



NORTHWEST NEWSLETTER



VOLUME 48 NO. 6

Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies

March 2008

2008 NFMS Mid-Year Meeting Saturday, April 19, 2008 (Exec. Board Mtg Friday Evening)



The 2008 NFMS Mid-Year Meeting will be held in Kennewick, Washington in Building #5 at the Benton County Fairgrounds, 1500 S. Oak Street. This is the same location as the 2006 and 2007 meetings. Once again this weekend happens to coincide with the Lakeside Gem and Mineral Club Annual Gem and Mineral Show which is held at the same location.

The Executive Board Meeting will be held on Friday April 18 following the Lakeside Gem and Mineral Club potluck dinner which will be made available for Board members and their families. Please bring a dish to share.

The following day, Saturday, April 19, the mid-year meeting will begin at 10 AM, with registration starting at 9:30 AM. There will be a food vendor available for lunch and dinner that day in conjunction with the ongoing Show. Hours for the Show on Saturday are from 10 AM to 5 PM and on Sunday from 10 AM to 4 PM.

RV camping is available at the Fairgrounds with electricity and water available for \$10/night. If you plan to use these facilities, please send an email to Larry Hulstrom at L_Hulstrom@hotmail.com prior to April 5 indicating date of arrival and duration of stay so an accurate count can be kept and space can be planned. Payment will be collected upon arrival at the Fairgrounds. There are a number of motels throughout the immediate area in Kennewick. Information about a few of these has been provided below.

The members of the Lakeside Gem and Mineral Club would like to extend a warm invitation to join us for the NFMS Mid-Year meeting and encourage you to stay over on Sunday to attend our show. In addition to 12 dealers, we will have about 50 displays, a fluorescent mineral display, a silent auction, a Kid's Corner, demonstrations and door prizes. On Sunday morning from 9 AM to noon there will also be tailgating outside the show building for anyone interested.

In addition to our show there is also another show in Yakima that same weekend, only 90 miles to the west at the Central Washington State Fairgrounds. Come join your fellow rockhounds for a time of fun and fellowship and take in the sites that the area has to offer.

Pathway to the Mid-Year Meeting in Kennewick, Washington

Coming into the Tri-Cities area from the south on Highway 395 turn right (east) onto 10th Ave (the third stop light coming into town). Follow this about 3 miles. The fairgrounds will be visible on the right side just past and behind a park. Once at the Fairgrounds gate you will see the Show building to the right in Building #1. RV camping will be available near that building or in an adjacent area. Walk over to the show to obtain more specific directions for parking. Ask for the RV Camping Coordinator. The Mid-Year Meeting will be held in Building #5 which is about 150 yards from Building #1.

From anywhere else coming into Kennewick it would be best to find your way to Highway 395 and take the turn east onto 10th Avenue and then follow it down to the Fairgrounds.



The following motels below are available within 5 miles of the Benton County Fairgrounds. Visit the Tri-cities webpage at <http://www.visittricity.com/>, or call the Tri-Cities Visitor and Convention Bureau at 509-735-8486

- Best Western Kennewick Inn.** 1-800-528-1234
- Laquinta Inn & Suites,** 509-736-332
- Econo Lodge,** 1-800-722-8277
- Days Inn,** 509-735-9511
- Kennewick Inn Travelodge,** 509-735-6385

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NEWSLETTER ARTICLES DUE

March 10, 2007

This is a drop-dead date

NFMS WEBSITE
www.amfed.org/nfms

TIME SENSITIVE MATERIAL – PLEASE DO NOT DELAY

Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies
Bryan Schroeder, Editor
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THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW

The **AMERICAN LANDS ACCESS ASSOCIATION (ALAA)** is a 501(c)(4) organization. Its purpose is to promote and ensure the right of amateur hobby fossil and mineral collecting, recreational prospecting and mining, and the use of public and private lands for educational and recreational purposes; and to carry the voice of all amateur collectors and hobbyists to our elected officials, government regulators and public lands managers. Your annual membership fee of \$25.00 helps support their activities. Contact: TBD

The **AFMS NEWSLETTER** is published monthly except Jan-Jul-Aug by the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies. Each NFMS member club should have three people (usually the Pres, Secretary, and Editor) receiving the AFMS Newsletter. If they are not, or if anyone else wants to subscribe (\$4.50 per year), write to: **AFMS Central Off., Steve Weinberger, P.O. Box 302, Glyndon, MD 21071-0302.** Make checks payable to "AFMS". **Email:** cebar62@aim.com

The **NORTHWEST NEWSLETTER** is the official publication of the Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies (NFMS) and is usually published ten (10) times per year. This publication is brought to you through your club membership in NFMS. The purpose of the Northwest Newsletter is to keep all NFMS members informed of activities and events pertaining to the business and services of the Federation. The Newsletter is printed and mailed to approximately 3500 homes in six states by Burley Reminder in Burley ID. For matters related to the Newsletter (i.e. content, advertising, etc) contact the **Newsletter Editor** (printed elsewhere on this page). For matters related to the Newsletter circulation (new members, address changes, etc.) contact the **Circulation Chairperson** (located elsewhere on this page).

SHOW COORDINATION. Your Federation provides a free service for NFMS members by listing your show in this Newsletter, on the NFMS website, two magazines ("Rocks and Minerals" and "Rock and Gem") and the on-line Calendar from "Lapidary Journal". Please provide the date and time for the show, the club name and show title (if applicable), the location of the show, and most important a contact person with address, e-mail address and or phone (e-mail is preferred). Please send your show information four to six months in advance to the **SHOW COORDINATION Chairperson** (printed elsewhere on this page). If you see an error once your show is listed, or if your show is not listed, contact **Newsletter Editor** (printed elsewhere on this page).

