



C.F.M.S. Newsletter

XLIV #7

August 2008

President's Message By Bural LaRue



I want to acknowledge a few more hard workers this month. Please forgive me if I omit someone—all of you do a great job. You and your efforts would be greatly missed if we didn't have your dedication and support.

Our All American Club is a one-person committee chaired by Dorothy Beachler. She and her late husband, Bob, worked together for many years. Dot continues to do a great job. I would like to encourage your club to document its activities and submit a formal write up to Dot. This is not a contest in the formal sense—all clubs are winners and receive recognition both at the CFMS and AFMS level. Call or email Dot for all the details.

Shirley Leeson wears so many hats it's sometimes hard to keep track of all the service she continues to provide. She is our historian and doing a terrific job. Want to know some federation history? She's the lady to call!

Speaking of programs, have you ever used our slide/video/DVD library chaired by Bill and Sharon Gissler? For the low, low cost of \$7.50 your club can borrow one of the CFMS programs to use at your club meeting. When the Gisslers are out of town, Colleen McGann will handle sending a program in time for your meeting. Prefer a live speaker? Check out the Podium People compiled by Program Aids Chair, Cheri George. Podium People lists those persons willing to come to a meeting and present a program. In addition to the listing, Cheri published a section on program

tips. A new edition of Podium People was given to each Director in attendance at the Directors meeting in Ventura. Copies are included in the packets being mailed to those absent. If you can't wait for the mailing, the information is included on the CFMS website www.cfmsinc.org, along with a current listing of slide/video/DVD titles.

Does your club have tax issues? Our Tax Advisor, Mike Kokinos, has helped numerous clubs solve these problems. Then behind the scenes, he reviews almost everything financial that your Executive Secretary/Treasurer, Pat LaRue, does.

I ask that your club President or Federation Director read this report to your members or publish it in your newsletter so your members know that CFMS is working for them.

Have a great day and a better tomorrow. Remember, have fun!

- Bural

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NEWSLETTER SUBSCRIPTIONS

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CFMS WEBSITE

CFMS on the Internet is accessible at www.cfmsinc.org. Web Master is Don Ogden. Editors are invited to download articles for their bulletins from this website.

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TO REPORT A CLAIM

Report claims as soon as possible to Patt McDaniel at 1-800-400-7288. If no one is immediately available, and/or during non-business and weekend hours, call 1-800-252-4670.

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

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ANYTIME

Send donations for **CFMS Scholarship Fund**
to: Pat LaRue
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Send donations for **AFMS Scholarship Fund**
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PO Box 1899
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Send donations for **CFMS Endowment Fund**
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PO Box 1657
Rialto, California 92377-1657

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

CFMS Calendar

Aug 31-Sep 6 & Sep 7-Sep 13, 2008 - Camp Paradise
November 7, 8 & 9, 2008 - Fall Directors Meeting - Visalia

From the Editor.....

Look what Bud McMillin of the Mother Lode Mineral Society found in an October 1967 edition of Gems and Minerals Magazine! Mike's article probably appeared in an earlier edition of a CFMS newsletter and his words are as pertinent "now" as they were "then"!

THE PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

The C.F.M.S. programs are for the benefit of all mineral and gem enthusiasts. Some of you do not receive a direct benefit from a few programs due to your failure to become a member of a society. Some of

you do not receive benefits because your society doesn't take full advantage of programs offered.

It is easy to blame you but it would not be entirely truthful and would be buck passing. The GEMS officers and chairmen must share the responsibility. Our job should be not only furnishing benefits but being salesmen for them.

You, the non-member, accept a challenge to look into the benefits of membership in a CFMS member society.

You, the member society, accept a challenge to make sure you know the programs and make use of them.

You, the officers and chairmen, accept a challenge to go visit the member clubs and sell our programs.

-Michael Kokinos, CFMS President



**Notes from the
Executive Secretary/
Treasurer/Printer**

By Pat LaRue

Complete reservation information and banquet details for the November Directors Meeting will be published in the September newsletter.

The printing and mailing of the hard copy version of the September newsletter will be delayed until sometime after August 20th. The web version of the newsletter should be available shortly after August 15th when Fred sends the file to Don Ogden for posting to the CFMS website.

Are the correct people in your club receiving the CFMS newsletter? Please send any changes to me. Remember each club is entitled to receive up to 3 complementary newsletters. Anyone can view or download the newsletter from the website www.cfmsinc.org

- Pat



**A Big "THANKS" from
the 2008 CFMS Show
Kids Booth!!**

By Jim Brace-Thompson

My Juniors Report for this month will be short-and-sweet: **THANK YOU!**

- **Thank you** to all who, long before the show, offered ideas for the kids booth and the sorts of activities and displays to include within it.
- **Thank you** to everyone who provided kids prizes and materials for grab bags.
- **Thank you**, Nancy, for long nights in front of the TV stuffing grab bags and labeling and bagging up kids prizes.
- **Thank you**, Pat, for promptly processing CFMS checks to cover supplies as boxes of materials grew and spread throughout our living room.
- **Thank you**, Ron and other members of VGMS for providing and helping to transport club cases to the Kids Booth for the educational displays.
- **Thank you**, Donna and Larry, for the display of the educational Rock Boxes being assembled by the three clubs of Ventura County for our schools and for getting word of the show out to local teachers.
- **Thank you**, Kirk and Maxine, for taking charge of the Cub Scouts and Webelos who came to the booth en masse to earn their badges and belt loops just when I needed to run to a Federation meeting.
- **Thank you** to all you great friends within the Federation who came from clubs up and down the state to help in running the Kids Booth during the show. By my count, we had members of about a dozen clubs, from San Diego to Sacramento and beyond, helping at different hours to welcome kids and introduce them to our fair hobby. The cheerful and generous help of each and every one of you is greatly appreciated.

THANK YOU, one and all!

