



NORTHWEST NEWSLETTER



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Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies

NOVEMBER 2007

Access to Public Lands

by John Wright,

AFMS Conservation & Legislation Chair

Many of you have heard or learned through the news media about all the new federal and state lands that have recently been added to "preserves" where rock hunting is prohibited or severely restricted, and how many other areas of public lands have in other ways also had access to them limited and/or restricted. Proposals are constantly being considered to substantially increase these land preserves and to add more restrictions for access to almost all public lands. The total acreage being placed off limits to us is in the millions, and primarily it is our own fault because, with the exception of a very few, we have done nothing to prevent it from happening.

The U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM) requires permits in many areas, plans to increase the areas where permits are required, and is considering raising the fees for permits. Their counterparts in some states have followed suit for state owned lands or are currently working on legislative initiatives and agendas along similar lines. Environmentalists and paleontologists, plus a host of other groups, are diligently working to limit access to public lands and restrict the removal of minerals, fossils and almost everything else imaginable. Quite a number of bills are pending in Washington and many state capitols right now that will further restrict our right to use public lands, and they are virtually unopposed.

I know that many of the areas involved hold little interest to most of you. Well, you better wake up and get interested because each time our adversaries win, they are encouraged to try for even more and one day they may be plotting to close areas in your own neighborhood. Another and probably more important reason is that if we join with other clubs in our efforts to safeguard public access to federal and state lands, we all gain strength in unity and numbers and can stop a lot of these idiotic restrictions. At the 2007 AFMS annual meeting held in Roswell, NM, it was reported that we have 48,677 members, and that is a larger membership than any of the environmental groups have. Joining with other clubs will help us overcome the attitude that the situation is much too big for us as individuals to do anything about. Cooperation with other clubs will also help us keep more up-to-date and informed about the proposed changes in land usage and accessibility.

My wife and I recently attended a meeting conducted by the U.S. Forestry Service regarding road closures in a local National Forest area. We actually found out about the meeting from other AFMS members in California and Idaho. The meeting turned out to be either the worst organized unprofessional event I have ever attended (I have actually seen Cub Scouts do better), or the meeting was a very carefully

orchestrated "sham". Since the early 1900's the Forestry Service has spent "billions" of our tax dollars building roads in National Forest areas to act as "firebreaks" and to make areas more accessible to emergency equipment. With forest fires establishing new records in occurrence and destruction of public and private property all around the country, the sudden decision to close all these roads just doesn't make sense. Something is going on that smells a little bit "environmentally" fishy.

According to ALAA (American Lands Access Association) many of the agencies and governing bodies at local, state and federal levels do not always keep the public informed about plans that could ultimately restrict access to public lands. When they do let you know, normally through public hearings, the plans are usually complete and the "mind set" is to prevail. Often changes are made without any prior notification or public input, and it's not surprising that this is done on purpose to prevent public interference.

I have just briefly touched on some of the problems that are confronting us, but I think it is enough to give you an idea of what needs to be done. We need to collectively (club petitions) and individually write our state and federal representatives. Writing these letters actually requires very little effort and could quite easily be turned into an interesting and enlightening club project. I might add at this point that "emails" and particularly "email petitions" have little or no effect.

Remember the majority of representatives we send to our state and nation's capitol really like their job and want to keep it. They also know that keeping their job often depends on a very narrow margin of votes, so they are very keen on keeping their constituents happy. If we fail in letting them know what is bothering us or what we want done about the varying legislation that affects our access to public lands, we shoot ourselves in the foot. Why, because there are hundreds of organized groups with very dedicated members that are earnestly working to restrict the use of public lands and you can bet they make their desires known. (Via AFMS Newsletter, Nov 07)

Editor's Comment: Let's go to work!

Special Announcements

This Newsletter will not be published in December 2007. Articles for publication in January 2008 are due December 10th.

NFMS Dues are coming due. See page 3 for more information.

Officers and Committee Members, please review page 2 for correct information. Notify the President & Editor for corrections.

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NEWSLETTER ARTICLES DUE

December 10, 2007

NFMS WEBSITE

www.amfed.org/nfms

TIME SENSITIVE MATERIAL - PLEASE DO NOT DELAY

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

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

THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW

The **AMERICAN LANDS ACCESS ASSOCIATION (ALAA)** is a 501(c)(4) organization. Its purpose is to promote and ensure the right of amateur hobby fossil and mineral collecting, recreational prospecting and mining, and the use of public and private lands for educational and recreational purposes; and to carry the voice of all amateur collectors and hobbyists to our elected officials, government regulators and public lands managers. Your annual membership fee of \$25.00 helps support their activities. Contact: TBD

The **AFMS NEWSLETTER** is published monthly except Jan-Jul-Aug by the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies. Each NFMS member club should have three people (usually the Pres, Secretary, and Editor) receiving the AFMS Newsletter. If they are not, or if anyone else wants to subscribe (\$4.50 per year), write to: **AFMS Central Off., Steve Weinberger, P.O. Box 302, Glyndon, MD 21071-0302.** Make checks payable to "AFMS". **Email:** cebar62@aim.com

The **NORTHWEST NEWSLETTER** is the official publication of the Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies (NFMS) and is usually published ten (10) times per year. This publication is brought to you through your club membership in NFMS. The purpose of the Northwest Newsletter is to keep all NFMS members informed of activities and events pertaining to the business and services of the Federation. The Newsletter is printed and mailed to approximately 3500 homes in six states by Burley Reminder in Burley ID. For matters related to the Newsletter (i.e. content, advertising, etc) contact the **Newsletter Editor** (printed elsewhere on this page). For matters related to the Newsletter circulation (new members, address changes, etc.) contact the **Circulation Chairperson** (located elsewhere on this page).

