



AFMS Newsletter
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A.F.M.S. Newsletter

Volume 65, Number 2, Dec., 2011 – January 2012
 <www.amfed.org>

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF MINERALOGICAL SOCIETIES
 SERVING SEVEN REGIONAL FEDERATIONS

PROGRAM COMPETITION... WHY?

by Marge Collins, Program Competition Chair

Have you seen any good programs lately at a Club meeting? Were they produced by a fellow Club member? No doubt, there was a round of applause to show appreciation. Why not encourage the producer to earn more than applause – by entering Program Competition? There are real “rewards and recognition” for winners. Cash prizes defray production costs, an award certificate and pin are presented to the winners, and information about all winners is published in newsletters and magazines. But more important, each winning program is duplicated and distributed to the seven Regional Libraries, making the winning programs available to Clubs across the country -- giving their members a chance to enjoy and learn from them for many years.



*If the answer to the first question is “no”, perhaps you can borrow an AFMS Winner from your Federation Program Library. There are many excellent programs available.

Of course, not all winners are equal and older programs need to be replaced. We encourage you and/or your Club to produce a presentation and enter Program Competition. Why not share your interest, your enthusiasm for an aspect of the hobby – so others may benefit from it and you can reap the rewards.

“Guidelines and Rules” for 2012 Program Competition are published in this Newsletter (page 6) and on the AFMS website along with “Tips to Develop Programs”. If you want more information or have questions, contact:

AFMS Program Competition
 c/o Marge Collins, 3017 Niles-Buchanan Rd.
 Buchanan MI 49107 (269)695-4313
 or <margaret@qtm.net>

ENDOWMENT DRAWING NEWS

by Pam Hecht, Chair

I NEED YOUR HELP in the SUPPORT of DONATIONS

I would like to have at least 40 items for this years drawing.....at the present time I'm a few short !!!!! I would like to have all the donations by April 2012 as this gives us a few months to really promote the items on the website and in the AFMS Newsletter and get the word out to you in time for the drawing set for mid-July during the AFMS /MWF Convention in Minnesota.

I would greatly appreciate your donation(s). You may contact me via e-mail or phone or drop the donation in the mail to me. Please be certain to give me a good description of your donation, an estimated value and of course your name and the federation that your club belongs to.

I'm pleased to announce that we have a new sales representative for the Northwest and Midwest Federations:

Chris Blickfeldt (NFMS)
 236 Tollgate RD; Boise, ID 82716
 208-345-8774 <grumpies@q.com>

JC Moore
 25235 North State Route 97; Cuba, IL 61427
 309-789-6501 <JCMoore3rd@gmail.com>

Remember if you are interested in prizes 1 -4 you must indicate the prize number on your ticket. If you're not, all other tickets will be drawn for the remaining prizes at random.

And now, for the two new prizes that have been added for the 2012 drawing.

#5 - Rainier Frogskin Agate. This specimen is an agate found in central Washington state. It could be wire-wrapped or displayed on a stand. Polished, it measures 3 x 3 x 3 1/2". Donated by AFMS President Lauren Williams, it has an estimated value of \$150 (NFMS).



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Prize #6 is a star ruby ring set in 10k yellow gold. The stone is an approximately 8 mm round cabochon and the weight of the gold is estimated at 30 grams. The ring is size 8 1/2. Donated by Jennifer Haley, the ring comes from a collection of a deceased member of the Napa Valley Rock & Gem Club and has an estimated value of \$1,000. (CFMS).



Tickets for the drawing are \$5 each or 5 for \$20. If you are interested in any of the first 4 prizes (see the AFMS website or November Newsletter for details) you must mark your tickets accordingly. If no extra notation is made, your ticket will go into the general drawing.

My contact information:
 Pam Hecht
 25393 Oak St; Calumet, MI 49913.
 906-337-2274 <steverox@up.net>

THE AFMS

PROUDLY SERVING
SEVEN REGIONAL
FEDERATIONS



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FROM THE TOP!

by Lauren Williams, President

At the ALAA meeting in Chehalis, Washington, the NFMS Show and Convention, I heard some arguments that I had not considered before. I present them here for your consideration.

Get your County Commissioners involved. Remind them that every time the Fed's shut down or 'with draw' a piece of land, for any reason, that the county is losing money, its' tax base. The County needs to re-write their Charter to include, 'when property is taken off the tax rolls, the taxes must be reimbursed'. In today's environment all branches of government are looking for more income. You and I become the 'scapegoat' for higher taxes when the county allows taxed property to be taken from away from the tax rolls.