- Jim

-



2008 CFMS Show

By Bural LaRue

It was fun and, thanks to lots of volunteers from many clubs, it was a **great show!** Volunteers came from the following societies: Contra Costa MGS, Shasta GMS, Woodland Hills Rock Chippers, Ventura GMS, Oxnard GMS, Conejo GMC, Orange Belt Mineralogical Society, North Orange County GMS, Mariposa GMS, Del Air Rockhounds, Mother Lode MS, Rocketomics GMS, Palmdale GMS, San Joaquin Valley LS, El Dorado County MGS, Victor Valley GMS, Santa Barbara GMS and Santa Clara Valley GMS. If I forgot anyone, I do apologize for omitting your club. This was YOUR show and we couldn't have done it without your help.

If you missed the Cracker Barrel, you missed out on a great time. Thank you, Internet Committee and other members of the North Orange County GMS, for hosting and proving that the Cracker Barrel doesn't have to be boring. We had food, games and prizes—all for the price of the play money freely provided by Don "Black Bart" Ogden. There were lots of laughs and not a negative grumble was heard from anyone. Thanks again to Don & Loretta Ogden and their crew.

Our dealers were all happy at the end of the show (this generally means they made some money). Thanks again go to Don and Cheri George for gathering our retail dealers and to C J Quitoriano for finding our demonstrating dealers as well as demonstrators. Bill and Izzie Burns organized our programs, which were well attended and greatly appreciated.

Special features included the Silent Auction organized by Ron Wise of the Ventura GMS. It was truly outstanding and Ron's crew did a great job. Proceeds will be donated to the CFMS Endowment Fund in memory of Ray Meisenheimer who was not only a long-time member of all three Ventura area clubs, but had served as chair of the Endowment Fund from 2000 until his death in late June of 2007. The Endowment Fund also benefited from a successful raffle and sales table organized by chairman, Ray Quitoriano. Jim Brace-Thompson continued a long tradition of having

kid's activities ranging from games to plenty of hands-on projects. There was a steady stream of kids of all ages, including some scout troops that visited the show all three days.

Dick and Betty Pankey did a great job getting exhibits to enhance the show. This is the first time in many years that I've seen so many society cases promoting their clubs. Several special exhibits included the spectacular display provided by the Fluorescent Mineral Society, the Walt Wright petrified wood collection, and the Moorpark Mammoth.

Last, but not least, Nancy Brace-Thompson organized our Awards Banquet. There were 104 members and special guests in attendance including both CFMS Scholarship Honorees, the AFMS Scholarship Honoree from CFMS and one of the student recipients of the CFMS Scholarship. The highlight of the evening was the presentation of the Golden Bear Award to Bob Jones and Don Ogden in recognition of their outstanding service to CFMS.

- Bural

Exhibiting At *OUR* Federation Show

By Dick and Betty Pankey

Our Golden Bear Gem and Mineral Show is now history. This show was put on by **us**, the Federation. It focused on and highlighted the CFMS. Betty and I were responsible for the Exhibit Hall and exhibiting, and we were able to fill it with exhibit cases, competition cases, table displays, demonstrators, Junior's Booth, silent auction, information tables, and Endowment Fund Raffle. There were 5 displays from our Executive Committee, 14 cases from Past Presidents, 5 Museum cases including the Golden Bear nugget, Nevada and California Minerals, all 3 sets of the Cab Cases, 21 displays from 13 clubs and 6 cases in the Juniors' Booth. In total there were 128 non-competitive, competitive and club cases, 22 tables of displays including Walt Wright's petrified wood, the Moor Park Mammoth, the fulgurites, and large polished rocks and specimens.

We would like to thank all of the exhibitors for sharing their collections and special talents. A **Big Thank You** to all of the people who helped with the set-up, skirting and tear-down. And a **Special Thank You** to the Mother Lode Mineral Society for the loan of their very fine display cases.

- **Dick and Betty**



ALL AMERICAN REPORT

By Dot Beachler

The judging results for the All American Program are as follows:

Small Club - Gold: **Sutter Buttes Gem & Mineral Society** (plaque)

Large Club - Gold: **Mother Lode Mineral Society** (plaque)

Even though only two clubs participated this year, both books were very well done.

This is the time to seriously plan your entry for next year. Since the CFMS show will be in April of 2009, all books will be due earlier in the year.

Start collecting club information NOW!

- **Dot**



EDUCATION THROUGH SHARING

By: Loretta Ogden

Oxnard Gem & Mineral Society is pleased to honor **Dr. Kay Hara**. He is multi-talented, a fine podiatrist, President of our society several times, Show chairman, Program chairman, Class coordinator, lapidary teacher, opal cutting, wire wrapping, and youth lapidary classes. He has been Federation Director as well as demonstrating wire wrap and entertaining at Camp Paradise. He accepted a gift from a grateful patient for the club of four Genie machines and two buffers to upgrade our shop. He is an accomplished artisan, making and displaying beautiful and unusual jewelry at the fair and our show. On

top of that he is also a dedicated field tripper. We are honored to have this special man as a member of OGMS.

- Submitted by: Lois Allmen

North Orange County Gem & Mineral Society honors long time members **Al & Trini Hermosillo**. Both have given untold hours for the club and its activities. Al is a silversmith and artist (painting). Trini is a wonder in the kitchen and with beads and glass. They have both held offices and demonstrated at shows and civic events, sometimes planning the events themselves. They make a great pair and we are glad they paired up with us for so many years.

Submitted by: Loretta Ogden
Federation Director

EXIBITING, COMPETITION AND JUDGING

By Tom Burchard

I have just recently attended an Exhibiting & Judging Seminar hosted by the Eastern Federation at Wildacres Workshop in North Carolina. The EFMLS requires that their judges be 'certified' to judge. The certification process involves taking the class at Wildacres. They are, at present, the only society that has a certification process. I think this is going to change in the near future. There were fourteen people in this class. All seven federations were represented. I went at the behest of the AFMS's program "Judges Training Seminar", and my tuition and some of the other federation representatives were paid for by the AFMS Endowment Fund. The AFMS has been doing this for about 5 years with the intent to improve the quality, and lessen the regional differences, in judging.

I am now certified to judge in the Eastern Federation. It may be awhile before I have an opportunity to judge there. But, I can now take what I have learned and go the federations I belong to and pass on to those that are interested about 'exhibiting, competition & judging'.

