



# NORTHWEST NEWSLETTER



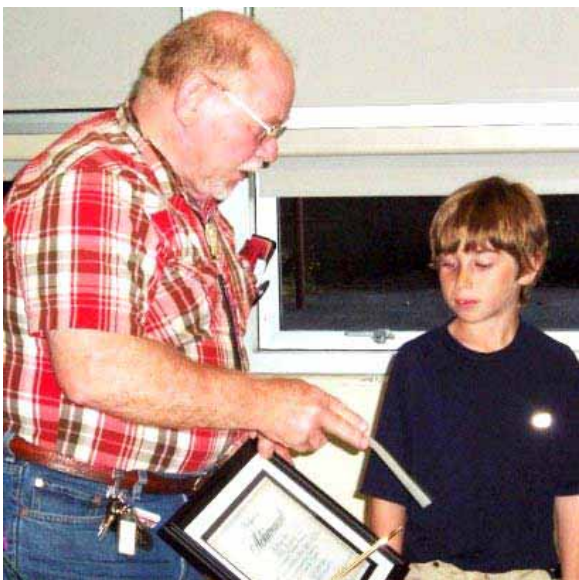
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OCTOBER 2007

## JUNIOR ROCKHOUND AWARDS

### Achievement Award

Alex Miller, the youngest recipient, and junior member of West Seattle Rock Club, entered the NFMS Junior Achievement Award Program and earned \$50 second place check for his application in the under age 12 category. Lyle Vogelpohl, as NFMS Treasurer, is pictured presenting the check, a certificate and an engraved pen set to Alex.



Alex Miller – Resume below

Hi my name is ALEX MILLER, age 8, and this is a little article about me and my collection. A few weeks ago I worked at West Seattle rock club rock show. At the show I did a display case on quartz and chalcedony. I showed about 50 rocks out of my collection of about 315. Overnight I improved my case with new techniques from Audrey. At the show I worked there for two days for 7 hours. My mom and I are the fourth newest members in the club so far, I have been collecting for 4 years now. And I like it a lot. This is a great junior program for me. My favorite thing about the club is that at the meetings you can sign up for cabbing lessons provided by Lyle. Every meeting there is a member's raffle, a kid's one and a visitor's one.

I like to collect very general stuff not just one kind of rock or mineral. One of my favorite things to do is to wire wrap. We started it a few weeks ago, though my mom still says I need a thicker gauge of wire. The cabbing lessons are pretty fun, and I made three cabs so far. You even get to use the rock saw. In August I went to Oregon and the first rock stop was Fossil. Behind the local high school we dug for fossils in an area that used to be a lake bed. Next stop was Richardson's ranch, where we found lots of geodes and we kept them all because they were only 75 cents per pound.

Three years ago I did a rock project at the West Seattle Montessori School science fair. The best few displays got a blue ribbon. And I got one too!! Last year I got the discovery award for curiosity at the Pacific Science Center (PSC). This year I go to the Lafayette Elementary 2nd grade Spectrum program. My mom says I need to be more challenged in math and reading. This year I passed the APP test and am going to Lowell Elementary School next year! I am looking forward to the art projects!

For sports, I ski, run, bike and I like playing with my dog Pekoe! When I ski, I usually go to Steven's Pass although one week per year we take a ski vacation. This year we went to Utah but it was a bad snow year. I take cello lessons at the Suzuki Institute of Seattle. I practice every day except for Saturdays, for three years now. This year I have half hour lessons and the drive is half hour too. I don't have much free time because of cello, but for chores, I clear my dishes, make my bed and help vacuum.

At my school I do an annual rock presentation for the 3rd grade Spectrum class for two years now. I think I would've done it again if I wasn't going to a new school next year. This year I did some PSC camps on rocks where I learned about geology. I am going to 2 PSC camps and 3 Science Adventure camps this summer!!

Thanks for letting me tell you a little about me and my collection and letting me compete in this award.

### Written Article Award

Alexandrea Wall, junior member of West Seattle Rock Club, is pictured accepting NFMS 1st place for her Junior Article "Cabbing with Lyle". Her teacher, Lyle Vogelpohl is presenting her the award. Alexandrea also received 3rd place plaque in the AFMS Junior Articles, age 12-17 category, for the same article.



Alexandrea Wall

Editor's Note: Alexandrea's article was published in the May 2006 issue of this newsletter.

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## NEWSLETTER ARTICLES DUE OCTOBER 14<sup>TH</sup>

NFMS WEBSITE  
[www.amfed.org/nfms](http://www.amfed.org/nfms)

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## How I spent my Summer Vacation

By Stephen Petkovsek, Mt. Hood Rock Club

It started off with a visit to the Mt. Hood Rock Club claim, located in the Ochoco mountains 27 miles NE of Prineville. We spent two days doing maintenance on the boundary markers, taking photographs, star gazing, and, of course, digging thundereggs. It turned out there was supposed to be a big meteor shower the morning of September 1st. so I set my alarm for 4:00 am and watched the skies until 5:00 am. I only saw a total of four. However, I did manage to capture a picture of one of them! While there, I also dug about thirty pounds of thundereggs before calling it good.

From the Mt. Hood claim we traveled to a basalt quarry on Highway 26 situated between mile posts 40 and 41. At this location one can find pockets filled with quartz, similar to beach agate only these have not been tumbled by the surf. I climbed up the embankment and started hammering away at the exposed nodules. After a couple of hours I had about 40 pounds of nodules, varying in size from 1 inch up to a monster about 6 inches in length. There is also a large seam of white quartz where people have dug out large pieces and left them on the ground. I tossed two of these down the slope to take home as yard rock for the silent auction.

By this time it was getting towards afternoon, so my camping buddy and I headed East again to Forest Service Road 3350. This is where the White Fir bed is located. After finding a suitable camping spot we headed up the road to find more thundereggs. We found a spot near the fence line of the Mill Creek Wilderness area on the way to White Rock and filled another bucket with small eggs. The next morning, we headed back up the same road and stopped at the Radford claim and dug two more buckets of eggs filled with agate, jasper, and common opal. By now, I was up to about 200 pounds of material and having a great time, but alas, it all has to end eventually. It was now time to move on to the next leg of my journey.

