



# CFMS NEWSLETTER

August 2006

## NEWSLETTER SUBSCRIPTIONS

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## CFMS WEBSITE

CFMS is accessible at [www.cfmsinc.org](http://www.cfmsinc.org). Web Master is Don Ogden. Editors are invited to download articles for their bulletins from this website.

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## ARTICLES FOR YOUR NEWSLETTER DUE TO EDITOR BY 5th OF MONTH:

Pat La Rue, Editor  
P.O. Box 1657  
Rialto, CA 92377-1657  
Email: [bplarue@earthlink.net](mailto:bplarue@earthlink.net)

## CFMS CALENDAR

Sep 3-9 Camp Paradise Seminar  
Sep 10-16 Camp Paradise Seminar  
Nov 10-12 Fall Business Meeting

Officers and Committees: send me event dates and due dates to include in this section.

## ANYTIME

Send donations for CFMS Scholarship Fund to:  
Pat LaRue  
PO Box 1657  
Rialto, CA 92377-1657

Send donations for AFMS Scholarship Fund to:  
Sue Reeves  
PO Box 1899  
San Andreas, CA 95249

Send donations for CFMS Endowment Fund to:  
Pat LaRue  
PO Box 1657  
Rialto, CA 92377-1657

Send donations for AFMS Endowment Fund to:  
Pat LaRue  
PO Box 1657  
Rialto, CA 92377-1657

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## Being a CFMS Director

By Richard Pankey, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President

We had a good, productive Directors meeting during the CFMS Show in Angels Camp. If you were one of the 66 Federation Directors in attendance you already know that we elected 2 more CFMS Honorary members – Bob Jones and John Wise. You know that we only had 3 entries in the All American Club contest; and that we had over 30 competitive exhibit entries; the highest in many years; and you have received all of the reports from the committees and all the other important information in your Director's packet. Sixty-six Directors from over a hundred and thirty clubs is not very good representation. For those clubs that did not have a Director at the meeting, your packet was mailed to you. You have the written words, but that is only part of the picture. You missed out on the discussions, the voting, the oral reports and the interaction with the other Directors, committees, and officers. You missed a lot of the meeting. Let's do better at our Fall meeting in Visalia.

Whether you were at the meeting or not, armed with the packet you have a lot to report to your club about the CFMS. (Of course, if you were at the meeting you are better prepared and have a lot more to report.) As the Federation Director for the Contra Costa M&GS, I give oral reports on Federation happenings at our Board meeting, General Membership meeting and write an article for our newsletter for all the people that don't make it to the meetings. Also, I will take the complete Director's meeting packet so others can see first hand what goes on at one of these meetings. Interested members will be able to borrow the packet to read in detail what is going on. Yes, we have a few members that are interested, or at least curious, about the nitty-gritty of the CFMS. As with the CFMS Newsletter, filing away the meeting packet for posterity is a waste of paper. Pass them around so that more members can see and learn about what is happening with our Federation.

I have been writing articles about the duties, responsibilities, activities, expectations of being a CFMS Federation Director to help Directors know what is needed and expected of them (by their Club and the Federation) and how to be a good

participating, responsible Director. If anyone has some ideas about being a Director, I sure would appreciate hearing them. If you are inspired to write an article about being a director or to share your experience, problems, needs of being a Director, please write it and send it to Pat LaRue. The purpose of all of this is to have a stronger, better, more active and responsive Federation.

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## FALL BUSINESS MEETING PLANS

The annual Fall business meeting and election of officers will be held November 11-13, 2006 at the Holiday Inn Plaza Park, off Hwy 198 on W. Airport Drive, Visalia, CA.

Room reservations at the Holiday Inn may be made by phone at (209) 651-5000. To receive the special rate of \$72 per night, you must tell them you are with CFMS. Cutoff date for the rate is 10/28/06. Add 10% room tax.

## MENU

### Chicken Wellington

(boneless, skinless breast of chicken, fresh spinach and mushrooms tucked in a flaky puff pastry) OR  
Marinated thin sliced tri-tip w/ a Hunter style sauce  
House salad w/ ranch and raspberry vinaigrette  
Roasted Parmesan red potatoes  
Italian style vegetables  
Bread pudding

For the vegetarian–

### Pasta Primavera

(fettuccini pasta w/ assorted vegetables sauteed in garlic and olive oil)  
House salad as above  
Bread pudding

All entrees come with rolls and butter, coffee or tea service. Price \$25 (includes tax and gratuity)

Make banquet reservations by October 31. Mail your check payable to CFMS and your entree selection to:

Pat LaRue  
PO Box 1657  
Rialto, CA 92377-1657

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## Next Year's Committees and the Future of CFMS

By Richard Pankey, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President

Look at the last 2 pages of the CFMS Newsletter, the Officers and Committee Roster. These are the people that lead and do the work of the CFMS. The work of the Federation is accomplished by individuals and by committees. There are 42 positions/committees. The By-Laws and Operating Regulations designate six of these positions/committees. As your President Elect it is my job and responsibility to find capable and willing people to be these workers for the Federation. And we have a lot of capable and willing people. The first step is to find out if the current Chairperson is willing to continue. Typically, the Convention Meeting and Show is where a lot of contacts are made to fill these positions and committees because most of the people doing these jobs are at the meeting and you have a better chance of getting a "yes" with a face-to-face request. And I did get a lot of "yeses." Many Chairpersons will be continuing on, we will have several new faces, and several "~~old faces~~" experienced people in new jobs. I only have 3 Chair positions and a couple of first year committee positions left to fill, Field Trip – North, Field Trip – South and PLAC – North. I am looking for volunteers and/or recommendations to fill these spots. As with all of our positions/committees we need "can do/will do" people who will be involved, see that articles are written for the Newsletter, and get others involved.