Get your Sheriff involved. There are several Sheriffs in Oregon and Northern California who are taking a stand to honor their 'Oaths' of protecting their citizens and that they are the 'law enforcement' in their county. They are giving the NFS and BLM some grief about who can write tickets, and road closures that are needed for fire fighting and search and rescue. Have your Sheriff check this out.

When someone in order to support their argument says, "there are studies about/that prove", ask them to produce a black and white report of that study, do not let them off the hook, they made the assertion. Why was the study done, who financed it, when was the study done, etc.

For those of you who think that you do not have any public lands consider that it doesn't really matter who introduces the legislation; when a private person cannot obtain rocks, regardless of how you classify them, then you will not have any material that you can use for a Club or Federation show or tail-gate.

I am painfully aware that the above is very controversial. It is presented here for your information and consideration.

I hope all of you have safe and happy holidays!

Lauren



HAVING FUN: JUNIOR ACTIVITIES

by Jim Brace-Thompson, Chair

'Tis the Season for Honoring Kids & Leaders!

With year's end come holiday parties and dinners, gift exchanges, installation of new officers in many societies, and often an Awards Night to honor members who have given outstanding service to the society. If your club or society hosts such activities at your December meeting, don't forget the kids! At the very least, have gifts for each child, whether individually tailored to match each child's interest (a fossil for Billy, an amethyst crystal for Melinda, a lapidary finding for Manuel, etc.), or a generic gift such as grab bags of tumbled stones in colorfully festive bags tied by ribbons.



Better yet, have awards for kids who have done special things this year. These might be certificates for best helper at

the show earlier in the year, for best kid's exhibit at the show, for best helper during meetings, for perfect attendance at society meetings, for most improved lapidary artist, for most creative newsletter article, and on and on. While honoring the adults who make your club go, be sure to involve and honor those you'd like to see as the mover-and-shakers of tomorrow. And speaking of adults, have you prepared a Certificate of Appreciation for your society's Junior Leader? Any society that enjoys a vibrant, active kids program knows that it doesn't happen by accident. So here's to having fun honoring kids and their leaders—and to a fun holiday season for all!



QUICK TIPS FOR EDITORS

by Linda Jaeger, AFMS Bulletin Editors Advisory Chair



If you have a question (or suggestion) about editing or writing or the bulletin contest or something related, send it to me by e-mail: <LjgrAlg@aol.com> or at home address: 3515 E. 88th St., Tulsa, OK 74137. If I cannot find an answer, we'll publish the question and ask readers for their answers.

(Clip art above from Discovery Channel School Image Gallery, ©2003. Permission to use for educational, not for sale publications granted.)

2012 AFMS Bulletin Contest

Rules and guidelines for the 2012 contest have not changed, but I am in the process of putting them in a simpler form. You may use the 2011 forms that are already on the AFMS website if you need them before I can get everything typed and re-formatted. The 2011 forms are downloadable and fillable on your computer. They are under the hot link for the 2011 contest.

Following are the dates for the 2012 contest (bulletins and articles published in 2011):

February 24, 2012 –

AFMS Judges List to all BEACs

March 26, 2012 –

Entries from regional contest winners due to AFMS judges

May 10, 2012 –

Judged AFMS entries due back to Linda

July 26-29, 2012 –

AFMS Show & Convention in Wayzata, MN.

Editors, remember that your entries go to your regional federation contest first. Be sure to check with your regional BEAC or on your regional website for those contest dates and guidelines!

Here are the current regional BEACs:

CFMS:

Cyndy Mandell
<cynmandell@yahoo.com>

EFMLS:

RJ Harris
<roqfreq@rjharris.com>
(this is ROQFREQ@RJHARRIS.COM --- use the lower case letters, but note there are Qs where we might think gs!)



