



# Rocky Mountain Federation News

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January 2010

The official publication of the Rocky Mountain Federation of Mineralogical Societies, Inc. The RMFMS is a regional member of the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies, inc. The Rocky Mountain Federation News is issued ten times a year (except June and July). It is a privilege of membership of the RMFMS and cannot be exchanged by the editor for individual club newsletters from other regional federations.

## From Your President's Pen



Bill Smith

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We have entered a new year with several new faces filling our Officer and Committee positions. DeLane Cox is our new Vice President, and Debbie Leschner is our new Secretary. Walt Wells, a Past President, is now the Colorado State Director, and my lovely wife, Janet, is the new Kansas State Director. I certainly want to welcome our new editor, Betty Cain, Is the past editor of *Pick&Pack*, the newsletter of The Colorado Springs Mineralogical Society, Colorado Springs, CO.

Betty is not new to the Rocky Mountain Federation having won numerous RMF awards. In 2008 her newsletter won first place and third at the American Federation level. This past year, she placed second at AFMS and many of her club members won awards for their newsletter articles.



She is also our new Club Publication Chairperson. Thanks, Betty, for taking on these responsibilities. I also want to thank Deanna Smith for her outstanding contribution as the retiring RMFMS newsletter editor. Our newsletter is the main source of distributing information to all the clubs. I am looking forward to reading articles submitted by our committee personnel.

Judy Beck, a Past President, is our new Change of Address/ Labels Chairperson. Make sure you now send

any change of address to her.

Check the RMFMS Officers and Committee Chairpersons 2009/2010 in this newsletter for the rest of the personnel assigned to committee positions. If you are a committee member, check your information to make sure it is correct, and let Betty or me know if it needs to be corrected. If you see a committee position that is vacant and would have an interest in the position, give me a call and *make my day*.

It is also time to send in your clubs' officer update. Let's make sure our club directory is up to date this year.

Hope everyone had a very Merry Christmas and may you have a super collecting and rock licking New Year.

Until next month.

## RMFMS Web Site

Spread the word! RMFMS Member Club newsletters can be published on the RMFMS Website. You can find them at <[http://www.rmfmts.org/club\\_newsletters.htm](http://www.rmfmts.org/club_newsletters.htm)>



## Treasurer's Report

Gene Maggard

The annual report, dues, and insurance form went out to all clubs on October 15. Deadline for reporting was December 15. If your club has not yet reported, you are getting very late. We must have the reports in by mid-January in order to get your club info into the 2009-2010 directory. If your club has not received the report form, please let me know ASAP so that I can get you a copy.

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912 Otero  
Dodge City, KS 67801  
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### Deadline

Bulletin submissions deadline is the first day of the month prior to publication date; i.e. the deadline for February's bulletin is January 1st.

## 2010 Convention Packets

Gene Maggard

Convention packets went out to all clubs on December 15. I used the Treasurer's list for email distribution. The packet is also on the RMF website, <www.RMFMS.org>. **Convention registration is required by March 15.** If your club did not get the packet, please let me know or check the web site. If your club is not sending delegates, please consider filling out the proxy form

naming someone from another club who will be attending to vote on your club's behalf. We always have a problem getting a quorum and so generally need all the proxies that we can get. The theme for the WGMS show is "Tri-State Treasures."

The "Tri-State" refers to the old lead and zinc mining district located in SE Kansas, NE Oklahoma, and SW Missouri. The district is now com-

pletely shut down, and some of it is a superfund site. But, some great mineral specimens came from the many mines. Both outstanding mineral specimens and mining artifacts will be on display. We will also have some special programs about the district. For the first half of the 1900's the district provided the majority of the world's supply of lead and zinc.

## New DVDs for RMFMS Program Library

Nancy Hicks

### 2009 AFMS Program Competition Winners

**"Romanian Mines & Minerals"** 30 min. DVD by Michael Shaw  
(Stillwater Mineral and Gem Society, RMFS)

Although Romanian minerals are not commonly available in the U.S., many world-class specimens including some rare varieties have been produced during its' long mining history. Some historical background, location maps, images depicting Romania's mineral diversity, and views of mines round out this presentation.

