NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Spring has been a very good time for the Rocky Mountain Federation. Let me give you a sampling of a few of the “goodies.”

We had a wonderful convention in Albuquerque, where awesome weather for four days of our meeting was a very special added attraction. Although attendance was a little light compared to past conventions, we garnered enough Delegates and Proxies to have a quorum for Federation business. And business was swiftly taken care of at the Delegates meeting.

There were five new State Directors added to the Federation roster, as well as three new committee chairs and two new contest coordinators who began working for the Federation.

Even though the treasurer reported the total membership of the RMFMS had dropped last year, there have been three new clubs added to our membership.

The Spring weather was good in most of the Federation area, allowing good field trips and good attendance at Shows and Swaps.

Yes, our Federation is really shining. I will be proudly representing all of you at the American Federation meeting in Minneapolis, Minnesota, in July. Look for my report on that meeting in the August Newsletter.

Until then, keep up the wonderful work all of our clubs are doing. Happy rock hunting!

PS—Another new club has joined our federation. We are very pleased to welcome into the federation the Cache Geological & Archeological Society of Brigham City, UT. Gary Warren is the president, 435-720-1775, rock_hunter1@hotmail.com. We hope to see Cache G&A represented at the next show and convention.

KLICKS & KLACKS FROM THE EDITOR ...

Diane Weir, Chaparral Rockhounds President & RMFMS Junior Program Chair, sadly reported that Howie Whiting passed away on May 15, 2012. Howie served on many committees for the federation during his years of rockhounding and even after his health began to fail. He represented us and his home club in Roswell, NM with exemplary distinction. Our hearts and prayers go to Howie’s family. His many friends will greatly miss him.

You may be a little confused by this June edition of the newsletter as we usually don’t publish during June and July. However, I wanted to make up for combining the February and March newsletters due to some health issues. I thank you for understanding and hope you enjoy this abbreviated edition. Our next newsletter will be the August issue. I hope you have a wonderful rock-hunting summer and would appreciate your sending me news about your trips and finds. It would be great to put out a 20 page August newsletter!

Does your club have a website? I’m suggesting to the Treasurer Gene Maggard that we add a field on the membership form for your web address and webmaster information. Our Webmaster Contest is up and running, and we would like to have all of you enter the contest for 2013. We also have a new chair for the All American Club. It’s not too early to start putting your entry together. Please contact the new chairmen for these committees with questions (info on page 11).

We only have three volunteer RMFMS committees vacant—Public Relations, Safety, and International Relations. Check out the duties for each in the By-Laws and contact Pres. DeLane Cox to add you to the faithful volunteers who guide your federation.
Does the Long-Range Planning Committee know your club’s opinion of the offer from Diamond Dan’s special offer for the Mini Miner’s Monthly publications and activities for the RMFMS juniors? See May newsletter, page 3, for info and send an email to Judy Beck, Richard Jaeger, and Doc Bob Carlson stating your point of view. It’s a great way to attract junior members to your club whether you have a small junior group or a large one. This program can work alongside the AFMS FRA program quite easily and provide helpful activities for the junior leaders (twice the badges to be awarded). Other federations are already using Diamond Dan’s publications. www.DiamondDanPublications.com

Speaking of Long-Range Planning, we should be hearing about the items that were sent to the committee for investigation soon. Maybe we could coax an update from one of the committee. See the May Delegates Meeting Minutes to learn what’s on their agenda besides the Mini Miner’s Monthly.

---

**TREASURER’S REPORT**

**BY GENE MAGGARD**

The first half RMFMS financial summary has been prepared. We seem to be pretty much where we expected to be on income and expenses after getting in the dues and insurance collections. Income is down, but it looks like expenses will be down, also. Let me know if you have any questions or would like a copy of the summary.

---

**SUMMER MUSING**

**DR. MIKE NELSON**

“I have a dream” is perhaps an overused phrase, but never-the-less a most appropriate term for this opinion piece. The dream is reoccurring, similar to my “not studying for the math exam dream”, but always appears after attendance at club or federation meetings. I have named the dream YB, and most time it is in living color and quite vivid – I can almost reach out and touch the characters. At other times of the year, between meetings, the dream is in black and white and often fuzzy. However, all of the YB dreams have a common denominator – I wake up before the ending without the answers. This action is not unlike the math dream – did I pass the test?

The YB dream is named after my favorite philosopher, Yogi Berra, who sums up my life journeys by stating: When you come to a fork in the road, take it (as well as the title quote). The dream, like most modern movies, has plots and subplots complete with a long list of stars and supporting characters. The stunts are quite mild, compared to current movies, and the scenery seems fairly benign – senior centers, meeting rooms, church basements, PowerPoint presentations. The YB dream also has a G rating for there are no villains, no monsters, no cursing, and only good people working hard to enjoy their hobby and teach others. However, even with the G rating, children would not understand the dream since it is full of political intrigue, an uncounted number of Board meetings, and unending discussions which rarely produce final resolutions – not unlike our city council meetings! In both instances I think of Ernest Hemingway who admonished us to never mistake motion for action.

There are two major plots in my YB dream. The first plot is best described as “will rock and mineral clubs, as we currently know them, survive for the next generation”? Of course, most members will answer. But I have serious reservations. I base my somewhat lack of confidence on a couple of reasoning points. Clubs of any sort are based upon a mutual interest of members in a subject—that is easy to understand. But clubs also depend upon a constant supply of new members as others “pass on” or drop out. After the Civil War, the Grand Army of the Republic (GAR) had tens of thousands of members in the Union states but as members aged and passed on, the GAR simply faded into obscurity. In the early 1900’s literary societies and clubs “were the big deal”. How many community bands do you know about today? As World War II ended and our veterans (my father among them) came home to work and raise families, they often remembered service to their country by joining the American Legion or Veterans of Foreign Wars. Today the Memorial Day service at my hometown local cemetery is marked by a
few struggling Vietnam veterans trying to hold down the tradition. Younger vets mostly are not interested. And as a final example, in the more affluent 1950's-70's these same WWII vets populated fraternal organizations in great numbers; not so today.

So, how does this entire banner about WWII vets relate to rock and mineral clubs? Well, it appears to me that many clubs are not replacing members who “pass on” or drop out. So to me, the question becomes “how do we (the clubs) attract a new cadre of members, but especially “younger” members?”

I certainly don’t know the answers to this multifaceted question, and my opinion plus $2.50 will buy you a small coffee at Starbucks and little else. But I want to give it a try and throw out some possibilities. And, this leads into my second plot of the YB dream—ideas flowing from members and shared with all—how to grow and improve the clubs, and by association, the federation?

In one subplot part of the dream, members from all types of clubs in the federation learn from each other, and at times, share resources and people. In the “learning from members” aspect I suggest the federation construct a survey and request, well actually beg, each club to answer and offer advice. IMHO, the survey should focus on “what do clubs really want from the federation, and what can clubs and members offer to each other”? Do we know the answer to the first part? I suspect most clubs want the insurance aspect, but what else? Are federation meetings each year important for clubs? Could federation meetings be held at other times of the year, for example the RMFMS holding a meeting at either the Tucson Show or the Denver Show? Would that sort of a venue attract more participants? How may the shows attract additional “judged” cases? Do members believe the judging rules are sort of like the biblical Old Testament—lots of laws with little room for imagination and innovation? Perhaps we need to be more cognizant of Albert Einstein’s warning that not everything that can be counted counts and not everything that counts can be counted.

