

ROCKY MOUNTAIN FEDERATION NEWS

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*The Rocky Federation
of Mineralogical Socie-
ties is a non-profit edu-
cational organization.*

RMFMS SEPTEMBER TREASURER ARTICLE BY GENE MAGGARD RMFMS TREASURER

The RMFMS fiscal year is almost over. The treasury is in good shape. Almost all expected expenses and income are in. It looks like we will be close to a balance budget for 2014-15. No unpleasant surprises have occurred, this year. Good, that is the way that we like it. Due

will remain the same for **2014-15, \$1.50/dues paying member. We may have a small increase in the insurance premium, from \$.65/member to \$.70.**

Annual reports and dues will be coming due as we start a new fiscal year on Nov. 1. Your

treasurer or club contact can expect to receive the annual report and dues announcement about October 15, 2015. The report, dues and optional liability insurance payments will be due by **December 15, 2015.** Prompt reporting is appreciated by your treasurer.

AFMS CLUB ROCKHOUND OF THE YEAR BY RICHARD JAEGER

Thus far five or six clubs in the Rocky Mountain Federation have submitted individuals to be designated as their AFMS Club Rockhound of the Year. I hope that many more of our clubs will do so; this is such an easy way to honor members who have contributed so much to your club.

Remember that each club may designate one individual or one couple as their AFMS Club

Rockhound of the Year; in addition they may designate a junior member to be their AFMS Junior Club Rockhound of the Year. This person/people may be designated and information submitted by the board or by any individual in your club.

Just type a paragraph on how the individual or couple has served your club and submit that to me. I will then forward it for publication in the RMFSM and

AFMS Newsletters. You will also receive a certificate honoring the person or couple you have designated for this award. Please send your information to me, **Richard Jaeger, until November 1st.** After that please send your information to **Sheri Johnson** who will be taking over as the ACROY chair for the RMFMS. The contact information for both of us is given below.

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2015 RMFMS SAFETY HANDOUTS BY JERI HOUSE - RMFMS SAFETY CHAIR

... as Safety Chair I will be able to remind you of everyday things we do that may not be super safe.

Safety 1st!

As the RMFMS Safety Chair I thought perhaps I should create some safety tips that were handed out at the 2015 RMFMS Convention. Let me start out telling you a little about myself. I've been a Rockhound for 10 years, well actually longer but the term started to fit about 10 years ago. You see, I've always liked well enjoyed gems, sparkly pretty things. I've used minerals all my life, just never focused on it and thought that fossils were interesting.

When my Husband and I moved to New Mexico we joined our club the following January. Since then I've been on our Board for 9 years as Treasurer, Vice President and Show Chair. Currently I am our Treasurer and Show Chair.

As you can see I am used to wearing many hats and am always busy.

One other thing you should know about me, I am probably the clumsiest person I know. I have never been able to walk and chew gum at the same time! So I take Safety very seriously and hope that as Safety Chair I will be able to remind you of everyday things we do that may not be super safe.

Shop Safety

Having an organized and clean shop is probably the most important thing you can have. Like my Father always told me when you use a tool:

- put it back where it goes
- never leave running equipment unattended
- make sure power cords are in good shape - no frayed cords
- teach children how to properly use equipment.

- never ever leave them unattended when they are using equipment
- make sure hoses don't have leaks
- make sure that buckets and reservoirs are in good shape with no leaks
- water and electricity don't mix - water is not good for blades to soak in
- don't try to cut cabs or slabs with dull blades- not a good habit.

That should give you enough to work on and think about. What else can you find in your shop that is probably not the safest it should be?

Field Trip Safety

Most of you live where there are 3-4 seasons; I however live where there are only 2! Winter and HOT! Granted we have varying degrees of hot, but from June thru October we really don't do a lot of field trips. Some years we have 3 seasons winter, wind and hot! The windy season is normally March and April, sometimes it extends into mid-May, but there is no fun going on a field trip when the wind is blowing 40-60 mph and if you face the wind you can have a derma abrasion treatment for free.

