From the Desk of the President

Cheryl Neary
AFMS President 2022-2023

“We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give.” ~Winston Churchill

In another president’s message I quoted Dolly Parton. This time - Winston Churchill. We earn money so we are able to buy things that are necessary for our lives. This is living, something we do to create the life we want. Giving of our time or money to help better another is also part of life.

Volunteering includes giving of time, knowledge, energy, and at times money. Why volunteer?

I am sure many of you have very busy lives and believe there is little time to volunteer for a position within your club or federation. However, for both clubs and federations to succeed, we need volunteers. The stronger the volunteer base, the stronger the club and/or federation.

There are benefits to volunteering!
You can form new friendships. You have the opportunity to network with others and learn new skills. I recently read that it is also possible to protect your mental and physical health through volunteering.

How is that possible? Doesn’t meeting deadlines increase stress levels? (i.e.: writing a report, creating monthly bulletins/newsletters, juggling everything you do) On the other hand, meeting deadlines keeps you mentally stimulated (ah, those new skills?) and provides a sense of purpose. These are things that may reduce stress, combat depression, and boost your self-esteem.

What is sense of purpose? It is what you believe in, what you value in life, and what motivates you. There is evidence that having a sense of purpose maintains health and well-being throughout your lifetime (a study documented in BMC Public Health, online version, July 11, 2017). The study concluded that a positive sense of purpose was associated with “better mental and physical health, life satisfaction, self-esteem, happiness, lower depressive symptoms, ...”

Volunteering does not necessarily involve long-term commitments. Many club and federation positions require a commitment of a year. Once you accept a position you may feel the rewards of the position and may want to stay on, if your bylaws allow consecutive terms. How would you know this? Simply volunteer and find out what it is all about. I don’t encourage anyone to resign from a position without at least trying it for a year, but if you become unable to afford the time to continue or you develop health issues, I am sure there is no real harm done.

I want people to volunteer! I do not want them to volunteer if not willing to perform the responsibilities of the position.

continued on page 2
The AFMS
Proudly Serving
Seven Regional
Federations

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Rialto, CA

Inviting You to a Zoom Conference:
Practicing Public Relations in the Age of New Media
Jim Brace-Thompson, AFMS Public Relations Chair

Since assuming the Public Relations Chair, I’ve received several helpful emails from various folks including Mike Nelson (RMFMS), Dennis Gertenbach (Flatirons Mineral Club), and Linda Jaeger (our AFMS Newsletter Editor). They’ve each provided helpful suggestions and/or leads to explore in local clubs. I’ve also been following comments about social media that have appeared in President’s Messages by Bill Stephens (EFMLS) and Darrell Coyle (NFMS). I’ve learned from each and every one.

And in the time since my last column, I’ve enjoyed a truly terrific phone conversation with Ellen Dupuy, President of the South Orange County Gem & Mineral Society (CFMS). Ellen has a professional background in PR for nonprofits, and we covered a lot of ground in a brief amount of time. (We would have covered more if my recently adopted rescue dog, Tornjak, hadn’t intervened. That would be the dog that’s chewing on my computer cords as I type…) One suggestion Ellen had really caught me. Namely, to host a “Zoom Conference” on practicing PR in the age of new media. What it is and how to do it at a macro level. And, at a down-in-the-trenches practical level, how regional federations and local clubs define PR and social media and what they do to implement all that’s associated with those definitions.

I’m thinking of scheduling such a virtual meeting for the fall after the upcoming AFMS Show and Convention so that I can use the Show venue to promote the idea and to solicit attendees. In the meantime, I use this article for that same solicitation. If you would like to join in on such a Zoom meeting, please contact me at jbraceth@roadrunner.com or (805) 659-3577, and I’ll keep you posted when a date is scheduled. In the meantime, stay connected!

Quick Note — Scholarship Foundation Plaques
Sandie Fender, AFMS Scholarship Foundation President

Just a quick note, for all federations that are having their conventions/shows after the AFMS show – I am bringing the plaques to Billings and will give them to you then. This will save the Scholarship Foundation a little bit of money.

Reminder: No AFMS Newsletter in July or August!
Dragons & Mammoths for the AFMS Junior Programs

Jennifer Haley, AFMS Historian

When you make a donation towards the AFMS Junior Programs in the amount of $75, you will receive your choice of a mammoth or dragon package.

The mammoth is a sturdy, armful-size of a woolly beast. Comes with a pendant vial of real mammoth hair, and a hair brush to style its hair.

The dragon package comes with one dragon hand puppet, a tote bag, dragon scale fabric grab bag filled with beautiful tumbled stones, a dragon scale pendant, dragon's stone egg with stand, a special quality mineral or stone specimen, and a copy of the book, *Fairy Dragons*, written by AFMS Historian, Jennifer Haley.

I was thinking the dragons and mammoths would make great gifts for parents and grandparents to give their kids, but it turns out the adults really want them for themselves too!