**"Barite – The Gangue's All Here"** 30 min. DVD Larry Havens  
(Littleton Gem & Mineral Club, RMFS)

Using his competitive barite exhibit as a starting point, Larry shares what he learned about this essential mineral: not only a selection of specimens from across this country and around the world with its varied crystal habits, but also other essential information with a dash of humor (note the title).

**"Opals"** 4 min. DVD Nickolas Riebeek  
(Rookie Rock Rollers, CFMS)

After a family trip to Virgin Valley, Nevada, Nick prepared this presentation for his fellow junior club members showing what he had seen, learned, and found at this classis location. Although it is very brief, adults will also appreciate the geology, how opals are collected, and some specimens found there.

**"Oklahoma Rocks!"** 58 min. DVD  
prod. by *Explorer Multimedia* (www.okgeology.com)

Looking for an armchair field trip or an introduction in advance of an OK expedition? Take a road trip across Oklahoma, visiting state parks, museums, tourist attractions, and natural areas to learn about the state's rich, interesting geology, and natural history by looking at sands, stone and soils, and more.

Continued on next page

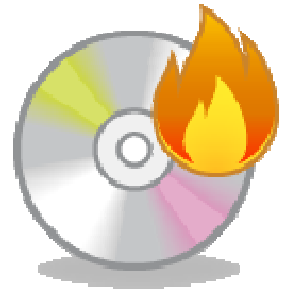
These and other programs are/will be available from your Regional Program Library. To reserve a program, contact RMFMS Program Library Bob & Nancy Hicks, 10022 E. 13th St N, Collinsville OK 74021 918-371-2406, ronan10@aol.com.

Information about the 2010 Program Competition is published later in

this newsletter and on the AFMS website. Even though digital formats are generally preferred, 35mm and VHS presentations are still eligible – as long as the content is current and images are of good quality.

Entries can be sent for preliminary comments. Deadline for submission is April 15, 2010. Con-

tact AFMS Program Competition Coordinator, Marge Collins [marge@qtm.net](mailto:marge@qtm.net) 269-695-4313. They will all be listed on the RMFMS Program Library web site when ready for clubs to request.



**Don't be stuck without a presentation at your next club meeting. Programs are available and easy to obtain!**

## New Editor!

Season's Greetings to all.

Thank you, Pres. Bill, for the very kind words in your article; I will do my best to live up to them.

RMFMS has a history of very good newsletters; I look forward to the challenge of continuing that excellent performance.

I didn't want my first edition to contain an apology, but I must. With our December club show and the hustle of the season, time escaped from me. I'll do better next month with your assistance.

A little personal info—I have a career with a na-

tional DoD contractor, am a wife of 35 years, and have a little over 10 years of newsletter experience, first for an OSU Extension Office in Oklahoma and then for CSMS. It's been a lot of fun. I am not a rockhound (sun allergy) as my hubby is, but we serve where our talents lie. My tenure as the *Pick&Pack* editor has been very rewarding, and I hope this new assignment will be the same.

I would like to receive articles submitted from the regional clubs each month. It's important that we share out best with fellow rockhounds.

Betty Cain

A Word document is best, but I'll work with what you send me, even snail mail. I would also like pictures if they are pertinent to your subject. I look forward to having my email box swamped with your input! I'm including an article from Colorado just to get the ball rolling.

I've learned that the deadline for submission is the first of the month preceding the next publication. If you miss that date, I will try to include your article in the next edition.

My email and address are on page 2.

I hope you like the new look of the newslet-

**Submit your club's newsletter articles to be included in the Rocky Mountain News**

## 2010 AFMS Program Competition

Nancy Hicks

The purpose of this Competition is to recognize and reward authors of presentations about the Earth Sciences and to make winning programs available to affiliated cClubs across the country.

