



Rocky Mountain Federation News

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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 or 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

Western Colorado Public Lands Educational Forum Held

Tim Austin, RMFMS Public Land Advisory Of Western Colorado

The Dominguez Canyon Wilderness study area and associated public lands administered by the BLM were the topic of a community education forum that was held in Delta Colorado on November 2, 2006. There were more than 50 interested public lands users and managers in attendance at this forum. It was held to gather input and to continue a broad-based dialogue that will help determine the public use issues and future management options for the economically and culturally diverse area, which is becoming an increasingly popular recreation area.

At the center of the discussion was the 75,888 acre Dominguez Canyon Wilderness Study area that would require action at the federal level to create a designated wilderness area out of the study area, Colorado's west slope congressional delegation was unwilling to act on the idea until a clear community consensus develops.

The process for developing that consensus has been a long one already. The diversity of interests and views of people wanting a piece of the area enshrined in law promises to make the process drag out even longer.

In addition to the presentation on the cultural history of the area, other speakers at the meeting included federal public lands managers, a scientific researcher, and individuals representing environmental interests river rafters, ranchers, and motorized trail users. Gem and Mineral Collectors, Rock Hounds, and recreational gold miners also use the area and were represented at the meeting.

Some of the options available include full wilderness designation of the Dominguez wilderness study area and or expanding the current boundaries. The option of carving out a national conservation area is being discussed. Both the Uncompahgre and Grand Junction Field offices of the BLM have a great deal of experience at creating and administering National Conservation Areas

Both the Gunnison Gorge National Conservation area and the new McInnis Canyons National Conservation Area have effectively blocked and excluded hundreds of recreational users from pursuing their hobbies of rock collecting, atv'ing , mining and ranching etc. Even camping is discouraged and camping facilities are not even available. The only ones able to use these areas are hikers and horseback riders.

Another option is to create a community stewardship plan (CSP) for an area stretching from Whitewater to California Mesa, and

Western Colorado continued on page 4

What's in this issue ...

President's Message	2
Vice Pres Message	2
Quick Tips for Editors	3
RMFMS Program Contest	3
This Program	4
AFMFS/RMFMS Show	4
Did you get your Minutes	5
From the Treasurer	5
USFS Travel	5
Shows & More	6
Current Officers	7



Thank you, Richard Jaeger, Linda Jaeger, Tim Austin, Stan Nowak, Nancy Hicks, Howie Whiting, DeLane Cox and Gene Maggard for your contributions, and those who submitted information for the show calendar to the March issue of the Rocky Mountain Federation News.

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DEADLINE

Deadline for submissions to the bulletin are due the first day of the month prior to the publication date, i.e., the deadline for April is March 1.

President's Message

By Richard Jaeger

I returned to Tulsa on January 30 from spending a week in Las Vegas for the Miss America Pageant where our contestant from Oklahoma won the title for the second straight year, an exciting time for our Oklahoma delegation. I had never been to Las Vegas before and made the most of my trip by visiting Death Valley twice, Hoover Dam, the Mojave Desert, and a couple of old gold mining ghost towns. I also collected sand from several places for my wife **Linda** who is a member of the International Sand Collecting Society. Don't really know exactly what I was expecting but was overwhelmed by Death Valley National Park and also the Mojave Desert Preserve. Anyone with an interest in geology should put those places on your list to visit.

Visiting places of interest to rockhounds brings me to my next point. I mentioned back in the August 2006 Newsletter that while RMFMS Show is scheduled for Roswell, NM in 2007 and for Tulsa, OK in 2008 we have no bids beyond that. I would hope that we receive bids to host the 2009 and 2010 shows at our meetings in Roswell this June. One of the most enjoyable aspects of these RMFMS Shows is being able to travel to different parts of our federation and see the geology and the local or regional collecting materials. I know some clubs are concerned about the 50/50 financial split that is to be made with the RMF when hosting a Federation Show. And, while we might prefer that, we can work with you to allow you to keep more of your profit if your club's finances are such that it would be otherwise prohibitive to host a show. Please consider hosting a show and please call me at 918-481-0249 or e-mail me at <rjgrsci@aol.com> with any questions. In that August 2006 issue I outlined some of the things involved with hosting a convention and would be more than happy to go over that with you.

