



NORTHWEST NEWSLETTER



VOLUME 48 NO. 5

Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies

February 2008

Tri-Federation Rockhound Rendezvous and Field Trip May 21 – 26, 2008 Texas Springs, Nevada

By Richard Pankey, California Federation

The Northwest, Rocky Mountain and California Federations of Mineralogical Societies are hosting a Tri-Federation Rockhound Rendezvous and Field Trip to Texas Springs, NV, over Memorial Day Weekend 2008 and all AFMS members are invited. The Texas Springs area is well known for spectacular pink agate limb casts, as well as other agate and petrified wood. Texas Springs Canyon is located approximately 25 miles southeast of the town of Jackpot in the northeast corner of Nevada. In addition to the collecting trips we will have potluck dinners, happy hours, speakers, evening campfires, tailgate displays, map exchange and a great rockhound get-together.

Directions: The Texas Springs area is located about half way between Wells, NV and Twin Falls, ID, south of Jackpot, NV, and east of Hwy 93. From the south, take I-80 to Wells and go north on Hwy 93. From the north take Hwy 93 south out of Twin Falls. About 2.5 miles south of Jackpot turn east on to the California National Historic Trail and follow the orange plates to camp.

Camp: Our camp will be located about 6 miles from Hwy 93 on Trout Creek. Roads to campgrounds and collecting sites are typical desert roads. OK for motorhomes and trailers to campgrounds. This is a dry camping area: no services, no hook-ups. We will set up camp starting Tuesday afternoon, May 20th. Please try not to arrive before Wednesday, May 21st; this is due to our BLM camp permit.

Schedule:

Wednesday, May 21	Arrive at camp.
Thursday, May 22	Daily Field Trips Welcome potluck dinner
Friday, May 23	Daily Field Trips Tailgate displays
Saturday, May 24	Daily Field Trips Tailgate displays All Rendezvous Potluck
Sunday, May 25	Daily Field Trips
Monday, May 26	Break camp to head for home or other adventures

Plan on several potluck dinners and happy hours. Bring firewood for evening campfires. We plan on having a good time and collecting some good material.

Please notify your respective Federation leader early, but no later than May 16, if you plan to attend. E-mail (or call) if you have questions or need more information. This will be a great opportunity for

rockhounds from all over the west 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, contact: Dick Parks,
Northwest Federation,
packrats2@msn.com
360-892-3716

General Information

Daily Field Trips:

- All trips will leave at 8:30 AM (Mountain Time), **SHARP**, from the campgrounds. Assemble at 8:15 for details and instructions for each day's trip. High clearance vehicles recommended to collecting areas.
- All participants are requested to read and sign a Waiver of Liability.
- We will collect at 4 to 6 different sites: pink limb casts, small limb casts and bogwood, snakeskin agate, jasper/agate limb casts, geodes, and more.
- We will divide up into small groups, each group going to a different site each day. Everyone will be able to collect at least once at each site. There will be a signup sheet each day for each site.
- Much of the collecting will be float. Two sites involve some digging, but not too deep. Bring the following tools: rock bags, rock hammer, shovel, small picks, hoe, rock scoop, spray bottle, safety equipment and what ever else you usually bring.
- High clearance vehicles highly recommended to collecting sites. We will help arrange rides for those who need them.

This trip is open to all members of the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies and their guests. This trip is hosted by Northwest, Rocky Mountain and California Federations of Mineralogical Societies. 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.

There are two full hook-up campgrounds in Jackpot: Saguaro RV Park - 800-821-1103 and Spanish Gardens - 800-422-8233. There are several casino/motels also in Jackpot: Cactus Pete's - 800-821-1103, Western Star Resort - 800-655-0643, Four Jacks - 800-251-6313, Barton's "93" - 800-258-2937

Continued on page 4

What's Inside

NFMS Information.....	2
Officer & Committee Reports.....	3
Fossil of the Month.....	3
Field Trip Directors Wanted.....	4
Library Donation Made.....	4
Oregon Rock Hounding & Geology.....	4
Editor's Column.....	4
Pre-Registration & Credential Forms...	5
Problems & Solutions.....	6
Shirley Leeson's Thoughts.....	6
Exhibit Application Forms.....	7
Leaching Gold Ore.....	8
JR. Achievement Award Program.....	9
Junior Page.....	10
New IRS Requirement.....	11
After Christmas Poem.....	11
Flat Laps vs. Wheels.....	11
Show Calendar.....	12

NEWSLETTER ARTICLES DUE

February 10, 2007

NFMS WEBSITE

www.amfed.org/nfms

TIME SENSITIVE MATERIAL - PLEASE DO NOT DELAY

Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies
Bryan Schroeder, Editor
153 Spring Street
Richland WA 99354-1651

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage Paid
Burley ID 83318
Permit No. 9

NORTHWEST FEDERATION EXEC. OFFICERS 2007-2008

PRESIDENT: **Patty Amos**, Mt. Hood Rock Club
15523 NE 215th Ave, Brush Prairie, WA 98606, (360) 892-3716,
packrats2@att.net
1st VICE PRESIDENT: **Paul Heesacker**, Tualatin Valley Gem Club,
4145 NW Heesacker Rd., Forest Grove, OR, (503) 357-8804,
heesacker@coho.net
2nd VICE PRESIDENT: **Evelyn Cataldo**, Lakeside Gem & Mineral Club,
99509 Brandon Dr., Kennewick, WA 99336, (509) 628-0170,
ecataldo@cbadams.com
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY: **Joan Day**, Golden Spike Gem & Mineral Society,
509 Highland Blvd., Brigham City, UT. 84302 (435) 723-3830,
joanday@sisna.com
TREASURER: **Lyle Vogelpohl**, West Seattle Rock Club, 8810 37th Ave. SW,
Seattle, WA 98126-3617, (206) 932-3292,
nfmstreasurer@comcast.net