SHOW COORDINATION. Your Federation provides a free service for NFMS members by listing your show in this Newsletter, on the NFMS website, and three magazines (Rocks and Minerals, Rock and Gem, and Lapidary Journal). Please provide the date and time for the show, the club name and show title (if applicable), the location of the show, and most important a contact person with e-mail address, and or phone (e-mail is preferred). Please send your show information four to six months in advance to the **SHOW COORDINATION Chairperson** (printed elsewhere on this page). If you see an error once your show is listed, or if your show is not listed, contact **Newsletter Editor** (printed elsewhere on this page).

SAVE STAMPS PROGRAM. NFMS members are encouraged to use and save commemorative stamps. The monies generated from the sale of these used (cancelled) stamps is then donated to Cancer Research. The collected stamps can be sent to the **STAMPS Chairman** (printed elsewhere on the page), brought to the NFMS Annual Show or given to your Federation Director in your club.

ATTENTION CLUB TREASURERS:**Where to send your money:**

To NFMS Treasurer for:

1. Dues and supplies
2. Donations for the general fund
3. Donations to Junior Achievement

Send to: Lyle Vogelpohl, see Treasurer this page.

To NFMS Endowment Fund Treasurer for:

1. Donations to Endowment Fund
2. Memorial contributions

Make check payable to NFMS Endowment Fund
Endowment Fund Treasurer is an open position. Should ask Edna Nelson who she wants the funds to be sent to.

To NFMS Scholarship Chairperson for:

1. Donations to AFMS Scholarship Fund
2. Memorial contributions

Make check payable to **AFMS Scholarship Fund**.
Send to Ella Cox (see Scholarship this page).

To AFMS Endowment Fund for:

1. Donations to AFMS Endowment
2. Memorials

Send to: To Be Determined

To **ALAA** Treasurer for:

1. Memberships, new and renewals
2. Donations

Make check payable to **ALAA**
Send to Norman W. Hanschu, ALAA Treasurer, 6607 Sturbridge Ln; Canton, MI 48187-2638

(See this page for address, phone, or e-mail)

NFMS NEWSLETTER ADVERTISEMENT. Members, Non-members, clubs, etc. can advertise in the Northwest Newsletter. This service is provided to help defray the cost of printing and mailing the newsletter and is encouraged by the Federation. The only criteria for the ad is that it be hobby related (e.g. rocks, equipment, grit, shows, etc.).

Ads for the Northwest Newsletter are
\$1.50 per square inch.

Example: 3" x 4" ad = 12 inches
12 inches x \$1.50 = \$18 per issue of the
Newsletter

Do not send ads on colored paper because the background will look gray in the ad. For more information or questions call, e-mail or write the Newsletter Editor (printed elsewhere on this page.)

DEADLINE
for YOUR SUBMISSIONS TO
the next
NORTHWEST NEWSLETTER is
December 10th
For the January 2008 Issue
509 371 1572
BRYAN SCHROEDER
NFMS NEWSLETTER EDITOR
nfmsnews@verizon.net

COMMENTS, THOUGHTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS



**Evelyn
Cataldo**

NFMS 2nd V.P.

Hi Everyone

My Club just finished our fall highway clean-up. Is your Club involved in a highway clean-up project? If not, I encourage you to look into the program. It won't cost your Club any money to sign up, and the State erects signs on the highway notifying the world that your Club is pro-active and concerned about the environment.

We have found the twice yearly clean-up days to be an easy way for new members to become involved in Club activities. After the initial clean-up, it will only take a couple of hours in April and October for 8 to 10 Club members to maintain the program. We make a fun time of clean-up. After the highway pickup, our Club treats the workers to lunch at McDonalds. That's when everyone gets to show and tell their best find of the day. You wouldn't believe some of the items that have been thrown out of or lost from vehicles! I wonder what the McDonalds' staff thinks about the contents of their trash can after we have dumped those unusual "finds" following our show and tell luncheon.

In September, I attended my first Federation committee meeting. The Endowment Fund Committee met at the Portland show. It very quickly became obvious that the Endowment Fund Chairlady, Edna Nelson, and the Fund Treasurer, Jon Spunaugle, have done a great job in managing the Federation Endowment Fund. Thank you to both of them for their past work and for agreeing to continue as the guiding hands for the Fund.

Enjoy the Thanksgiving season with friends and family.



**Margaret
Stallknecht**

**Education Chair
&
2008 Show Chair**

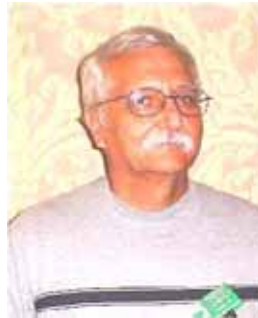
On Education

Fall is coming fast and so are the holidays. I am in hopes of being able to attend many of the upcoming shows in 2008. We are currently working on an informational DVD that we can send out to the clubs. If any one has ideas for it, let me know before we turn it over to a printer next month. I want to thank those who are emailing me their newsletters. If anyone else would like to send their newsletter to me, my email address is mestallknecht@yahoo.com. We attended the Idaho Science Teachers Conference in Boise this week, and it was wonderful as always. The teachers we talked with are really excited about the 2008 show in Ontario and the things we have planned. You all have a safe and Happy Holiday.