SAVE STAMPS PROGRAM. NFMS members are encouraged to use and save commemorative stamps. The money generated from the sale of these used (cancelled) stamps is then donated to Cancer Research. The collected stamps can be sent to the STAMPS Chairman (printed elsewhere on the page), brought to the NFMS Annual Show or given to your Federation Director in your club.

ATTENTION CLUB TREASURERS:

Where to send your money:
(See this page for address, phone, or e-mail)

To NFMS Treasurer for:

1. Dues and supplies
2. Donations for the general fund
3. Donations to Junior Achievement

Send to: Lyle Vogelpohl, see Treasurer this page.

To NFMS Endowment Fund Treasurer for:

1. Donations to Endowment Fund
2. Memorial contributions

Make check payable to NFMS Endowment Fund
Endowment Fund Treasurer is an open position. Should ask Edna Nelson who she wants the funds to be sent to.

To NFMS Scholarship Chairperson for:

1. Donations to AFMS Scholarship Fund
2. Memorial contributions

Make check payable to **AFMS Scholarship Fund.**

Send to: **Rose Alene Mc Arthur** (see Scholarship this page).

To AFMS Endowment Fund for:

1. Donations to AFMS Endowment
2. Memorials

Send to: To Be Determined

To **ALAA** Treasurer for:

1. Memberships, new and renewals
2. Donations

Make check payable to ALAA

Send to Norman W. Hanschu, ALAA Treasurer, 6607 Sturbridge Ln; Canton, MI 48187-2638

NFMS NEWSLETTER ADVERTISEMENT. Members, Non-members, clubs, etc. can advertise in the Northwest Newsletter. This service is provided to help defray the cost of printing and mailing the newsletter and is encouraged by the Federation. The only criteria for the ad is that it be hobby related (e.g. rocks, equipment, grit, shows, etc.).

Ads for the Northwest Newsletter are
\$1.50 per square inch.

Example: 3" x 4" ad = 12 inches
12 inches x \$1.50 = \$18 per issue of the
Newsletter

Do not send ads on colored paper because the background will look gray in the ad. Following the placement of the ad, the Editor will send a billing statement to the customer which will include instructions to make payment to the NFMS Treasurer. For more information or questions, call, e-mail or write the Newsletter Editor (printed elsewhere on this page.)

DEADLINE

for YOUR SUBMISSIONS TO
the next

**NORTHWEST NEWSLETTER is
March 10th**

**For the April 2008 Issue
509 371 1572**

**BRYAN SCHROEDER
NFMS NEWSLETTER EDITOR
nfmsnews@verizon.net**

COMMENTS, THOUGHTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS



Patty Amos
NFMS
President

Be sure to check out last month's *Northwest Newsletter* for all the details on these two upcoming events. I hope to make your acquaintance at one or the other event.

As the Federation's Second Vice-President, over the past two months, I have been contacting each Committee Chairperson to inventory any NFMS property that they have in their possession. If by chance, I have not contacted you, and you have NFMS property, please send me an e-mail or give me a call. I will need to submit a report, in advance, for the April mid-year meeting.

May the luck of the Irish be with in your rockin' adventures!

Evelyn Cataldo
ecataldo@cbadams.com
509.628.0170



Paul Heesacker
1st Vice
Pres.



Margaret Stallknecht
Education Chair
NFMS 2008
Show Chair

Hi everyone!

This sure has been some winter! This is only the second time in my 40 years in Idaho that I have seen this much snow. I'm used to bundling up and rock hounding year around but this year you can't even see the rocks! I hope that you are all faring well where you are. The new clubs in Ontario and Vale are growing by new members every meeting. I got word that there may even be 2 more clubs by April. Good going! I hope that you all are out there talking to people to come and join your club and enjoy the great outdoors. Take time to enjoy the many rock shows in the area.

Ontario 2008 NFMS show report

Many of you are asking about the Field trips. As we have 6 different field trip leaders, it's hard to get them all lined up this early. But for you early birds, we will start out at Glass Butte June 13, 14, & 15. It's the weekend of the Hines show, and we have field trip leaders there to show you a good time. Then, as we get closer to Easter, there are Petrified wood trips lined up. Later, some would like to spend time at Succor Creek before the show. Then, Thursday is set up for the show and we have a full line-up. We have the Ontario American Legion going to cook breakfast for us Friday and Saturday mornings. If you have extra pens, pencils or paper supplies, they are collecting them for the men and women over seas. We are in real need for supplies for the kids' corner. We had a sell-out group last year and we hope to be even bigger this year. So please, if you have any craft supplies that you could bring to the mid-year meeting from your club. I will be glad to store them till June. Thank you! I will have some samples made up for ideas then too. Just keep thinking what we could sell at the country store and have for door prizes. Let's show the town of Ontario what a real rock show is all about! Thanks to My committees! Without you all we wouldn't have gotten this far. See you all in June!



Darlene's Doodles
NFMS Bulletin
Aids Chair

Wow, has the time flown by. EDITORS: ARE YOU READY??? You should receive notice that your club bulletin will receive an award at the NFMS Show in Ontario, Oregon, June 21-22. You need to make your reservations now. We have ours fine-tuned & look forward to a great time in Ontario. All clubs that are making plans to celebrate a very special Show in the next year or so, i.e. 25th, 30th, etc. WHY NOT Make up a 'SPECIAL PUBLICATION' just this once. There is a special category for those & no club has done that for years & years. Think about it. ALSO, When figuring the actual year, this 25, 30 or 50 years, DID you count the first one??? If your club's first show was in 1961, your 50th show will be 2010, See What I Mean?? See you next month and at Ontario in June. Good Luck to All Editors. Darlene Denton, 360-588-0217, 5830 Haddon Lane, Anacortes, WA 98221-4332.



