



CFMS NEWSLETTER

Vol LVIII #3

March 2021



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Juanita Pardun

Hi! Everybody,

Got a letter the other day from a member of a society. They were asking us, CFMS, to remove another member of their society. The complainer cited another society member's personal Facebook post which they felt was not "acceptable". They enclosed a copy of the Facebook post. The Society, CFMS, Rockhound(s), "gem", "mineral", etc., were not mentioned. Thus CFMS has no reason to take part in what seems to be an internal argument within the Society. I thought about sending a letter back to the complainers citing how to remove the post, "hide it", "snooze poster", "remove notifications", just "unfriend". But after thinking about the situation, I realized this problem may be happening in other Societies.

We belong to our societies because of our interest in gems, rocks, minerals, fossils, and other earth science. In this diversified country we must be aware of how and what we say impacts others. I will cite an old saying: Politics, religion, race, etc. do not improve your digestion. If your society becomes imbedded with these diversifying items, you will lose members.

You are a non-profit society. If you collect money to be donated to certain groups in your meeting, especially political, you will become a Political Action Committee and lose your non-profit status.

If you want to protest the closure of areas to collect specimens, fine. There are ways to protest by letters and meeting with the Governmental hearings, and they are more effective than marches. If you want to know about this, contact Public Land Advisory Chair, John Martin. He'll tell you where the meetings are, what the addresses are, and oh yes he could stand some help in keeping areas open to collect specimens.

I suggest the Executive Board of your Society put this on your agenda. Decide if this is happening in your Society. At your next membership meeting, bring it up and explain the repercussions of their actions on your Society.

This is called TEAMWORK. Work together to obtain a pleasant area to work and learn.

Juanita



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MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Mar 5. Deadline for April newsletter
Apr 5. Deadline for May newsletter
June 26??. Directors Meeting TBA

CFMS INSURANCE CONTACTS

McDaniel Insurance Services
PO Box 1294, Ojai, CA 93024
Tel (805) 646-9948 or (800) 400-7288
Fax (805) 646-9976; email: mcins@west.net
Web Site: www.mcdanielinsuranceservices.com

Ellen Ferrell
1392 Bouquet Dr. #A
Upland, CA 91786-3358
(727) 512-0381
ellenbf2007@aol.com

CFMS NEWSLETTER SUBSCRIPTIONS

CFMS Newsletter is published 11 times a year by the California Federation of Mineralogical Societies, Inc., PO Box 1657, Rialto, CA 92377-1657. Subscription: \$5.50 per year, January through December.

CFMS WEBSITE

The CFMS website is accessible at www.cfmsinc.org
Editors are invited to download articles for their bulletins from this website. Please be patient as our new webmaster builds our new website.

NOTES FROM THE EDITOR

The deadline for the newsletter is the 5th day of the month prior to the month of publication. Articles should be sent to the editor at bplarue@earthlink.net. "snail mail"? Please send to the CFMS PO Box 1657, Rialto, CA 92377-1657. Articles without a byline are written by the editor.

DONATIONS

Donations to any of the funds administered by CFMS and/or AFMS are tax deductible under the rules governing tax exempt organizations which are 501(c)(3). Your cancelled check or receipt is considered to be proof of your donation for purposes of filing your federal tax return. If a personal donation is \$250 or more, a letter attesting to that amount is also required. Member clubs and individuals are encouraged to donate to any of the following:

CFMS Scholarship Fund
CFMS Endowment Fund
CFMS General Fund
Diedrick Memorial Scholarship Fund
AFMS Scholarship Foundation
AFMS Endowment Fund
Burns Memorial Camp Fund (benefits Earth Science Studies)

Your donations should be sent to:
Pat LaRue, Exec. Sec/Treas
PO Box 1657
Rialto, CA 92377-1657

Receipts and any supporting documents will be forwarded on to the committee member responsible for acknowledgment. Please make all checks payable to CFMS or AFMS as appropriate and note the fund in the memo section.

DUES ARE DUE

It's that time of the year again. Dues and insurance are due as of January 1. A copy of the payment form was included in the January newsletter if you no longer have the one from the Directors meeting packet which was mailed to you prior to the November meeting. It is also on the CFMS website. Any society not paid by March 1 is considered to be not in good standing.

As noted last month, the general liability insurance policy premium was discounted a small amount this year. We are pleased to pass this savings along to our societies/clubs so you will notice that the per member cost of the insurance will be \$5 for 2021. Dues remain the same. The total cost per member for 2021 will be \$7—a savings of \$1 per member.