(Continued next Column)

Report on the 2008 NFMS Show

I would like to thank everyone that has responded to the information about the 2008 show on the web site. Thank you for all the help! Things are moving right along, and we look forward to a lot of you coming in for the camping. We now have a host hotel that is setting back 15 rooms for us. More information next month!



Chuck Sonner
**NFMS Past
President 2006-2007**
On Club Building

You will find ideas in this newsletter on how to make your club

stronger (e.g. see article on Participation, page 5 of this newsletter). I ask that if your club has a program that is working for you, please share. A simple outline or report to the newsletter will reach all the members. Only through growth at the club level can we keep our hobby strong.

My position for the next year will be finding people to step forward and help contribute to the Federation. Again, one person volunteering from each club will make this job easy.



**2008 NFMS DUES
REMINDER**

Lyle Vogelpohl,
NFMS Treasurer

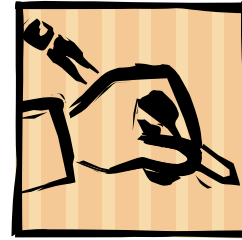
Each NFMS member society will be mailed in early November, to

their mailing address as provided last year, the NFMS Dues Worksheet, and a print-out of the information submitted for inclusion in the NFMS Directory and for the Circulation Chair of the *NFMS Newsletter*. Please read and follow the directions with the mailing.

1. Dues are computed on the basis of your club's **membership in 2007**, not on who is renewing their membership for 2008. NFMS dues and membership lists are to be sent to the NFMS Treasurer by January 10, 2008.

2. Please review the membership list that will be mailed to your society and make corrections as necessary. Follow the directions on deleting members who are no longer associated with your society and adding those members who have joined with you in **2007**.

Thank you for your help in seeing that these tasks are done in a timely manner, and it will be greatly appreciated by all who make use of this information.



**DARLENE' S
DOODLES**

NFMS Bulletin Aids

Hi Editors: It's getting close to the end of

another year & the time to be selecting those bulletins for judging from the 2007 issues.

We have several judges for the Mini, Small, Large & New Editor category plus Articles & Poems, so keep pestering those club members to put on their thinking caps & submit something for those last couple of bulletins for 2007.

Keep up the good work & we'll be seeing you sometime/somewhere.

Darlene Denton
5830 Haddon Lane
Anacortes, WA 98221
360-588-0217

Letter to the Editor

Jim Donovan, Idaho Falls Gem & Mineral Soc.

I am writing in response to the letter regarding the Spencer Opal Mine in last month's newsletter. I have been going there for the last 5 years on every public dig day, as well as making multiple trips to the mini-mine each year. I can tell you that every time I get my full poundage and have found some incredible pieces. I have taken the time to dig around in the dirt and learned what to look for in the rock. You will not find finished opal pieces just waiting for you to pick them up and put them into a piece of jewelry. While you can find solid pieces in Spencer, most of what is found is used to make triplets. It takes time to learn how to cut and assemble these pieces, but it has been something I have enjoyed doing. To me the letter seems like someone who tries fly fishing in Montana once and doesn't catch anything and decides fly fishing in Montana just isn't worth it. I have visited several places to try out different rock-hounding activities that I have decided I didn't care for but didn't write a letter discounting them as not worth the time or money.

We should all be thankful to the business owners who let us try our hand at what they do for a living to see if it is something we also would enjoy. None of these commercial operations have to open their doors to us amateurs and letters like the one published last month may make some owners decide we just aren't worth the effort.

COMMENTS, THOUGHTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Your NW Federation Responds

By Beth Heesacker
NFMS Long Range Planning

Sometimes we wonder what the NW Federation does for us. As Long Range Planner for the Federation, I asked for input from the members (via the NFMS Newsletter) on what we would like to see for the future. One suggestion was to see if we could get discounts from dealers for Federation members (TVGC is a member club of the Federation). At the Portland Regional Paul Heesacker talked to the dealers present and got commitments from most of them to give some sort of discount. You will need to do three things to receive the discount: identify your club, identify yourself as a Federation member, and ask for an explanation of the discount. Not all discounts are the same. We do not have room to explain them all nor to list all their wares.

We hope that this list will grow through time as more dealers contact us (Paul or Beth Heesacker, heesacker@coho.net) and volunteer to do this. Please patronize these dealers and thank them for participating.

