Hello Fellow Rockhounds,

It is with regret that I have to announce that the AFMS/SFMS Annual Show and Meeting has been cancelled this year. The SFMS was to host the event in Knoxville in October, but at this time, the county is still under restrictions, and the location for the meeting will not be available.

We are working to set up a VIRTUAL MEETING to take place, accessible by computer or smart phone. This will require preregistration so that people interested will be emailed an access link. So far, we are planning to have different access for the different meetings. Details will be available on the website as plans are finalized.

The URC meeting will be scheduled for the evening of October 15th. At this time the URC Chair has had no requests for changes to the rules to be considered. If you have any requests to be considered, please forward them to the chair.

At the present time we are still looking at October 16th for all AFMS meetings. The board meeting will be in the morning, followed by the AFMS Scholarship meeting. There will be time for the ALAA to hold a meeting in the afternoon. The awards presentations, including the Editor’s and Webmaster’s awards is currently planned for the early evening.

Any input or requests for meeting time should be forwarded to Secretary Donna Moore. With a virtual meeting, we have an opportunity go greatly increase the participation at the meeting. This is a chance for Regional and Local organizations to see what the AFMS does. Preregistration will be necessary to limit individuals outside the rockhound world and ensure enough capacity for participants.

Until next time, stay safe and stay well.
**Safety Matters:**

**Communication**

Why is communication a matter of safety? Sometimes it is not a matter that communication is needed but what method of communication would be most effective.

It used to be a club's bulletin distributed the word regarding safety matters. Things have changed. Now we have an instant age where communication is, shall we say, a bit faster. I get it; it's how we live now-a-days. Faster is better. But it's only better if the message gets to where it needs to go and in a timely manner. It used to be that most folks had a land line telephone for such messages. Telephones still serve that purpose; however, while some people still have land lines, one can't take it (a land line) with one.

How does your club contact its members in an emergency? One can start with land line and cell phone calls. Instead, some members may prefer internet options - FacePage, Yahoo, Gaggle, Twitter, Link-Out, Swype, D-Mail, Slap Chat, Taxting, WhatsDown, … whatever. Say one member uses Yahoo exclusively, and another only Face Page, and a third only Twitts? Does your club have a list of the internet contact preferences for each member's household, or a reliable cell number?

Is it really necessary to have an emergency contact method for each and every member household? Well, maybe, maybe not. How often might such a list be needed? The answer to that is easy—hopefully as seldom as possible. Most reasons for contacting members are usually not urgent. The main reason for making note of the many ways to contact members is to raise the 'what if' awareness.

Having many options for contacting members is great. However, the one charged with doing the contacting needs to have access to all those many internet options as well. One answer to that is to have several people as contactors - each knowledgeable with several internet options. Another answer is to utilize a super-connected internet expert. In an internet-connected world it's good to have options.


**Rockhound of the Year**

*Judith Allison, AFMS Roy Chair*

**Rocky Mountain Federation**

The Grand Junction Gem and Mineral Club (GJGMC), Colorado is proud to recognize Ralph “Doc” Stuart as its 2020 Rockhound of the Year. He was a radiology physician, thus his nickname. He and his wife Gerry were highly active and involved in all aspects of the GJGMC. Each served as President of the club at different times. Gerry was involved with junior members, and Doc has always been a part of the Facetors group. He demonstrated faceting at our annual Gem & Mineral Show and taught many members how to facet over the years. Doc and Gerry donated nearly 2000 specimens to the club and many of these are displayed at the clubhouse.

After 30 years of continuous membership, both became Life Members. Sadly, Gerry passed away, but Doc continues to support the club and participate in rockhounding activities. He and fellow GJGMC member Helen Kaufman enjoyed many years of friendship, traveling to Quartzsite, many gem shows and sightseeing around the country until her passing. Doc’s other specialty is Micro Minerals, especially those that are radioactive. He spent many hours preparing specimens for viewing under a microscope and was involved with starting the club’s Micro Mineral Group. Doc is doing well at 94 years old, driving his Porsche, and occasionally attending club meetings.

Many have benefited from the knowledge he has shared with members of the GJGMC.

**Ray DeMark** has been a member of the Albuquerque Gem and Mineral Club (AGMC) since 1971 and a lifetime member since 2005. He is a 3 term President from 1985-1987, VP of Programs for four years, VP of Field Trips for nine years, Show Chairman for two years and Ad Hoc for two years.