Why Exhibit? Why Compete? Why Judge? All of these are natural extensions of being a

rockhound. How so, you ask? We start with collecting. Could be rocks, minerals, fossils, whatever. After a time, we need to do something more with them other than collecting, which most of us never actually give up, though we may become interested in other facets of our hobby. We might start doing lapidary, cabochons or faceting. We might start to 'refine' our collection of minerals or fossils. By refining, I mean we might start collecting only certain types of minerals, or minerals from one location, or only rare minerals. The same with fossils. After awhile, I might take lapidary and begin to make jewelry: soldering silver or gold pieces together, casting silver or gold into molds, wire wrapping a piece or baking PMC into an object d'art. I might start twisting wire into gem trees, making glass beads or fusing 'lil slabs and bits of glass together. After we have all these things collected, we are asked by club members to put together a display case. Why? To show the general public what it is we do. To show other club members, and other clubs, where we are in our craft, individually and as a club. We have just added another aspect to our hobby. How to *best* display what we have collected or created (the *art* of exhibiting, if you will). Anybody can throw a few (or many) objects into a display case, and voilà, an exhibit. But, is it as good an exhibit as it can be? How do we tell? How do we compare our case with another exhibitor's case? That would be in competition, where judges tell us how well we did. Where do the judges come from? They are **us!** People, who have exhibited, competed and then became interested in judging.

Do you see the progression I have tried to point out? From becoming involved in our hobby, to exhibiting, to competing, to judging - it is a natural progression. So, why are more people not involved with exhibiting and competing? There are maybe more than a few reasons for this. Perhaps we haven't offered competition at the club level. Club members may not have been encouraged to compete. People may have heard horror stories about discontinuous (not a real word, but should be) judging, and been discouraged by them. I say **NO MORE!** If we do not offer the *best exhibits* we can at our shows, we will not attract new members to the hobby. Our hobby will die. I am not willing to let this

happen without trying to do something about it. Join with me and others who want to keep our hobby thriving. **EXHIBIT! COMPETE!!** And, oh yeah, competing and judging is a **LOT OF FUN** too. I am not a masochist. I enjoy exhibiting, and competing, and judging. You will too.

- Tom



EARTH SCIENCE STUDIES

By: Marion Roberts

It has come to my attention that some people don't know what E.S.S or Earth Science Studies is all about. If you have heard of Camp Paradise & Zzyzx, this is where the E.S.S holds their lapidary classes in the spring and the fall. Those of you who are directors, editors, and secretaries of your club, now is the time to spread the message; it is your responsibility to inform every individual in your society or club of this message.

As Camp Paradise starts on August 31, 2008, I have worked out and planned a few days of work at the camp with the camp director. It has not been set as to what we will be doing other than some clean up. Those of you who would like to come a few days early (like last year), please bring basic cleaning equipment and supplies: broom, mop, Lysol, dust mop, etc. Also, possibly small shop vac's.

As of now, I am over half way to having a full house for our two weeks. So the one's who are planning to come, we still have room. I also encourage those thinking of next year to consider this year at Camp Paradise, because in 2009 there will be an increase to \$350.00 per week due to the price of everything going up, including the price of food.

See you at Camp Paradise!!!

- Marion

Kids, Kids, Kids Everywhere! by June Harris

Santa Clara Valley Gem and Mineral Society has been working on attracting more children to our annual show. In 2006 very few children attended our show. We had very little to interest children. Immediately following our

2006 show, I started working on developing an area that would turn out to be a kid magnet. Little did I know how successful this program was going to become.

In 2007 we had 700 kids visit our new Kids Area. The Kids Area was developed with a plan for an area where children could visit, earn a show patch, and get a beginning rock collection in a cloth drawstring bag. When I developed this area, I used two outside programs with which I am very familiar: Cub Scouts and Girl Scouts. Starting with our 2007 show, Cub Scouts were able to earn the geology belt loop and academic pin; Webelos were able to earn their Geologist pin; Brownies were able to earn their Hobbies try-it; and Junior Girl Scouts were able to complete their Rocks Rock badge. The Kids Area was developed around these "badges" with a lot of other information that would interest children. Display boards were created, and experiments were developed. Rock bags were made, and rocks were collected. Scouts were invited to sign up in advance to ensure that they would get a patch, badge paperwork, and a rock bag with their beginning collection inside.

We originally thought that we would attract perhaps 100 scouts to the Kids Area. We were certainly surprised when the reservations just kept coming in. Our show was scheduled for April. By mid-February we had over 500 children signed up to attend, and we had to begin to turn away groups. By the time of the show, we had turned away over 200 kids, and we still worried about overcrowding and not being able to accommodate all the children and leaders. We had only 800 square feet available in the Kids Area.

It was raining on the first day of the show, and about 300 children came through the Kids Area. On the second day, over 400 children came through. I never saw more than three feet in front of my sign-in table for the first four to five hours of the show each day. Little did I know that on Sunday, the second day, my line was over 100 feet in length. The Kids Area was a great success. The leaders, parents, and kids didn't mind being crowded. I was thanked continually throughout the day and by email and phone calls after the event. The kids were very enthusiastic and were reluctant to leave the show.

We expanded our 2008 show to three days so that we could invite school teachers to bring their students. The Kids Area was expanded to about 1800 square feet, and our displays and experiments were doubled. We also added the Boy Scout Geology Merit Badge program to our programs offered. We charged the scouts \$2.50 each to earn their "badge," and school classes were charged \$1.00 per student to attend the Kids Area. All children under age 12 were admitted without charge to attend our show. We had just over 2000 children come through the Kids Area at our 2008 show.

In addition to expanding the Kids Area, we revamped our scholarship booth to have more kid-friendly activities. We had a spinning wheel to spin to win prizes, which was incredibly popular, and a memory wire bracelet-making station for kids to make their very own bracelets. We were also approached by a local Senior Girl Scout to do her Girl Scout Gold Award Project at our show. Her project was to teach the scientific process of mineral and rock identification to school-age children. Her project fit extremely well with our goal of adding kid-friendly activities to our show. We also had an incredible area where enthusiasts demonstrated various lapidary arts. These demonstrations were a great attraction for the students and scouts. Lastly, we were able to obtain a fluorescent mineral display which was especially noteworthy among the Boy Scouts.

