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A.F.M.S. Newsletter

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF MINERALOGICAL SOCIETIES
SERVING SEVEN REGIONAL FEDERATIONS

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Volume 61, Number 9
October, 2008

YOUR AFMS SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION AT WORK

by Dee Holland, Scholarship Foundation President

This month I'd like to introduce you to the Honorees and their students and schools.

The NFMS Honoree has chosen his school: Idaho State University, Pocatello, Idaho and the students have been chosen but unfortunately that information hasn't been passed on to me as of this writing.

The Eastern Federation's Honoree has not let us know the school he has chosen or the students. With school now in session, those students will receive their scholarship when we receive this information.

Let me explain that the process of choosing an Honoree begins on November 1st of the previous year and a committee of regional officers choose the Honoree, no later than January 15th. A letter to the honoree is sent out by me, the AFMS Scholarship President immediately after January 15th. The letter gives each honoree specific information on what we need and how our goal should be accomplished. The Honoree chooses the school (it must have a graduate geoscience/earth science program) and then the honoree can ask the department head for assistance in selecting two students. Sometimes the honoree chooses two different schools, but each school accomplishes the same goal of choosing the best student for the scholarship. All this should be accomplished as soon as possible so that the students receive their scholarship for the Fall Semester.

When the select committee of each regional federation participating in this program goes to choose an honoree, they must think about all these things in advance.

To date the AFMS Scholarship program has given about one million, three hundred thousand dollars to this worthy endeavor. Almost all the money has been raised by rockhounds and interest from the invested funds with little coming from other sources. This is a proud

accomplishment by anyone's standards. If we had even more donations coming in, we could add more money to the \$2000 that we award for two years (\$4000) to each scholarship recipient.

2008 AFMS Scholarship Honorees

California Federation:

Prof. George Wheeldon
Shingle Springs, CA.

Students:

Ben Schumer, University of Nevada, Reno
- Masters in Geology

Mathew Lesh, Cal State University, Sacramento
- Masters in Geology

Eastern Federation:

Prof. Emeritus Arthur M. Hussey
Bowdoinham, ME

Students yet to be named.

Midwest Federation:

Nellie & Joe Claxton, Mt. Vernon, IL

Students:

Steve Boles, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale - Masters in Anthropology, followed by a Ph.D. in Anthropology

Samuel G. Roy, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale - Masters in Geology, to become a professional geologist

Northwest Federation

R. Ed Romack, Ketchum, ID

Students names not yet received.

Rocky Mountain

Anna M. Domitrovic, Tucson, AZ

Students:

Madison C. Barkley, University of Arizona, Tucson - Ph.D. candidate (2011) Geology

Renata R. Jasinevicius, University of Arizona, Tucson - Ph.D. candidate (2011) Geology.

South Central Federation

Bridget M. Joubert (Marler), Ph.D.

Alexandria, LA

Students:

Daniel Lupton, University of Texas, San Antonio

Jacob Frederick Grosskopf, Univ. of Texas, San Antonio - Masters in Geomicrobiology.



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SEE PAGE 3**

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For me this has been a hectic two months. As I write this last message as AFMS President, we haven't yet had our convention meeting. There are so many things on the agenda for the meeting. Next month as your Immediate Past President, I will lead you through all that has been accomplished during the last year. And your new President, Joy Bourne, will lead you into the future.



The Paleo bill (HR 554) gained momentum in a big way just before the House and Senate convened for their "late summer vacation". We were energized by Congressman John Culberson, R, 7th District West Houston, Texas who is a rockhound himself and said he needed each rockhound throughout the U.S. to contact their congressman and let them know their feelings on the issue. We believe this bill will go directly to the floor to be voted on by all the congressmen. That's why we need you to contact your own congressman. There is a wonderful letter that was sent to a congressman in San Diego County by a rockhound/professional geologist who tells it like it is and will be if this bill is passed. One line of his inspirational letter is this: "no one should have his access to knowledge restricted so that only a few anointed experts can pursue fossil collection and study." (See the letter on page 3. Feel free to use some of its ideas in your own letter!) Remember, this land that they are taking away from us for the collection of fossils says "This land is YOUR land." Oh really!

