



Rocky Mountain Federation News

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TO ALL CLUBS PARTICIPATING IN THE RMFMS INSURANCE PROGRAM

by Arlene Burkhalter

In order to avoid last minute confusion and anxiety, please submit your requests for Additional Insured Certificates so that I receive it at least two weeks prior to the time you need it. One month would be better. It is difficult to get the last minute details exact and sent to the place they are needed. And sometimes, I am not available for a few days.

I am a volunteer with older equipment, and my scanner isn't always working, or I am having difficulty getting an attachment to send properly, so I need a few days to get the information to our insurance agent. If you send it direct, they have to check with me to see that the additional fee has been paid, and that you are entitled to ask for additional insured. I know when you call Brown & Brown you get a message to fax the request to them. Not all of you have faxes. I don't have my unit set up to send faxes, either. Brown and Brown have a lot of major companies they handle for commercial insurance and that message is mainly for them.

Sometimes, Brown & Brown employees who are assigned to handle the RMFMS policy are out of the office and unavailable. I have called them when it was impossible to reach either the staff that issues the certificate or the manager of that unit.

So, make sure that the person making arrangements for your event in which you need the additional insured certificate sent is aware that it is almost impossible to get it printed and back to you in less than two weeks. We have been lucky so far in getting the certificate in time for the event, but cannot guarantee it. It will save both of us a major headache if everyone follows this notice.

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Don't forget there is NO Rocky Mountain Federation News in June or July.... so you have plenty of time to write articles for the August edition!!!!

Thank you, Richard Jaeger, Linda Jaeger, Arlene Burkhalter, Stan Nowak, Howie Whiting, Gene Maggard, Nancy Hicks, Yonis Lone Eagle, Marge Collins and James Hurlbut for your contributions to the May 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 August is July 1.

President's Message

By Richard Jaeger

This is going to be a short message this month because I am having to write early before a couple of projects are ready to be reported on.

My main message is once again to make sure that your club is represented at the RMFMS House of Delegates Meeting in Roswell in June. There will be new officers to elect and probably more than one issue to be voted on. If no one from your club is planning on attending please contact a neighboring club or your state director and designate someone as a proxy for the House of Delegates Meeting; we definitely want to have a quorum. And, state directors, please contact your clubs to see if need they help along those lines.

This is a busy time in the Oklahoma/Arkansas and Kansas areas of our federation with a show or swap taking place somewhere virtually every weekend for the next two months. I am sure that many of you are swamped with possible activities too. It all culminates in early June in Roswell with the combined AFMS/RMFMS Convention and Show. Show Chairman **Frank Whitney**, Show Advisor **Howie Whiting**, and the rest of the Chaparral Rockhounds have been hard at work to provide you with what promises to be an outstanding experience. I hope that when you come to the show you will also be able to take advantage of the opportunity to visit some of the geological wonders of this beautiful and fascinating area of our great country. I look forward to visiting with as many of you as I can.

Vice-President's Message

By Stan Nowak

It's that time of year again to get ready to attend our annual convention and show. Encourage your club members to attend and remember that this year's RMFMS Convention and Show is also the AFMS Convention and Show. Everyone attending will get a chance to not only meet other RMFMS rockhound members, but also other fellow rockhounds from around the country who may also bring materials to trade from their local areas as well as make new friendships.

While we are on the subject of shows, talk amongst your fellow club members about hosting an RMFMS show in the future. We have openings from 2009 and on. If you remember, I was the show chairman for the 2002 RMFMS Convention and Show in Enid, Oklahoma. It is not as difficult as it may sound to be. We had a very successful and enjoyable show. It was my first show as chairman and I think our club did pretty well. We are a small club and hadn't had a show in 14 years. So if your club has an annual or biannual show, it takes just a few minor additions to host an RMFMS Convention and Show. If you have any questions, I am also the Federation Show Advisor and Liaison.

Since you're talking with your clubs, we are also looking for Honorary Scholarship Nominees. This is part of the basis of the RMFMS. Education is an integral part of this organization and recognizing individuals who are in contact with educational organizations within the Federation of deserving students should be a mainstay. If you can, bring names and resumes to Roswell. If not, forward the info to the Scholarship Committee.

See you in Roswell.