Our Kids Area attendance was due to the enthusiasm of many great scout leaders and teachers. We had over 550 students attend on Friday. Over the three days of the show, we had over 600 Cub Scouts, 100 Boy Scouts, 300 Brownies, 300 Junior Girl Scouts, and many other children who heard about the area from advertisements on the radio and through our website and word of mouth.

My advice to anyone who wants to increase the number of children and families attending their show is to make their show very child-friendly. Your own Kids Area can be developed easily. I will make myself available to consult with any club who would like to develop their own Kids Area. I have CDs with the Kids Area information on them for you to use as you see fit. We have pictures of our Kids Area. Additionally, I can advise you as to

how to make contact with children's organizations in your area, and offer suggestions for how to adapt the Kids Area to meet your goals. Contact me via email at juneconeyharris@yahoo.com if you'd like information. My board has authorized me to make the Kids Area information available to other clubs. We ask that any club which would like the Kids Area CD to make a \$150 donation to the CFMS Scholarship fund in the name of SCVGMS Kids Area.

The program that we have developed has been successful due to many hours of hard work and tenacity. It requires making a genuine project plan with goals and deadlines. Getting area scout administration on board was not necessarily easy, but finding the right person with the right connections is required and persistence is the key. The reward for me was seeing so many excited people who would never have come to our show without our Kids Area and the programs it has to offer, looking at our show as a new yearly family outing where their children enjoy the atmosphere and learn something new in the process. The SCVGMS Kids Area has not only met a need within our community for a family friendly experience, but it has met a need within our club to bring an educational aspect to our show. What improvements can you make to your club, to your show, and most of all to your community?

- June



CFMS INSURANCE

By Bud McMillin

Usually when I get a call about the CFMS insurance program, I get asked: "What does our CFMS policy cover?" I respond with a McDaniel Insurance Services approved definition of what a "third party" liability policy is.

Our CFMS Liability Insurance Program is a policy to protect the Club and its members against damage that may be caused to another party (person or property). It is not the intent of this policy to protect the individual club member from damage they

may do or may cause to themselves or to their own property.

The CFMS insurance is referred to as a "third party" liability policy. That is, it is written to protect the club and its members against loss for damage caused by or action of one of its club members against another party.

The CFMS DOES NOT offer an accident policy; all members should carry their own health/accident insurance plans.

Please note that this liability insurance only covers us for any damage done by those clubs (their members), which elect to carry insurance, while engaged in club activities such as meetings, field trips and shows with less than 300 attendees. We are not covered as to damage done to our own members or club property since we are the insured and we cannot sue ourselves for damages.

If your club member has a group over at their house on a club sponsored meeting, work session or club sponsored learning experience (class) and there were not 300 or more attendees – there would be liability coverage as secondary coverage under the CFMS policy. The homeowner policy would be primary insurance.

Next month Patt McDaniel will explain the coverage for field trips. Be sure to mark your calendars for November 8th at the Board of Directors meeting in Visalia. Patt McDaniel will be there to answer all your questions about our CFMS insurance program. If your club insurance person cannot be there – send your questions with your CFMS Director.

- Bud



FROM THE DESK OF RUTH BAILEY

Margaret and Bill Norton became members of the Santa Clara Valley Gem & Mineral Society in 1973 and were always very active in the Society. Margaret was President of the Society three times and also served in most of the other offices. She was editor of the Breccia for five

years and received awards from the CFMS and the AFMS.

In 1984, Margaret was elected Secretary of the CFMS and served two years as Secretary and in other offices, serving as President in 1988. After her term as President, she was active on the Long Range Planning Committee and worked with the Uniform Rules Committee. She was a Lapidary judge and chair of the committee. She was elected by the CFMS Scholarship Committee to choose a student for the CFMS Scholarship.

Due to a series of strokes, Margaret was unable to continue with her activities in the CFMS and her Society and she was pretty much confined to her home. After a number of years, she passed away on May 25th and was remembered at a memorial service on June 14th. She will be missed by all of us who knew her and worked with her.



PROGRAM AIDS

By Cheri George

What a great show!! We had a great time and hope you all did to!

We have a semi-serious problem in the Northern speakers in that they are dwindling away. I am sending a speaker form to Dave Musser as he requested and hope to add him to the roster. I will tell you that if you have a speaker whom you think is fabulous or even interesting to a bunch of rockhounds, please ask if they would be interested in traveling to other clubs to give their talk. If they are interested, please send me their contact info and I will invite them to be one our special people.

Happy summer!! Stay cool!!

- Cheri

CHANGES FOR 2009 AFMS BULLETIN EDITOR'S CONTEST

By Doug Arnold

1. Procedure to decide on changes:

September 2007 - AFMS Club Publications asked for input from all editors, BEACs, and any other interested parties on what changes they would like to see made in the contest.

January 2008 - Input was compiled and recommendations were sent to the AFMS Club Publications Committee for a vote; votes were received and tabulated. Changes to contest rules established on a simple majority vote.

June 2008 - Changes for the 2009 contest sent to AFMS Club Publications Committee; changes were not made available earlier to keep from confusing anyone on the 2008 contest.

September 2008 - Changes will be made available to everyone in attendance at the AFMS/SCFMS Breakfast with the Editors and will be made available on the AFMS website.

2. Changes for the 2009 AFMS Bulletin Editor's Contest:

A. Category by Bulletin Size (to more evenly distribute the number of bulletins in each category)

New Editor - any size

Mini Bulletins, 6 pages or less

Small Bulletins, 7 - 11 pages

Large Bulletins, 12 pages or more

B. Add a "Features" category (to include more of our writers & artists in awards). The Features category will include: written articles covering field trips, book reports, travelogues, historical commentary and original shop hints, as well as original drawn items such as cartoons, puzzles, quizzes, and sketches/drawings.

C. This affects regional chairpersons only - AFMS contest materials will be available for BEACs in an interactive format online; hard copies will still be mailed to BEACs who do not have internet access. (These are the contest materials that are sent only to regional BEACs. BEACs will be able to type the information directly onto the forms for their regional winners and attach them to their entries for the AFMS contest. They will then send these hard copies to the AFMS judges, just like we do now. This will save some of the postage needed to mail hard copies to BEACs, save on paper - no extra copies that are thrown out, and make all entries more legible for the judges.)

