

C.F.M.S. Newsletter



XLVI #6

June 2010



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Grow the Federation!

By Fred Ott

Grow the Federation!

The combined AFMS/CFMS Show, hosted by the North Orange County Gem and Mineral Society, is 'just around the corner', June 18th, 19th and 20th in Whittier, California.

It's very important that your society's CFMS Director (or his/her alternate) attends the Directors meeting on Saturday, June 19th. This is one (of only two) opportunities each year that society representatives have to meet face-to-face with other Directors and share ideas and conduct the business of the Federation.

In the past, there have been occasions where a quorum was barely achieved because of poor attendance. Without a quorum, much of the business of the Federation cannot be conducted so please make every effort to attend the Directors meeting!

One of the items to be discussed at the Directors Meeting (as well as the Cracker Barrel) will be a proposal to change the bylaws with regards to applications for membership in the Federation. Currently, an application received (as an example) in December isn't submitted for a vote until the next Directors meeting (which can be up to 6 months hence). Such a lengthy delay causes a myriad of problems which can better be addressed by having applications reviewed by the Executive Committee (via email) in a much more timely manner.

No vote will be taken at the June Directors meeting as the protocol to officially consider such a change requires a formal notification process nonetheless, it will be important to discuss this issue and other matters in an effort to continually improve the efficiency of our Federation.

I hope to see you there!

Remember: rockhounding is MORE than a hobby; it's a PASSION!

- Fred Ott, President 2010

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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 web site.

2010 CFMS Calendar

- June 4 - Deadline for Officer & Chairman Reports to be turned in to Pat for Directors Meeting**
- June 16 – Rules Committee Meeting**
- June 17 – AFMS Directors Meeting**
- June 17 - AFMS Scholarship Meeting**
- June 18 – 20 CFMS/AFMS Show & Convention**
- June 18 - CFMS Cracker Barrel**
- June 19 - CFMS Directors Meeting**
- June 19 - AFMS/CFMS Awards Banquet**
- June 20 – Editor’s Breakfast**
- Nov. 12 - 7:30 PM, Visalia Cracker Barrel**
- Nov. 13 - Fall Directors' Meeting, Holiday Inn, Visalia**
- Nov. 14 – 2011 Organizational Meeting**

Executive Secretary/Treasurer

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Bud McMillin, Insurance Chair
1717 Oakdale Rd. Ste. O
Modesto, CA 95355-3066
(209) 524-3494

REPORTING A CLAIM

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

***REMEMBER *
ARTICLES FOR YOUR NEWSLETTER ARE
DUE TO THE EDITOR BY THE 5th OF THE
MONTH PRIOR TO THE MONTH OF
PUBLICATION!**



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Thank You to everyone submitting articles for this month's newsletter. Articles for the August Newsletter and important dates for the CFMS calendar should be submitted by July 5th.



Executive
Secretary/Treasurer

Pat LaRue

You have no doubt noticed that the last two issues of the CFMS Newsletter as well as this one have no staples. Up until June of last year the postal service allowed the use of staples to secure the pages of a letter sized mailing piece and still qualify for the non-profit bulk rate for machinable pieces. Suddenly the rules changed! Overnight the same stapled pieces which once qualified for the lower price, now cost three times as much to mail because the postal service decided that the staple might damage the equipment and the piece had to be processed by hand. I might add that first class mail is processed on the same equipment and to date there are no restrictions on use of a staple to secure the pages of a club newsletter mailed using a first class stamp. Mailing the newsletter as a flat costs even more. Gone are the good old days when the price was based merely on weight instead of the size or shape.

I initially thought preparing the newsletter in booklet style and subsequently folding it to qualify for the letter rate would solve the problem. After doing the math I realized that the extra cost of the booklet process plus postage was actually costing more than stapling the newsletter and paying the non-machinable rate. Budget allowing, I anticipate being able to actually staple the last two mailings but I'm not making any promises. In the meantime grab your trusty stapler and staple the pages together when your newsletter arrives in your mailbox.