As with most organizations, CFMS is always looking for people to get involved, to serve on committees and contribute to the good of our Federation and the AFMS, and to help our member clubs and societies. Serving on a committee is a great way to get involved and learn what the Federation does. If you think you might be interested get a copy of the Operating Regulations (every club was given a copy) and the Officer and Chairman's Manual and read up on all of the positions/committees. If you can't locate your club copies, contact Pat La Rue to obtain them. Then if you have any questions about a specific committee, contact the Chairman for more information. Or contact me for information and to let me know that you are interested and I will find a spot for you! Our committees and chairmen are the training grounds for

our future Officers, and the future of CFMS. You don't have to be a Federation Director to be a Chairperson or be on a committee. Please announce this to your club members or recommend to interested individuals.

The purpose of our Federation is to do together what we would be unable to do alone. We are always trying to do better what we are currently doing and looking for additional ways to serve. Examples of this are the new Membership Committee and the new Demonstrator Directory. What other ideas should we be thinking about?

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## AFMS Scholarship Honoree Nominees Needed

By Bural LaRue, 2<sup>nd</sup> VP

CFMS is currently seeking nominations for the 2007 AFMS Scholarship Honoree from our regional federation. The committee will meet in Visalia to make its selection. The nominee should not be advised that he/she is being considered for this honor. Criteria are as follows:

- ★Should be well versed and/or educated in the earth sciences and should have extended service to individuals, societies, etc. in matters relating to our interests.
- ★Should have contributed to the furtherance of our interests and the earth sciences in general—an individual who has shared his/her knowledge of the earth sciences with the layman.
- ★The person need not be a member of a CFMS society.

Documentation should be sent to this year's chairman. Many worthy individuals are close-mouthed about their activities, so consult family, friends, associates who can be depended upon to be discreet. Send your nominations to:

Bural LaRue, Chairman  
CFMS Committee for AFMS Scholarship  
or Colleen McGann, President  
or Marion Roberts, Past President

Addresses are in the officers/chairmen listing

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## EARTH SCIENCES CAMP PARADISE

By Jack Williams, Coordinator

Hey, have I got a deal for you! We're all ready for another exciting time for you at Camp Paradise. A little different time of year and some changes to the schedule, but fun and learning is still what it's all about. Our starting dates are a week earlier than in the past. Also, some of our second week classes are now on the first week and yet others are now on both weeks. So please check the schedule to sign up for the week that has your classes.

We still have our classes in our basics as in the past. In moving things around a little we will now have copper enameling with Betty Egger which we missed last year, so you can try that again. Judy Gooch is back with her silver clay (PMC) work for the first week only. Then Judy will be teaching the glass fusion class the second week only. A new class is starting this year for all you Beaders - Shirley Hill will be there to teach us all some new and fun projects to do with beads.

So go to the CFMS web site at [www.cfmsinc.org](http://www.cfmsinc.org), click on forms and download the "Camp Paradise Registration Form", fill it out and mail it in. Then stand by for a great time.

Our 2006 CFMS Gem and Mineral Show at Calaveras Gem & Mineral Club's home was a great success. I can't help but wonder after seeing all those new displays in competition, did a lot of these artists get their start at an Earth Science Study Center? I do know a lot of them did get a chance to pick up new techniques or honed up on the skills they already had. Finding a new technique or another way to do a process in our art is what Camp Paradise is all about.

If you have not found out about Camp Paradise, it's about time someone let you in on our big secret. It's not only very educational, but it's also a lot of fun, and you sure can't beat the price. Just look at the back of the Registration Form, take a look at all the classes being offered. Please let me know just where there is a better deal, I want to go.

Well, if I were to tell you why I love it so, it's cause I get to see all you folks there.

## EDUCATION THRU SHARING

By Loretta Ogden, Chairman

### Mother Lode Mineral Society

Marion Roberts has held many offices in our club and other clubs including president of The Northern California Faceters Guild and CFMS. He has been the chef at many of our Thanksgiving trips. Marion never fails to offer help when he sees the need. He is an asset to our club and his many other affiliations.

submitted by Anna Christiansen, Pres MLMS

### Sacramento Mineral Society

Dear Loretta,

Thank you for all the work you do in regard to Education Thru Sharing. Our 2004/2005 recipients were so pleased to receive the pins. The certificate is nice but the pin can be worn everywhere you go and on hats, jackets, blouses, and dresses. You made our recipients very happy. The presentation really led up to making a choice for this years Education Thru Sharing Nominee.

Our nominee for 2006 is Carl Zimmerman. Carl joined the Sacramento Mineral Society in 2001 and has worked above and beyond in many areas to make our club an outstanding organization. As vice president, this year, he has obtained outstanding speakers for our meetings. He works on keeping the rock piles neat and tidy, the case displays up to date, and the yard looking nice. He works quietly in the background to keep things moving during shows, open house events, and other club activities. He participates as a shop steward and a saw master. Carl knows where everything is located. "Ask Carl" is a common statement. He is a dependable, sincere, and conscientious member who has earned this recognition.