D. No points will be deducted from bulletins that are exclusively emailed for being formatted in a single column per page. Each page must still have a header or footer that gives the name of the bulletin, the page number, and the date/volume number. (Online bulletins are easier to read in one column so the reader does not have to scroll down-up-down on each page to read.)

E. On the score sheet for bulletins, "Headings, margins, spacing good, typing neat & clean, corrections neat" under **FORMAT/EDITORSHIP will be changed to "Headings, margins, white space, spacing good; typing neat & clean; corrections neat."** (White space is space on the page that has no typing or art work in it – it's just white. Readers need white space on each page to let their eyes rest, and white space makes what is written and drawn stand out more. Thus, editors need to make good use of white space.)



CFMS RULES COMMITTEE

By Dee Holland

We had a total, counting the supplemental trophies, of **31 cases in competition.**

ADVANCED:

Robert Know, Del Air Rockhounds
Fossils - Plaque
Gregory Davis, Ventura Gem & Mineral Soc.
Jewelry - Plaque
Leo Lu, Sequoia Gem and Mineral Society
Intarsia - Plaque
Chris Ward, Del Air Rockhounds
Open - Plaque
Ed Clark, Ventura Gem and Mineral Society
Carving - Plaque

MASTERS:

Reno Gem & Mineral Society
Open - Trophy
Jim Brace-Thompson, Ventura Gem & Mineral
Fossils - Trophy
Omer Goeden, South Bay Mineral & Lapidary
Special Lapidary - Trophy
Ted Magee, Mother Lode Mineral Society

Jewelry - Trophy
Vivian Roberts, Mother Lode Mineral Society
Carving - Trophy
Ed Clark, Ventura Gem & Mineral Society
Open - Trophy
Ed Clark, Ventura Gem & Mineral Society
Fluorescent - Trophy
Clay Williams, El Dorado County M & G S
Minerals - Trophy
Pat LaRue, Valley Prospectors
Minerals - Trophy

CFMS SUPPLEMENTAL TROPHIES

Pat LaRue, Valley Propector
Hamel Mineral Trophy
Cal Clason, San Joaquin Valley Lapidary
Diamond Pacific Lapidary Trophy
Cheri George, Palmdale Gem and Mineral Soc.
Sharr Choate Jewelry Trophy
Ed and Eileen Ferner, Santa Clara Valley GMS
Barranca Educational Trophy

SWEEPSTAKES TROPHY

Ventura Gem and Mineral Society

Also competing were the following

Paula Magee, Mother Lode Mineral Society
M, Carving
Robert Sankovich, Conejo Mineral and Gem
M, Open
Robert Sankovich, Conejo Mineral and Gem
M, Special Lapidary
Brad Murphy, Palmdale Gem and Mineral
Adv, Lapidary
Brad Murphy, Palmdale Gem and Mineral
Adv, Petrified Wood
Terry Vasseur, South Bay Lapidary
Adv, Jewelry
Richard Haering, Del Air Rockhounds
Novice, Open
Donald Nashol, Orcutt Mineral Society
Novice, Jewelry
Ricky McArthur, South Bay Lapidary
Novis, Lapidary
Norvie Enns, Reno Gem and Mineral
Choate, Jewelry
Donald Dana, Orcutt Mineral Society
Facetron, Faceting
Donald Dana, Orcutt Mineral Society
Beginning Trophy Faceting

A special THANKS to all those who judged the exhibits. And to the clerks who assisted them. The measure of concern and interest shown by the judges and their conversations with the exhibitors after the judging was over

was extraordinary. They all went above and beyond in helping each exhibitor with the various problems each exhibitor encountered.

Our Federation is blessed with more competitive exhibits than all the other regional federations combined so far this year. This is something we should all be very proud of. Next year will be the prelude to our own AFMS/CFMS combined show in Riverside in 2010. Start working on your exhibits for 2009 in San Jose. Remember, the CFMS show will be in APRIL next year. Plan accordingly.

- a very proud.....Dee Holland



C.F.M.S. SCHOLARSHIP HONOREE

By Jo Anna Ritchey

The C.F.M.S. Scholarship Committee invites your society to nominate one or more individuals to receive a CFMS Scholarship recognition. All that is needed is a short resume on why you think an individual should be an Honoree prior to the Fall Meeting in Visalia. Send the resume to any member of the CFMS Scholarship Committee. My name and address is on the officer page of the CFMS Bulletin.

Method of Selecting and Honorees)

- **Criteria for Selection:** The person(s) selected to be honored shall have made great contributions toward the realization of the avowed purpose and goals of the CFMS. The honoree(s) may receive this award only once.
- **Time of Selection:** The Honoree(s) shall be selected by the Scholarship Committee prior to March 1st each year and shall be notified of the selection, plus duties involved, as soon as possible. The Honoree(s) may receive this honor only once.
- **Duties:** The Honoree(s) shall 1) select the college or university within the territorial jurisdiction of the CFMS which will receive the scholarship grants and 2) shall participate with the schools in selection of the student awardee(s). The Honoree(s) shall report to the Directors at the

Convention Meeting the name of the school(s) and, if possible, the name of the student awardee(s).

- **Jo Anna**



REPORT ON TRI-FEDERATION ROCKHOUND RENDEZVOUS AND FIELD TRIP

By Dick Pankey

The announcement flier said, "Be prepared for a variety of weather." And that is what we had! Over the next 6 days we found out that the Texas Springs area is a "Land of the 4 Seasons." It was a warm summer-like Tuesday morning when we turned off the highway headed to the Tri-Fed Camp by Trout Creek. When we stopped to put up the signs to mark the way to camp we were joined by the Northwest Federation co-leaders **Dick Parks** and **Patti Amos**. Six and one-half miles from the highway we turned left into "grassy" area amongst the sage brush and shooed away the cattle. This was our camp. Shortly after noon **Dean Richardson** and his new wife, **Bernice**, and his son, **Rich**, arrived. Dean and Rich have been collecting in this area since the 70's and helped guide our collecting trips.