MWF:

Celia Tiffany
<celiatiffany@aol.com>

NFMS:

Peggy Blickfeldt
<grumpies@acn.net> or
<grumpies@q.com>(this one on NFMS website)

RMFMS:

Betty Cain
<bettycain3@comcast.net>

SCFMS:

Rhonda Taylor
<mrs.r.taylor@yahoo.com>

SFMS:

Kathy Morris
<klmorris45@hotmail.com>

Member at Large:

Terry Yoschak
<yoschak@starstream.net>

AFMS Chair:

Linda Jaeger
<LjgrAlg@aol.com>

Purpose of the AFMS:
To promote popular interest and education in the various Earth Sciences, and in particular the subjects of Geology, Mineralogy, Paleontology, Lapidary and other related subjects, and to sponsor and provide means of coordinating the work and efforts of all persons and groups interested therein; to sponsor and encourage the formation and international development of Societies and Regional Federations and by and through such means to strive toward greater international good will and fellowship.

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Address corrections and changes
Subscription Information
Distribution Questions
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ALL CHANGES AND QUESTIONS SHOULD BE SENT TO:

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CONTENT – LETTERS
EDITORIAL COMMENTS – SUBMISSIONS
ANY COMMUNICATION CONCERNING THE CONTENT OR FORMAT OF THE NEWSLETTER SHOULD BE SENT TO THE EDITOR:
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DEADLINE IS THE 1ST OF EACH MONTH PRECEDING PUBLICATION (I.E. APRIL 1 FOR THE MAY ISSUE)

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THE AFMS NEWSLETTER IS NOT PUBLISHED DURING JANUARY

DEADLINE FOR THE FEBRUARY ISSUE IS JANUARY 1

Surprise your favorite rockhound for Christmas! Give one of these-

MWF Presentation DVDs

Recorded at the 2010 MWF Convention in Peoria IL by Bixler Video Productions

SET OF 4 DVDS for \$60 Donation

Mazon Creek Fauna
by Dr Merrill Foster, PhD
Geologist, Paleontologist
Dept of Geological Sciences, Bradley University, Peoria, IL

Keokuk Geodes
by Ed Wagner

Homer the Triceratops
by Michael Henderson

Illinois Fluorite Story, Part III
by Dean Stone

All 4 DVDS for \$60 Donation or all 5 DVDS for \$80 Donation to the MWF Endowment Fund

ISGS DVD for \$20 Donation

Danville's Fossil Forest
by Scott Elrick
\$20 Donation to the MWF Endowment Fund

Contact John Washburn to order
Email: jrwashburn3@att.net
Phone: 217 498-7713

2012 WEB SITE CONTEST IS OFF AND RUNNING

by Cheri George, AFMS Contest Chair



I hope by now all of you have heard of the AFMS Web Site Contest. For those who have not heard, I'm the new chairperson. I want to thank everyone who participated in the past and eagerly anticipate your continued participation in the years to come.

This contest exists to help webmasters enhance their club web sites. The goals are to increase the interest of the general public in the gem and mineral hobby, to gain new club members, and to serve as a source of current club information for current club members. The judges assigned to the seven regional federations will serve as mentors for these various clubs by giving the webmasters encouragement and friendly constructive criticism on what they are doing right and where they need to improve.

I hope everyone reading this will encourage their club's webmaster to enter the contest. Their Web site will be better for having gone through the process of being judged.

So how does a club Web master enter the contest? The webmaster needs to download a copy of the following three documents from the AFMS website (www.amfed.org/web/website_contest.htm): 2012 Entry Form, the 2012 Score Sheet, and the 2012 Score Sheet Guidelines.

These forms are all PDF files, and they can be filled out on your computer and saved to your hard drive. Fill out the one-page Entry Form completely, and fill out the top part of the Score Sheet on both pages. When finished, e-mail both forms to your regional federation contest committee chair no later than your federation's due date.

The Score Sheet Guidelines document goes through every item on the score sheet and explains what it is and why it's important. EVERY club webmaster (and every contest judge!) should read the Guidelines document closely. These guidelines can help all webmasters tune up their web site even if they decide not to enter the contest.

These contest files should be available on your regional federation's Web site, and they're also available on the AFMS Web site www.amfed.org/web/website_contest.htm. Make sure you're downloading the 2012 version of these files. Also make sure that you have installed a free copy of Adobe Reader 9 so you can change some of your filled-in answers later if necessary. Adobe Reader 9 is available at www.adobe.com/products/reader/.