On a lighter note, Dee and I had the privilege of visiting and participating in the Canadian Federation's show and meeting in Edmonton, Alberta Canada from Thursday, August 14th thru Saturday evening August 16th. This was arranged by Trudy Martin, S.C.R.I.B.E. president and long-time editor of the Calgary club and personal friend. We had a wonderful visit with those involved - President Dave Barclay of British Columbia, and his wife Maureen and also the new incoming president, Peter Hager, who's club will be Co-hosting the 2009 Canadian Federation show at the Expo Center, August 29-30, 2009 in Prince Albert, Saskatchewan, Canada. At their "dinner meeting" (this is really different from the way we have our meeting - perhaps we should think about this possibility because we would have a full belly and feel better about passing controversial things - just kidding) they made it abundantly clear that they are having the same problems - access to their public lands - that we are having. British Columbia isn't as restricted as Alberta and those clubs in British Columbia hope to keep it that way. On the other hand in Alberta someone recently found they were in trouble when they tried to sell some personally collected ammolite (the fossilized opalized ammonite shell) and the provincial government stepped in and said *all such things* were the property of the government even though it was personally collected and had been in a personal collection. Take heed, this could happen here.

Part of our visit was to make the Canadian clubs aware that the AFMS Convention and Show will be hosted in Billings, Montana in 2009. Billings is just a skip and a hop across the border from many of the Canadian clubs. This event will be the closest that an AFMS convention and show has been in a number of years and we wanted to take advantage of this and invite our friends across the border to attend. We took with us a packet of the show and passed them out. All were enthusiastic and have put it on their calendar. Now for the good part, I have been in touch with Doug True, Show Chair for the, Billings Gem and Mineral Society, (host club) and also Past President of the Northwest Federation. He has assigned me the "Cracker Barrel" event at the show on Friday evening, July 29th. This will be a totally different type of meeting because we're having the Canadian Federation included in making up the agenda. We both have problems with collecting, there are also many things we have in common that we need to bring out and explore. Don't forget, the Canadian rockhounds are numerous all along the Southwest border during the winter months. While some have become involved in the clubs in that area, we could reach out to all Canadians and make their stay in the southwest a real experience. They, in turn could help those rockhounds who venture into Canada. This is a win - win situation. And by the time the AFMS convention and show rolls around July 30 - August 2, 2009 we will have this all in place.

Lastly, I want to create a "PHONETREE" I've found that when we really needed to reach people about the Paleo Bill 554, we didn't have a good means of communication. Would each of the clubs throughout the U.S. contact me with a name, e-mail and Club/Region affiliation. Those of you who are willing to contact other clubs in your area, and pass along strategic information are the people I'm looking for. I promise that I won't use it for any other purposes except for emergencies of importance to rockhounds. We'll break it down into a state by state group and then by a smaller area. I'm going to ask for help on seeing how this information can be disseminated without having it appear as SPAM and blocked. We have already started in California Federation and we are building a tree with each day that passes. This can work, but I desperately need you to help. If you care, contact me.

Your AFMS president
Shirley

THIS MAY BE OUR LAST CHANCE!

from Shirley Leeson, AFMS President

The following e-mail was sent by a professional geologist and fellow rockhound. I believe it really "tells it like it is" and should give you some ideas about what you can say when you call or write to your own Congressman. This bill isn't going away and it looks like it will be called to a vote by the full House of Representatives before they adjourn for their "election break", but almost certainly before they adjourn at the end of the year. (when this session ends and all not-passed bills "die".) If you've not yet contacted your representative, I urge you to do so now - before it's too late for us to make a difference!

This e-mail is in regard to Bill HR 554.

Bill HR 554 would make it a crime for individuals to collect fossils on public lands. I am a registered professional geologist with a half century of experience working as a geologist, which includes the collecting of fossils. I believe bill HR 554 is ill advised and unnecessary. I have been involved in voluntary teaching of geology, including fossils, to school children and adults. This is a pastime that millions of Americans practice and enjoy. I do not understand the purpose of restricting and criminalizing their free exercise of their right to use THEIR public lands.

There are trillions of fossils in the rocks within the United States. The collecting of a few thousand or even tens of thousands of fossils each year will not deplete this resource in 1,000 centuries nor does it contribute any significant environmental impact. To appoint bureaucrats and law enforcement individuals, who are untrained in paleontology, to enforce this dumb law is ludicrous and another waste of taxes. I find it incredible that with all the problems facing this country you folks in Washington are wasting your time and our money on such absurdly silly legislature.