Finally, as winter comes to an end in parts of our Federation it is time for rockhounding activities to begin again. (We have snow on the ground as I am writing this message but that will pass.) In my area we have the Ada Rock Show in mid-March and then the Judges & Exhibitors Seminar in Norman. I am sure you are or soon will be having activities too. It is always good to visit with people from other clubs and learn more about our hobby.

Best wishes and I am looking forward to seeing many of you at Roswell and at other functions before then.

Vice-President's Message

By Stan Nowak

I now have the pertinent information for the Exhibitors and Judges Seminar. The Oklahoma State Council sponsored, hosted by OGMS, Exhibitors and Judges Seminar will be March 31 from 9:00 until 4:00 at the Energy Building on the University of Oklahoma Campus in Norman, Oklahoma. The Energy Building is at 100 W Boyd.

We will have sessions dealing with AFMS Competitive Rules and a session on displaying. Whether you want to enter Competitive or not, this information is valuable in learning to display your material to the best advantage. This seminar is open to all RMFMS members so please pass this information to your club members. All of the seminars that I have attended have been so full of excellent

Vice-President continued on page 4



QUICK TIPS for EDITORS

By Linda Jaeger
RMFMS Club Publications Chair

If you have a question (or suggestion) about editing or writing or the bulletin contest or something related, send it to me by email: **LjgrAlg@aol.com** or at home address: 3515 E. 88th St., Tulsa OK 74137. If I cannot find an answer to your question, we'll publish the question and ask the readers for their answers.

As I was working on contest materials I came across the following article that I had compiled for the RMFMS Editor's Symposium in Wichita, 2004. Because it is fairly long, I will share it here in three parts.

RMFMS Bulletin Editor's Symposium, April 25, 2004 – Hints & Tips, Part I

Compiled by Linda Jaeger,
RMFMS Club Publications Chair

Correct Federation names and abbreviations:

AFMS American Federation of Mineralogical Societies

CFMS California Federation of Mineralogical Societies

EFMLS Eastern Federation of Mineralogical and Lapidary Societies

MWF Midwest Federation of Mineralogical and Geological Societies

NFMS Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies

RMFMS Rocky Mountain Federation of Mineralogical Societies

SCFMS South Central Federation of Mineralogical Societies

SFMS Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies

GMFC Gem & Mineral Federation of Canada

AFRC Alberta Federation of Rock Clubs

CCFMS Central Canadian Federation of Mineralogical Societies

BCLS British Columbia Lapidary Society (formerly LRMSBC: Lapidary Rock & Mineral Society of British Columbia)

(The above was excerpted from Diane Dare at the SCRIBE "Q" Symposium, 1995)

How does your bulletin look?

1. Use 11 or 12 point type. Many of us need reading glasses to even be able to read this size type – make your newsletter "user friendly"!

2. Try to use clip art, graphics, or illustrations with most articles. This can catch the reader's attention and promote reading an article that might otherwise be overlooked.

3. Use white space. When there is not enough white space on a page, it can overwhelm your readers, as if they were reading a technical magazine or a textbook.

4. Use a 2 or 3 column format. Readers can be intimidated by long, unbroken lines of type.

5. Use a typeface that has cross strokes at the ends of the letters, such as **Times New Roman**. These are "serif" typefaces and are easier to read for most people. Typefaces without cross strokes at the ends of the letters – "sans serif" typefaces – are good to use for headlines. **Arial** is an example of sans serif type.

6. Publishing photos in your newsletter will give better looking results if you use halftones. Photos in newspapers are done in halftones; if you look at one with a magnifying glass you can see tiny dots separated by white spaces. You can make a halftone on a photocopier with a white dot screen (made by manufacturers of dry transfer type). You can also get halftones by using a scanner and desktop publishing software such as Adobe Photoshop (Elements).

7. If you need to do a "cut and paste" where you actually paste another piece of paper onto the hard copy for your bulletin, don't use tape to attach it. Instead, use a gluestick to coat the back of the piece you are attaching. This will eliminate unwanted shadows from the tape or edges not flush with the page when photo-copied.