Members of the Webmasters Contest Committee and the due dates for their regional federation contests are as follows:

California Federation (CFMS)
Merryan O'Neill <mvoneill@comcast.net>
Entry Due Date: January 15, 2012

Eastern Federation (EFMLS)
Dan Imel <lapidry@aol.com>
Entry Due Date: January 1, 2012

Midwest Federation (MWF)
Cindy Root <d-root@sbcglobal.net>
Entry Due Date: January 15, 2012

Northwest Federation (NFMS)
Cheri George <ozardwp,am3@uajpp/cp>
Entry Due Date: January 15, 2012

Rocky Mountain Federation (RMFMS)
Brian Paterson
<patersonbrian22@yahoo.com>
Entry Due Date: January 10, 2012

South Central Federation
Diann Hill <diann@ladyfeathers.net>
Entry Due Date: January 10, 2012

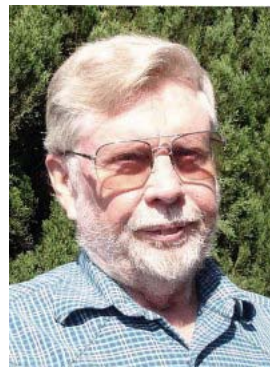
Southeast Federation (SFMS)
Jim Flora <jimflora@alltel.net>
Entry Due Date: January 15, 2012

The Web Site Contest also has its own logo! Ron Gibbs, editor and webmaster for the Charlotte Gem & Mineral Club of Charlotte, North Carolina, is also an excellent graphic artist. Ron donated his time and expertise to design and develop our logo. One for first place is shown here. He will also be generating animated gifs (small images that have a moving part) that will be awarded to the top two winners in each federation and the top three winners at the AFMS level. These are for placement on the winning Web sites to let visitors know the high quality of the site.



The first place regional federation winners will receive a plaque, and in addition they will receive something that is far better than a plaque. The first place winners will each have their entries forwarded to Wes Lingerfelt, the man who is judging at the AFMS level. Wes will give the regional first place winners the benefit of his wisdom, his extensive Web experience, and his knowledge of what works and what doesn't. He will analyze each of the sites forwarded to him, and he will give useful feedback on what is being done well and how each site can be improved.

Wes has an extensive background. His father was a jeweler for over 50 years so he grew up in that environment. He was in the US Navy for four years, was an aerospace engineer with ITT Corp for 30 years working on ballistic missile systems and multiple telemetry-associated projects—the most recent being as a monitor for the U.S. Air Force during new



systems development. He is a member of the Orcutt Mineral Society (OMS) of Santa Maria, California and currently is the Treasurer for both the OMS and the CFMS. He is a dealer of handcrafted lapidary products and is a specialist in silver and goldsmith and jewelry repairs. In 2002 he was inducted for metal craft into the National Rockhound & Lapidary Hall of Fame. He developed and maintains his company Web site and the OMS Web site. For the last two years he has been a paid judge for the lapidary entries at two California County Fairs: Kern County at Bakersfield, CA and Ventura County, Ventura, CA. Thank you, Wes, for agreeing to participate in our contest, for giving our first place regional winners the benefit of your hard-won wisdom, and for helping us achieve our goal of having rock and gem club Web sites that are as good as they can be.

All the contestants participating at the AFMS level will receive a certificate signifying their rank, and the first place winner will also receive an AFMS first place plaque. The top three will also receive animated .gifs for placement on their sites as a symbol of the site's excellence.

The results of the various regional Webmaster Contests will be announced at the annual meetings of the regional federations during their Breakfast with the Editors and Webmasters. The results of the AFMS and MWF Web Site Contest will be announced during the Breakfast with the Editors and Webmasters during the AFMS Convention this July in Wayzata, MN. Hope to see you all there!



From your
AFMS Newsletter team...
Sir Barkley Bigfoot
Caesar the GoFer
and Carolyn and Steve

A FEW SUGAR PLUMS

by John & Judith Washburn, Regina Kaptá and Donna Moore



Just in time for the holidays, we thought we would share some sugar plums (ideas) that we, the judges, have picked from the All American Club book submittals over the past seven years. Reviewing the books each year has been quite an educational experience and now it's time to pass some of that precious information along to others.

First plum, in order to provide a neat appearance and to minimize the pages of the book, the use of excerpts from the club bulletin is recommended. If you publish everything the club does then those excerpts can document the clubs activities and act as the framework for the whole. Highlighting the needed information is very helpful to the judges and pictures of course are excellent documentation. And now print-outs from web pages can supplement club information in the bulletin.

