



2016-17 Annual Reports  
Of the  
Rocky Mountain Federation  
Of Mineralogical Societies

Meeting July 21, 2018  
Rapid City. South Dakota

Hosts:  
Western Dakota Gem & Mineral Society

# Empty

To all Rocky Mountain Federation Executive Committee and Committee Chairs and other members:

Attached is the 2018 RMFMS Annual Report from those Officers, Executive Committee Members and Committee Chairs who have sent me their reports.

Please bring a copy of this report with you when going to Rapid City, SD in July to attend the House of Delegates meeting on July 21st .

Let me know if you have any questions.

Regards,

Wayne Cox,

RMFMS Secretary

## RMFMS Secretary's Invitation to the Convention

To all Rocky Mountain Federation Clubs:

It is my privilege to extend an invitation to all member clubs' Federation officers and Committee Chairs to the 2019 RMFMS Convention, July 20-22, 2018, in Rapid City, South Dakota. Our hosts are the members of the Western Dakota Gem & Mineral Society.

The RMFMS Executive Committee will meet Friday, July 20, at 1 pm, and the House of Delegates will meet Saturday, July 21, at 2 pm. The meetings will be held at the Rushmore Plaza Civic Center, Barnett Arena, in Rapid City.

The House of Delegates Meeting is where all RMFMS business is conducted. Each club is entitled to two votes on business at the Delegates Meeting. Your Club should have two delegates at the meeting representing your Club. Each Delegate should have a Delegates Form, signed by the secretary of the Club, either sent to the Credentials Chair two weeks before the meeting, or brought to the meeting and presented to the Credentials Committee there.

If no member of your club can attend, you are encouraged to fill out a Proxy Form and assign your votes to another person attending. A good person to ask to do this would be your State Director, if they are attending, or another RMFMS Officer. Again, this must be done before the meeting so a tally for a quorum can be established.

Please have your Delegate bring a copy of this Annual Report to the Delegates Meeting.

Delegate Forms and Proxy forms are at the back of this packet. They are also on or RMFMS web page.

I look forward to seeing you in Rapid City!

Wayne Cox,  
RMFMS Secretary

Rocky Mountain Federation of Mineralogical Societies  
**House of Delegates Meeting Agenda**  
July 21, 2018  
Rapid City, South Dakota

Call to Order

Opening

- A. Invocation
- B. Pledge of Allegiance
- C. Recognition of VIPs Present
- D. Memorial Tributes
- E. Report from Credential Committee
- F. Minutes from Last Meeting
- G. Treasurer's Report

Reports from Officers

- A. President
- B. Vice-President
- C. Secretary
- D. Treasurer
- E. Historian
- F. Past Presidents

Reports from State Directors

- A. Arizona/Nevada
- B. Colorado
- C. Kansas
- D. New Mexico/Texas
- E. North Dakota
- F. Oklahoma/Arkansas
- G. South Dakota/Nebraska
- H. Utah
- I. Wyoming

Committee Reports:

- A. All American Club Contest
- B. ACROY - Club Rockhound of the Year
- C. Boundaries
- D. Club Publications Contest
- E. Covention Advisor
- F. Credentials
- G. Editor
- H. Finance Committee
- I. Fluorescent Mineralogy Technical Committee
- J. Fossil Technical
- K. Insurance

Committee Reports, Con't.

- L. Junior Program
- M. Lapidary Technical Committee
- N. Long-Range Planning Committee
- P. Mineral Technical Committee
- Q. Name Badges Committee
- R. Nominating Committee
- S. Parliamentarian
- T. Permanent Address
- U. President's Hat Committee
- V Program Contest
- W. Program Library
- X. Public Relations Committee
- Y. Ribbons Committee
- Z. RMFMS Convention Advisor
- AA. Scholarship
- AB. Supplies
- AC. Trademark Control and Use
- AD. Treasurer
- AE. Trophies and Stationery
- AF. Uniform Rules Committee
- AG. Webmaster
- AH. Website Contest Committee
- AI. Public Land Advisory Committee (PLAC)
  - 1. Arizona/Nevada
  - 2. Colorado
  - 3. Kansas
  - 4. Nebraska
  - 5. New Mexico/Texas
  - 6. North Dakota
  - 7. Oklahoma/Arkansas
  - 8. South Dakota
  - 9. Utah
  - 10. Wyoming

Unfinished Business

New Business

Resolutions

Adjourn

Rocky Mountain Federation of Mineralogical Societies

**Minutes of the  
House of Delegates Meeting,**

March 18, 2017  
Escalante Hotel  
Albuquerque, New Mexico

The Annual Meeting of the House of Delegates was opened by Beth Simmons, RMFMS president, at 1:05 pm.

Invocation was given by Bill Smith, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Beth introduced the VIPs attending the meeting: Ron Carman, President of the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies; Richard Jaeger, Past President of RMFMS and AFMS; Bob Carlson, Past President of AFMS, NWFMS, and RMFMS; Diane Weir, Past President, RMFMS; and DeLane Cox, Past President, RMFMS.

Several Memorial Tributes were given. Secretary Wayne Cox asked for printed copies to go in the Minutes.

Credentials Committee reported that we had representation from 36 clubs, thus we had a quorum.

Secretary's Report: Minutes from the last meeting were presented. DeLane Cox made note that there is an addendum at the end of the Minutes covering the Executive Committee Vote to approve the membership of a new club, Sublette County in Wyoming. Bob Carlson moved to dispense with the reading. Diane Weir seconded. Motion approved. Motion made to accept the Minutes as presented. Seconded. Motion Approved.

Treasurer's Report: Gene Maggard reported that our Insurance cost has been reduced from 65-cents to 60-cents per member. He reported we had \$1,673 in interest this year. He made the motion to give the surplus in the investment accounts to the AFMS Scholarship Foundation, as required by former motions. Motion passed. He said he was putting \$10,000 into short-term bonds, and that would leave \$15,000 in the checking account to cover any emergencies that might come up.

**Officers' Reports**

Vice President: Report in packet

Secretary: Extra copies of the Annual Report were available if someone had not bought their copy. There are also copies of two reports not received in time to go into the packet. He asked for a volunteer to run the video recorder for the meeting. Margi Becker from Denver Gem and Mineral Guild volunteered.

Historian: Cinda Kunkler said she brought her report and she reported that she has the historical papers from 1941 to 1963 all in order. She brought a picture that is believed to be the first RMFMS meeting in 1941 and passed it around.

Past Presidents: No Reports

## State Directors Reports

Bill Smith, SD-Kansas, reported two clubs have folded, and he now has five clubs and has attended several club functions. The Topeka Club has a great show.

Bob Carlson, SD- New Mexico/Texas, said everything is going OK.

Stan Strike, SD-Wyoming, has a good report in the packet. Wyoming has one new club this year. No other reports.

## **Committee Reports**

Fluorescent Technical – Pete Modreski said he has not had any questions this year, but he is still available to answer questions anyone has.

Newsletter: Beth is still looking for a Newsletter editor. Jim McGarvey is substituting right now, but she would like to have a permanent newsletter editor.

Finance Committee: Wayne Cox reported that the Financial Review went well, and the report is in the packet.

Lapidary Technical: Bill Smith is the new chair of this. He said he is doing more lapidary work now, and he has two great cases in the Show. Anyone with questions in the lapidary area can contact him.

Program Library: Gene Maggard said the programs are not being used a great deal. But the full Catalog is on the website, if anyone needs to get a good program for their club.

Membership Directories: Have been published and mailed. Kay Waterman did a great job this year. Liz Thomas said that Finis Riggs would have extra copies for purchase in the back of the room.