Ameritool
Redding, CA (530) 223-2031
info@ameritool-inc.com; www.ameritool-inc.com

B & L Enterprises (wire wrapped jewelry)
Harbor, OR - (541) 469-0355
harborjeweler@charter.net

Bend Beads (gemstones, pearls, findings)
Bend, OR - (541) 317-4671
www.bendbeads.com

Betty's Rock-N-Beads (opal, jasper, petrified wood)
Kamiah, ID - (208) 935-0068
betty@bettysrocksandbeads.com

Blue Willow (rough, sphere making, machinery)
Springfield, OR - (541) 726-1704
riel@comcast.net; www.sphereproducts.com

Bruce Wood, International Mineral Co.
Puyallup, WA - (253) 848-5959
brucewoodminerals@worldnet.att.net
www.brucewoodminerals.net

Budd Bay Rock and Jewelry Shop
Olympia, WA (360) 789-5733
buddbayrock@comcast.net

CRS (rock grabbers/grippers)
Vancouver, WA (360) 693-1048

Crystal Rich (crystals and minerals)
(253) 318-3755
crystalrich@att.net; Ebay seller - krystalrich

Earthly Treasures (rough, jewelry, specimens)
Aloha, OR - (503) 848-3383

Earth's Treasures/BCS Imports (onyx)
(541) 729-3743
besonyx@yahoo.com

Facet Shoppe (equipment, supplies, rough and cut gemstones, custom faceting)
Burley, WA - (360) 443-6313
facet@gemcutter.com; www.gemcutter.com

Gem Nest (unique jewelry, gemstone gifts)
Mountlake Terrace, WA - (425) 346-8475
info@wholesalenest.com; www.wholesalenest.com

H & I Lapidary (amber, beds, slabs, rough, fossils)
Tacoma, WA - (253) 531-7294
yankees_diesel@comcast.net

Lebanon Lapidary (petrified wood, beads)
Lebanon, OR - (541) 451-3043
margaret1@centurytel.net

Opal Zone (rough, cut, specimens, fossils, jewelry)
Cheshire, OR - (541) 554-6211
richard@theopalzone.com; www.theopalzone.com

Pacific NW Jade and Gem
Federal Way, WA - (206) 653-7018
pacnwjade@yahoo.com

Paleo-Enterprises (fossils, minerals, decorator items)
Billings, MT - (406) 670-0506
dtruefossils@yahoo.com

Polson's Rock Shop (gems, findings, equipment)
Idaho Falls, ID - (208) 529-8184

Rooster's Rocks (beach agates, Newport blues, fossils)
Newport, OR - (541) 265-8686

Sunstones & Such (rough, custom cabs, faceted gems)
Caldwell, ID (208) 250-5679

Sweet Creek, Inc. (Pietersite, opal, cabs, findings)
Florence, OR - (541) 997-0109
sales@sweetcreek.com; www.sweetcreek.com

Correction

SADDLE MOUNTAIN COLLECTING SITE (Mattawa WA)

An article appeared in the June NFMS Newsletter on Saddle Mountain (Mattawa WA) collecting site concerning some Sections to which a Mr. Nathan Maughan has the mineral rights. A portion of that article reads: "Although all surface area belongs to the BLM and wood can be legally collected from the surface without digging in those Sections, it might be prudent not to do so under the circumstances."

The following three sentences replace the above quoted sentence with regard to surface collecting:
"Although all 'surface area' belongs to the BLM, the BLM state that petrified wood can not be legally collected from the surface in these three Sections. While the BLM did not specifically say so, the mineral reservation concerns rock whether on the surface or under it. The mineral right is not limited to sub-surface minerals only."

Submitted by Orville McArthur
Hells Canyon Gem Club, Lewiston ID

Rockhound Retreat

To: Portland Regional Gem and Mineral Association,

I wish to thank you for the opportunity to attend the Northwest Rockhound Retreat this year. If I had not received the scholarship, I probably would not have attended. However, now that I have attended, I WILL be going back for more! It was an incredible event put on by some wonderful people. The training for being a judge (competition cases) was very detailed and well paced. My co-student and I had no problems keeping up with the vast amount of material because it was well presented. The level of instruction, in my humble opinion, is the best the Northwest has to offer. Lamar, Peggy, and Barbara each have a vast array of knowledge; having access to all three at the same time was better than any other school could offer. I have been informed, upon completion of the training, I will be judging at our Portland Regional show. I am confident I will do a good job and can supplement judging teams when needed in the future. Once again, thank you all for honoring me with the scholarship. I will do my best to see that you get your investment back in more ways than one.

Sincerely,
Stephen Petkovsek
Mt. Hood Rock Club

Club-at-Large

Do you know someone who lives outside the NFMS boundary or doesn't belong to a local club and would like to get the Northwest Newsletter? That person can join the Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies' "Club-at-Large". Dues are \$4.50 per calendar year; and if that person wishes to join, make the check payable to NFMS Club-at-Large and send to:

Lyle Vogelpohl, NFMS Treasurer
8810 37th Ave SW
Seattle, WA 98126-3617.



Kountinghouse, south central Idaho's finest rock shop, is open on Thursday and Fridays till Christmas, will close for the winter, then re-

open in the spring. We are located at 4143 North Meridian Street, King Hill, Id.

We carry polished and bulk rock, facet rough, fetishes, beads, jewelry, findings, books, eggs, spheres, grit, polish, and lapidary equipment for the rock hobbyist.

For information call (208) 293-4340. You can also visit our website at www.kountinghouse.com.

PARTICIPATION

By Bill Luke, Past President, NFMS

(3rd and final of a three part series)

In the first two parts of this series, we have discussed how participation leads to success, and lack of participation leads to failure. We don't want to think of failure, but it is a reality of this hobby over recent years. Many clubs no longer exist because they did not offer opportunity or encouragement to their members; or members, new and old, did not PARTICIPATE in the things offered. When people do not PARTICIPATE the organization is doomed to failure.

