surge in interest included numerous new societies forming across the United States, followed by the formation of the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies. Those returning home from the war found solace in Recreational Rockhounding. They found a joy in the hobby and it helped heal their minds from war. The recreation was an ideal match for something the whole family could have fun with as well as being educational, as it is today. We are living in unusual times this year, brought on by the Covid-19 virus, which is challenging us all in so many ways. Americans have always been strong in their spirit, and a beautiful spirit it is. We will get through this, and everything will be all right, and I look forward to the time we can all be together again.
Preparing for winning entries in 2020

by Mark Nelson, AFMS Bulletin Editors’ Advisory Chair

I’ve had readers of my own bulletin express appreciation for receiving news of the club—even though our meetings have been canceled due to the pandemic restrictions. With the imposed limitations on our travel, work and recreation we have an opportunity to work on making our bulletins something that can sustain the interest of our members—and that will win the attention of judges in the 2021 Bulletin Editors Contest. Start by going to the AFMS website at amfed.org. Scroll down and click on Bulletin Editors Contest. You should be at a page called http://amfed.org/editor/BEAC/contest.htm. At Fillable Score Sheets, click on Bulletins. By making sure that your bulletin contains the items on the score sheet you are on your way to an impressive bulletin! Here are the simple guidelines and tips for producing a great bulletin:

FIRST IMPRESSION.

• Put something on the cover that will attract the attention and interest of the reader. Make it legible and neat. A photo often helps! For example, if writing about the new use of the mineral Basalt In Construction, you could show a color photo of a basaltic lava flow on the cover page, with a brief teaser and instructions to read an inner page for the rest of the story, as Paul Harvey would say!

VITAL INFORMATION.

• Make sure that your bulletin contains basic information about your club:
  • Bulletin title, club name, city and state (on cover or front page). You can also put your club logo on the front and back covers, or on each page!
  • Publication date (cover or page 1, and on each page).
  • Return address on outside cover (mailing area). For those bulletins that are mailed, if you put the editor’s address and a box that says “Return Service Requested,” you will be notified by the Post Office if the address has moved.
  • Editor’s name and address.
  • Club officers, club address or contact info, dues, purpose and club federation.
  • Date, time and place of regular meeting.

FORMAT/EDITORSHIP:

• Pages numbered and dated. Bulletin name on each page.
• Headings, margins, white space, spacing good; typing neat and clean. Avoid hyphens when possible!
• Orderly and interesting arrangement of subjects. Try to keep the subjects grouped so that they can be read without skipping around in your bulletin.
• Spelling and grammar acceptable. Ask someone who reads well to proof-read your bulletin for understanding of the articles as well as spelling and grammar.
• ALL articles credited to writers/publications; borrowed articles credited to writers or publications and dated.
• No apparent copyright violations.
• Info/articles appear to be correct, no glaring inaccuracies. Again, having an independent proofreader read the articles and give feedback if they are difficult to understand will help the bulletin overall!
• Good use of illustrations (graphics, maps, club logo, cartoons, etc.).
• Variety of material appears to fulfill needs of your club.

CLUB NEWS:

• Programs announced, previous program reviewed. The upcoming program is often a big draw for members. The review of the previous program can be used to thank the person who (like a member) who gave the program, or it can be a brief mention.
• Highlights or minutes of last club meeting. This doesn’t have to be pages of detail. Just mention items that may have some importance, impact or change. Even a couple of sentences would suffice.
• Committee/board meeting reports (This doesn’t have to be pages of detail. Just note items that may have some importance, impact or change).
• President’s message.
• Field trips, workshops or classes, community or federation projects that the club may be involved in. If you don’t have a workshop, the club might consider offering classes at a Senior Center. Food drives or other volunteer efforts are also good unifying and community activities!
• Coming events, or calendar of club activities. A calendar can be used for more than just showing meetings, workshops and field trips. It can show holidays (like Mother’s Day, Father’s Day) or special and fun holidays (like National Fossil Day). If you do a computer search at holidayinsights.com/moreholidays/june.htm you will find a lot of fun and interesting special days. Also, if you search historyplace.com/specials/calendar/june.htm you will see a lot of interesting historical events that will make your calendar more interesting to readers!
• Events or shows or news of other clubs. It is usually more interesting to show five shows that are within an hour’s drive for a member than ten shows that cover a wide geographical area. A good source for these shows is your Federation web site. Another is a search for Rock & Gem Magazine at www.rockngem.com. They will list shows all across the country by month!
• News of members: Dale Carnegie said, “A person’s name is to that person, the sweetest, most important sound in any language.” A section in your bulletin should have news that mentions members. Photos are also great reader items. Some clubs have a “Sunsight” section that specifically mentions good things happening to members, those who are ill and such.
• American Federation News. The AFMS web site (www.amfed.org) has the latest newsletter for free download. An item from that newsletter will help your members understand that they are part of a larger organization that shares and supports their hobby!
• Club’s Regional Federation News. Our local federation’s news is often even more interesting to our members!