(1-7 above are excerpts from *Newsletter Publishing* by Linda Gail Christie in notes provided for a non-credit class at Tulsa Junior College, Spring 1995)

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

RMFMS Program Contest

Now is the time to get your programs in the mail for the RMFMS Program Contest 2007. Mail them to **Nancy Hicks**, 10022 E 135th St. N, Collinsville, OK 74021.



Western Colorado continued from page 1

from highway 50 to the Uncompahgre National Forest boundary. The CSP, tho unfunded at present, still serves as a framework for discussions of the area. The CSP boundary includes lands almost three times the size of the wilderness study area and encompasses seven distinct geographic components- the WSA: Cactus Park, the Gunnison River, the old Spanish National Historic Trail, Escalante Canyon, and various other resources of historic geologic and cultural interest.

A lot of this area gets lots of motorized trail use and is scheduled to receive travel management study emphasis from the federal government. The opportunity exists for the BLM and the communities to proactively address several important issues within the Dominguez canyon wilderness study area and Cactus park and the Escalante Canyon areas along the Gunnison River from Delta to Whitewater.

The primary strategy of the plan is to integrate management of wilderness, multiple use, recreation historic and cultural resources, and landscape restoration and maintenance of traditional ranching lifestyles.

There will be more meetings on this Wilderness study area and I will try and keep everyone informed and up to date on what is going on and might even enlist some help from the Federation if need be.

Source: Delta County Independent, November 8, 2006

This Program is for Everybody

Howie Whiting, Chairman, ACROY

The AFMS Club Rockhound of the Year program is for all members of all the clubs of the Federations. It isn't just for the officers. Any member of any club can recommend any other member for the award. All it takes is a few minutes to write a short note and a stamp.

If a member has been picking you up and bringing you to the club meetings for a period of time, why not say thanks by recommending that member for the award. If a member has been teaching you to identify minerals and helping you exhibit them, why not say thanks by recommending that member for the award.

Each club gets one nomination per year. The first one that gets to me is the one for that year. Why don't you be the one for this year by sending in one today. I will be waiting .

Vice-President continued from page 2

information, that if you do not attend, you will be missing something that could have possibly gotten you a trophy at Roswell. These are excellent interactive seminars. It doesn't cost to attend, and what you learn will help you to show off your "rock and mineral goodies". We would like a nice crowd. Mark your calendars!

I am in need for nominations for the Federation Scholarship Honoree. I know that there are people in the Federation that are well deserving of this honor.

This year's Honoree has been chosen and we are in need of new selectees. I would appreciate any and all inputs. One of the prominent aspects of this organization is education at all levels, be it Pebble Pups or professionals. Education of all peoples about our earth sciences and hobby is healthy, mind opening, rewarding, pleasurable, and fun amongst other positive qualities. Some of the nonrockhound people I know are just absolutely fascinated by some of the simple things that can be done to and/or with rocks and minerals. If you are in the same type situation, sharing the information and ideas are of the simplest forms of education.

Hope to see you at Norman, OK for the seminar, Pond Creek, OK for the Enid Swap April 13-14, and Roswell, NM for the RMFMS/AFMS Show and Conventions.

AFMS/RMFMS 2007 Show Packets

Howie Whiting, Convention Advisor



I have been getting inquiries from a number of people about when we are going to send out packets for the 2007 show. The answer is never.

We burned 500 CD's and gave them out at a number of shows including the RMFMS and the AFMS shows this year. At that time we announced that we were handing these CD's out in place of mailing packets and asked all who took a CD to print out the forms for their club members. For those clubs that did not have a representative at the convention we placed the packet on the RMFMS website around last August and it has been there ever since. If you need a packet simply print it out your self or ask a club member to do so for you.

We ask that you keep checking back to the website since we will revise some of the information as we firm up out plans.

Did you get your Minutes?

The minutes to the Executive Committee Meeting and the Delegates Meeting for the RMFMS meeting in Stillwater in June 2006, have been sent out.

Both e-mail and US postal service deliveries were sent. However, some of the e-mail addresses have bounced back, and seem to be incorrect. If you have not received your copy, please contact **DeLane Cox**, 479-254-0894 and a copy of the minutes will be mailed to you.