Evelyn Cataldo
2nd Vice
President

Hello Everyone,

With the arrival of St. Patrick's Day, with the daily sunlight hours increasing and the crocuses pushing through the soil, the longing to go rock hunting grows within us. I am already dreaming of participating in the Tri-Federation Rockhound Rendezvous at Texas Springs in May. This will be a first for me, but the reports from the last Rendezvous were that the experience was top notch.

Also, I have the calendar marked for the June NFMS Federation Show in Ontario. The area abounds in rockhounding possibilities as well as the Show activities.



Inuksuks in Bellingham?
By Ken Lennon,
Mt. Baker Gem &
Rock Club

There are now! While visiting gift shops in British Columbia and Alberta, we saw many examples of this art form for sale to tourists. They were available in various sizes and materials; most were free standing figurines. A stylized version is used in the publicity for the 2010 Winter Olympics.

As I was tidying up my lapidary workshop the idea to create my own version of these figures evolved. Because my pieces were small, a freestanding assembly was not possible, so each piece was cut flat on a backside and epoxied to a plywood locking support. These will be my exhibit for the Mt. Baker Gem and Rock Club annual show this April 12-13. Come on up to Bellingham, join the revelry and buy a chance to win a \$100 prize.

MY THOUGHTS THIS MONTH

By Shirley Leeson, AFMS President

This month I'd like to speak about competitive exhibits, both at the regional and AFMS level.

I can fondly remember in the 1970's when I first became interested in the gem and mineral hobby I enjoyed seeing the exhibits at the various clubs and regional shows. At the regional levels, at that time, there were numerous competitive exhibits and they were to me the highest level of exhibiting. While I wasn't a competitive exhibitor myself (I

have made my thoughts on this known throughout the years) I did enjoy seeing the exhibits and reading the comments of the judges. These past six to seven years I have become more involved in the intricacies of judging competitive exhibits because of Dee. In fact I have attended the Eastern Federation's AFMS Wildacres Judges Training Course six times over the last seven years. This Training Workshop is for AFMS judges because there was a difference in judging from region to region. Many think this has been overcome and judging is on an even keel at this time, BUT WHERE ARE THE EXHIBITS TO JUDGE? If you have heard horror stories about judges – I believe that's now in the past.

I think that if the lack of competitive exhibits continues, this will hurt the hobby. Why? Because we have club and regional shows and invite the public in to see what we have collected or made. We have given the public an educational experience and we have encouraged newer members by example. I can remember when early shows had exhibit cases that were really terrible to look at. Don't laugh, some had blankets or towels on the bottom of the cases, some had patterned liners that were so busy you couldn't see what was supposed to be the center of attention. Competitive exhibiting set a standard by eliminating all this and putting the emphasis on the material exhibited.

I'm reminding you of this because if we don't get back to exhibiting at some level, what is the public going to see when they attend our shows, either at the club level, regional or national (AFMS). I'd like to encourage all of you, either individuals or clubs to participate in exhibiting. Coming up in September, 2008 is the AFMS Show and Convention in Humble, just outside of Houston, Texas; this is hosted by the South Central Federation and the club hosts are the Houston Gem and Mineral Society.

Exhibiting in competition usually starts at the regional level, and right now there are three regional shows coming up in June, Northwest and Midwest (unfortunately on the same weekend) and the California Federation a week later. If you belong to one of these Federations you can compete and if you earn a 90 or above on the master level you will be eligible to compete on the AFMS level at the show in September. Only trophies for Masters are given out at the AFMS level except for Juniors. (More on this aspect later.)

Please don't confuse this with the novice and advanced levels of competition. Even scoring a 90 or above, you can't compete at the AFMS show in Humble and expect an AFMS trophy.

Now, if you consider yourself to be a master in your class you can enter your exhibit at the AFMS show in Humble by doing the following: Enter in competition at the South Central level and if you score 90 or above, you will then be judged again at the AFMS level for a trophy. You can find entry forms for competitive exhibiting for South Central at the amfed.org website under AFMS 2008 show.

I'd like to encourage all clubs throughout the U.S. to have a "how-to night." This would show new club members how to create an exhibit that will wow the public. Choices of materials used, fabric and what to use as a backing for the liners, what you can use as risers to show off your material, and what to put on your labels. And especially have someone who can read the AFMS Rules Book and help you with your choice of the GROUP: Novice, Advanced and Master. This is the tricky part because many people are encouraged by others to go right to MASTER because that's the one with the trophy.... And don't expect to be a master because you won a trophy at the County Fair. The next item would be the DIVISION, for example minerals, lapidary, education and open and finally CLASS and there are many classes included in the various divisions. If you need an AFMS Rules Book, contact your regional supply chair. And if you have not updated your rules book, please contact your supply chair for those important updates.

And finally the JUNIORS. Juniors are eligible if they have reached their 8th birthday and not yet reached their 18th birthday on the first day of the show. Juniors have their own trophies but with the score of 70 or above to receive a trophy.

I am asking all of you to work on this aspect of our hobby because we need the public to see what we are about, and exhibiting is the best way to achieve this.

Other News: John Wright, your AFMS Conservation and Legislation chair has been writing you reports on what to expect with pending Forestry and BLM road closures, if YOU don't respond, these government bodies will only get the "other" side of the argument. Fair warning.

NFMS RULES CHAIR, 2008

By Dee Holland

I hope you read the article by Shirley Leeson, AFMS President, regarding Competitive Exhibiting.

I want to address the clubs throughout the Northwest Federation.



In 2009 the Northwest Federation will be hosting the AFMS Convention and Show, hosted by the Billings Gem & Mineral Society of Billings, Montana. This year, 2008, you have an opportunity to qualify ahead of time for the AFMS level competition. By entering this year at Ontario, Oregon in June, you have a chance to get the judges to help you improve your exhibit in order to score 90 points or above at the MASTER level.