Late in the afternoon the sky darkened, the wind picked up and there was an ominous, dark yellow/gray cloud coming at us from the western horizon. In less than 20 minutes we were hit with a dust storm with wind in excess of 50 mph that lasted close to an hour. By this time we had more than 8 rigs in camp and we closed everything up tight to ride out the storm. This is the last we saw of summer.

Winter revisited us with night time temperatures in the high 20's and low 30's. Spring rains returned over the next few days. They were mostly intermittent and spotty. They never affected nor stopped our collecting trips but they caused us to cancel 2 potluck dinners, a couple of happy hour get-togethers and a couple of campfires. On Friday afternoon it was beautiful, the sun was shining and it was pleasantly warm. We set up for our tailgate exchange and map exchange with high expectations for a fun activity. People started to gather and so did

the storm clouds. When the rains started we quickly put away our maps and tailgate displays. As the temperature rapidly dropped the rains changed to sleet, then hail and concluded with snow, which covered the ground and our vehicles like a winter wonderland. There were 10 tents as part of our camp and they were weighted down with piles of snow-sleet-hail. Within an hour the sky had cleared, the snow-sleet-hail had melted and the sun was once again shining brightly. Our afternoon events and potluck dinner were washed away but we were able to have our first campfire.

Our Camp

Well, that's enough about the weather. It was wet. It was wild. It was windy. And it gives us good stories, but it is not the total defining aspect of our Tri-Federation Rendezvous. And it never stopped us from doing what we set out to do, that is, collect pink agate limb casts and have a great time with other rockhounds. The **Tri-Federation Rockhound Rendezvous** was held for 6 days over the 2008 Memorial Day Weekend. Over 140 people from the NFMS, CFMS, RMFMS and MFMS came to our Rendezvous. They represented over 45 clubs from 12 states. We had rockhounds of all ages from 4 to 84. Most of our group camped with us amongst the sage brush. We had trailers, motorhomes, tent trailers, tents and pickup campers; a total of 41 camping units. Some chose to take advantage of the motels and full hookup campgrounds that were only 8 miles away in Jackpot. When people arrived at camp I had them sign in on the trip register, sign an Informed Consent Waiver and I gave them a copy of the AFMS Code of Ethics. When camping on BLM land, we practice the Leave No Trace principles. That means we "pack-out-what-we-pack-in". We leave the area cleaner than we found it. This should be our practice no matter where we camp. I walked around our camp on Monday evening after most of our group had departed and I am proud to say that there was no trash or garbage left anywhere. We did tear up some sagebrush and left some tracks in the dirt, but they will grow back and wash away with the next few rains.

Collecting Trips

Texas Springs Canyon is located approximately 25 miles southeast of Jackpot in

the northeast corner of Nevada. The Texas Springs area is well known for spectacular pink agate limb casts, as well as other agate and petrified wood. Although this area has been popular with rockhounds for many years, prized material can still be found for those who are willing to dig for it. And many were successful! On Wednesday morning Dick Parks and I took off for a scouting trip of the five planned collecting sites around Texas Springs. The sites were 15 to 22 miles from camp. We marked the roads, turns and collecting sites with fluorescent orange ribbons for easy identification and travel. The five planned collecting sites were identified as: the "Classic Pink Limb Casts", "Past the Pink", "Rich's Hill", "Snakeskin", and "Small Pink Limb Casts and Bog". The 2 most popular sites were the Classic Pink and Rich's Hill. Because of limited parking and to minimize the collecting pressure we had sign-ups for these sites, with a limit of 50 people per site. The other 3 areas were self-guided sites. Dean, Rich and I led the trips to Classic Pink and Rich's Hill.

The group assembled each morning at 8:00 for information about the sites, instructions, safety information, and announcements of the other activities for the day. We lined up our vehicles and headed down the road at 8:30. The Classic Pink site is a sparsely foliated hill of ash and dirt. There are many holes and old digs from previous rockhounds. While a rare piece can be found as float, collecting at this site is accomplished by digging and many of the holes are deep. As the name denotes, the sought after material here is pink agate limb casts that range in size from twigs to large masses over 100 pounds. Some of each was found, but most were in the ounces to a couple of pounds range. Rich's Hill is named for Dean's son who discovered the area where he found a number of fair sized logs and casts last year. Rich's Hill is about one half mile due east of the Classic Pink area. The material here ranges from twigs and small limbs as float to small logs and limbs 10 to 12 inches below the surface. The digging was easy in this loose topsoil. The material is mostly a brown jasp-agate. The most productive digging was at the bottom of the hill. On Saturday Dick Parks led a group to an agate area near Opal Springs a couple of miles north of Texas Springs. Dick also led people to

some travertine/onyx sites that were only 8 miles from camp.

Of the three self-guided sites the Small Pink was the most productive, the Snakeskin had the most unusual material and the Past the Pink was more of the same and harder to dig. The Small Pink is a low-lying hill about one half mile long. There are small, finger sized pink agate limb casts all over the east side of the hill. Although this was not planned to be a dig site someone tried digging and found small logs like those on Rich's Hill. Soon everyone was digging. There was gray/brown bog agate at this site also.

There are two geode sites near by. One at Contact about 18 miles south of Jackpot and one 5 miles north, just off of the highway, at Rabbit Springs. On Sunday I led a group of over 40 to collect some geodes. The Contact geodes were found in trenches and in shallow digs on the hillside. They are hollow geodes that are filled with calcite. The Rabbit Springs geodes are hollow and chalcedony lined. They are just off the old highway, about .3 miles in from the turnoff. Broken geodes litter the surface and whole ones can be found with easy digging in loose/ashy soil. The Rabbit Springs geodes were abundant and are fluorescent. This was the best day of geode collecting that I have ever experienced. The geodes were in the top 12 to 24 inches of loose ashy soil. Everyone who dug filled their bag and buckets with baseball to softball size geodes.