A few paleontologists want to restrict their fellow Americans so that they alone can pursue this hobby. It is a hobby for them too, because people cannot make a living as paleontologists unless we taxpayers support them with grants of our money. No one should have his access to knowledge restricted so that only a few anointed experts can pursue fossil collection and study. Many of the finds and much research in paleontology occurs as a result of amateur and semi-professional research and collecting. What is next? Will only librarians be allowed to use the libraries or only biologists be allowed to go fishing?

If this bill is passed, a family on a weekend outing can be jailed and fined for picking up a fossil even if they do not recognize it as a fossil. How do we restrict children from picking up a fossil any more than restricting them from picking a wild flower or catching a butterfly? Children need to explore nature to be children. Our scientists including the very paleontologists promoting this law, come from a childhood curiosity that includes pastimes like fossil collecting. I became a geologist because of a childhood pastime of collecting fossils, which began at the age of 8 years. In my professional career, I have added billions of dollars in resources to our nation's benefit. Many other geologists share the same background and have made similar contributions. You have to decide if the passage of this stupid Bill HR 554 is worth the price of further diminishing our nation's available energy and mineral resources and our future supply of scientists. Or perhaps in the future we can also import our scientists from China too?

I urge you to vote against bill HR 554.

Sincerely,
Eugene V. Ciancanelli
California Professional Geologist #357

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 other related subjects, and to sponsor and provide means of coordinating the work and efforts of all persons and groups interested therein; to sponsor and encourage the formation and international development of Societies and Regional Federations and by and through such means to strive toward greater international good will and fellowship.

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Address corrections and changes

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CONTENT — LETTERS

EDITORIAL COMMENTS — SUBMISSIONS

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HAVING FUN — JUNIOR ACTIVITIES

UPDATING THE "KIDS CORNER" OF OUR WEBSITE

by Jim Brace-Thompson, Junior Activities Chair

With the terrific assistance of AFMS web master Marty Hart (thank you, Marty!), earlier this year I updated portions of the Kids Corner section of our web site. We've replaced the old FRA badge manual with the new one (along with 4-color images of all the badges), a new application form, new overviews of the badge program and how to use it, suggestions on starting a youth group, new lists of affiliated clubs, and an "Honor Roll" listing all kids who have earned their "Rockhound" badge by completing requirements for 6 or more of the activity badges.



We need to continue updating Kids Corner, and to do so, I'd like to solicit your help. For instance, some articles appear to have come from regional newsletters that are now over a decade old and some listings of resources, such as recommended books or activities, apparently are no longer available. Please set aside 30 minutes or so to look through the Kids Corner tabs on our web site (www.amfed.org), and send me your thoughts on what ought to be eliminated or replaced as outdated to help streamline what resides on the site. I also welcome new ideas about info to add to the site, including web links to other kids resources

you may know about. So, again, please take some time to surf the Kids Corner, and contact me with your thoughts (805-659-3577, jbraceth@roadrunner.com).

By the way, remember last month's "50 State Challenge"? Well, I'm pleased to report that Idaho and Alaska have risen to the challenge! I received phone call from Ed Moser of the Idaho Gem Club, asking for program details for possible use in two local clubs, and from Tom Cooper, asking how to sign up a junior from the Chugach Gem & Mineral Society to start earning AFMS Future Rockhounds of America merit badges. Welcome IGC and CGMS! That makes just 20 states I'm waiting to hear from. Come on, Delaware, Georgia, Hawaii, Illinois, Iowa, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Mississippi, Montana, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Jersey, North Carolina, North Dakota, Rhode Island, South Dakota, Utah, Vermont, West Virginia, and Wyoming! Ring my phone and join the fun!

CANCELLED STAMPS

by Ye Olde Ed

What do you do with all those postage stamps that come on your mail? Don't throw them away! Three of our Regional Federations collect stamps and use them for various causes.

- The Northwest Federation collects all stamps and uses the proceeds and sells them to benefit cancer research.
- The Midwest collects commemorative stamps and uses them for projects to enhance their endowment fund.
- The Southeast Federation collects commemorative stamps, sells them to collectors, and uses the proceeds to fund scholarships to their workshops at Wildacres and William Holland.

To find out who to send your stamps to, follow the links to the regionals via the AFMS website www.amfed.org.