JUNIORS ACTIVITIES

By Jim Brace-Thompson, CFMS
Juniors Chair

A Reminder: Encourage Your Club Kids to Go for the CFMS Jr Achievement Award!

As I noted last month, we have a new honor that kids in CFMS-affiliated clubs can earn: the CFMS Junior Achievement Award. This requires a formal application from the junior member and will be scored against other applicants. At the Awards Banquet of the CFMS Show & Convention, top winners will be awarded a Certificate-of-Achievement and \$100 check.

Entrants must be formally enrolled in a CFMS-affiliated society and will fall within 2 age groups: ages 11 and under, and ages 12-18. The child's age as of December 31, 2020, determines the age group.

An application form was included in last month's issue of the CFMS Newsletter. It also is posted to the CFMS website: <https://cfmsinc.org/juniors-achievement-award/>.

After completing the application, kids must get signatures of 2 representatives from their society confirming membership and acknowledging their achievements. They will then mail or email the application to the CFMS Junior Activities Chair with a postmark of not later than May 1. Questions about the application process may be directed to Jim Brace-Thompson, (805) 659-3577, jbraceth@roadrunner.com.

As noted on the application, the following areas will be considered: hobby related, educational achievement, community involvement, and work related. For each area, kids should provide as much detail as possible covering the year 2020. Applications should be accompanied by a cover letter written by the child (or dictated to a parent) highlighting any info to which s/he wishes to draw special attention. Basically, "in your own words, tell us where you really shine."

Applications will be evaluated by the CFMS Junior Activities Chair along with 2 other CFMS reps selected by the Chair from different clubs. Scores will be averaged to determine top winners in each age group. To win, juniors must achieve a minimum averaged score of 80.

Top winners in each age group will be notified by letter, text, email or phone within 2 months of the deadline. Notice of winners, with brief descriptions of accomplishments, will be posted in the CFMS Newsletter, and they will be honored at the Awards Banquet of the CFMS Show & Convention. If winner/s are unable to attend, certificates and checks will be passed along in trust to an affiliated club member in attendance or will be mailed. Here's hoping to honor someone special in each of our age groups with this inaugural rollout of the CFMS Junior Achievement Award!

I NEED YOUR HELP

By Pat LaRue, Exec Sec/Treas

Please send me the Officer Change Form by March 31 so I can update the mailing list for the newsletter as well as the list of contacts for your society/club. Please let me know who should receive the 3 complimentary newsletters and a complete address for each. The post office doesn't always put newsletters addressed to an individual in your society's mail box. A personal address is preferred. This information will not be published in the annual Society Roster.

Are you planning to move? Please send me your new address as soon as possible. The post office does not forward bulk mail. Whenever I receive a returned newsletter 2 months in a row marked not deliverable as addressed or no forwarding information available, I delete you from the mailing list. Don't miss out on what may be valuable information. Thanks for your help!



SAFETY MATTERS: SAFETY IN THE NEW YEAR

By Ellery Borow, AFMS Safety Chair

Some believe COVID-19 is hokum. Some believe it is quite genuine. That will not be discussed here.... But what if.... What if mask wearing, social distancing and observing safety guidelines saves a life. What if minding state guidelines protects a club. What if protocols for COVID-19 keep from bringing it home or from taking it out of your home if its already there. What if procedures for safety really do curb spread to ones family, friends, or community.

Does mask wearing violate rights? Does respectful distancing dishonor relationships? Does hand washing hurt the community? Only you can decide for yourself.... But it is not only just about yourself, it is for all those around you. What if... What if a price for COVID-19 is too high? What is the price? There are many such questions. The job of safety is to be mindful of what ifs and prepare for them.

What else can a mask do? One can go a few days without shaving and no one in public will care. One could wear a mask that looks like a majestic orangutan's jaw and lips. One can wear a mask to make a statement of art - there are a great many artful mask designs out there. One can wear a mask to be brave in facing a pandemic and take charge of ones care. One can wear a mask because the CDC, WHO, NIH, NIAD say it is a good idea...and they care about saving people. One might wear a mask because a friend got sick... or worse. One can wear a mask to make a stand because the numbers are not going down. One can wear a mask till vaccines start taking effect. One can wear a mask to help keep the flu numbers down. One can show one's bravery by wearing a mask. Masks can do a great deal. How about making them work for you? How about making them work for those around you?