Many people are already downloading and/or reading the newsletter on the CFMS website. Granted it doesn't have the show dates page, officer and committee contact information or other pages added separately when I prepare the newsletter for duplication, but all the articles are there. The other items can be gleaned from the website. In the future the CFMS Newsletter may well take on an electronic format. I don't see this happening anytime soon with our organization, but the postal service is not making it easy for small mailers like CFMS to use its services and still keep costs

down. By the way, did I mention the requirement that the pieces be secured in four prescribed places? At least at this point they still allow the use of tape.

-Pat



CFMS/AFMS
SHOW & CONVENTION
By Loretta Ogden

Hey every one this is the last time I will be able to tell you anything about the Hidden Treasure Show. I have been hearing rumblings that people cannot find information about the show. Your Federation Director can get you the forms and they are also on the CFMS website at cfmsinc.org. Look it up! It is also in The **CFMS Newsletter**.

The other thing I am hearing is that no one knows about the hotel and people are making reservations at other hotels. I want to tell you that we have chosen a very nice hotel in a very convenient location and negotiated a fabulous price. You may also stay beyond the show for our special price. That is a real benefit if you have other things to see, or you are going on the fieldtrips.

Anaheim Park Hotel (877) 491-1011

Walt Wright will have at least 120 rounds of petrified wood for you to drool over. It is a great opportunity to see this much all in one spot and Walt will be there to answer any questions you may come up with.

One more very important thing! We need as many volunteers as we can get. Contact Don George at lizardwoman3@yahoo.com to add your name to the volunteer list.

Please sign up to volunteer!
We really need you!

On Friday evening at 7:00 PM we will have the **Cracker Barrel** at the recreation room at Friendly Village Mobile Home Park. This is a very nice facility and if the weather co-operates bring your swimwear. They have a lovely pool. Besides you may have heard that **some** may

walk the plank. There will also be **treasure** to be found and pirate attire is appropriate if desired.. There will be refreshments, fun, games and fellowship. You will have an opportunity to meet the **officers** and hopefully committee chairs of both the **AFMS** and **CFMS**.

On Saturday the **CFMS Director's meeting** will be held at 9:00AM at the La Habra Community Center. It is just a little way northeast of the show. The doors will open at 8:00AM. Directly after that is the **ALAA** meeting and any committees that may also be meeting. At 4:00 PM everyone must be out so we can decorate for the banquet. We are doing a **Mexican Fiesta** so please dress accordingly if you wish. The foods will all be authentic Mexican with a variety of meats and cheese main dishes, rice & beans, salad, salsa and dessert.

Sunday morning will bring the **Editors Breakfast** to be held at the Anaheim Park Hotel.

All of the **field trips** are planned for after the show so you need not miss any time over the weekend.

Two Tourmaline Mines in Two Days!

June 21st:

The Oceanview - Fee Dig \$50 (this is a \$25 discount per person)

Caravan to the Lake Henshaw Resort (I am working on a group rate reservation for the spaces next to the mine)

June 22nd:

The Himalaya - Fee Dig \$50 (this is a \$15 discount per person)

Fossil Hunters Choice!

June 23rd:

Trip One - Ant Hill - More Strenuous Option

Trip Two - Jalama Beach - lead by Jon Meredith
- less strenuous option

Rock Hound or Tourist?

June 24th:

Trip One - Lavic Siding - lead by Jay Valle -
More Strenuous Option

Trip Two - LA County Natural History Museum -
lead by Dr. Larry Barnes - less strenuous option

-Loretta

Hidden Treasure **AFMS / CFMS Show**



Show Information **By: Loretta Ogden**

Hear Ye! Hear Ye! Hidden Treasure

It is by Royal Decree that you are ordered to buy tickets for our very special drawing. Even though we know we cannot do that I know you will want to anyway. We have the most beautiful deep purple 21.5 Karat Natural Amethyst set as a pendant with its own chain in sterling silver. It comes with an appraisal certificate (\$1600.00). We are very fortunate to have as a member of our club a man named Jonas Ruzgys. He is a master faceter and an expert in Baltic Amber.