NFMS STANDING COMMITTEES

BUDGET: **Paul Heesacker**, 1st Vice President (see above)
BULLETIN AIDS: **Darlene Denton**, Mt. Baker Rock & Gem Club,
5830 Haddon Lane, Anacortes, WA 98221, (360) 588-0217
CIRCULATION: **Beverly Schroeder**, Lakeside Gem & Mineral Club,
153 Spring St., Richland, WA 99354-1651, (509) 371-1572,
nfmnews@verizon.net
CREDENTIALS: **OPEN**
CUSTODIAN: **Evelyn Cataldo**, 2nd Vice President (see above)
DIRECTORY: **Audrey Vogelpohl**, West Seattle Rock Club, 8810 37th
Ave. SW, Seattle, WA 98126-3617
nfmndirectory@comcast.net
EDUCATION: **Margaret Stallknecht**, Stallknecht-Morgan Museum Gem & Mineral Society,
P.O. Box 171, Letha, ID 83636, (208) 365-1653,
mestallknecht@yahoo.com
ENDOWMENT FUND: **CHAIRMAN:** **Edna Nelson**, Mt Hood Rock Club,
66830 Maple Crest Rd., Deer Island, OR 97054, (503) 397-5284,
snelson@ados.net ; **TREASURER:** **Jon Spunaugle** (Temporary),
4841 Doctor Eldridge Dr., Washougal, WA 98671,
jonspe@comcast.net
FINANCIAL ADVISOR: **Open**
HISTORIAN: **Shirley Leeson**, Intermountain Faceters Guild, P.O. Box 23,
Tendoy, ID., 83468-0023, (619) 460-6128 or (208) 756-2394,
shirleyleeson@msn.com
JUNIORS CHAIR: **Gary Buhr**, Everett Rock & Gem Club, 1242 State Ave.,
PMB 157,#1, Marysville, WA 98270-3672, (360) 659-7776 (work),
(425) 356-7696 (cell), **gemnut@hotmail.com**; **AK-Steve Jensen**,
ID-Barbara Nash, MT-open, OR-Janine Owens UT-Shaun Peck,
WA-Marc Cimolino
LONG RANGE PLANNING: **Beth Heesacker**, Tualatin Valley Gem Club,
4145 NW Heesacker Rd., Forest Grove, OR, (503) 357-8804,
heesacker@coho.net
NEWSLETTER EDITOR: **Bryan Schroeder**, Lakeside Gem & Mineral Club,
153 Spring St., Richland, WA 99354, (509) 371-1572,
nfmnews@verizon.net
NOMINATING CHAIRMAN: **Chuck Sonner**, So. WA. Mineralogical Society,
165 Tingle Rd., Winlock, WA. 98596, (360) 785-3909,
twofossils@toledotel.com; **Members:** TBD
OPERATIONS REVIEW: **OPEN**
PAST PRESIDENTS COUNCIL: **Russell Snook**, Tualatin Valley Gem Club,
73 S. 26th Ave, Cornelius, OR 97113, (503) 648-3989,
dottys28@msn.com
PUBLIC LANDS ADVISORY: **OPEN**
PUBLIC RELATION: **OPEN**; **Members:** **AK-Tom and Linda Cooper**,
ID-Clarence Wright
SLIDE/ VIDEO LIBRARIAN: **Quita Perry**, Southern Washington Mineral Society,
P.O. Box 819, LaCenter, WA 98629, 360-263-3075,
NFMSProgramLibrary@TDS.net
NFMSProgramLibrary@TDS.net
RESOLUTIONS: **Betty Luke**, Butte Mineral and Gem Club,
P.O.Box 254, Harrison, MT 59735, (406) 685-3694,
ramblers@3rivers.net
RULES & AWARDS CHAIR: **Dee Holland**, Intermountain Faceters Guild,
P.O.Box 23, Tenody, ID, 83468, (208) 756-2394,
beauholland@salmoninternet.com
JUDGING DIRECTOR: **Joe Slouber**, Butte Gem & Mineral Club,
P.O. Box 427, Butte MT., 59703-0427, (406) 494-3034,
RockHound@in-tch.com
EXHIBITS REGISTRAR: **Rocky McCall**, Marysville Rock & Gem club,
8330 272nd St. NW, Stanwood, WA 98292-7430 (360) 629-2515,
rm711@tgi.net
SAFETY: **Bo Jeffers**, West Seattle Rock Club, 1009 SW 125th,
Seattle, WA, (206) 2248-1475, **malumInsea@comcast.net**
SCHOLARSHIP: **Rose Alene McArthur**, Hells Canyon Gem Club,
33427 Highway 212, Orofino, ID. 83544, (208) 476-3840,
obmcarthur@cpcinternet.com
SHOW CHAIRPERSON 2008: **Margaret Stallknecht** (see Education Chair above)
SHOW COORDINATION: **Judi Allison**, Hatrockhounds Gem & Mineral Society,
40 Van Buren St., Umatilla, OR. 97882-9736 (541) 922-6284,
rjall@eoni.com

STAMPS: **Hermine Kolski**, Billings Gem & Mineral Club, 208 Riverview #2E,
Great Falls, MT 59404, (406) 453-7027
SUPPLIES: **Tim Hoff**, Butte Mineral & Gem Club, 1016 Waukesha Ave,
Butte, MT., 59701, 406-782-4326,
ttinker9742@bigskyhds.com
WAYS & MEANS: **Janice Van Cura**, Willamette Agate & Mineral Society,
Inc.3448 NW Covey Run, Corvallis, OR 97330 (503)753-2401
jvancura@peak.org
WEBMASTER: **Jack Eads**, Kitsap Mineral & Gem Soc., 5169 E. Hillcrest Drive,
Port Orchard, WA. 98366-8101, (360) 871-2445,
jacke@silverlink.net
NFMS WEB SITE: **www.amfed.org/nfms**

NFMS SPECIAL COMMITTEES 2008

FIELD TRIP CHAIRMEN: **Keene Clay**, Mt Hood Rock Club, 19473 SE Foster,
Boring OR 97009, (503) 558-8500, **clayken@comcast.net**
NORTHWEST ROCKHOUND RETREAT (Hancock): **Lamar Tilgner (Chair)**,
Mt. Hood Rock Club, 200 SE Olvera Ave., Gresham, OR 97080, (503) 666-2905,
LSTILGNER@aol.com
CLAIMS COMMITTEE: **Rocky McCall**, Marysville Rock & Gem club,
8330 272nd St. NW, Stanwood, WA 98292-7430 (360) 629-2515,
rm711@tgi.net
OPERATIONS PROCEDURE UPDATE: **Open**
ROCKHOUND OF THE YEAR: **Viola Jones**, Skagit Rock & Gem Club,
P. O. Box 2841, Mt. Vernon, WA. 98273, (360) 424-8340,
rocks1x1vi.george@verizon.net

AFMS COMMITTEES (NFMS Representatives):

ENDOWMENT FUND **Chuck Sonner & Patty Amos**, **EDITORS HALL OF FAME-Open**,
BULLETIN EDITORS-Bryan Schroeder, **NFMS /CLUB PUBLICATIONS-**
Darlene Denton, **ROCKHOUND OF THE YEAR-Viola Jones**, **CONSERVATION LEGISLATION-**
Darlene Posthuma, **EDUCATION-ALL AMERICAN-Margaret Stallknecht**,
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS-Bill and Janet Smith, **JUNIOR PROGRAMS-Gary Buhr**,
PROGRAM COMPETITION-Mark Stephens, **PUBLIC RELATIONS-OPEN**,
SAFETY-Bo Jeffers, **SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION-Open**, **SUPPLIES AND PUBLICATIONS-Open**,
JUDGE TRAINING COMMITTEE-Dee Holland, **WAYS AND MEANS-Janice Van Cura**,
WEBSITE-Jack Eads.

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. 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
February 10th
For the March 2008 Issue
509 371 1572
BRYAN SCHROEDER
NFMS NEWSLETTER EDITOR
nfmnews@verizon.net

COMMENTS, THOUGHTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS



Shirley Leeson
AFMS
President

Hi All,

One of our projects this year is to get the Postal

Office to produce a set of U.S. Birthstone stamps. Using the Smithsonian's list of birthstones (there are so many out there) we have found that all the birthstones are found in the U.S.

Here's the hard part, only one major museum in the U.S. has a set of those gemstones, not even GIA has a set from the U.S. locations.

Collectively, do your members have any of the mentioned stones in the article on page 6 of this newsletter in your personal collection and would you be willing to loan them for a year to the Rice Museum in the Portland, OR area. The Curator there, Rudy, has a space that he would be willing to put the stones on display, but needs them for a year because of insurance issues.

If you have them, would you be willing to loan them for a year to the Rice Museum?

Please contact me at:
beauholland@salmoninternet.com
or
shirleyleeson@msn.com

I await your reply.



Paul Heesacker
1st Vice Pres.