-Make checks out to:
American Federation of Mineralogical Societies
-Note which package (Mammoth or Dragons) you want.
-Include your name & address (plus email or phone for notification of package on the way).
-Mail to:
Jennifer Haley
PO Box 324
Murphy, OR 97533
In case you missed it, you have been challenged to research and write a short article about a rock/mineral/fossil/geologically-related term that begins with the letter of the current month. You'll have to think a month ahead so the letter matches the first letter of the month of the AFMS Newsletter in which it will be published. Get ready for the next three months: what else can you find that begins with “J”? (July) or “A” (August) or “S” (September)? - No Newsletter in July or August!

Let's look first at gold. Much gold is marked with 10K, 14K or 18K as examples. It may also be marked with 417 for 10K, 585 for 14K or 700 for 18K. The 825 number on jewelry tells us that this gold jewelry is made of real and pure gold, and by looking at the 825 number, we can also ascertain the purity of gold. 825 means 82.5% pure gold is present in it, and it is 19 carats Gold.

Admittedly, I did not read beyond the short excerpts to determine how this method was derived. As can be seen, the last entry gives a clue to the reasoning. As I further explored my findings, the above reasoning is verified by a comment about 8K gold bearing the number 333, which designates 33.3% pure gold.

As I scanned through the bits of information, I found that the same numbers and method are used for silver. Platinum also uses the same indicators, but will add a second indicator; for example 800 Pt 200 Pall, 80% platinum, 20% palladium or 750 Pt 250 Rhod, 75% Platinum, 25% Rhodium.

I also found the following factoids of interest:

- All jewelry sold in the US must be at least 10 karat gold – 417 (sometimes marked as 416) to be marketed as gold.
- GF on jewelry, unlike solid gold jewelry, designates gold-filled jewelry. It is composed of a solid layer of gold that is bonded to a base of another metal, such as sterling silver or copper.
- SP designates silver plating. An item designated 925 SP means that it is plated with sterling silver.
- The letters PM indicate that the jewelry is made of precious metals.
- The 3 C's - cut, clarity, and carat weight - make a huge difference when purchasing a diamond. The Gemological Institute of America (GIA)’s color-grading scale for diamonds is the industry standard. The scale begins with the letter D, representing colorless, and continues with increasing presence of color to the letter Z, or light yellow or brown.

Let's move on to diamonds. The 3 C's - cut, clarity, and carat weight - make a huge difference when purchasing a diamond. An F-color diamond is considered to be in the near-colorless range, which means that it has a very faint tint of color that is barely visible to the naked eye. The F-color grade is only two grades below the highest color grade of D, which is considered to be completely colorless.

J-color diamonds are part of the near colorless class of diamonds which includes grades G through J on the GIA grading scale. These diamonds can exhibit some color (typically yellow), but this color saturation is most visible when the diamond is viewed from the side.

I-color diamonds are the third grade of “near colorless” diamonds in the color grades G - J. Near colorless diamonds like I-color are the most popular choice for engagement ring jewelry since they balance both beauty and affordability (relatively speaking of course).

What Are the Rarest Diamond Colors?

- Red Diamonds. The rarest of all colored diamonds, only 20 to 30 natural red diamonds exist in the entire world.
- Blue Diamonds. Also incredibly rare are blue diamonds, which have only been found naturally in mines in South Africa, India, and Australia.
- Pink Diamonds.
- Yellow Diamonds.
"J" Is for June — and Lots of Other Things

continued from page 4

J Is for Jurassic!

by Richard Jaeger, TRMS

The northwest corner of Cimarron County in the Oklahoma Panhandle has multiple types of Jurassic age fossils; many are in the Morrison Formation. It is the Black Mesa area, the highest point in the state of Oklahoma, and also near the old town of Kenton, which is the only town in Oklahoma that is in the Rocky Mountain time zone, not the Central time zone. I was first in Kenton and the Black Mesa area in 1955 (when I was 9 years old) and have made many trips there over the years. We became friends with John Duncan and his wife in 1960. They ran the general store in Kenton and lived in what was an old hotel. They rented us a fully furnished house, including all kinds of plates, silverware, etc. for the sum of $3/night! Plus, they invited us to dinner at their home — and many other things. They had a large rock collection in their store, and we brought them a number of specimens. They appreciated it so much that they told us the closed building near them was an old museum, and we were welcome to go in and take any minerals, fossils, Indian artifacts, etc. We felt guilty, but did take a few. The Duncans also told us where to hunt specimens in the area. John Duncan lived to be 102. The last time I saw him was in 1980 when he was 100 years old. If your car needed fuel, he still came out of his store and filled your tank!

John Willis Stovall was a geologist and paleontologist from the University of Oklahoma. His team from the University excavated 17 dinosaur quarries in the area between 1935 and 1942. These were all in the Morrison Formation and yielded over 6,000 bones. Among the fossil dinosaurs found were: Apatosaurus (Brontosaurus), Camarasaurus, Diplodocus, Atlantosaurus, Stegosaurus, Camptosaurus, Allosaurus, Ceratopsia, Saurornitholopax maximus, and Goniopholis stovalli. This information is from a publication by the Oklahoma Geological Survey called, "A field Trip Guide to the Geology of the Black Mesa State Park Area, Cimarron County, Oklahoma." That information is also in a number of other publications, which indicate that several additional dinosaur quarries were discovered by other teams, bringing the total to 23 or 24. Another of the dinosaurs discovered was one called Titanoceratops. The various quarries are in at least two different layers of the Morrison Formation, so have different assortments of dinosaur bones. Many are on display in the Sam Noble Oklahoma Museum of Natural History near the University of Oklahoma in Norman.