Here are some Success stories and some not so successful:

Last Spring, we went out to the coast to visit family, attend some shows and the mid-year meeting in Pasco. Along the way, we were in Salem and attended a meeting of the Willamette Agate & Mineral Society. There were 137 people in attendance at that meeting! That's PARTICIPATION!

A few years ago, the North Idaho club nearly disbanded due to declining membership. They are now one of the growing, active clubs in the Northwest.

At the combined NFMS/AFMS Show at Pt. Townsend, the Mt Hood club offered to take on the Silent Auction. Many thanks go to that club for making it a success; and in the years since it has been a more effective fund raiser. They have PARTICIPATED.

Junior Members- At the Puyallup Valley sponsored show in Enumclaw, I was upcoming NFMS President and looking for good qualified people to appoint to various committees. One immediate concern was the Juniors. Gary approached me, wanted to know what was entailed in the job. Linda Keltz had the information that Sue Holland had developed and used for years while she chaired the committee. By Sunday afternoon, Gary said he had talked to Linda, reviewed the materials and had some ideas he wanted to try. We all recognize the job well done since Gary accepted the appointment. The Juniors are PARTICIPATING!

Web Site- Following the AFMS Show in Nashville where Marty Hart led a meeting regarding web sites for the AFMS and the regionals, I wrote an article for the Northwest Newsletter. I got an e-mail from a couple in the Yellowstone Gem & Min. Soc. in Livingston. Roger and Judy said they would volunteer to set up a site for us. You can now PARTICIPATE by viewing amfed.org/nfms. You can PARTICIPATE by sending information, by suggesting materials that could be presented, and by letting everyone know about the site. As Roger said, he can't do it alone, and Jack Eads agrees. He needs our support. Also, we would like to see every club have their own web site, connected to amfed.org, so that we can promote all of our clubs.

Insurance- This one is not a success story. At several of the AFMS Regionals, there were special meetings where the subject of insurance for our clubs was discussed. Now, I believe, every one of the Regional Federations, except Northwest has group coverage for third party liability. I have tried unsuccessfully to get someone to PARTICIPATE by coordinating with the other regionals and with our clubs in hopes of making it available to us. Many of our clubs want and need this coverage.

Voice Auction- Chuck Sonner initiated this event and it has been an excellent fund raiser. With good ideas and leadership, in conjunction with our PARTICIPATION it can happen! We all need to participate by supplying good material to be auctioned and to bring \$\$\$ to purchase some of these good materials. After all, the sale is where the funds are raised.

White River Rock Club, 1964-1989 - Our first club. A 25 year old club was declining, experiencing almost no PARTICIPATION. Only 4-5 people at a meeting. The President sent post cards to all known current, past and potential members about the crisis that would be addressed at the next meeting. Be There! About 30 people showed up. Big discussion, esprit de corps, we'll do it, etc. At the next meeting there were about a dozen and the following one about six people were there to plan and volunteer to help with the upcoming show! Before adjournment that night, we decided to disband. It takes more PARTICIPATION than that to put on a show or to continue as a club.

Butte Mineral & Gem Club, Est. 1922- This club had been experiencing the usual decline in recent years. Most of the current members have only been in the club a year or two. But they are suggesting new ideas, volunteering to do things, and

everyone is PARTICIPATING. We can only grow and get better with the spirit that is now in the club. It is exciting and rewarding to be part of it.

We hear and read all too often that there is a growing lack of interest and participation in our clubs. They are dying! What can we do? If your club has been successful in increased membership, increased interest, increased PARTICIPATION, please share that information by writing an article. You and the members who made it possible deserve commendation and recognition.

In closing, this article is intended to present a thought, a realization that I came to after many years. It does not have the answers. Many books and courses have been written on motivation. They still are; so maybe motivation toward participation is something that does not have an answer, either. In one class we were given this quote, "Remember, it's my motor you're trying to vate!" What's that mean? Is the point that you can't "motorvate" anyone? I hope not!

I believe the facts, the reality, do support the supposition: Most of the problems clubs have are because no one participates; most of the successes come when the members do participate!

Northwest Fossil of the Month

By Betty McLin Hare, Idaho Gem Club member

Utah's State Fossil - *Allosaurus*

Allosaurus was the most successful predator of the late Jurassic. These theropods are often referred to as "the wolves of the Jurassic" because they were so widespread.

Allosaurus is the most common theropod (meaning "beast foot") in the vast tract of dinosaur-bearing rock in the American Southwest known as the Morrison Formation. Remains have been recovered in Montana, Wyoming, South Dakota, Colorado, Oklahoma, New Mexico and Utah, in the United States. There have also been finds in Portugal and Australia. *Allosaurus* shared the Jurassic landscape with several other theropods, including *Ceratosaurus*, the massive *Torvosaurus*.



Allosaurus skull from Dinosaur National Monument, still partially encased in matrix. The name means "strange or different" lizard. Editor's note: The skull is difficult to see. It is a profile view with the teeth and nose on the left. Focus on the darker porting of the picture in the center

Allosaurus were large carnivorous dinosaurs that lived from 150 million to 144 million years ago during the Late Jurassic Period; they are best known from fossils found in the western United States, particularly from the Cleveland-Lloyd Quarry in Utah and the Garden Park Quarry in Colorado. The Utah Cleveland Lloyd Quarry fossil bed contains over 10,000 bones, mostly of *Allosaurus*, intermixed with the remains of other dinosaurs, such as *Stegosaurus* and *Ceratosaurus*. It is still a mystery how the remnants of so many animals can be found in one place. The ratio of fossils of carnivorous animals over fossils of plant eaters is normally very small. Findings like these can be explained by pack hunting, although this is difficult to prove. Another possibility is that the Cleveland Lloyd site formed a 'predator trap', similar to the La Brea Tar Pits, that caused large numbers of predators to become mired in an inescapable sediment.