Happy
Valentines Day

Here we are already into the second month of 2008. I hope to get to know more of you personally this year as we work together for the good of our hobby. May this year bring us all the rocks we "think" we need and want. It does seem that the more we get, the more we want. The trouble is finding places to put/store it all. I know that for me it is looking like I need a multi-story shed. Of course, this will make it a hard hat required area on the first floor.

It seems that government agencies no longer think of our hobby as a recreational use of public lands, so it is up to us to be watchful for any actions that could hinder our hobby. If we hear of any adverse actions, we need to keep our local clubs informed and write letters in support of keeping these areas open. This could mean writing petitions and/or responding in other legal ways to these actions.

We may want to consider why the government has acted in this way. Have we not been good stewards of the land? Have we left our holes unfilled, our garbage behind, took more "samples" than our fair share? Is the government out to get us, or is it just having budget problems like all the rest of us and is trying to cut corners.

Try to think of ways to actively help our hobby grow and prosper by keeping our lands open to all recreational uses.



Evelyn Cataldo
2nd Vice President

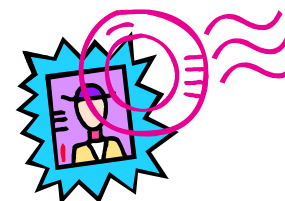
Greetings from Kennewick,

Our Club, Lakeside Gem and Mineral, recently completed our annual competition for Collector of the Year, Cabochon of the Year, Gemstone of the Year, Project of the Year and Silverpicker of the Year. Every fall our members get the opportunity to show off what they have been doing over the past year. We make it a fun Club evening with our show and tell. Every member can enter one item in each of the divisions. Club member votes are tallied for a winner in each division. The fun is hearing each person's "rock story" that goes along with their entry. The narrative can make the lowliest entry a vote-getting winner. This is one of our most popular programs. If you would like more details on how we conduct this program, send an e-mail to:

ecataldo@cbadams.com.

I would like to feature you and your Club in this column with a description of a program idea that you have found to be successful. Either e-mail me or send me a note to 99509 E. Brandon Dr., Kennewick, WA 99338. I look forward to receiving your ideas.

P.S. The photo is of two of our Lakeside winners, Marvin Barger and Randy Cannon, and me. No, I didn't win anything, just got my photo taken.



Hermina Kolski
NFMS Stamp Chair

Stamp Report

With the huge pickup of stamps at the Big Federation Show in Butte in August, I am having a ball getting the stamps ready to ship. Lots and lots of the stamps have enough paper. I already have three boxes ready to go.

Thank you everyone for your efforts in helping me with that project, including several people who gave me a check because they didn't have any stamps to give.

Northwest Fossil of the Month

By Betty McLin Hare, Idaho Gem Club member

We have finished our series about the state fossils for the Northwestern Federation states. This year we will examine some of the fascinating places in the Northwest where fossils are displayed or dug so that we can become more familiar with prehistoric life.

Western Wyoming Community College Natural History Museum

Located near the center of all of the Northwest Federation states is the Western Wyoming Community College Natural History Museum in Green River, Wyoming. Many fine examples of fossil prehistoric creatures, full sized dinosaurs and other exhibits of interest are on display in this fine museum.

After the state of Wyoming being mined for years for their wonderful dinosaurs, in 1989 a fund was established to bring good examples of paleontology to the forefront in Wyoming so that the citizenry could enjoy them. Dinosaurs are found in Jurassic and Cretaceous formations all over Wyoming. Some of the fossils were even found on the campus of Western Wyoming Community College!

There are many major displays in the museum. They are Triceratops, Plesiosaur, Stegosaur, Art Gallery, Xiphactinus fish (15' long), Sabalites Palm frond (8' high), Camptosaur, Natural History Museum, Foucault Pendulum, Trionchid turtle (5' long), Alligator (5' long), Tyrannosaurus rex, Mass Death Layer of Fossil Fish (1095 fish), Dimetrodon trackway, Fossil man display, Historic Mine Railroad car for hauling coal, Reproductions of Prehistoric Cave paintings in France and Spain, and Nine Ton Replica of an Easter Island Statue used in NOVA programs.

The Art Gallery mentioned above serves as an adjunct to classroom instruction as well as providing a display area for six-seven shows per year. The Natural History Museum display area houses other visiting displays and artifacts as they become available.

The Museum is open every day from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. There are tours available also. This Museum is funded entirely by donation (as are many other geology museums.) There is a fine gift shop by the pendulum where you can buy a souvenir or make a donation. Enjoy this fine Museum.... You'll come out knowing more than you knew when you went in!

COMMENTS, THOUGHTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS



Keene Clay

NFMS Field Trip Chair

Seeking Club Field Trip Directors:

Does your club have a person in charge of organizing and co-coordinating field trips? If you do, I would like to get the name and contact information to help in organizing, promoting and encouraging field trips. I have been appointed field trip director for the NFMS and would like to find out whom to contact in each club. Please contact Keene Clay at odroc@comcast.net or by phone at 503-558-8500 if you are a club field trip co-coordinator.

This list could be helpful in setting up field trips, knowing who to contact to co-ordinate shared trips with more than one club or who to contact to get a list of available field trips that will accept members from other clubs.

If your club does not have a person in charge of field trips, I would suggest that it could be a valuable addition to your club. Field trips are an important part of the health and growth of any rock hound club or organization.

Oregon Coast Agate Club Makes Toledo Book Drop



The Oregon Coast Agate Club donated a box of rock and dinosaur books to the Toledo Public Library, with Club member Jerry Bonnell (of Waldport) and Librarian Peter Rayment, reviewing a couple of the titles.

The donation of geology-topic books for youth and teens is part of a Lincoln County-wide distribution of the Club's community education outreach efforts, funded with proceeds from the Club's annual gem and mineral show held this past June at the Lincoln County Fairgrounds. Titles for Toledo included: THE BEST BOOK OF FOSSILS, ROCKS & MINERALS; KIDS' NATURAL HISTORY BOOK; IVY & BEAN BREAK THE FOSSIL RECORD; LIFE-SIZE DINOSAURS; ROCKS & MINERALS; GOOGLE EARTH GUIDE-OCEAN; IF DINOSAURS WERE ALIVE TODAY; and, ROCKS & FOSSILS.

Oregon Coast Agate Club is affiliated with the Northwest and American Federations of Mineralogical Societies, supporting rock-collecting activities for its members throughout Lincoln County. In addition to its annual show, the Club supports a juniors' program for high school students through the Alsea Youth Lapidary Club at Waldport Community School.

For additional information on the Club, its activities and membership, call 541-961-1762

Tri-Federation Field Trip, General Information

(continued from page 1)

We will have a welcome potluck dinner on Thursday evening and the all Rendezvous Potluck dinner on Saturday evening. Bring food to share and your own plates, eating utensils, tables and chairs. Bring your favorite beverages and snacks to share for Happy Hour each afternoon. We will try to have a campfire each evening so bring firewood.

Bring rocks and specimens, etc. from your favorite home collecting area to show and swap at the tailgate display. This will be a good time to swap maps, GPS readings and information about your favorite home collecting areas.

This area of Nevada has a lot to offer rockhounds and outdoor enthusiasts. Plan to spend some extra days after (or before) the Rendezvous. Some suggestions and information will be available at camp.