There are also areas with exposed dinosaur tracks. Publications state that the one open to tourists normally has one or two sets exposed, and at one time had three sets exposed. However, maybe 50 years ago I was in that area, and there were five sets exposed. Unfortunately, as in much of the west, water drawn from wells, lakes, or ponds for irrigation has so lowered the water level that streams that used to be running and clear are now filled with dirt and plants. Thus, they have no geological material exposed. When the streams were filled and running, they had exposed assortments of rocks, minerals, and fossils. The sets of tracks are not all the same. The footprints have different sizes and shapes and different distances between the individual tracks, so several species of dinosaurs are represented.

Among the other interesting Jurassic age fossils in the region are coprolites. I have found at least three, including one really amazing one. There are also absolutely beautiful balls or clumps of algae that are partially agatized with blues, reds, grays, etc. I have found a number of those but, as I stated above, the stream beds where I found them no longer have rocks exposed.

There are many wonderful things to see and do in the area. You can even stand on the corner where New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Colorado come together. And Kansas and Texas aren’t far! (The panhandle is only 34 miles wide.)

Montana’s Geologic Road Signs

Cheryl Neary, AFMS President

I stumbled on this great website that I am eager to share with you:

It gives the Geologic Road Signs found throughout Montana. Since 2006 the Montana Department of Transportation has been installing road signs narrating the geology of the area. Approximately 50 roadside geological markers have been installed describing the geologic and paleontological wonders of the Treasure State.

Once you are in the website, if you click on the map it gives you the area information, facts and activities.

I have been enjoying it since I found it!

Photos above by Richard Jaeger: top, Jurassic Rock in Oklahoma — left, Jurassic dinosaur prints outside Kenton, Oklahoma

Montana’s Geologic Road Signs
2023 AFMS/NFMS Show — Updates!

Judi Allison, NFMS Secretary

The 2023 AFMS/NFMS Show and Convention is coming to Billings, Montana August 3-6. The activities will take place at the Billings Hotel and Convention Center, 1223 Mullowney Lane. Our host, The Billings Gem and Mineral Club, is busy working to bring us a special show of “Montana Treasures.”

All registrations deadlines have been extended to July 1, 2023. (Some of the forms read June 1, but deadline is July 1.)

Additions:
- There will be signed artworks from dinosaur artist, Scott Hartman, to be auctioned off to benefit various aspects of the hobby.
- There will be a live auction on Sunday with proceeds split between NFMS and ALAA. The venue will be smaller than the previous show because of limitations of the building.

Field Trips:
- 8/7: Bear Canyon - black and white fortified agate
- 8/8: Fossil trip north of Hysham
- 8/9: On the river for wood & agate (may change depending on weather)
- 8/10: Fee dig for fossils near Glendive
- 8/11: Probably an additional trip for agate

There will be sign-up sheets at the show.

AFMS/NFMS Annual Convention Schedule for 2023 (scheduled activities as the show committee has them)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Activity</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, August 2</td>
<td>Display Case Setup, starts at 10:00 am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, August 3</td>
<td>AFMS Annual Meeting &amp; Scholarship Meeting, 9:00 am-1:00 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday, August 4</td>
<td>AFMS Uniform Rules Meeting, 8:00 am-9:00 am</td>
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<td></td>
<td>NFMS Annual Meeting, 1:00 pm-4:00 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday, August 5</td>
<td>Juniors Cracker Barrel, 8:30 am-10:00 am</td>
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<td></td>
<td>ALAA Meeting, 10:30 am-12:00 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Past Presidents, Officers, Judges &amp; Chairpersons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Luncheon, 12:00 pm-2:00 pm</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Social Hour, 6:00 pm-7:00 pm</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Banquet &amp; Awards Dinner, 7:00 pm-10:00 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday, August 6</td>
<td>Editors &amp; Webmasters Breakfast, 9:00 am-11:30 am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Live Auction, 2:00 pm-4:00 pm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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2022-2023 AFMS Rockhound of the Year Recipients

Judi Allison, AFMS RoY Chair

Midwest Federation (2023)

Karen is all smiles as she shows off her 2023 Rockhound of the Year Certificate of Appreciation from the MWF at the club’s annual show in April.

