



# 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*

## Treasurers Corner

By Gene Maggard

**DUES – DUES- DUES:** Dues, annual report and club insurance forms were sent to all clubs in mid-October. If you have not received yours please contact me by either email <[gandpmaggard@wildblue.net](mailto:gandpmaggard@wildblue.net)> or by phone 316-742-3746. The reports are due December 15 unless other arrangements are made.

**BUDGET – BUDGET – BUDGET:** It is that time of year, again. I am working on the 2007-08 RMF budget. If you are an officer or committee chair, and you want to spend RMFMS money, your request must be submitted for the budget and approved by the executive committee. Send me your request ASAP.

Financially, RMFMS completed the 2006-07 fiscal year in good financial shape. Finances are stable and adequate to fund our current and expected activities. Accordingly, there is no increase in either dues or insurance fees for 2007-08.

A cost saving measure that will help us hold the line on future costs is for you to receive your newsletter by email and thus avoid publishing and postage costs. If everyone with on-line capability would use this feature, savings would be substantial. You do have to have Adobe Reader capability, which can be downloaded free. Just send an e-mail to <[wgms2001@yahoo.com](mailto:wgms2001@yahoo.com)> to request receiving the RMFMS Newsletter via e-mail.

I have enjoyed my first year as your treasurer, and look forward to the 2007-08 year.

## San Rafael Draft Resource Management Plan Released

By Jim Alexander PLAC

The Price BLM office has released the DRMP for the San Rafael Swell (Utah). The comment period is now open and will close on December 12, 2007.

If you enjoy riding the Temple Mountain Single Track System (Five Miles of Hell, Red Trail, Orange Trail, Blue and Green Trails), Devil's Race Track, Eva Conover, Eagle Canyon, Behind the Reef and especially Chimney Rock, we need your help.

The DRMP is VERY concerning in that it does not include a single trail as being open in the Chimney Rock. That's right, given all of the trails that the BLM has permitted race events on, they could not find even an inch of single track trails.

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### *Thank you,*

*Richard Jaeger  
Linda Jaeger  
Gene Maggard  
Jim Alexander  
Wayne Mouser  
Arlene Burkhalter  
Richard Pankey  
and everyone else*

*for your contributions  
to the November 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 December is November 1.

## President's Message

*By Stan Nowak*

## Past President's Message

*By Richard Jaeger*

I have enjoyed my two years as president of the RMFMS; thank you for letting me serve in the capacity. I have been fortunate to have a number of Executive Committee members and committee chairs who have been most supportive and made my job easier. I know that Stan Nowak will receive the same support which I have. Stan will have several new appointments to make so please be receptive to him if he asks you. If all of us work together we can improve the RMF to the benefit of all our member clubs.

I missed the Denver Show this past September for the first time in several years but was able to make shows in Siloam Springs, Arkansas and Enid, Oklahoma. Hopefully I will also have been to the Idabel, Oklahoma show by the time you receive this newsletter. Many members from other clubs have supported our area shows; this is something we need to continue to do.

Once again, thanks for allowing me to serve as president of the federation and I wish each of you a successful year of rockhounding.

## All American Club Award

*By Wayne Mouser, Ed. All-American Club Awards*

Those clubs who plan on participating for the All American Club Award, the end of 2007 is fast approaching, so they need to get their entries in order.

The All-American Club Award Program was established in 1967 by the American Federation and the seven regional federations. The All-American Club Award is meant to:

Encourage local club members to show their expertise and enthusiasm for the hobby within their respective regions.

Provide a model for organizing an annual historical account for the posterity of each club.

Offer an opportunity for national recognition of exceptional clubs.

This is not a competition of one club against another. This is an evaluation of quality based on a standard of excellence. Gold, Silver and Bronze awards are granted for achievement of point in the appropriate scoring range. Only the top regional and national awards determined on a high point basis. To allow more equality, separate top awards will be given the large clubs (100 or more members), small clubs (up to 99 members), and organized junior divisions (5 or more). Regardless of how they are scored in our region, they are all forwarded to the AFMS for separate judging by their judges.

It is my understanding that more than one club can receive a Bronze, Silver, or Gold Award, but only one club can receive the First Place Gold Award.