I'm not here to judge, but to simply help people stay safe. It seems the right thing to do. The alphabet soup:

WHO - World Health Organization

CDC - Center for Disease Control

NIH - National Institute of Health

NIAD - National Institute of Allergies and Infectious Diseases

The disclaimer - understand that this article does not profess to offer medical advice but merely compiles data from several sources about masks and the COVID-19 virus. For current information please check with trusted sources.

From *AFMS Newsletter* Feb 2021

GROWING YOUR CLUB

By Dr. Ken Zahn, Past President
of NFMS (2020) and of Bozeman, MT GMS

First, some typical common elements of successful clubs I've noticed over the years:

(1) An efficiently planned and organized annual show featuring 20 – 30 display cases of both nearby-area materials and world-wide specimens. It should also be a major profit center for the year, not a financial drain. Our Show Chairperson thinks way ahead about every detail (venue contract, security, support staff training/briefing and duty assignments, floor layout, equipment condition, insurance, audio system, etc.), plans activities for kids, lines up and communicates early with high-quality vendors, and maintains a short waiting list of locals in case of potential last-minute cancellations. Pretty standard! But at Bozeman's shows, I've seen some interesting additional, more subtle "success elements" that the chairperson puts in place as well. We bought out a failing party-rental agency's chairs and use them for the show, saving big bucks each year by not renting them from the venue (Fairgrounds). Running a food concession is a pain for permits, a cut of the profit for the venue, health department hassle, etc. We provide a free, member-donated "pot luck" dinner for vendors and club volunteers on setup evening, and have free snacks and beverages during the show—simply asking for a small donation; we build good will and don't lose money on it. In 2010, one member canvassed each entering attendee as to how they heard about the show; the analysis of the data sheet results drove a major shift in how we advertised from 2011 on and attendance has generally grown each year. Our "silent auction" is generally not "silent." A pretty vocal "color" announcer talks up the pieces being offered, mentions vendors, and reminds folks of other show info such as raffles, food, activities for kids, and videos that may be running. Besides the usual donated-item raffles, we buy a very large, splashy (but inexpensive) display specimen at the Tucson show each year and sell only a limited number of \$10 raffle tickets on the item at our show, bringing a 5-10 fold profit. Talking up possible membership to attendees is also VERY important. Use an enthusiastic, very friendly member for the task, and be sure to discuss it at entrance, during the show, and at the exit. Having club mining claims, activities for kids, and a good field trip schedule to mention/discuss helps people consider membership. Passivity here gets almost no new memberships.

To be continued in next month's newsletter

Excerpts from an article published in the *Northwest Newsletter*, March, 2016 via *AFMS Newsletter* Feb 2021

INFORMED CONSENT/ASSUMPTION OF RISK/WAIVER OF LIABILITY

By Fred Ott

From time-to-time, I hear some rockhound dismiss the value of 'waiver' forms, believing that such forms would be of no value whatsoever in the event of a liability claim against a society or individual member. The fallacy of this belief can be viewed very simply: if you (or your society) were sued, would you rather be able to produce (in your defense) a document signed by the plaintiff 1) acknowledging the inherent risks involved in the activity (e.g. a field trip), 2) for which activity the plaintiff agreed to assume the risk and 3) which the plaintiff agreed to release you (and others) from liability.....or would you rather attempt a defense without such document? The answer seems obvious!

The Federation's website contains a section devoted to insurance-related information, articles and forms, including an Informed Consent/Assumption of Risk/Waiver of Liability form which you can tailor to reflect your individual society's information. Just go to: www.cfmsinc.org, click on INSURANCE & OTHER FORMS .

From CFMS Newsletter, date not known.

RMFMS/AFMS SHOW

By Cheryl Neary

The 2021 show will be held in Big Piney, WY on June 17th - 20th. Big Piney is the oldest settlement in Sublette County in Wyoming, founded in 1879 by ranchers from Nevada hoping to ship out a thousand head of cattle. However, the weather did not cooperate and instead spent the winter in the Green River Valley. A year later the family joined the ranchers and the town, which derived its name from the water that flowed through Big Piney Creek—named after the pine trees that lined the banks. Cattle and oil have traditionally been the two primary industries for the area.

More information should be out in the next few weeks

Interesting: the town is known as "the icebox of the Nation" with the motto "Best People on Earth!"—and you may be able to meet most of the 492 residents while at the convention!