Barbara Foskett, SMS Federation Director

Continued next page...

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*Ed Thru Sharing Continued...*

## North Orange County Gem & Mineral Society

We would like to honor Don Ogden for 2006 as he is an indispensable member of our club. Don has been President, Secretary, Show Chairman and Bulletin Editor for many years now. Aside from this he originated the CFMS Website and continues as the web master to this day. We are convinced our club would not be the fine club it is without Dons hard work and dedication.

Submitted by Nancy Bird, President NOCGMS

## Long Beach Mineral & Gem Society

We nominate Dorothy "Dottie" Beachler as member of the year. She is our Federation Director and she strengthens our club daily. Dottie keeps us going with her warmth and dedication. We feel she has earned this honor and more.

Submitted by William H. Hayes , Treasurer LBMS

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## ALL AMERICAN CLUB

By Dot Beachler, Chair

The book entries for 2005 have been judged and moved on for national judging. Now is the time to check how your club is recording activities and events for 2006.

Recently, a review of the sections of the entry form for an All American Award were published. Briefly, these sections covered club information, service, publicity, shows, community relations and government relations. If your club has had a show, there should be copies of publicity, club members showing and demonstrating. How about field trips? Where did you go, were other clubs invited and did you take pictures of the trip? How about programs for youth organizations, or helping at a senior center? Did you write to your representative or senator regarding a bill on collecting fossils or minerals? Did you join ALAA, our lobbying organization? Not only are these some of the ideas to check for this years book, but it is a history of YOUR club in 2006. This is a very special year as we celebrate the 70th birthday of the CFMS. Let's get to work for a big celebration.

### Ridgecrest Steering Committee Meeting

The public is invited to attend this Information Sharing meeting discussing what BLM is doing with land use planning, recreation, wild horses and burros, and more.

Time: 6:30 pm to 9:00 pm

Dates: August 24, 2006  
September 28, 2006  
October 26, 2006

Where: Ridgecrest Field Office  
200 S. Richmond Rd.  
Ridgecrest, CA 93555

Contact: Loretta Pedersen  
(760) 384-5400  
[lpederse@ca.blm.gov](mailto:lpederse@ca.blm.gov)

Submitted by John Martin, PLAC South

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## CFMS FIELD TRIP SOUTH

By Bob Fitzpatrick

We sure have had a lot of great field trips these past five years that I have been able to direct as Field Trip South Chairman. I could write a book about all the great times and adventures that everyone has had on them, I know I sure enjoyed myself. I've met some great Rockhounds from the CFMS clubs from all over California. We've collected a lot of nice minerals and even some "leave her rights" were also found. We've also enjoyed the great overnight camping, the campfires where stories were told and friendships were made and of course the delicious potlucks. Our groups numbered as large as 90 on some of our field trips and some of the yearly planned field trips were to Wiley Well (5 days over Thanks-giving), Gold Rock Ranch (3 days), Afton Canyon area twice a year, and Orocopia - Fluorspar, Ludlow - Thulite, Garnet Queen Mine, Turtle Mountains, Lavic Siding, Salton Sea, Calico - Early Man Site, Pebble Terrace, and many, many, more.

I was asked to lead field trips for the CFMS back in the year 2001 and it has been a very enjoyable experience for me. There's always a lot of work setting up the trips, planning and typing up the agenda for each one, getting the word out to all the clubs, answering the e-mails about the questions people might have, writing the reports about what went on during the trips and sending it to the CFMS website and newsletter. Although it was a lot of work, I did this because I like being with other Rockhounds and doing what Rockhounds love to do. I'd like to thank all of those who helped me lead the trips, helped me set things up and helped with the potlucks. Each of you made it easier to have a successful field trip.

This year I've started getting more clubs involved in joining our field trips. I would like to see a different club in the Southern California area join in and help lead a field trip and open it up to other coalition clubs to join in, with the CFMS Chair South helping. I would like to call it Coalition of California Clubs South for Field Trips. It is going to take some hard work to get this going. There will be more about the coalition field trips this fall. If you have any spare time and would like to volunteer to help out, please let me know. Help is ALWAYS appreciated.

This will be my last year as Field Trip South Chairman; it's time to let some new blood take on this fun job. Again, I have enjoyed planning the field trips and hope everyone has had a wonderful adventure, collected a variety of minerals on our outings and will remember all the good times we've shared.

## CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

By Ruth Bailey, Chair

The Nominating Committee is still able to accept nominations for 2007 officers. We can accept nominations for 1st and 2nd Vice Presidents and for Secretary and Treasurer. The deadline for submission of names will be September 1.

If you wish to send a nomination please send it to a member of the Nominating Committee and include information about the person including their name, home address, phone number, e-mail and qualifications. Nominations should be submitted by the Club President or Federation Director.

Your suggestion should be sent to:

Ruth Bailey  
2857 Addison Place  
Santa Clara, CA 95051

or to another member of the Nominating Committee.

## PONDERING

By Omer Goeden, Membership Retention Chair

I have belonged to the CFMS since 1957. The question arises frequently, about how we can interest and retain membership in our clubs and the CFMS as well. The question arises, how do we do this? First of all, I think the answer lies within each of us.