Ray has articles published in everything from the News Nuggets all the way through the Mineralogical Record, and every publication in between. He also has minerals that he has collected in museums all over the country. Ray is one of the original founders and speakers of The New Mexico Mineral Symposium founded in 1979, and he has been a presenter at every symposium since.

Since I joined the club 8 years ago and long before that, Ray DeMark has been there whenever he was asked to help with anything. He has done multiple presentations, seminars, mineral identification sessions, field trips and whatever else goes on and on, and so does he. This is why Ray is to me the ultimate rockhound of the year.

I got excited about the Rockhound of the Year Award because it is a way to honor the unsung heroes of our club. Through the years I have heard various descriptions of what the award was for. It ranged from a “Rockhound of the Year” to a lifetime achievement award. My Rockhound of the Year goes way beyond any of these qualifications and in my opinion is someone who was qualified for this award years ago. Submitted by Bob
The importance of a club’s editor in keeping members engaged and interested has always been near the top in importance in any rock and mineral club! We don’t know when social restrictions related to the COVID-19 pandemic will ease, so I encourage our editors and club leaders to take the lead in the effort to maintain engagement during times when many clubs have reduced in-person meetings, projects or social events. The following are ideas and strategies for club leaders to consider. Editors and other club leaders are encouraged to consult with their boards to assess and determine which strategies will be useful in your club or society.

Interim Virtual Meetings

Please consider the creative use of technology to host “virtual meeting” experiences for your members until you can resume in-person meetings and events. Below are a few ideas and favorite tools for virtual meetings. Each suggestion includes links to helpful how-to guides and/or other information to assist you in navigating these tools.

Highly Interactive Tools – There are many free and paid options for hosting virtual meetings. The chances are high that someone in your club already has a pro version of one of these for their business, but there are also lots of great no-cost options that include basic features. Many of these programs are offering reduced fees and no-cost extended trials during this time.

- Zoom Basic Free | https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2pq4HiurXxA
- Go To Meeting Free | https://support.goto.com/meeting
- Google Hangout Free | https://support.google.com/hangouts/answer/3115553?co=GENIE.Platform%3DDesktop&hl=en
- Less Interactive Tools – There are other tools that are still incredibly useful and may be the perfect fit, but don’t require that everyone log in at a specific time, which could be the perfect level of flexibility for your club. The suggestions below range from social media tools to project management and communication tools.

- Facebook Live | https://blog.hubspot.com/marketing/facebook-live-guide
- Instagram TV | https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EaRgxA9mUY
- Basecamp | https://basecamp.com/
- Slack | https://slack.com/
- Tips for hosting a “Virtual Meeting”

- Consider shortening the length of the virtual meeting to make it more feasible for members to “tune in” and give it their attention.
- Do keep your fellowship activities if they can easily migrate online (for example, “new member getting to know you”, planned field trips, activities, interesting speakers, and rock of the month presentation).
- Avoid taking up “video time” with elements of your meeting that would be better shared in writing such as basic announcements or upcoming dates to note – consider sending those in a follow up email once the virtual meeting concludes.

Engagement through Social Media Tools

Social Media is a great tool for engaging members and the general community every day. Clubs can optimize and concentrate their social media channels as a resource to bolster engagement during the hiatus from in-person contact. Many of these strategies can also be used once you return to business as usual, so this may prove to be a pilot for your club.

Fellowship

Use social media prompts to mimic the fellowship your members enjoy during your meetings. Included among the resources are social media assets that you may use to start these online conversations. Here are few examples:

- What are you reading? What rocks or minerals have you acquired recently?
- Picture Contest: Rocks, minerals, sunrises or other earth science topics
- New member background
- Junior members achieved and planned activities

Social Media Takeovers

Allow various members to “take the reins” on your social channels and let them use pictures and stories to share how they’re dealing with the changes to daily living brought on by the pandemic. Here is a useful guide: https://blog.hootsuite.com/social-media-takeovers/

Migrating Meeting Activities to Social Media

- Member Profiles, planned field trips, activities, interesting speakers, and rock of the month presentation
- Asks members or “guest speakers” to record video presentations to promote through social channels. These can be how-to tips for rock tumbling, sawing, cabbing and the like.
- Have members who are passionate about particular community service projects? Ask them to share a self-recorded video! These can be recorded simply using a cell phone. Try to limit video recordings to 5-6 minutes maximum. Remember to write engaging posts that encourage members and guests to interact with the content.

Facebook Live is a great tool for short presentations featuring your members with interesting hobbies, because the audience can ask questions in real-time that the presenter can answer on the spot.