It was now Monday, Labor Day, and time to meet my fellow rockhound students at the Northwest Rockhound Retreat. The retreat is held at OMSI's Hancock Field Station located between Antelope and Fossil Oregon. For the next 5 days I was scheduled to learn to be a Lapidary Judge. We started off reading the judging manual for the areas we were qualifying for and discussing the terms and asking lots of questions to make sure we understood what we were reading. That took most of the first two days. Then we had three display cases set up for us to judge. That was when the fun began. The cases were set up by Master level competitors. The challenge was I did not know whether some errors were purposely added to test our skills.

Therefore, we judged a little more harshly than we probably should have. As we worked our way through the cases, some were replaced with other types so we could cover more areas of Lapidary. In all, we judged three Lapidary, one Educational, and some samples of Wire Wrapping. We did such a good job of learning, we finished a day and a half earlier than expected. It was now Friday and time to get our hands dirty.

Since we had unexpected free time, we decided to take a drive over to Fossil and dig fossils behind the high school. For a minimal fee (\$3.00) you can dig three handfuls (both hands together) of fossils. The process is fairly easy. The material is quite fractured and comes out of the hillside with little effort. From there you use a thick putty knife to tap the side of the rock along a layer. Since the fossil is usually a foreign material between the layers, it is a weak spot and has a tendency to separate along that layer. It only took us a couple of hours to obtain our three handfuls and drive back to Hancock Field Station for dinner and show off to our fellow students. As expected, they were jealous they didn't get to go. Actually, since all the workshops are open, they could have gone with us.

Saturday was a complete play day for me. Since I didn't have time to start a large project, I just went and played in the Lapidary shop. I dug out some of the thundereggs from the previous weekend and cut a few of them open. One had a nice pattern in it so I cut a slab and made a nice large freeform cabochon in the shape of an eye. Unfortunately, a fracture from underneath developed in the agate as I worked it up but I decided to finish it anyway and just say it was bloodshot. My judging partner headed over to the Intarsia shop and started her first piece ever.

By the end of the day she had a very nice hexagonal piece with her initial as the center stone. I, however, continued to struggle with choosing poor quality stones in the Lap shop. Had I known I would have extra time, I would have brought some material from home to play with. My next piece also started developing problems so I decided to take a break and go visit with some of the other areas. After a while though, I went back to the Lap shop and purchased a nice small piece of agate for a quarter. I started slow and took my time. This time I was able to cut a nice small freeform which took a real nice polish. I took it in to the Wire Wrapping teacher and donated it to her for something to do later.

Every evening there were activities planned that were optional to attend, and we were never bored. We had campfires, an auction, show and tell, open discussion on any questions about Lapidary, and a presentation by one of the OMSI staff about the local Hancock geology. A group of us also had time to take a hike and visit the Hancock Tree, which is a petrified tree set in an embankment, still in the upright position. Another portion of my time was spent visiting the cabin next to mine because my neighbors had brought their pet Bobcat with them. She weighs fifty pounds and is beautiful. I instantly fell in love. The scary part of greeting a Bobcat is you have to rub foreheads first. Only then can you pet and scratch them. Once I got over the fear of having my face torn off, I would visit Smokey whenever I got a chance.

Sunday came much faster than anyone hoped for but alas, it was time to go home. Only my adventure was not yet complete. A few of the group wanted to stop by Richardson's Rock Ranch and shop or dig. Since I have a four wheel drive I offered to take one of the ladies up to the blue opal bed. She said she only had a couple of hours to play, but when it came time to go, she wasn't ready. We stayed and dug opals for about four hours before she was finally ready to give in. After that, we went down to the rock shop and bought a few more items to play with. From there it truly was time to head for home. My summer vacation was nine days associated with a wonderful hobby and a lot of friendly people. I made lots of new friends and hope to see them again soon at some of their shows or ours or next year at Hancock. I gained a lot of knowledge this year and hope to put it to practice at our Regional Show at the end of September.

## Tri-Federation Rockhound Rendezvous - Reprise

By Richard Pankey, AFMS Chairman for Inter – Regional Field Trips

The Northwest, Rocky Mountain and California Federations will host a Rockhound Rendezvous to Texas Springs, NV over Memorial Day Weekend, 2008, and all AFMS members are invited to attend. We had such a great time in 2003 we decided to do it again. The date is set – May 21 to 26, 2008. The place is picked – the Texas Springs area for spectacular pink agate limb casts, as well as other agate and petrified wood. Arrangements are being made; details are being finalized and the flier will be issued next month. Watch for the fliers and information in the AFMS Newsletter and on the web site, as well as the host federation's Newsletters and web sites.

Late spring is a beautiful time of year to be in northern Nevada's high desert. The days are warm and the evenings are cool. Great weather for rockhounding and for our rendezvous. We will collect at 4 to 6 different sites: pink limb casts, small limb casts and bogwood, snakeskin agate, jasp/agate limb casts, geodes, and more. Our Rendezvous will include daily collecting trips, potluck dinners, daily Happy Hours, evening campfires, map exchange and tailgate displays.

This area has been popular with rockhounds for many years, and prized material can still be found for those who are willing to dig for it. And many were successful! In 2003 we had over 200 rockhounds from 14 western states representing 55 clubs of the three federations.

Come join us for a great Tri-Federation Rendezvous of collecting, fun and fellowship. Mark your calendar, schedule your vacation, and plan to join us next May 21<sup>st</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup>.

**COMMENTS, THOUGHTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS**



**Patty Amos**  
**NFMS President**

Hello to all of you out there.

This year has gone by fast and now I'm president. Well I will try and do my best

for all of you. I hope to stay in touch with everyone concerning next year's show and keep all up to date. We are hoping for a great show; we will once again be having our Oral auction so be looking for great pieces for the show. I hope to see a lot of you at the show so I wish all of you good health so you can be there. We just spent the weekend at the Southern Washington Mineralogical show in Castle Rock, WA. I saw a lot of people that I knew there.