From the Treasurer

by Gene Maggard

Dues and annual report collection for 2006-07 has been, er, "interesting", to say the least for your "brand new" treasurer. I confused things for some people by sending the dues announcement by email. USPS announcements went out to only about 28 clubs to start with. I put in a DUES ARE DUE article in the December newsletter.

At this point, three things are obvious: Lots of email does not get delivered or not read, lots of USPS mail does not get delivered or not read, and many clubs do not either read the bulletin, or if they do, they do not pass along information to people who need to know. At this writing (January 26) there are still 3 clubs who have not reported or paid their dues. This after numerous followup emails, several USPS mailings, and a bunch of telephone calls.

What to do? I think that all clubs want to report on time so that their club information gets in the annual directory. I wonder who in each club actually sees the directory? I had never seen one until becoming RMF treasurer. Here are some suggestions that I have:

- √ Put the Report, Dues and Insurance Form for the upcoming year in the directory. The actual dues and insurance fees could not be included but could be published later in the bulletin.
- √ Get the form on the Website as soon as the dues and insurance fees are settled.
- √ Set up an email list for the RMFMS newsletter so that it goes to people who need to see it. For instance, the treasurer in each club. Actually, email distribution of most of the monthly newsletters would save the RMF lots of expense. Distribution of the news letter costs about \$2,000 per year. About 350 newsletters are distributed each month, which averages over 4 per club. Who, if anybody, is reading these newsletters?

Practically nobody that I talked to about reports and newsletters would admit to having read or heard about the article about dues and reports in the December newsletter.

- √ Be sure that the both the newsletters and directory that your club receives is available to members that need to use it, and that they know that it is available.
- √ Set a later date for publishing the directory and sending in dues. The rational is that many clubs elect officers in January, so the December 15 deadline makes it impossible for many clubs to report the upcoming year's officers. The downside is that the directory will go out even later than it does now.

What are your thoughts on this matter? Comments would be appreciated. You can email me at gandpmaggard@wildblue.net or call at 316-742-3746.

USFS Travel Management Rule

Howie Whiting, PLAC and ALAA



In 2005 a new rule was published that directed the USFS and BLM to inventory all of the roads under their management and publish an approved designated map showing all roads and trails open to vehicle use. Further this directive required the input of the public to this process.

Since that date both the USFS and BLM have conducted meetings, published newsletters and media releases requesting public input on what roads they use and wish to continue to use in the forest and grasslands. They have identified those roads that they think will be open and those that will be closed.

This process has been going on for about two years and the decisions are about to be finalized. I visited the individual who is responsible for the Lincoln Forest program and I was informed that NO input has been received from any rockhound about roads to any collecting sites. Further that individual did not know what a rockhound was nor had ever heard of one.

Once I made contact, I was informed that I could still give input but time was of the essence. We are currently trying to gather information on all collecting sites in the Lincoln Forest.

However that is just the Lincoln Forest. There are forests all over the west that we need to be involved with. I urge all rockhounds to check with the officials in the forest nearest you about this plan and get up to speed quickly on recording your collecting sites. **IF YOU DON'T DO SO, DON'T COMPLAIN IF YOUR ACCESS IS CUT OFF.**

SHOWS & MORE

REGIONAL FEDERATION SHOWS & CONVENTIONS

RMFMS
AFMS

Rocky Mountain Federation Annual Convention & Show

Hosts: Chaparral Rockhounds
Roswell New Mexico
June 7 - 10, 2007

RMFMS
AFMS

California Federation Annual Convention & Show

Hosts: Palmdale Gem & Mineral Society
Lancaster California
June 15 - 17, 2007

Northwest Federation Annual Convention & Show

Hosts: Butte Mineral & Gem Club
Butte Montana
August 3 - 5, 2007

Midwest Federation Annual Convention & Show

Hosts: Copper County Club
Houghton Michigan
August 11 - 12, 2007

South Central Federation Convention & Show

Hosts:
Arlington Texas
September 1 - 2, 2007

Eastern Federation Convention & Show

Hosts: Wayne County Gem & Mineral Society
Newark New York
October 6 - 7, 2007

Southeast Federation Convention & Show

Hosts:
TBA

CLUB & SOCIETY SHOWS/SWAPS

March 16 - 18, 2007, Albuquerque, NM

Treasurer's of the Earth (TotE) 2007, ABQ Gem & Mineral Club's 38th annual show. School Arts/Flower bldg. at the Fairgrounds. Enter from San Pedro about two blocks north of Central. This year's theme mineral is Turquoise. State Fair parking \$5.00. Contact info - Show Chairman Paul Hlava 505-255-5478. www.agmc.info