Scholarship: Richard Jaeger said the Scholarship fund received a couple of gifts lately. The Topeka Club donated \$603 as they closed their club. And Wichita had donated \$75 to the fund. The total in the fund is \$4,492.12. This year's Scholarship Recipients will be different than what was published, due to a misunderstanding on how the scholarships were to be awarded. But the Honorary Recipient will be at the Awards Banquet and she will tell a bit about herself.

The All American Club Award: DeLane Cox reported that one entry was received this year. It has been judged and will be recognized at the Banquet.

ACROY (AFMS Club Rockhound of the Year): Beth said every club should consider having one of these every year, to recognize their members. Best done before they die and are not here to receive the award.

Insurance: Gene Maggard said he can provide the 80-page insurance papers if anyone would like to have them send by email.

Long Range Planning : Richard Jaeger said this will be covered under New Business.

Name Badges: Richard Jaeger said he thought he had everyone's order done. If other people need pins or bars, let him know.

Permanent Address: Report in Packet.

Program Contest : Gene Maggard reported he received one entry this year.

Ribbons: Peggy Sue Moore reported that she had ordered a bunch of new generic ribbons, and we will have plenty for this year and next year.

Convention Advisor: Bob Carlson said he met with the chair of the Show and Convention for this year, and the Albuquerque Club was off and running with plans.

Scholarship: Richard Jaeger said this year's Scholarship recipients will not be as listed in the Report due to a mis-understanding with the Scholarship Honoree. She will be at the Banquet

to talk about herself and how she selected scholarship winners.

Stationery/Trophies: Bob Carlson said he had the new trophies and plaques here for the banquet.

Supplies: Finis Riggs said most of the paper supplies can be gotten on-line for free. He does have some paper copies. He also has several patch and pins for sale.

### Public Land Advisory Committee (PLAC)

Beth made the comment that many of our PLAC chairs have been very busy this year due to the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) being involved with so many new land regulations.

Report from Jared Kyner for Kansas that things were OK---not great, but OK. He said the seminar on sending comments to the governmental organizations on Friday was really good information.

Report from New Mexico – Bob Regner gave a brief report on the status of government land rules and regulations and how it was affecting clubs.

Jack Johnson was not there, but Beth reported that in Utah they were having a fairly easy time dealing with Government groups.

Stan Strike reported for Wyoming that there were still problems, but seemed to be good right now.

Uniform Rules: Jay Bowman reported that there are two competitive cases at the Show, and awards will be given at the Banquet.

Website Contest: Jennifer Gerring said she was new, and had done the contest this year, with much help from the former chair. She said the AmFed rules for websites had changed, and she was trying to get all of the things together and contest operating as it should.

### Unfinished Business

Bob Carlson, who headed up the *ad hoc* committee to revise and update the Articles of Incorporation and By-Laws, said the Articles were much shorter, in accordance with the State of New Mexico preferences. And the By-Laws were more in line with the AmFed rules. Some of the items in the former Articles were moved into the By-Laws for clarification. Once finished, the new documents were sent out to all clubs for review and questions. The major change was to change the term limit of the Secretary and Treasurer to a two-year term to align with the AFMS rules. Also, there will be one classification of Committees – Permanent Committees. Any other committees needed for short-term projects will be *ad hoc* committees. Gene Maggard reminded the Delegates that the Executive Committee had voted to recommend acceptance of the new rules. Motion approved. Bill Smith made a motion to ammend the Articles of Incorporation to eliminate the (b) in the second paragraph. Motion approved. DeLane Cox made a motion to recommend the rules be accepted with changes before publication to cover errors in grammer, spelling, capitalization and other minor errors. Motion approved.

Bob Carlson reminded the Delegates that the Articles and By-Laws changes had to be approved by a two-thirds majority of those voting to be official. Motion to approve the Articles of Incorporation, Richard Jeager, and Second Bill Smith. Motion approved.

### New Business



Future Conventions: A request to host the Convention for 2018 came from the Denver Gem & Mineral Guild. Linda Burns gave a bit of information. The meetings will be in Fairplay, Colorado, June 8-10, at the same time as the Contin-tail Rock Show. There is a new hotel, the Riverside Inn, with plenty of rooms for Delegates and Officers. Beth said we can use the lobby to set up competitive cases only, no non-competitive cases.

There will be several field trips on Sunday, with a cost of about \$10 per person, and you can sign up for one. Beth reminded people that this is high elevation (10,000 feet) so plan to come up gently. Motion to accept by Bob Carlson. Second by Bill Smith. Motion Passed.

Richard Jaeger said Rapid City, S.D., had indicated they might be interested in hosting the 2019 or 2020 convention. He will stay in touch with them.

Nomination Committee: DeLane Cox presented the slate of officers the committee proposed. The proposed slate is: President, Beth Simmons; Vice President, Liz Thomas; Secretary, Wayne Cox, Treasurer, Gene Maggard. State Directors : Arizona, Russ Stewart; Kansas, Bill Smith; North Dakota, Russ Olinger; S. Dakota/Nebraska, Sony Hemscher. Beth asked for nominations from the floor. Diane Weir nominated Jody Brewster for Arizona State Director. Since the nominations had Russ Stewart continuing in the job, a vote was taken on this one position. Jody Brewster was elected and will take office Nov. 1, 2017. Bob Carlson made a motion to accept the remainder of the slate as proposed, seconded by Bill Smith. Motion passed.

The Long Range Planning Committee: Richard Jaeger said the LRP Committee had five new OPs to present.

1. New Programs Committee OP– this contest has not been promoted in the RMFMS or had entries in the past few years. But this is the way new materials come for the Program Library. The AFMS contest is through winners of regional Federation contests, and they need each Federation's help in getting new programs. The Executive Committee had voted to recommend to accept. Motion was made to accept, and seconded. Vote was: one abstain, four opposed, majority approved. Motion passed.

2. New Public Relations Committee OP – DeLane Cox said she felt this was really needed to help every club promote their activities and shows and to help them grow their membership. Liz Thomas said she felt it was not needed because this is something the State Directors should be doing. Bill Smith said he did not like it because we cannot get people to chair other committees so we do not need a new one. Other discussion and questions were made. Motion to accept by DeLane Cox, Seconded. Vote was: opposed, 14, majority for. Motion approved.

3. Website Contest Committee OP - The contest has been held in our Federation for several years without guidelines. Jennifer Gerring, chair of this committee, stated that the AFMS had new rules that were different to those proposed in this OP, and she would like to have the motion disapproved until she could get the current rules into a new OP for next year. (The Executive Committee had voted not to ask for approval of this OP.) Motion to approve, 0, Opposed, majority. Motion failed. This will be re-written and brought back next year.

4. Membership Directory Committee OP - The Federation has not had any OP covering the Membership Directory. This OP just covers what has been done in the past with a few tweaks. Vote: unanimous to approve.

5. Finance Committee OP – Another place that work has been done, but without guidelines. Wayne Cox said that the current committee approved the new OP. Vote to approve was unanimous.

Delegates Minutes, Con't.

Bob Carlson said he wanted a correction to this OP that said “..or before being turned over to a new Treasurer at any time.” Motion was made, and the vote was unanimous to approve.

### Resolutions

Bob Carlson recognized the several Junior Rockhounds who have a case in the Show. Awards will be given out tonight at the Awards Banquet.

DeLane Cox recognized the Albuquerque Gem & Mineral Club and thanked them for their hard work on the Show and Convention.

No further business: Motion to adjourn by Bob Carlson, seconded by Bill Smith. Motion approved.

Dismissed at 3:35 pm.