My club is now approaching our last show for the year. We are a member of the Portland Regional and will be there most of the last week of September. I will be displaying the Cabochons from the Northwest Federation case. I have added 7 new cabs from my club and hope to add a few more before I have to give the case to the next president. If any one has a cab they would like to put in the case, please send it to me with their name, club, and location of the cab or any info they would like to see on the label. I will be redoing the cabs before the federation show and hopefully before the regional show.

I had a great time at the Butte show and I got to do some rock hunting after the show. We didn't get to go on the field trips during the show for one reason or another so we waited until after. We ran into several members at Crystal Mountain when we went on the Monday after the show. We ended up going twice before we came home. We found a lot of small ones and a few nice ones but we had a good time, which was important.

Take care everyone.



**Evelyn Cataldo**  
**NFMS 2<sup>nd</sup> V.P.**

Fellow Rockhounds,

I would like to introduce myself. I am Evelyn Cataldo from Kennewick, Washington.

My love of rocks, gems, minerals and fossils began in 1973. My husband Dom and I were living in Madison, Wisconsin and decided it was time to see the wild and woolly West. We packed our little Cougar car with camping equipment and our seven year old son and headed out for a three week adventure. Wall Drug in South Dakota was where it all happened. Those

mystical, magical, shiny rocks captured our attention and so began the treasure hunt. By the time we returned to Madison, we had thrown away most of our camping equipment and filled the car with "rocks"! Thirty-four years later, the excitement associated with finding that special "rock", whether personally dug or purchased, has not diminished. Fossils are my favorites and we have a significant petrified wood collection.

In 1974, my husband's profession found us moving to Kennewick, Washington. We were delighted to learn that we were now living within driving distance of some great rock hunting locations. We joined the Lakeside Gem and Mineral Club in Kennewick to learn more about where to look for rocks and how to identify what we found. We soon learned that those "free rocks" had some not-so-free requirements: Things like a pick-up truck, a rock saw, a Genie, etc. But, it has been fun!

I have been very active in the Lakeside Gem and Mineral Club. I have experienced being Vice-President, Treasurer, Field Trip Chairman, Highway Clean-Up Chairman, Bulletin Editor, Program Chairman, Federation Director, Mineral Council representative, Annual Show Chairman several times and served on By-Laws and various other special committees. Currently, I am a Club Director. I have been involved in planning and production of two Federation Shows that were held locally. I believe that I have ground-roots experience that will be an asset in helping to guide the Federation through the next few years.

I look forward to meeting and working with members of the Northwest Federation to expand and enhance our organization.



**NORTHWEST ROCKHOUND RETREAT**

by Lamar Tilgner

The third annual Northwest Rockhound Retreat was completed on the 9<sup>th</sup> of September. We lost 4 people during the final hours (as attendees) due to circumstances beyond their control, but we still had 24 in attendance. Upon leaving Sunday morning, everyone agreed that they wanted to return next year. It appears that this could be the new (in thing) for Labor Day week.

Hancock Field Station is a ten acre tract, owned by Oregon Museum of Science and Industry, sitting inside the John Day National Monument. The surrounding area is rugged hills with Juniper trees and grass being the main vegetation. The buildings are rustic, with electricity and very usable, but not what you would call a plush hotel.

In this surrounding we set up our 7 workshops: Lapidary, Silversmithing, Intarsia, Faceting, Wirewrapping, Beading and Judges Training. Things started off on Labor Day (Sept. 3<sup>rd</sup>) afternoon with

That evening we had a Spaghetti feed, and everyone settled in for their busy week ahead. In general the schedule looked like this, Breakfast at 7:30AM, Lunch at Noon and Dinner at 6:00PM. During the day workshops were open and each evening there was a different activity. The quantity of finished products was great and the quality improved daily. There was fine work produced by everyone. The Judges training session was a success with 2 people completing the course. They are planning on being a part of the future Judging program in the Northwest.

If you know someone that attended this year, talk to them and find out firsthand if you would enjoy the experience. There was loads of laughter, a lot of concentration and learning, and a lot of new friendships were started. It is something you wouldn't want to miss.

Next year we are again looking at our basic 7 workshops and will be considering 3 requests. Our feedback session brought out the request for Casting, Stone Setting and Soft Stone Carving. These will be evaluated with the camp and we will be putting out the new schedule for next year no later than March. At that time all signup forms will be available so you can make sure and get a spot for next year. From what we know now it would appear that the Soft Stone Carving might be tough to accommodate. Next year's schedule will give you what is available.

If you want a fun experience and a lot of learning as well, plan for the Labor day week in 2008 at Hancock Field Station. **SEE YA THERE!**



**Chuck Sonner**  
**NFMS Past President 2006-2007**

**On Club Building**

How do we present ourselves?

This should be the first question asked by a club. When an individual attends a meeting for the first time, what do they see? Is it a friendly environment that they would like to revisit? Did someone come up and try to make them feel welcome?

We could make a long list of all the things that could make that experience unwelcome, but we will make a list of what could make that first visit something to remember.

- Have special rocks, crystals or minerals set aside as door prizes or gifts for the guests, something that they will remember on their first visit.
- If the guests have junior age children, make sure they receive the gift over the parent.
- Establish a group of members that will introduce themselves and try to do follow-up work.
- Try to have something entertaining at your meetings: programs, demonstrations, silent auctions etc.

Remember that the first impression is a lasting impression.

## COMMENTS, THOUGHTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS



**Margaret  
Stallknecht**

**Education Chair  
&  
2008 Show Chair**

### On Education

Boy, this has been one busy year! I have traveled to out-of-state shows to help sell T-shirts & hats. (The XXX large were not ordered 'til Sept. 10. Our lady at the plant was out of town on vacation.) I will ship as soon as they are done. Thank you for your support.

September 15th is the Annual Rock Party at the Idaho Museum of Mining and Geology in Boise, Idaho. I will be there with my Traveling Museum. Every year they host a party with trail hikes, lectures, rock cutters, faceters, flint knappers, jewelry makers, and games. We all get to enjoy some of the different ways to enjoy rocks.

I shut down my building in Letha and opened a store in Vale, Oregon which makes me 12 miles from the Malheur Fairgrounds in Ontario. It works out well for setting up the show in June as I have moved everything to Vale already.