Gas in Jackpot can be expensive. Be sure to fill up your tanks and extra gas cans in Wells or Twin Falls.

Be prepared for a variety of weather. In 2003 we had sunny skies with the temperatures in the 70's and cool nights in the 40's.

Oregon's Rock Hounding & Geology Bounty

With the 68th Annual NFMS Show & Convention being June 20-22, 2008 and as we are planning our vacations, we should consider the many areas of interest that Oregon has. Oregon has a wealth of interesting geological spots to visit and marvel at. If you are in Oregon already, why not visit some of the beautiful places there?

<http://geocities.com/SouthBeach/Coast/8385/index.html> has advice on how to collect the beautiful agates found at the Oregon seashore. At the end of the article, many other interesting areas and pastimes are suggested such as lighthouses and marine science centers.

Fossil, Oregon is a great place to find... guess what? Fossils! Look at the dig by the high school.

A side trip to the John Day Fossil Beds National Monument is a fascinating way to familiarize you with Oregon's past and the critters that lived there. The Thomas Condon Paleontology Center is the place where the best fossils from the John Day Beds are on display. The Painted Hills Unit of the Fossil Beds is spectacularly beautiful. Be sure to visit the Kam Wah Chung Museum in nearby John Day for a look into the pioneer life.

Crater Lake is a caldera lake in the state of Oregon. It is the main feature of Crater Lake National Park and famous for its deep blue color and water clarity. The lake partly fills a nearly 4,000 feet deep caldera that was formed around 5,677 (± 150) BC by the collapse of the volcano Mount Mazama. When Mount Mazama erupted, it blew out enough ash that the ash layer can be traced to Oklahoma!

The Oregon Trail provides many historical glimpses back into the past. There are interpretive sites, river crossings, and all manner of places that reminisce or reenact parts of the Oregon Trail all through the West. There are many sights in Idaho as well that commemorate the Oregon Trail. City of the Rocks outside Burley, Idaho has a "newspaper" rock where pioneers on the California Trail and the Salt Lake alternate part of the Oregon Trail left notes and

signed the rocks with axel grease as they passed by. There are MANY web sites and guides to the Oregon Trail on the net. You can visit several of them on your way to Ontario!

The Hells Canyon Recreational Area lies between Oregon and Idaho. Hells Canyon National Recreation Area is heaven on earth to the hikers, campers, rafters and boaters who have experienced its many faces. Hells Canyon, North America's deepest river gorge, encompasses a vast and remote region with dramatic changes in elevation, terrain, climate and vegetation. Carved by the great Snake River, Hells Canyon plunges more than a mile below Oregon's west rim, and 8,000 feet below snowcapped He Devil Peak of Idaho's Seven Devils Mountains. There are no roads across Hells Canyon's 10-mile wide expanse, and only three roads that lead to the Snake River between Hells Canyon Dam and the Oregon-Washington boundary. This is just a few of the many diverse areas to visit in Oregon. The mid-year annual meeting is going to provide a terrific reason for a road trip. Make your trip to Ontario and back as much fun as the mid-year show. Memories are made of things like these. Enjoy!

Editor's Column

By Bryan Schroeder



One of the last things I do when assembling the newsletter before sending it for printing is to determine what or how to fill the blank space on a page if there is any.

Sometimes it will be with tidbits, or I may write an article. Last month it was a cartoon on the last page. This month you get me, your editor, but I know you would rather see something about shop tips, etc. Below is an overview of the newsletter which I will also use as a mid-year report to the Federation.

I often look at the newsletter to determine how I might improve readership. One thing I use as a guide is our local newspaper – it still retains the small town atmosphere of our community. So far I have come to these conclusions:

Photographs are very important – just take a look at your local paper. I am sure it is full of pictures. The bottom line is if you submit an article for publication in the Northwest Newsletter, you will probably improve the readership if a photograph is included. Albeit, some articles do not support a photograph. In two cases I have gone to the Internet to get a photograph, and last month's lead article on the 2008 show is an example. I had one of our club members tell me that he gets most of his "news" by reading the captions under the photographs. Remember, a picture is worth a 1000 words.

Shop tips or "how to" articles are more interesting to the general membership than many Federation related articles. But most articles I receive are related to the Federation (as they should be). Adding shop tips can be very time consuming. At this point, both Bev and I are limited in both time and energy to add additional work to our already busy schedule. Taking on the circulation job (mailing list) probably did not help. There is a solution though. **Somebody out there can step up to the plate and be a co-editor which would help a lot.** Please contact the editor if you are interested. There are several areas that another person could help with. In summary, if the Northwest Newsletter is going to grow, I need more help.

Problems and Solutions

By Beth Heesacker
Long Range Planning

To have a hobby takes people, and the substance that the hobby focuses on. We, the members of the local rock clubs and of the NFMS, are the people and rocks/fossils are that substance. Both need to be in abundance in order to have a bright future. What does that future of our hobby look like to us?

Do we see a vibrant and expanding club with new finds in new locations or do we see clubs closing down or dying off and a world where these lands are closed to us and our hobby is limited to estate sales and high grading from the collections of our fellow rock club members?

The first area of concern is the people and is a problem probably very common to most clubs. Our local club has only a few new members. As I look out over the heads of those who attend our club meetings, I see either white hair or the shine of bald pates. The majority of the members are those who have been faithful to our wonderfully invigorating hobby for many, many years. We appreciate them, their expertise and guidance, but they are the foundation, not the future. The second problem is that environmentalists and others are closing down more and more areas we once used to enjoy. This leads to two different projects that I think each club needs to address. One is to acquire more new younger members. The second is to lobby to keep the lands open.

If we want to see our clubs grow, we need to spread the word to younger people that we have a family oriented and exciting hobby. We need to go to where young people are and use the tools to attract them that appeal to young people, like the internet. Set up a vibrant and colorful website. Keep it up to date and change it often in order to attract people back to it often.

Find places where younger people frequent such as the library and place posters or copies of your newsletter there. Of course, then you would need to design an exciting poster and a colorful brochure in order to draw people to look at them. Keep in contact with your schools and find ways to make presentations and advertise the fact that you are from a club that has exciting meetings and field trips. Look for other ways to let people know that you exist according to your local area and reach beyond your city with your advertising. People will travel quite a ways to have fun.

Schedule those exciting field trips, advertise them outside your club (check on your club's insurance liability) and make sure that your outings are child friendly. Set up one day workshops/demos for the public and advertise them well, so that others can see the beauty of what we have found and get a taste of what we do. All club functions must have activities for the children in order to be a place that their parents can attend. Make sure you have club brochures and applications available, of course.

Have a rock show that is changing, expanding and draws new people in with widespread and exciting advertising. Focus again on what the younger generation might be interested in. New rocks from new dealers, more educational opportunities, exciting activities for the kids, demonstrations that allow hands-on and take-home projects, etc. might be added. Be sure again to have your club member applications prominently available.

Now, a few words on the second problem, the closing of rockhounding areas. Be active in groups that are government watchdogs such as the Oregon Council of Rocks and Minerals and your NFMS. Keep your ears open to hear about any actions by the government that threaten our access to the forests, deserts and mountains. Forward this information to the larger groups so they can act on it. Join with others that want to keep access open even though you might not agree with everything they are about. The ATV groups, for example, are larger and have more clout, and we can find ways to share the land with them as long as we keep vehicle access open.