In the Utopia Federation the Pebble Pups are above average, the members are strong, and the Officers are good-looking (apologies to Garrison Keillor). The goals of the club subgroups are teaching and learning while the final product presented for review is personal satisfaction AND display in a meeting case. At any rate, I would like the federation to fully understand what the clubs “want” from the mother organization, and, in turn, what could clubs offer to the federation. Perhaps we could all learn!

I also believe that clubs could easily learn from each other if all club newsletters were available, in a timely manner, on the RMFMS web site. This would seem like an easy project; however, many newsletters are out of date, some just don’t seem to be submitted, while others are considered “private” and only for the eyes of members. Personally I learn much, and get numerous ideas, from reading club newsletters. I feel as though I really know the people in Tulsa since their wonderful newsletter is freely available. Someday I would like to visit their meeting.

Sharing field trips is another way to learn from member clubs. Some of this is taking place but how much—I don’t know? Could additional sharing take place with notice on the federation web site? Why not?

I would like to see club members volunteer for a speaker’s bureau. The federation web site could list these volunteers, and their chosen subjects, with an appropriate email address. Host clubs would likely need to pay travel expenses for visiting speakers but in a location like the Front Range here in Colorado, clubs are relatively close. This certainly might make the job of the club program chair an easier task!

I have always been fond of field trips and geology road logs. These trips need not be organized but members might be interested in understanding the geology along the route to the wedding of their second cousin’s, twice removed, son. I would like to see the federation have a hot link button on their web site relating to geology road logs of the various federation states. Each of us could contribute as we came across web resources. The same goes for geology/mineralogy/fossil resources of a state. It would be nice if the federation maintained a hot button site with a bibliography of resources. I want the federation web site to be the “go-to” site for anyone, club member or not, interested in the geology (general term) of the RMFMS states.

I have an avid interest in land use policies of both federal and state governments. Unfortunately the rules of the federal government often change from state to state, and certainly the individual states have their own rules. The federation could become a clearing house for correct information (not opinions) about collecting activities in every RMFMS state. I have seen too many opinion pieces about collecting rights, or perceived non-rights, that often distort the correct collecting regulations. Every member should be concerned about collecting rights, but members also need to accept some facts, i.e. vertebrate fossils and commercial collecting on public lands are off limits. Our energies need to concentrate on other possibilities, i.e. collecting on state “school sections”. Perhaps we could learn from other clubs about how to work with federal and state land-managing agencies. Could clubs sponsor a “fill in the digging holes” Saturday, or a trash pickup day? Who knows what sort of possibilities might arise from these meetings. And don’t forget to join a citizen’s advisory committee sponsored by the BLM. If you do, or don’t, like a particular piece of proposed legislation, contact the appropriate agency and/or your senator or congressman—in a non-confrontation manner. Perhaps the federation could offer advice on writing appropriate letters.

That brings me back to the effort of attracting new club members, especially those somewhat “younger” (whatever that means)
before I wake up each time and the dream is completely gone, numerous and continuous zingers fly in from all directions. Is my face still clear, Albert Einstein, who keeps telling me the combined talents of our quality organization lead us? As I said, the dream is fuzzy and broken up at this point. However, one this a bit of subliminal advertising? Bits and pieces - such as: Mike, what are you trying to tell the federation and the clubs? Just everyone [the organization] has talent. What is rare is the courage to follow the talent to the/elipsis places where it leads.

The federation could fully utilize the collective energies of members and their clubs, if we followed the advice of Erica Jong who noted that dedication could be accomplished by the use of a federation-sponsored survey allowing room for appropriate comments.

Another possibility is to have federation clubs work with “geology clubs” at local colleges and universities, and perhaps even high schools—possibly a great source of energetic new members. Invite geology club members on field trips, and certainly extend personal invitations to local meetings and subgroups.

And the list goes on and on, but most of all RMFMS needs to hear from you, the federation clubs and members. I believe this action could be accomplished by the use of a federation-sponsored survey allowing room for appropriate comments.

RMFMS has evolved into an organization working for the local clubs and their many members. What brings us all together is an embrace of the commonalities of our hobby—our love of lapidary, collecting, fossils, and all things geological. All organizations have their strengths, their weaknesses, their capabilities, and all of them engage every so often of [as the dog] battling the bear just so he can call himself a dog again (Wm. Faulkner). All organizations must endure change and evolution, however painful that might seem in the short term. Is it time for some change in the federation and member clubs? I have my opinion, but I can certainly live with whatever the officers and members decide.

So here is where the YB dream begins to fade and becomes very fuzzy. The federation is successful, but will the success continue? Does the federation really know “where it’s going”? And I keep dreaming about “what could happen” scenario - - if the federation could fully utilize the collective energies of members and their clubs, if we followed the advice of Erica Jong who noted that everyone [the organization] has talent. What is rare is the courage to follow the talent to the… places where it leads. Where could the combined talents of our quality organization lead us? As I said, the dream is fuzzy and broken up at this point. However, one face is still clear, Albert Einstein, who keeps telling me in the middle of difficulty lies opportunity.

But before I wake up each time and the dream is completely gone, numerous and continuous zingers fly in from all directions. Is this a bit of subliminal advertising? Bits and pieces - such as: Mike, what are you trying to tell the federation and the clubs? Just let them run their own organizations. Keep out of it. You are not an expert in organizational psychology. You don’t know the answers. My brain is being bombarded by ideas and thoughts – and then I wake up, un-rested and in a state of confusion.

Needing help, I talked to the noted “dispenser of advice”, Charlie Brown’s counselor Lucy Van Pelt, and asked her to help me interpret my dream. After listening to my questions for nearly an hour, she finally tired and told me to remember Robert Collier who said, or almost said, The great successful organizations of this world have used their imagination. They think ahead and create their mental picture in all its details, filling in here, adding a little there, altering this a bit, and that a bit, but steadily building – steadily building. That will be $.05, please.

I learned much from my father, and he often told me, upon asking, that he enlisted “for the big war” to make certain his sons could live in freedom, but with this freedom came responsibility. He was always full of ideas and never shy to express them. Later in life he lost his seat on the local school board for talking about this new idea (at that time) of school unification—a “death sentence” (metaphorically speaking) in a small rural town. So I come by it naturally—I usually say what I think (but without malice) and have probably ruffled some feathers with this opinion piece, but as I am fond of saying, life goes on. If I provoke some thought and conversation, it is a win-win situation. And, if you believe anything in this article, please contact the federation. If nothing happens, well, life goes on! But I will continue to think about the words of George Bernard Shaw (and paraphrased by others): You see things; and you say, Why? But I dream things that never were; and I say, Why not?

And finally, have you thanked federation and local club officers for dedicating so much of their prized time to “the cause”. We have a strong cadre of federation officers lead by President DeLane, and our newsletter under Editor Betty is the best in the AFMS. Drop them an email; you need to say nothing more than “thanks”.

As always, the opinions expressed in this op-ed piece are mine alone and do not reflect the thoughts and opinions of the RMFMS.
Caveat Emptor! or buyer beware

EL Gambrisino, May, 2012

Neve[r] has that saying been truer in our hobby than it is at present. At a recent show, a chap who had purchased a figurine about six inches tall, at some cost, which purported to be rock crystal, approached me. He had his doubts and so had I — it was too good! Even under a lens there wasn’t a blemish to be seen. I was convinced, and so was Richard Belson (who was with me) that it was glass. With so much material flooding in from China and appearing at gem shows, buyers should be very careful what they purchase.