Video, digital presentations, or slides relating to the Earth Sciences are eligible. Submit entries in one of the four amateur classes or "EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION" for commercial presentations.

\* Each program is judged on its own merits.

\* Entrants in amateur categories will receive a composite score sheet with comments/score.

\* Judging form and "Tips for Good Programs" are available on AFMS website <[www.amfed.org](http://www.amfed.org)>, from AFMS Coordinator, or your Regional Program Librarian.

### WHO MAY ENTER

Any club, society, or members thereof, with 2010 dues paid to a Federation affiliated with AFMS may enter. (Does not apply to "Excellence in Education" entries).  
DEADLINE for entry: April 15, 2010.

### CLASSES FOR ENTRIES

Class 1-Educational - about geology, minerals, gems, fossils, etc.  
Class 2-Field Collecting showing site(s), specimens, with some geol-

ogy, collecting methods and other aspects of interest.

Class 3 -"How To Do It" techniques/equipment for fossil prep., jewelry, metal work, carving, faceting, other lapidary, etc.

Class 4 -"Just for Juniors" - any of the above for/by youngsters.

"Excellence in Education" entries are judged separately.

### JUDGING (judges look for)

accuracy of information/ educational value, quality of photographs/ visuals,

completeness of story - but not "too much" information,

narration that moves well from one image to the next,

presentations that explore an area of interest or

demonstrate ideas/ techniques which viewers may try, title, credits, and "The End" slides where needed, phonetic spelling of unfamiliar words in "script" example: Sault Ste. Marie (SUE saint marie).

CD, DVD or VIDEO entries:

- submit a copy;
- may be 'live action' or static slides;
- integrated audio is greatly appreciated but not required.

### SLIDE PRESENTATIONS

- must be 35mm, in standard mounts.
- should be relatively new originals, though historic slides can be appropriate in some presentations.
- must be spotted for projection, preferably with a red dot in lower left corner and coded with entrant's initials.
- must be numbered to match script.
- a script (written narration indicating when each slide is to be projected) preferably typed, ready for duplication. (Sample formats are available upon request). Script on a "floppy" or CD is very helpful but not required.

### AWARDS

A \$200 cash prize for the highest scoring program (with 95+ points), \$100 if score is 94-90 points, (for highest score) in each Class 1-4. In addition, winners receive national recognition.

A copy of winning programs is given to each Regional Program Library; thus winning programs are available to clubs across the country. Winners will be announced at the AFMS Awards Banquet at La Habre CA, June 19, 2010.

### PROGRAM LENGTH

Adult programs: 30-40 minutes is optimum; Juniors: 20 minutes suggested maximum.

### REPRODUCTION/ DUPLICATION

By entering, all winners grant permission for AFMS to duplicate/ transfer their entry to DVD format for the Regional Libraries. 35mm slides will be scanned, and then returned to producer. Digital entries can be returned after duplication, if requested. Non-winners will be returned after AFMS Convention. AFMS will take reasonable precautions to protect program while it is in our hands.

### HOW TO ENTER

Fill out entry form (or copy) and ship with carefully packed program to address below.

### **DIRECT QUESTIONS AND ENTRIES TO:**

AFMS Program Competition Coordinator, Marge Collins, 3017 Niles-Buchanan Rd., Buchanan, MI 49107  
phone: (269) 695-4313  
email: [margaet@qtm.net](mailto:margaet@qtm.net)



## 2010 National Science Olympiad

Steven Veatch, CSMS

The Colorado Springs Mineralogical Society's Junior program instructor, Steven Veatch, will participate in the National Science Olympiad as a mentor and coach for a team of students from Jenkins Middle School in Colorado Springs. These students also attend the CSMS Junior program on the third Thursday of each month. The Jenkins students will be participating in the paleontology (fossil) competition. **The very first statement in the student guide for the Olympiad is to connect with a local rock and mineral club!**

Veatch will start immediately on this project and has set a number of dates to work with these students over several months this year.