Minutes recorded by  
Wayne Cox, Secretary  
2017

Addendum:

## Treasurer's Report

RMFMS ended fiscal year 2016-17 with 78 member clubs and a total individual membership of 10,577 members, an increase of about 700 members. There was not just a few clubs that accounted for the increase membership. Although some clubs lost members, the general trend continued to be increasing membership in many clubs for fiscal year 2016-17.

The financial report for fiscal year 2016-17 is attached. Income exceeded expenses by \$3,560, caused mostly by no expenses being submitted for Secretary, State Director travel or Website.

We have one club from 2016-17 that has decided not to renew their RMFMS membership for fiscal year 2017-18. We have 78 member clubs in RMFMS for fiscal year 2017-18. Individual membership numbers turned out better than I expected. We have 9,680 dues paying members this year compared to 9,685 last year. Total membership is 10,680 this year compared to 10,577 last year.

A first half fiscal year 2017-18 financial report will be distributed by email to all clubs prior to the July convention. Most income and expenses for 2017-18 have already occurred and there are no big surprises. About the only remaining expenses will be associated with the convention and will be reflected in the annual report at the end of the year.

Gene Maggard, RMFMS Treasurer

---

## OFFICERS' REPORTS

### President's Report

Well, it has been an interesting past year, but we made it through. We have a lot of great things in our future and I, for one, am looking forward to this. I cannot thank everyone enough for all their support through this year of change.

I want to take a minute to explain what took place last year in hopes of clearing up a few things within the Rocky Mountain Federation. I became President when Beth Simmons resigned on July 18, 2017. Beth was not asked to resign by the Executive Committee. She was asked to change the way she was doing things in her position as President that went directly against the RMFMS By-Laws and OPs. When she took the Oath of Office, Beth swore to uphold all the By-Laws and OPs of the RMFMS. She not only ignored them but stated that the OPs were only "suggested guidelines," not things she had to do or follow.

Unfortunately, she also considered the wearing of the President's Hat to be "harassing" her. Prior officers have considered it a privilege and status symbol. In addition, there were several things prior to this that she had changed without going through the proper channels. One of those things was changes with the Bulletin Editors Contest that made it hard for clubs to know what the changes were. It was very unfortunate this happened, and I wish it could have ended differently. If you have any questions regarding this, I will be more than happy to discuss this with you on a one-on-one basis.

Moving on: we are working on Conventions for the next few years. Our next one in 2019 has been very difficult for me. I have the Southern Nevada club requesting to hold our convention at Boulder City, Nevada. You would think this would be easy. But because of an AFMS rule that states we must get permission from the Federation where the out-of-bounds club is located, permission is needed from the California Federation, which has Nevada in their lands. California will not give us permission. We will be talking about this at the convention this year and decide if we hold it there anyway,

or do we seek another location.

The Executive Committee voted during the past year to approved the location of the 2020 Convention to be held in Big Piney, Wyoming, by the Sublette County Rock Hounds. Can't wait to go to this one.

And 2021 is the year we host the AMFMS and the RMFMS conventions together. The Wasatch Gem Society is looking to see if they might be able to bid on this year. They are in Sandy, Utah. I sure hope they decide this is doable for them.

The American Federation had their convention in Raleigh, North Carolina, in April, and I attended as the RMFMS representative. Raleigh is a beautiful city, and a very nice place to visit. The host club did a great job.

What a year. We will have great years in the future and great leaders. I know a great leader can only be made great by the people they surround themselves with. I think I have done that. At least they try to make me look good. Thank you all for the support and encouragement you have given me all year.

Liz Thomas  
RMFMS President

---

Vice President's Report

No Report Submitted

---

Secretary's Report

This has been a pretty calm year, over-all. Not many additional requests had to be sent to RMFMS Officers or Clubs.

Minutes from the 2017 Delegates Meeting were sent out (and are included in this packet), and one call for vote was submitted to the Executive Committee.

The responses to the call for reports for this packet were not bad, but not great. There should be a report from all State Directors so everyone knows the status of the Federation.

Looking forward to South Dakota.

Wayne Cox  
RMFMS Secretary

---

Historian's Report

No Report Submitted

---

Past President's Reports

No Reports Submitted

---

## State Directors

### Arizona/Nevada

I have 17 Arizona clubs and one Nevada Club.

I did my Meet and Greet with eight of the Arizona/Nevada clubs that are RMFMS members. This was by attending their business meeting or attending their gem show. I met many great people, many of whom were not aware of what RMFMS offers besides show insurance. I also communicate with them via emails when any information comes from RMFMS.

I have been invited to many of our Arizona rock club's field trips and I have returned the favor and invited them to come out to our club's rock trips. This has led to many of the clubs sharing ideas for all our shows and ways to attract the youth to become involved with the clubs and have fun at the shows we all put on.

I have spoken with two other clubs about potentially joining the RMFMS (Pahrump, Nevada, and Buckeye, Arizona). On May 13 I met the Buckeye Club at a rock trip we had scheduled through the Daisy Mountain club. I spoke to the President and discussed coming on board with RMFMS. That is still on hold until we are able to meet at a better place and time.

Jodi Brewster  
AZ/NV State Director

### Colorado

No Report Submitted

### Kansas

It has been an interesting year here in Kansas. We are down to five clubs but all have active members. Our smallest club, North Central Kansas Rock and Gems Club, is down to 10 members and I am not sure how much longer they will be a club.

On the bright side, my home club, Wichita Gem and Mineral Society, doubled the floor size of their show. It looked like you had room to give away. But on Saturday there was not room to walk up and down the aisles. What a wonderful surprise especially for those that wanted to make a difference.

The Topeka Gem and Mineral Show was another very heavily attended show. They invited all the 4-H clubs in Kansas to display their Geology showcases. Janet and I are the 4-H Geology project leaders for Barber County and we took 17 display cases to the show. I think there were about 25 counties that displayed and one entire end of the show was cases. It was a site to see. They have a very active junior group and they did an outstanding job representing the club at the show.

The Olathe Gem and Mineral Society holds their show at the KCI Expo Center in Kansas City, Missouri, in conjunction with several other organizations. This is a very large and outstanding show with many people attending.

It has been some time since I have visited the McPherson Gem and Mineral Club or visited their show that is held at the 4-H Fairgrounds. I have talked to several people who did make the show and they said it was a good one.

As you can see I have talked mostly about shows but I believe that is a great way to expose our clubs to the public.

Bill Smith  
Kansas State Director

New Mexico/Texas

All eight clubs appear to be doing well. There has been a decline in total membership, with some clubs losing members, some clubs gaining members, and one club that did not change in membership. The total decline was about one hundred or about seven percent.

My goal is to have 100 percent representation at the House of Delegates Meeting.

Bob Carlson  
New Mexico/Texas State Director

---

North Dakaota

No Report Submitted

---

Oklahoma/Arkansas

No Report Submitted

---

South Dakota/Nebraska

Things are going very well right now in South Dakota and Nebraska.

The Scotts Bluff Club, n Nebraska, is holding its annual Rock Show on Memorial Day Week-end.

The Crawford, Nebraska, club has a nice big show for a small town. I have been trying to get them to join the RMFMS, but so far, they don't want to join.

In South Dakota, we are getting ready to host the RMFMS Convention in July. We have lots of members who are coming through and working with the Club to put this all together. Some of our "Old Members" who have not been at meetings in a while have come back and want to help make the Show and Convention a good one. We have encouraged them to help, and they seem to be enjoying it.

Sony Hemscher  
North Dakaota/Nebraska State Director

---

Utah

No Report Submitted

---

Wyoming

The Wyoming State Mineral And Gem Society, Inc. (WSMGS) Board consists of six members who conduct electronic meetings quarterly and an Annual Meeting at the State Mineral and Gem Show. The RMFMS WY State Director is a member of this board. The WSMGS presently has 7 affiliated clubs in Casper, Cheyenne, Cody, Marbleton, Powell, Riverton, and Torrington.