For those of you who want to enter as a NOVICE or ADVANCED at Ontario, you will also have the help of the judges to improve your competition level to perhaps the next group or even to the ultimate MASTER group.

Lamar Tilgner has been working along with Russ Snook for a number of years to help interested people to exhibit competitively, and last year at the NFMS Retreat he introduced a Judges and Exhibitors Training Course. Several NFMS judges have taken the AFMS Judges Training Course at Wildacres, among them: Rocky McCall, Barbara Jacobsen, and this year Lamar Tilgner will have attended by the NFMS show in Ontario. Dee Holland, whose idea it was for judges from all the 7 regional federations to attend, has actually attended 6 of the last 7 years and assisted instructor Jay Bowman.

In the NFMS, the Rules Committee is a rotational committee with a commitment of three years culminating in being the Rules Chair. In 2008 Dee Holland is chair, in 2009 Joe Slouber of Butte, Montana will be chair, and in 2010, Rocky McCall of Marysville, Washington will be chair. Each year a new person is added at the bottom and works their way to the top. One more thing, Barbara Jacobsen will be AFMS Uniform Rules Chair at the show in Billings, Montana in 2009.

If you or your club are having difficulties in deciding which group, division or class to enter, please contact one of those people above and we will try to help you. Regarding the DIVISION AND CLASS, the rules committee can change your division and/or class if they believe your material fits into one that would be more advantageous to you. BUT, they cannot change your GROUP once you have made that choice. Your choice is: Novice, Advanced and Master, Junior and Society. Unfortunately many people only see the trophy that the Master group offers, but really should consider if a first time exhibitor to enter Novice. Advanced, over 80 points, receives a plaque if you have the highest score in class. Masters, over 90 points, receives a trophy if you have the highest score in your trophy class. Junior and Society have not been addressed here, but will be in a later article.

My ultimate goal would be to see each club in the NFMS have a special "how-to night" to help each new member exhibit at their club show. And, from there, compete in the NFMS show.

REMEMBER: This is also going to be our opportunity in 2009 to show the rest of the regional federations that NFMS has a large group of people who believe competitive competition is a way of improving our skills in quality of material selection, workmanship, labeling and showmanship which in turn benefits our hobby.

COMMENTS, THOUGHTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS



NORTHWEST ROCKHOUND RETREAT 2008

by Lamar Tilgner

We are all back at work and putting the pieces in place

to make our Retreat at Hancock Field Station, west of Fossil, Oregon, become a bigger and better annual event. The timing is the same as last year, starting on Monday September 1, 2008, and ending on Sunday September 7, 2008. The cost to the attendee will be about the same, \$240.00 for room and board, (barring any increase), \$45.00 for workshop fee and if you desire a guided one day trip to the Fossil Beds, it will cost you \$35.00. If you take the full package, that will be \$320.00 for a one week vacation. What a deal. You should not miss this.

Editor's Note. Lamar has submitted a multiple page article about the Retreat which provides considerably more detail than discussed above. I felt that this information would be more effective to our membership if published next month (April) in the newsletter. This short article is a "heads up" to start thinking about this wonderful vacation.. Your Editor has attended two sessions and it is a great experience. Where else can you go for a week vacation for \$320.00? Bev and I take many travel tours and if we find a tour for \$100 per day per person, it is a great buy and believe me those are hard to find. This is half that price. Besides, you will spend half that amount (of \$320), if you stay home for food and utilities, and what will you learn about this great hobby of ours?

To get a map you have to give a map. Before you leave home prepare a good, detailed map of a good, unique or little known collecting area that you are familiar with. The map should be a detailed hand or computer drawn map with accurate mileages, GPS coordinates are very desirable, and be sure to note collecting site details and campsites where appropriate. Bring along as many maps as you would like to receive. I plan to bring 100 copies of my map. I am sure there will be a lot of informal exchanges of collecting sites, GPS info, and sharing of great places to see.

A highlight of the 2003 trip was the great Dutch oven dinner prepared for us by Bill Roach from the BLM. And he will do it again! He will put on our Friday evening dinner. A not to be missed experience, I have also scheduled two speakers from the BLM to give talks on the history and lore of this area and the California Trail.

This trip is open to members and guests of all the Federations. Everyone who agrees to adhere to the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies Code of Ethics, abide by the direction of the field trip leaders and practice safe rockhounding, is welcome to attend.

Please notify me or Dick Parks (see below), and no later than May 16th. E-mail (or call) if you have questions or need more information. Don't wait – do it now. This will be a great opportunity for rockhounds from all over the west (and all of the Federations of the AFMS) to meet one another, to share stories, and information about collecting in their home areas. Be sure to bring material from your favorite collecting sites to show and share.

Come join us for a great Tri-Federation Rendezvous of collecting, fun and fellowship.

If you plan to attend, please contact: Dick Parks, Northwest Federation, packrats2@msn.com, 360.892.3716

TRI-FEDERATION RENDEZVOUS/FIELD TRIP

By Richard Pankey, Inter- Regional Field Trips, dickpankey@juno.com, 925.439.7509


Sign-ups for the **Tri-Federation Rockhound Rendezvous and Field Trip** are starting to come in. Some clubs are coming as a group and will continue on to other collecting areas after the Rendezvous. I hope that you and your club are making plans to attend what promises to be a unique and special rockhound experience. This trip is a repeat of our 2003 Rendezvous. We are going to a well-known collecting area that has some pretty spectacular material. The weather should be just right – springtime, the hills are still green and the wild flowers in bloom. We are relying on the bulletin editors and field trip chairmen to help get the word out about this unique adventure. The two-page Field Trip flier is available on the AFMS, CFMS, NFMS and RMFMS web pages. This flier has all the details about the trip, directions to our campsite and other useful information.