A member of the club for more than 25 years, Karen has spent immeasurable hours furthering the success and longevity of DPVGS. She is a past president and has served in many Board positions, as well as being the dealer chair for the club’s annual show for a stretch of more than ten years. Karen also organizes a Sunday morning breakfast for members and dealers working the show and is the hospitality chair for the club’s monthly meetings. Karen also gives of her time to volunteer for the Chicagoland Gems & Mineral Association’s (CGMA) show, of which DPVGS is one of the five clubs presenting this annual show. Karen always prepares at least one education exhibit for the big show and not only volunteers generously of her time, but recruits several of her friends to become helping hands. Congratulations, Karen Schuster, thank you for all you have done. You make us proud. Photo: Courtesy of Jeanine N. Mielecki

South Central Federation (2022)
East Texas Gem & Mineral Society has selected Sarah Hawthorne as our 2022 Rockhound of the Year for her continued excellent publication of our newsletter, the Rock ‘n’ Rose. She took over as editor in August of 2020, and is our graphic designer. Sarah has also done the graphics for our flyers and the special publication for new members. She inherited her abilities from her parents and began working in their sign shop in 1994. In 1998, she began working with a T-shirt screen printer and did this for almost nine years. In 2007, she started working at Foretravel Motorcoach, designing their travel magazine, advertisements, and signs. She also manages their website and design graphics for their 45-foot motor coaches. We hope to utilize her talents and abilities for many years to come. Submitted by Julia Toombs
AFMS Newsletter — June 2023   www.amfed.org

A Case of Black and White Light — Safety Matters
Ellery Borow, AFMS Safety Chair

The universe is filled with energy. Its energy is all around us, all the time. It’s also an energy mankind has utilized for doing amazing things. Our concern here is about the safe use of some of that black and white energy in the rock and mineral hobby.

But first, some background information:

Picture, if you will, ocean waves rolling on a beach. There is lots of energy there. The distance from one wave crest to the following wave crest is called a wave length. Ocean wave crests can vary from a few inches to many yards in distance. The energy in those waves varies with the longer and shorter wave lengths. In the universe we have waves of a different nature, that of electromagnetic energy. The waves of energy there are named cosmic rays, gamma rays, x-rays, ultra violet / visible / infrared rays, hertzian (radar and television) waves and the very long waves of what we call our radio waves. The electromagnetic wave lengths just mentioned range from far, far, far smaller than the thickness of a sheet of paper to about half a mile long.

This spectrum of electromagnetic energy is used for studying the universe, medical imaging x-rays, radio, studying rocks and minerals. We use the ultra-violet light portion of the electromagnetic spectrum in our ultra-violet (“black light”) mineral lamps. In the mineral hobby we further divide a portion of the spectrum into short ultraviolet (UV) waves and long ultra-violet waves – the short and long waves of our UV lamps.

Our star generates infra-red energy – heat energy. Waves shorter than those are visible light – allowing us to see the colors red, orange, yellow, green, blue, and purple/violet. The red waves are longer, the violet ones are shorter. Beyond the visible spectrum we have the shorter waves of the ultra-violet band. This is where the erythemal rays, the sun-burning rays are found. Yes, our UV lamps can “sun” burn our skin, severely damage our eyes, and cause great harm if not used carefully. The area between the short and long UV rays is where the sunburning rays reside.

It used to be that UV lamps were expensive due to housings, special bulbs and tubes, and costly glass filters. The people who bought such lamps were careful to use them cautiously, safely. Now-a-days relatively low cost light emitting diodes (LED) are proliferating. People are having a world of fun with UV lamps and may not realize all of the safety concerns with their use. That said, modern UV LED light designs vary greatly. Some designs may produce UV light in the danger zones. It is wise, therefore, to read the light’s instruction and heed their requirements so as to use the lights with an eye to being safe.

People are strongly urged not to look at the sun without proper eye protection. The sun is bright and emits UV energy. The same goes for UV lamps. While we cannot see this black light energy, the potential for damage is of great concern. The fact that we cannot see it means we may not know we are being exposed to the damaging rays.

Here are some tips to mind when using UV lamps:

• Keep the lamp from pointing at exposed skin and eyes
• Keep the lamp’s shades and guards in place.
• Be careful of reflected UV light. (Yes, light can reflect from the water and other reflective surfaces, including some minerals, and cause a sunburn UNDER the brim of our hats.)
• If the UV lamp is used in a display at a rock show, ensure the lamp’s UV rays cannot be seen by patrons (one may use a test rock to help with this evaluation. Note, kids love to look up into the light to see what is up there.
• At a show’s UV display, place some kind of wire cloth or wire mesh at the front of the display to keep people’s hands away and assure people cannot move close enough to look up into the lights. Or perhaps place a clear acrylic barrier in front of the display to protect patrons. Where that may not be possible, offer UV protective glasses / face shields. (Which adds the complexity of sterilization of the eyewear between users.)
• Also please consider posting a safety warning that the display has UV light in use. Be mindful of prolonged use of UV light – especially for volunteers in the UV display area. One will not receive a sunburn immediately upon exposure from a UV lamp; however, prolonged exposure is a problem. The closer to the light source – the greater the energy — and the greater the risk of skin and eye damage.

When in doubt about a UV lamp’s risks, read and abide by its safety and use instructions. White or Black Light - Your Safety Matters.

Follow up – an LED UV lamp is a valuable teaching tool. In the mineral hobby there are a great many experiments, tests, games, learning experiences, fun and fascination things to do with UV lamps, and kids love the bright colors (and I do too).