I know there are other opportunities out there that will help us make sure our hobby has a bright and vibrant future. Email me just a few lines about the problems that you see and any ideas for solutions and I will write about them for this column (heesacker@coho.net). I value your input. Thank you.

My Thoughts for This Month

By Shirley Leeson, President 2008
American Federation of Mineralogical Societies
shirleyleeson@msn.com and beauholland@salmoninternet.com
P.O. Box 23, Tendoy, ID 83468-0023

Since our last AFMS Newsletter, some important things have happened.

FIRST: The plan to get **Mineral Heritage/Birthstone Stamps** has had a huge boost! For those of you who have seen the February, 2008 Rock & Gem Magazine, on page 104 & 105, our own Bob Jones has a wonderful article on our AFMS project.

YOUR CHALLENGE: First, if everyone in a club throughout the U.S. would contact one school class and ask the help of the teacher and students, we could make this work in a nano-second! You can go to the AFMS Website: amfed.org. Select WHAT'S NEW – on that page there are three items on Commemorative Stamps: Birthstone Stamp Promotion Flyer; Tent Sign for Flyers; and **FINALLY AND MOST IMPORTANT: TEACHER, STUDENT INFORMATION PAGE.** This two page item can help you work with a teacher or teachers to give students the incentive to write to the Postal Service.

Second, contact your Senators and Congressman and ask for their help, especially those clubs in states who have the beautiful gemstones we want to see on the stamps. Here are the birthstones and those states where many of them are found:

January	Garnet	Maine, New York, Pennsylvania, North Carolina Idaho, Georgia, Montana and California
February	Amethyst	Arizona, Colorado, Georgia and Nevada
March	Aquamarine	Colorado, California and Idaho
April	Diamond	Arkansas and Colorado
May	Emerald	North Carolina
June	Pearl	Tennessee, Arkansas, Alabama and Louisiana
July	Ruby	North Carolina and Montana
August	Peridot	Arizona
September	Sapphire	Montana
October	Opal	Nevada and Idaho
November	Topaz	California, New Hampshire, Colorado, Texas and Utah
December	Turquoise	Arizona, Colorado, Nevada, New Mexico and Utah.

WRITE LETTERS YOURSELF. Please take the time at your club meeting to ask the members to write individual letters (a petition letter is only counted as one letter, no matter how many signatures). Also, mention your birthstone in your letter and that we are way behind other countries who have already issued gemstone stamps, but that ours would be spectacular! Send to the **Citizen's Stamp Advisory Committee, Stamps Development, U.S. Postal Service, 1735 N. Lynn St. Room 5013, Arlington, VA 22209-6432. Remember, NOTHING HAPPENS, UNLESS YOU THE MEMBERS TAKE THE TIME TO MAKE THIS HAPPEN.**

Now, while trying to find pictures of the various gemstones mentioned above, I have come to realize that while I assumed that museums throughout the U.S. would have these gemstones, when I actually contacted many of them personally, there were few U.S. gemstones to be found. The one shining light was from Mark Wilson, Carnegie Museum of Natural History, Pittsburgh, PA. In a recently opened Hall of Gems, the Wertz Gallery, they have a display of the very gemstones we're searching for, but they don't have any pictures of the individual stones and aren't willing to disturb the exhibit at this time. Even the GIA, who I thought would have everything in the world (slight exaggeration, but you know what I mean...), had gemstones all right, but many in their collection didn't give a location. The curator, Mark Mauther, told me that most cutters aren't interested in the location but the stone itself. So here's a thought---- how many faceters out in our rockhound community have stones that would fit into the above category? Would you be willing to loan your stone/stones for a display? Contact me immediately, and we'll see if there is a national museum out there that would house the stones temporarily and take the pictures we need. I realize there are logistics on this, but it's worth the effort.



2008 Northwest Federation Gem and Mineral Show
June 20-22, 2008
Malheur County Fairgrounds, Ontario, Oregon 97914
Hosted by Stallknecht-Morgan Museum Gem & Mineral Society, Inc.

NON-COMPETITIVE EXHIBIT APPLICATION
(Please return by: May 1, 2008)

Exhibitor Name _____ Phone _____

Spouse _____ (Free entry to exhibitor & spouse)

Address _____
 Street City/State Zip

Member of _____
 Club or Society City/State

Brief Description of exhibit _____

CASES: I have a Federation Style case: 4' ___ 6' ___ 8" ___ I need a loaner case 4' ___

LIGHTING: Limitations are as follows: 150 watts per 4' case, 225 watts per 6' case. Per regulation cases may be examined and could be removed from the show if over their limits.

LIABILITY: It is mutually agreed that the Stallknecht-Morgan Museum Gem and Mineral Society, Inc. shall not be liable to any Exhibitor in whole or in part. This includes the property of Exhibitor or injury to their person resulting from any cause. Submitting this signed application for entry constitutes acceptance of these rules and regulations.

SIGNATURE OF EXHIBITOR: _____
(One application per exhibit please)

SEND YOUR APPLICATION TO:
Exhibits Chairman: Roger Beck
%Margaret Stallknecht, P.O. Box 171, Letha, ID 83636-0171
PHONE: (208) 365-1653
EMAIL: mestallknecht@yahoo.com



2008 Northwest Federation Gem and Mineral Show
June 20-22, 2008
Malheur County Fairgrounds, Ontario, Oregon 97914
Hosted by Stallknecht-Morgan Museum Gem and Mineral Society, Inc.

COMPETITIVE EXHIBIT APPLICATION

Exhibitor Name _____ Phone _____

Spouse _____ (Free entry to exhibitor & spouse)

Address _____
 Street City/State Zip

Member of _____
 Club or Society City/State

Competing in: Division _____ Class _____ Junior Only: DOB _____

Cases will be judged according to the current edition of AFMS Uniform Rules, the latest "Gem List", the latest Mineral Classification List, and the latest AFMS Fossil List.

Exhibitor Group: ___ Master ___ Advanced ___ Novice ___ Junior ___ Society ___ Jr. Society

Your Case Dimensions: _____ width _____ height _____ depth
 Do you need to borrow a case? ___ yes ___ no

Loaner cases are available (4' x 2' x 2') and each is fitted with liners covering ends, back, and bottoms (with **NO RISERS**). **SETUP:** Case (s) may be set up between 12 PM and 8 PM on Thursday.

LIGHTING: Limitations are as follows: 150 watts per 4' case, 225 watts per 6' case. Per regulations, cases may be examined and could be removed from the show if over the limits.

LIABILITY: It is mutually agreed that the Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies and the Stallknecht-Morgan Museum Gem and Mineral Society, Inc. shall not be liable to any Exhibitor in whole or in part. This includes the property of Exhibitor or injury to their person resulting from any cause. Submitting this signed application for entry constitutes acceptance of these rules and regulations.

Competitive exhibitors must sign the following statement, except those entering Division E (Educational). I certify that all materials exhibited in the competition are my personal property, and that all workmanship exhibited in competition was done by me as required by the "AFMS Uniform Rules".