Deadline for RMFMS entries is February 15, 2008, for the year 2007. Deadline for AFMS entries is April 15, 2008, for the year 2007.



## 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.

### CONTEST TIME AGAIN?!!

I don't know how it can be that time again – it seems like we just gave RMFMS & AFMS awards at the show in Roswell!!

Look for your RMFMS Bulletin Editors Contest materials in the mail the first week of December. Then take part of an afternoon to sit down with a nice cup of hot chocolate or tea and go through your bulletins for the year. Pick your favorite issues, favorite articles and favorite poems to submit. Entries are due back to me by January 15, 2008.

If you do not receive the contest materials in the mail, please notify me at the above email address to give me the correct information for mailing and go to the RMFMS website <[www.rmfmts.org](http://www.rmfmts.org)> to download and print the rules and entry forms. If necessary I can send another set of copies in U.S. mail. The entry forms for the 2008 contest will be available online by the first week of December, 2007.

By the time you read this the guidelines and sample scoresheets for the AFMS contest will be available for you to view on the AFMS website:<[www.amfed.org](http://www.amfed.org)>. I find it very helpful to know what judges are looking for before I enter a contest (or before I turn in a paper for a class!). So use the information there to see what judges are looking for.

Just remember that all entries have to go through the regional contests first, then the top 3 winners in each category are forwarded to AFMS by the regional chairman. If you were a 1st place winner in RMFMS last year or the year before, but did NOT place 1st in AFMS, you can send your entry in that category directly to me, and I can send it directly to AFMS along with the top 3 winners in that category.

Enjoy looking through what you've edited this year –and give yourselves a pat on the back for all the hours you put in on a job well done!

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

## NOTICE TO ALL RMFMS CLUBS

By Arlene Burkhalter

Time is running out for nominations for HONORARY SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT for 2008 for the Rocky Mountain Federation of Mineralogical Societies!

All clubs have the opportunity to honor some member or a teacher or someone who has helped your club by giving programs, helping to demonstrate various aspects of our hobby, or just being supportive of all activities of your club. They do not have to be professional geologists, or teachers. It can be anyone you feel deserves the honor. Clubs and individuals may nominate.

A committee has the task of selecting the honoree from the entries.

The club or person making the nomination must write a letter telling why that individual deserves the recognition. It can be service to the club, volunteer service to a museum etc, or their willingness to help individuals learn about various aspects of the hobby.

If the person is a professional geologist, or teacher, or businessman, have them give you some sort of background information which should be included.

The Honorary Scholarship Recipient receives a nice plaque from the Scholarship Foundation at the Federation banquet held at the Federation show, which will be in Tulsa, Oklahoma in 2008. They then have the responsibility of selecting two graduate students in any college in the United States studying in the earth sciences field to receive the \$2,000.00 per year, 2 year scholarship.

Please submit your entries to **Sandy Cannedy**, RMFMS Scholarship Chairperson, Route 1 Box 7, Binger, OK 73009. She will see that the Chairman of the Scholarship Nominating Committee gets the entries.

As treasurer of the AFMS Scholarship Foundation, it gives me great pleasure to write the checks for the RMFMS scholarships.



## AFMS Code of Ethics

A large measure of the enjoyment of our hobby consists of collecting in the field. For that reason, the members are proud to endorse the Code of Ethics below. It is suggested that field trip Chairs present a copy of this code to landowners when asking permission to enter private property.

I will respect both private and public property and will do no collecting on privately owned land without the owner's permission.

I will keep informed on all laws, regulations, or rules governing collecting on public lands and will observe them.

I will, to the best of my ability, ascertain the boundary lines of property on which I plan to collect.

I will use no firearms or blasting material in collecting areas.

I will cause no willful damage to property of any kind — fences, signs, buildings, etc.

I will leave all gates as found.

I will build fires in designated or safe places only and will be certain they are completely extinguished before leaving the area.

I will discard no burning material — matches, cigarettes, etc.

I will fill all excavation holes, which may be dangerous to livestock.

I will not contaminate wells, creeks, or other water supplies.

I will cause no willful damage to collecting material and will take home only what I can reasonably use.