ARTICLES:

• Articles are one of the most important items in your bulletin!
• They should educate and be hobby-related in some way.
• Your bulletin should contain a section that has Hints & Tips, or Safety info, Book Reviews, Humor, etc. (variety as meets your club needs).
• Some of the best material is articles and items submitted by club members.
• A great way to get interesting articles is from exchange bulletins, the SCRIBE DVD and/or other sources.

I welcome your feedback and questions! ---- Mark
**Antarctic Rainforest** by Matthew Lybanon, Editor, Rockhound News of the Memphis Archeological and Geologi
cal Society

"The numerous plant remains indicate that the coast of West Antarctica was, back then, a dense temperate, swampy forest, similar to the forests found in New Zealand today" This is a quotation from Ulrich Salzmann, a paleoecologist at Northumbria University in England, concerning the remains of a 90 million-year-old rainforest discovered under Antarctic ice.

At that time West Antarctica was home to a thriving temperate rainforest, according to fossil roots, pollen, and spores recently discovered there, a new study published in Nature finds. During the middle of the Cretaceous period sea levels were 170 meters higher than they are today. Sea-surface temperatures in the tropics were as hot as 35°C. This scorching climate allowed a rainforest, similar to those seen in New Zealand today, to take root in Antarctica, the researchers said.

The rainforest's remains were discovered under the ice in a sediment core that a team of international researchers collected from a seabed near Pine Island Glacier in West Antarctica in 2017. Back at the lab, the team put the core into a CT scanner. The resulting digital image showed a dense, 3m-long network of in situ fossil roots embedded in a mudstone matrix. The dirt also revealed ancient pollen, spores, and the remnants of flowering plants from the Cretaceous period.

The sediment core revealed that during the mid-Cretaceous, West Antarctica had a mild climate, with an annual mean air temperature of about 12°C, similar to that of Seattle. Summer temperatures were warmer, with an average of 19°C. In rivers and swamps, the water would have reached up to 20°C. In addition, the rainfall back then was comparable to the rainfall of Wales, England, today, the researchers found.

These temperatures are impressively warm, given that Antarctica had a four-month polar night, meaning that a third of every year had no sunlight. However, the world was warmer back then, in part because the carbon dioxide concentration in the atmosphere was high. Before this study the general assumption was that the global CO$_2$ concentration was about 1,000 ppm, but in the model-based experiments of this study it took concentration levels of 1,120-1,680 ppm to reach the average temperatures the study deduced.

These findings show how potent greenhouse gases like carbon dioxide can cause temperatures to skyrocket, so much so that today's freezing West Antarctica once hosted a rainforest. Moreover, it shows how important the cooling effects of today's ice sheets are, the researchers said.

CT scan video: https://vimeo.com/402614855

Ref: Johann P. Klages et al, Temperate rainforests near the South Pole during peak Cretaceous warmth, published online 1 April 2020, https://doi.org/10.1038/s41586-020-2148-5

From the May 2020 Rockhound News

"A Different View on the Internet" by Eric Brosius

Every now and then something comes along that is extremely useful to our hobby and especially collecting specimens in the field. If you own a Smartphone, tablet or even a laptop computer that has internet access while out in the field, UW Macrostrat Lab funded by the National Science Foundation and UW Geoscience has produced an absolutely fantastic App called "ROCKD" that is available for free from the Apple App Store or Google Play. This application gives you instant access to more than 155 geologic maps, specific information on individual rock formations that you may be standing on, a digital BRUNTON® Compass, a place to record your observations and more. Check it out at www.rockd.org.

**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.

**DO YOU HAVE MARCASITE THAT’S GOING TO PIECES?**

Try mixing one heaping tablespoon baking soda in one quart of water. Let it effervesce and wash the marcasite in it. Rinse well with water and dry. Then dip the marcasite in medium weight oil and drain well. Check the boxes in which marcasite specimens are stored, as [marcasite] forms sulfuric acid and can eat through . . . containers. Source: Osage Hills Gems, 5/2003; via El Gambrisino, 5/2013 and Low Country Diggings 4/20.
AFMS Committees: 2019 - 20

Here is the Committee Chairs list for 2019-20. You can contact these people if you need information, have questions or to share ideas with them. Please note that the @ sign in the email address has been replaced by the word “at” to foil bots that collect email addresses.

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sandie.fender@gmail.com

Sandy Fuller, Vice President
Margaret Kolaczyk, Secretary
Barbara Ringhiser, Treasurer

AFMS Newsletter  June 2020
**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.

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**AFMS Newsletter June 2020**

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**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 <centraloffice.afms at gmail.com>.

Content: Letters, Editorial Comments, Submissions

Any questions or other communication concerning the content or format of the newsletter should be sent to the Editor, Suzanne Webb, 9895 Kerydale 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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<thead>
<tr>
<th>California Federation</th>
<th>Eastern Federation</th>
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<th>Rocky Mountain Federation</th>
<th>South Central Federation</th>
<th>Southeastern Federation</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td></td>
<td>Sept. 18 - 20</td>
<td>April 19-21</td>
<td>October 10-11</td>
<td>AFMS Oct. 16-18</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 25-28</td>
<td></td>
<td>Howell, MI</td>
<td>Ogden, UT</td>
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