Thanks to Susan, a Midwest Federation Club member, for suggesting the subject of this article.

From Rocky Start to Heartwarming Gift!

In 1992 a baby eagle was hatched in captivity in Oklahoma. It was sent to the World Bird Sanctuary (Missouri) to be raised & released to the wild. The eaglet, Murphy, arrived in Missouri with a broken leg. He recovered, only to break his wing as he was transitioning to the wild. Now 31 years old, Murphy is unable to fly & lives at the sanctuary. This spring, when hormones kicked in, Murphy began nesting (not unusual behavior), building a nest and using a rock for an egg (very unusual!). Murphy sat the nest & began attacking other birds that got too close. The keepers were fortunate enough to obtain an eaglet who had survived a storm that destroyed its nest, and they gifted the hatching to Murphy, who is raising the little one. Baby’s name? Rocky, of course!

If you’d like to see some heartwarming photos, look up the story by Googling, “Rocky the eaglet at World Bird Sanctuary.”
2022-2023 Endowment Fund

Cheryl Neary, Endowment Fund Chair

It is about time that I reach out to all of you about the Endowment Fund for this year! I am happy to report that several beautiful items have been donated. This year we are also having a live auction for a beautiful quilt and for an exquisite necklace with handmade pouch.

Endowment fund tickets are sold by your regional federation representative, listed below. To win one of the prizes you need to donate either $5.00 for one ticket or $20.00 for five tickets — the bargain price. Please consider spending the $20.00 for a good cause.

What is the good cause? Donating to the Endowment Fund helps tremendously with this important Federation fundraiser. The interest from the monies generated is used for AFMS special projects, such as junior badges, judges training, digitizing of slide programs, new programs — just to name a few.

One of the committees that reaps the rewards of your donations is the Juniors Program. Badges are no cost to any of the clubs with junior programs. AFMS provides this to the clubs, and it is a substantial number — free, because of the Endowment Fund.

Please reach out to your federation representative listed below. Note: the @ in emails has been replaced with the word “at.” You will need to use the @ symbol and no spaces instead of what is printed in the chart. (keeping bots from picking these up and sending spam)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Federation</th>
<th>Representative Name</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>California</td>
<td>Burl LaRue</td>
<td>PO Box 1657 Rialto, CA 92377-1657</td>
<td>bplarue at earthlink.net</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eastern</td>
<td>Larry Huffman</td>
<td>PO Box 2444 Hickory, NC 28603</td>
<td>ladhuff314 at embarqmail.com</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midwest</td>
<td>J.C. &amp; Donna Moore</td>
<td>25235 N. State Route 97 Cuba, IL 61427</td>
<td>j Lounge3rd at gmail.com</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northwest</td>
<td>Judi Allison</td>
<td>1701 NW 11th St, Hermiston, OR 97838</td>
<td>nfmsspcd at gmail.com</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rocky Mountain</td>
<td>Richard Jaeger</td>
<td>3515 E. 88th St, Tulsa, OK 74137-2602</td>
<td>rjgrsci at aol.com</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Central</td>
<td>Don Shurtz</td>
<td>4004 Dublin Rd, Allen, TX 75002</td>
<td>don.shurtz at gmail.com</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southeast</td>
<td>Dennis Buchanan</td>
<td>4138 Steve Reynolds Blvd. Norcross, GA 30093</td>
<td>president at southeastfed.org</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The quilt and the necklace with hand pouch will be a live auction, but you still can be in it prior to the auction on Saturday night, August 5th, by contacting either your regional representative or me with your highest bid amount. Both items are handmade by AFMS Historian, Jennifer Haley (also NFMS 1st VP). The minimum bid for either item is $100.00. I know I want to win one of them!

If you are interested, you can also donate an item. The specifications are:
- minimum value of $75.00
- maximum weight of 5 pounds (to keep postage at a minimum, if necessary to ship)

Please consider donating an item or two — hobby-related!

And, check the AFMS website for updates! amfed.org

Some of the Items that have been Donated so far:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Donated by</th>
<th>Value:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>#1: Bear Canyon Agate, Bear Canyon, MT</td>
<td>Doug True, Billings Gem &amp; Mineral Club, 2018-2019 AFMS President</td>
<td>$95.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>#2: Amethyst (pics of front &amp; back)</td>
<td>Pleasant Oaks Gem &amp; Mineral Club of Dallas (POGMC)</td>
<td>$75.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>#3: Cherry Blossom Tree</td>
<td>Jeri Heer, SFMS Federation Secretary</td>
<td>$175.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>#4: Moss Agate Pendant on handmade argentium silver foxtail chain</td>
<td>Doris Keane, Keane Creations, MWF</td>
<td>$100.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>#5: Hematite, La Paz Co., AZ</td>
<td>Larry Huffman, Southern Gems, Minerals &amp; Fossils, EFMLS</td>
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Endowment Fund
continued from page 8