I will support the rockhound project H.E.L.P. (Help Eliminate Litter Please) and will leave all collecting areas devoid of litter, regardless of how found.

I will practice conservation and undertake to utilize fully and well the materials I have collected and will recycle my surplus for the pleasure and benefit of others.

I will cooperate with field-trip leaders and those in designated authority in all collecting areas.

I will report to my club or federation officers, Bureau of Land Management or other authorities, any deposit of petrified wood or other materials on public lands which should be protected for the enjoyment of future generations for public educational and scientific purposes.

I will appreciate and protect our heritage of natural resources.

I will observe the "Golden Rule," will use "Good Outdoor Manners," and will at all times conduct myself in a manner which will add to the stature and public "image" of rockhounds everywhere.

## Tri-Federation Rockhound Rendezvous - Reprise

*By Richard Pankey, Inter – Regional Field Trips*

The Northwest, Rocky Mountain and California Federations will host a Rockhound Rendezvous to Texas Springs, NV over Memorial Day Weekend, 2008 and all AFMS members are invited to attend. We had such a great time in 2003 we decided to do it again. The date is set – May 21 to 26, 2008. The place is picked – the Texas Springs area for spectacular pink agate limb casts, as well as, other agate and petrified wood. Arrangements are being made; details are being finalized and the flier will be issued next month. Watch for the fliers and information in the AFMS Newsletter and on the web site, as well as, the host federation's Newsletters and web sites.

Late spring is a beautiful time of year to be in northern Nevada's high desert. The days are warm and the evenings are cool. Great weather for rockhounding and for our rendezvous. We will collect at 4 to 6 different sites: pink limb casts, small limb casts and bogwood, snakeskin agate, jasp/agate limb casts, geodes, and more. Our Rendezvous will include daily collecting trips, potluck dinners, daily Happy Hours, evening campfires, map exchange and tailgate displays.

This area has been popular with rockhounds for many years, and prized material can still be found for those who are willing to dig for it. And many were successful! In 2003 we had over 200 rockhounds from 14 western states representing 55 clubs of the three federations.

Come join us for a great Tri-Federation Rendezvous of collecting, fun and fellowship. Mark your calendar, schedule your vacation, and plan to join us next May 21st to 26th.



## A Thanksgiving Poem

Twas the night of thanksgiving  
But I just couldn't sleep  
I tried counting backwards,  
I tried counting sheep.  
The leftovers beckoned -  
The dark meat and white  
But I fought the temptation  
With all of my might.  
Tossing and turning with anticipation  
The thought of a snack became infatuation.  
So, I raced to the kitchen,  
Flung open the door  
And gazed at the fridge,  
Full of goodies galore.  
Gobbled up the turkey and buttered potatoes,  
Pickles and carrots, beans and tomatoes.  
I felt myself swelling so plump and so round,  
Till all of a sudden, I rose off the ground.  
I crashed through the ceiling,  
Floating into the sky  
With a mouthful of pudding  
And a handful of pie.  
But I managed to yell as I soared  
Past the trees...  
Happy eating to all -  
Pass the cranberries, please.  
May your stuffing be tasty,  
May your turkey be plump.  
May your potatoes in gravy  
Have nary a lump.  
May your yams be delicious  
May your pies take the prize.  
May your thanksgiving dinner  
Stay off of your thighs.

Author Unknown, Taken from EFMLS News - Nov 03



## The Earth's Oldest Rocks

By Wes De Coursey, McPherson (KS) G&M Club

The Post Rock March 2006

Honorable Mention – AFMS Adult Articles Advanced

If you want to find old rocks you could dig down a few thousand feet. Of course that is probably true that the deeper you go the older the rocks will be. However, Mother Nature has had huge batholiths of old rocks pushed up into high mountains like the Rockies, the Alps and the Zagros mountains of Iran. These rocks are still somewhat young so we must look for mountains that are even older and worn down by long years of erosion such as the Appalachians, the Black Hills of South Dakota, the Arbuckle Mountains of southern Oklahoma or the Llano uplift in Texas. Such places have rocks that are called pre-Cambrian and are 5-billion years old.