Note this from a recent article I have seen: ‘Much sold as quartz is actually manmade glass—particularly raspberry, cherry, or straw-ber{i}y quartz. You could find cheap prices in both wholesale and retail. The general idea seems to be to sell what you can, and who cares about what it actually is. I inquired about some white beads and was told that they were white jade. A quick scratch test with a key showed me that they were probably marble, hardness 3, and not white jade which has a hardness of over 5. Still the dealer insisted they were jade.’

The article goes on: - ‘Another common answer is “stone.” Well from what I saw, stone could be anything from various rock types to jasper or other types of quartz. Another common name given is “fossil,” which usually stands for a limestone—with fossils or not. I found a pair of carved ducks labeled “fossil.” They seemed to be a brown and grey breccia with some fillings of pale grey quartz. So I assumed the whole thing was quartz because a limestone breccia of that form and color is not common in the lapidary world. By the way, a breccia is a rock composed of angular pieces of rock that have been cemented together. The pieces can be any size or composed of any material. Well, I liked the ducks and they were cheap, so I bought them. Yes, they were a limestone which has some appearances of a breccia—but probably is not—but even the pale grey “quartz” was actually calcite. The patterns probably represent some replacement of possibly fossil fragments on other materials by calcite from the limestone but retaining some of the shape and color or the original material. Now I know why they were inexpensive.

Limestone is much softer than many of the other lapidary materials. It is quicker and easier to work, plus it is not as hard on the equipment. I found carvings and some beads of limestone that were grey, brown, pale greenish, yellow-brown, and tan. Years ago we bought some that was called riverstone, a pleasing soft pale yellow and brown lime-stone. When I asked about the name, I was told it was found along a river. An acid test with hardness told me it was limestone. When the bead industry imports from the Orient got underway in the early 1980s, “fossil beads” (mostly dyed) were the first big cheap import item. The limestone was not as attractive as the quartz varieties, but it is much tougher for breaking or shattering.

Why? Genuine jadeite or nephrite (actinolite) generally is composed of sub-parallel interlocking laths that may be seen easily or are microscopic or even submicroscopic. Quartz is composed of the atoms of silicon and oxygen, and it is only the bond of these elements holding things together. Jade has the elemental bonding also, but in addition it has the interlocking crystal laths. ‘Next time you go to a show and see lots of beads and carvings do not assume that you are getting a bargain because of the low price. They probably aren’t what it says on the tin.


The Kingdom of “Boulder”

By Dr. Beth Simmons, Denver Gem & Mineral Guild

A CONTINUING SERIES OF COLORADO CITIES NAMED FROM GEOLOGY

On October 17, 1858, a group of white men, insatiable in their quest for gold, made camp at the “Red Cliffs” near a major stream laden with round rocks brought down from glacial valleys in the mountains far upstream. The Argonauts had haled their wagons and pitched their tents in Nebraska Territory at the foot of what is now called Boulder Canyon. In February of 1859, A.A. Brookfield and 56 shareholders organized the Boulder City Town Company. They laid out their dream town on land that had yet to be purchased from the Native Arapahoes —4,044 lots to be sold at $1,000 each! They named their town for the multitude of glacial boulders in the creek beds. Al-though the initial response was less than enthusiastic (probably because it wasn’t named for any-thing very exciting!), the town company lowered their lot prices and the mining supply town took root. The town of Boulder formally incorporated on November 4, 1871.
Surrounded by bedrock of many types and sizes, all kinds of quarries opened nearby. Limestone, sandstone, and coal mines provided much needed commodities for living in a semi-arid environment. Farmers settled Boulder Valley and along tributary arroyos and streams, irrigated native hay and wheat along with vegetables for the influx of miners and settlers. After great competition between GoldenGoldenGolden (more appropriately named, but, for the founder of the town instead of yellow metal), the dully-named Boulder City won the bid for the State University. Life in the Kingdom has not been the same since.

What are those large massive rocks that are trying to climb up the mountains west of town that were called “Red Cliffs” by the earliest explorers? They are the Flatirons, like Denver’s Red Rocks—huge remnants of Paleozoic alluvial fans that lap against the mountain front, like waves on the shore of a great ocean. Uniform beds of an ancient windblown sandstone overlay the irregular red arkose of the Fountain formation of the Flatirons. Quarries in this, the Lyons sandstone, provided the building stone for campus buildings. South and north of Boulder Valley hogbacks of Cretaceous limestones and sandstones jut above the valley floor. And east of town, a prominent wall of basalt, the Valmont Dike, provided the stones for the Denver Tramway tracks; the dike strikes almost east-west undoubtedly pointing to an ancient buried volcano. In 1859, William Kitchens discovered coal at what is now Marshall, south of Boulder, and mining began. The last mine to operate in Colorado’s northern coal fields, many of which undermined the Kingdom of Boulder County, was the Leyden in Jefferson County, north of Golden; it closed in 1946. The Kingdom of Boulder boosted its own oil boom at the turn of the century. The oldest well, the MacKenzie, was just recently capped.

You’d think a Kingdom called Boulder County would have something to offer rock hounds. Abundant abandoned mines bearing gold, silver, tungsten, tellurides, and fluorite, but don’t go on private property or fall in a mine shaft! Unique fluorescent minerals near Jamestown with a mica mine along the way invite all mineral seekers. But only go with Pete Modreski [RMFMS Fluorescent Chair]! Lacy dendrites that look like ferry growths on layers of Lyons sandstone occur in the quarries where stone is still being excavated for landscaping. But don’t tread on someone else’s rocks! Spectacular pearly ammonites roll out of the TXI Quarry along Route 93 south of Marshall. But go in there only under TXI supervision (hard to obtain) and don’t take a camera!

So then, what rocks are there to see? The best rock-oriented museum in Boulder County is the UC-Boulder Natural History Museum on CU Campus. Boasting a fine collection of natural history specimens, artifacts, and fossils, the exhibits form a small portion of the immense research collection behind the scenes. Admission is free, but parking is not. The old mining town of Nederland hosts a mineral museum in the old stone highway garage on the original “run-around” in Colorado. There, local miners and collectors have amassed a tremendous collection of tungsten ores, probably the finest in the country. But it’s only open on weekends during the summer months. There is a small personal collection on display at the Coal Miners Museum in Lafayette on the back porch. As enchanting as that museum is, it’s only open on Thursdays and Saturdays from 2 to 4.

Coprolites are the most fun thing to collect in the Boulder County. Along Route 128 west of the Rocky Mountain Regional Air-port, just past McAselin Boulevard, on the south side of the road, there is a large road cut where you can find cone-in-cone structures and humungous masses of ironized wood in the soft Pierre shale. In a swale on the north side of the road, look for small roundish iron pellets—ancient fish poop. But don’t collect at this site if it is wet! You’ll sink up to your knees in mud and ancient fish poop and be stuck there—in the Kingdom of Boulder!

Hiking Through the Ice Age: Smilodon vs. Uintatherium

By Jack Shimon, Colo Sprgs Min Soc Pebble Pups, w/web support by Julie Shimon

http://pebblepups.blogspot.com

If you saw these animals in real life out on a hike which one would you be more frightened of?
The skull in figure 1 is from an animal about the size of a rhinoceros. The skull in figure 2 is from an animal about the size of a tiger. They both have long canines. So when I saw these skulls at the Morrison Natural History Museum, Colorado on a field trip with my family I told the lady that asked me about them that they were probably both carnivorous saber tooth tigers.

How wrong I was. She told me all about them. On the Uintatherium (figure 1) the canines were the obvious thing I looked at. I think they like to trick people because the skull of Smilodon fatalis is hanging just above it on the wall. But when you take a closer look they are actually very different.