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<td>Richard &amp; Linda Jaeger, RMFMS</td>
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<td>#7: Euclalyte, Kola Peninsula, Russia</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>#8: Wire-wrapped Fordite with magic ball gold-plated sterling silver chain</td>
<td>Harry Polly, Polly Rocks! EFMLS</td>
<td>$200.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#9: Silver Sand Dollar</td>
<td>Jim Brace-Thompson, AFMS Public Relations, CFMS</td>
<td>$90.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Live Auction Item A:</strong> 19” Aquamarine &amp; Morganite necklace (15mm x 6mm beads), sterling silver adjustable clasp, Rhodochrosite fabric padded pouch purse</td>
<td>Jennifer Haley, AFMS Historian, CFMS</td>
<td>Minimum Bid is $100.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Live Auction Item B:</strong> Rockhound Lap Quilt, 37” x 53”, 100% cotton, wash &amp; dry</td>
<td>Jennifer Haley, AFMS Historian, CFMS</td>
<td>Minimum Bid is $100.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#1: Bear Canyon Agate
#2: Amethyst, front & back
#3: Cherry Blossom Tree
#4: Moss Agate Pendant
#5: Hematite
#6: Pietersite
#7: Euclalyte
#8: Wire-wrapped Fordite
#9: Silver Sand Dollar

Live Auction Item A: Aquamarine & Morganite Necklace
Live Auction Item B: Rockhound Lap Quilt
Upcoming AFMS and Regional Federation Conventions

Hi, I am Walt Beneze, and I am privileged to be the AFMS show consultant again for the year 2023.

As the show consultant, I can help by providing you with the necessary meetings and events list during your show. More importantly, I am a clearing ground for all upcoming Federation Convention dates. Since the AFMS officers come from all the Federations and are expected to be at the AFMS meeting, avoiding any conflicting dates with the AFMS convention is very important.

Please keep me informed as soon as you know the date and location of your next convention so it can be published in the AFMS newsletter. Thank you.

Editor’s Note: See CORRECTIONS in italics below to CFMS 2023 & 2024, RMFMS 2023, SFMS 2023, and added dates for CFMS and SCFMS.

<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>Southeast Federation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2024 AFMS/CFMS Ventura, CA May 24-26</td>
<td>Hickory, NC TBD</td>
<td>Hermiston, OR May 10 - 12</td>
<td>Oklahoma City, OK Oct. 25 - 27</td>
<td></td>
<td>Grand Junction, CO May 9 - 11</td>
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<td>2025</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

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 AFMS 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:

Linda Jaeger
3515 E. 88th St.,
Tulsa, OK 74137
<AFMSeditor at gmail.com>

Deadline: 5th of the month preceding publication
Material in this Newsletter may duplicated for non-commercial purposes provided credit is given this publication and the author. For commercial use, the individual author(s) must be contacted for approval.
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 and 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.

[Editor’s Note: This poem counts down the Mohs Scale from 10 to 1. People with strong memories will recall that ruby is a variety of corundum, number 9 on the scale; amethyst is a variety of quartz, number 7; labradorite is a variety of feldspar, number 6; lapis lazuli has the same hardness, 5, as apatite, the defining mineral; and amber has the same hardness, 2, as gypsum, the defining mineral. As the editor of the Strata Data, Michele Yamanaka, noted, “Very creative!”] - Valerie J. Meyers, MWF Editor

The MOHS the Merrier

by Marilyn Russell, from Strata Data, February 2023 via MWF Newsletter.

I think that I shall never see
A poem lovely as a tree.
But I’m a fan of geology,
So Kilmer’s missed the mark for me.
Who can resist the gorgeous gems:
Diamonds and rubies in diadems,
Topaz and amethyst in the stores,
Birthstones with prices my husband adores.
On Superior’s shore the labradorite’s flashing;
Lapis Lazuli’s blue tone is smashing.
Get out the black light! It’s fluorite’s time
To bring out hidden colors sublime.
Quartz’s wannabe cousin calcite
Long lost past of Amber is in sight,
Talc is every baby butt’s delight.
Thus, the Mohs Scale is mine to recite!
AFMS Committees: 2022-2023

Here is the list of Committee Chairs for 2022-2023. You can contact these people if you need information, have questions, or want 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
<nfmssec at gmail.com>

AFMS Newsletter
Linda Jaeger
<AFMSeditor at gmail.com>

Boundaries
Doug True
2622 Broadwater;
Billings, MT 59102
<dtruefoils 12 at yahoo.com>

Bulletin Editors Hall of Fame
Frank Mullaney
<rockyfiv at gmail.com>

Bulletin Editors Advisory
Linda Jaeger & Cheryl Neary
<LJGRALG at aol.com>

Bylaws Revisory
Steve Weinberger
<csscrystals2 at gmail.com>

Central Office Administrator
Cheryl Neary
42 Jefferson Ave; Patchogue, NY 11772
516-449-5341
<centraloffice.afms at gmail.com>

Commemorative Stamps
Ellery Borow (see Safety)