SIGNATURE OF EXHIBITOR: _____
(One application per exhibit please)

Officer Certification: I am an officer of _____ and I certify this exhibitor is a member in good standing of this NFMS Society. Signature _____ Title _____
 Date _____

Send Forms to: Rocky McCall, 8330 272 St N.W., Stanwood, WA 98292
(phone 360-629-2515), rm711@tgi.net

Submittal Deadline June 1, 2008 (No Exceptions)

Leaching Gold Ore

By Bob Bristow

Having a gold mine doesn't do you any good unless you can get the gold out of the ore. Since my mine had approximately equal values of gold and copper, the best way to get the gold was to concentrate the gold and copper minerals, send the concentrate to a smelter, and let them extract the gold along with the copper. However, a minimum smelter shipment is 100 tons and meant I would have to be in full production before the first shipment. If I could extract the gold by itself, I could work into production gradually and get a little money while I was at it. This article is about my research into using a leach method to extract gold.

Before attempting any method, I read all of the books and articles I could find on gold extraction. The US Bureau of Mines (USBM) had recently published articles on what they claimed was the only practical modern method. (They claimed to have invented it, but in reality, they only improved on an old, old method.) They named it the Merrill-Crowe Process and it involved dissolving the gold with cyanide, running the gold/cyanide water through activated carbon, removing the gold from the carbon with alcohol, and finally, electroplating the gold onto stainless-steel foil. Most miners simply call it "heap leaching." The big open-pit mine at Carlin, Nevada, was using this method. At Carlin, long, slim, shallow trenches were dug to hold 10,000 tons of coarse ore. These trenches were lined with heavy rubber blankets. Ore was heaped up on the blankets and a pipe spray system mounted over the whole thing. The trenches sloped slightly down so that the water collecting on the rubber would drain down into two ponds. The first was the "pregnant" pond where the water and gold solution could be held until it was pumped to the second pond. In between the ponds, the water was pumped through a series of carbon-filled tubes. The water in the second barren pond was tested for cyanide content and pH value, and cyanide pellets or lime were added as required. The water was then pumped back up and sprayed onto the ore heap.

Since the USBM said that all other methods were obsolete, I decided I had better try this one. I had read that at one time drug stores carried cyanide for poisoning rats and gophers. I tried one drug store and the druggist threw up his hands in horror and said, "You can't get cyanide! Only government-licensed agents can use cyanide." I next called a chemical wholesaler in Seattle. I asked, "Do you carry sodium cyanide?" His answer was, "Sure, how many 200-pound drums do you need?" So much for needing a government license. I went down the next day to get a sample of his cyanide. "I'm sorry, a truck load of sodium cyanide came in yesterday, but it all went out this morning. However, I'm getting another truck load Monday, and I'll hold out some for you." He explained that there were a lot of metal plating companies and they all used large amounts of either sodium or potassium cyanide.

Before starting testing using my sample of sodium cyanide, I did research on safety and how to safely dispose of the used cyanide. Luci was working at Boeing in a group that handled hazardous materials. One of the engineers looked up the government reports on handling and disposing of cyanide. I was surprised to find that sodium cyanide fumes have to be quite strong before they are hazardous. The report rated jet fuel fumes more hazardous than cyanide. (This was sodium cyanide. When mixed with acid, it becomes hydrogen cyanide and one whiff is deadly!) The disposal report showed how to bubble chlorine gas through cyanide wastewater. The chlorine converted the cyanide to salt and other non-harmful compounds.

One more step before beginning the tests. I had to be able to measure the strength of the cyanide before and after a leach test and I had to know how much gold was dissolved. I measured the cyanide strength with a small graduated beaker and a pipette. The cyanide water was carefully measured into the beaker. A chemical mixture was then added a drop at a time from the pipette until the cyanide turned purple. I weighed a small amount of cyanide and placed it in a known amount of

water. I then ran the test to verify that it read the correct amount. The reading matched the amount I had calculated so I felt confident that I could measure cyanide strength. Measuring the amount of gold turned out to be simple. I put a beaker with a known amount of water with the cyanide and gold on a hotplate and let the water evaporate until only about a tablespoon remained. I then poured that into a cup containing assay flux and let it dry. The flux was then fire-assayed resulting in a small bead of gold and silver.

I was now ready to plan the testing. Figure 1 shows the test set-up I built. A drain was brazed to the bottom of a 55-gallon steel drum and a fine mesh placed over the drain hole. The drum was filled to within a few inches of the top with gravel-sized ore. The drain led to a storage tank for the "pregnant" water. When the water in this tank reached a certain level, a pump turned on and fed the water through an activated carbon column and into a tank where the water was recharged with lime and sodium cyanide. When the water in that tank (the "barren" tank) reached a certain level, a pump caused water to be sprayed on the ore. The fluid level switches were made with two old toilet bowl floats and a pair of micro switches. Submersible aquarium pumps were used for transferring the cyanide water. It was winter when I was ready to start testing. Knowing that most chemical reactions depend heavily on temperature, I called the USBM and asked what temperature they had used. The contact said, "Gee, we only ran tests during the summer in the desert so we didn't worry about temperature." I tried the author of another book and he didn't see why temperature should have **any** effect. During the testing, I wrapped the ore tank with resistance heaters and insulation to test the effects of temperature variations. The apparatus was turned on and run for several months.

Everything went as planned except for two things. I had a hard time extracting the gold from the carbon. I could burn the carbon and then use an assay process to extract the gold and silver from the ash, but that was too slow and the expensive carbon was lost. I never could get the alcohol to work. I tried replacing the carbon columns with a zinc shavings tray. That worked well but the water rapidly became saturated with zinc ions. In the end, all of these problems didn't matter because there was a much bigger problem. The cyanide dissolved the copper as well as the gold. There was copper everywhere. The carbon columns soon jammed, the two holding tanks had a blue copper crust around the edges and on the bottoms, and I found a half-inch of blue copper mineral in the bottom of the ore drum. This was a handy way to extract copper, but since the cyanide cost about as much as the copper was worth, the approach was not viable. However, I did learn a lot and I was successful in plating small amounts of both gold and silver directly out of the cyanide solution.



Figure 1. Extracting Gold with Cyanide Leach



As most of you probably know, the Federation is in the process of the 2008 membership drive. It is from the membership list that the Circulation Chair gets the addresses for mailing the newsletter. The original plan was to update the mailing list as each club submits their membership for 2008 which the Circulation Chair plans on doing. However, the person who prints the labels for the Newsletter (Carolyn Weinberger from the Eastern Federation) will be out of the office most of the month of February. Therefore, she is printing two sets of labels (for the February and March newsletter) and any membership changes will not be reflected until the April newsletter is printed and mailed.

We (Editor and Circulation Chair) also know that not all clubs work on calendar year basis for membership like the Federation. If time permits, we plan to redo the mail list about April of this year. We thought about this last year but we couldn't find the time or energy. This approach should solve two problems. Many times a club will let an existing member "slide" a month or two before dropping him or her from their membership list. Also, a change in membership chair within a given club will often occur early in the year, and that person has no idea who is on the mail list and who is not. It is easy to identify a new member during the year and send that person's name and address to the circulation chair. But, deleting a person's name is less likely to occur. For instance, we probably added about 400 new members during the year, but deleted less than 50

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 **SATURDAY** **SUNDAY**
APRIL 18 **APRIL 19** **APRIL 20**
 9 am - 6 pm 10 am - 6 pm 10 am - 4:30 pm

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 **New KID'S CORNER**
 Thundereggs • Agates • and more Games • Educational • Fun
 Sat. - 1:00 pm (Kids Under 12)

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

NFMS JUNIOR ROCKHOUNDS

"News Flash February 2008"



**Juniors
Chairman**

Gary Buhr

Plan ahead! Only four months until the BIG "Up and Coming in Ontario" event happens. What is that? Your 68th Annual NFMS Show and Convention, June 20, 21 and 22, 2008 in Ontario, Oregon. Part of this BIG Show is presentation of the 2008 NFMS Junior Achievement Award(s) to Juniors who have achieved excellence in their Rockhound hobby, educational activities, community service and work-related activities. Will you enter this year? Will you be at the BIG Show to receive your Awards if you win? All the directions, criteria and application are published in your February Issue and March Issue of NFMS Northwest Newsletter. Same data can also be printed out from your NFMS Website Juniors Page 24/7/365; just Google: NFMS, and click on "Junior News".