If you think about the size, an animal with a skull as big as Uintatherium would make a gigantic cat. Much bigger than any cat I can think of, and even huge in comparison to the Smilodon. The canines are long, but not nearly as long or sharp as that of Smilodon and unlike Smilodon, Uintatherium has no front teeth like most predators. Uintatherium also has long plates of flat teeth used for grinding. I finally had to accept the fact that this animal was an herbivore!!!

It’s funny the museum had these on display together because not only are they entirely different animals but they also lived millions of years apart. Uintatherium (Beast of the Uinta) lived in the Eocene Epoch and went extinct 37 million years ago, probably due to climate change. They have been found only in Wyoming and Utah near the Uinta Mountains, which they are named for (“Wikipedia”, 2011). I think they didn’t have to roam far to feed because they ate all sorts of land and aquatic plants. They are similar in size and shape to a rhinoceros but not related at all. Modern rhinos weigh from 1,900-7,700 lbs which is a LOT more than Smilodon, and Uintatherium was probably similar in weight to the rhino (“Wikipedia”, 2012).

So why do they have those long canines? Maybe they were used to defend themselves but it was also suggested they used them to scoop plants from the marshes to feed on (“Wikipedia”, 2011). We might never know.

There are three main species of Smilodon (also known as saber-tooth cats) and S. fatalis was middle in size between S. gracilis (smallest) and S. populator (largest). Smilodon went extinct in the late Pleistocene about 11,700 years ago, also probably due to climate changes. They were highly specialized top predators feeding on large game like bison, tapirs, deer, horses, sloths and possibly juvenile mastodons and mammoths. They also may have attacked prehistoric humans. S. fatalis was about the size of a Siberian tiger, an weighed up to 500lb; but built more like a modern day bear–robust for power–not speed. Smilodon canines have been measured up to 28 cm long and were used to slice through the throat after the powerful legs pulled the prey down. S. fatalis had a large range, from North America into West South America (“Wikipedia”, 2012). I wonder if Smilodon had met Uintatherium who would have won? I don’t think it would be very smart for Smilodon to try to eat Uintatherium.

I have definitely decided that if I were to meet these creatures on a hike that I’d rather run into Uintatherium. He definitely wouldn’t try to eat me although that large skull still looks very scary.

Note: Author’s bio follows references. Jack Shimon is a frequent contributor of papers, poems, articles, and monographs on geoscience subjects.

References:

Author’s bio:
Jack Shimon is seven years old and a first grade student in Colorado Springs, CO. Under the guidance of his grandfather he got interested in geology at a young age and has been on numerous rock and fossil collecting trips in Colorado and Texas. He’s been a member of Pebble Pups since 2009 and has earned seven merit badges through that program. His other interests include cub scouts, drumming, mountain biking and rock climbing.
WIRE ARTIST OF THE MONTH JUNE 2012: LLEWELLYN ALSPACH

http://www.wire-sculpture.com

I live in Konawa, Oklahoma. Just living and enjoying life with what it hands me. I am a registered nurse, for 45 years and a retired Air Force colonel.

My jewelry is probably just about like everyone else. Mostly I do things the way I like them. My husband says what I do is big and gaudy, but I tend to like big showy things. When I was first learning I used a few patterns but now I mostly do free forms and make it however the beautiful rock wants to be wrapped.

One thing I do not do is overwhelm my piece with wire because to me the beauty in in the rock and the wire is only a frame for my favorite things... the rocks.

Tell Us About Your Work!

My feature piece has a story with it. When I lost my Mother I had the sad task of cleaning out her home. In the process I found this string of “pearls”, I’m not sure if they are real or fake. I decided I would put the prettiest rock I ever processed on the pearls as a tribute to my Mother.

The rock is a piece of crazy lace agate, which is my very favorite rock. We processed it from a huge chunk we bought in Quartzsite. It is so very unique, being less than 1/4” thick, it has a totally different design on both sides. It is truly the most beautiful free form I have ever made. Mother would have loved it and I do too. And yes, it is big and gaudy measuring 4” long and 2.25” wide.

I use a soft wire because the wire must conform to the groves in the shape of the rose. Most rose rocks will have many layers of “petals” so it is easy enough to find two ways to route the wires around them. However; if there are not two suitable grooves, you can use a tiny file and help Mother Nature out a bit before you put the Paleobond on it. I don’t suppose it really requires much talent, just the ability to work with wire and be creative.

Some say that I have artistic talent, I have always done something creative. As a child I did embroidery with my grandmother. Did hand tooled leather for years back in the 70’s. I did original designs rather than the usual patterns. Then in the 80’s & 90’s I was doing oil and watercolor paintings, which I took up as my "basketweaving classes" when my husband died of lung cancer…In the 90’s my new husband and I needed a hobby and rockhounding came into our life. Now we are totally consumed with rocks and the rock club. We have all the lapidary equipment from 36", 24" & 18" rock saws, to laps, grinders, tumblers, and sphere machines. We have an all weather lapidary room in the shop for processing our rocks; 98% of my projects are made from rocks we have processed or found. All of our vacations go to where we can find rocks.

A few members of the Gem & Mineral clubs we belong to made wire wrapped jewelry. It looked like something I would enjoy so I hounded them to teach me. I had one formal class and a few one on one sessions to get started. Have had a few advanced classes over the years, even one with Dale “Cougar” Armstrong. I now give basic wire wrapping classes in our rock club to anyone who is interested in learning.

It’s creative and offers a challenge. I like to give it to people. It is a great way to use idle time, and I enjoy the comments people make when I say "I made it with a rock and a piece of wire."
SAFEY - SIZE MATTERS

By Ellery Borow, EFMLS Safety Chair

Really! It does! Think of cabinet specimens, thumbnails and micro-mounts -- one would never enter a cabinet specimen in a micro-mount competition. Now think even smaller, think chips, dust and microns. Imagine collectors working on breaking rocks in a hot dusty quarry. Imagine the look after hours of digging, hammering, and even perspiring where clothes are dirty, gloves are dirty, face is probably dust covered (with assistance from the aforementioned perspiration and dust). The only part of one not dust covered are the clean circles around your eyes that were protected by your goggles - you were wearing your goggles weren't you? If so, congratulations! Give yourself another pat on the back.

Now think of your nose. With all that quarry dust and those chips flying your way, think of the title of this article. Size matters. Hammer chips may go flying but they soon land on the ground or in your shoes. Dust, especially the really fine particles are often suspended in the air for lengthy periods of time - time in which they can cover clothes and gloves and faces and be inhaled. Our noses are nice moist places. They provide great mechanisms for collecting dust. Given small amounts of dust, one's nose is remarkably efficient with keeping particulate matter from reaching our lungs. Noses are efficient, think of a dirty sneeze - you know the kind I'm talking about. Now, if you are not experiencing such sneezes again congratulations - either you are working in a relatively clean environment or are taking steps to protect your lungs by wearing a dust filtering mask. Give yourself another pat on the back.

It is good to protect yourself by wearing a dust mask. It is even better to prevent dust from getting to you in the first place. It's even better to avoid dust in the environment or be exposed to dust to begin with; but, really, we live in a dirty, dusty world. Let's settle for good ventilation (either natural or man made) to keep dust away when we can - if we can't, a dust mask may be called for.