From *AFMS Newsletter*, February 2021

EDITORS! BE KIND TO AUTHORS

- Be careful not to introduce errors into articles you publish. Also, if you change the wording, check with the author to be sure you have maintained his or her intent.
- “Encourage authors. Show them they have your confidence and pass along praise from others.”
- Be tolerant. Most of those who submit articles are not professional writers, and they are worried about making mistakes in their writing. The grammar police have done a great job in scaring almost everyone, and it's an editor's job to remove that fear by silently fixing the simple errors—those that do not require substantive changes in wording.
- Finally, as Elizabeth Whalen, a freelance writer and editor, has said : “I think that an editor needs to be a bridge between the writer and the reader. My vision is that we are all working together toward a common goal. I may disagree with an editor's changes and change them right back, but that doesn't mean I value any less the times that editor corrects horrendous mistakes (which I cannot believe I could make as a writer) and focuses my attention on problem areas.”

Content based on an article by Jennifer Ann Huff, *Science Editor*. July-August, 2003. Vol 26, No. 4, p. 125 accessed July 4, 2019 at

<https://www.councilscienceeditors.org/wp-content/uploads/v26n4p124-125.pdf>.

Contributed by Sue Webb. Originally published in *CFMS Newsletter*, August 2019



CFMS SHOW DATES

Shows and Events

*Sponsored by
CFMS Clubs & Societies!*

*Please submit your
Show or Event as soon as possible
to receive maximum advertising value!*

*Email to:
SHOW DATES*

*Use the Online Show Form
at www.cfmsinc.org
(click on Shows)*

*You should receive a confirmation
within 5 days after submitting your
Show Date information!*

****Special COVID 19 Message

Our shows are cancelling due the current mandates of not gathering people in groups. If I am notified, we immediately post on line the cancelled show. Notice the future shows listed here lined out, are cancelled. If you have your new dates, get them to me and I will post them.

****Please check the Society Website before planning on attending a show. Stay healthy and safe where ever you are.
Sincerely, Jennifer Rhodes

2021

April 10-11 Mariposa, CA
Mariposa Gem and Mineral Society
Mountains of Minerals
Mariposa County Fairgrounds
5007 Fairgrounds Rd
Hours: Sat 10-5, Sun 10-4
Contact: Meredith Meehan
Email: mgmc@sti.net
Website: mariposagemclub.org

May 1-2; Jackson, CA
Amador County Gem & Mineral Society
Kennedy Mine Gem and Craft Show
Hwy 49 in Jackson CA
Hours: Sat 10-5, Sun 10-4

Contact: Cheryl Smith (209) 296-4061,
Email: blackwolf@vgolcano.net

June 12-1; Escondido, CA
Palomar Gem and Mineral Club
Palomar Gem and Mineral Show
California Arts Center Museum and Ballroom
340 N Escondido Blvd
Hours: Sat 10-5, Sun 10-4
Website: pgmcshow@palomargem.org

August 14-15; Arcadia, CA
Pasadena Lapidary Society
Inspiration Unearthed
62nd Annual Tournament of Gems
Arcadia Masonic Center
50 W Duarte Rd
Hours: 10-5 Daily
Contact: Ellen Ferrell, 727-512-0381
Email: ellenbf2007@aol.com
Website: www.pasadenalapidary.org

September 18-19; Chico, CA
Feather River Lapidary and Mineral Society
Silver Dollar Fairgrounds
2357 Fair St.
Hours: Sat 9 AM – 5 PM, Sun 9 AM – 4 PM
Contact: 1 530 586-7052;
Website: <http://featherriverrocks.org>

October 9-10; Los Altos, CA
Peninsula Gem & Geology Society
One No. San Antonio Rd
Hours: 10-5 daily
Contact: Steve Jobe 408-834-5384
Email: Steve_job@sbcbglobal.net
Website: <http://pggs.org>

September 25-26 Palmdale, CA
Palmdale Gem & Mineral Club
Details to follow

National/Regional Shows:

California Federation

June 25, 26, 27 Lodi, CA
Lodi Grape Festival & Harvest Fair
413 East Lockeford Street
Hours: Fri and Sat 10-5, Sun 10-4