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 III

Compiled by Linda Jaeger,
RMFMS Club Publications Chair

Ideas for Articles, continued:

12. Does your club work with a school or a kid's organization (science classes, cub scouts, girl scouts, 4-H, etc.)? Ask the kids to write a short article or poem about a program or experience or research they've done.
13. Ask someone to read the federation newsletters and write a summary of what they've read each month.
14. Has someone read a good book lately? Ask for a short book review.
15. Summarize a newspaper article about a new discovery in the field of rocks, minerals, fossils.
16. Did a museum have a special exhibit interesting to rockhounds? Write about the exhibit.
17. Does your state have a state rock, mineral, fossil, etc.? How and when was it adopted?
18. Have members been to a good program, field trip, show? Did members win awards in competition? Describe what happened. What made the competitive case a winner? Include photos.
19. Have you come across any clean jokes lately? There are some good ones on the web, especially from children's sites.
20. Use articles from exchange publications, with proper credit given.
21. Ask someone to create a puzzle (crossword, word search, maze, etc) involving rocks, minerals, fossils.

There are online sites that can help you create a puzzle, such as <http://www.puzzlemaker.com>.

22. Do you have members who like to draw or doodle? Ask for a hobby-related cartoon. Use it with a story, as an editorial, or as cover art.

(Based on *Newsletter Publishing* by Linda Gail Christie in notes provided for a non-credit class at Tulsa Junior College, Spring 1995)

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"If you want to use copyrighted material in your newsletter, you must either have the owner's permission or publish under the provisions for fair use.

Reproducing portions of copyrighted material without permission for the purpose of teaching, analysis, or review is legal under a provision called fair use. You may also quote when describing material as news. Fair use is not explicitly defined, nor are there clear rules about how much material you may reproduce."

(From *Newsletter Publishing* by Linda Gail Christie in notes provided for a non-credit class at Tulsa Junior College, Spring 1995)

Readership Survey:

The purpose of doing a club newsletter is to meet the needs of your readers in an informal, easy-to-read manner. If you would like to get a membership evaluation of how well your newsletter meets the needs of your readers, you can use the following survey as is (fill in the blanks as appropriate!), or make your own survey using this one for ideas. You can use the results to make changes or additions to your bulletin.

(Clip art at beginning of article from Discovery Channel School Image Gallery, ©2003. Permission to use for educational, not for sale publications granted.)

TIPS continued on page 4

All American Club Rockhound Award

Howie Whiting, RMFMS ACROY Chairman

There will be a whole bunch of people at the AFMS/RMFMS meeting next month. Why don't you write up some member of your club for this award and bring it to the meeting to share with them. We can grease the skids by coordinating with me, the RMFMS Editor, the AFMS Chairman and Editor. Get your nomination in quickly for both publications.

It only takes about 15 minutes to write 150 words for the nomination and you will get a month of coverage. Hope to see a large group of nominations at the show.

READERSHIP SURVEY:

Please give us your opinion. We'd like to know if you find _____ interesting and informative. Your input will help us make it more valuable to you.

Complete and return this survey by _____. Thank you for your help.

1. How many stories do you read in each issue?

- Almost all
- More than half
- Less than half
- None

2. Rank the following story subjects as

1-very interesting 2-somewhat interesting 3-slightly interesting 4-not at all interesting

	Other _____

3. Rate the newsletter on the following:

	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor
Overall Opinion				
Writing				
Ease of Reading				
Appearance				

4. Stories are generally: Too long Too short Just right (circle one)

5. I have a story idea: _____

Comments: _____

Treasurer's Corner

by Gene Maggard, RMFMS Treasurer

Being a somewhat lazy person, I am continuing to try to find ways to make the Treasurer job easier. Here are a couple of attempts.

The 2007-08 annual club report, dues and insurance form has been revised to exactly match the format used in the directory for the report part. A copy is included in the directory, which you should have received last month. Dues and insurance fees have not been set, yet, so they are not specified on the form. They will have to be announced, later, in the newsletter. Assuming that I don't get fired between then and now, I will email the form around October 1, 2007 to all clubs having an email address. You will be asked to fill out the form in Word, email copies to both myself and the Directory Chairman, and send the dues and insurance check to me by USPS. I will process the check and make a report copy for my files. The Directory Chairman will copy and paste the report portion directly into the Directory Master. No word processing required. If you save your Word report, you can simply amend it in future years, saving the trouble of completely filling out a new report each year. If you do not have Word and email capability, you will have to do it the old fashioned way.