Lapidary work has similar issues. We are supposed to use good ventilation practices and keep dust down by keeping things wet as we enjoy our lapidary work. Now, think of most lapidary equipment. Even with the best of good practices the equipment becomes dirty and dust covered. How does it get dirty? Well, yes there is usually some splashing but a good deal of cutting dust is transported by water vapor and mist in the air. That water vapor is carrying that dust to equipment, to aprons, to work tables, to hands, and again, to faces - and faces (except for certain prize fighters) are where our noses reside. If one does a good deal of lapidary, please consider protecting your nose with the use of adequate ventilation in conjunction with a proper fitting dust filtration mask. One may be surprised to note just how moist a dust mask gets with that water-vapor carried dust.

Your nose knows that size matters. I hope this short message has engaged your brain to think so as well. The chips may fall where they may but dust goes on and on - just hanging around to await inhalation.

Thank you and please remember, size and your safety matters!
FOSSILS IN THE NEWS

Migrating Dinosaurs

We all know that many modern animals migrate as the seasons change. Birds fly south for the winter, elk move to lower elevations when the snow covers the high mountains, even monarch butterflies winter in Mexico. Did dinosaurs also migrate when conditions change? Scientists now say that 150 million years ago, North American sauropods may have migrated, too. A new study suggests these enormous plant-eating animals, which included Apatosaurus, Camarasaurus, and other long-necked dinosaurs, traveled as the seasons change to find sufficient food throughout the year.

Henry Fricke, a geologist from Colorado College in Colorado Springs, led a team of scientists that studied the chemical composition of Camarasaurus teeth and the sediments that surrounded the fossil teeth. Specifically, they compared oxygen isotopes in the dinosaur tooth enamel and the surrounding rock. The relative amounts of different oxygen isotopes change at different locations on earth. They found that the isotopes varied in different layers within the dinosaur teeth. These layers corresponded to tooth growth over short periods of time and the isotopes in the tooth layers only matched those in the surrounded rock once per year. They interpreted this yearly variation to show that the animals migrated like many modern animals.

Dinosaurs Feasted on Birds

Jingmai O’Connor and her colleagues at the Chinese Academy of Sciences in Beijing have found a fossil dinosaur, named Microraptor gui, in northeastern China that had unexpected fossil bones in its abdomen – bird bones. The fossil feet and partial wing bones of a now-extinct, tree-perching bird were swallowed whole by the dinosaur, its last meal. The researchers proposed that this fossil find shows that Microraptor frequented trees and hunted deftly enough to snag what was probably an adult bird. Other paleontologists disagree, pointing out that modern cats catch tree-dwelling birds mostly on the ground, which might have been the case with Microraptor.

A Jurassic Cricket Love Song

Scientists at the University of Bristol have recreated the love song of an extinct cricket that lived 165 million years ago. Using microscopic wing features on an exquisitely preserved fossil discovered in Northeast China, Chinese paleontologists Jun-Jie Gu and Dong Ren teamed up with Fernando Montealegre-Zapata and Daniel Robert from the University of Bristol and Michael Engel of the University of Kansas to study what sounds this ancient bushcricket made. Modern-day bushcrickets, also known as katydids, produce mating calls by rubbing a row of teeth on one wing against a hard structure on the other wing. By studying similar structures on the fossil of this ancient bushcricket, named Archabolius musicus, the scientists concluded that this animal must have produced a single frequency musical song. As modern katydids produce similar songs for mating, the scientists propose that ancient male katydids used their song to attract lady katydids. What did these ancient animals sound like? Listen at http://www.bris.ac.uk/news/2012/8210.html.

New Theory about the Evolution of Fish to Four-Legged Animals

Many of us learned in school that fish evolved small limbs so they could escape a drying pond, crawling to another pond with abundant water. However, University of Oregon scientist Gregory J. Retallack has studied numerous sites in Maryland, New York and Pennsylvania which suggest that a migrating fish “probably could not have survived the overwhelming odds of perishing in a trek to another shrinking pond.” By studying transitional fossils between fish and amphibians from the Devonian and Carboniferous periods, Retallack has found that these transitional fossils were not associated with drying ponds or deserts, but consistently were found associated with humid woodland soils. He proposed that these fish evolved limbs for negotiating woody obstacles and for feeding in shallow water, the habitat found in humid, wooded floodplains.
THE GOOD OLD DAYS

OK, so call me old fashion. I was taught as a young lad, more than 68 years ago, whether at a family gathering, at church, or a social gathering, when some offered a prayer, you took your hat off and bowed your head. Way back then we also said the Pledge of Allegiance in our schools (as today at the RMFMS Delegates Meeting), we would stand, place our hands over our hearts (no hats allowed in school), and render RESPECT. If at an event, we removed our hat and placed it over our heart to honor our National Flag, you know the one—the red, white, and blue one with Stars and Stripes. Being a Vietnam veteran and a hardcore American, I still believe in both. However, I have noticed over the years, some people seem to have forgotten those practices.

I really must wonder if Americans have become so engrossed in self that we forget or choose to ignore simple courtesy. It really is a sad day when we disregard the thousands before us who gave their lives so that we can enjoy the freedoms they so selflessly bought with their life blood. We need to go back to the old days when everyone respected this country and the freedoms it represents. Do you know all the words to the Stars and Stripes Banner?

God bless the Internet, www.usflag.org lists the guidance for rendering respect to our Nation’s symbols. I’ll repeat them here for you.

The Salute
“To salute, all persons come to attention. Those in uniform give the appropriate formal salute. Citizens not in uniform salute by placing their right hand over the heart and men with head cover should remove it and hold it to left shoulder, hand over the heart. Members of organizations in formation salute upon command of the person in charge.”

The Pledge of Allegiance and National Anthem
“The pledge of allegiance should be rendered by standing at attention, facing the flag, and saluting. When the national anthem is played or sung, citizens should stand at attention and salute at the first note and hold the salute through the last note. The salute is directed to the flag, if displayed, otherwise to the music.”

Parading and Saluting the Flag
“When carried in a procession, the flag should be to the right of the marchers. When other flags are carried, the flag of the United States may be centered in front of the others or carried to their right. When the flag passes in a procession, or when it is hoisted or lowered, all should face the flag and salute.”

If it isn’t asking too much, the next time someone offers a prayer (no matter how simple or elaborate), when reciting the Pledge of Allegiance, or when “colors” are rendered, remember this old fashion guy and show your national pride by removing your hat (RMFMS President exempted). Am I asking so very much? I also remember the ‘head slaps’ from Momma if I didn’t also remove my hat when meeting a woman. As our nation celebrates it’s independence on July 4th, please display our flag proudly with dignity and honor. Thanks for listening.

Got something you want to say to the federation? Send your input to the editor; I’ll make every effort to keep the author’s voice in the printed article.
A NOTICE TO ALL CLUB NEWSLETTER EDITORS

Do you have trouble filling the last page of your newsletter with an interesting article? Do you think you might like to change the format of your newsletter—from typing across the page to typing in 2 or 3 columns but you don’t know what it would look like?

Are you having problems with pictures or converting your newsletter to PDF so you can send it by e-mail to your members and save some money on postage and printing?

Do you feel you are paddling up stream, against the current, and nobody in your club really or truly understands what it takes to put the newsletter together each month?

If you answered YES to any of the above 4 questions - then Do I Have a Deal for YOU! Join your fellow editors by becoming a member of SCRIBE - Special Congress Representing Involved Bulletin Editors.

There are presently 157 members. We would like to get back to that comfort zone of 200 members we had a few years ago. Check out the Scribe Web Site http://scribe.rbnet.net It tells you, Who we are, What we do, and Where you can send your application form and dues to join. Dues are only $6.00 per year (US FUNDS) or $8.00 for Co-Editors. You get 4 newsletters a year plus either a CD or DVD chocked full of newsletters, articles of interest, clip art and everything an Editor needs to Know!