Eastern Federation

2021 July, Syracuse, NY
2022 September,
Harrisburg, PA

Midwest Federation
2021 September 10-12
Toledo, OH

Northwest Federation

Rocky Mountain
Federation
AFMS June 17-20
Big Piney, WY

South Central Federation
2022 AFMS Show
January 29-30, 2022

Southeast Federation

DON'T FORGET TO UP-
DATE YOUR CLUB
WEBSITE WITH YOUR NEW
SHOW DATE

Check for show links at
www.cfmsinc.org/shows

REMINDER

**Advertise your Show in as many
Free locations as possible!**

1. **Local newspapers**
2. **Current events sections!**
3. **Local TV stations,**
4. **Community calendars!**
5. **Other Local Shows**

Advertise your shows in the
Rock & Gem Magazine!
[www.rockngem.com/](http://www.rockngem.com/showdate-submissions/)
showdate-submissions/

***Send the information in early so
it's published in
the magazine as well as online.***

2021 CFMS Officers, Chairmen and Committee Roster

PRESIDENT

Juanita Pardun

president.cfms2021@gmail.com

TREASURER

Bob Rush (Pat)

rocksbob@sbcglobal.net

FIRST VICE PRESIDENT

Jim Barton (Darlene)

geologist1@surewest.net

SECRETARY

Heidi Hall

hdafler@yahoo.com

SECOND VICE PRESIDENT

Kimberly Fiala (Glenn)

fialakimberly@yahoo.com

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY/TREASURER

Pat LaRue (Bural)

bplarue@earthlink.net

ALL AMERICAN CLUB

Diane Cook (John)

johndianedaisy@yahoo.com

BULLETIN AIDS

Suzanne Webb

rgms.bulletin@gmail.com

BY-LAWS

Tony Fender (Sandie)

arhfender@gmail.com

CFMS CAB CASES - NORTH

Paul Rose (Jo Ann Maesi)

lsarose@comcast.net

CAB CASES - SOUTH

Chris Ward

chris_ward678@yahoo.com

CAB CASES - CENTRAL

Bob Papac

getback@csurfers.net

CFMS DIRECTORS TO AFMS

Juanita Pardun (see Pres))

Jim Barton (See 1st VP)

CFMS JURY OF AWARDS

Kimberly Fiala, Chair (See 2nd VP)

Juanita Pardun (See President)

Marcia Goetz (See Long Range Planning)

CFMS NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Pat LaRue (See Exec Sec/Treas)

CFMS REP TO AFMS

Jim Brace-Thompson (See Jr. Activities)

CUSTODIAN

Jim Barton (See 1st VP)

EARTH SCIENCE STUDIES

Tony and Sandie Fender, Chair (See Bylaws)

Sandi Kilcrease—Camp Mgr North

Registrar

Audrey Harvey—Camp Mgr South

Registrar

ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS

Marcia Goetz

ENDOWMENT FUND—CFMS

Sharon Rogow, Chair (Bart Solomon)

sharonrr@cox.net

Juanita Pardun (See Pres)

Jim Barton (see 1st VP)

ENDOWMENT FUND—AFMS

Heidi Hall

hdafler@yahoo.com

FIELD TRIPS NORTH

Jim Barton (See 1st VP)

FIELD TRIPS SOUTH

Bart Solomon (Sharon Rogow)

sharonrr@cox.net

FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Jim Barton (See 1st VP)

Fred Ott (Susan)

GOLDEN BEAR

Margaret Kolaczyk

markolaczyk@gmail.com

Dick Pankey (Betty)

dickpankey@juno.com

Bob Papac (See Cab Cases Cental)

Juanita Pardun (See Pres)

Marcia Goetz (See Long Range Planning)

HISTORIAN COMMITTEE

Steve Collett, Chair

starmstr1@bak.rr.com

Memorabilia—Susan Martin

Past Presidents Case—Sandie Fender

Photo Restoration—John Martin

INSURANCE

Ellen Ferrell

ellen2007@aol.com

INTERNET COMMITTEE

Ben Shutman, webmaster

JUNIOR ACTIVITIES

Jim Brace-Thompson, chair (Nancy)

jbraceth@roadrunner.com

LEGAL ADVISOR

OPEN

LONG RANGE PLANNING

Marcia Goetz, Chair (Joe)

marciagoetz195@gmail.com

All living CFMS Past Presidents

2021 Executive Committee

MEMBERSHIP

Bob Rush , Chair (Pat) (See Treasurer)

Dick Pankey (Betty)

Fred Ott (Susan)