March 23 - 25, 2007, Fort Collins, CO

46th Annual Gem & Mineral Show, Sponsored by Fort Collins Rockhounds, Inc. (club) Located at Lincoln Center, 419 W. Magnolia St. Featuring geodes and copper minerals. Contacts: Show chairman: 970/493-6168. Dealer information: 970-221-0338, Email: fcrockhounds@yahoo.com Dave Halliburton, Show Chairman, Fort Collins Rockhounds, PO Box 482, Fort Collins, Colorado 80522

March 23 - 25, 2007, Ada, OK

The Ada Gem, Mineral & Fossil Club Annual swap, show and sale. The show will be held at the Pontotoc Co. Agri-Plex, Main building 1 at the N.E. corner of State Hwy 99 (U.S. 377) and the Richardson Bypass (SHwy 1 & 3E). Free Admission, Contact info: Ed Vermillion, 405-527-6431 or email okieed42@classicnet.net

March 31, 2007, Norman, OK

The Oklahoma State Council sponsored, hosted by OMGS, Exhibitors and Judges Seminar from 9:00 until 4:00 at the Energy Building on the OU Campus. The Energy Building is at 100 W Boyd. We will have sessions dealing with AFMS Competitive Rules and a session on displaying. Whether you want to enter Competitive or not, this information is valuable in learning to display your material to the best advantage. Please pass this information to your club members. It doesn't cost to attend, and what you learn will help you to show off your "rock & mineral goodies". We would like a nice crowd. Mark your calendars!

April 20 - 22, 2007, Wichita, KS

Meteorites & Dazzling Treasures, 54th annual show, Wichita Gem and Mineral Society, Dealers and Demonstrations. Contact info: Show Chairman Gene Maggard, 316-742-3746 gandpmaggard@wildblue.net or www.geocities.com/wgms2001 wgms2001@yahoo.com

April 27 - 29, 2007, Hinton, OK

The Oklahoma State Council Swap is hosted every year by the Oklahoma Mineral & Gem Society at Red Rock Canyon State Park, about 45 minutes west of Oklahoma City on Interstate 40. This is a beautiful park with some full hookups, several electric and water, and tent camping. There is no admission charge for those who want to spend the day. We will have a short State Council Meeting Saturday afternoon at 2:00 with an auction of donated items following. All proceeds from the auction goes into the State Council Scholarship fund. We will have fluorescent displays Friday and Saturday night, with a potluck dinner Saturday evening. All are invited to join in all activities and we know you will have a good time visiting and meeting with old and new friends.

May 4 - 6, 2007, McPherson, KS

May 5, 2007, Lakewood, CO

May 12 - 13, 2007, Grand Junction, CO

May 18 - 19, 2007, Ellinwood, KS

June 23 - 24, 2007 - Colorado Springs, CO

August 17 - 19, 2007, Lake George, CO

October 13 - 14, 2007, Sierra Vista, AZ

REMEMBER - to insure that your RMFMS member club sponsored event is listed here, the responsible person should send a written notice to the RMFMS Editor: Sandy Riekeman, 220 W Harry St, Wichita KS 67213-5135 or e-mail at: wgms2001@yahoo.com. Include the following information: Show dates and times, Sponsor (Club), Show Location, Contact Name, phone number and e-mail, and Club Web Site. You may include other information about your show if you wish, but this information will only be printed if space permits. ALL RMFMS CLUBS ARE ALSO ENCOURAGED TO REGISTER THEIR EVENT LISTINGS ON THE RMFMS WEBSITE AT: <www.rmfmts.org> e-mail your submissions to the webmaster.

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