I have been a director for many years. I have noticed each year as I attend the meeting that the question always came up, "how do we get new members and how do we keep them?" At the meetings look around and notice who is sitting at the tables. Most of the time, everybody at the table have known each other for years. But, have any of us made an effort to invite a new director, someone who has just been elected to come to the meetings for the first time, to join us? It is a habit of all of us to join together with those we know. Is it only for the new directors to make the effort?

If we want new members in the CFMS, we must make the effort to introduce ourselves and have them join us at our table. Who knows what we can learn from them and they from us? Perhaps we could even become great friends. I think that is where we should start to get new members, if we make the new directors feel welcome they will in turn take this feeling back to their respective clubs. What a great way to start!

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### TROUBLE IN TECOPA--PART 3

By Eva

To recap, Eva and her dog became separated while on a field trip. The end of part 2 of her saga concluded with her frantic search, fearing the worst.

Not sure what to do, I next drove to local places of interest inquiring about my dog and leaving my cell number. Then I went back to the place where I had been stuck and parked just off the road to search some more. I searched for several hours. During that time, I ran into a number of other rockhounding groups, but none of them mine.

Apparently, the place where I got stuck happens to be the place where people search for trilobite fossils. I asked each person to keep an eye out for my dog. Some of them would be walking far back into the hills and up the mountain so they would be covering a lot of ground. At this point, I was very tired and desperate so I decided to go back to the postoffice and use the pay phone to again check my messages. Desperation breeds desperate acts.

This time it paid off. Someone had called about my dog! The people at the Tecopa Hot Springs had been visited by a man from Las Vegas who had my dog and wasn't sure what to do with him. Since I had visited the Hot Springs looking for my dog earlier, they knew I wanted him and they had agreed to hold him for me. I went immediately to the Hot Springs and one of the employees recognized my truck and came running out to greet me and reunite me with my dog. Everyone had followed the instructions on his dog tags that said not to feed him because he is diabetic so his blood glucose was not yet too bad. He was quite chipper and didn't seem to have any inkling of the depth of misery he had put me through.

Apparently, it had happened just as I had surmised. The man from Las Vegas had seen Gecko wandering near the road in the desert early that morning and thought he was lost. My truck was not easily visible behind a bush so he didn't know Gecko's owner was stuck just around the corner. Therefore, he figured he'd 'save' Gecko from the desert and kept him all day. Gecko had spent the day at Dumont Dunes watching the kids and adult kids driving their toys on the sand dunes. The most foolish part was that the man had called the phone number on Gecko's tag repeatedly, but for some unfathomable reason, he only called ONE of the phone numbers which of course turned out to be my home number that I could not check. Some time later when I finally did get home, I found many messages from him about Gecko on my answering machine. But it wasn't until the man was ready to go home to Las Vegas and the people at Tecopa Hot Springs got Gecko that they had the sense to call BOTH the phone

numbers and get hold of me on my cell. The Hot Springs people had even called a vet to inquire about Gecko's diabetic needs and were preparing to drive into Pahrump to get him some insulin in case I didn't show up in a timely manner. One thing about Gecko, he sure knows how to suck up and get people to help him. He could even charm the wool off a sheep!

After reuniting with Gecko, I felt relieved but emotionally drained. I also felt really hungry! I had eaten very little during the last 24 hours so I thanked the Hot Springs people profusely and decided to head to Shoshone for gas and food. I ate a big burger at the Crow Bar Restaurant and then decided to head back to the Hot Springs for a well deserved shower and dip in the 108 degree spring water. Only \$5.00 to get in and I was dirty and tired and well ready for some cleaning up. It wasn't long before I pulled back into the Hot Springs parking lot only to see one of the employees again come running out to greet me! What could they want this time!

Well it turns out one of my tires was now half flat! Jeez, what a day. Another of the employees quickly came out to help me change out the flat for the spare in the back. In an amusing coincidence, this new guy was also named John! At least my jack was easy to access as it was still sitting in the bed of the truck from that morning's copious usage. It didn't take long to make the switch and I was happy to finally get a shower and bath afterwards. Those people at Tecopa Hot Springs sure earned their \$5.00 fee that day and I encourage anyone in the area to drop by, say hi, and get a nice warm soothing bath at the springs.

Next and last on my to do list as the sun slowly set on that day was one more try to find that darned Noonday camp!

To be continued...

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### 2006 CFMS Bulletin Contest By Terry Yoschak, Bulletin Aids Chair

The Calaveras CFMS show was great, with some spectacular exhibits and a 70<sup>th</sup> birthday party for the CFMS. Our Editor's Breakfast on June 11 was well-attended, with 41 people signing in. Jonathan North, editor of the Nevada County Gem & Mineral Society bulletin, gave a presentation on using Microsoft Publisher to create bulletins and to maintain mailing and membership lists. Terry Yoschak, editor of the Roseville Rock Rollers bulletin, gave a presentation on finding and viewing club bulletins online. An Editor Survey was filled out by 18 editors who were present, and the results were very interesting!