If you made it to Quartzsite for the SCRIBE meeting in January, you probably met and learned from other editors, who are in the same boat as you. They say Misery Loves Company. We’ve all Been There – Done That. Only another editor understands the frustration of having to wait for the President, the Secretary, the Committee Chairmen to send in their reports so you can type pages.

There is no better reward, after emailing your newsletter, than receiving a pat on the back from another editor for a well written article, the new approach you tried in the format or your success with pictures. Editors understand - most club members don’t.

If you want more information about SCRIBE - please contact me. My computer is always ON. Betty Cain, SCRIBE Rocky Mountain Regional Vice-President, bettycain3@comcast.net.

HOW MANY WAYS CAN YOU SPELL HELP?

Do you know there are many ways the RMFMS can help you? And, there are several ways you can help the RMFMS!

Have you ever had a question about some lapidary problem/tool/stone/location for rockhounding? Do you know that the Rocky Mountain Federation has a possible solution for you?

The RMF has people in positions who have a great deal of expertise, and you can tap into their knowledge. Just go to the last page of your RMF Newsletter, or on-line to the RMFMS website (www.rmfms.org) and you will find listed a number of people in technical positions who are volunteers here to help you or your club find answers.

For example, for technical questions we have:

Jim Hurlbut, Mineral Technical Chair, jfhurlbut@earthlink.net
Pete Modreski, Fluorescent Tech Chair, pm@earthlink.net
Roger Burkhalter, Fossil Tech Chair, rjb@ou.edu
Mike Snively, Lapidary Tech Chair, photomaker@earthlink.net

Going to a foreign country and want to find pretty stones? Contact: Mike Nelson, International Relations, csrocksguy@yahoo.com.

If you are travelling within the states and want to find a place to hunt pretty rocks, just consult the RMF Directory and find a rock club close to where you are going. The club officers are listed for you to contact to find out where and what kind of stones are available in their area.

Speaking of clubs, there have been three clubs admitted to membership in the Federation in the past year. They are the R.O.C.K. group in Salt Lake City, the Cache Group in Utah, and coming up very soon is the Coconino Club in Arizona.
FASCINATING FACTS ABOUT SILVER

Although silver was discovered later than gold and copper, it has been known and used by humankind since prehistoric times. Herodotus, the Greek historian, knew of silver used to make coins and beads, exploited from the river sands of the Pactolus in Lydia. The Chinese wrote of silver metals in 2500 BC. In the earliest prehistoric strata at the site of Troy, considerable deposits of silver and gold treasure have been extracted.

Among the artifacts, silver bracelets and gold earrings, ornaments placed in a silver cup and more than 8000 beads were buried in the ancient city 2000 years before Christ. The most ancient silver miners of importance were in Asia Minor and on islands in the Aegean Sea. The Romans obtained most of their silver from Spain until supplies became scarce during the Middle Ages. After the discovery of the Americas in 1492, Mexico became the largest silver producing country in the world. Canada and the United States also produce significant amounts of silver. Silver is a lustrous white metal widely distributed in nature. In ores, it is commonly associated with gold and silver.

Much of the world’s silver is obtained as a byproduct of smelting these other metals. Hornsilver (AgCl) is found in the oxidized portions of ore which lies near the surface. Small amounts of silver in the oxidation zone form as the more complex compounds erode and weather. At deeper levels silver occurs as sulfides, arsenides and antimonides (compounds of silver with sulfur, arsenic, and antimony). In these deposits, formation is the result of deposition from primary hydrothermal solutions. Argentite occurs in low-temperature hydrothermal veins in association with other silver minerals or sometimes in the cementation of lead and zinc deposits.

When found in a metallic state, it is called native silver. Native silver usually occurs in dendritic and wire-like forms which are aggregates of minute crystals. Silver may also occur in thin sheets or in large masses. In Kongsberg, Norway, magnificent crystalline wire specimens occur in association with sulfides, calcite, barite, fluorite, and quartz. The world’s largest specimen of massive silver was mined in Aspen, Colorado, and weighs in at 844 pounds. On the Keweenaw Peninsula of Michigan, small amounts can be found in association with native copper. In Mexico, the Guanajuato Mine has been in operation since the year 1500 AD. During that time, more than 5000 billion kilos of silver have been mined.

About ⅜ of the world’s silver production is used for monetary purposes, either as coins or as bullion that governments hold to redeem paper currency. The leading industrial use of silver is for the manufacture of tableware and jewelry. The second largest consumer is the photographic industry. When compounded with bromide or chloride, silver forms salts which register light and shade on photographs. Silver has the highest thermal and electrical conductivity of any substance, making it ideal for use in electronic equipment. Silver is second only to gold in malleability. One ounce of silver can be drawn into wire 30 miles long. A silver leaf can be beaten to a thickness of 1/100,000 of an inch.

From Golden Spike News, 12/99; via Rock Ruster News, 2/12; via The Rock, 3/12; via The Quarry, 4/12; via Rocky Reader, 5/12
ANCIENT SANDSTONE INJECTED INTO PIKES PEAK GRANITE
ALONG UTE PASS

Along the Front Range of Colorado, there are more than 200 sandstone dikes emplaced in ancient igneous (crystalline) rocks. Dikes are rock bodies that cut across another geologic body that formed first. These Front Range dikes are unique because most sandstone dikes are found in other sedimentary rocks. The Front Range dikes have been perplexing scientists since 1894, when they were first studied by the noted field geologist, Whitman Cross (1894).

The sandstone dikes are unique in the world, and are only exposed in just a few sites along Ute Pass (Figure 1). The ancient dikes, composed of Cambrian Sawatch Sandstone (Figure 2.), formed long after the Pikes Peak Granite was present. When the Pikes Peak Granite was subjected to intense compression during the Laramide orogeny, extreme force was concentrated on the sandstone, resulting in it being pressurized, heated, and fluidized. When fully fluidized, the sandstone was injected into enormous openings in Pikes Peak Granite; these openings were also formed by faulting pressures. Today, the Sawatch Sandstone dikes are preserved in certain areas of Teller County, Colorado.

Winding into the mountains, U.S. highway 24 closely follows the Ute Pass fault, a major fault that separates the Rampart Range from the Pikes Peak massif and the rest of the Front Range. Starting southeast of Cheyenne Mountain, the Ute Pass fault can be traced for about 60 miles, and heads north along Teller Co. Route 67 beyond Woodland Park. The fault zone is relatively wide and filled with broken and fractured rocks that create the course of Fountain Creek in Ute Pass.

At least three resistant ridges made up of Sawatch Sandstone are exposed along Ute Pass: one sandstone dike (or “injectite” as they are sometimes called) is exposed in Crystola; and two injectites (Figure 3) are exposed in Woodland Park (Temple, et al., 2007). The injectites are easy to spot—instead of Pikes Peak Granite being present, the sandstone injectites are there—with Pikes Peak Granite on either side.

Near Crystola there is a 100-meter-thick sandstone body, forming a resistant ridge of injectite sandstone. The dike—or injectite—dips at about a 75 degree angle to the west and strikes parallel to the Ute Pass fault.

These remarkable sandstone injectites can be thought of as “fault slices” of Cambrian Sawatch Sandstone “jammed” in Pikes Peak Granite during past movements of the Ute Pass fault. The injectites are made of fine- to medium-grained, well-rounded, and poorly sorted sandstone. Generally, the color of the injectites is reddish or maroon, but some of the weathered injectites have a buff discoloration on weathered surfaces that is related to the iron oxide cement present in the sandstone.