UPCOMING REGIONAL FEDERATION CONVENTIONS

from Bob Livingston, Show Consultant

	California Federation	Eastern Federation	Midwest Federation	Northwest Federation	Rocky Mountain Federation	South Central Federation	Southeast Federation
2008	June 27-29 Ventura, CA	Feb. 23-24 Jackson, MS	June 20-22 Lincoln, NE	June 20-22 Ontario, OR	Nov. 7-9 Tulsa, OK	AFMS Sept. 25-28 Humble, TX	Dec. 12 - 14 Nashville, TN
2009	April 17-19 San Jose, CA	Oct. 17-18 Bristol, CT	May 16-17 Parma, OH	AFMS July 30 - Aug. 2 Billings MT			
2010	AFMS Aug. 5 - 10 Riverside, CA						

IRS REQUIREMENTS FOR FILING FORM 990N

by Mike Kokinos, CFMS Tax Advisor

From what I've heard, a few clubs had difficulty filing the new 990N tax form with the IRS this year.



Here's the latest information I've received.

Societies that did not have Federal tax exemption, attempted to file Form 990N. These were rejected even though the EIN (tax identification number) was provided.

The IRS exempt staff originally told me that the EIN master database would be used for filing the Form 990N. This was not the case. If you tried filing and were rejected, I recommended calling the IRS Exempt Organizations at toll free (877) 829-5500.

In a recent discussion with the IRS, they reiterated calling them to provide information about the attempt to file. They would not provide any helpful information about making the call. I suspect they prefer to handle these on an individual basis.

If your Society was unable to file for lack of an EIN, you must obtain it first. In some cases, you might not be sure the Society has an EIN, but if your club has a bank account, then you have an EIN! Check with your banking institution to obtain your number since this was required when you opened the bank account.

The late filing will not be a problem as it is a new program. In addition, revocation of exemption only occurs for not filing for three years.

You can obtain more information about which organizations must file the 990N and when by visiting the IRS webpage at www.irs.gov/charities/article/0,,id=170550,00.html.

AN ALL AMERICAN CLUB YEARBOOK

by John Washburn, AFMS Chair

Part IV of a series

Well, do you have those file folders you put together filled with articles copied from your newsletter, photos taken on field trips, lists of shows members have visited, and copies of correspondence with legislators about concerns regarding pending legislation dealing with access to public lands? I hope your files are adequately filled, and that they will be bulging by the time we're through!



Now, we're going to take a look at **Section 3** of the application form - "**Publications and Publicity.**" In this section, we will be focusing on:

- A) Your club's newsletter or bulletin;
- B) How you publicize your membership meetings; and
- C) How, if you have a club Show, you get out the word about that Show.

Hopefully you've discovered, that the "glue" that holds a club together is communication with members in the form of a bulletin or newsletter. Your newsletter or bulletin doesn't need to be elaborate, it just needs to touch on those things your members feel are important; i.e., when is the next meeting; where is the next field trip; what special workshop is coming up, etc. A Calendar of Events listing "rocky" things happening in the area, or an article about lapidary tips might also be important. A copy of your bulletin or newsletter belongs in your All American Yearbook.

How do you publicize your club's meetings to the community? Do you post a notice in the public library, or on a bulletin board at the community center? In a larger community, you may have to reach out to local newspapers. Does your paper have a Community Calendar section? Does your local television station have a calendar of events that they post each day? Explore your community and find out what's available for advertising your meetings. Then all you need to do is provide some dynamic programs to attract potential new members!

Does your club host a Show? If not, why not? If so, how do you get people to come? After the first few times, word-of-mouth is a powerful tool. Until the word spreads, your efforts need to be in advertising. Fliers or posters hung in public places are a great beginning. Members need to put up posters at their workplace, where they dine out, where they go for recreation, where they shop. Approaching television and radio about public service announcements is a good effort. Ask if you can distribute fliers to the schools to distribute to students, (A coupon for free admission for an adult with a child works well in this venue.) Be prepared to purchase some advertising as well. The cost will pay back in attendance at your show.

Keep samples of all your posters, fliers, and ads to place in your yearbook. All of these serve as your documentation. Kick it up a notch! Go all out with your publicity.

AFMS CHANGES TO 2009 BULLETIN EDITORS CONTEST

by Linda Jaeger, AFMS Bulletin Aids Chair



When I became AFMS Club Publications Chair at the beginning of this year it was evident that some changes to the annual competition needed to be made. I'm now ready to announce the change that will be implemented for the coming year (2008 bulletins and articles).

Procedure to decide on changes:

September 2008 - AFMS Club Publications asked for input from all editors, BEACs, and any other interested parties on what changes they would like to see made in the contest.

January 2008 - Input was compiled and recommendations were sent to the AFMS Club Publications Committee for a vote; votes were received and tabulated. Changes to contest rules established on a simple majority vote.