The WSMGS Board provides the following benefits for its WSMGS affiliated clubs:

- Conducts Annual Meeting for delegates representing WSMGS affiliated clubs;

- Promotes communication between WSMGS clubs with Membership Directory;
  - Coordinates the annual WSMGS State Mineral & Gem Show (designates a host club, organizes judging of display cases, promotes show advertising, provides recognition awards, provides WSMGS trailer & contents, and secures RMFMS liability insurance);
  - Publishes the Jade State Newsletter quarterly with WSMGS news updates, educational earth science articles, lapidary techniques, and WSMGS Affiliated Club News;
  - Provides a WSMGS website (wsmgs.org) that provides WSMGS affiliated club information, WSMGS forms/documents, and educational topics related to rockhounding;
    - Archives historical records for WSMGS affiliated clubs;
    - Forwards RMFMS & AFMS communications to WSMGS clubs;
    - Maintains alias email addresses to protect WSMGS club & board members' privacy;
    - Allows WSMGS clubs use of WSMGS' 501(c)(3) status for WSMGS approved purchases;
    - Provides reminders concerning required state, federal, WSMGS, and RMFMS deadlines.
1. The WSMGS total affiliated membership as of October 31, 2017 was 598 members- an annual decrease of 29 members, which may have been due to inaccurate reporting by a new club treasurer.
  2. The WSMGS has updated its Dues Form to accurately provide membership data: as to adults (18+) juniors (12-17), pebble pups (8-11), and honorary/life. This recognizes the AFMS guidelines and the RMFMS dues requirements.
  3. The WSMGS has communicated with three new Wyoming rock clubs in Gillette, Kemmerer, and Douglas. We have given them information concerning the WSMGS, RMFMS, and the AFMS. To date, the Kemmerer club has verbally committed to joining the WSMGS and RMFMS. We will continue communicating with the other two clubs and will visit their meeting to help them organize and promote membership. Jim Gray, president, has been instrumental in these contacts.
  4. The WSMGS will continue to encourage the collection and archiving of copies of all WSMGS affiliated clubs documents. The WSMGS will also continue to remind and monitor their WSMGS affiliated clubs/societies that they complete the required Wyoming State and IRS reporting.
  5. WSMGS communicated to our affiliated clubs a “help & suggestion” document to successfully register with the IRS (new requirement for 2017) and complete the required IRS 990-N form. (See a summary on the WSMGS website-wsmgs.org-Newsletters-February 2018-page 10.)
  6. 2017 Wyoming Mineral and Gem Shows (See details wsmgs.org-Rockhounding WY-Upcoming Events):
    - Cheyenne Mineral & Gem Society May 19-20, 2018
    - Wyoming State Mineral & Gem Show-Marbleton- June 15-17, 2018
    - Natrona County Rockhounds- July 7—8, 2018
  7. Communicated 2018 RMFMS Convention and Mineral & Gem show information and required forms.
  8. Collected proxies from all WSMGS clubs not attending the House of Delegates meeting on July 21, 2018.
  9. The WSMGS Board will be represented at all 2018 Wyoming Mineral & Gem Shows.

Stan Strike  
Wyoming State Director

---



## Committee Reports

### All American Club Competition

The All American Club competition is not really a contest between clubs. It is an award based on the amount of work a club does in certain areas prescribed by the American Federation's All American Club Committee. And the award is determined on how the club presents their year's scrapbook of these activities.

This year there was one scrapbook submitted, and it was a wonderful compilation of the work done by the McPherson Club members in the areas of interest the AFMS wanted. The actual scrapbook was well put together, following the guidelines the AFMS Committee suggested. It showed that the club has participated in member growth, community activities, and civic events. It was colorfully presented, had actual examples from the club's activities and events, and will be a great historical reminder for many years.

The RMFMS Award will be presented at the Annual Awards Dinner in Rapid City, South Dakota, at the convention. The Scrapbook was forwarded to the AFMS Competition for the Convention in Raleigh, NC, in April.

DeLane Cox, Committee Chair

---

### American Club Rockhound of the Year (ACROY)

No Report Submitted

---

### Boundaries

Normally this is a committee that has very little to do but not so this past year. There is a potential conflict between the RMFMS and the California Federation. I am not up to date on the details but am sure it will be brought up at the meeting.

Bill Smith, Chair

---

### Club Publications Contest

Materials for the RMFMS Bulletin Editor's Contest were emailed to editors and/or clubs listed in the latest RMFMS Directory on November 14, 2017. Rules and fillable score sheets (which now act as the application form) were posted on the RMFMS web site the same week. I want to thank Jim McGarvey for graciously helping me with an email list and getting the information on the RMFMS web site in such a timely manner.

On November 29, additional information was emailed to editors to notify them that this year's contest will **not** include bulletins/entries published in December 2017. Anything published in December 2017 will be included in the 2019 AFMS contest, and therefore the same for the RMFMS contest. This change was made because the 2018 AFMS show/convention/editor breakfast was early in April 2018, requiring that entries from the regional federations be received by AFMS judges by January 31, 2018. This left a very small window of time for RMFMS judging.

Entries returned to me by the December 15 deadline were distributed to RMFMS judges, and the top three winners in each category were forwarded to AFMS for judging. Editors of top



5 winners in each RMFMS category were notified by email.

Of the 53 RMFMS entries, 29 will receive ribbons, and 11 will receive trophies. All participants will receive a certificate of appreciation for participation. Twenty entries were forwarded to AFMS for judging. Of these, 17 RMFMS entries placed in the top 10 in their categories, and there were six entries placing in the top 3 who were awarded trophies from AFMS.

The awards for RMFMS winners will be presented at the “Breakfast with the Editors & Web Masters,” on Saturday, July 21, in Rapid City, SD. Since the AFMS Show has already been held, I will also be presenting AFMS awards to editors & authors who were not present in Raleigh, NC, to receive them.

Linda Jaeger  
RMFMS Club Publications Chair

---

Convention Advisor

No Report Submitted

---

Credentials

I have sent the Credentials and Proxy Forms to the proper personnel. I hope to start receiving some back before long. If your club has not filled yours out you need to do so. (FORMS AT END OF DOCUMENT.) You can send them directly to me or hold them until you arrive at the show. But I would like for you to let me know then I will know if we have enough for a quorum. If you are filling out a Proxy make sure the personnel listed are going to the show. Your State Director would be a good one, or a current officer, or my husband Bill. Send them to me at:

Janet Smith P.O. Box 311 Hardtner, KS 67057

---

Editor, Newsletter

Let me begin by saying thank you to everyone for allowing me the opportunity to take on editorship of the Rocky Mountain Federation News. Special acknowledgement is due to Jim McGarvey, the immediate past Editor and present Webmaster, for being so helpful and supportive.

As might be expected, I will be the perpetual hunter of great content for the newsletter. Steven Veatch, Mike Nelson, and the Pebble Pubs of the Colorado Springs Mineralogical Society have been excellent contributors and I look forward to more articles from them. Erin Delventhal of my club, the San Juan County Gem and Mineral Society, has been graciously providing a steady stream of amazing cover photos for all of us to enjoy. Please take to heart, if you have an excellent contributor to your club’s newsletter, to encourage them to submit their content for publication in RMFMS newsletter. I am also always on the hunt for member clubs’ show information and show flyers. Please send these to me whenever possible and don’t be afraid to send them in duplicate. I’d rather get the information six times than zero times!

A new development is a solicitation from Rock & Gem Magazine to reprint content from our newsletter on their updated webpage as “blog-type entries”. The board has given them permission to do so as long as they receive permission from the authors, give proper credit for the material, and reference the Rocky Mountain Federation.