I have many ideas and plans for educational information that I would like to put on CD or DVD and printed materials. Several people have stepped forward to help set it up. Since we can't find any of the old materials to work with, if you have anything, please send it to me. Happy Fall!

### 2008 Show Report

Thank you for all the wonderful support and interest in the 2008 Show in Ontario, Oregon. I was so pleased to hear all of the good comments. We have wonderful Field Trips lined up and our Kids Corner will be a whole building! It will be so much fun. We hope to have nightly Barbecue and Pancake Breakfasts for the camping people who don't want to cook their own food.

Our Food Chairwoman, Jessie, is working like crazy to plan the event. Mr. McCall was in Ontario to measure everything, check out the electricity, cases and the dealers' set-up. So, the preparations are moving right along. This looks to be a phenomenally fun, old-fashioned, gem and mineral show.

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### Letter to the Editor

From Jim Landon, Yakima Rock Club

Bryan,  
I recently returned from a summer of cabin construction on some property we bought just a few miles from Crystal Park in Montana. On one of the few days I could take a break, I made a trek to Spencer Idaho to check out the Spencer Opal Mine and gather some material for an article I wanted to write for Rock and Gem Magazine. Low and behold when I got my most recent issue of Rock and Gem, I found that someone had beaten me to the punch and already submitted an article on the locality. I wanted to pass on

some information to you about things I found about the operation that did not show up in the article. As stated in the article the mine is only open on selected weekends during the spring and summer. After paying my \$40.00 fee at their office in Spencer, I went up to the mine to try my luck. What I found is that rockhounds are only allowed to work tailing piles that have been accumulating for the duration the mine has been commercially worked. These tailing piles are occasionally turned over by a large caterpillar, but for the most part are the same material gone over many times by the numerous people who visit the mine. Infrequently more tailings are added to this area from that part of the mine that is being commercially worked. As this mining is done by hand for the most part, little is missed. I found the digging fee to be excessive for the amount of actual precious opal that can be found. Most people there the day I was on site found something to take home, but it would be extremely difficult to find 5 lbs of opal in the time you are given to hunt.

At the store they also have a "mini-mine" where for \$5.00 you can go through the pile of tailings that have been hauled down from the mine. I would not recommend this offering to anyone visiting Spencer. The material for this pile comes off the same mine tailings that have been searched many many times. The chances of finding anything of value is almost nil. I also found out that all of the rough that is being mined at the site is taken to their shop and high graded. Any rough they don't want to work with is culled and offered to the public for \$40.00 for 5 lbs. To me, this wasn't much of a deal.

*Editor's Note: the views or opinions expressed by the author above do not necessarily reflect the views and opinions of the editor, this newsletter, or the NFMS.*

### Northwest Fossil of the Month

By Betty McLin Hare, Idaho Gem Club member

Alaska & Washington's state fossil is the mammoth!

Washington is the most recent of three states to choose



a mammoth as its state fossil. The particular mammoth Washington has chosen, the Columbian mammoth, inhabited the state during the Pleistocene Epoch, 1.6 million to 10,000 years ago, when much of North America was covered by great sheets of ice. Its range covered the present United States and as far south as Nicaragua and Honduras.

The Columbian mammoth was huge, standing 13 feet tall at the shoulder and weighing as much as 10 tons. The most common mammoth fossils found in Washington are the large molar teeth, which are

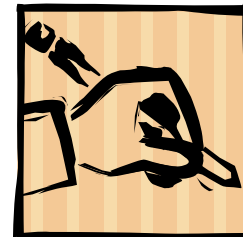
composed of a series of ridged plates, and are sometimes described as looking like the soles of tennis shoes. These teeth helped the mammoth chew grasses and other tough vegetation -- this large member of the elephant family may have eaten as much as 700 pounds of vegetation a day!

It is not known who discovered the first mammoth fossils in Washington, although it is likely that Native Americans came across them occasionally. There are over 40 documented mammoth discoveries in the state, including a bonanza of bones found in 1996 on the Olympic Peninsula. In 2001, a tusk was uncovered near Yakima during grading of a parking lot.

A group of elementary school students embarked on a four-year campaign to designate the Columbian mammoth the state fossil of Washington, finally succeeding in 1998.

Alaskan mammoths are preserved much better than ones in the lower 48. Scrimshaw wares are created with the lovely hard, white ivory from their tusks.

Many various species of mammoth fossils are on display. The Nevada State University Museum has possibly the largest mammoth on display! Grangeville, Idaho has a mammoth displayed in a glassed-in room for all to see. Nebraska, Oklahoma, Great Britain, La Brea Tar Pits in Los Angeles., California .... These big guys really got around! Japan recently unveiled a large one that may be used for cloning purposes! If these elephantine forms of ancient life really fascinate you, you're not alone. Try to find a display near you to study; you'll be glad that you did!



**DARLENE'S  
DOODLES**

**NFMS Bulletin Aids**

CONGRATULATIONS to ALL Editors. Those eligible for recognition at the NFMS Show in Butte, have received awards, if able to attend. Others will be receiving their awards by mail or at their annual show soon.

Also thank you to those Editors just starting to send in their bulletins & those 'one-time' editions. All are most enjoyable to read. Keep up the good work.

Just a reminder, Poems & Articles from those Juniors are especially appreciated, but all members are encouraged to submit their 'written' words.

Until next time---

**NFMS BULLETIN AIDS**

Darlene Denton

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## PARTICIPATION (2nd of three part series)

by Bill Luke, Past President, NFMS

The article last month identified the need for, and lack of, PARTICIPATION in our clubs. Many times our club and Federation leaders put great personal effort into projects that they are offering for us, or we are requesting from them. They provide the opportunity for us to PARTICIPATE. I will list some of those opportunities:

**Leadership.** Accept nomination for an office or an appointment to a committee. So many clubs are reporting that the same officers are being elected year after year, or are coming back to an office when no one else will accept nomination. We need fresh blood, new ideas. Capable, qualified people will not agree to a nomination. The most immediate example was last year in the NFMS. If no one will accept, will we eventually have to dissolve the organization because we do not have a President, or can't fill the Executive Board?