Awards were presented as follows:

#### New Editors

- 1st The Matrix (Sacramento Mineral Society), Kris Jarusevicius, Editor
- 2nd Desert Diggins (Mojave Desert Gem & Mineral Society), Peggy Haines, Editor
- 3rd Rock Chippings (Woodland Hills Rock Chippers), David Dills, Editor
- 4th The Pick and Shovel (Long Beach Mineral & Gem Society), Andrea Dougherty, Editor

#### Small Bulletins

- 1st ORE-CUTTS (Orcutt Mineral Society) Bess & Dick Shields, Editors
- 2nd THE GOLDEN FROG (Calaveras Gem & Mineral Society) Marlynn Blake, Editor
- 3rd THE CONGLOMERATE (Reno Gem & Mineral Society) Theresa Langhans, Editor
- 4th NAPA GEMS (Napa Valley Rock & Gem Club) Emily DiGennaro, Editor

#### Large Bulletins

- 1st The Pegmatite (San Diego Mineral Gem Society) Anne Schafer, Editor

- 2nd Petroglyphs (El Dorado County Mineral & Gem Society) Merryan O'Neill, Editor

#### Original Adult Articles

- 1st "Pseudomorphs – MEOW" by Ralph Bishop, Orcutt Mineral Society
- 2nd "Fulgurite – The Essence of Lightning!" by Gloria Marie, Roseville Rock Rollers
- 3rd "A Rockhounder's Wander Through Nevada" by Les Clark, Sacramento Mineral Society
- 4th "Seriously Safe!!!" by Robert Bullock, Orcutt Mineral Society
- 5th "Our Trek to Alaska" by David Haggerty, Sacramento Mineral Society
- 6th "Rockhounding in the Southwest with Novice-Plus-One-Year Rockhounds" by Mike & Margaret Henson, Orcutt Mineral Society
- 7th "The Amazing Blanchard Claims" by Clay Williams, El Dorado County Mineral & Gem Society
- 8th "Tourmaline Dreams" by Bess Shields, Orcutt Mineral Society
- 9th "The Gem Seekers" by King F. Yee, Monterey Park Gem Society
- 10th "Arizona in May" by Wes Lingerfelt, Orcutt Mineral Society

#### Original Adult Articles, Advanced

- 1st "Finding Needles in the Desert" By Dick Shields, Orcutt Mineral Society
- 2nd "How I Spent My Summer Vacation – Oregon on \$80 a Day" by Wayne Mills, Orcutt Mineral Society
- 3rd "Agates in Munich 2005" by Sir Paul Howard, Orcutt Mineral Society

The top three winners in each category will go on to compete in the AFMS Bulletin Contest, and the results of that contest will be announced at the AFMS Show and Convention in Nashville, Tennessee in August 2006.

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## Results of Survey Taken at CFMS Editors' Breakfast, June 11, 2006

Do you create your bulletin pages with a computer?

Yes – 18 No – 0

Which software do you use? Circle one or more

Microsoft Word	10
Microsoft Publisher	3
WordPerfect	2
Adobe Pagemaker	4
Other	2

Is your bulletin published on your club's website?

Yes – 4 No – 14

Approximately how many copies of each bulletin issue do you mail?

High – 220  
Low – 30  
Average – 93

Approximately how many copies of each bulletin issue do you e-mail?

High – 50  
Low – 0 (exactly half of respondents said 0)  
Average – 14

Do you convert your bulletin to the PDF format for e-mail or other purposes? Yes – 9 No – 9

How many other clubs do you exchange bulletins with?

High – 35  
Low – 0  
Average – 18

What is your MAIN source of filler articles for your bulletin? (some respondents circled more than one)

Other club bulletins	14
CFMS/AFMS newsletters	8
SCRIBE	2
Internet sites	2
Other	2

Have you entered your bulletin in the CFMS Bulletin Contest in the past five years? Yes – 8 No – 10

Have you entered bulletin articles from your ADULT club members in the CFMS Bulletin Contest in the past five years? Yes – 5 No – 13

## SLIDE, VIDEO AND CD-ROM PROGRAM LIBRARY

By Bill Gissler, Program Librarian

Need a program for an upcoming club meeting? The CFMS

audiovisual program library offers many programs on a variety of subjects. An alphabetical listing of these programs, descriptions and ordering procedures can be found on the CFMS website. Looking for "How to Do" programs? The audiovisual library includes programs on soapstone carving, beading, wax casting, opal and cabochon cutting, wire wrapping, electroplating, silver soldering, enameling, faceting, hand woven chains, gemstone lamp and butterfly making, and intarsia.

The library also includes programs on field trips, science and travel.

Don't have access to a computer? Contact your club's Federation Director for a 2006 library catalog distributed at the November 2005 meeting and an update distributed at the June, 2006 Directors' meetings. Have a great summer. I am off to check out some sites in Idaho and Washington.

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Have you entered bulletin articles from your JUNIOR club members in the CFMS Bulletin Contest in the past five years? Yes – 1 No – 17 (Some clubs had no junior members)

Do you belong to SCRIBE? Yes – 13 No – 5

Compiled by Terry Yoshak



# CFMS NEWSLETTER

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## ROCKHOUNDING

California's geological forces have created one of the widest varieties of rocks and minerals found in any state.

This rock and mineral wealth has long been recognized by rockhounds even before the gold rush days.

Early rockhounds were prospectors looking for valuable minerals and gemstones for commercial purposes. Eventually, however, more people were drawn to rockhounding for recreational purposes, mainly for the beauty that rocks and minerals provide.

By the 1930s, interest in rockhounding increased significantly and it was during this period that rockhounding groups were formed and collecting areas in the desert were publicized.