I hope that everyone enjoys the Convention and is taking notes and photos for their article in the August edition of the newsletter!

Heather Woods, P.G.

Finance Committee - See Report in back of this publication.

Fluorescent Mineralogy Technical Committee

Fossil Technical Committee

Insurance Committee

Junior Program

No Report Submitted

---

International Relations Committee

I have found that being Chair of the RMFMS International Relations Committee is not an onerous job and actually produces some interesting questions. Some are easily answered, while others require some serious thought before an answer.

Most questions coming from international rockhounds fall in the area of “I am visiting INSERT STATE where can I collect minerals or fossils?” I try to answer these inquiries for states of which I am somewhat familiar—most of the Great Plains, a few in the Midwest and Rocky Mountains. My first line of defense is to suggest state rockhounding and geology “travel” books, the second is to recommend websites of the various state geological surveys. My third line is to suggest joining a local rock and mineral club in order to participate in their fields trips and will point rockhounds to appropriate clubs.

Then I attempt to explain about collecting on federal and state land as well as trespassing on private land. Collecting minerals would seem an easy talk. However, try explaining claims and markers—and my warning about: do not even venture to Mt. Antero looking for aquamarines. First, because of the high altitude (13,000 feet) a rockhound could die, but second, virtually the entire mountain is claimed.

Explaining about collecting fossils used to be an easy task---stay away from vertebrate fossils, fill up any collecting holes in searching for invertebrate fossils and keep under the pound limit for petrified wood. However, the new collecting rules on USFS lands confuses even professional paleontologists. The BLM rules and regulations concerning the collecting of invertebrate fossils is now on hold.

I also receive several inquiries from international rockhounds with questions like “I purchased this specimen (photo enclosed) at a mineral fair but the only listed locality is INSERT STATE. Can you help me find the locality?” Garnets are tough to place except those from Ruby Mountain in Nevada. A specimen of stibnite certainly looked like Romania rather than the U.S. A specimen of pyrite/marcasite really confused me and required some thought. It was labeled Scott County, Kansas. It just did not look like a Kansas mineral. Then I tried other Scott counties and voila—Scott County, Ohio.

I also receive requests to send or trade minerals. I usually ask what sort of mineral they are looking for and then suggest a contact with an appropriate club.

I suspect, but am not certain, that most questions come from an audience that reads my Blog postings and decide to send an email with a general question. About 16-to-18 percent of my Blog audience are international readers.

Mike Nelson, Chair

Lapdary Technical Committee

There has been no activity to report this year other than several requests for a copy of my “How to make a Gemstone Butterfly” presentation. If your club would like me to give a presentation or receive a copy give me a call.

Bill Smith, Chair

---

Long Range Planning Committee

The Long Range Planning Committee (LRPC) has received four recommendations to present to the Annual Meeting.

The first (Exhibit A) is an update of the OP No. Trademark Control and Use---1. The date for expiration has been updated to 2018 on page 2 and the word in has been removed from the Third paragraph on page 2.

The second (Exhibit B) is the presentation of the OP No. Treasurer - 1 Subject: Travel Expense Reimbursement. There was an appointed committee to draft this OP and it was then sent to the LRPC for presentation to the Annual Meeting.

Third, ( Exhibit C) we have some recommended changes to By-Law Article III, Article V and then an addition to Article III.

The fourth(Exhibit D) is some housekeeping items to make things a bit clearer.

Enclosed are the proposed changes as Exhibits A ,B, C, D.

A special thanks to Dr. Robert Carlson, Wayne & DeLane Cox, Gene Maggard, Stan Strike, Richard Jaeger, and Bill Smith for all of their work and assistance with these documents.

Judith A. Beck, Chair

---

Exhibit A - Page 2 Only

RMFMS OPERATING PROCEDURE	
OP No. Trademark Control and Use --- 1 (GENERAL DISTRIBUTION) <b>Subject: Control and use of the Federation's Collective Membership Mark</b>	Adopted 6-10-06 Amended 7/14 Page 2 of 3
<p><b>Requirements for Declaration of Continued Use</b></p> <p>The Collective Membership Mark expires on Nov. 11, 2018. RMFMS may apply for a 10 year renewal by filing an application for renewal about 6 months prior to the expiration date, in May, 2018. The PTO will not send any notice or reminder of the filing requirement. The RMFMS is totally responsible for making the filing. The office of the RMFMS’ patent attorney, Mr. Joseph B. Bowman, will send a reminder to the RMFMS permanent address, 1585 Los Pueblos, Los Alamos, NM 87544. Even if no reminder is received the filing is still mandatory.</p> <p>Examples of actual use must be provided with the filing. Actual usage includes membership cards, name badges and the like. Stationery is not considered to be actual use. It is imperative that a competent intellectual property attorney handle the filing. The PTO filings are full of required nuances that are not obvious, and an improper filing can result in a declaration of abandonment from the PTO of the registration.</p> <p>Similar filings, along with an application for renewal, are required in 10 years following the registration date (i.e., by November 11, 2018) and on every subsequent 10 year anniversary.</p> <p>The registration number for RMFMS’ Collective Membership Mark is 3530457.</p>	

Exhibit B

OP No. Treasurer - 1  
Subject: Travel Expense Reimbursement

Adopted 6-15-63  
Draft 4-24-18

The Rocky Mountain Federation will share in the expenses of State Directors in conducting their state duties, of RMFMS attendees to the AFMS convention, and of the delegate to the Judges & Exhibitors Conference. Sharing of expenses shall be in the form of reimbursement of either mileage traveled, reimbursed at the current IRS business mileage deduction, or documented air travel expenses, within limits, at the time the travel occurs.

1. State Directors will be reimbursed by the Treasurer for mileage traveled in official visits to their state's RMFMS member clubs for official RMFMS business with a limitation of \$200.00 per fiscal year. Application for reimbursement must be made within the fiscal year in which the travel occurred.
2. RMFMS attendees at the AFMS convention are normally the President, Vice President, The Uniform Rules Committee Chair, and one other Uniform Rules committee member selected by the Chair and approved by the President. In the event that a substitute attendee is needed, the President selects a Past President to attend. These selections are dictated by AFMS rules.
3. Appointed Attendees to the AFMS convention and to the Judges & Exhibitors Conference will be reimbursed by the Treasurer for their attendance based on shortest route mileage to and from convention/conference from their home or documented air travel and car rental expenses with a \$500 limitation per person. Application for reimbursement must be made within 30 days after return from that convention/conference.

The Treasurer shall make reimbursement upon receipt of a signed voucher specifying mileage or travel expenses with receipts attached, requesting the amount due based on the provisions of this Operating Procedure.

---

Exhibit C

NEW

By-Laws, Article III

5. When it may become necessary or advisable to remove an Officer for dereliction of duty or behavior unbecoming to the Rocky Mountain Federation, at the request of three members of the Executive Committee a Special Election of the RMFMS Board may be called to consider removal from office of that Officer. The matter must be set out in writing and sent to each member of the Executive Committee as well as the Officer in question. The Officer in question must be given a chance to defend their actions before a vote is taken. A two-thirds majority vote is required of all Executive Committee members before expulsion, which shall be official upon the Secretary's receipt of votes and notification to all Executive Committee members of the final vote tally. Upon removal, the position shall be filled as determined in the By-Laws and Operating Procedures.

## Exhibit D

### Housekeeping Changes - By-Laws

#### Article III – Officers and Elections

#2 “Those persons elected must be members of clubs in good standing, and may not hold more than one office at a time.” (Reason: Officers must be members of Clubs in good standing.)