The committee people are the 'working people' who get the job done. Everyone who accepts an appointment should be willing and able to accomplish that job, and those who have the qualifications should volunteer. As a club president, and during my year in the NFMS, I have looked for people with a resume and a passion. That is, they have the experience, training, ability and desire to do that which they offer or accept to do. There are many people out there with the potential to do these jobs. Then it is up to the rest of us to PARTICIPATE for a successful venture.

**Field Trips.** In many, or most, clubs the subject of field trips comes up. Sometimes the club does not offer any. But, in several instances, the club and Field Trip Chairman or leader had a scheduled trip to (fill in your favorite area), to meet at (9:00 a.m.) in the (locally known parking lot). The leader waited till 9:30, 10:00 or later- no one showed up! Between these two extremes, there are many other examples where the officers, and committee people, have done their job and there has been too little PARTICIPATION. When we claim that we want field trips, we must show up, ready to go to work, get dirty, and enjoy getting to know our fellow club members. I personally think that next to fellowship the best thing about field trips is learning of new back roads and an excuse to explore them. Plus, we get to bring back 'treasures', mementos of the trip. There are many more memorable stories told around the rock pile about trips that produced garden rock or leaverites than there are about precious, valuable gems. Let's PARTICIPATE in the fun!

**Collecting Areas.** Next is availability of collecting areas so that we can have field trips. The NFMS and club Legislation Committees have existed to help us keep our collecting areas open. We have been asked to write to our politicians, but did we PARTICIPATE? I also believe we need better and more PARTICIPATION from those people within our clubs with knowledge, experience and ability to get the job done in filling these committee positions, and I know there are many out there. The rest of us need information passed on to us. This subject is becoming more and more pertinent and acute with recent rules and regulations regarding our public lands. But we just stand by complaining and do not PARTICIPATE!

**Instructing Classes.** This is one of the main reasons many people join a club. We hear that one of the most requested items for the club to offer is to teach new (and old) members some of the variety of things that the rockhounding hobby is all about, how to prepare the items we have collected. We want to learn from the experts, the old timers. When the facility and instructors have been established, it is our responsibility to PARTICIPATE. Too many times, great effort and expense is expended to create the opportunity, and then no one shows up.

**Club Shows.** Every show needs more people to help in the planning, promotion, set-up and take-down and, especially, with all of the details that go on throughout the week end. When the sign-up sheet comes around, fill in your name. Offer to put in a display. Here is an opportunity for everyone to PARTICIPATE.

**Newsletters.** PARTICIPATE by reading your club bulletin, the Northwest Newsletter, the AFMS Newsletter and other publications. PARTICIPATE by contributing articles for the Editor to include in the next issue. PARTICIPATE by sharing opinions about the contents. PARTICIPATE by attending events announced in your bulletin.

**Editors' Seminars.** Most of us know or should recognize that our Editors take on a very important task by publishing our bulletins. These bulletins are the way our members are informed about upcoming events in our clubs so we can PARTICIPATE! We should support our Editors in every way possible: pay their dues to S.C.R.I.B.E., pay some of the expense so they can attend Federation Seminars, or other events. All members can help their Editors by writing articles,

providing information on club activities or some technical article of member interest for the bulletin. The more PARTICIPATION by club members, the more interesting the bulletin.

**NFMS Show and Meetings.** Every club should send representatives. You have paid your dues, you should know what's going on, express your opinions, vote your choice, PARTICIPATE! Every member of the club should be aware of each and every issue. If there is concurrence, or a majority vote in the club, send your delegate to vote accordingly. If your club does not send a voting delegate to the Annual Meeting, then your wishes and desires will not be part of the decision.

In addition, by PARTICIPATING in NFMS events you'll get to know some wonderful people, see some great displays, collect in new areas and get to know more about rockhounding. Betty and I have collected many more gems in the people category than we have in the rock category. Every rockhound is a gem!

Some recent items in the Northwest Newsletter give us examples of people offering opportunity for us to participate. A few people are going to great individual effort to organize and lead events for us. These volunteers are participating, will we? Let's show our appreciation for their efforts by PARTICIPATING!

**Rockhound Retreat.** A few years ago, while we were spending a few days at the Kendall's, Larry and Rachel Abney were there. They were telling about the OMSI Labor Day event held at the Hancock Field Station on the John Day National Monument. Discussions led to Betty and me being invited to the event that year to help in instructing, since they were experiencing declining PARTICIPATION! During the weekend, we met with leaders from the station and monument and set up an NFMS event and schedule for the coming year. Rachel suggested the name for the event. Too few people registered! It was cancelled. The following year, Abneys, Lamar Tilgner, and others put together a plan and those who attended said it was a good thing and had great expectations for the future. Then, this year, the 3rd, again too few had registered by the Annual Meeting at Longview. A few hardy volunteers are still trying; but if no one wants this service, we may have to face that reality. It will not survive with lip service only. PARTICIPATION is required! Editor's Note: 2007 was successful with 24 participants

**Club Building by Keene Clay.** Presented at the Longview Show, with a series of articles in the Northwest Newsletter, and scheduled again for Butte. Here is an excellent opportunity for club members and officers to find ways to improve their club, to build membership and to encourage PARTICIPATION.

When Betty and I first attended NFMS shows, Dorothy Lee presented a seminar by the 'Society Officers Council' with all sorts of useful information to help the clubs and their officers. This committee also produced 'The Book'. For a few years these seminars were well attended with the club officers learning much from Dorothy and from each other. Then, over the years, there was less PARTICIPATION until the committee 'died.'

These are just a few of the opportunities for us to PARTICIPATE! There are many more if/when we just look for and recognize them. If you have more examples, please share them with each other, with all of us. I recognize that this list is by no means complete. In the next issue, we will look at some examples of successes and failures depending whether the members PARTICIPATED or not.