When you go on a field trip:

- never go alone
- wear proper clothes that may mean you dress in layers
- remember that there are creatures out there that don't like to be disturbed. This year they woke up late and angry, so be careful.
- be aware of your surroundings

- take plenty of water and snacks
- have a first aid kit and know how to use it.
- if something untold happens don't panic use your head and get to help.

When you go on a field trip, make sure your car is ok. Make sure you have these items checked:

- Tires
- Gas
- Brakes
- Lights
- Anti-freeze

Have a can of fix a flat in your car. As the Boy Scouts say, Be Prepared.

Have fun out there. Find something pretty. Enjoy nature!

Home Safety

- How many fire extinguishers do you have in your house?
- How many members of your family know how to use them?
- Do you have the right kind in the right areas?
- Are they fully charged?
- When was the last time you checked?

Having the right ones in the right areas of the house is very important.

- What about smoke alarms?
- Did you check the batteries in them with daylight savings time?
- Did you test them at the same time?

Does your family have an emergency evacuation plan and have you ever practiced it?

2015 RMFMS SAFETY HANDOUTS CONTINUED

I don't mean to sound like a mad crazy person, but this stuff is important.

When you go on vacation is there someone you trust keeping an eye on your house?

Hope this gives you something to think about and maybe even

work on.

If you have any topics you would me to write about, let me know.

Thanks,

Jeri House

jerihouse@cableone.net

I don't mean to sound like a mad crazy person, but this stuff is important.

2016 RMFMS CONVENTION NEWS BY GENE MAGGARD-RMFMS TREASURER

The Wichita Gem and Mineral Society is hosting the 2016 RMFMS Convention. Show dates are Friday, April 22, Saturday, April 23 and Sunday, April 24, 2016. The host hotel and convention headquarters has been selected. It is the La

Quinta Inn East, 7335 East Kellogg Drive, Wichita.

The convention rate for hotel rooms, either Kings or Double Doubles, is \$82.00 plus taxes. You must specify "Rocky Mountain Federation" in order

to get the convention rate. The reservations telephone number is 316-685-1281. The cutoff date is Thursday, April 7, 2016 so you have plenty of time. Convention packets will go out to all clubs towards the end of 2015.

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UPCOMING 2015 REGIONAL FEDERATION CONVENTIONS

South Central Federation – AFMS
October 23 - 25, 2015
Austin, TX

Southeast Federation
November 6 - 8, 2015
Melbourne, FL



RMFMS NEWSLETTER NOTES

For inquiries regarding the RMFMS newsletter or to order a RMFMS directory, please use the following contact information:

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Rates—\$3.50 a year for the Rocky Mountain Federation News only. \$7.75 a year for both the Rocky Mountain Feder-

ation News and the RMFMS Directory. Directory only—\$5.00
Order from

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UPCOMING 2015 RMFMS CLUB SHOWS AND EVENTS

More RMFMS club show fliers can be found at the end of this news letter.

Toole Gem, Mineral & Rock Show 2015—"Festival of the Old West"

September 25-27, 2015

- Dow James Building, 400 North 400 West, Tooele, Utah, 84074. Exit 99 off the I-80 Freeway onto SR-36, go South to Tooele, then turn Right on 400 North and go West to 400 West, Dow James Memorial Park is on your Right.
- September 25, 26 & 27, 2015
- Hours: Fri. & Sat. 10:00am - 7:00pm
- Sun. 10:00am - 5:00pm
- FREE - No admission fee
- Rocks & gems, door prizes, demonstrations, silent auction, fossils, displays, jewelry, vendors.
- Held in conjunction with the Mountain Man Rendezvous!
- For more information contact:

Colleen Edwards

435-882-5752

TooeleGemAndMineral@gmail.com

Or visit their Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/TooeleGem?ref=hl>

59th Topeka Gem & Mineral Show - Topeka Gem & Mineral Society

October 10 & 11, 2015

- Ag. Hall of the Topeka Expocentre, at 17th and Topeka Blvd. , Topeka, KS 66612
- Sat. 10am - 6pm
- Sun. 10am - 5pm
- Adults \$5.00, Students *continued*