RMFMS Stickers – I am finding out what fun it is not, to count out and mail thousands of the little RMFMS stickers that some clubs then stick on the back of their club membership cards. At this printing, I have run out of stickers and had to go down to the local print shop and order 5,000 more (\$40). The incentive is that in some areas, rockhounding on some public lands can legally be done only by persons that are a member of one of the regional rockhounding federations, and by association, the AFMS. There is a much easier way. The next time that your club gets membership cards printed, please include on the front of the card the words, "Member by association of the Rocky Mountain Federation of Mineralogical Societies and the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies." No more stickers needed, thank you.

Each club's help in making our efforts more effective is greatly appreciated.

Happy Father's Day
June 17th

New Mexico Public Lands Advisory

Howie Whiting, New Mexico PLAC

As I write this (March 29), there are several public meetings scheduled within the next month by both the BLM and the US Forest Service in New Mexico. In several cases these are the meetings to finalize the Road Management Plans for forests. In addition the BLM is updating their Resource Management Plans in several districts and is being bombarded by environmental groups to road closure as a means to promote wilderness areas. One such group (The Center for Biological Diversity) has hired a full time staff member to promote road closures within New Mexico. If we are to continue to have access to our collecting areas, we have to get involved with both the BLM and the US Forest service NOW and participate in the planning cycle.

The Lincoln Forest will hold a Public Open Meeting on their Travel Management Plan 25 April, 2007. Several members of two clubs have agreed to attend this meeting with me. Will report on the result next month.



2007 DIRECTORY

Everyone should have received their 2007 RMFMS directory by this time. Did you check your clubs information? Do you have any corrections or changes? If so please send that information to:

Kay Atkinson

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kwotsamattau@sbcglobal.net

Included in this newsletter is an insert for your 2007 RMFMS directory.

New Programs for the Program Library

By Nancy Hicks

Slides

184. Lake Superior Agates...A New Look... Color, Copper, Plumes and Iris. Script, 88 slides, 40 minutes. No tape. By Wayne W. Sukow. Did you know that in addition to colorful fortifications, Lake Superior agates often have metallic inclusions and even optical effects? 2006 AFMS winner

DVDs

407. Cheap Thrills for the Lapidary Artist. 102 minutes. By Jim Barzee. Build a wood lapidary station and learn how to polish on wood.

408. Lapidary Drilling. 115 minutes. By Jim Barzee. How to drill holes in stones.

409. German Agates. 40 minutes. By Doug Moore. Same as 608 and 969. AFMS winner 2006.

410. Those Fabulous Thundereggs, Part 3. 30 minutes. By Doug Moore and Lee Kabat. Same as 609 and 970. AFMS winner 2006

411. Antarctica: A Frozen Laboratory. 25 minutes. Gift from AFMS Endowment fund, 2006. Discusses fossils and magma, past weather patterns shown in the ice, fish and birds, and more.

412. Geology of Caves and Caverns. 34 minutes. Gift from AFMS Endowment fund, 2006.

How underground water creates the the cave formations. By Dr. Laurence Jankowski. Teacher/ Student guide available on website www.tmwmedia.com.

413. Fossil Tunnels: Finding Fossils in Caves. 4 minutes. Can be ordered with Geology of Caves. Gift of AFMS Endowment Fund, 2006.

CDs

601. Agate Uber Alles. New version.

607. Bench Tricks for Gold Smithing (Power Point) and book **“Cheap Thrills in the Tool Shop.** (PDF) Purchased from Rio Grande. 2006.

608. German Agates. Power Point. By Doug Moore. 40 minutes. AFMS winner 2006. Also 409, and 969.

609. Those Fabulous Thundereggs, Part 3. 30 minutes. Power Point By Doug Moore and Lee Kabat. Also 410 and 970.

Videos

969. German Agates. 40 minutes. See 409, and 608. More colorful agates. By Doug Moore.

970. Those Fabulous Thundereggs, Part 3. Also 410 and 609. More dramatic, colorful specimens. By Doug Moore and Lee Kabat.

971. Amber and Fossils. 5 minutes. Summary of the

subject. Gift from AFMS Endowment Fund. Can be ordered with another program.

972. Exploring Art Clay Silver - Part 1. 55 minutes. By Jackie Truty. Basic techniques to succeed with art clay. Gift from AFMS Endowment Fund 2006.

We're head'en to "AGATE 2007"

The "Chaparral Rockhounds" and the "Rocky Mountain Rockhounds" would like to cordially invite all Rockhounds to "AGATE 2007", our annual ten-day, nine-night fieldtrip campout through the Labor Day weekend at Apache Creek, New Mexico, from August 25th to September 3rd, 2007.