### **DEADLINE**

for YOUR SUBMISSIONS TO  
the next

*NORTHWEST NEWSLETTER is*

**OCTOBER 14<sup>th</sup>**

**For the November 2007 Issue**

**509 371 1572**

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

## NFMS JUNIOR ROCKHOUNDS

## "News Flash October"

**Juniors  
Chairman****Gary Buhr**

Months and years ahead we will still be talking about the fabulous

Annual Show in Butte, Montana as well as appreciating the WELCOME from all the Rockhounds and Staff who made sure the Big Show "ticked" like a Swiss clock. A spectacular part of the 2007 Annual Show was honoring THREE 2007 NFMS Junior Achievement Award Winners! Enjoy reading the Winners' Resumes published in this issue of Northwest Newsletter and your NFMS Website Juniors Page during October. Thanks to Editor Bryan Schroeder the application for the Junior Achievement Award is published in the Northwest Newsletter every February and March. Thanks to Web Master Jack Eads the application is available to download from your NFMS Website Juniors Page 24/7/365.

ALEX MILLER of the West Seattle Rock Club received 2nd Place in the Age 12 and Under Category, his photo and Resume are on the Front Page (the youngest contestant).

ALYSSA CARNES of the Rock and Arrowhead Club of Klamath Falls, Oregon accepted her 1st Place Awards in the Age 12 and Under Category that included her name on a new Junior Achievement Legendary Plaque, a \$100 check, a framed Certificate of Achievement and a gold pen set. ALYSSA also attended her THIRD consecutive NFMS Annual Meeting as a non-voting Junior Delegate. Please "thank" her grandmother Kathi Milem for transporting and helping ALYSSA become a huge value amongst the Junior Rockhounds of the Northwest.



**Alyssa Carnes – Resume below**

Hobby related activities

My name is ALYSSA CARNES. I am ten years old and am the club door greeter and librarian at the meetings. I was the first ever jr. delegate to attend an N.F.M.S. meeting. I have also ran the "wheel of fortune" for the last three years at the club's show. Some of my favorite field trips that I have gone on are petrified wood at Dent Creek, opal at Juniper Ridge Mine, and obsidian needles at Davis Creek.

I have two different sizes of barrel tumblers and one vibration tumbler. I also have a pixie, a six inch trim saw, and a twenty-four inch slab saw. With my trim saw and pixie I am learning to make cabs. I think it is a lot of fun. My collection is mainly crystals and fossils, but I enjoy learning about all rocks that I can. For the last two years I have won first place people's choice at our show and now can't win for another five years at our show. This year I am also going to put in a case at the Medford show.

Educational achievement activities

I have been on honor roll ever since I have been in school. I am in advanced classes in reading and spelling. I was in gymnastics for two and a half years. I can play clarinet and recorder and am learning piano.

Community achievement activities

I work making things for the charity table at the rock show all year. I go to rails to trails where I pick up trash on the bike trail. I always help with the Klamath food bank's food drive at school and I go to book buddies and teach kindergartners how to read. I have been in girl scouts for three years. I have also been in dog 4 H for two years.

Work related activities

At home I take care of my pets and do my laundry. All year I collect cans around the neighborhood for money for the rock show. At the rock show I work all weekend. At the rock swap I sold petrified wood I had tumbled and tried to get kids to join the club. Thank you for reading my resume. If I win I will use the money to buy used rock equipment.

COLIN ROWE of Everett Rookie Rockhounds and Everett Rock & Gem Club received the 1st Place 2007 NFMS Junior Achievement Award and now has his name on the Legendary Plaque, received a \$100 check, a framed Certificate of Achievement and an inscribed gold pen set. To make this a very special event, COLIN'S mom, Joan Marie Rowe a.k.a. Marian the Librarian and active ERGC Board Director drove all the way from Everett, WA to Butte, MT so they could attend the 2007 Awards Banquet. This is the kind of commitment that brings success and support for Rockhound Superstars!



**Colin Rowe – Resume below**

HOBBIES: At the Club's annual show, I help at kid's table and at the Club's sales table. I also sell raffle tickets. I have gone on several field trips including to the Rock Candy Mine in British Columbia for fluorite, to Plush, Oregon to collect sunstones, and to Idaho to

dig garnets. This past summer I explored Walker Valley with members of our club. My favorite rock is quartz crystal. I have several fine specimens in my large collection. When I was 10 I had small crystals but at one of our Club shows, I won a large crystal in the raffle. It was a great prize! I displayed my collection at our Club Show last year. I also attend our Club meetings regularly. Playing sports in my free time is an activity I enjoy. I played basketball for 4 years and won the M.V.P. award which was voted on by my teammates. I enjoyed baseball for 6 years but now I focus on soccer which I have played for 10 years. I will start my eleventh year this fall. For two years, 2003 & 2004, I played select soccer. Last fall, my team made it to the finals in the Turkey Shoot, a community tournament, and placed second. At school, I participated on the freshman football team.

EDUCATIONAL ACHIEVEMENT: I am two years ahead in math so this year in 10th grade I am taking Algebra 2/Trigonometry class. Throughout elementary school I had excellent grades and received the President's Education Award for outstanding academic achievement. In Middle School I was on the Honor Roll. From fifth grade to seventh grade I played percussion in the school band. In P.E. at my school I won the Presidential Fitness Award where students have to meet certain standards for their age in different physical categories. In 5th grade I joined Safety Patrol, helping students cross streets to and from school safely.

COMMUNITY ACHIEVEMENT: For community service during the summer after 5th grade I helped my 5th grade teacher with moving to a different room. I took papers off the wall, washed desks, and carried posters and desks to the new room. I also assisted new teacher Ms. Reim prepare and set up her classroom in late August that same year. At church my group was responsible to shop for Christmas gifts for needy teens in the area. We had to budget the funds collected in order to provide something for everyone on our list. I also participated in the 26 life program offered by our church for young people.

WORK: Around my house, I vacuum, weed whack, mow the lawn, pull weeds, and empty the garbage. I used to share the Edmonds Enterprise paper route with my brother. I like to work with wood and decided to build my own display case. First, my mom's friend and I shopped for the supplies and planned the layout of the case. Then we built it according to the plan. Now that it is completed, I feel proud that I built the display case instead of just buying one. I think that it would be interesting to be an architect or an engineer. Then I could design buildings or construct useful appliances. I could devise a plan to use the space available efficiently in a certain area so all of the space would be utilized.

**BUT WAIT!**

The bottom line is that there are famous Junior Rockhounds succeeding in other valuable achievements. See the Front Page about ALEXANDREA WALL who won Top Awards for her article "Cabbing with Lyle".