#### Article V – Executive Committee

2. ....There is no limit to the number of times a State Director may succeed themselves in office.

(Reason: “...a State Director,,,” is singular, and must be “...themselves...” singular.)

#### Article IV -House of Delegates

6. (Suggested change in meeting times) The Executive Committee shall meet at least one day in advance of the House of Delegates meeting. The Executive Committee may meet the morning before the House of Delegates meets in the afternoon with a majority vote of the Executive Committee members.

(Reason: on a two-day show, there is no need to have people arrive so far in advance when both meetings can be conducted on the same day, and save everyone time, travel and money on the event. And Judges may or may not have anything to judge.)

#### Article II, #3

Removal of a Club from membership. Change the voting percentage to two-thirds majority to match Article III, #5 – Removal of an Officer.

#### Convention Management OP

The following is an amendment to the Convention Management Code OP on page CC1-6:

In the first sentence, change the word “procure” to “obtain”.

Also in the first sentence, add “(RMFMS Liability Insurance will suffice)”. This is so the club does not have to purchase additional insurance.

---

### Membership Directory

Two hundred of the 2018 RMFMS Directories were printed in late February at a cost of \$564. Mailing cost for each piece was \$2.68 through the US Postal Service. The bulk of the Directories were mailed March 21, 2018.

One Directory was mailed to the club address provided by each of the 78 RMFMS member clubs. If there was no club address provided in the annual report submitted to Gene Maggard, RMFMS treasurer, the Directory went to either the club president or the club treasurer.

Copies also went to each of the RMFMS officers and to members of the AFMS Executive Committee. After other distributions by RMFMS officers, fewer than 40 copies of the 2018 Directory have been passed to the RMFMS Supplies Chair, Finis Riggs.

Any feedback or constructive criticism is welcomed. (Please be gentle.) Most of this information is replicated on the Federation website: [rmfms.org](http://rmfms.org).

Thank you to Gene Maggard, who does a yeoman’s job each year compiling club financial data and who passes information to me in order the Directory may be published.

Kay Waterman, Chair

Mineral Technical Committee

No Report Submitted

---

Name Badges

Two orders for Name Badges and Job Bars have been made since last years RMFMS Convention and Show in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Two Name Badges and five Bars were ordered on April 14, 2017. Two Name Badges and five Bars was ordered on March 21, 2018.

The total cost of these items, including sales tax, was \$85.72. Postage was an additional \$13.34, bringing the overall expense to \$99.06.

If anyone needs to have a Badge or Bar ordered for them, please let me know during the show.

Richard Jaeger, Chair

---

Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee for the Rocky Mountain Federation consists of Richard Jaeger, Chair, Judy Beck, Dr. Robert Carlson, The following individuals have been nominated for the coming year.

Officers

President: Liz Thomas

Vice President: Bob Regner

Secretary: Wayne Cox

Treasurer: Gene Maggard

State Directors:

Colorado: Kathrine Honda

New Mexico/Texas: Dr. Robert L. Carlson

Oklahoma/Arkansas: Cecilia Evans

Utah: Tom Burchard

Wyoming: Stan Strike

Richard Jaeger, Chair

---

Parliamentarian

No Report Submitted

Permanent Address

The RMFMS Articles of Incorporation that were modified and approved in Albuquerque have been registered with the State of New Mexico as required.

Robert L. Carlson, Chair

---

President's Hat Committee

No Report Submitted

---

Program Contest Committee

No Report Submitted

---

Program Library

No Report Submitted

---

Public Relations Committee

This was the first year for work by this committee, which was approved by the House of Delegates in 2017. The concept for the Committee was to help all clubs with public relations and publicity, thus getting their name out into the community for recognition and possibly gaining new members through the additional exposure in the community.

I have had three articles published in the RMFMS Newsletter, suggesting ideas any club could use in getting more community exposure. The articles topics were: "Getting Your Club in Print," "Publicity for your Club's Show," "Your #1 and #2 Best Publicity Sources." I have not had any inquiries from any club on how to help them specifically. But those inquiries are encouraged.

I look forward to having at least two more articles in the RMFMS Newsletter this year, hopefully covering topics that clubs will find useful. Public Relations is something that must be done on a continuous basis, not just once a year, in order to be effective. I will be encouraging Clubs to be in touch with local leaders, area politicians, send letters when needed on national matters that have an effect on Rockhounds, and keeping their members well informed on club activities as well as RMFMS and AFMS topics.

DeLane Cox, Chair

---

RMFMS Convention Advisor

No Report Submitted



Ribbons Committee

The Ribbons Committee has a relatively simple task:

- a. Maintain the ribbon inventory by ordering whatever is needed for the annual convention and show awards, etc.
- b. Assemble the ribbons in an artistic manner
- c. Deliver the ribbons to the necessary persons

This year I delivered the ribbons early to those in charge of their various presentations. Next year I anticipate the need to order more rosettes, but the inventory, in general, looks good.

We were under budget this year and will probably be under budget next year.

Peggy Sue Moore, Chair

Scholarship Committee

Six Rocky Mountain Federation clubs, an individual, and the RMFMS itself have contributed the AFMS Scholarship Foundation since our Show and Convention in Albuquerque, New Mexico, last year.

The clubs, the amount they contributed, and the percentage to which that brings them are listed below.

Chaparral Rockhounds	\$984.00	21800%
Fort Collins Rock Hounds Club	\$250.00	2600%
Shawnee Gem & Mineral Club	\$200.00	4900%
Stillwater Mineral & Gem Society**	\$150.00	4800%
Topeka Gem & Mineral Society**	\$595.10	14500%
Tulsa Rock & Mineral Society	\$272.00	4200%
Wichita Gem & Mineral Society**	\$600.00	4800%
Muriel Frink**	\$100.00	
Rocky Mountain Federation	\$2,232.00	
 Total Donations	 \$5,383.10	

Of these donations, \$534.00 was donated in the 2016-2017 fiscal year and \$4,849.10 has been donated in the 2017-2018 fiscal year.

\*\*At least part of the donations made by these clubs or by their members were given as memorial gifts in memory of club members who had passed away.

I hope that we will have contributions by a number of other clubs before the year is out. Remember that through the AFMS Scholarship Foundation, our RMFMS is able to award two \$4000 scholarships each year to graduate students majoring in the Earth Sciences.

I am pleased to announce that Dr. Matthew E. Brueseke, an Associate Professor in the Department of Geology at Kansas State University in Manhattan, Kansas, is our RMFMS Honorary Scholarship Awardee for 2018.

He was nominated for this award by the Topeka Gem and Mineral Society of Topeka, Kansas.

Richard Jaeger, Chair



Supplies Committee

No Report Submitted

---

Trademark Control and Use Committee

No Report Submitted

---

Treasurer

See Prior Report

---

Trophies and Stationery Committee

There will be twelve first place trophies presented at the Editors/Webmasters Breakfast. Most will have Walnut bases.

I want to remind everyone that I have RMFMS stationary and envelopes available upon request.

Bob Carlson, Chair

---

Uniform Rules Committee

No Report Submitted

---

Webmaster

No Report Submitted

---

Website Contest Committee

As RMFMS Website Contest chair, I coordinate the AFMS web contest for the RMFMS region. This involves sending out email notices to all club/society webmasters of the RMFMS region encouraging them to enter the web contest. Once the entries are received, judges from other regions are contacted and the entries are sent to them. Judges score these entries using contest entry forms and scoresheets provided by the AFMS. Then the scores are sent to me to tally that determine ranking. I then send the First and Second place winners to the AFMS Web contest chair for the AFMS judging.

I order ribbons and make certificates for the first, second and third place winners to be announced at the RMFMS Convention.