There were two activities mentioned in the flier that I would like to explain in more detail. On Friday and Saturday afternoons we will conduct our Tailgate Displays. We will have rockhounds from all over the western United States that I am sure have collected some unique and interesting material from their home area. Bring along some specimens to show and share at the tailgate display. This will also be a good time to conduct the "map exchange". Map exchanges are easy.

2008
GEM & MINERAL SHOW

Presented by:
Lakeside Gem and Mineral Club


Benton County Fairgrounds, Kennewick Washington




Saturday, April 19 - 10 am to 5 pm
Sunday, April 20 - 10 am to 4 pm
(tailgating - Sunday - 9 am to noon)

EVENT WILL HOST:

- *MINERALS, FOSSILS, JEWELRY DEALERS
- *COLLECTORS EXHIBITS
- *GEM FACETING DEMONSTRATIONS
- *SPHERE MAKING DEMONSTRATIONS
- *BEAUTIFUL FLUORESCENT DISPLAYS
- *SILENT AUCTIONS FOR ADULTS AND CHILDREN
- *KID'S KORNER - GAMES AND FUN
- *GREAT DOOR PRIZES



CHILDREN FREE WITH PAID ADULT. Adult admission - \$3.00 (good for both days)





Editor's Corner

Bryan Schroeder

EDITOR'S ALERT

Please have your article to me for the April issue on or before Monday, March 10, 2008. Bev and I leave for an International Flight on the 14th. This gives me three days to put the newsletter together and send it to the printer in Burley, Idaho. Any submissions before the 10th would be appreciated.

Have a nice day, week and month and I'll see you at the Mid-Year Meeting, if you are attending.



Kountinghouse, south central Idaho's finest rock shop, is open on Thursday and Fridays till Christmas, will close for the winter, then re-open in the spring. We are located at 4143 North Meridian Street, King Hill, Id.

We carry polished and bulk rock, facet rough, fetishes, beads, jewelry, findings, books, eggs, spheres, grit, polish, and lapidary equipment for the rock hobbyist.

For information call (208) 293-4340. You can also visit our website at <www.kountinghouse.com>.

NFMS JUNIOR ROCKHOUNDS**"News Flash March 2008"**

**Juniors
Chairman**

Gary Buhr

Springtime + more sunshine = Field Trips. This is one of our favorite equations that usually results in getting outdoors and discovering new treasures for our collections as well as new rough material to work into even more valuable treasures. Check your NFMS Juniors Webpage for the specifics of "Field Trip SAFETY FIRST" and please put the list to practice so you will have a more positive, safe experience in the field.

The Junior Achievement Award information and application is again published in this issue of Northwest Newsletter. Postmark cut off for entry into the 2008 event is the first day of April. If you excel in your Rockhound hobby, scholastic activities, community service and work related activities, then consider writing your relevant Resume and filling out an official Application that is available in this Newsletter or on the Juniors Webpage at www.amfed.org/nfms/juniors or just Google: NFMS.

Another superb opportunity for Juniors to consider at this time is to enter a Juniors Competition Display case in the upcoming Ontario, Oregon Annual NFMS Show and Convention, June 20, 21, and 22. Will your parents vacation there? Regardless of your Category/Division, Competition Displays need to be well organized and well planned in advance using the AFMS Uniform Rules for the type of display you want to do. As pointed out by Rules Chairman Dee Holland, you have many choices of competition that include Open Division A, Minerals Division B, Lapidary Division C, Jewelry Division D, Education Division E, Fossil Division F, Petrified Wood Division G, Schrimshaw Division H and Ultra-Violet UV. Ask your Juniors Advisor, Federation Director, any of the current Judging Officials (Dee Holland, Joe Slouber, Rocky McCall), Judges you may know or someone in your Rock Club that is very experienced with placing quality displays in shows to help connect you with the AFMS Uniform Rules. The Uniform Rules are online at www.amfed.org and may seem overwhelming at first or all at once, but just figure out which Division your display will fit the best and focus on that part--divide and conquer is your best method for success. This is a profound opportunity to learn details and expand your self-satisfaction while communicating with the adult members who have proven success with Competition Displays over the years.

When you start a new venture it is almost a requirement that you ask lots of questions so you develop self-confidence and feel familiar with arranging your Competition Display case correctly so that you will score BIG at the BIG Ontario Show. Qualified Rockhounds will be happy to help answer questions like where to start, what to do and how to finish with a positive experience. Your Juniors Webpage has a primer ("Junior Display Education Training") to help you succeed with a great display, but the final and official "check list" of requirements for a Competition Display is the AFMS Uniform Rules.

Pick one of the Competition Divisions and "go for it"--your rewards are better than you could ever imagine. Just ask juniors role model and Everett Rookie Rockhound LAURA CIMOLINO, pictured below,



receiving one of her three Competition Awards from Past President Chuck Sonner. Judging Director Dee Holland is in the middle of the photo taken at the 2007 NFMS Awards Banquet in Butte, Montana.

If you believe that the above opportunities are not interesting enough or challenging enough or maybe too complex and costly for your skills, talents and resources, then consider the AFMS/Future Rockhounds of America Merit Badge Program. The complete program is posted on the AFMS Website Juniors Page at www.amfed.org that explains how to get the materials and how to get started. Besides the nine original badges, Jim Brace-Thompson, your able AFMS Juniors Program Chair, has recently amended the Merit Badge Program to also include six new areas:

Earth Processes (including igneous, sedimentary and metamorphic rocks), Earth in Space (focused mostly on meteorites and tektites), Gold Panning & Prospecting, Gemstone Lore & Legend, Stone Age Tools & Art, and Rocking on the Computer. This immense opportunity is available on the AFMS Website and, if you do not have a computer, how far is the nearest Public Library computer? What is really exciting about the Merit Badge Program is that you can work towards the badges either individually or as a Juniors Rock Club together. Want to start? Just ask and then PARTICIPATE so you can begin or continue your journey towards becoming a famous "rockstar" Geologist.