Spread Good Will

One of the categories in the All American Club Award program of AFMS is community service.
- Choose a local charity and ask all members to highlight it using their social channels.
- Choose a new charity each month, quarter or year!
- Coordinate with local hospitals or nursing homes for members to send cards or letters to combat loneliness from isolation in facilities that have limited visitors.
- Ask members to make blankets for My Very Own Blanket or similar organizations
- Challenge members to look through their homes and sort items that can be donated to charity.
- Once it is safe to do so, hold a group donation day to a local charity thrift store (remember to take pictures for your yearbook!).
- Ask members to record themselves reading children’s books and post through your club’s social channels for parents to share with their children for “all-tv time” during school closures.

None of these strategies is a replacement for timely, transparent and regular communication with your members about your plan to continue modified operations throughout this time. Be sure that all committee and office leaders in your club are equipped with consistent messaging to minimize confusion to your members and to streamline communications about changes as they arise. Consider sending brief weekly updates to your members or provide a timeline for when decisions will be reviewed and modified if necessary.

Continued, p. 5
As I’ve reported in past newsletters, I am knee-deep in revising the AFMS/FRA Badge Manual toward a Fifth Edition that I plan to release before year’s end. I’ve made some major improvements in this edition (including pagination, no less, and adding a lot more photographs and visual aids). I was hoping to add multimedia, particularly things like YouTube videos, but I am finding that YouTube links can be as transitory as the butterfly I saw yesterday in my backyard. If you have any suggestions about more-or-less stable links to sites with multimedia content (videos, simulations, interactive games, etc.), I welcome hearing about them.

Because of the expense of adding new badges to a program that we provide for free (thanks to the generosity of the AFMS Endowment Fund), I’m trying to avoid adding the set-up and manufacturing costs of an entirely new badge unless there is a truly major and compelling area of our hobby that I’ve missed these past 16 years. (To see what we currently offer, go to http://afmsfed.org/fra/fra_badge.htm.) Instead, I’m focusing on adding new activities to the existing badges, upgrading existing activities, adding a lot more visuals and, if possible, adding links to multimedia.

I welcome ideas large and small! Please send your thoughts to me via snail-mail, e-mail, or phone: 7319 Eisenhower Street, Ventura, CA 93003, jbraceth@roadrunner.com, (805) 659-3577. I welcome your ideas to help craft our Fifth Edition toward providing kids with yet another four years of having fun!

Check Out this Art Contest for Your Club’s Kids!

The U.S. National Park Service has sponsored a National Fossil Day for the past decade in conjunction with Earth Science Week. For the 11th annual National Fossil Day on October 14 2020, they are holding an art contest centered on the theme of “Life of the Paleozoic Oceans!” They ask participants to depict aquatic creatures from the time period spanning 541-250 million years ago. The artwork can be a photograph, painting, drawing, or sketch.

A panel will judge each entry on originality, creativity, quality, and relevance to the topic, with entries divided into four age groups: 8 years old and under, 9 to 13 years old, 14 to 18 years old, and 18 and older (I, myself, am a little confused here about 18-year-olds. Do they fall into the “14 to 18” group or the “18 and older” group?? [ed: and would this category include octogenarians? We are over 18.] But these are the categories listed on our government’s website, so go figure!) Four top entries will be selected from each age group with awards for 1st Place, 2nd Place, 3rd Place and Honorable Mention. Plus, the winners’ work will appear online on the National Fossil Day Art Contest Winners Gallery starting October 14.

All artwork must be small enough to fit inside a 13X17-inch envelope, must be sent by mail to National Fossil Day 2020 Art Contest, c/o Vincent L. Santucci, Paleontology Program Coordinator, National Park Service, Geologic Resources Division, 1849 C Street, NW (Room 2644), Mail Stop-1647, Washington, DC 20240. Entries must be received not later than October 2, 2020. When you send your artwork, include your first and last name, mailing address, phone number, and email address along with a completed and signed entry form that may be downloaded from the National Park Service’s web page for the contest: www.nps.gov/subjects/fossilday/art-contest-2020.htm.

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.
This year has turned out to be a pretty historic year—due to many factors. However, it is the COVID-19 factor that has influenced the AFMS committee to postpone this year’s drawing for the Endowment Fund till next year.

The reason for this is that many of the 2020 shows were cancelled due to COVID. This did not allow your Federation’s representative a chance to sell the tickets.

However, if you have already bought tickets, they will be placed in a special separate drawing and also be entered in the 2021 drawing—so you doubly your chances of winning!