Our Other Activities

Our afternoon activities were the most affected by the rain, snow and wind. We had a speaker from the BLM scheduled for Thursday's happy hour, but his talk and our potluck dinner were canceled because of rain. On Friday afternoon we were all set up for our Tailgate and Map Exchange when they were washed away by rain, hail, sleet and snow. But on Saturday the weather cooperated and we finally held our Tailgate and Map Exchange. We had 12 people participate in our Tailgate. They pulled their trucks up or set up a table to display what they brought. Several people brought rocks and specimens from their home areas to share. There were minerals and specimens from several locales including Wyoming, New Mexico, Oregon, Nevada, California, and Arizona. Several people brought buckets of specimens to give

away to the group. We had good participation in the Map Exchange with 15 to 20 maps from California, Oregon, Idaho, Utah, Wyoming, New Mexico, Nevada and Montana collecting areas: some really good, detailed maps to some excellent collecting sites. Enough to fill our field trip schedule for a long time.

One of my favorite activities when camping is the campfire. There was a lot of wood brought for our nightly campfires but we didn't get to use it until Friday evening. We had so much wood that we had a hard time burning it all and sent a lot home for the next outing.

Let's Eat – a Favorite Rockhound Activity

Our Welcome Potluck Dinner was postponed on Thursday because of the rain. When the rain returned on Friday we had to call it off again at the last minute. But the food was all ready, so we broke up into "mini-potlucks" in our trailers and motorhomes. The selection may have been smaller, but the food was still good. On Saturday the sun was shining, there was a breeze but no wind, and we were able to have our All Rendezvous potluck. It is amazing that in the midst of the desert and sagebrush, when the dinner bell rings the serving table is filled with freshly prepared food and delicious desserts. After dinner we had self introductions to find out a little about one another and where they were from. To celebrate our age diversity, Betty gave a stained glass clown to our youngest, a 4 year old, and a stained glass angel to the oldest (an 84 year old "youngster").

As the weekend drew to a close, the big question from all was "Where will the Rendezvous be next year?" My answer to them was "Anywhere you want to lead it!" This **Tri-Federation Rockhound Rendezvous** was a great, fun, rewarding event. It was more than a fieldtrip, it was a rendezvous, a coming together of rockhounds to do and share all the things we like to do. We had a great time together. We met and got to know a lot of wonderful rockhound friends. We collected some interesting rocks. We enjoyed the beauty and majesty of this great land of ours. I hope that someone out there will pick up the ball and arrange for our next Rendezvous. Our Inter-Regional Field Trip Committee is ready to help. Call or email me with your ideas and suggestions.

- Dick

CFMS SHOWS AND EVENTS

CFMS SHOWS AND EVENTS

**We will put in all shows and
events sponsored by a CFMS
Club or Society. Please let me
know as soon as you have a
date.**

**APPLICATIONS MUST BE
IN WRITING**

Email or mail to:

Susan Chaisson-Walblom,

Show Dates

42122 52nd St. West,

Quartz Hill, CA 93536

Email: slchaisson@yahoo.com

2008

JULY 12 & 13: CULVER CITY, CA

Culver City Rock & Mineral Club
Culver City Veterans Auditorium
4117 Culver Blvd. Cross street Overland
Hours: Sat. 10-6; Sun 10-5
Rick Shaffer (310) 391-8429
Email: maryellenandrick@aol.com
Webpage: CulverCityRocks.org/fiesta

AUGUST 1, 2 & 3: NIPOMO, CA

Orcutt Mineral Society
St. Joseph's Church
298 South Thompson Avenue
Hours: 10am-5pm (daily)
Wes Lingerfelt (805) 710-1983
E-mail: Rocks4u@proigy.net
Webpage: http://www.omsinc.org

AUGUST 2 & 3: SAN FRANCISCO, CA

San Francisco Gem & Mineral Society
San Francisco County Fair Building
Ninth Avenue at Lincoln Way
Hours: Sat. 10-6; Sun. 10-5
Ellen Nott (415) 564-4230

AUG. 29 – SEPT. 1: FORT BRAGG, CA

Mendocino Coast Gem & Mineral So.
Town Hall
Main & Laurel, Fort Bragg
Hours: Fri., Sat. & Sun. 10-6; Mon. 10-4
Don McDonell (707) 964-3116
ejwebb@mcn.org

SEPTEMBER 13 & 14: DOWNEY, CA

Delvers Gem & Mineral Society
Downey Women's Club
9813 Paramount Blvd., Downey
Hours: Sat. 10-6; Sun. 10-4
Guynell Miller (562) 633-0614
E-mail: guynellallen@sbcglobal.net

SEPT. 20 & 21: REDWOOD CITY, CA

Sequoia Gem & Mineral Society
Community Activities Building
1400 Roosevelt Avenue
Hours: 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Daily
Carol Corden (650) 248-7155
ccorden@earthlink.net
HTTP://sqms.driftwood.com

SEPT. 25-28: SAN BERNARDINO, CA

Orange Belt Mineralogical Society
The Western Regional Ball Park
6707 Little League Drive
Hours: 9 am to Dusk all 4 Days
Emma Rose Couveau (951) 288-6182

SEPTEMBER 27 & 28: MONTEREY, CA

Carmel Valley Gem & Mineral Society
Monterey Peninsula Fairgrounds
2004 Fairgrounds Road
Hours: Sat 10-6 & Sun 10-5
Sky Paxton (831) 262-2492
Webpage: www.cvgms.org

SEPTEMBER 27 & 28: STOCKTON, CA

Stockton Lapidary & Mineral Club
Scottish Rite Masonic Center
33 West Alpine
Hours: Sat. 10-5; Sun. 10-4
Nettie Meissner (209) 858-2263
E-mail: footsey1@yahoo.com
Webpage:
Stockton Lapidary & Mineral Club

OCTOBER 5: FALLBROOK, CA

Fallbrook Gem & Mineral Society
Fallbrook Gem & Mineral Soc. Museum
123 W. Alvarado, Fallbrook
Hours: 10 am – 4 pm
Mary Fong-Walker (760) 728-1130
Diane Tjepkes (760) 468-8028

OCTOBER 11 & 12: TRONA, CA

Searles Lake Gem & Mineral Society
Searles Gem & Mineral Show Building
13337 Main St.
Hours: Sat. 7:30am-5pm; Sun 7:30am-4pm
Jim & Bonnie Fairchild (760) 372-5356
Email: slgms@iwvisp.com
Webpage:
http://www1.iwvisp.com/tronagemclub/