With increased popularity of rockhounding, some rockhounds regarded certain areas as their own and feared that other collectors would deplete their rocks and minerals. This led to substantial amounts of material being removed and an increase in mining claims. By the 1960s the government saw a need to regulate the collection of rocks and minerals on public lands.

Visitors to the Mojave Desert often ask where they can rockhound. Perhaps the best source of information is rock, gem, and mineral groups found in communities throughout southern California. Libraries, bookstores, and "gem and mineral shows" are also very good sources of published information. Although any hill, mountain, or wash can provide some wonderful rock and mineral discoveries, the following listed areas are some of the well-known sites visited by rockhounds in which good samples can still be found.

Many rockhounding sites require hiking or driving to remote areas on sandy or rocky roads where there is a possibility of getting stuck. It is always a good idea to travel in a group and to bring plenty of drinking water with you when traveling in the desert. If you must travel alone, be sure to let someone know of your plans. Remember to stay on designated open roads. Cross country travel is illegal, as is driving in designated Wilderness Areas.

### Rules and Regulations

Part 8365 of Title 43 CFR (Code of Federal Regulations) provide for the collecting of "reasonable quantities" of rocks, minerals, semiprecious gemstones, and invertebrate and plant fossils of non-scientific importance, for personal

use. With respect to rockhound material, the Field Office considers a "reasonable quantity" to be not more than can be carried in a daypack. Regulations do not allow collecting on "developed recreation sites and areas," or where otherwise prohibited or posted. Care should be exercised not to collect minerals on mining claims. Most claimants will allow rockhounding if the individual interested in rock collecting first asks permission. Remember, it is your responsibility to determine if an area is open to collection or if you are on private land.

Petrified Wood The collection of petrified wood is governed by regulations found in Part 3622 of Title 43 CFR. Persons may collect petrified wood for non-commercial purposes without charge, from public lands. There is a limit of 25 pounds per person per day, plus one piece (to avoid breaking a large piece) to a maximum of 250 pounds per year.

Vertebrate Fossils The collection of vertebrate fossils is illegal on public lands without a paleontological permit. Violators will be prosecuted under the "theft of government property" provision of 18 USC (United States Code), Section 641, and may face a minimum fine of \$1,000 and a year in jail, and up to \$10,000 and 10 years in jail. Permits to paleontologists are available from BLM State Offices.

Prehistoric Artifacts Virtually all sources of colored silica (agate, chalcedony, jasper, obsidian, etc.) have been historically used by Native Americans in the building of weapons and other tools. The collection of any artifacts, including projectile points, ovate bifaces, cores, flakes, and all other material worked by prehistoric cultures and now found on public lands, is prohibited by the Antiquities Act of 1906, and the Archaeological Resources Protection Act of 1979, without an archaeological permit; such permits may be obtained from BLM State Offices.

Rock for Decorative Purposes With respect to the collecting of decorative veneer stone, the Barstow Field Office considers a "reasonable quantity" to be not more than can be carried in the trunk of a car.

Mining Claims The requirements for location of mining claims on public lands for commercial mineral development is contained in various Federal Regulations. The information is also available in an easily readable publication entitled "Discovery, Location, Recordation, and Assessment Work for Mining Claims in California.". This publication can be purchased at any BLM office. BLM field offices maintain a record of location for active and abandoned mining claims in the LR-2000 computer system.

Maps Desert Access Guide Maps showing the distribution of public and private lands are available for sale at BLM offices. These maps can be purchased at any BLM office.

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California Desert District Office, 22835 Calle San Juan  
De Los Lagos, Moreno Valley, CA 92553 (951) 697-5200  
Barstow Field Office, 2601 Barstow Rd., Barstow, CA  
92311 (760) 252-6000  
Needles Field Office 101 W. Spikes Rd., Needles, CA  
92363 (760) 326-7000  
Ridgecrest Field Office 300 S. Richmond Rd.,  
Ridgecrest, CA 93555 (760) 384-5400  
Palm Springs South Coast Field Office 690 W. Garnet  
Ave., N. Palm Springs, CA 92258 (760) 251-4800  
El Centro Field Office, 1661 South 4th, El Centro, CA  
92243 (760) 337-4400

Additional Information If you would like additional reading material on rockhounding, please visit the California Welcome Center, Tanger Way, Barstow, CA 92311 (760) 253-4813.

### Rockhounding Locations

1. Opal Mountain Black Mountain - 5 miles north of Fossil Bed Road via dirt road. Jasper, Nodules, Opal
2. Mule Canyon - 3 miles north of Yermo. Agate, Borax Celestite, Jasper, Olivine, Petrified Wood, Satin Spar, Silver, Travertine, Olivine
3. Alvord Mine - 7 miles north of Manix via dirt road. Agate, Calcite, Chalcedony, Jasper, Pyrite
4. Pisgah Crater - 1 mile south of Interstate-40 off of Historic Route 66. Lava, Volcanic Bombs
5. Cady Mountains - 6 miles north of Pisgah via dirt road. Agate, Chalcedony, Geodes, Jasper
6. Afton Canyon - 1 miles southeast of Afton off ramp via dirt road. Agate, Calcite, Chalcedony, Jasper, Nodules
7. Broadwell Dry Lake - 6 miles north of Ludlow via Crucero Road; west to hilly area. Banded Agate, Moss Agate, Geodes, Jasper, Onyx
8. Halloran Spring - Turquoise Mountain North of Halloran Springs. Azurite, Turquoise

Reprinted from California-BLM Newsletter  
<http://www.blm.gov/ca/barstow/rock.html>

Submitted by John Martin P.L.A.C. South  
[smartin@antelecom.net](mailto:smartin@antelecom.net)

## POLITICAL CAMPAIGN ACTIVITIES

The Internal Revenue Service recently announced it will step up efforts to enforce rules against political campaign activities. In the 2004 elections, the IRS noticed an upturn in politicking on the part of 501(c)(3) organizations. The agency responded by increasing its educational efforts and launching an enforcement program, the Political Activity Compliance Initiative (PACI), to investigate specific, credible allegations of wrongdoing.