Beginning February, 2008 our show cycle started in Oak Harbor, WA where the Whidbey Island Gem Club hosted their 38th Annual Sweetheart of Gems Show. With helpful volunteers and participants, Show Chairman and "anchor" Keith Ludemann again filled the parking lot with cars of Rockhounds of all ages, invited quality dealers, lots of talented demonstrators and neat displays including the famous Petrified Wood case by Skagit "rocker" George Anderson. Rockhound Louise Sanderson says she will be the Juniors Advisor for the Whidbey Island Gem Club, but at this time they only have one Junior, NICHOLE BECKER, age 13, in photo below, is pictured in front of her fabulous display case of geodes and thundereggs. Every Juniors Rock Club starts with one and grows from there; just add rocks as "fertilizer"?



Mt Hood Rock Club ROCK AND GEM SHOW

Free admission-Plan a trip and bring your friends!

SAT/SUN, April 5 & 6, 2008, 10 am to 5 pm

Mt Hood Community College Gym
26000 SE Stark, Gresham, Or.
(Watch for signs)

26 DEALERS, DEMOS, DOOR PRIZES, Raffle,
EASTER (THUNDER) EGG HUNT FOR KIDS
2:00 Saturday—800 lbs. of free polished rock
Kids 1-12

ORAL AUCTION: QUALITY ROUGH-Sunday 2:00
USED EQUIPMENT SALE and SILENT AUCTION:
(Buy it now-Sat and Sun, auction closes at 4:30 Sun.)
For auction lists contact odroc@comcast.net

Guest Cases welcome/for information contact
Gail Bumala: 503-637-5165
boomart@cascadeaccess.com

NFMS JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENT AWARD PROGRAM
Updated November, 2006 by Gary Buhr

A.) The NFMS Juniors Committee Chairman shall promote this Award, including the past and present winners, throughout the entire year at every appropriate opportunity.

- Official announcement of the upcoming contest along with the rules and application will be published during February and March in the Northwest Newsletter and on the NFMS Website Juniors Page. The rules and application will remain all year on the NFMS Website Juniors Page and applications can be downloaded.
- Completed applications and resumes will be due each year with a postmark deadline on the first day of April. This will be the same date each annual cycle.
- After receiving the applications and resumes, the Juniors Committee Chairman shall make copies and send with score sheets to the NFMS President, 1st VP, and 2nd VP, to be judged and returned by April 15. The Juniors Committee Chairman shall also judge each application. After all judged applications are returned, the scores will be tallied and winners determined by the Juniors Committee Chairman.
- Juniors Committee Chairman will notify the Junior Achievement Award Winners and their parents/guardians by the first day of May. This will be the same date each annual cycle. Thence, allowing time to plan for the Awards Banquet at the NFMS Annual Show and Convention where the Awards are to be presented.
- Junior Achievement Award Winners and their families can attend the Awards portion of the Banquet without dining and buying a Banquet ticket or they can purchase Banquet tickets in advance like other Award Winners of the evening and enjoy the full evening of dining and Awards. If the Winners do not attend, the Juniors Committee Chairman will make sure they receive their Awards.

B.) The NFMS Junior Achievement Award Trust Fund was established in 1989 for the purpose of providing at least one monetary award to the Junior whose submitted resume/outline rates highest in the opinion of the judges. Your age determines whether you enter the age 12 and under category or the age 13 to 18 category. The applicant must not have had an eighteenth birthday prior to the date of application, because then the applicant would no longer be defined as a Junior, but the applicant can turn 18 between application and presentation of the Awards. The judging panel consists of the NFMS President, NFMS 1st VP, NFMS 2nd VP and the Juniors Committee Chairman. Judging is based on the judges' subjective interpretations of the relevant quality of the applicant's resume/outline. The Award is presented to a Junior applicant who is a member in good standing with a Rock Club affiliated with the Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies. The Junior applicant should be active in our hobby, education & school, community and work related achievements. The primary Award Winner will receive a certificate, a check, a pen set and his/her name on the legendary plaque. More than one Award Winner is possible, depending on the entries and ages of participants. Each participating Junior MUST personally author their written resume/outline. Your application, score sheet and resume/outline MUST BE POSTMARKED by the first day of April.

C.) Here are your three EZ steps:

1. Write or type a short summary (resume/outline) about what your achievements are, regarding Sections I, II, III & IV from the SCORE SHEET below.
2. Photocopy the SCORE SHEET and APPLICATION from the Northwest Newsletter or download them from the NFMS Website Juniors Page. Fill out the APPLICATION and have your Rock Club representatives sign their spaces.
3. Mail your summary (resume/outline), the SCORE SHEET and completed APPLICATION to the NFMS Juniors Committee Chairman, postmarked by April first to the following address:

Gary Buhr, Junior Chairman
1242 State Ave., PMB 157,#1
Marysville, WA 98270-3672

D.) SCORE SHEET (judges fill this out)

Section I. HOBBY RELATED (45 Points)

Club involvement (field trips, committees, show participation)
20 points possible _____
Hobby Craft involvement (faceting, lapidary, metals, collecting)
20 points possible _____
Competitive involvement (display, articles, promotion, awards)
5 points possible _____

Section II. EDUCATIONAL ACHIEVEMENT (25 Points)

Scholastic (honor roll, advanced classes, improvement of grades)
15 points possible _____
Extracurricular (sports, drama, debate, drill team, music)
10 points possible _____