The *Allosaurus* had powerful teeth that were used to bite into the flesh of stegosaurus, iguanodontids, and giant sauropods, all of which paleontologists believe were the major staples of the *Allosaurus* diet.

Thousands of fossilized bones (in a few cases nearly complete skeletons) found throughout North America has made *Allosaurus* one of the most well understood of all predatory dinosaurs.

NFMS JUNIOR ROCKHOUNDS

"News Flash November '07"



**Juniors
Chairman
Gary Buhr**

Yep, we now have winter to look forward to, along with all of the indoor activities of this cool season. Will Junior Rockhounds, Juniors Advisors or any Rock Club member have more time or allow more time to sit down and write an article about what the Junior Rockhounds are doing in your area? You could write about Junior Rock Club meetings, Field Trips from last or next summer, Lapidary Workshops or family Vacations with opportunity for Rockhounding. Many actually plan vacations so the Rockhounding part is primary! What really needs to happen is more PARTICIPATION writing articles and submitting pictures about the Juniors that will be our Future. What are you waiting for?

Northwest Newsletter Editor Bryan Schroeder, NFMS Webmaster Jack Eads and Juniors Committee Chairman Gary Buhr are eagerly waiting to hear from you so we can start 2008 with amazing communication and PARTICIPATION. President Patty Amos would also appreciate your PARTICIPATION, which Past President Bill Luke writes about and explains in your media recently.

Saying you "can't" or saying your Rock Club has no Juniors will never accomplish the reality of more Junior members. Take action and become an "Action Hero!" Like, volunteer to be the Juniors Advisor for a few years, develop a vision and plan for what you and the Juniors want to do; poll them, ask them. Most Rock Clubs will gladly support your efforts and supplies. A major key to success is lots of good quality donations from the membership for the Juniors to work with or receive as prizes at every meeting. If there are inadequate donations flowing, your Rock Club will have to fund the purchase of good quality material along with the annual budget for your Junior Rock Club needs. Even fundraisers can be an avenue of attraction for new Junior members, such as auctions, game events, contests, sales or activities that fit your Community the best to bring monies and members into your Rock Club.

When marketing your Rock Club and your events to the public, best to target younger families with kids. Communicate with groups like Boy Scouts, Elementary Schools, Campfire Girls, 4-H, Granges, YMCA, YWCA, City-County-State Fairs, outdoor clubs and any organizations where you find young families that may be education-centered. Go speak to them, take polished stones to give out along with flyers about your Rock Club and our favorite hobby--Rockhounding!

Publicity promoting your Rock Club should always highlight Juniors activities PLUS interests for their parents or guardians who are the transportation and sponsors. New members bring fresh ideas, vitality and the modern "currency" to keep your Rock Club on the grow. You have to be visible in your Community. Do you think anyone will come if they do not know you are there? We must continue ongoing outreach to thrive.

Certainly the economics and demographics of your Community play important parts regardless of whether you are rural or urban. It seems that success one new member at a time is a good working pace that will prevent "burnout" of your Rock Club's "spark plugs".

This means taking an interest in every Guest that attends your meetings and helping them understand the opportunities and magnitude of rockhounding along with the benefits of your Rock Club membership.

There is literally something for everybody, but it is an educational process for Guests to enjoy their experience at your meetings while finding what portions of Rockhounding fits their fancies and abilities. What you get out of this hobby is proportional to what you put into it, so why not "kick start" your returns by helping a Guest that may become a new Junior member or your Juniors Advisor! Soon you will have a Junior Rock Club that is creating the Future of the NFMS. Imagine two or three Junior Guests at each of your Rock Club meetings.



Christine Van Proyen

Pictured above is CHRISTINE VAN PROYEN, age 9, participating in Rock Art painting at the 3rd Annual Clallam County Gem and Mineral Society Show in October at Sequim, WA. CHRISTINE is extremely artistic, a "fossilnut" and loves Field Trips. She and her sister RACHEL VAN PROYEN are the newest members of Everett Rookie Rockhounds and are sponsored by their grandfather, Life Member Mel Buhr, who joined Everett Rock and Gem Club in 1954, now in his mid sixties. Both girls enjoy making jewelry; RACHEL is intrigued by finding fossils and CHRISTINE wants to learn carving.

Once a year there is an event in Marysville, WA called "Rocktoberfest". This 2007 event was the 33rd Annual Marysville Rock and Gem Club Show, October 13-14. It was a fabulous show with double revenues because Publicity Chair Anna Calkins went to the major local newspaper with pictures and information about the Rocktoberfest. One big part of that show is

the participation of the Northwest Rockies, a 4-H Club oriented towards Rockhounding, the lapidary arts and the study of earth sciences. Sales from their booth, operated by young Rockhounds from a wide area of the Puget Sound region, provide funds for a one-week camping and rock-hounding trip each summer and supplies for their shop and safety equipment. LISA CURTIS is pictured at their booth selling all kinds of mineral specimens and lapidary rough. LISA has been



Lisa Curtis

a member of Northwest Rockies since age 12 and is now a graduate of CWU in Ellensburg, WA. She likes opal and hematite the best and has gone to OR, MT, UT and all over WA on Field Trips during her years of Rockhounding.