While the vast majority of charities and churches do not engage in politicking, an increasing number did take part in prohibited activities in the 2004 election cycle, IRS Commissioner Mark W. Everson said. The rule against political campaign intervention by charities and churches is long established. We are stepping up our efforts to enforce it.

The IRS has put procedures into place for the 2006 election season to more quickly address instances of potential prohibited activity on the part of charities, churches and other tax-exempt organizations. The procedures are meant to ensure that public referrals as well as activities the IRS itself uncovers are reviewed expeditiously and treated in a consistent, fair and nonpartisan manner.

As a rule, charities, religious organizations such as churches, educational organizations and other groups that are tax-exempt under section 501(c)(3) of the tax code may not participate or intervene in any political campaign on behalf of or in opposition to any candidate for public office.

This prohibition means 501(c)(3) organizations may not endorse candidates, distribute statements for or against candidates, raise funds for or donate to candidates or become involved in any activity that would be either supportive or opposed to any candidate.

Whether an organization is engaging in prohibited political campaign activity depends upon all the facts and circumstances in each case. For example, organizations may sponsor debates or forums to educate voters. But if the debate or forum shows a preference for or against a certain candidate, it becomes a prohibited activity.

Source: IRS e-news, submitted by Mike Kokinos, Tax Advisor

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# Demonstrator's Directory: Instructor

CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF MINERALOGICAL SOCIETIES

SKILL TO SHARE (one skill per form): \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

TYPE OF PROGRAM: DEMONSTRATION \_\_\_\_\_ CLASSES \_\_\_\_\_ DEMO AT SHOWS \_\_\_\_\_

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

FEE (including mileage): \_\_\_\_\_

SPECIAL SPACE OR EQUIPMENT NEEDS: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

ITEMS TO BE SUPPLIED BY STUDENTS OR CLUBS: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

ADVANCE NOTICE TIME: \_\_\_\_\_

TRAVEL LIMITS: \_\_\_\_\_

TITLE OF DEMONSTRATION WITH A SHORT DESCRIPTION:

TITLE \_\_\_\_\_ LENGTH OF TIME: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

SOMETHING ABOUT YOURSELF: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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### THE FIGHT GOES ON FOR PUBLIC ACCESS TO PUBLIC LANDS

On December 8, 2004, despite a last-minute outpouring of letters and phone calls and a flood of negative editorials, an Ohio congressman with no public lands in his district succeeded in his attempt to sellout America's priceless heritage of public access to public lands. On that day, Representative Ralph Regula's bill, officially titled the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act (FLREA) but more accurately known as the Recreation Access Tax, or RAT, became law. The RAT authorizes permanent access fees for recreation on all land managed by the Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, and Bureau of Reclamation. There is no denying that December 8, 2004, was a black day for lovers of public lands.

But there is good news, too. The RAT contains the seeds of its own eventual destruction, and those seeds are beginning to take root. This newsletter is an update on accomplishments by the WSNFC and our affiliated groups in the effort to oppose access fees. With your help, we will reclaim our public lands!

Documents provided by the Forest Service to the U.S. Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee and recently released to the public have confirmed that the vast majority of fee sites on National Forests are not in compliance with the new Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act, also known as the Recreation Access Tax, or RAT. Of 1,339 sites that are located within agency-designated "High Impact – Recreation Areas," 981 are Standard Amenity Fee sites that are required to have six specific amenities in order to qualify for fees. The Forest Service documents reveal that 739 of those -- a full 75%--do not have all of the amenities the law requires. In addition, 627 sites--47% of the total -- have never been previously reported to Congress as fee sites, yet have not been subjected to the public participation process that the FLREA requires for newly instituted fees.

The information is included in answers that Mark Rey, Undersecretary of Agriculture, provided in response to Supplemental Questions posed to him in writing by Senator Larry Craig (R-ID), Chairman of the Subcommittee on Public Lands and Forests, following Rey's October 26, 2005 testimony before Craig's Subcommittee. The October hearing was held to review implementation of fees by the Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management under the FLREA.

There is wording in the FLREA that prohibits entrance fees from being charged for Forest Service or BLM lands. Fees are also prohibited solely for parking, for access to undeveloped backcountry, for passing through without using facilities, for undeveloped camping, for scenic overlooks, or for general access. In addition, FLREA requires day-use fee sites to have six specific amenities. The restrictions were meant to deflect criticism that arose under Fee Demo's unrestricted fee authority, but are being widely ignored by the agencies.

