



A. F. M. S. Newsletter

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President's Message

Margaret Kolaczyk, AFMS 2022 president



In the last 3 months I have moved twice. The first was when I sold my home of 26 years and moved to Arroyo Grande, CA to be closer to family. Then, in January, I purchased a new home and moved again. In November of 2021 I left my job of 11 years and started a new job in December. This has been a long journey, but also an interesting challenge. Because I have been a little sidetracked, I would like for any one who has sent me an email and I have not responded, please send it again.

The AFMS Juniors Website is up and running. Please check it out at www.juniors.amfed.org. The team worked hard and really created a fantastic website.

The updated AFMS Website is still moving along. It's launch date is still in the future.

Things have been pretty quiet and I do not have much to report. Even though this is for the March newsletter, I figure many are at Quartzite and/or the Tucson Show. I have not had the chance to attend either but it is great to talk with those who do go.

Calendar for AFMS Scholarship Directors

*Sandie Fender,
Foundation President*



Just a gentle reminder, the timeline for choosing the Honoree for AFMS Scholarship Foundation has started. Below I have included the timeline. (Operating Procedure #6)

Nov. 1st Take office for the year as the Director from your Federation. Complete work on the selection of Honorary Award Winner for the coming year.

Nov. 15th The AFMS Scholarship Foundation President must notify all Directors if there is a change in the amount of the grant for the coming year.

Jan. 15th Notify Honorary Award Winner and forward vitae on him/her to the Foundation President. (Include a photo if possible.)

June 1st Obtain information from your Honorary Award Winner on School(s) and students selected and make sure a copy of this information has been provided for the Foundation President.

Your Annual Federation Banquet

Make a presentation of plaque to the Honorary Award Winner. Often it is possible to have the students present. If unable to make the presentation at the banquet, arrange an appropriate ceremony for the presentation.

Annual AFMS Convention

Attend the Annual Business Meeting of the Foundation Directors, held immediately following the AFMS meeting.

Continuing

Obtain Nominees for your Honorary Award Winner for the coming year. Have a list of nominees to turn over to your successor.

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March

Rock & Gem
THE EARTH'S TREASURES - MINERALS AND JEWELRY

Official Magazine of the AFMS

Remember

Information for the April issue must be to the editor by March 5. Thanks.

The AFMS
Proudly Serving
Seven Regional
Federations



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Recruiting a New Editor Mark Nelson, 2021 AFMS BEAC Chair



Recently a friend contacted me regarding the responsibilities of being an editor of a rock and gem club. Her club was undergoing some political upheavals and she had been asked to consider taking over as the club's editor. She had no idea, and a lot of misconceptions, about what the job entailed. For that reason she was hesitant to consider the position.

I know that many clubs are facing, or will face this same situation. Becoming an editor can be very intimidating. You, as an officer, or involved member of your club, can be in a position to make the job easier. To do this you need the help of proficient editors who can be of help to your new editor. **Now there is help** available.

The Special Congress Representing Involved Bulletin Editors (S.C.R.I.B.E.) has just completed a New Editor Guide! The document is the result of S.C.R.I.B.E. members participating in a group discussion via the S.C.R.I.B.E. Discussion Group—<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Scribefolks>.

This Guide covers what new editors are looking to know:

- the roles and responsibilities of a rock club editor
- how to get started
- what skills an editor should have
- access to editing and publishing tools
- budgeting for a bulletin
- participating in bulletin exchanges
- editor resources
- developing a first bulletin
- publication and distribution

This New Editor Guide is available **for free**, for a limited time, at the S.C.R.I.B.E. web site: <http://scribe.rbnet.net/>. Best of all, club directors can request that their new editor become a member of S.C.R.I.B.E. at this web site and reimburse the \$6 a year membership fee. This gives their new editor contact with a network of very proficient editors throughout North America, access to award-winning articles, poetry, humor and information. They can get a mentor to work them through the technical details. They can be **THE BEST** editor in their federation!

If I can be of any help to your club or to your editor, just ask! You can reach me at <mnelsonair at aol.com>.

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.

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AFMS Committees: 2021-22

Here is the Committee Chairs list for 2021-22. 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.