Section III. COMMUNITY ACHIEVEMENT (20 Points)

Events involvement (charity, volunteer, donation programs)
10 points possible _____
Scouts, Campfire, 4H-Club, Other community groups
10 points possible _____

Section IV. WORK RELATED (10 Points)

Employment, Home Chores, Neighborhood Work, Business
10 points possible _____

TOTAL SCORE SHEET POINTS _____

E.) APPLICATION--Junior Achievement Award (confidential info)

Applicant Name _____

Rock Club Name _____

Date of Birth _____ Age _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone or Email _____

Your Federation Director Name _____

Federation Director Signature _____

Your Rock Club President Name _____

Club President Signature _____

Applicant Signature _____

53rd Annual **CRYSTALS**
THEME FOR 2008 SHOW

River of Gems

Presented by:
Willamette Agate & Mineral Society, Inc.
A Non-Profit Educational Organization
Admission \$1.00 (Under 12 year - FREE)

FRIDAY APRIL 18 9 am - 6 pm	SATURDAY APRIL 19 10 am - 6 pm	SUNDAY APRIL 20 10 am - 4:30 pm
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Dealers and Exhibits of Rocks, Gems and Minerals from around the World!
Precious Gems and Jewelry, Lapidary and Faceting Materials
Silver, Crystals, Minerals, Fossils, Beads, and much more!

Display Cases ♦ Fluorescent Show
Demonstrator Area - Gold Panning, Flintknapping, Beads, Faceting
Gem Setting, Spheres, Wirewrapping, Cabochons and more
Silent Auction ♦ Free Door Prizes ♦ Grab Bags

TREASURE HUNT
Thundereggs • Agates • and more
Sat. - 1:00 pm (Kids Under 12)

New KID'S CORNER
Games • Educational • Fun

Contact Cathy Fisher at 503.851-1837 or email rockhuntinggem@comcast.net

Tours for School Children on Friday www.wamsi.org

POLK COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS
Rickreall, Oregon • HWY 99 • 10 miles west of Salem

2008 Gem & Mineral Show Calendar

Date	Club/Show Name	Show Location	Contact Person
Mar 1-2 Sat: 10-6 Sun: 10-5	East Kingco Annual Rock & Gem Show Issaquah, WA	Pickering Bam. 1730 10 th Ave NW (across from Costco)	EKCRC, P.O.B 2203, Redmond, WA 98073 Kevl123@hotmail.com
Mar 1-2 Sat: 10-6 Sun: 10-5	Owyhee Gem & Min Soc 54th Annual Show, Rock-hounding is Great in 2008	O'Connor Field House 2200 Blaine Caldwell, ID	Tom Rogers, 6508 E. Lewis Lane Nampa, ID 83686 208-465-5529
Mar 7-9 Fri 9-6 Sat 10-6 Sun 10-5	Golden Spike Gem & Min. Soc. Gem Stone Junction 2008	Union Station 25 th & Wall Ave. Ogden, Utah 84401 801-393-9890	Richard Gabel 801 540-0478 GoldenspikeGem@aol.com
Mar 7-9 Fri. 9-5 Sat. 10-5 Sun 10-5	Tualatin Valley Gem Club Golden Anniversary of the TVGC Rock & Gem Show	Washington County Fairgrounds Hillsboro, Oregon	Beth Heesacker 503-357-8804, heesacker@coho.net
Mar 7-9 Fri. 10-5 Sat. 10-5 Sun 10-4	Oregon Agate & Mineral Society, 75th anniversary year	Oregon Museum of Science and Industry (OMSI). 1945 SE Water Ave Portland OR	Bernice Hall, 360-263-2599 bernicehall@mcleodusa.net or contact Pres. Lafe Prier 503-558-8159
Mar 8-9 Sat 10-5 Sun 10-4	Magic Valley Gem Club, Annual Rock and Gem Show	Boys & Girls Club, 999 Frontier Road, just East of C.S.I., Twin Falls, ID	Harold Waggoner, (208) 423- 3292, or Shirley Metts rmetts@cablcone.net
Mar 8-9 Sat 9-5 Sun 10-4	Rock and Arrowhead Club Annual Show	Klamath County Fair- grounds, 3531 S. 6 th St. Klamath Falls, OR	Amanda Newnham, 541-892- 8364, dusstylocks@aol.com G. Carlson 541-882-8276
Mar 14-16 Fri 10-6 Sat 10-6 Sun 10-5	Rock Rollers of Spokane 49th Annual Show Jade From Near and Far	Spokane Fair & Expo Center Broadway & Havana Spokane, WA	Leigh Klettke 509-299-6662 or Dee Schwendman 509-892-1621
Mar 28-29 Fri ??? Sat ???	Panorama Gem & Mineral 8th Annual Show	Fort Colville Grange Hall Colville, WA	Johnie Pitman 509 684 8887 jgpitman@earthlink.net
Mar 29-30 Sat 10-6 Sun 10-4	Sweet Home Rock & Mineral Society (60th annual show)	1641 Long St. Sweet Home, Or.	Dee David (541) 367-4895 ced@centurytel.net
Apr 5-6 Sat 10-6 Sun 10-5	Mount Hood Rock Club Rock Gem and Craft Show	Mt Hood Community College Gym 26000 SE Stark, Gresham OR	Gail Bumala P O B 1180, Sandy OR 97005 boomart@cascadeaccess.com
Apr 5-6 Sat 10-6 Sun 10-5	Southeast Idaho Gem and Mineral Society 51 st Annual Show	Bannock Co. Fairgrounds Commercial Building Pocatello, Idaho	Marty Rakatansky (208) 233- 2538 or Robert Murphy remurphy@highstream.net
Apr 12-13 Sat 10-6 Sun 10-5	Mt. Baker Rock & Gem, 47 th annual show Bellingham, WA	Bloedel-Donovan Park Multi-purpose Building 2214 Electric Ave	Richard Evans 360-714-8139 evansrj1@cs.com
Apr 12-13 Sat 10-6 Sun 10-5	Idaho Falls Gem and Mineral Society, Annual Show	City Recreation Center (Memorial and B St.) Idaho Falls, Idaho.	Sharon Nicklas 208-522-7336 or Bill Thielbahr, 208-524- 0139
Apr 18-20 Fri 9-6 Sat 10-6 Sun 10-4:30	Willamette Agate & Mineral Society - 55 th Annual River of Gems- Crystals Theme	Polk Co. Fairgrounds Rickreall, OR	Cathy Fisher rockhuntinggem@comcast.net 503-851-1837 Also see: www.wamsi.org
Apr 19-20 Sat 10-6 Sun 10-4	Yakima Rock and Mineral Club Parade of Gems (70 Years)	Central Wash.State Fair- grounds, Fair Ave. & E. Nob Hill Blvd., Yakima, WA	Marti Sondgeroth 509-248-6401 marthams@nwinfo.net