Rey's responses confirm charges made in a Survey Report published last year by the Western Slope No-Fee Coalition. WSNFC co-founder Kitty Benzar testified at the October hearing about the Survey Report, telling Senators that the Forest Service is requiring de facto entrance fees for huge tracts of public land, is forcing visitors to pay for activities such as backcountry hiking that are supposed to be protected by law from fees, and has established new fee sites without going through the law's public participation process. She pointed out in her testimony that "High Impact Recreation Areas" are not defined or authorized anywhere in the law.

"This information confirms with the Forest Service's own data their widespread disregard for the provisions in the FLREA that were supposed to protect public access and allow public participation," said Robert Funkhouser, President of the Western Slope No-Fee Coalition. "BUT as bad as the HIRA situation is, it is still only the tip of the iceberg," added Funkhouser. He noted that there are more than 3,000 former Fee Demo sites outside of HIRAs that are charging fees, even though the WSNFC's Survey Report showed that many of them are not compliant with the FLREA.

The transcript of the October 26, 2005 hearing can be read at <http://www.access.gpo.gov/congress/senate/senate08ch109.html>. The WSNFC Survey Report and the text of the FLREA can be read at this website.

If You Care about YOUR Public Lands, Take Action!!  
Here is a way you can help "Kill the RAT"

Contact your U.S Representative and both of your U.S. Senators. A letter has the most impact, and faxing it avoids the security delays of regular mail. Call their closest office or your county clerk for contact information.

Tell them that the language in the FLREA that was supposed to protect you from being charged for general access and for use of undeveloped backcountry is being disregarded by the Forest Service and BLM. We suggest you pick an example that is particularly irksome to you--a wilderness hiking trail, ATV or 4WD route, river, lake, or dispersed camping area that you use--and ask them to investigate whether access fees charged there are in violation of the law. In your letter, mention the specific sections of the law that you believe the site violates. You can read the text of the law at the Western Slope No-Fee Coalition's website.

[Http://www.access.gpo.gov/congress/senate/senate08ch109.html](http://www.access.gpo.gov/congress/senate/senate08ch109.html)

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Western Slope No-Fee Coalition  
PO Box 135  
Durango, Colorado 81302

Submitted to John Martin by Vern Cliffe

## Some Observations From The 2006 Reno Show

By Dick Friesen, Rules Committee

This was the first time in three years I was able to attend this excellent show. I had been a regular exhibitor but a scheduling conflict with the Snyder Ranch Pow Wow prevented my attendance for two years. It also helped me to view the show more as a new event as time allowed my memory to dim somewhat.

The Reno club is unique in that it is the only club that is still having competition and allowing non-club members to enter. This, coupled with the hard work of many members to educate all members of the Reno club in good showmanship, has had a spectacular payback in the club's exhibits. All of the member's exhibits looked like they were going into competition.

While some of the cases may have had minor problems that would result in a few points off if they had been in competition, I didn't look for them nor was there any reason to. It was the overall effect that was important. When the public views our exhibits they come away with an impression of not only the exhibits themselves but the club as a whole. The public had to come away from this show with a great impression.

I would like to encourage Show Chairmen and Exhibitor Chairmen to think about what image the public will have of your show and what you can do to improve it. While most of us don't think a lot about how our club exhibits impact recruiting new members and it may not be the most important aspect of recruiting, it does have an effect. Great work can be hidden by poor showmanship. When a potential new member is impressed by what is seen in your show they will be more likely to be interested in joining.

I would like to extend my personal congratulations to the Reno Club for their efforts to raise the quality of their exhibits, they are excellent. I would also like to suggest that, when possible, club Show Chairmen and Exhibitor Chairmen make an attempt to visit future Reno shows to see for themselves how the Reno club efforts have paid off.

## BE SAFE—BE WELL

By Don Monroe, AFMS Safety Chair

Jewelry making can be a most enjoyable hobby but there are certain hazards which must be avoided, and can be, by following a few simple rules.

- Don't polish a wire or chain on a rotary tool without nailing the wire or chain to a board. This might wrap around the arbor and pull your hand with it.
- Don't set fire to our clothing with the torch. Fuzzy sweaters are dangerous.
- Don't drop the torch or fail to turn it off. An explosion might follow.
- Don't pour water into acid when making pickle; pour acid into water.
- Don't turn over the pickle pot or the boil pot. Keep handles to the rear.
- Don't put a large piece of very hot metal in pickle. It might splash.
- Don't pick up the charcoal block or hot metal until you know it's cool.
- Don't hold a piece being drilled with your hand; the drill might slip or break or the piece might spin when the drill breaks through. Use pliers.
- Don't put your fingers inside any item being polished, for example, a belt buckle, ring bracelet, etc. Hold the work being polished between finger-tips and thumb.
- Don't wear rubber gloves or fingerstalls when polishing. These might wrap around the arbor.
- Don't work without some protection for the eyes such as plastic goggles or a magnifying eye piece, particularly when using a rotating wire brush.
- Don't let your tie or hair get caught by the rotating arbor. This could be fatal.
- Don't get into contact with electricity or belts. Don't work on a wet or damp floor.
- Don't fail to report any apparent hazard immediately.
- We repeat: "Work safely. You can't get by on luck."

Just fail to observe these rules and you will find your situation comparable to that of the fellow whose wife had the stone-cutter carve on his tombstone, "I told you to go to the doctor."

From *AFMS Newsletter*, April, 2006