In the Black Hills uplift we find a core of pre-Cambrian granite rocks surrounded by metamorphic rocks where we find one of the oldest continuously operated gold mines, the Homestake Mine at Lead South Dakota.

When we travel down to the southern part of Oklahoma we find ancient remains of the Arbuckle Mountains that are worn down to rather low hills in which we find the ancient fossils trilobites and brachiopods.

In central Texas the Llano uplift has exposed beautiful pre-Cambrian granite called Enchanted Rocks State Park. The batholiths are mile wide domes of rocks exfoliated into pink orbs of pre-Cambrian granite. In adjacent areas huge blocks of granite are quarried to build the buildings of the state capital in Austin. In the nearby layers of Old Hickory sandstone we find myriads of tiny brachiopods that lived 5-billion years ago.

Still another place to look for ancient rocks is at the bottoms of our deepest canyons such as Hells Canyon of the Snake River, the Black Canyon of the Gunnison river or of course the Grand Canyon of the Colorado River. Twice I have hiked down to the ancient rocks at the bottom of the Grand Canyon. There we find 1.2-billion year old Vishnu schist and just on top of this layer is the Tapeats sandstone containing again trilobite fossils. So we can find old rocks without having to dig down 3,000 feet here in Kansas.

***Happy Thanksgiving to all you wonderful Rockhounds!***

# SHOWS & MORE

## REGIONAL FEDERATION SHOWS & CONVENTIONS

### Southeast Federation Convention & Show

Hosts: Mississippi Gulf G&MS &  
Harrison County G&MS  
Biloxi Mississippi  
November 9 - 10, 2007

### Eastern Federation Convention & Show

Hosts:  
Jackson Mississippi  
February 23 - 24, 2008

### Northwest Federation Annual Convention & Show

Hosts: Stallknecht-Morgan Museum G&MS  
Ontario Oregon  
June 20 - 22, 2008

### Midwest Federation Annual Convention & Show

Hosts:  
Lincoln Nebraska  
June 20 - 22, 2008

### California Federation Annual Convention & Show

Hosts: California Federation  
Ventura California  
June 27 - 29, 2008

### South Central Federation Convention & Show

Hosts: Houston G&M Society  
Humble Texas  
September 25 - 28, 2008

### Rocky Mountain Federation Annual Convention & Show

Hosts: Tulsa Rockhounds  
Tulsa Oklahoma  
October 31 - November 2, 2008

## CLUB & SOCIETY SHOWS/SWAPS

### November 3 - 4, 2007, Oklahoma City, OK

The Oklahoma Mineral & Gem Society show will be at the Oklahoma Fair Park, northeast of the I-40 & I-44 intersection, at the 10th St. East exit off of I-44, in the Modern Living Building.

### January 18 - 20, 2008, Globe, AZ

51<sup>st</sup> Annual Gila County Gem & Mineral Show, Gila County Fairgrounds 3 miles North of Junction US60 & US70. Contact Andy Clark 928-473-3042.

### March 28 - 30, 2008, Fort Collins, CO

Fort Collins Rockhounds 47th Annual Gem and Mineral Show. Theme: Minerals of the American West . Lincoln Center, 419 W. Magnolia St., Fort Collins, CO 80521. Hours: Friday, March 28, 4-8 p.m.; Saturday, March 29, 9 a.m.- 6 p.m.; Sunday, March 30, 10 a.m.- 5:00 p.m. Fort Collins Rockhounds, P.O. Box 482, Fort Collins, CO 80522 (Web: [www.fortcollinsrockhounds.org](http://www.fortcollinsrockhounds.org)) Dealer information: 970/221-0338. Show chairman: 970/493-6168, email [showchairman@fortcollinsrockhounds.org](mailto:showchairman@fortcollinsrockhounds.org)

### May 2 - 4, 2008, McPherson, KS

16<sup>th</sup> annual Rock Sale & Swap, sponsored by the McPherson Gem & Mineral Club. Located at 4-H Fairgrounds, Woodside and Hickory. Contact Jim Nutter 620-241-2433 or Marvin Lundquist 620-241-7003.



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](mailto: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](http://www.rmfmts.org) e-mail your submissions to the webmaster.

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