All American Club

Mary Boesdorfer
<writteninwood at gmail.com>

AFMS Club Rockhound of the Year

Judi Allison
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AFMS Newsletter

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Conservation and Legislation

Jerrold Simpson
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Convention Advisory

<>

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Financial Investment

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Inter-Regional Field Trip

Doug True
<dtruefossils12 at yahoo.com>

Judges Training Seminar

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Junior Programs

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<silvertipminis at msn.com>

Long Range Planning

Judy Beck
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Name Badge & Trophy

Frank Mullaney
(See Bulletin Editors Hall of Fame)

Nominating

David Wayment
aastainedglass@bellsouth.net

Parliamentarian

Sandy Fuller
<mwftreas at rock-biz.biz">

Past President's Advisory

Judy Beck (see Long Range Planning)

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Web Site Contest

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AFMS Scholarship Foundation

Sandie Fender, President
<sandie.fender at gmail.com>
Judy Beck, Vice President
Margaret Kolaczyk, Secretary
Barbara Ringhiser, Treasurer

AFMS Land Use Policy—Continued

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.

AFMS Code of Ethics

- I will respect both private and public property and will do no collecting on privately owned land without the owner's permission.
- I will keep informed on all laws, regulations or rules governing collecting on public lands and will observe them.
- I will, to the best of my ability, ascertain the boundary lines of property on which I plan to collect.
- I will use no firearms or blasting material in collecting areas.
- I will cause no willful damage to property of any kind—fences, signs, buildings.
- I will leave all gates as found.
- I will build fires in designated or safe places only and will be certain they are completely extinguished before leaving the area.
- I will discard no burning material—matches, cigarettes, etc.
- I will fill all excavation holes, which may be dangerous to livestock.
- I will not contaminate wells, creeks or other water supply.
- I will cause no willful damage to collecting material and will take home only what I can reasonably use.
- I will practice conservation and undertake to utilize fully and well the materials I have collected and will recycle my surplus for the pleasure and benefit of others.
- I will support the rockhound project H.E.L.P. (Help Eliminate Litter Please) and will leave all collecting areas devoid of litter, regardless of how found.
- I will cooperate with field trip leaders and those in designated authority in all collecting areas.
- I will report to my club or Federation officers, Bureau of Land Management, or other authorities, any deposit of petrified wood or other materials on public lands which should be protected for the enjoyment of future generations for public educational and scientific purposes.
- I will appreciate and protect our heritage of natural resources.
- I will observe the "Golden Rule," will use "Good Outdoor Manners" and will at all times conduct myself in a manner which will add to the stature and public image of rockhounds everywhere.



Purpose of the AFMS:

To promote popular interest and education in the various Earth Sciences, and in particular the subjects of Geology, Mineralogy, Paleontology, Lapidary and related subjects, and to sponsor and provide ways to coordinate the work and efforts of all interested persons and groups; to sponsor and encourage the formation and international development of Societies and Regional Federations and thereby to strive toward greater international good will and fellowship

The A.F.M.S. Newsletter is normally published monthly except January, July and August by the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies.

Each Regional Federation Club is entitled to receive three (3) copies of the AFMS Newsletter. These are usually sent to the President, Federation Director and Editor.

Subscription Information, Distribution Questions and **address changes** should be sent to the AFMS Central Office. Subscriptions are \$5.00 per year. Checks should be made payable to "AFMS" and sent to

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Content: Letters, Editorial Comments, Submissions
Any questions or other communication concerning the content or format of the newsletter should be sent to the Editor.

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Deadline: 5th of the month preceding publication

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2022 Editors Roundtable **Mark Nelson S.C.R.I.B.E. President**

Mark your calendars! At the 2022 AFMS Convention, in New Orleans, S.C.R.I.B.E. will host an Editors Roundtable following the Editors Breakfast! This will be an opportunity for editors to share printed copies of their bulletin, exchange ideas, talk publishing software, express concerns and see how other editors handle them. This first roundtable will be short - just 30 minutes or so.

S.C.R.I.B.E. information, member applications, pins and patches will be available. If you would like reserved time on the Roundtable, email me at mnelsonair@yahoo.com. Thanks to South Central Federation for making a room and time available to Editors!

Upcoming AFMS and Regional Federation Conventions

from Walt Beneze

	California Federation	Eastern Federation	Midwest Federation	Northwest Federation	Rocky Mountain Federation	South Central Federation	Southeast Federation
2022	New Date May 5-6 Lancaster, CA	Sept. 24-25 Harrisburg PA	Springfield MO Sept. TBD		June 17-19 Las Vegas, NV	AFMS & SCFMS October 14-16 New Orleans, LA	Nov. 18-20 Marietta GA
2023			Howell MI Sept. TBD	Billings, MT August 3-6			
2024							