June 2008 - Changes for the 2009 contest sent to AFMS Club Publications Committee; changes were not made available earlier to keep from confusing anyone on the 2008 contest.

September 2008 - Changes will be made available to everyone in attendance at the AFMS/SCFMS Breakfast with the Editors and will be made available on the AFMS website.

Changes for the 2009 AFMS Bulletin Editor's Contest:

A. Category by Bulletin Size (to more evenly distribute the number of bulletins in each category)
New Editor - any size
Mini Bulletins, 6 pages or less
Small Bulletins, 7 - 11 pages
Large Bulletins, 12 pages or more

B. Add a "Features" category (to include more of our writers & artists in awards) The Features category will include: written articles covering field trips, book reports, travelogues, historical commentary and original shop hints, as well as original drawn items such as cartoons, puzzles, quizzes, and sketches/drawings.

C. This affects regional chairpersons only - AFMS contest materials will be available for BEACs in an interactive format online; hard copies will still be mailed to BEACs who do not have internet access. (These are the contest materials that are sent only to regional BEACs. BEACs will be able to type the information directly onto the forms for their regional winners and attach them to their entries for the AFMS contest. They will then send these hard copies to the AFMS judges, just like we do now. This will save some of the postage needed to mail hard copies to BEACs, save on paper - no extra copies that are thrown out, and make all entries more legible for the judges.)

D. No points will be deducted from bulletins that are exclusively e-mailed for being formatted in a single column per page. Each page must still have

a header or footer that gives the name of the bulletin, the page number, and the date/volume number. (Online bulletins are easier to read in one column so the reader does not have to scroll down-up-down on each page to read.)

E. On the score sheet for bulletins, "Headings, margins, spacing good, typing neat & clean, corrections neat" under FORMAT/EDITORSHIP will be changed to "Headings, margins, white space, spacing good; typing neat & clean; corrections neat." (White space is space on the page that has no typing or art work in it - it's just white. Readers need white space on each page to let their eyes rest, and white space makes what is written and drawn stand out more. Thus, editors need to make good use of white space.)

The new AFMS score sheet for the "Features" category will be on the AFMS website shortly.

(Clip art above from Discovery Channel School Image Gallery, ©2003. Permission to use for educational, not for sale publications granted.)



COMMUNICATION!

from the AFMS Central Office

Are you the one or should it be someone else?

"What's he rambling on about?", you ask.

What I'm talking about is being certain that you, the person who is reading this blurb, is the person who should be receiving the AFMS Newsletter for your club.

We want to send issues to your current club president, editor and Federation Director (liaison), but the problem is that we don't always have the correct names or addresses and the issues go awry. Clubs do elect new officers and if they don't let us know....well, we're not mind readers.

Please help us out. If you no longer hold one of the offices mentioned above in for your club, please give us the name, address (and office) of the person who should be receiving the issues. It helps keep our avenues of communication open - and we like to believe that our newsletter contains information that is useful for your club and its members.

You can contact me via e-mail at <central_office@amfed.org> or snail mail to
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AFMS CLUB ROCKHOUNDS OF THE YEAR

from Loretta Ogden, AFMS Chair



California Federation

The Fresno Gem and Mineral Society, has the honor of nominating **Dale Reith** for Rockhound of the year. Dale was a Scholarship recipient and his first year with F.G.M.S was honorary.

Dale's enthusiastic approach and contributions first started with accepting the publisher's position (newsletter-CHIPS); currently he coordinates the Silent Auction held at our monthly meeting, and is always there to answer any questions.

A rock collection was donated to the club, Dale seen an opportunity to thank the recipient and provide additional funding to the scholarship fund. He established a format for a Silent Auction to be held in our building at the fair. This involved a lot of hours, cataloging, with pictures, and a very detail display and making sure after the fair each bidder was contacted. He still did this and put in long hours at the fair for club.

Dale again volunteered to manage our 3 day spring sale at the club house this year. The club received another donation prior to the sale, with other members they scrambled to prepare the collection. He spend many hours in preparing for this event; club lay-out, marking areas for the members to be able to set-up in appropriate areas, making signs, contacting other clubs and the news media of the sale date.