We have interesting fieldtrips every day, to collect a very wide variety of rocks, minerals and/or crystals that can include: Banded Agate, Blood Stone, Bytownite, Chalcedony, Crystalline, Fire Agate, Geodes, Golden Luna Agate, Hypersthene, Labradorite, Lava's, Luna Blue Agate, Obsidian, Perlite, Plume Agate, Quartz Crystals, Spotted Agate and Thunder Eggs just to name only a few.

The very small town of Apache Creek is located in the central-western part of the state about 117 miles west of Socorro, NM, on NM-12 southwest of the small town of Datil, NM. Apache Creek campground, used as our base camp, is a beautiful and tranquil camping area with tall majestic pine trees towering over the entire camp area for plenty of cool shade during the warm days of August. The area is large and spacious enough for the largest of RV's to the smallest of pup tents and everything in between. Being a rustic camp area, there are no facilities, water or electricity, just one coed chemical toilet, so you must come prepared. There is no cost or camping fees at Apache Creek campground. The weather in August has warm days in the upper 70's to 80's and cool nights in the 50's with some possible 40's and even 30's.

Lodging: For those folks who do not wish to camp out, or need electricity and water for their RV, there are several alternatives.

If you are planning on coming to AGATE 2007, please try to RSVP by mid August. For any additional information about Apache Creek or the camp out, please contact **Yonis Lone Eagle**, RMFMS New Mexico/Texas State Director at 505-860-2455 or via e-mail at: rockymountainrockhounds@yahoo.com. All rockhounds that attend Agate 2007 will abide by the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies "Code of Conduct".

The Chaparral Rockhounds, Roswell, New Mexico
<www.chaparralrockhounds.com>

(Space did not permit me to print the complete article, if you wish to read more about this event go to:
< <http://rmfms.org/AGATE%202007.pdf> > - editor)

Paleophiles and Mineral Enthusiasts:

By Marge Collins

Your help is needed! Newcomers to the Earth Science hobby want to learn more about all the aspects of this hobby. Why not share and explain your special interest to others in a presentation? First, you can show it to your Club and others that aren't far away. Then share it with a wider audience – across RMFMS via RMFMS Program Competition then across the country - by entering AFMS Program Competition.

You can inspire and inform current and future generations of neophytes about your favorite fossil or mineral species, about a classic location, a special museum, a notable field trip, etc. There are so many stories to share! You make the choice! First, make an outline to organize your thoughts, then start taking pictures to illustrate your "story" with that new digital camera whether still or video (or a good 35mm camera). If you've gone digital, you don't have to use a "professional" software program – you can simply make a collection of images on a CD with a written script. (35mm slides and a typed script are still acceptable.)

Just two warnings: first, if you use presentation software, don't be tempted to use transitions, animation, etc. An audience watching an otherwise boring business presentation might appreciate some of those gimmicks for variety, but engaged viewers find them distracting. Second, don't overload the audience with images or information. You don't need to show every image and tell "everything" you know. The goal is to whet viewers' appetite, and inspire them to search for more information on their own. In other words, a relatively short presentation – 30 to 40 minutes is good.

There are a few more tips and suggestions that can lead to a prize winning presentation. They're listed on the AFMS website (www.amfed.org) as are deadline, entry form, etc. You can also contact your RMFMS Program Librarian c/o **Nancy Hicks** (address on the back page of the Newsletter) or AFMS Program Competition Committee c/o **Marge Collins** phone: 269-695-4313 or email: margaret@qtm.net (If you don't receive a prompt reply, phone – gremlins can mysteriously snag email!)

Sharing your passion for our hobby can lead to many rewards: a cash prize, recognition and best of all, the satisfaction of knowing you are inspiring others.



Diamonds at the Denver Museum of Nature and Science

By James F. Hurlbut, Research Associate

The Denver Museum of Nature and Science has three categories of diamonds in its collections. The first are diamonds that were donated for exhibit; the second is the collection of Paul Seel; and the third are the more recently acquired diamonds from the Colorado deposits.

The diamonds that were donated for exhibit cover the early years of the Museum. The first stone was donated in 1912. Most of these are mounted in Jewelry.

The Paul Seel Collection of Diamonds (5000) micro diamonds 1 to 4 mm crystals and several larger crystals up to 1.7 cm, from many deposits around the world was received in 1984. Many hand drawn sketches of notable crystal forms are included.

The Colorado diamonds were discovered in 1964. Since then several companies have examined many of the deposits for economic potential. The Sloan #1 and #2 kimberlite diatremes were evaluated by Superior Oil Company during 1980 -- 1983, and recovered more than 22,000 diamonds weighing over 300 carats. They decided that the deposits were not economically workable and dropped their lease. Many of their recovered diamonds were donated to the DMNH in 1990 after they merged with Mobile Mining and Milling Company.