Next plum, some clubs just dismiss the application question regarding juniors by stating that they don't have a specific meeting for them, thus forfeiting some points. Instead we, suggest that what you do for juniors should be emphasized. Examples might be, having a junior page in your bulletin with puzzles and quizzes. Another example might be, having a separate door prize at meetings and perhaps an attendance prize for all juniors. Another idea is to have a Junior Rockhound of the Year competition, wherein, participants put together a project and then give a presentation to the club after which they are judged. Another possibility is to sponsor a trophy for the local 4H Geology display, or donate children's books on the hobby to the local libraries. And another plum, if the club doesn't have a library, then perhaps have a list available of the hobby related books in the local library, and donate books and magazines subscriptions to them.

Do you need to spread the word about your club? Under community relations there is a question about members maintaining display cases at local public sites. The plum, one club covered this extremely well by "wallpapering"; the community with displays at banks, schools, libraries etc. That has to be very effective!

In a similar vein as the question about juniors is the one in Section 6 about government agency and legislative relations. This question asks whether members are contacting congressional representatives regarding legislation affecting access to sites and collecting. Many clubs blow this off by stating their members don't write letters or contact them for fear of the club losing its tax exempt status. First, individuals writing letters or contacting legislators will not affect the club's tax status. And second, there are other ways to meet this requirement. The plum, one of the easiest is for the club to join ALAA, American Lands Access

Association. ALAA is our hobby's lobbying group. And another plum, picked from one of the club books, is to have the club newsletter sent to their legislators. This way articles written about our concerns get to them indirectly!

Other creative plums, for club activities have been harvested from the books and here are a few that caught our eye:

- Create a mobil by picking an object as a center; add beads, wire-wrapped object/stones to balance around it.
- Create a fossil timeline display and pick out fossils and find where they fit on the timeline.
- Have a monthly fun project (example-make something that would be in Harry Potter's world) and take it to the next meeting. And possibly have an award for most creative, fun, etc.
- Five minutes of Fame- Have members talk about minerals, fossils of their choice. My club does this with our show-and-tell table. Members bring in items to show or have them identified.
- Discuss specific geological ages at a meeting such as the Devonian, Ordovician etc. Discuss what the climate was like, what lived, exploded or vanished and the extinction triggers.

These are just a few examples that the judges have listed from plums found in the books. For the entire list you can e-mail me at <jrwashburn3@att.net>.

The current application form and the "How to" Booklet is now on the AFMS web site and can be downloaded at <www.amfed.org/AACA.htm>

CLUB ROCKHOUND OF THE YEAR from Evelyn Cataldo, AFMS Chair



California Federation

Since 1998 **Charlie and Barbara Brown** have worked in many areas to help the Sutter Buttes Gem and Mineral Society maintain an ongoing organization. They were co-show chairmen for three years and they help immensely during our yearly Scout Day. Barbara is on the Board of Directors, a member of the club's Crafty Ladies (who provide articles of the club's show). Charlie has been Vice-President, which put him in charge of the programs and he set-up many interesting programs. He also volunteers to be Chairman of the Nominating Committee. Charlie & Barbara are also involved in community affairs volunteering for the Salvation Army.

Barbara and Charlie Brown are very valuable members of our club and should be recognized for their many years of service.

Carollyn Lutton, President

WHY JUDGES TRAINING

by Ye Olde Editor

As I hope you know by now, the AFMS is sponsoring a Judges Training Seminar in Reno, NV this coming May. The seminar is open to any member of an AFMS affiliated club. The cost for the session is \$20 per person which covers the cost of lunch for the two days of class that will be held at a local hotel. Your transportation, lodging and other meals will be your expense. In addition, one person from each of the AFMS member federations will be selected to receive a \$300 reimbursement for attending. Applications need to be sent to Dee Holland, no later than April 16. For your convenience, a form is available on page 7 of this issue.

So why is this class, and competitive exhibiting in general, so important?

Almost all of our clubs were established to teach members and the public about our wonderful hobby. Many of our clubs host annual shows featuring dealers selling a huge variety of fabulous gems, minerals, cutting rough, jewelry, fossils and equipment. In addition to making the venue and dealers available to the public, the main job of the host club is to educate the public. And the best way to do that is by setting up as many showcases highlighting what members have created using all those items for sale at the dealer booths.

And since education is the primary goal (yes, I also realize that the club wants to make money too), and members have gone through the process of setting up a showcase, why not take that one little extra step and have the case evaluated?