Dale, thank you from all the members for jobs well done.

submitted by F.G.M.S,
Vickie Morris, Vice President

The Long Beach Mineral & Gem Society would like to nominate Linda and **Marty Dougherty** for Rockhound of the Year. With many older members of the club retiring, this couple has stepped into new leadership roles. They serve as club officers: Linda as secretary and Marty as the Federation Director. Both assist with the lapidary workshop, lead field trips and are responsible for the club display case at several club shows. At the recent Federation show they showed not only the club case but Marty's own cabochon case.

The Long Beach Mineral & Gem Society is very fortunate to have such an active and dedicated couple.

On behalf of the Ventura Gem & Mineral Society, I'm pleased to put forward **Ron and Jean Wise** for Education Through Sharing. For years, Ron, along with Greg Davis, has been invaluable in maintaining our club workshop and, most recently, in helping to move material into temporary storage as our club seeks a new workshop home. Ron (along with two buddies, who together make up "The Three Amigos") takes an active hand in assembling and running our annual Silent Auction, which has become one of our club's biggest annual fundraisers. If you were at the CFMS Show in June, you would have seen Ron in action; he was in charge of running the Silent Auction there, which raised over \$4,000 for the CFMS Endowment Fund in memory of Ray Meisenheimer. And Jean always takes an active hand in gathering us all together to assemble hundreds of grab bags in their garage and to assemble all the many prizes she then helps to award while running our Kids Booth at our annual show. And Ron and Jean do similar

work for the nearby Oxnard club as well, to which they also belong! In addition, Jean serves as our Federation Director and Ron as our Second Vice President in charge of field trips. In fact, you're more likely to find him and Jean in the field than at home, and he takes us to some terrific locations. Whenever there's a need for a strong, dedicated worker, as when trucking and hauling supplies for our annual show set-up, Ron is first in line. Our club is actually fortunate to have several dedicated individuals and couples who are deserving of the Education Through Sharing award, but for this year, it's Ron and Jean's turn, and an extremely well-deserved turn at that! Ron and Jean, we thank you both!



Northwest Federation

The Clackamette Mineral and Gem Rockhounds of the Year for 2008 are **Bea and Forrest Settle**. They truly represent outstanding rockhounds through their service and support to our club and the rock collecting community.

Bea has been the club's Treasurer for several years, providing stability to the operations of the club. She also handles club publicity and communications with the entire community regarding our shows and other rockhound information. She greatly contributes to the quality of our club.

Forrest is the club's Custodian. He houses and maintains the club inventory of rock and materials on his property. He organizes the club rock washes and handling of the rock for our annual shows, coordinates the various props and equipment for the annual show, and annually leads a field trip to Lassen Creek. Forrest provides training in the lapidary arts (along with other club members). He encourages each to perfect their craft. He and Bea have mentored many club members into better lapidaries. Their personal collection is legendary and they well represent our club throughout the Northwest by showing their outstanding collections at many shows. They also maintain a network of rockhounds through their active participation in many events. Among the recognition for their show cases, they won the People's Choice Award at the Mount Hood Club Show this year and Best Northwest Material at a Federation Show two years ago.

Together, Bea and Forrest are an inspirational source of information and support for our club. We are glad to honor them as the 2008 Clackamette Rockhounds of the Year.

submitted by Dean Arrasmith, Federation Director



Rocky Mountain Federation

For over twenty-five years **Marian and Charles (Perky) Perkins** have rendered outstanding service to and for the Chaparral Rockhounds. They faithfully participated in club activities such as the bi-annual Roswell Highway Clean-up, BLM surveys and paleontology digs, and field trips to sites like Apache Creek. Both Perky and Marian have helped set-up and tear down our shows. Perky built over twenty tables for our show exhibits and completely weatherized our

storage trailer. They each have manned the admissions desk. They have helped raise thousands of dollars for the AFMS Scholarship Fund by cheerfully donating and selling items at our Silent Auction booths. Perky and Marian have donated funds to various projects of the Club such as the Smithsonian Topaz and scholarships for both mineralogists and paleontologists. Marian has served as our "Sunshine Lady" for the past several years, diligently sending out cards covering all occasions to both Club members and friends. They have a friendly smile and a hug for everyone. The Chaparral Rockhounds take great honor in nominating Charles and Marian Perkins for the AFMS Club Rockhound of the Year Award.

