

The CFMS Newsletter is the Federation's official monthly publication. Committee Chairpersons, officers and society members contribute articles of interest to the members. Along with educational articles, notices of workshops, field trips, seminars, society shows, and other upcoming activities are publicized in the Newsletter.

Other publications and manuals concern exhibiting rules, society aids, program speakers, a slide-show library, juniors groups, show preparation guidelines, and the Society Roster.

The Federation maintains a web site for the dissemination of information pertaining to its various activities, club and society contacts, local show schedules, and links to other websites of interest to its members.

Please visit our web site:
<www.cfmsinc.org>

CFMS is one of seven regional Federations that comprise the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies. Through its auspices, hundreds of gem and mineral clubs and thousands of their individual members—youth and adults—enjoy participating in national programs that promote popular interest, involvement, and education in the various earth science hobbies including Geology, Mineralogy, Paleontology, Lapidary and other related

subjects. Members of the seven Federations observe the AFMS Code of Ethics, developed for work in the field.

WE'RE HERE FOR YOU

Annually, as an organization, we review our programs and long-range goals, and through the budget adoption process, we focus our resources and efforts. Each club or society in the Federation is represented by a CFMS Director, who can participate in the semi-annual Directors' Meetings for purposes of reviewing and improving Federation policies and procedures.

CFMS officers are willing to come to meetings and talk with club members to explore ways in which we can do a better job working together than we can do individually.

We welcome your comments and suggestions. Please contact our Committee as follows:

CFMS Publicity/Public Relations
Committee
C/o Pat LaRue
P. O. Box 1657
Rialto, CA 92377-1657
Or via e-mail at:
bplarue@earthlink.net

Or via the web site:
www.cfmsinc.org



What is THE CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF MINERALOGICAL SOCIETIES?

The California Federation of Mineralogical Societies was organized in 1936 to bring about a close association of clubs and societies devoted to the study of Earth Sciences and the practice of Lapidary Arts in the western part of the United States. CFMS is an umbrella organization for gem, mineral and lapidary societies, as well as prospecting and treasure hunting clubs in California and Nevada and one club in Arizona.

The Federation serves the clubs through its CFMS Newsletter, workshops devoted to bulletins, uniform rules and judging, exhibiting, field trips, and programs; the CFMS Scholarship program; insurance; museum coordination; and through manuals for programs and speakers, slide programs, bulletin aids, field trips, and society aids.

The stated purpose of the California Federation is “to do together what we cannot do in small groups.” The singular and most important service that CFMS does for its affiliate clubs is to secure and maintain insurance coverage for the activities that we undertake. To do this individually would be prohibitive. But indeed, there are many more things that CFMS and its affiliate clubs do together because, as a group, we can get better results.

BENEFITS OF CFMS MEMBERSHIP

Following is a partial list, in no particular order of significance:

1. We establish and maintain avenues of communication through a monthly newsletter and a web site.
2. We maintain and promote an active field trip program through the focused efforts of several regional groups.
3. We promote an annual California Federation rock, mineral and gem show and convention; and publicize affiliate club shows to advertise our interests, educate ourselves and the public, and generate revenue to sustain our clubs.
4. We establish and maintain educational programs in the following areas:

- (a) Earth science seminars;
 - (b) Guided junior activities;
 - (c) Museum and traveling exhibits;
 - (d) Safety seminars;
 - (e) Video and slides library;
 - (f) Competitive exhibit seminars;
 - (g) Newsletter editor seminars;
 - (h) Public relations seminars;
 - (i) Club program aids information;
 - (j) Effective use of the Internet.
5. We fund and operate an active scholarship program.
 6. We maintain a public land use policies review committee to educate ourselves and to inform government policy makers of our views for appropriate public land use.
 7. We sponsor an active tax advisory and legal assistance program to help affiliate clubs comply with State and Federal requirements.



Lighten the workload by working together

PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES

The CFMS Endowment Fund provides a stable source of income to financially assist the programs and services the Federation provides its members. Donations remain as principal, with only the earnings available for use.

The CFMS Scholarship Fund provides annual scholarships to undergraduate students in the fields of Earth Science and Lapidary Arts. The Robert O. Deidrick Scholarship fund annually supports an undergraduate student, as well.

The Federation sponsors field trips, competitions, and workshops to assist clubs with their pursuits in the fields of mineral collecting, study of geology, exhibiting, faceting and lapidary skills.

Each year, two week-long Earth Science seminars are held (one in the desert during Spring, and another in the mountains in the Fall) to teach these skills and to learn about petrified wood.

Through its Public Lands Advisory Committee, members of California Federation societies are working with government agencies to protect and preserve a number of mineral collecting areas.