MUSEUM COMMITTEE

Frank Van Hecke

4clan5@att.net

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Susan Chaisson-Walblom, Chair

(661) 406-0143

slchaisson@yahoo.com

Colleen McGann

Bob Knox

Dick Pankey

Don George

Alternate—fill as needed

OFFICERS & CHAIRMEN MANUAL

Marcia Goetz (See Long Range Planning)

PARLIAMENTARIAN

Tony Fender (See Earth Science Studies)

PHOTOGRAPHER

John Martin (see PLAC)

PROGRAM AIDS

Emmy Lam

CFMSprogramaids@gmail.com

PUBLIC LANDS ADVISORY

John Martin, Chair (Susy)

plac@antelecom.net

ROCKHOUND OF THE YEAR

Chris Ward (See Cab Cases South)

CFMS Newsletter March 2021

RULES COMMITTEE

Jennifer Rhodes, Chair

wireartist@sbcglobal.net

Sandie Fender (Tony) (See ESS)

Pat LaRue (See Exec Sec/Treas)

Jim Barton (See 1st VP)

SAFETY COMMITTEE

Joe Goetz (Maricia)

joenmar1@verizon.net

SCHOLARSHIP-AFMS

Pat LaRue (see Exec Sec/Treas)

SCHOLARSHIP-CFMS

Kimberly Fiala, Chair) (See 2nd VP)

Executive Committee

SHOW CONSULTANT-NORTH

OPEN

SHOW CONSULTANT-SOUTH

Susan Chaisson-Walblom

slchaisson@yahoo.com

SHOW CHAIR-2021

Bob Rush (See Treasurer)

SHOW DATES

Jennifer Rhodes

wireartist@sbcglobal.net

TAX ADVISOR

Pat LaRue (see Exec Sec/Treas)

TROPHY COORDINATOR

Frank Mullaney

rockyfiv@gmail.com

VISUAL PROGRAMS

Sharon Rogow (Bart Solomon)

sharonrr@cox.net

WEB SITE CONTEST

Merryan O'Neill

logtown49@gmail.com

AD HOC

FACILITY FUND

Margaret Kolaczyk, Chair (See Golden Bear)

THE CALIFORNIA FEDERATION of MINERALOGICAL SOCIETIES

ENDOWMENT FUND

Founded June 28, 1987 by CFMS Directors in Convention, Turlock, California

The CFMS Endowment Fund was formed to provide a stable source of income to financially assist the programs and services the CFMS provides to its members. All donations remain as principal and only earnings are available for distribution to the CFMS. The Fund is open to receive most types of assets. *(Non-cash items will be converted to cash as is prudent. Donating appreciated assets offers a charitable tax deduction without Capital Gains Tax).*

Fund Categories:

Patron Society: A Society or Club having donated \$100 plus \$1 per member is given special recognition on a Patron Honor Plaque that is on display during CFMS shows and other events.

Patron: A person (may be a couple) having donated \$100 or more. Also has name(s) posted on the Patron Honor Plaque and receives a Booster Pin.

Booster: A person having donated \$25 to the Fund. The Booster pin, which was designed by Chuck Davis, is given to any person upon donating \$25 to the Fund.

The Endowment Fund benefits the now generation and generations to come. Join in and support the Earth Sciences by sending in your check or pledge in support of the CFMS Endowment Fund.

-----Cut here and mail with check or pledge-----

Here is my Check to the CFMS Endowment Fund for:

\$5____ \$10____ \$15____ \$20____ \$25____ \$50____ \$75____ \$100____ or \$_____

Pledge to donate \$_____ by December 31, 2021 or \$_____ by _____

Donation is ____ Individual ____ A Memorial For: _____

Name: _____ Phone (____) _____

Address: _____

Mail to: Pat LaRue
P.O. Box 1657
Rialto, CA. 92377-1657

All gifts to the CFMS Endowment Fund are tax deductible as allowed by law

CFMS NEWSLETTER

PO Box 1657
Rialto CA 92377-1657

Pat LaRue, Editor

Return Service Requested

Non-Profit Org
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San Bernardino, CA
Permit No 1290

CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF MINERALOGICAL SOCIETIES

2021 Gem, Mineral & Jewelry Festival

June 25–27, 2021



Lodi Grape Festival & Harvest Fair
413 East Lockeford Street
Lodi, CA



**SHOW CANCELLED DUE TO
UNCERTAINTIES RELATED TO COVID 19**