Submitted by Diane Weir
President, Chaparral Rockhounds

It is with great pleasure that I nominate **Michael Ramsey** for Rockhound of the Year. As he begins his second year as club president we can look back at the accomplishments of the first year under his guidance. They include: 10 exceptional speakers, refurbished the club workshop, trained 19 workshop trainers, introduced the popular silversmithing classes, put together the annual Gem and Mineral Show which experienced the highest single day attendance in the 33 year history of the show, offered a catered meal for the December meeting, joined the Friends of the AMMM, disseminated 10 informative newsletters, and organized 15 field trips plus a coalition trip attended by approximately 100 rockhounds. It's no wonder monthly club meetings are filled with 80-90 members each meeting.

Richard Casmier, Vice-President

The Colorado Springs Mineralogical Society is very fortunate to have **Roger and Patt Pittman** as members. They are true-life examples of what CSMS is all about. As "Ambassadors of Rock"; they exemplify why our club was formed in 1936—to provide education and encourage the study of earth sciences.

These two wonderful people tirelessly devote many hours of hard work each year presenting their knowledge and love of rockhounding to many of our Colorado Springs school children. They created over 350 plaster 'dinosaur footprints' that contained treasures for our Kids Mine at the recent show, worked the area from can to can't, donated thousands of mineral specimens for the kids to take home, and made sure each little future rockhound had a safe and wonderful time in the mine.

They assist in whatever capacity is needed with our Pebble Pups program, conduct field trips for both pups and adults, lead the CSMS Camera satellite group, and have served in many Officer and Executive Committee CSMS and RMFMS positions. They even gave up a recent holiday to conduct a field trip for a visiting Missouri science club when no other Colorado rock club responded to inquiries for assistance.

We are very proud to nominate Pat and Roger Pittman as the CSMS 2008 AFMS Rockhounds of the Year.

submitted by Betty Cain
Editor, CSMS Pick & Pack

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AFMS COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

Here is the listing of the people who have agreed to serve as AFMS Chairs for 2006-7. Please feel free to contact these people or the person in your regional federation who serves on the as well- if you need information or have ideas to share with them.

AFMS Club Rockhound of the Year
Loretta Ogden
<donogden@aol.com>

AFMS Newsletter
Carolyn Weinberger
P.O. Box 302; Glyndon, MD 21071-0302
410-833-7926
<editor@amfed.org>

Boundaries
John Wright
<osjw@datasync.com>

Bulletin Editor Hall of Fame
Kitty Starbuck
<greenstone@iserv.net>

ByLaws Revisory
Steve Weinberger
P.O. Box 302; Glyndon, MD 21071-0302
410-833-7926
<central_office@amfed.org>

Central Office
Steve Weinberger
see Bylaws Revisory above

Club Publications
Linda Jaeger
<LJGRALG@aol.com>

Commemorative Stamp
Wendell Mohr
<wmohr@erols.com>

Conservation and Legislation
John Wright
see Boundaries above

Education-All American
John Washburn
<jrwashburn2@msn.com>

Endowment Fund
Joy Bourne
<csprings@epix.net>

Financial Investment
Lauren Williams
<slharuir@msn.com>

Historian
Shirley Leeson
<shirleyleeson@msn.com> and
<beauholland@centurytel.net >

International Relations
Bob Jones
<jonesb52@gmail.com>

Judges Training Seminar
Dee Holland
<beauholland@centurytel.net>

Junior Programs
Jim Brace-Thompson
<jbraceth@roadrunner.com>

Long Range Planning
Dr. Robert Carlson
<drobotcarlson@yahoo.com>

Name Badge
Frank Mullaney
<rockyfiv@aol.com>

Nominating
Dr. Robert Carlson
see Long Range Planning above

Parliamentarian
Dee Holland
see Judges Training above

Past President's Advisory
Dr. Robert Carlson
see Long Range Planning above

Photography
Chuck McKie
<chuckmckie@aol.com>

Program Competition
Marge Collins - Chair
<margaret@qtm.net>

Publications
B. Jay Bowman
<bjb@wildblue.net>

Public Relations
Fran Sick
<ednfran@epix.net>

Safety
Don Monroe
<donmonroe@windstream.net>

Show Consultant
Bob Livingston
<gemguy@verizon.net>

Ways and Means
Glenn Lee
541-276-2365

Uniform Rules
Ron Carman
<rrcarman@centurytel.net>

URC Eligibility Files
Anne Cook
<secretary@amfed.org>

Website/Webmaster
Marty Hart - Chair
<webmaster@amfed.org>

Ad Hoc Competition Study
Ron Carman
see Uniform Rules above

Ad Hoc Inter-Regional Field Trip
Dick Pankey
<dickpankey@juno.com>

AFMS Scholarship Foundation
Dee Holland, President
see Judges Training Seminar
Shirley Leeson, Vice President
Ruth Bailey, Secretary
Arlene Burkhalter, Treasurer

NEW CLUB LISTINGS IN ROCK & GEM

from Bob Jones, International Relations Chair



As you may have read in my April 2008 "All She Wrote" column, *Rock & Gem* is moving its annual club listing from the pages of the magazine exclusively to its Web site, <www.rockngem.com>. In the past, this listing was updated – in the magazine and on the Web site – only once a year. By giving it a permanent home on the Internet, we hope to make it more flexible, allowing updates throughout the year, and increase its usefulness.