In 1988, Union Pacific Resources donated several hundred small diamonds that they had obtained from Colorado and Wyoming deposits.

The Kelsey Lake diatreme deposit on the Colorado/Wyoming border opened in 1996 with high expectations. More than 1000 carats were produced in a short time. The developer of the operation, Harold Coopersmith, sold this property to Redaurum Ltd. Toronto, Canada. They increased production and produced some fine crystals of 6.2, 9.40, 10.48, 11.85, 14.20, 28.18, and 28.30 carats before closing. A few of these are in Museum collections, but most are in the hands of private collectors. The 28.18 stone was cut to produce a light yellow cushion cut of 16.86 carats. This is now considered the largest diamond found in the United States.

The Kelsey Lake property was sold to another Canadian Mining Company that is planning to reopen it later in the fall of 2000 with an upgraded mill. This never happened for undisclosed reasons.

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: Three Gulf Coast Clubs
Ocean Springs Mississippi
November 9 - 11, 2007

CLUB & SOCIETY SHOWS/SWAPS

May 4 – 6, 2007, McPherson, KS

Rock Hounds 15th Annual McPherson Gem & Mineral Club Rock Sale & Swap. Located at the 4H Fairgrounds, Woodside and Hickory. Contact: Marvin Lundquist, 620-241-7003 swederocker@mpks.net or Jim Nutter 620-241-2433.

May 5, 2007, Lakewood, CO

Colorado Mineral Society Auction, Holy Shepherd Lutheran Church, 920 Kipling St. From 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. with dealer set up at 10:00 a.m. Halfway thru the auction we will have a verbal with unique specimens. For more information: Bruce Geller is the Auction contact @ 303-237-294, Leslie Osgood is the person who takes care of Buyer/Seller numbers/letters 303-986-4488. www.coloradomineralsociety.org

May 5 – 7, 2007, Kingman, AZ

Mohave County Gemstoner's Annual Show, "Gems of Arizona" at Kingman Academy of Learning, 3410 Harrison St. Saturday 9 – 5 & Sunday 9 – 4. For more information contact Dave at 928-692-3797 or tpatt2ts@uneedspeed.net

May 12 – 13, 2007, Grand Junction, CO

60th Annual Grand Junction Gem, Mineral and Jewelry Show, Two Rivers Convention Center, 159 Main St. Meet T-Rex in person! (Ok, it's a replica of his skeleton but it's super-cool anyway!) Silent Auction and Dealers. Contact Joe Montano 970-241-7774.

May 18 – 19, 2007, Ellinwood, KS

34th Annual Rock Swap, City Park (Northwest corner of Ellinwood). Presented by the Ellinwood Chamber of Commerce, 620-564-3300

May 25 – 28, 2007, Scottsbluff, NE

4th Annual Panhandle Gem and Mineral Club Rock Swap, Riverside Zoo Campground, 1600 South Beltline Hwy. Free Admission. Public Welcome daily 8 am to 5 pm. Saturday night at 5:30 there will be a potluck supper with an auction to follow at 7 pm For more information contact Sherman Lenhart at 308-436-4888; Earl Noland at ednoland@gmail.com or Dale Tikalsky at deatikalasky@charter.net or 308-632-5574.

June 23 - 24, 2007 - Colorado Springs, CO

Colorado Springs Mineralogical Society 43rd annual Gem, Mineral, Jewelry and Fossil Show. Phil Long Expo Center 1515 Auto Mall Loop Show Chairman: Kaye Thompson, 719-636-2978 or Roger Pittman 719-683-2603. e-mail: rpittman@netzero.net, web csms.us info@csms.us

July 6 – 8, 2007 - Durango, CO

54th Annual Four Corners Gem and Mineral Show, La Plata County Fairgrounds, 2500 Main Ave. Friday is Kid's Day! For more information contact Joanna Baker, 970-994-7949, email 2007Show@DurangoRocks.org or PO Box 955 Durango CO 81302.

July 28 – 29, 2007 – Rapid City, SD

The Western Dakota Gem and Mineral Society will hold their annual show at the Rushmore Plaza Civic Center. Contact Don Rathert at 605-348-8948.

August 17 - 19, 2007, Lake George, CO

October 13 - 14, 2007, Sierra Vista, AZ

November 3 – 4, 2007, Oklahoma City, OK

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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