Hopefully, times will allow for the chance to increase the Fund through the purchase of tickets.

Many people have been cleaning out their homes during this time of “quarantine.” Perhaps you found a rock, mineral, fossil or hobby-related item with a value of $75.00 or greater and less than 5 lbs. that you just might want to donate? If so, please contact either your regional representative or me. You can reach me at ciervo.neary@gmail.com. In order to spread the word of your donation faster through the newsletter and website, please attach a picture and brief description of the item.

Perhaps you are a dealer? With your donation you can advertise your business for free—since the donation information provides your name or that of your business. Perhaps you are a club making a donation—advertise your club.

Your Federation representative is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Federation</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Contact</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>California (CFMS)</td>
<td>Heidi Hall</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:hdafler@yahoo.com">hdafler@yahoo.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<tr>
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<td>PO Box 780791, Sebastian, FL 32978</td>
<td>astainedglass at bellsouth.net</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Why donate? Monies from the interest generated supports special projects, such as funds used to support the AFMS Junior Program.

How can you support the Fund? Two simple ways:

1. Buy tickets from your local federation representative listed above. Tickets are reasonably priced at $5.00 for one or 5 for $20.00.
2. Donate a hobby-related piece which has a minimum value of $75.00 and weight of no greater than 5 pounds.

### Prairie Agates from The Glacial Drifter, 1/91 & 2/20

Designated as the Nebraska State rock by the 1967 State Legislature, the prairie agate is not a true agate. This rock grades into banded or layered chert rather than agate.

Prairie agates are found in northwest Nebraska, southwest South Dakota, and northeast Wyoming. Since these are the same areas where the much-sought-after Fairburn agates are found, many rockhounds mistake some of the banded prairie agates for Fairburns. These are referred to as “Nearburns” by the more knowledgeable.

Although ignored by many of the natives of the area where they are found, prairie agates lend themselves very well to lapidary. Because of the coloration of these nodules, which runs from bright yellows and reds to subdued pastel shades of pink, lavender, blue, tan and grey, many beautiful specimens can be cut and polished. The fascinating blend of colors also can be captured in cabochons to make attractive and novel jewelry pieces.

Using the same procedure as used when working true agate, the lapidary is rewarded with a brilliant polish on any piece of prairie agate he works with.

### Recreational Rockhounding in the Mojave Desert Ridgecrest and Barstow BLM Field Offices June 4, 2020

"With the modified stay-at-home order, yes you can. Remember to bring along hand sanitizer or disposable gloves and use it when at the gas station and touch high-use things. Stay safe! A high percentage of BLM staff continues to telework, and we do have staff working in the field, as well as law enforcement rangers and fire personnel. All is good."

Remember to Rockhound safely, take plenty of water, and what ever is required to keep the virus away!

Submitted by John R. Martin

### Mineral Tip from Eureka News, Osage Hills Gems, The Gemrock, spring 2020

For cleaning quartz, many collectors use hydrochloric acid (muriatic) to clean the brown stains from quartz crystals. This cleans the crystals but leaves a residue of ferric acid that requires washing to remove. Tartaric acid will clean as well and much easier. Put a spoonful of tartaric acid in water and immerse the specimen.
From the AFMS Archives - Mineral Heritage Week
Jennifer Haley, AFMS Historian

In honor of the 25th Anniversary of the AFMS, Governor Robert D. Ray of Iowa, proclaimed the week of May 14-21, 1972 as Mineral Heritage Week for the state of Iowa.

Present at the signing were newly elected AFMS President-Mrs. Katherine Steinbrenner of Des Moines, IA; Past President of the Midwest Federation, Mr. Leo Yanasak of Des Moines, IA; President of the Dallas County, IA Rock Club, Miss Mae Voas of Minburn who first presented the idea to the governor.

The newspaper clipping with a photo of the governor signing the proclamation with members of the AFMS standing alongside, stated the “proclamation pointed out that the concept of a nation-wide federation of mineral clubs originated at a conference in Iowa, and urged all citizens to discover the importance of minerals in their daily lives.”

This special moment in our Recreational Rockhounding history can be an inspiration to us. Proclamations are issued by the Office of a Governor. They may recognize a day, week or month. The goal of a proclamation is to honor, celebrate, or create awareness of an event or significant issue. Often proclamations declare states of emergency or call the legislature into a special session.