Conservation and Legislation
Susie Koppert
<susiekoppert at gmail.com>

Convention Advisory
Walt Beneze
<wmabenlk at gmail.com>

Endowment Fund
Cheryl Neary
See Central Office

Financial Investment
Wayne Cox
<wayneec3 at earthlink.net>

Historian
Jennifer Haley
<ladybuglane at napablogger.com>

Inter-Regional Field Trip
Doug True
<dtruefoils 12 at yahoo.com>

Judges Training Seminar
Josh Hulstrom
<josh_hulstrom at hotmail.com>

Junior Programs
Lora Hall
<silverlilpminis at msn.com>

Long Range Planning
Matt Charsky
<matt2430 at comcast.net>

Name Badge & Trophy
Frank Mullaney
(See Bulletin Editors Hall of Fame)

Nominating
Matt Charsky
<matt2430 at comcast.net>

Parliamentarian
Evan Day
<>

Past President’s Advisory
Matt Charsky (see Long Range Planning)

Photography
John Martin

New Program Competition
DeLane Cox
<delanec3 at earthlink.net>

Publications
David Wayment
<aastainedglass at bellsouth.net>

Public Relations
Jim Brace-Thompson
<jbraceth at roadrunner.com>

Safety
Ellery Borow
<rocknellery at fairpoint.net>

Show Consultant
Walt Beneze
<wmabenlk at gmail.com>

Uniform Rules
Josh Hulstrom
<josh_hulstrom at hotmail.com>

URC Eligibility Files
Leslie Wayment
<aastainedglass at bellsouth.net>

Ways and Means
Judy Beck
<Lkbeckfam at gmail.com>

Website/Webmaster
Marty Hart & Lori Carter
<webmaster at amfed.org>

Web Site Contest
Lori Carter
<webmaster at southeastfed.org>

AFMS Scholarship Foundation
Sandie Fender, President
<sandie.fender at gmail.com>
Cheryl Neary, Vice President
Mary Bateman, Secretary
Barbara Ringhiser, Treasurer
Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies and American Federation of Mineralogical Societies

Annual Show: Hosted by: Billings Gem and Mineral Club

“Montana Treasures”

August 3-6, 2023

Billings Hotel and Convention Center, 1223 Mullowney, Billings, MT

ADVANCE REGISTRATION Deadline: June 1, 2023 — July 1, 2023

(Please Print)

Name(s): __________________________________________

Address: __________________________________________

(Street) (City) (State) ( Zip 4+5)

E-mail: ____________________________________________

Phone: ____________________________________________

Name of Club/Society __________________________________________

Please Check all that Apply:

Federation: RMFMS SCFMS CFMS MWF EFMLS NFMS SFMS

Officer: Chairman Delegate Alternate Editor Judge Clerk Other AFMS? Regional?

Exhibitor (Exhibitors must complete this form and the Exhibitor Form) Please Check the meetings you will be attending: AFMS Meeting NFMS Meeting

SHOW ADMISSION (Please check) DAILY RATE x # DAYS 4 DAY PASS TOTAL COST

Passes:

$ 5.00

$15.00

$ ________

Note: All food events require reservations (All food events on site)

SATURDAY, AUGUST 5th

Past President/Committee Chairs Lunch Buffet 12:00 PM ($24 per person x number of people) $ ________

(Roast beef w/ mushroom gravy, herb baked chicken, garlic roasted red potatoes, corn O’Brien, Tossed Salad fresh fruit bowl)

Social Hour 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Awards Banquet 7:00PM - 9:30PM ($40 per person x number of people) $ ________

(Carved Baron of Beef w/ au jus, roast turkey, BBQ baby back pork ribs, baked potato w/sour cream & butter, glazed carrots, tossed salad w/ fresh vegetables or fresh fruit bowl and a dinner roll. Assorted dessert buffet.)

SUNDAY AUGUST 6th

Editors/Webmasters Breakfast Buffet 9:00 AM ($25 per person x number of people) $ ________

(Biscuits & gravy, cinnamon swirl French toast, scrambled eggs w/ cheese, crispy bacon, sausage links, breakfast potatoes, assorted pastries, and fresh fruit. Coffee, hot tea and orange juice.)

TOTAL AMOUNT DUE: $ ________

Make check payable to: Billings Gem and Mineral Club.

Mail application and remittance before June 1, 2023 to: Billings Gem & Mineral Club

PO Box 80134

Billings, MT 59108

(Payments are non-refundable after June 1)

**For questions, please call Deb & Tim Zimbelman at 406-670-7261 or 406-670-6524

Please note: Advance Registration deadline is July 1, 2023.

Please note: Advance Registration deadline is July 1, 2023.
AFMS/NFMS Non-Competitive Exhibit Entry Form

Deadline: June 1, 2023

American Federation of Mineralogical Societies
Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies
Hosted by: Billings Gem & Mineral Club
“Montana Treasures”
August 3-6, 2023
Billings Hotel & Convention Center, Billings, MT.

Rules:
All competitive exhibits must comply with the AFMS/NFMS rules updated in January 2022.
For a complete rule book or updates go to: www.amfed.org.