The NFMS Junior Achievement Award Trust Fund was set up and dedicated in 1989; the program was updated and clarified in 2006 by Gary Buhr, current Juniors Committee Chairman. Here is the historical list of FIRST PLACE Winners from both age categories:

- 1990 - JULIET CRAWFORD, (unknown Rock Club)
- 1991 - KATRINA SACK, Kitsap Mineral and Gem Society (WA)
- 1992 - AMY DALTON, Tualatin Valley Gem Club (OR)
- 1993 - KIPPER YORK, (unknown Rock Club)
- 1994 - ALISA MILLER, Lakeside Gem & Mineral Club (WA)
- 1995 - LEEIN COWLES, Oregon Agate & Mineral Society (OR)
- 1996 - KARA LEIDER, Kitsap Mineral & Gem Society (WA)
- 1998 - CRYSTAL LOFTUS, Lewistown Rockers (MT)
- 1999 - KATIE HOKANSON, Lewistown Rockers (MT)
- 2001 - SEAN MULLANY, Everett Rock & Gem Club (WA)
- 2002 - JULIA PEEL, (Age 12 & Under), Everett Rock & Gem Club (WA)
- 2003 - SEAN "Ace" ROWE, Everett Rock & Gem Club (WA)
- 2004 - SHANE SHACKMANN, Kitsap Mineral & Gem Society (WA)
- 2004 - ALEXANDREA WALL, (Age 12 & Under), West Seattle Rock Club (WA)
- 2005 - LAURA CIMOLINO, Everett Rock & Gem Club (WA)
- 2005 - LUCAS CIMOLINO, (Age 12 & Under), Everett Rock & Gem Club (WA)
- 2006 - NATHAN SHACKMANN, Kitsap Mineral & Gem Society (WA)
- 2006 - JEREMY ROOD, (Age 12 & Under), Marcus Whitman Gem & Mineral Society (WA)
- 2007 - COLIN ROWE, Everett Rock & Gem Club (WA)
- 2007 - ALYSSA CARNES, (Age 12 & Under), Rock & Arrowhead Club (OR)

Believe it or not, some of the older records are missing, like data for JULIET CRAWFORD and KIPPER YORK. An extensive search for their files produced nothing, so those files are considered "MIA". If you have any information about JULIET or KIPPER please contact Gary Buhr, current steward of the NFMS Juniors Committee files.

Some Junior Rockhounds have applied, but never won this Award, some placed second or third, so are encouraged to apply again to possibly win 1st Place if you are still under age 18. Applications must be postmarked by the first day of April. It is known that two 2nd Place Winners came back to win the coveted FIRST PLACE position because of their persistence and will to win the Top Award. Are you going to be famous this year? Check out the 2008 NFMS Junior Achievement Award criteria and "go for the gold". You can win cash, an inscribed pen set, a framed Certificate of Achievement and your name on the Legendary Plaque if you win 1st Place!



Pictured above are the famous ROWE brothers. Left in photo is 2003 FIRST PLACE NFMS Junior Achievement Award Winner SEAN "Ace" ROWE; right in photo is 2007 FIRST PLACE NFMS Junior Achievement Award Winner COLIN ROWE. Both teens are super achievers, licensed to drive and participate in Everett Rock & Gem Club events.



The future? Left in picture is SKYLAR VAN DER PUTTEN, age 9, the true owner of the "septarian nodule" calcite concretion; right in picture is JILLIAN BERG, age 14, already an awesome artist; both are superkids that have been members of Everett Rock & Gem Club for three years. Besides their scholastic and civic participation, they have become avid Rockhounds with lots of fun Field Trip experience; actually they both specialize in FUN and may one day become NFMS Junior Achievement Award Winners?

It is most interesting and certainly not a coincidence that Juniors involvement and success in Rockhounding seems directly proportional to their parents' or guardians, support and involvement in the Rock Club and Rockhounding too. For example, Joan Marie Rowe, mother of SEAN and COLIN, is Everett Rock Club Vice President, Webmaster, active Board Member, Librarian and a key to the success of their Annual Rock Show. Another example is Shawn van der Putten, mother of SKYLAR and JILLIAN, volunteers as Everett Rock Club "Pebbles" Editor, active Board Director and a key organizer for their Annual Rock Show. Our hobby attracts superkids who can become superstars and Junior Achievement Award Winners, but always remember to "thank with respect" their parents, grandparents, guardians or sponsors who are super too!




Kathi Milem is a perfect example of a grandmom who supports and makes sure 2007 FIRST PLACE NFMS Junior Achievement Award Winner (Age 12 & Under

Category) ALYSSA CARNES gets to the important events and meetings throughout the years. An amazing fact is that ALYSSA has attended the last three consecutive NFMS Annual Meetings as a non-voting Junior Delegate from the Rock and Arrowhead Club of Klamath Falls, Oregon. Her photo was taken while working in her lapidary shop where ALYSSA is learning and making her dreams come true. ALYSSA has accomplished tremendous success by age ten and is indeed a positive reflection into the future of NFMS.

**WASHINGTON PROSPECTORS
MINING ASSOCIATION PRESENTS
OUR 13TH ANNUAL
GOLD, GEM AND
MINERAL SHOW**

MEET NOTED
METAL
DETECTORIST
LES BERG



MEET NOTED
AUTHOR &
DREDGER
DAVE
McCRACKEN

FREE GOLD TO THE FIRST
100 PAID ADMISSIONS!

**FEBRUARY 23 & 24, 2008
EVERGREEN STATE FAIRGROUNDS
MONROE, WASHINGTON
Sat., 9 am - 4 pm, Sun., 9 am - 4 pm
\$5.00 admission, 13 and under free
when accompanied by an adult**

For show updates, see our web site at www.washingtonprospectors.org

BRING YOUR LEAD AND MERCURY TO THE SHOW - TURN IT IN AT THE SHOW'S DEPT. OF ECOLOGY BOOTH!

NEW IRS FILING REQUIREMENT

by Mike Kokinos, CFMS Tax Advisor

Via the A.F.M.S. Newsletter, February 2008

The Internal Revenue Service has expanded the requirement to file the new electronic annual return to tax exempt organizations whose gross receipts are normally less than \$5,000.00

We have societies in the Federations that have always had gross receipts less than \$5,000.00. These societies are not required to apply for tax exemption, but are treated as exempt. *The new provision requires these societies to also file the new electronic annual return even if they never filed for exemption.* It does not require them to file for exemption.

It is highly likely these societies will not receive the return information from the Service. The burden falls to the society to obtain the information and file the return. The IRS Exempt Organizations informed me they will be using the EIN (employer Identification number) data base for the filings. The EIN will be needed when filing.