I can’t find any information about this in the Iowa State Library, nor in the governor’s biography. Nor can I find that Mineral Heritage Week is being honored and celebrated in Iowa today. Perhaps the proclamation was to celebrate the one year of the AFMS’ 25th Anniversary, only. If anyone has more information, please let me know so I can add it to the archives.

Bring it Home
John Martin—AFMS Conservation and Legislation Chair

U.S. SENATE – U.S. Senator Martha McSally (R-AZ) today [6/24/20] praised the innovative work being done in Arizona to bring critical mineral mining and processing home from China.

During a U.S. Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources hearing, McSally highlighted Arizona’s mineral production leadership and asked what else needs to be done to incentivize investment in technologies to extract and process critical minerals in the U.S.

Click HERE to download McSally’s questioning.

McSally lauded the work being done by Mesa-based Urbix Resources.

“I had a virtual meeting with a company in Arizona that started with technology researched at the University of Arizona focused on graphite processing. It’s not just the extraction of these critical elements, it’s the processing, and in this case we’re totally reliant on China for processing of graphite. [Urbix Resources has] created a technology that is cheaper and greener than what is available out there and now they’re located in Arizona trying to ensure that we have these jobs in America, we bring the supply chain home. I was just so proud to hear that these kinds of efforts were happening.”

“What else needs to be done to incentivize investment to come home, like opportunity zones to encourage investment in distressed communities?” McSally asked. “Are there things that we can do to incentivize investment in innovation that’s bringing this [critical mineral] supply chain home? What more needs to be done for us to invest in research and development, so we can have those best technologies out there and be a leader again in the processing of these critical minerals for our national and energy security?”

Dr. Thomas J. Duesterberg, Senior Fellow at the Hudson Institute, said: “First I think it’s important to continue to do research on alternative sources of materials … We can incentivize research through building basic knowledge through our national labs. We do need to devote a bigger portion of our federal budget to basic research including things like processing technology.”

Mr. Simon Moores, Managing Director at Benchmark Mineral Intelligence, said: “It’s two-fold from my perspective. One is actually encouraging the industry, these super-size battery plants, more of them to be located in the U.S. So actually the business courting case already exists for companies like Urbix to actually sell to customers within the domestic U.S. because otherwise all these customers are in Asia. So that’s kind of the base level but then you look at what the European Union does, it’s quite interesting. They’ve founded the European Institute of Innovation and Technology, which is focused on identifying early stage companies like this and giving them access to debt capital, easy money, they call it no recourse capital, that allows them to develop their technologies to a stage and attract capital from the private markets, and I think those two combined help start creating this ecosystem, this lithium ion economy for the U.S.A. where things like graphite like Urbix is doing are critically important because 84 percent of that material is produced in China.”


I Sent the following letter to her...

Please consider for legislation the following: Supply Chain has broken with American Companies outsourcing their manufacturing to China which gives China a big advantage over the U.S. It was a mistake to give China all of our technology and now they are using our technology against American and Americans. It was the US Congress that caused American Companies to outsource their products to China. (Environmental Regulations, Labor Unions, Taxes) To correct that mistake, you can not punish China. Create Legislation to require American Companies that have outsourced their manufacturing to China to have in the United States a minimum of 10% manufacturing capability of all products and services that have been outsourced to China. We need Manufacturing in America with American Labor. This will give America a way to keep the supply chain going, even at a reduced rate but still going, if and when China does another scamdemic like we are in at this time. If American Companies do this limited manufacturing capability in the US then give them a Tax incentive of maybe no income tax on the portion of items manufactured on shore. If they do not comply add additional Corporate Taxes on the offshore items manufactured then imported to the US. If US Companies still will not comply with the percentage of manufacturing in the US, then stop all importing of those products into the US until they do comply. They may sell their outsourced products worldwide, just not in the US. If American Companies comply it will not hurt China and be a benefit to all Americans. Please consider some form of this for America. It is our fault that these messes with China happened so do the right thing and bring a portion of that manufacturing and technology home to America.
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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(615) 351-2690 <webmaster at amfed.org>

Web Site Contest
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AFMS Scholarship Foundation
Sandie Fender, President
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Aldatenda, 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 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 <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 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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<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>
<th>Southeastern Federation</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td></td>
<td>Sept. 18 - 20</td>
<td>April 10-12</td>
<td>June 19-21</td>
<td>October 10-11</td>
<td>AFMS</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Howell, NC</td>
<td>Ogden, UT</td>
<td>Big Piney, WY</td>
<td>Temple, TX</td>
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<td>Syracuse, NY</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Lancaster, CA</td>
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<td>Tyler, TX</td>
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