Exhibit Set Up: Wednesday, August 2, 2023, 10am – 8pm.
- Exhibits WILL NOT be allowed to be removed before Sunday, August 6, 2023, at 4pm.
- Cases will be assigned space on display tables approximately forty inches high.
- ***LED lighting is MANDATORY****
- Display cases will NOT be allowed to be opened during the show without a Show Committee person present.
- Exhibitors will receive two free 4-day passes.

Entry forms: One form per case
Please complete all information on the entry form and mail or e-mail to Exhibit Registrar for acceptance.
For an On-line Entry Form, please email 2gemhunters@protonmail.com

Mail to: Billings Gem & Mineral Club
NON-Competitive Exhibit Registrar
PO Box 80134, Billings, MT. 59108
**Include both pages with the entry application

Email: 2gemhunters@protonmail.com
Tim Zimbelman (406) 670-6524
Deb Zimbelman (406) 670-7261
**Include both pages with the entry application

Liability:
It is mutually agreed that the Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies, American Federation of Mineralogical Societies, and the Billings Gem & Mineral Club shall not be liable to any Exhibitor in whole or in part. This includes the property of the exhibitor or injury to their person resulting from any cause.

Submitting this signed application constitutes acceptance of these rules and regulations.

Security:
Security will be provided during set up and throughout the four-day show.

Signature ____________________________
Print Name: __________________________

AFMS/NFMS Non-Competitive Exhibit Entry Form

NAME: _______________________________________________
ADDRESS: ___________________________________________
PHONE: ___________________ EMAIL: ___________________

EXHIBITOR GROUP: Non-Competitive
Junior Exhibit: (Y/N) ________

EXHIBIT DESCRIPTION: (Fossils, Minerals, etc.) ________________________________

Are you bringing your own case? _______ (Y/N) Size: Width _______ Height_______ Depth_______

Do you need to borrow a case? __________ (Y/N) **Cases will be available on a limited basis.
Basic size: 4 ft. x 2 ft. x 2 ft. Liners or risers may or may not be available.

PRINT NAME: _______________________________________

Exhibitors Signature ___________________________________

Date ____________________________
American Federation of Mineralogical Societies

Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies
Hosted by: Billings Gem & Mineral Club
“Montana Treasures”
August 3-6, 2023
Billings Hotel & Convention Center, Billings, MT.

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- Cases will be assigned space on display tables approximately forty inches high.
- ***LED lighting is MANDATORY***
- Display cases will NOT be allowed to be opened during the show without a Show Committee or NFMS Rules Committee person present.
- Exhibitors will receive two free 4-day passes.

Entry forms: One form per case
Please complete all information on the entry form and signed certification form and mail or e-mail to Exhibit Registrar for acceptance. For an On-line Entry Form, please email 2gemhunters@protonmail.com.

Mail to: Charise Ash
NFMS Competitive Exhibits Registrar
2331 N. Mist Dr., Vernonia, OR 97064
**Include both pages with the entry application

Email: NFMSRegistrar@gmail.com
Charise Ash (503) 789-4915

Liability:
It is mutually agreed that the Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies, American Federation of Mineralogical Societies, and the Billings Gem & Mineral Club shall not be liable to any Exhibitor in whole or in part. This includes the property of the exhibitor or injury to their person resulting from any cause. Submitting this signed application constitutes acceptance of these rules and regulations.

Security: Security will be provided during set up and throughout the four-day show.

Signature________________________________________________________
Print Name_____________________________________________________

This is the first page of the Competitive Exhibit Entry Form. The second page (very important) is on the back. Both pages are required!
AFMS/NFMS Competitive Exhibit Entry Form

NAME: ________________________________________________________________

ADDRESS: __________________________________________________________________

PHONE: ___________________ EMAIL: ________________________________

SOCIETY (Junior Society): ____________________________________________

This display is to be entered in _____ (yes or no) NFMS, _____ (yes or no) AFMS.

EXHIBITOR GROUP: (check one)

MASTER _____ ADVANCED _____ NOVICE _____ JUNIOR____

EXHIBIT DIVISION: ___________________ EXHIBIT CLASS: ___________________

If JUNIOR, give birth date: _____________________

Are you bringing your own case? _____ (yes or no) Size: Width_____ Height_____ Depth_____

Do you need to borrow a case? ________ (Y/N) **Cases will be available on a limited basis.

Basic size: 4 ft. x 2 ft. x 2 ft. Liners or risers may or may not be available.

Certification for Competitive Exhibitors

I hereby certify that all material in competition by me is my own property, or if Society, all material
belongs to members of the society. All work except minor findings or where otherwise allowed by the
rules were completed by me. I have read the current rules and agree to abide by them.

Exhibitors Signature ___________________________________________________________

PRINT NAME: ___________________________________________________________________

Exhibitor's Society: __________________________________________________________________

I certify, as an officer of the above-named Society, that the exhibitor is a member in good standing of that
society, and to the best of my knowledge, is eligible to exhibit in the stated classification according to the
rules.

Signature: ______________________________________________________________________

If sent via email, we need the officer’s email: ________________________________

Title____________________________ Date: ____________________________

This is the 2nd page of the Competitive Exhibit Entry Form. The
first page (very important) is on the back. Both pages are required!