Nathan Curtis Samantha Humble

The Marysville Rock Club Sales Table was assisted by Northwest Rockies because they were so busy. Pictured left in photo is NATHAN CURTIS, age 17, and a "Rockie" for a "long time" helping at the Club Sales Table. Of all the Field Trips that NATHAN has enjoyed, his consistent favorite is going to Utah for septarian nodules. SAMANTHA HUMBLE, (photo right) age 14, is a Northwest Rockie for at least five years and most enjoys the Field Trips to Wenatchee, WA for garnets. SAMANTHA helped make the Club Sales Table a success and had fists full of cash to prove it! Working well together, the absolute best people on the planet are the Clubs of Rockhounds--Rock On!

Introduction to the Article Below

By Dee Holland
NFMS Rules Committee Chair, 2008

Recently Shirley & I received a copy of the El Dorado County Gem & Mineral Society's newsletter, edited by Merryan O'Neill. (From CFMS) In the newsletter was an article by Clay Williams on exhibiting. As NFMS Rules Committee Chair, 2008, I'm not only interested in working with judges but also in working with exhibitors and making their experience educational and eventually helping them get to the ultimate achievement, winning a Master's trophy at the AFMS level..

Clay's article exemplifies what we are trying to do to upgrade displays, competitive and non-competitive. In recent years in the California Federation on the non-competitive application form, we have added a BOX with a notation asking the exhibitor to check the box if they wish to have someone from the rules committee or a judge that specializes in their particular area of interest to evaluate and suggest ways to bring the exhibit into competition readiness. I hope to initiate this in the NFMS this coming year.

Clay's article is going to be reprinted in the AFMS Newsletter because we believe everyone should have a copy of this to help them begin their journey through exhibiting and culminating in competitive exhibiting. For new members of local clubs, this is a guideline to taking your first steps toward putting in a case at your local show.

We urge all regional federations to have an Exhibitors and Judges workshop-seminar at the earliest opportunity. Let's make it a goal, to have more exhibiting and especially competitive more exhibiting. Bring it back from the brink of extinction.

Sincere thanks to Clay Williams for a thoughtful and meaningful article.

Displaying Your Treasures

By Clay Williams, El Dorado County Mineral & Gem Society

Whether a case contains mineral specimen(s) or the product of any other related activity, the challenge is to display them to best effect. The author, who is struggling with the mastery of this art and has been for a number of years through successes and occasional failures, was asked by several club VIP's to share some of his insights.

A good place to start is the color scheme. The colors of all supporting elements of the exhibit should be relatively muted and, for the best effect, should both match each other and what is being displayed. The author took labels in colors that were appealing and also blended with his specimens, along with a junk piece of mineral that matched those specimens, to a fabric store where he placed each next to liner fabric candidates. The store clerk must have wondered what was going on. When the winning fabric was finally determined, the only other limitation was, could enough be purchased to cover all liner foam board and any possible fabric covered risers?

The word, muted, cannot be emphasized enough when talking about the case, the liners, the mounts and/or risers and the labels! All should be less eye catching than the object or objects of display. Various earth tone colors are an excellent way to execute this difference. Avoid bright colors, especially red, at all cost! That the last, when on cars, draws inordinate scrutiny from police should be a hint why. The bright purple liner that I saw at a recent show should probably go in favor of something much less attention getting -- after all, the intent is to get people to focus on what is being displayed, not on the background.

Labeling is important and indicates the exhibitor has taken the trouble to correctly identify your treasure. In most cases, such as with minerals and fossils, it should definitely include locality and name information. This should be more specific than, say, "Emerald, South America." A better effort would state that emerald is a variety of beryl and, at the very least, give the country and province, region or district of origin. It also might be nice to know where a lapped piece of tiger's eye, topaz in a jewelry setting or turquoise in a belt buckle came from. Competitive entries have certain requirements, which vary for different types of displays. Check the AFMS rules and CFMS Supplementary Rules Information. It would also be a good idea to ask for someone's advice if you are contemplating such a move.

Even though not really muted, black, depending on the shade of your liner, usually is fairly readable. Readability is an important issue and is one reason why the author tested a sample label at the fabric store. Readability also limits your choice of fonts. Making that font bold and of a reasonable size helps, as it must be assumed that not everyone can see or read well.

The author's labels are composed on a PC and then printed onto transparencies using an ink-jet. Each transparency page is then cut into individual labels, which may be further trimmed to fit in the spaces between specimens. Gloves are used whenever handling the finished product, as it fingerprints easily. This not-often-seen procedure gets lots of attention from those more interested in the process than the item or items being displayed.

Layout within the case is, of course, a personal thing. However, too much clutter looks very unprofessional and should be avoided; it diminishes the overall impression. Also to be avoided is the placement of lower quality material among stars; the former detracts from the latter. This is easier said than done, especially if one is new to collecting and, therefore, has a limited choice of what to include.

Labels should be of consistent type and not look like they were just thrown in. The liner or liners should cover the entire area visible through the glass, and not be stained or dirty. Avoid giving the appearance that your effort was lacking.