In the interests of providing our users only with useful information, I have insisted that each club respond to an annual update mailing. If they did not respond, they were dropped from the listing. Our listing has grown steadily smaller over the years since I introduced it in 2004, not because clubs are dying, but because people fail to respond by the deadline.

The reason I am writing to you is this: All the regional federations have lists of their member clubs on their Web sites and it seems to me that you must maintain an up-to-date list of mailing addresses if you send out a federation newsletter. You already know what a big job this is, and for one person to do it all by herself is a real challenge. If you are willing to share your information with me, I can avoid duplicating work that you already do, which will free me up to help publicize the federations in other ways.

I will be sending my 2009 update mailings to clubs on August 1. I propose to send out postcards that inform the clubs on my list that their club listing will

now be handled through their federation. The federation will have from August 1, 2008 through January 1, 2009 gather current information from all its member clubs in whatever way it sees fit (mail, e-mail, etc.). On or after January 1, they can forward the complete updated list to me to be posted. Those clubs that are not affiliated with a federation will be instructed to send their updates directly to me. Clubs will be grouped by federation in our listing, with unaffiliated clubs in their own section.

Thus, not only will each federation have current information to post on its own Web site, but *Rock & Gem's* listing will also be up to date. After January 1, individual clubs can e-mail updates directly to me or to the federation to be forwarded to me as their information changes and the listing can be updated on a monthly basis.

The trick is that not all clubs want the same information published in their listing, so some customizing is necessary. *Rock & Gem* gives space for contact information: a mailing (not meeting) address, phone number, e-mail address, and/or Web address. Our intention is that interested readers can contact the club for its meeting place and other details (you can encourage clubs to have a current brochure ready to mail). In the past, I have insisted on a mailing address because not all our readers have e-mail, but now that the listing is moving to the Internet, we won't be reaching those people.

If your club is interested in being listed on our website, you will need to send the correct information to someone designated to receive it in your regional federation. I know that in the EFMLS, it's going to be the editor, Carolyn Weinberger. Check with your own regional federation to see who will handle this for your club.

CLUB ROCKHOUNDS

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Like still waters running deep, little on the surface indicates the whirl of energy expended by **Gene and Peggy Cockrell** on behalf of the Tulsa Rock and Mineral Society. Both are calm, reserved, polite and kind people.

"Crash" Cockrell is one of the few pilots over age 80 that can still be found in the air above the state of Oklahoma, piloting an open airplane "Breezy", he built himself. His better half, efficient and elegant Peggy Stewart Cockrell, a lovely lady with a terrific of humor, taught corporate employees computer skills before EBay existed. When a steep rocky backyard was a challenge, the two of them transformed it into a park-like respite of winding paths, mineral and fossil niches and grottoes, plant loveliness and falling water.

A printer by trade, Gene has worked many years designing TRMS publications. Rosters, national award-winning club show programs, informational pamphlets, tickets, bulletin mailing labels, name tags, direct mail lists, club pins, club tee shirts—there is almost no end to the listing of his creative projects. He was instrumental in getting the T-Town Rockhound club newsletter computerized. Gene has served in many capacities as an officer. President, club records, director and "the best field trip chairman the club has ever had" according to Richard Jaeger.

Peggy has served as the TRMS treasurer numerous times. She also served as publicity chair for club shows, historian, door prize chair and board director. Peggy recently co-chaired one of the most successful Tulsa Rock and Mineral shows with energy and enthusiasm. Peggy has also served as a docent at the Gilcrease Museum in Tulsa, giving informational tours for visitors. Her love of the arts and her classic style show in both her home and her gardens.

Tulsa Rock and Mineral Society are pleased to have selected Gene and Peggy Cockrell as TRMS Rockhounds of the Year.

Submitted by Kay Atkinson, TRMS

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 of 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.