The AFMS has published an official rules book in which they outline the various criteria used by judges when evaluating a display. The rules look complicated, but when you take a few minutes to read the sections pertaining to your area of interest, really isn't difficult. The book is updated annually to reflect changes that a committee feels would make competitive displaying easier and better. The 2012 version will be available from your regional federation supplies chair by January 1 (and an unofficial version on the AFMS website as well). The areas scrutinized are common sense ones...and ones that a good exhibitor does anyway...a neat display, clear, easy to read labels, good quality work, etc.

The Judges Training Class is an opportunity for anyone interested in becoming an evaluator or setting up a better display to learn just what the judges look for. The goal is to have our judges evaluate the displays in a manner that is consistent throughout the country. It's a wonderful way to learn and to then share your knowledge with others in your club and federation.

Additional classes will be held in the coming years in other parts of the country -- 2013 is already in the planning stages. If you're interested in attending, send in your application (page 7). Consider adding a few days more to the weekend and enjoy sightseeing in Nevada (or other nearby states) afterwards. You can't lose!

2012 AFMS PROGRAM COMPETITION

by Marge Collins, Program Competition Chair



The purpose of this Competition is to Recognize and Reward authors of presentations about the Earth Sciences and to make winning programs available to affiliated Clubs across the country. Video, digital presentations or slides, relating to the Earth Sciences are eligible. Submit entries in one of the four amateur classes or "EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION" for "commercial" presentations.

- * Each program is judged on its own merits.
- * Entrants in amateur categories will receive a composite score sheet with comments / score. Winners may be asked to make some changes based on judges comments before final version is produced for duplication. (contact Coordinator for details)
- * Judging Form and "Tips for Good Programs" are available on AFMS website (www.amfed.org), from AFMS Coordinator or your Regional Program Librarian.

WHO MAY ENTER

Any Club, Society, or members thereof, with 2012 dues paid to a Federation affiliated with AFMS may enter. (Does not apply to "Excellence in Education" entries).

DEADLINE for entry: April 15, 2012

CLASSES FOR ENTRIES

Class 1 - Educational - about geology, minerals, gems, fossils, etc.

Class 2 - Field Collecting - showing site(s), specimens, with some geology, collecting methods and other aspects of interest.

Class 3 - "How To Do It" - techniques/equipment for fossil prep. jewelry, metal work, carving, faceting, other lapidary, etc.

Class 4 - "Just for Juniors" - any of the above for/ by youngsters.

"Excellence in Education" entries are judged separately.

JUDGING (Judges look for:)

- accuracy of information / educational value
- quality of photographs / visuals
- completeness of story - but not "too much" information
- narration that moves well from one image to the next
- presentations that explore an area of interest or
- demonstrate ideas/techniques which viewers may try
- title, credits and "The End" "slides"

For CD, DVD or VIDEO entries

- amateur entries should not be in DVD format before entry.
- submit a copy preferably in PowerPoint or similar format -without author's credits (for anonymity).
- consider sending entry on a flash drive instead

of CD.

- may be 'live action' or static slides
- integrated audio is preferred but not required for judging, however audio will be added for final version.

- include typed script if there is no audio.
35mm SLIDE PRESENTATIONS can be entered, however please contact Coordinator before sending entry.

AWARDS

A \$200 cash prize for the highest scoring program (for 95+ points),

\$100 if score is 94 - 90 points, in Classes 1 - 4. In addition, Winners receive national recognition. A copy of each winning program is given to each Regional Program Library; thus winning programs are available to Clubs across the country. Winners will be announced at the AFMS Awards Banquet at Wayzata MN, (west of Minneapolis) July 28, 2012.

PROGRAM LENGTH

Adult programs: 30- 40 minutes is optimum
Juniors: 20 minutes suggested maximum

REPRODUCTION / DUPLICATION

By entering, all winners grant permission for AFMS to duplicate / transfer their entry to DVD format for the Regional Libraries. 35mm slides will be scanned, and returned to producer. Digital entries can be returned after duplication if requested. Non-winners will be returned after AFMS Convention. AFMS will take reasonable precautions to protect program while it is in our hands.

HOW TO ENTER

Fill out entry form (or copy) and ship with carefully packed program to address below.