This year's RMFMS Web/Webmaster contest had three qualifying entries. These three entries were judged by web contest judges from different AFMS regions. All three entries placed. The winners will be announced at the RMFMS Convention.

The contest ran smoothly except for trying to work with the AFMS in getting judges. There was very little or no communication from the AFMS Web Contest Chairman when coordinating judges as well as other aspects of communicating with the AFMS.

Jennifer Gerring, Chair

## Public Land Advisory Committee (PLAC)

The RMFMS PLAC Committee is composed of State PLAC Chairs and a Committee Chair. It has been less than successful during its four year existence for several reasons: 1) the State PLAC Chairs are quite busy with concerns in their own particular state; 2) as the Chair, personal time constraints do not allow me to try and form consensus opinions with State Chairs (often on concerns they are unfamiliar with); 3) I am quite interested in large scale problems affecting all states; and 4) in most cases I am not interested (due to time constraints) in individual state concerns such as road closures in a particular National Forest.

With that said, what went on during the year? Mel Stairs of New Mexico sponsored a seminar at the Spring 2017 RMFMS meeting. It is my understanding that much important information was presented to the audience. Mel also contributed an article on “claims” to the Federation Newsletter. Rich Gerow from Wyoming is quite interested in closing of USFS roads in northwestern Wyoming. He has been quite active, and vocal, in contacting USFS and County Commission officials expressing his concerns. I also contributed a letter expressing concerns.

Jack Johnson reported “As the land use person for Utah/Nevada I have taken the position that any action that restricts the use of motorized transportation to reach collecting sites is a bad action. We have too many elderly, Young, and handicapped that would be restricted from reaching the collecting sites.” So again, road closures are an important issue.

Jack also submitted several questions of which two are of great interest:

1. *How do we find out what legislation our RMFMS land advisors attempt to influence?*
2. *Has RMFMS taken a specific stand on land use legislation related to Escalante and Bears Ears monuments? Or would it simply address the rock collecting aspects of such legislation?*

These are tough questions but see my list above. I have not notified State Chairs about what I know of legislation in all states. This would be a time-consuming job and I simply don't have the energy to tackle the chore. Therefore, I have let State Chairs take care of their individual states!

The second question involves consensus among members—can the group find consensus? I don't know! For example, I was a strong supporter of Escalante and Bear's Ear National Monuments and was greatly disappointed when they were downsized. My support for Escalante concerned the fantastic array of fossil vertebrates in the rocks and the need to collect such and curate into a museum. I don't like to see these fossils destroyed, or collected and sold to persons and used as art deco objects. In addition, there are reports of minable coal in the rocks. My question was why build the infrastructure needed to mine and process that coal when the entire center of the Utah coal industry has shut down due to lack of demand—the infrastructure is already in place!

As for Bear's Ear National Monument—it is a fantastic place that needs preservation! Why allow off road vehicles to destroy the wilderness? The area is also full of Native American artifacts that would disappear (and have disappeared) with visitors. I was there in the late 1960s and revisited the area this last April. It needs preservation for our current, and future, generations.

The big question during the last year, in my mind, has been the invertebrate fossil collecting rules as proposed by the BLM (in the Federal Register). I spent much time contacting the paleontologists employed by the BLM, and submitted written comments to the agency. My written review of the proposed rules that first appeared in the Colorado Springs Mineralogical Society *Pick & Pack* was picked up by several rock and mineral clubs for their newsletters, appeared in a special bulletin of the San Diego Mineral and Gem Society (along with several other articles documenting the proposed rules), and was published in *myFossil*, a site sponsored by the University of Florida and the Florida State Museum. I also signed on to a letter drafted and submitted to the BLM by the Southern Cali-

fornia Paleontological Society.

As of mid-May, 2018, the rather onerous invertebrate fossil collecting rules proposed by the BLM seem “on hold.” That is good news for rockhounds. However, the collecting rules on lands managed by the USFS remain the same—and they are strict. In lieu of the “on hold” collecting rules the BLM now follows these regulations ([www.blm.gov](http://www.blm.gov)):

*Casual or hobby collecting of reasonable amounts of common invertebrate and plant fossils is allowable without a permit. A reasonable amount is what a collector may keep for a personal hobby collection or display in their home. These fossils must be for personal use; they may not be sold.*

*Common invertebrate fossils include the fossilized remains of animals without a backbone, including snails, oysters, ammonites, corals, shellfish, and others. This also includes different types of preservation of animals in rock, including tracks, traces, burrows, impressions, and original hard-parts.*

*Plant fossils include leaf and stem impressions, root traces, and original material. Although petrified wood was once a tree, slightly different regulations apply to the collection of it because in its current state, it is classified as a mineral. Up to 25 pounds of petrified wood per day may be collected without a permit, provided that the total removed by one person does not exceed 250 pounds in one calendar year.*

*Some invertebrate or plant fossils are rare or unusual. Rare or unusual invertebrate or plant fossils must be deposited in a museum and may only be collected with a paleontological resource use permit.*

*Some lands may be closed to hobby or casual collecting of fossils, so always check with the local BLM office in the area you would like to collect from.*

In late fall I was contacted about the BLM conducting a “sting operation” among fossil vendors at the Denver Fall Show. The story was that the Agency was going to follow this operation with another “sting” at the 2018 Tucson Show. I followed up on this lead with several emails and telephone calls to my contacts in the BLM. I finally was connected with the Special Agent in Charge (law enforcement) for several mountain and plains state and he informed me that no “sting” operated at Denver and would not be in place at Tucson. He also told me that the Agency wants to work with rockhound clubs and would send a representative to the Federation meeting, if desired. I passed this information on the Federation Board for their review.

I am keeping track of H.R. 3990, THE NATIONAL MONUMENT CREATION AND PROTECTION ACT that was introduced in the House of Representatives on October 6, 2017 by Congressman Rob Bishop (R-UT). This is a bill that essentially would dismantle the ANTIQUITIES ACT OF 1906. Many rockhounds, upon hearing this proposal, might shout yea; however, this act would allow privatization and industrialization of virtually any Federal land. This means that any Federal land that we, as hobbyists or professionals, collect on could be subject to sale/claim and nothing would preclude the owners from shutting out the rockhounds (and hunters, and fisherpersons, and campers, etc.). The latest movement, as observed in [www.congress.gov](http://www.congress.gov) was *10/11/2017 Action By the Committee on Natural Resources: Ordered to be Reported (Amended) by the Yeas and Nays: 23 – 17.*

I am also trying to track progress on the attempt to amend the DESERT RENEWABLE ENERGY CONSERVATION PLAN (DRECP), the largest land use plan amendment in California state history. After 8+ years, tough compromises, and lots of letter writing, **rockhounds and hobby collecting actually benefited** from the passage of DRECP. BLM is now under enormous pressure from Industry advocates, with support from Executive Order 13783, to throw out DRECP and start all over. No one knows for sure what a do-over would mean for rockhounds, but it would require re-balancing land uses/designations to make more land available to industrial development---at the expense of rock-

hounds and other users of the desert (for example, campers). As RMFMS PLAC Director, I signed on to a letter submitted by California rock and mineral clubs expressing concerns for re-negotiating the amendment.

I served the Rocky Mountain Front Range Resource Advisory Committee (BLM RAC) for 5 years ending in 2013 and was going to reapply this year. However, officials in Washington have been putting “holds” on RAC services and elections remain unscheduled.

I continue to try and watch over public land issues in Colorado---but not so much in North Dakota and Nebraska. The most interesting aspect in Colorado is the upcoming election for Governor (succeeding term-limited Gov. Hickenlooper, a geologist and strong proponent of protecting public lands). The numerous candidates in contention for the position (primary election scheduled for June) have taken a variety of positions on Federal public lands from sale and privatization to protection. One candidate stated, “I support moving the Department of Interior to Colorado, where significant federal lands are located, so Washington bureaucrats can better understand the impact and consequences of their top-down mandates.”