**Continued on page 7**

Everett Rookie Rockhound JILLIAN BERG came to her first Rock Club meeting saying she is not into "Rocks", but since then has developed a collection of "gems", put her displays in ERGC Annual Shows, works at the KIDS CORNER, goes on many Field Trips, attended the Big 2007 Show in Butte and even authored the following article.



**Jillian Berg – Article below**

**Camp Delaney, 2007**  
by Jillian Berg

(In My Own Words) For my 8th grade year at Tenth Street Middle School my whole class went to Camp Delaney, in eastern

Washington. We raised and saved up money all year to go on this trip. We went on this trip to learn about the rocks that make up Washington. I was so excited because I was already interested in rocks before this trip.

We left Tenth Street Middle School around 8:30 am, June 6th. Our first stop was about an hour after leaving school. We stopped at Deception Creek approximately 7 miles east of Skykomish. There we saw this absolutely HUGE waterfall; and not only was it big, it was very fast! Mr. Bailey, our tour guide for the trip introduced us to the rocks we would be learning about. He explained to us how plate tectonics have shaped the Earth and how waterfalls just like the one we were in front of, helped shape and build some of Washington's physical features.

The second stop we made was at 11:45 am at Chumstick Formation about 3 miles south of Lake Wenatchee. There we saw this rock formation. It was really cool because it had so many different layers of different kinds of rock. Mr. Bailey taught us that for each layer it equaled one year or cycle. All of the layers were sedimentary rock. In this formation you could see which season it was by the amount of silt, or sand in the rock. So, because it takes more energy in the spring and summer, that's when the sand is carried through the rock. The spot where we were at flooded a long time ago, then it would dry out so there were not any animal fossils. But, there were leaf fossils. After Mr. Bailey taught us about the formation, he let us look for some fossils. I found some and I kept them.

The next stop we made was along the road a few miles east of Waterville. We were looking for Pillow Basalt. Mr. Bailey didn't explain much on this stop; he just showed us a sample of what we were to be looking for and told us the darker and shinier the rock, the more valuable it would be. Everyone really liked this stop because it was really hands on and there weren't any lectures. I picked up some nice specimens at this stop.

The last stop we made before we arrived at camp was at Moses Coulee. It was so beautiful there. We arrived there just as the sun was about to set. Mr. Bailey told us about how it was all once under water, a long time ago. That explained the greenish stuff called liken (lichen). He told us the Native Americans used to use liken (lichen) for face painting. He explained to us why plants had such a difficult time growing there (because of the weather; it doesn't rain much there). We learned that the walls of the canyon were made out of basalt.

So eventually we arrived at camp. I won't tell you everything because that would take far too long. But the trip was fun, and I will remember it forever. We made a few stops on the way home, but really we just stopped and looked at scenery. I learned a lot on this trip and I am glad I went.

**Still Dreamin' in Butte**

By Wilma and Jack Eads  
Kitsap Mineral and Gem

We waited until Sunday night and the closing of the 67th Northwest Federation show in Butte, removed our ammonites from our show case to our carrying cases, said our goodbyes to new friends and old and left for a night at Butte's William Clark's Copper King Mansion now turned into a B&B.

As we stepped through its front door (the first of 90 in the mansion) we were introduced to the Octagonal Room almost filled with an antique rectangular grand piano - slightly out of tune.

Through out the mansion there were French beveled glass windows, elegantly carved woods, plaster mixed with paint walls so each room could be appropriately decorated with different patterns made with a comb-like tool, frescoed ceilings, chandeliers, nine fireplaces and furniture to fit the period. All of it fit for Butte's

first, last and wealthiest copper king.

William Clark purchased four mines in Butte in 1872 and operated Butte's first successful smelter. He owned Butte's water, electric and trolley systems and created Columbia Gardens a 68 acre playground and amusement park. Clark owned homes in New York (121 rooms with 32 baths) Santa Barbara, Washington D.C. and Paris, France. He completed the Butte Mansion in 1888 at the cost of \$250,000. There were many keyboards in the mansion - a large pump organ in the parlor, a player piano in the billiards room and a massive pipe organ in the ballroom (it was taken from Sacred Heart Church but was so powerful when played that it shook the foundation of the mansion so of course can't be played) all attesting to the wealth of its owner.

We had to ascend the massive staircase past the 12 foot stained glass windows to the second floor to our Family Room Suite. We slept in one of the African mahogany sleigh beds. We awaited morning and breakfast in the dining room. Two other young couples (one ranchers from Big Timber the other a webmaster from Focus on the Family in Colorado Springs) joined us for melon balls, orange juice, French toast, sausage and garnished with a strawberry.

At 9:00 a.m. the total tour of the mansion began seeing all those other rooms - most colorful with satin and lace we realized what a glorious palace this is. The B&B was only one of the serendipities of the 67th Northwest Federation show in Butte.


**THANK YOU!!**

Roy D. Ford, Sr., Federation Director  
ROCK & ARROWHEAD CLUB

To the Person or all the People that did the house cleaning on the 2006 BY-LAWS & OPERATING PROCEDURES to come up with the cleaned up version that was printed for 2006 – 2007. It was great! The cleanup of By-Laws Article XIV completely eliminated the part that our (Rock & Arrowhead Club) 2005 resolution would have only removed the section that contradicted/by passed the (3) months notice to all clubs; also they removed from the Operating Procedures any reference that would have let anyone submit a proposal at the annual meeting like they had in the past. We had introduced a resolution to fix the OPS part also.

At the 2005 meeting there was at least one proposed resolution submitted at that meeting that caused a lot of debate before it was finally shot down & this is what caused almost ALL Meetings to DRAG on for hours in previous meetings that I have attended starting with my first one at Burley Idaho in about the mid 1970's put on if memory serves me correctly by the Past & Current NFMS Officers of that time, Note; at the 2005 annual meeting I withdrew both of our proposals due to the late hour after one at least last minute proposed resolution was finally defeated partially due to NO written hand outs available to the voting Delegates!

So once again THANKS TO THOSE MAKING THE CHANGES! I waited this year till the Meeting was past history to say CONGRATULATIONS & Thanks for the MEETING BEING SHORT & CONCISE LIKE THEY ARE MEANT TO BE!