41st Annual Huachuca Gem, Mineral & Jewelry Show - Huachuca Mineral & Gem Club (Profits Go To Scholarship And Education Funds)

October 10 & 11, 2015

- Cochise College, 901 N. Columbo Ave., Sierra Vista, AZ
- Sat. 9:00am - 5:00pm
- Sun. 10:00am - 4:00pm
- Free Admission, free parking, handicap accessible, and family friendly.
- Bring your mystery gemstones for free identification by a certified Gemologist.
- Mineral display from the Arizona Sonora Desert Museum.
- Vendors Inside and Outside, Live Demonstrations, Educational Displays, Gems, Jewelry, Lapidary Supplies, Raffles, Food & Beverages, and Fluorescent Displays.

Vendor Info - Contact:

Ingrid Baillie

520 459-3718

ibaille@cox.net

General Info - Contact:

Maudie Bailey

520 378-6291

gmbailey@msn.com

For additional information please visit the website:

http://huachucamineralandgemclub.info/Home_Page.html

(13-17) \$1.00, children under 13 accompanied by an adult: FREE. A coupon is available at:

topekagemandmineral.org

or Facebook:

[Topeka Gem and Mineral Society - continued](#)

Central Dakota Gem & Mineral Society 42nd Annual Show

October 2 & 3, 2015

- AMVETS Club Post #9, 2402 Railroad Avenue Bismarck, ND 58501.
- Fri. 9:00am - 5:00pm (Education Day)
- Sat. 9:00am - 5:00pm (Public Welcome)
- No Admission Charge.
- Silent Auction & Door Prizes Exhibits, Grab Bags, Kids Corner, Lapidary, Gold Panning, Rock Tumblers, Fluorescent Rocks Show, Fossil Exhibit.
- For more information contact:

**Chairman: Kevin Vetter
(701) 258-9488**

If your RMFMS club has an upcoming show or event, please contact me at:

Alice LaBonte

Alice.labonte.al@gmail.com

The Theme will be LET IT GLOW, discovering the world of fluorescent rocks and minerals. Special Exhibits, Gems, Minerals, Jewelry' Fossils, Demonstrations, Dealers and Jr. Rockhound and 4-H displays

For more information please email at: rocktoplate@aol.com

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consists of Officers,
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two immediate Past
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*Committee Chairs
are appointed by
the President.*

OKLAHOMA CITY MINERAL AND GHOST SHOW

October 31 & November 1, 2015.

The
Oklahoma Mineral and Gem Society
invites you to:

The Oklahoma City Mineral and ~~Gem~~ *Ghost* Show

Modern Living building at the Oklahoma State Fairgrounds

Saturday, October 31st 9am-6pm

Sunday, November 1st 9am-5pm

Admission is \$6.00 at the door or \$5.00 to pre-buy at omgs-minerals.org

Hair-Raising
Vendors

Rough rock, mineral specimens, slabs, cabochons, beads, semi-precious stones, tools, jewelry, and MORE!

Ghostly Live Demonstrations

Skilled artists and craftsmen will be demonstrating wire wrapping, lapidary work, beading, and flint napping

Spooky

Fluorescent Rock and Mineral Display

View beautiful and unexpected colors under ultraviolet lighting

Trick or Treat! Children's Corner

Fun and games for the young and young at heart! "I got... a rock..."

Silent Auction and Hourly Door Prizes

Creepy



Ghost
OMGS "Angel Wing" Calcite



Educational Nonprofit

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RMFMS Distribution

The purpose of the Rocky Mountain Federation is to bring a closer association of all clubs in the Society, and to promote the study of earth sciences, including the lapidary arts, the study of fossils and paleontology, and related crafts.

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. and is issued monthly (except June and July). It is a privilege of membership of the RMFMS and cannot be exchanged by the editor for individual club newsletters from other regional federations.

www.rmfm.org