And I say, “Amen brother/sister, Amen.”

Mike Nelson, Chair

---

### PLAC - Wyoming

Starting this year the Shoshone National Forest has a new forest supervisor and a new district ranger. So there isn't much else until they get settled into their positions. Last fall the Bridger Teton National Forest was looking for public input on how to manage or close down a few of the dispersed camping sites in the Jackson area so another member and I responded to that. The Jackson District closed several camping spots with permanent gates and placed restrictions at other sites.

Region Two considers itself part of the Yellowstone ecosystem so this makes it problematic for management. We have a high concentration of environmental groups who are constantly opposing correct management and multiuse. I have found out that individually we don't have much of a voice when it comes to public input. The only way our concerns will be heard is collectively through the clubs or federation speaking on behalf of everyone. One big voice is better than a few small voices. This represents many people instead of a few. This is the advantage of belonging to a group. Individually the land management agencies can step on us. But they are not going to tell the federation to go away. They will listen.

Last year I attended a meeting with the Wyoming State legislators. I explained to them that we use our public lands as a classroom for education so we need the roads kept open and no more wilderness areas so we can go where we want to. The Shoshone Forest added four new wilderness areas, Last year more roads got closed. We need to start challenging what the land management agencies are saying and doing. They're supposed to be working for us not the other way around. The rock clubs need to start teaching members what our rights are so we can defend ourselves. The original U.S. Constitution is the law of the land. For more detailed info contact me.

Rich Gerow, PLAC Wyoming

Rocky Mountain Federation of Mineralogical Societies

**Credentials for Delegates and Alternates**

Reference: Articles of Incorporation, Article III, Membership  
Articles of Incorporation, Article VI, House of Delegates  
By-Laws, Article V, Credentials of Delegates  
By-Laws, Article VI, Use of Proxies

Society Name \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

Delegate #1 (President) \_\_\_\_\_

Alternate #1 (Member) \_\_\_\_\_

Delegate #2 (Member) \_\_\_\_\_

Alternate #2 (Member) \_\_\_\_\_

**The above named Delegates and/or Alternates have been chosen to represent this society at the Annual Business Meeting of the Rocky Mountain Federation of Mineralogical Societies at the House of Delegates Meeting to be held at: RAPID CITY, SOUTH DAKOTA, JULY 21, 2018**

Society Secretary \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

*Please Note: Delegates or Alternates will only be allowed to vote if their Society is in good standing (see Articles of Incorporation, Art. III Sec. 5).*

**This completed form must be returned to the RMFMS Credentials Committee Chair no later than One Hour before the Delegates Meeting.**

If mailing prior to July 1, 2018, mail to:  
Credentials Chair  
Janet Smith  
P.O. Box 311  
Hardtner, KS 67057

After July 1, 2018, please bring the form to the convention and give it to the Credentials Chair at the Host Hotel or official check-in table.

# RMFMS PROXY

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

**Know all men by these present:**

**That the \_\_\_\_\_ Society  
does hereby constitute and appoint**

\_\_\_\_\_ and

\_\_\_\_\_

**as Delegates with full power of submission and revocation to represent this Society at the annual Business Meeting of the Rocky Mountain Federation of Mineralogical Societies, held at Rapid City, South Dakota on July 21, 2018 and at any adjournment thereof, and hereby authorize said proxies to vote at said meeting in our stead, granting them all powers to which the Society is entitled at said meeting.**

**We further constitute and appoint:**

\_\_\_\_\_ and

\_\_\_\_\_ as Alternates at said meeting with like powers.

**Society President** \_\_\_\_\_

**Secretary** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date** \_\_\_\_\_

If mailing prior to July 1, 2018, mail to:  
Credentials Chair  
Janet Smith  
P.O. Box 311  
Hardtner, KS 67057

After July 1, 2018, please bring the form to the convention and give it to the Credentials Chair at the Host Hotel or official check-in table.

Finance Committee

May 21, 2018

To: Executive Committee  
Rocky Mountain Federation of Mineralogical Societies

Re: Annual Audit of the Treasurer's Record of Accounts

On May 21, 2018, a committee of federation members met in Leon, Kansas, and reviewed all the financial records of the RMFMS Treasury for the fiscal year 2016 - 17.

The records reviewed consisted of the following accounts:

- A. **Income** from all accounts: Dues & Insurance premiums
- B. **Income** from Interest/ Dividends.
- C. Other **Income**: Library, Donations, misc.
- D. **Expenses** for all RMFMS accounts (All: as listed on the RMFMS budget )
- E. **Balances** for: Checking, CDs & Bond Funds.

***All*** records were found to be complete and in good order. These amounts and accounts are listed in the ***RMFMS Annual Budget*** and there are no other accounts.

Therefore the audit is complete and comprehensive.

Robert J. Haines, Finance Chairman

The audit committee members for 2017 were Don Atherton and Lou Forster, both members of the Wichita Gem & Mineral Society.

RMFMS Financials  
 2016-17 Annual  
 Report Rev. 11-1-17

Beginning Bal. 11/1/16:

Checking Balance	15,669.31
Commerce CD	
(Matures 11/19/16)	29,724.51
SF CD 4249	
(matures 2/7/17)	51,352.24
Vanguard Bond Fund	<u>75,342.09</u>
Beginning Cash and Investment Balance	<u>172,088.15</u>

Category	Fiscal Year							
	2015 -16				2016 -17			
	Expense		Income		Expense		Income	
	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual
All America Club	100.00				100.00			
AFMS Travel -	1,500.00	1,000.00			1,500.00	1,389.66		
Competition-Exhibits	500.00	354.63			400.00	411.13		
Competitions, Newsletter	575.00	485.19			500.00	250.72		
Contingency	200.00				200.00			
Convention Expense	600.00	725.69			600.00	675.00		
Directory	750.00	431.54			500.00	784.20		
Donations-AFMS Sch. Found.	1,740.00	1,740.92			1,700.00	1,763.00		
Dues/Memberships-AFMS	6,388.00	6,387.75	12,000.00	13,759.50	6,880.00	6,879.75	14,000.00	14,506.25
Insurance Prem. Club	5,000.00	5,137.00	5,000.00	6,154.40	6,500.00	6,076.00	6,500.00	5,889.10
Interest / Dividends			1,700.00	1,672.81			1,700.00	2,231.72
Library	250.00	110.92	100.00	28.00	50.00	5.34	50.00	8.00
Name Badges	250.00	317.91			300.00	167.30		
Newsletter	400.00					69.99		
Ribbons	400.00	586.00			300.00	544.20		
Secretary	275.00	607.14			600.00			
State Director Travel	1,000.00	118.45			1,000.00			
Subscriptions								
Supplies	25.00				25.00			161.00
Treasurer	125.00	158.36			160.00	220.51		
Trademark								
Website	500.00	415.64			500.00			
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>20,478.00</b>	<b>18,577.14</b>	<b>18,800.00</b>	<b>21,614.71</b>	<b>21,715.00</b>	<b>19,236.80</b>	<b>22,250.00</b>	<b>22,796.07</b>

Vanguard Fund Unrealized Capital Gain or (Loss) (482.30)

Ending Bal. 10/31/17:

Checking Balance	7,996.86
Commerce CD	
(Matures 11/19/17)	29,797.86
SF CD 4249	
(Matures 5/7/18)	51,776.43
Vanguard Bond Fund	<u>85,593.97</u>
Ending Cash and Investment Balance	<u>175,165.12</u>