**CLACKAMETTE MINERAL & GEM CLUB'S**  
**43RD ANNUAL**  
**GEM and ROCK SHOW**  
**"ADVENTURES IN STONE 2007"**

**CLACKAMAS COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS**  
**694 NE 4TH AVE. CANBY, OR**  
**OCTOBER 27 & 28, 2007**  
**SAT. 9 AM - 6 PM, SUN. 10 AM - 5 PM**  
**FREE ADMISSION**

Door Prizes  
Display Cases  
Dealers  
Demonstrations  
Silent Auction  
Slabs  
Fluorescent Show  
Kid's Korner  
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And.....**MORE!!**

For More Information Contact: Rick Mauer: (503) 691-6395 or tallerlicardo@juno.com,  
Bea Settle: (503) 631-3128. [www.clackamettegem.org](http://www.clackamettegem.org), [RockHound@clackamettegem.org](mailto:RockHound@clackamettegem.org)

## 2007 Gem & Mineral Show Calendar

Date	Club/Show Name	Show Location	Contact Person
Oct 5-7	Clallam County Gem & Mineral Soc "Earth's Treasures"	Carrie Blake Park Guy Cole Convention Ctr. 202 N. Blake Rd. Sequim, WA	Bill Dettmer, gsi@goal-sys.com, Wanda Power fvp@tenforward.com (360)681-2323
Oct 13-14	Marysville Rock and Gem Club, 33rd Annual Show "Roctoberfest"	Marysville Jr. H S Cafe 7th St. and State Ave., Marysville, WA	Rocky McCall 360-629-2515
Oct 20	Eureka Gem & Mineral Show	Senior Citizen's Center 1000 N. 3rd East Mountain Home ID	Margaret Stallknecht 208-365-1653
Oct 20-21	Hells Canyon Gem Club, 41st. Annual Show	Nez Perce County Fair Building, 1229 Burrell Ave Lewiston, ID	Jacque Dabritz 208-843-5545 djdaabritz@msn.com
Oct 27-28	Clackamette Min & Gem, "Adventures in Stone 2007"	Clackamas Co. Fair-grounds, 694 NE 4th Ave, Canby, Oregon	Rick Mauw (503) 691-6395 tallerriardo@juno.com
Oct 27-28	Bellevue Rock Club Rock, Gem & Jewelry Show	3560 W.Lake Sammamish Blvd. SE; Bellevue WA (exit 13, I-90)	Bruce Himko Brucebecky@comcast.net P.O. Box 1851, Bellevue WA
Nov 2-4	Springfield Thunderegg Rock Club, 50th annual Rock & Gem Show	Oakway Center, 112 Coburg Rd, Eugene, OR (exit Coburg Road off Hwy. 126)	Jim Nelson (541) 687-8100
Nov 9-11	NW Opal Assoc. & BEMS 3rd Annual South Sound Gem, Opal & Mineral Show	Expo Hall, Puyallup Fair-grounds, Meridian St. S. & 9th Ave. SW, Puyallup, WA	Steve Mackey 253-759-8903 smackey@harbormet.com
Nov 9-11	Chugach Gem and Mineral Society and Alaska Miners Association Annual Rock and Mineral Show	Sheraton Anchorage Hotel 401 East 6th Avenue, 2nd floor, Anchorage AK	Andres Macias, 907-274-2204, sheilam@super70s.com; Anita Williams, 907-345-2541, awilliam@alaska.net
Nov 10-11	Skagit Rock & Gem Club Annual Show "Treasures of the Earth"	Sedro Woolley Community Center, 720 State St., Sedro Woolley, WA	Tina Anderson, P. O. Box 1553, Anacortes, WA (360) 299-8224
Nov 17-18	Kitsap Mineral and Gem Society's "Fall Festival of Gems" Show	Kitsap County Fairgrounds 1200 NW Fairgrounds Rd. Bremerton WA	Dave Reimers, 360-275-5986 dnkreimers@earthlink.net

## 2008 Gem & Mineral Show Calendar

Jun 13-15	Oregon Coast Agate Club Gem and Mine, 46th Annual Gem and Mineral Show	Lincoln Co. Fairgrounds, 633 NE 3rd St, Newport, Oregon Directions: <a href="http://www.lincoln.or.us/fair/index.html">http://www.lincoln.or.us/fair/index.html</a>	Juli Dahl, 541-563-7495 jdahl2@casco.net PO Box 2439 Waldport, OR 97394
Jun 20-22	68th Annual NFMS Show & Convention	Ontario Fairgrounds Ontario Oregon	Margaret Stallknecht 208-365-1653 mestallknecht@yahoo.com

**Publication Department**  
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Please submit articles for the newsletter to the Editor by **October 14, 2007. This is for the November issue.**  
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**153 Spring St. Richland WA 99354**

The Northwest Opal Association and The Boeing Employees' Mineralogical Soc. Present

# The 3rd Annual South Sound Gem, Opal & Mineral Show

**Friday Nov. 9**  
10 am-5 pm  
**Saturday Nov. 10**  
10 am-5 pm  
**Sunday Nov. 11**  
10 am-4 pm

Expo Hall  
Puyallup Fairgrounds  
Meridian St S & 9 Ave SW

- ★ Gem, Jewelry, Mineral & Fossil Dealers
- ★ Demonstrations, Exhibits
- ★ Hands-on Activities & Crafts
- ★ Silent Auction, Raffle, Door Prizes

Wheelchair Accessible      Food Available      Free Parking in the Gold Lot

Admission:  
Adults \$4.00  
Seniors \$3.00 (55+)  
Students \$3.00 (age 13-17)  
Children 12 yrs. & Under: Free

For more information:  
(208) 283-4205  
(253) 759-8903  
(360) 876-4543

An \$8.00 Combo Ticket is Also Good For Admission To The Antique & Collectibles Show

## 2008 Gem & Mineral Show Calendar

Date	Club/Show Name	Show Location	Contact Person
Feb 9-10	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 23-24	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	Idaho Gem Club Annual Show	Expo Idaho 5610 Glenwood Boise ID	Charlie Smith 208- 628-4002 PO Box 1264 Riggins, ID 83549
May 23-25	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.