DIRECT QUESTIONS AND ENTRIES TO:

AFMS Program Competition Coordinator
Marge Collins
3017 Niles-Buchanan Rd., Buchanan MI 49107
phone: (269) 695-4313
e-mail: margaret@qtm.net



2012 ENTRY FORM

I / we submit " _____ "
(presentation title)

in [circle one] Class 1 Class 2 Class 3 Class 4

- or -

(for programs produced "for sale") "EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION"

Producer(s) _____
(your name/s) (include your Office if Club entry)

Member of _____
(Club name)

Federation _____

[street address] _____

[city] [state] [zip]

Home phone:: _____ e-mail: _____

IS THIS PROGRAM FOR SALE? No: _____ Yes: _____ Cost: _____

PARTICIPATING IN LAND USE PLANNING

by Dick Pankey, President, ALAA



In my November article I told you about announced and pending Land Use Plans for the management of BLM and USFS land – our public land. And I told you how to get involved with the BLM and USFS to get involved with preparing these plans. Your first step is to make contact with the local office and tell them you are interested in participating in the Land Use Planning process and that you want to participate and provide input. Request a copy of all information about current, proposed, pending, or draft plans and to be put on the mailing list for all future information. Then read the plans and decide how they will affect your use, rockhounding and access in general.

When reviewing the plans keep the following questions in mind and ask them at the meetings or in response for input about the plans:

- Where will mineral collecting and mineral exploration/development be allowed, prohibited or restricted? Please provide a map.
- What are the known mineral collecting sites or mines in the Decision area? Please provide a map. Include location information (county, township, range, section, latitude, longitude, name of site).
- What mineral collecting sites or mines will be removed from casual use, exploration or development? Please provide a map and a list of sites.
- For mineral collecting sites or mines that are not closed to exploration or development, how will access be restricted or allowed to them?
- For areas proposed for closure, why was closure chosen? This is probably the most important question. What other alternatives to closure were considered? Was restricted access by permit considered as an alternative to total closure? Under what conditions can vehicles be used to access the site? Please provide a list of sites and summary of access restrictions to each one.
- How did BLM calculate the economic impacts of mineral collecting and mineral exploration and development? Did BLM consider that mineral collectors contribute to local economies by their exploration activities?
- Variations of these questions can and should be asked about access, road use/Travel Management Plans, dispersed camping, and other recreational uses.

Other important points to make when providing a response on Land Use Plans whether written or orally at a meetings are:

- 1) The area has been used for decades by rockhounds
- 2) BLM should take steps to improve vehicular access to the collecting areas. Instead, they are restricting access and won't even let a person pick up a rock in the preferred alternative (no casual use).
- 3) It is against BLM policy to close areas to mining unless there is a clear conflict with other uses that can't be resolved any other way. The BLM proposal is not in conformance with BLM policy.
- 4) BLM could manage the area through a permit system. It is not necessary to close the area to protect archaeological features and artifacts in a ACEC.

AFMS JUDGES TRAINING SEMINAR
 Thursday May 10 – Sunday, May 13, 2012
 Sparks (Reno) Nevada, Holiday Inn
 55 E. Nugget Ave, 1-775-358-6900
DEADLINE: APRIL 16, 2012

This program/seminar is for judges and exhibitors, sponsored by the AFMS
 This is the first of three authorized seminars to be held in the next three years in different Regions
 each year, and set up in conjunction with a local club and their show.
 Please fill out the application below and return to:
 Dee Holland, AFMS Judges Training Chair
 P.O. Box 23, Tendoy, ID 83468
 PLEASE PRINT

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

E-MAIL _____

REGIONAL FEDERATION _____

CLUB/SOCIETY _____

DIVISION YOU ARE INTERESTED IN

OPEN _____ MINERAL _____ LAPIDARY _____ JEWELRY _____ EDUCATION _____

FOSSIL _____ PETRIFIED WOOD _____ SCRIMSHAW _____ BEADING _____ UV _____

YOU MUST HAVE AN AFMS RULES BOOK, updated to 2012

CLASS SCHEDULE

Thursday evening, 7pm, Holiday Inn Orientation Session
 Friday & Saturday 9 – 5 CLASSES (Lunch on Premises)
 Sunday Morning 9am Reno Events Center, 1350 N. Wells Ave
 Evaluation of exhibits -- Evaluation of the program immediately following

There is a \$20. charge for the class for everyone, this includes lunch Fri & Sat.
 Make check out to: Dee Holland and this must accompany the application
 If you are staying at the hotel, YOU MUST MAKE YOUR OWN RESERVATION
 Two Queen or One King room, \$75. including tax, etc per night
 Tell hotel it is the AFMS Judges Training Seminar.
 DO YOU PLAN TO STAY AT HOTEL? _____
 Camping at Reno Livestock Events Center? _____
 Dry Camping: Contact direct: 775-688-5751
 I'm bringing an exhibit for evaluation _____

5) We support the concept and land management based on the principals of Multiple Use.