It is a good idea to try putting your case together pre-show. Such a dry run will get the kinks out, if any. It is the time to make final changes and is great practice, especially if the exhibit is at all complex. Also this can uncover any omissions while something can still be done.

Good luck!

Ed. Note: Clay Williams has credentials behind his advice. He has entered his displays and won in competition at California Federation of Mineralogical Societies shows. He won the 1st Place Advanced Minerals Trophy for his copper minerals case and was also awarded the coveted Hamel Minerals Trophy at the 2005 CFMS Show in Roseville, CA. In June, he received the 1st Place Masters Minerals Trophy for his copper mineral case at the 2007 CFMS Show in Lancaster, CA.

Newsletter Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

Bryan Schroeder, Editor



Why is the newsletter 8 pages but sometimes 4 or 12 pages? Obviously the number of pages is a function of the amount of material (articles) the editor receives to publish for the coming month. However, the increments are always 4 pages because one sheet of newsprint paper (for the printer) contains 4 pages. For example, this month's issue of the newsletter contains two sheets.

What happens if the editor has only 7 pages worth of material to publish? I find one page of filler material. These are usually the "tips", "hints", or articles from other newsletters that are usually noted as to the source. If I have 9 pages of material, most likely I will hold back one page for a future issue. The alternative of finding 3 pages of filler material can be very time consuming.

What determines a front page article? Usually it will be related to an upcoming event within the federation or an event that has just concluded. Events can include the annual show, Rockhound Retreat, mid-year meeting or a field trip. Something with a picture(s) will get preference. This issue of the newsletter is not a good example of the above but the lead article is on the front page because it was on the front page of the AFMS Newsletter and concerned an important subject.

How much editing or proofreading is done? Editing or proofreading is usually limited to grammar corrections and punctuation for readability. Sometimes word changes or phrase changes are made for clarity. Other times I will include an "editor's note" for clarity.

Do all article submitted to the editor get published? No! But almost all do get published. There are only two articles that I have not published. In one case I didn't understand the purpose of the article and the author did provide one when asked. The other was too long, somewhat controversial and would have required extensive editing.

What would improve the newsletter most? There are lots of things that would improve the newsletter. The single easiest improvement item would be a picture or clip art along with the article. A picture of the person submitting the article or a picture or clip art which depicts the subject matter of the article would add interest. For example, the front page article in this issue of the newsletter could be represented with a sign on a road which says "road closed". Sorry, I could not find one in Clip Art. Oh, well.

2007 Gem & Mineral Show Calendar

Date	Club/Show Name	Show Location	Contact Person
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 Fairgrounds, Meridian St. S. & 9th Ave. SW, Puyallup, WA	Steve Mackey 253-759-8903 smackey@harbornet.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

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 16-17	West Seattle Rock Club 42nd Annual show "Presidents" Gemboree	Alki Masonic Temple 4736 40th Ave SW Seattle, WA	Audrey Vogelwohl (206) 932-3292 avogelwohl@comcast.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
Mar 8-9	Magic Valley Gem Club, Annual Rock and Gem Show	Boys & Girls Club, 999 Frontier Road, just East of C.S.I., Twin Falls, ID	Harold Waggoner, (208) 423-3292, or Shirley Metts rmetts@cablcone.net
Mar 8-9	Rock and Arrowhead Club Annual Show	Klamath County Fairgrounds, 3531 S. 6th St. Klamath Falls, OR	Amanda Newnham, 541-892-8364, dustyrocks@aol.com G. Carlson 541-882-8276 Marv Stump 541-882-8341
Apr 19-20	Lakeside Gem and Mineral Society Annual Show	Benton Franklin County Fairgrounds, Bldg #1, Kennewick WA	Dave Westland (509) 735-9678
May 12-13	Bozeman Gem & Mineral Club - 49th Annual Show	Gallatin Co. Fairgrounds Black & Tamarack St. [Exit I-90 @ N. 7th St	Dan Carter 406.586.4552 or Doug Ellis (406) 266-4452 opalcrusher@hotmail.com
May 17-18	Hatrockhounds Annual Gem and Mineral Show	Hermiston Convention Center, 4155 Hwy 395, Hermiston, Oregon	Mike Filarski, PO Box 502, Irriagon, OR 97844 stonemorlin1@netscape.net
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

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: http://www.co.lincoln.or.us/fair/index.html	Juli Dahl, 541-563-7495 jdahl2@casco.net PO Box 2439 Waldport, OR 97394
Jun 20-22	68th Annual NFMS Show & Convention	Ontario Fairgrounds Ontario Oregon	Margaret Stallknecht 208-365-1653 mestallknecht@yahoo.com

2009 Gem & Mineral Show Calendar

Date	Club/Show Name	Show Location	Contact Person
Jul 31-Aug 2	NFMS/AFMS Combined Show hosted by Billings Gem & Mineral Club	Montana Trade Center Billings MT	Doug True 406-670-0506 dtruefossils@yahoo.com

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

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

Expo Hall
Puyallup Fairgrounds
Meridian St S & 9 Ave SW

Friday Nov. 9
10 am-5 pm

Saturday Nov. 10
10 am-5 pm

Sunday Nov. 11
10 am-4 pm

★ 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:
(206) 283-4205
(253) 759-8903
(360) 876-4543

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