For the past 26 years, Science Olympiad has led a revolution in science education. What began as a grassroots assembly of science teachers is now one of the premiere science competitions in the nation, providing rigorous, standards-based challenges to more than 5,700 teams in 48 states. Science Olympiad's ever-changing event lineup provides a variety of career choices and exposure to practicing scientists and mentors. In the

words of a Science Olympiad alumnus, "I consider Science Olympiad the most important and influential activity I participated in during my middle school and high school career."

Science Olympiad is a national nonprofit organization dedicated to improving the quality of K-12 science education; increasing male, female, and minority interest in science; creating a technologically-literate workforce; and providing recognition for outstanding achievement by both students and teachers. These goals are achieved by participating in Science Olympiad tournaments and non-competitive events, incorporating Science Olympiad into classroom curriculum, and attending teacher training institutes.

### **Goals of the Science Olympiad**

To create a passion for learning science by supporting elementary and secondary Science Olympiad tournaments at building, district, county, state, and national levels with an emphasis on teamwork and a commitment to excellence.

To improve the quality of K-12 science education throughout the nation by changing the way science is perceived and the way it is



*Exploring the World of Science*

taught (with an emphasis on problem solving and hands-on, minds-on constructivist learning practices). This goal is accomplished through in-depth core curriculum training workshops and the distribution of curriculum materials.

To celebrate and recognize the outstanding achievement of both students and teachers in the areas of science and technology by awarding thousand of certificates, medals, trophies, and scholarships.

To promote partnerships among community, businesses, industry, government, and education.

### **Science Olympiad Tournament Goals**

To bring science to life, to show how science works, to emphasize problem solving aspects of science and the understanding of science concepts.

To develop teamwork and cooperative learn-

ing strategies among students.

To make science education more exciting so more students will enroll in science courses and engage in other science activities like science reading, fairs, meetings, and field trips.

To promote high levels of achievement and a commitment to excellence, to demonstrate that American students can perform at levels that surpasses expectations of even practicing scientists and engineers.

To attract more students particularly females and minorities to professional and technical careers in science, technology, and science teaching.

More information about each state's Science Olympiad competition may be found at <<http://soinc.org/>>.

To have your RMFMS member club sponsored event listed here, email editor Betty Cain at [bettycain3@comcast.net](mailto:bettycain3@comcast.net). Include the following information:

You may include other info about your show if you wish but will only be printed as space permits.

- Show dates & times
- Show location
- Phone number
- Club web site
- Sponsor (club)
- Contact name
- Email

All RMFMS clubs are also encouraged to register their event listings on the RMFMS web site at: [www.rmfmts.org](http://www.rmfmts.org). Email your submissions to the Webmaster.

#### **January 15-17, 2010 Globe, AZ**

53rd Annual Gila County Gem & Mineral Society Show. Gila County Gem & Mineral Society, Gila County Fairgrounds, 3 miles north of Jct US 60-70; hrs Fri-Sat 9-5, Sun 9-4. Live demos, door prizes, food, displays, minerals & jewelry, etc. Contact: Show chairman Val Lathem, 602-466-3060, [val65@cox.net](mailto:val65@cox.net).

#### **January 30-February 14, 2010 Tucson, AZ**

For two weeks in 2010, Tucson, AZ hosts dozens of gem shows, dealer displays, and special events throughout Downtown Tucson and nearby hotels during the Annual Tucson Gem Showcase. The 56th Annual Tucson Gem and Mineral Show will be held Feb 11-14 at the Tucson Convention Center. The theme is "Gems and Gem Minerals."

#### **March 26-28, 2010 Ada, OK**

A Festival of Gems, Minerals & Fossils 2010, Ada Gem, Mineral & Fossil Club, Fri 10-6, Sat 9-5, Sun 10-5, Pontotoc Co. Agri-Plex, NE corner of Hwy 99 and the Richardson Bypass, Ada. Contact Ed Vermillion, PO Box 782, Purcell, OK 73080 405-527-6431 [okieed42@windstream.net](mailto:okieed42@windstream.net).