An examination of the dike rocks reveals an alignment of sand grains and granite fragments inside the injectites, which relates to the forceful injection of fluidized sand into openings into the granite caused by the pressures of faulting (Harms, 1965). Some angular fragments of Pikes Peak Granite found in the injectites result from granite being plucked off of the wall rock during movement.
Today the injectites remain a source of much scientific debate, and this summer a new scientist will probe the mysteries of this ancient sandstone embedded in Pikes Peak Granite (J. Temple, personal communication).

References cited:


---

**CARVING COMPETITION**

The second world-wide Jade Carving Competition has been launched. Those who are interested should register at: [www.jadesymposium.com](http://www.jadesymposium.com) by July 1, 2012. There is a $300 registration fee, but first prize is $5,000!

---

**TIPS BY RICHARD**


Do you want your Geodes (and Crystals) to sparkle and glitter like stars? Then follow this tried and true suggestion!!!

**Bryant Washburn’s recipe for CLEANING GEODES AND CRYSTALS:**

1. Wear rubber gloves and a proper respirator (very important for your safety).
2. Have two empty and clean buckets ready to use.
3. In the first bucket put one quart of luke-warm water, then add 1 cup of muriatic acid (the reason for the Respirator).
4. In the second bucket have clear, clean water.
5. Put Geodes or Crystals in the first bucket with the acid solution for 30 seconds.
6. Pull them out of the acid solution, let them drip for a minute, then put them into the second bucket with clean water and wash them good.
7. Pull the Geodes out of the water and let them dry.
8. Look at them . . . . . . SPARKLE!
To have your RMFMS member club sponsored event listed here, email bettycain3@comcast.net. You may include other info about your show if you wish but will only be printed as space permits. All RMFMS clubs are also encouraged to register their event listings on the RMFMS web site at: www.rmfms.org. Email your submissions to the Webmaster at downcametherain@gmail.com.

**June 15-17, 2012 Carlsbad, NM**
Carlsbad Gem & Mineral show, Living Desert State Park & Gardens, F-S 9a-5p, S 9a-3p. Contact Marilyn Travis, 505-785-8822.

**June 16-17, 2012 Rapid City, SD**
32nd Annual Western Dakota Gem & Mineral Show, Pennington Co. Fairgrounds Events Center, Rapid City, SD; contact Hazel Williams, (605) 431-5491, jdlvm@yahoo.com, www.wd.gms.org.

**June 29-July 1, 2012 Farmington, NM**
San Juan County Gem & Mineral Society, Civic Center, 200 W. Arrington Ave, Farmington: contact Mickie Calvert, (505) 632-8288, mickie2@earthlink.net

**July 6-8, 2012 Durango, CO**
Four Corner Gem & Mineral Club, La Plata Co. Fairgrounds: contact Joel Arnold, 970-247-5140, joelrecuerdo@frontier.net

**July 14-15, Tulsa, OK**
Tulsa Rock and Mineral Society Treasures of the Earth rock and mineral show, Sat 9a-6p Sun 10a-5p: Exchange Center 1, Expo Square, 21st and Yale: contact Finis Rigg, 918-587-4400 Lrigg1331@cox.net or Wayne Mouser, 918-582-8700 okyrock@cox.net

**June 16-17, 2012 Rapid City, SD**
Western Dakota Gem & Mineral Society, Kjerstad Event Center, Central States Fairgrounds: contact Paula Hohn, 605-484-3754, whitekat39@live.com

**July 28-29, 2012 Wayzata, MN AFMS Show & Convention**
The Midwest Federation is hosting the 2012 AFMS Show.

**August 3-5, 2012 Prescott, AZ**
Prescott Gem Mineral Club's 9th Annual Show and Sale, Embry Riddle Aeronautical University, 3700 Willow Creek Rd: contact Judy Sullins, www.prescottgemmaorgan.org.

**August 17-18, 2012 Lake George, CO**
Lake George Gem & Mineral Club, US 24 next to Post Office: contact Dan Alfrey, 719-440-6234 alfreydan@aol.com

**August 17-18, 2012 Tahlequah, OK**
Tahlequah 2012 Rock & Mineral Show & Sale, 9a-6p, 300 W 1st St, Tahlequah, OK: contact Sara (918) 284-5770 or Maxine (918) 456-8198.

**September 1-3, 2012 Silver City, NM**
Grant Co. Rolling Stones Gem & Mineral Society: contact Marcia Andre, 575-534-0006, marciarandra@gmail.com

**September 14-16, 2012 Enid, OK**
Enid Gem & Mineral Society, Oakwood Mall, Enid: contact Billy Wood, 580-234-5344, baronladislaus@att.net

---

**September 24-30, 2012 Idabel, OK**
McCurtain Gem & Mineral Club show, Museum of the Red River, Idabel: contact Cephis Hall, (580) 494-6612

**September 28-30, 2012 Tooele, UT**
400 N. 400 West St., Tooele, UT; contact Craig McKee, (435) 884-6059.

**September 28-29, 2012 Bismarck, ND**
Central Dakota Gem & Mineral Society: contact Susan Gerenz, 701-400-7440, sgerenz@pridein.org

**September 30-October 1, 2012 Roswell, NM**
Charparral Rockhounds show, Convention & Civic Center, 10th & Main, Roswell: contact Jeri House, (575) 622-3688, jerriron90@juno.com

**October 13-14, 2012 Grand Junction, CO**
Grand Junction Gem & Mineral Club, Two Rivers Convention Center: contact Wayne McMaken, 970-255-8374, mcmaken@ascol.net

**October 13-14, 2012 Moab, UT**
Moab Points & Pebbles Club show, Old Spanish Trail Arena, 3641 S. Hwy 191, Moab: contact Jerry Hansen, (435) 259-3393, boondocker@frontiernet.net

**October 13-14, 2012 Sierra Vista, AZ**
Huachuca Mineral & Gem Club, contact Maudie Bailey, 520-378-6291, gmbailey@msn.com

**October 13-14, 2012 Topeka, KS**
Topeka Gem & Mineral Society, Kansas Expocenter AG Hall, 17th & Topeka Blvd: contact Mike cote, 785-220-3272, mcote35@yahoo.com

**October 20, 2012 Riley, KS**
North Central Kansas Rock & Gem Club Swap Meet, 9:30a—4:30p; contact Martin Weber at 785-763-4316 or mrtnwbr@yahoo.com

**October 20-21, 2012 Grand Junction, CO**
Grand Junction Gem & Mineral Club show, Two Rivers convention Center, 159 Main St., Grand Junction: contact Wayne McMaken (970) 255-8374, mcmaken@ascol.net

**November 10-11, 2012 Lake Havasu City, AZ**
(Lay may change to February 2013) Lake Havasu City Gem & Mineral Society, Lake Havasu Aquatic Center

**November 17-18, 2012 Littleton, CO**
Littleton Gem & Mineral Club: contact Keith Sheel, 303-750-0763, KMSheelite@msn.com

**November 17-18, 2012 Payson, AZ**
Payson Rimstones Rock Club, Mazatzal Casino, Payson, AZ: contact Margaret Jones, 928-476-3513, magicaberry@gmail.com

**November 24-25, 2012 Wickenburg, AZ**
Wickenburg Gem & Mineral Society, Wickenburg Community City, contact Beth Myers, 928-68-0380, myerbd@gmail.com

**December 2-4, 2012 El Paso, TX**
El Paso Mineral & Gem Society, El Maida Shrine, 6331 Alabama St: contact Jarry Bruntz.
OFFICERS