What type of exemption do these societies have? It is my opinion that it depends on their Articles of Incorporation (corporations) or Constitution (unincorporated) (organizing documents). The wording of these documents and the actual activities of an organization will determine which section of the Internal Revenue Code (IRC) applies. It is my belief that all active mineral and gem societies are eligible for exemption under IRC Section 501(c)(3) (charitable and educational). What language needs to be included in these organizing documents to be treated as a 501(c)(3)?

- Purposes that are educational in nature with the public invited to all educational activities.
- Statement that the organization will not aid or oppose candidates for public office.
- Statement that in the event of dissolution remaining assets will go to another 501(c)(3) organization.
- Statement that the organization will not to a substantial degree attempt to influence legislation.
- The actual wording for the statements can be found in IRS Publication 557. If the current organizing document does not include these statements, I recommend filing a Certificate of Amendment (corporations) or revising the Constitution (unincorporated).

If your society wants to verify its status with the IRS, the Exempt Organizations can be reached at 877-829-5500. I will answer any questions if you email me at <zeileitz@directcon.net>

'Twas The Day After Christmas

'Twas the day after Christmas, and all through the house,
Every creature was hurting-- even the mouse.

The toys were all broken, their batteries dead;
Santa passed out, with some ice on his head.

Wrapping and ribbons just covered the floor, while
Upstairs the family continued to snore.

And I in my T-shirt, new Reeboks and jeans,
Went into the kitchen and started to clean.

When out on the lawn there arose such a clatter,
I sprang from the sink to see what was the matter.

Away to the window I flew like a flash,
Tore open the curtains, and threw up the sash.

When what to my wondering eyes should appear,
But a little white truck, with an oversized mirror.

The driver was smiling, so lively and grand;
The patch on his jacket said "U.S. POSTMAN."

With a handful of bills, he grinned like a fox
Then quickly he stuffed them into our mailbox.

Bill after bill, after bill, they still came.
Whistling and shouting he called them by name:

"Now Dillard's, now Broadway's, now Penny's and Sears
Here's Levitz's and Target's and Mervyn's -- all here!"

To the tip of your limit, every store, every mall,
Now chargeaway-chargeaway-chargeaway all!"

He whooped and he whistled as he finished his work.
He filled up the box, and then turned with a jerk.

He sprang to his truck and he drove down the road,
Driving much faster with just half a load.

Then I heard him exclaim with great holiday cheer,
"ENJOY WHAT YOU GOT ... YOU'LL BE PAYING ALL
YEAR!"

Submitted by Hermina Kolski, Stamp Chair
From Consumer Direct Personal Care, probably January 2008

Rotary Flat Laps Vs. Wheels For Grinding, Shaping And Polishing Rocks by Val Carver

There are two basic types of machines available to shape, grind, sand and polish rocks. These are the vertical type wheel machines or the horizontal disc type of machines. Regardless of the type of grinding/sanding agent being used, that being silicon carbide or diamonds, the following discussion applies equally to both of them.

The basic configuration of a wheeled arbor is that of one or several grinding or sanding wheels lined up in a row sharing a common arbor shaft and driven by a common power source. Perhaps the most common name brand of this type of machine is the Diamond Pacific Genie. This type machine usually has several hard grind wheels for shaping the rock, one or several soft wheels for sanding and usually a vertical disc for polishing.

A rotary flat lap consists of a single interchangeable rotating horizontal disk. The disks have different-sized abrasives bonded to the top. The abrasives come in a variation of sizes from coarse to very ultra fine with the polishing being done on a disc charged with some type of polish compound. Currently the most popular of this type of machine is the Hi-Tech "All You Need" or the Ameritool "H.D. Universal." The shaping/sanding/polishing of the rock is done on the flat spinning disc surface with the disk being changed from abrasive grade to abrasive grade. With both types of machines you must constantly drip water onto the work surface.

The wheel machines are great for production work. Usually if you have a multi-wheel machine you can move from grinding to sanding to polishing without stopping to change wheels. Please note, it is very hard to polish a true flat on a wheeled machine. Also wheeled machines are strictly limited to the size of rock you can work on. Also note the wheels are usually very close together and more likely than not when operating a wheeled machine you will trim your finger. Last, wheeled machines are bigger, heavier and cost more than an equivalent rotary flat lap.

A small 6" diameter 2-wheeled silicon carbide machine can be had for about \$450.00, a 6"- 6 wheel all-diamond Genie about \$2,045.00 with an 8" .6" wheeled all-diamond machine going in the range of \$2,100.00 up to \$3,200.00.

The rotary flat lap is great for single piece work. They allow for true flat work as well as shape or contour work (I cut cabs on mine all the time). Rotary flat laps allow for much larger work to be done on them than an equal diameter wheeled arbor type machine. Current rotary flat laps are much more compact and lighter than an equal sized wheel machine. A complete 8" diameter all-diamond rotary flat lap can be had for \$579.00.

I guess my recommendation is that if you want to do production work, get a wheeled machine. If you want to do ones or twos, or do true flat work, get a rotary flat lap. Via The Tumbler, 06/07

Editor's Note: This article was originally published about one year ago, so the prices mentioned above have probably changed.

2008 Gem & Mineral Show Calendar

Date	Club/Show Name	Show Location	Contact Person
Feb 9-10 Sat 10-5 Sun 10-5	Whidbey Island Gem Club 38th Annual Sweetheart of Gems Show	Oak Harbor Senior Center 51 SE Jerome Street Oak Harbor, WA	Keith Ludemann 360-675-1837 rock9@whidbey.net
Feb 16-17 Sat 10-5 Sun 10-5	West Seattle Rock Club 42 nd Annual show "Presidents" Gemboree	Alki Masonic Temple 4736 40 th Ave SW Seattle, WA	Audrey Vogelpohl (206) 932-3292 avogelpohl@comcast.net
Feb 23-24 Sat 10-6 Sun 10-5	Everett Rock and Gem Club 55th Annual Gem, Jewelry and Mineral Show	WA National Guard Armory 2730 Oakes Avenue Everett WA	Fritz Mack (425) 232-0809 PO Box 1615 Everett, WA 98206
Feb 23-24 Sat 10-7 Sun 10-5	Idaho Gem Club Annual Show	Expo Idaho 5610 Glenwood Boise ID	Charlie Smith 208- 628-4002 PO Box 1264 Riggins, ID 83549
Mar 1-2 Sat: 10-6 Sun: 10-5	East Kingco Annual Rock & Gem Show Issaquah, WA	Pickering Barn. 1730 10 th Ave NW (across from Costco)	EKCRC, P.O.B 2203, Redmond, WA 98073 Kev1123@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'Conner 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 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@cableone.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, dusstyrocks@aol.com G. Carlson 541-882-8276
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 rcmurphy@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 – 53 rd Annual River of Gems- Crystals Theme	Polk Co. Fairgrounds Rickreall, OR	Cathy Fisher rockhuntinggem@comcast.net 503-851-1837 Also see: www.wamsi.org

2008 Gem & Mineral Show Calendar

Date	Club/Show Name	Show Location	Contact Person
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@nwinfor.net
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 opalcrusher@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 jdahl2@casco.net. PO Box 2439 Waldport, OR 97394
Jun 20-22 Fri 10-6 Sat 10-6 Sun: 10-5	68th 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 18 Sat 9-4	Eureka Rock & Gem Club	Senior Citizen's Center 1000 N. 3 rd East Mountain Home, Idaho	Margaret Stallknecht 208-365-1653

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