#### **April 9-11, 2010 Albuquerque, NM**

Treasures of the Earth Gem & Mineral Show, Albuquerque, NM. Fri & Sat 10-6, Sun 10.5. Admission \$3 except Friday is DOLLAR DAY! All kids under age 13 are FREE. Over 40 dealers selling crystals, faceted stones, cabs, rough, beads, jewelry, books, mineral specimens, and lapidary. There will be a mineral ID booth, gold panning, silent auctions, a live wolf to see, and don't forget the Junior table—only juniors may purchase inexpensive specimens from this table. Creative Arts Center @ the NM State Fair Grounds, San Pedro entrance, north of Central and south of Lomas. Contact: Paul Hlava, 505-255-5478.



**SHOWS  
AND  
MORE**

#### **April 10-11, 2010 Kingman, AZ**

Mohave County Gemstoners' Wonderful World of Rocks and Minerals, Kingman Academy of Learning High School, Sat 9-5, Sun 9-4, admission and parking Free. Demos of obsidian knapping, faceting, wire wrapping, mineral display, silent auction, dealers, cash raffle drawing, children activities. Contact Nan Russell 928-846-0927 or visit [www.gemstoners.org](http://www.gemstoners.org).

#### **April 23-25, 2010 Wichita, KS—RMFMS SHOW & CONVENTION**

Wichita Gem & Mineral Society's 57th annual show, Cessna Center, Wichita. 2010 theme is Tri State Treasures. Admission: Adults \$5, Ages 12-17 \$1, Under 12 FREE with paid Adult. Setup is Thursday, April 22; registration information has been sent to all member societies' treasurer. Editors Breakfast will be held at the LaQuinta Inn East on Saturday, April 24th, 8a.; Delegates meeting at 1p.

#### **May 7-9, 2010 McPherson, KS**

18th Annual McPherson Gem & Mineral Club Rock Sale & Swap. Rocks, gems, minerals, fossils, jewelry, and lapidary work. Located at 4-H Fairgrounds, Woodside & Hickory, McPherson, KS, Fri 9-7, Sat 8-6, Pot Luck supper and Rock Auction Sat 7p, Sunday 10:30-3. Hourly door prizes, displays and collections, Kids Spin-N-Win, concessions, free rock ID. Dealer info: Free camping (no hookups) but RV dump Thur-Mon only. Limited indoor facilities available (call for cost), free tailgating allowed in parking lot. Contacts: Jim Nutter 1611 Jody Lande, McPherson 67460, 620-241-2433; Marvin Lundquist, 441 N. Charles, McPherson 67460, 620-241-7003.

#### **June 18-20, 2010 Whittier, CA—AFMS SHOW & CONVENTION**

CFMS Show hosted by North Orange County Gem and Mineral Society, So. CA Univ. of Health Sciences Campus, 16200 E. Amber Valley, Rd., Whittier, CA. Hours 10-5 daily. Contact: Mike Beaumont 714-510-6037, [www.nocgms.com](http://www.nocgms.com). When the North Orange County Gem & Mineral Society accepted the challenge to sponsor the 2010 CFMS/AFMS show, they were in almost the same situation as the biblical lad, David, when he went up against Goliath with nothing more than a simple slingshot. In case you don't remember, David slew Goliath. WOW, what a challenge, especially in these trying economical times. Join us in on of California's HIDDEN TREASURES, La Habra (right next door to Whittier) for the 2010 show.

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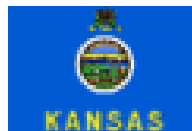
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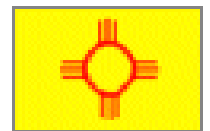
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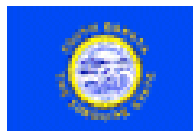
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