And remember: The Land Use Plans that are in development today affects how we will be able to use and have access to these public lands for the next few decades! How do you want your public land managed, by the users or by the preservationists?

Be involved in the future!



Hey Mom, do you think we could go field tripping inside just this once?

HALL OF FAME INDUCTION HELD

by Carolyn Weinberger, AFMS Editor

The Micromounters Hall of Fame was established in 1981 as a way to honor those who have served the micromounting aspect of the hobby to the highest degree. The list of inductees includes the movers and shakers of the past and present who have shown the way. Some of the notable inductees include Paul Desautels, former curator at the Smithsonian, Lou Perloff, Paul Seel, Neal Yedlin Arthur Roe, Dan Behnke, and Quintin Wight. The list of inductees now includes three AFMS Past Presidents -- Paul Seel, (1971) Fred Schaefermeyer (1995) and Jim Hurlbut as well as two former AFMS Committee Chairs -- Cynthia Payne and Paul Smith. It is an elite group indeed!

The latest induction ceremony occurred in October 2011 during the annual Paul Desautels Micromount Symposium sponsored by the Baltimore Mineral Society just outside Baltimore, MD. Inductees for the year were **Jim Hurlbut**, who was AFMS President in 1993 and **Pete Richards**, senior research scientist at Heidelberg University (Tiffin, OH).

The next Micromounters Hall of Fame Induction will occur the weekend of October 5-7. Scheduled for induction during that event are the late Arnold Hampson (Dolores, CO) and Rod Martin from Auckland, New Zealand.

If you would like to make a nomination for a future inductee, send information about your candidate to Quintin Wight <qwight@sympatico.ca>. A summary of your nominees qualifications and contributions should accompany any nomination.



Above Jim Hurlbut (left) and Pete Richards receive their induction plaques from Quintin Wight. At right, Inductees present during the Symposium: Dan Behnke, Cynthia Payne, Dick Thompsen, Pete Richards, Quintin Wight, John Ebner and Jim Hurlbut. Photos by Willow Wight

ALAA MEETING IN QUARTZSITE

by Shirley Leeson, ALAA Vice President

For many of you the ritual of going to Quartzsite, Arizona is a yearly thing. If you are planning a trip there, please mark your calendar to include the ALAA meeting, Friday evening (for your convenience) January 20th, 2012. Meeting is open to all and starts at 6:30pm and will be held at the Quartzsite Alliance Church 720 Desert View (northside of I-8).



This is a MUST while you are in Quartzsite. Our keynote speaker will be Jennifer House, Natural Resources Specialist, Colorado River District, Lake Havasu City, AZ. She will speak on the La Posa Management Plan, effecting the entire BLM area around Quartzsite. We also hope that she will also speak about abandoned mines, closed roads, open areas to collect and answer your questions.

If you have something from your area of the country to address, please contact me and we'll try and get you on the agenda. (shirleyleeson@cox.net)

Again, mark your calendar and come and see what's going on.



**THINK
SPRING!**

UPCOMING REGIONAL FEDERATION CONVENTIONS

from Bob Livingston, Show Coordinator

	California Federation	Eastern Federation	Midwest Federation	Northwest Federation	Rocky Mountain Federation	South Central Federation	Southeast Federation
2012	Riverside, CA	Sept. 15-16 Harrisburg, PA	AFMS July 26 - 29 Wayzata, MN	May 18 - 20 Kennewick, WA		Aug. 25-26 Jasper, TX	
2013	Ventura, CA	April 5 - 7 Long Island, NY	April 6 - 7 Lincoln, NE	August Butte, MT			AFMS Sept. 20-23 Jacksonville, FL
2014			Oct. 18 - 19 Des Moines, IA	August 15-17 Pendleton, OR	AFMS		
2015						AFMS Austin, TX	