President
DeLee Cox
8152 Spanker Ridge Dr.
Bentonville, AR 72712
479.254.0894
deleanc3@earthlink.com

Vice President
Debbie Leschner
HC60 Box 512
Quemado, NM 87829
575.773.4119
timbuktuent@hotmail.com

Secretary
Peggy Maggard
8418 SE Hwy 77
Idabel, OK 74745
918.361.1957
downcametherain@gmail.com

Treasurer
Gene Maggard
See Peggy Maggard

treas@newtnx.org

Historian
Cinda Kunkler
210 NE 55th St
Topeka, KS 66617
785.286.1790
cindakunkler@att.net

PAST PRESIDENTS

Bill Smith
PO Box 311
Hardin, KS 67057
620.296.4652
beebebill@kanokia.net

Stan Nowak
2805 Sage Dr
Enid, OK 73701
580.234.3126
Snowak64@yahoo.com

STATE DIRECTORS

Arizona
Vacant

Colorado
Beth Simmons
1420 S. Reed
Lakewood, CO 80232
303.986.9693
cloverkorni@comcast.net

Kansas
Lyle Koerper
1644 Valleyview Court
Wichita, KS 67212
316.722.7115
koerper@kco.org

New Mexico/Texas
Robert L. Carlson
1585 Los Pueblos
Los Alamos, NM 87544
505.662.5534
ilegim@tmusconborncountordown@yahoo.com

North Dakota
Ray Olliger
516 N 20th St
Bismarck, ND 58501
701.223.4986
reorocks@bis.midco.net

Public Relations
Vacant

Publications/Editor
Betsy Cain
Addressee on page 2

Safety
Vacant

Webmaster
Jennifer Biddle
See Program Library

Webmaster Contest
Brian Paterson
203 Saddle Mountain Rd
Colorado Springs, CO 80919
719.539.6238
patersonbrian22@yahoo.com

SPECIAL COMMITTEES

STANDING COMMITTEES

Circulation
Bill Cain
Address on page 2

Convention Advisory
Robert L. Carlson
See NMTX State Director

Finance
Robert Haines, Chair
104 S. Brookside St.
Wichita, KS 67218
316.683.9021
Wayne Cox
8152 Spanker Ridge Dr.
Bentonville, AR 72712
479.254.0894
wayne3c@earthlink.com

Lapidary Tech
Jim Hurbut
2240 S Adams
Denver, CO 80210
303.757.0283
Ikebeck@mowery-clinic.com

Mineralogical Tech
Judy Beck, Chair
3021 E Country Club Rd
Littleton, CO 80128
720.981.0752
photomaker@earthlink.net

Nominations
Judy Beck, Chair
3021 E Country Club Rd
Saline, MI 48701
734.823.7069
ikebeck@mowery-clinic.com

International Relations
Mike Nelson
645 Popes Valley Dr
Colo. Springs, CO 80919
719.522.1608
carlo@ymca.com

Oklahoma/Arkansas
Virgil Richards
28818 51st St
Broken Arrow, OK 74014
918.640.9592
goes@blancs-with-snakes.com

South Dakota/Nebraska
Sonny Henscher
PO Box 376
Piedmont, SD 57769
605.431.2755
sony2755@hotmail.com

Wyoming
Jim McGarvey
PO Box 116
Kinnear, WY 82516
307.856.6188
degarber@wyoming.com

AFMS Club Rockhound of the Year Award (ACROY)
Bill Cain
Address on page 2

All American Club
Dan Alfrey
PO Box 4164
Woodland Park, CO 80866
719.440.2484
greytargary@aol.com

Fluorescent Technical
Pete Modreski
3555 Mill St
Wheat Ridge, CO 80033
303.429.9494
pmreskii@aol.com

Fossil Technical
Roger Burkhalter
16560 E. Maquire Rd
Noble, OK 73068
405.899.4260
rbb@ou.edu

Insurance
Ariene Burkhalter
1267 Kingbird Lane
Noble, OK 73068
970.359.6238
kimblanton2@aol.com

Trophies
Robert L. Carlson
See NMTX State Director

AFMS Officers, Executive Committee, and Committee Chairpersons 2012/2013

RMFMS Officers, Executive Committee, and Committee Chairpersons 2012/2013

N Dakota
Rodney Hickle
1631 S Central Ave SW
Central, ND 58530
701.794.3342

Oklahoma/Arkansas
Bill Lyon
112 N. Hilcrest St
Ada, OK 74820
580.332.8666
gylon@cablenet.net

Doris Perkins
405 SE Ave G
Idabel, OK 74745
580.286.3133
perkins6236@abcglobal.net

South Dakota
Jan Baumeister
19702 E Hwy 18 Sp 56
Welin, AZ 85356
928.785-3238
rockhoundg@aol.com

Utah
Jim Alexander
360 5th St
Ogden, UT 84404
801.399.0785
walex1@aol.com

Wyoming
Jim McGarvey
See WY State Director

PUBLIC LAND ADVISORY

Arizona
Bill Jaeger
4411 E Astro St
Hereford, AZ 85615
520.803.6590
billjaeger@hotmail.com

Harry Kilb
3411 Tashowa Dr
Lake Havasu City, AZ 86406
928.855.1630
hawk@earthlink.net

Colorado
Tim Austin
2918 Plymouth Rd
Grand Junction, CO 81503
970.263.7404
Austintimbrrly@aol.com

Mike Nelson
645 Popes Valley Dr
Colo. Springs, CO 80919
719.522.1608
carlo@ymca.com

Kansas
Mike Nelson
645 Popes Valley Dr
Colo. Springs, CO 80919
719.522.1608
carlo@ymca.com

Nebraska
Leroy Meininger
3411 Tomahawk Dr
Hereford, AZ 85615
928.855.1630
dcweir@cableone.com

Nevada
Robert L. Carlson
See Convention Advisory

Name Badges
Richard Jaeger
See Nominations

Parliamentarian
Gene Maggard
See Treasurer

Permanent Address
Robert Carlson
See NMTX State Director

Program Contest
Jennifer Biddle
See Program Library

Ribbons
Vacant

Scholarship
Sandy Candyed
15071 County Rd 1170
Binger, OK 73099-5006
405.656.9019
jcandedy@att.net

Supplies
Kim Blanton
728 E Sand Dunes Dr.
Sandy, UT 84094
801-604-1263
kimblanton2@aol.com

Trophies
Robert L. Carlson
See NMTX State Director

PUBLIC LAND ADVISORY

Lee Whitebay, Chair
4689 N Prentice Rd
Ponca City, OK 74044
505.765.2074
whitebay@abcglobal.net

B. Jay Bowman
191 Bowman Rd
Ponca City, OK 74044
580.761.5966
bbj@wildblue.net

Roger Burkhalter
See Fossil Technical
Robert Carlson
See NMTX State Director

Jack Thompson
1830 Mesita Ct.
Colo. Springs, CO 80906
719.636.2578

UNIFORM RULES COMMITTEE

Lee Whitebay, Chair
4689 N Prentice Rd
Ponca City, OK 74044
505.765.2074
whitebay@abcglobal.net

B. Jay Bowman
191 Bowman Rd
Ponca City, OK 74044
580.761.5966
bbj@wildblue.net

Roger Burkhalter
See Fossil Technical
Robert Carlson
See NMTX State Director

Vacant
See NMTX State Director

Updated 6/11/12

Ofcrs & State Directors are elected by the Delegates.

Executive Committee consists of Officers, State Directors, and 2 immediate Past Presidents

Committees are appointed by the President.