2008 Gem & Mineral Show Calendar

Date	Club/Show Name	Show Location	Contact Person
Apr 19-20 Sat 10-5 Sun 10-4	Lakeside Gem and Mineral Society Annual Show	Benton Franklin County Fairgrounds, Bldg #1, Kennewick WA	Dave Westland (509) 735-9678
May 10-11 Sat 10-6 Sun 10-4	Bozeman Gem & Mineral Club - 49th Annual Show	Gallatin Co. Fairgrounds Black & Tamarack St. Exit I-90 @ N. 7th St	Dan Carter 406.586.4552 or Doug Ellis (406) 266-4452 opalerusher@hotmail.com
May 17-18 Sat 10-6 Sun 10-4	Hatrockhounds Annual Gem and Mineral Show Hermiston, Oregon	Hermiston Convention Center, 4155 Hwy 395, Hermiston, Oregon	Mike Filarski, PO Box 502, Irrigon, OR 97844 stonemorlin1@netscape.net
May 24-25 Sat 9-6 Sun 9-5	Bitterroot Gem & Mineral Society, Mineral & Fossil Show	Hamilton Senior Center 820 N. Fourth & Adirondac Hamilton, MT	Steve Vieth 1-406-363-2632, stevevieth@msn.com
June 6-8 Fri 12-5 Sat 10-6 Sun 11-4	Puyallup Valley Gem and Mineral Club Annual Show	Fruitland Grange Hall 112th and 86th Avenue East Puyallup, WA	info@puyallupgemclub.org or Puyallup Valley Gem Club P.O. Box 134 Puyallup, WA 98371-0014
June 7-8 Sat 9-5 Sun 10-4	North Idaho Mineral Club Annual Gem Jewelry and Mineral Show	Kootenai County Fairgrounds, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho	Bob Bockman 208 773-5384. Bockbb@aol.com.
Jun 13-15 Fri 10-6 Sat 10-6 Sun 10-4:30	Oregon Coast Agate Club Gem and Mine, 46th Annual Gem and Mineral Show	Lincoln Co.Fairgrounds, 633 NE 3 rd St., Newport, Oregon Directions: http://www.co. lincoln.or.us/fair/index.html	Juli Dahl, 541-563-7495 jdhdl2@casco.net. PO Box 2439 Waldport, OR 97394
June 14-15 Sat 10-6 Sun 10-5	Butte Mineral and Gem Club Show	Civic Center Annex 1340 Harrison Ave Butte MT	Pete Knudsen 406-496-4395
Jun 20-22 Fri 10-6 Sat 10-6 Sun:10-5	68 th Annual NFMS Show & Convention	Ontario Fairgrounds Ontario Oregon	Margaret Stallknecht 208-365-1653 mestallknecht@yahoo.com
Aug 2-3 Sat 10-6 Sun: 10-5	Far West Lapidary's Rock and Gem Show	North Bend Community Ctr. 2222 Broadway North Bend Oregon	Don Innes, 541-396-5722 Carol Leaton 541-269-0542
Aug 30-31 Sat 10-5 Sun: 10-5	Stallknecht-Morgan Museum Gem & Mineral, Letha Gem Show	West Idaho Boulevard at the Park, Letha, ID	Margaret Stallknecht 208-365-1653
Sep 19-21 Fri 10-5 Sat 10-5 Sun: 10-5	Far West Lapidary's Rock and Gem Society South Coast Rock and Gem Fest 2008	4 th St. Parking Lot, Across from Outdoor-In Family Restaurant, Coos Bay Oregon	Don Innes 541-396-5722
Oct 10-12 Fri 10-8 Sat 10-6 Sun: 10-5	Billings Gem and Mineral Club Annual Show	Billings Hotel and Convention Center 1223 Mullowney Lane Billings Montana.	Vern Watson 2511 Olson Dr Billings MT. 59102 (406) 652 5958
Oct 25-26 Sat 9-6 Sun: 10-5	Clackamette Mineral and Gem Club, Earth's Hidden Treasures 2008	Clackamas County Fairgrounds, 694 NE 4 th Ave Canby, Or	Rick Maurer (509) 691-6395 tallerricardo@juno.com

2009 Gem & Mineral Show Calendar

Date	Club/Show Name	Show Location	Contact Person
Jul 31-Aug 2 Fri 10-5 Sat 10-5 Sun: 10-5	NFMS/AFMS Combined Show hosted by Billings Gem & Mineral Club	Holiday Inn Grand Montana 5500 Midland Rd Billings MT	Doug True 406-670-0506 dtruefossils@yahoo.com