OCTOBER 11 & 12: Grass Valley, CA

The Nevada Co. Gem & Mineral Society
Nevada Co. Fairgrounds-Main Ex. Hall
11228 McCourtney Road
Hours: 10 am – 5 pm (daily)
Kim Moore (530) 470-0388
Email: Kmoore160@comcast.net

OCTOBER 11 & 12: LAKESIDE, CA

El Cajon Valley Gem & Mineral Club
Lakeside Rodeo Grounds
12584 Mapleview
Hours: 10am– 5pm (daily)
David Newton (619) 390-5054
E-mail: JONTOM@nethere.com
Webpage: ecvgms.com

OCTOBER 11 & 12: VISTA, CA

Vista Gem & Mineral Society
Antique Gas & Steam Engine Museum
2040 North Sante Fe Avenue
Hours: Sat. 10-5; Sun. 10-4
Cherie Wilson (760) 941-7073
Lois M. Harr (760) 724-0395

OCTOBER 18: WEST HILLS, CA

Woodland Hills Rock Chippers
First United Methodist Church
22700 Sherman Way
Hours: 10 am – 5 pm
Virginia Rotramel (951) 403-2634
show@rockchippers.org
www.rockchippers.org

OCTOBER 18 & 19: ANDERSON, CA

Shasta Gem & Mineral Society
Shasta District Fairgrounds
Anderson, CA
Hours: Sat. 9 - 5; Sun 10 - 4
Bill Seward (530) 365-8641
E-mail: glseward@sbcglobal.net

OCTOBER 18 & 19: PLACERVILLE, CA

El Dorado Co. Mineral & Gem Society
El Dorado County Fairgrounds
100 Placerville Drive
Hours: 10 am – 5 pm daily
Jackie Cerrato (530) 677-2975
Email: jacobocer@directcon.net
Webpage: eldoradomineralandgem.org

OCTOBER 18 & 19: SANTA ROSA, CA

Santa Rosa Mineral & Gem Society
Veterans' Memorial Auditorium
1351 Maple Ave., Santa Rosa, CA
Hours: Sat. 10-6; Sun. 10-5
Tom Dering (707) 546-4537
E-mail: farmarch@sonic.net
Webpage: www.gem-n-i.org

OCTOBER 18 & 19: WHITTIER, CA

Whittier Gem & Mineral Society
Whittier Community Center
7630 Washington Ave., Whittier, CA
Hours: 10 – 5 Both Days
Jay Valle (626) 934-9764
Email: res19pnb@verizon.net

OCTOBER 25 & 26 : LOS ALTOS, CA

Peninsula Gem & Geology Society
Los Altos Youth Center
One San Antonio Road
Hours: Sat. 9-5 & Sun. 9-4
Stan Bogosian (408) 568-2489
E-mail : sbogosian@aol.com

NOVEMBER 1 & 2: CONCORD, CA

Contra Costa Mineral & Gem Society
Centre Concord
5298 Clayton Rd.
Hours: 10 am – 5 pm daily
Sam Woolsey (935) 837-3287
Email: sdwools@earthlink.net
Webpage: www.ccmgs.org

NOVEMBER 1 & 2: RIDGECREST, CA

Indian Wells Gem & Mineral Society
Desert Empire Fairgrounds
520 S. Richmond Road, Ridgecrest
Hours: 9 am – 5 pm both days
John De Rosa (760) 375-7905
Vickie Black (760) 371-4416

NOVEMBER 7, 8 & 9: EUREKA, CA

Humboldt Gem & Mineral Society
Redwood Acres Fairgrounds
3750 Harris, Eureka, CA
Hours : Fri. 9-6 ; Sat. 10-6 & Sun. 10-5
Toni Tyson (707) 725-2890
Email: BLUIIS911@msn.com

NOVEMBER 8 & 9: LANCASTER, CA

Palmdale Gem & Mineral Club
Antelope Valley Fairgrounds
2551 W. Ave. H & Hwy 14, Lancaster
Hours: 9-5 Both Days
Susan Chaisson-Walblom(661)943-1861
E-mail: slchaisson@yahoo.com
Webpage: www.palmdalegems.org

NOVEMBER 8 & 9: YUBA CITY, CA

Sutter Buttes Gem & Mineral Society
Yuba Sutter Fairgrounds
442 Franklin Avenue
Hours: Sat. 9-5; Sun. 9-4
Cliff Swenson (530) 272-3752
Inez Berg (530) 633-4612

NOVEMBER 22 & 23: OXNARD, CA

Oxnard Gem & Mineral Society
Performing Arts Center
800 Hobson Way, Oxnard
Hours: Sat. 9-5; Sun. 10-4
Miriam Tetreault (805) 642-5779
E-mail: miriamtetreault@hotmail.com
Webpage: ogms.net

DECEMBER 6 & 7: BARSTOW, CA

Mojave Desert Gem & Mineral Society
Cora Harper Community Center
841 S. Barstow Road
Hours: 10 am – 5 pm Both Days
Gene Haines (760) 256-0595
E-mail: email@mdgms.org
Website: www.mdgms.org

DECEMBER 13 & 14: SAN BERNARDINO

Orange Belt Mineralogical Society
Hernandez Recreation Center
2nd & Siera Way, San Bernardino
Hours: 9 – 5 both days
Lyle Strayer (909) 887-3394

2009

MARCH 7 & 8: VENTURA, CA

Ventura Gem & Mineral Society Ventura
County Fairgrounds
10 West Harbor Blvd., Ventura
Hours: Sat. 10-5; Sun. 10-4
Andy Anderson (805) 987-0043
E-mail: vgms_editor@roadrunner.com
Webpage: www.vgms.org

NOVEMBER 7 & 8: LANCASTER, CA

Palmdale Gem & Mineral Club
Antelope Valley Fairgrounds
2551 West Ave. H & Hwy 14, Lancaster
Hours: 9-5 Both Days
Susan Chaisson-Walblom(661)943-1861
E-mail: slchaisson@yahoo.com
Webpage: www.palmdalegems.org

***Don't forget to turn your Show
information in as soon as it is
available!!!***