This piece will be in a side raffle to support the Youth Of La Habra. We will be selling the tickets for only \$10.00 and will close the sales at 300 tickets total.

Don't take a chance; go to the ticket sales table first thing upon arrival at the Show.

-Loretta

CFMS/AFMS SHOW **Petrified Wood at the Show** **By Isabella Burns**

The high light for this years annual AFMS/CFMS show will be a (Museum) quality display of Petrified Wood, collected from all over the earth. 125 specimens that have been collected by Walt Wright. This display is set up in the Pavilion and he will be there to explain and answers questions about petrified wood. Don't miss this display.

-Isabella

**AFMS ENDOWMENT
RAFFLE TICKETS**

FOR SALE

\$5 EACH OR 5 FOR \$20

By Colleen McGann



**BUY TICKETS FOR YOUR
CLUB AND BUY FOR YOURSELF!**

Raffle drawing to be held at the AFMS/CFMS Show June 18-20, 2010. Some of the auction items are a 2" Eudialyte sphere, a faceted amethyst pendant and earring set, a pear cut amethyst ring, a 13 " high amethyst cathedral, and a chrysoprase wire wrapped pendant.

For tickets contact:Colleen McGann

PO Box 224, Santa Clara, CA 95052-0224

(831)212-1951 or colleen.mcgann@hds.com.

ALL AMERICAN REPORT

By Dot Beachler



It has been suggested before that a committee could divide the areas of necessary information. Items to consider:

- 1- programs
- 2- special groups (beading, wire wrapping, etc.)
- 3- junior activities
- 4- editor and newsletter
- 5- club show
- 6- member activities (attending shows, displaying, demonstrating)
- 7- field trips
- 8- library
- 9- community activities
- 10- lobbying organizations (ALAA)

When this material is assembled it will give a picture of the club, the members and activities. It will show the club strong points or it might show areas that could use more attention. Let's try a group approach this year!

-Dot



Bulletin Aids

By Doug Arnold

The pre-registration deadline for the Award's Banquet and Breakfast with the Editors was May 15 so I hope you got your ticket orders in. Since the show is combined with the AFMS both events should really be great.

The awards will be presented at the banquet and the pins will be presented at the breakfast. AFMS honors will also be presented so don't miss out.

I'll try to answer any questions. Send me an email at oldjasper@verizon.net or give me a call on my NEW cell number at 661-206-0096.

-Doug

**Education Thru Sharing
Rockhound of the Year
By Lorretta Ogden**



This month we have two nominations for **Rock hound of the Year!**

North Orange County Gem & Mineral Society would not be what it is without **Don & Ofelia Warthen** as members. They have served as various officers over the years. Show Chairmen, Dealer Chair, Education Chair and shop hosts. They host the summer party and Liaison to the city. They are our presence at the Chamber of Commerce.

Don is a lawyer and an accountant (CFMS financial advisory committee). He even knows how to repair huge pipe organs. Don was a Navy Seal in his youth. Ofelia is a realtor and has served as President of the Board of Realtors and donates her time to the Salvation Army and a shelter for abused woman. They paint, make jewelry and do lapidary and Ofelia carves. This only a short list of the things they do for our club and the community, they are certainly inspirational and deserving of this award.

Submitted by: Loretta Ogden

I would like to nominate **Adam Dean** of the Orange Belt Mineralogical Society as Rockhound of the Year! Adam has been instrumental in keeping our club going. We were having problems a while back so we sent out a S.O.S. and Adam stepped up. Since then he has served on our Board as C.F.M.S. Director and Fieldtrip Chair.

He has brought in many new members by teaching them how to rockhound, fieldtrip and identify what they find. When anyone wants to know about a collecting area, he takes the time to explain the directions, conditions and the type of material that is available. We as a club are very proud he is The CFMS Co-Fieldtrip Leader for Southern California. This year asked that someone else take the federation director position in order that someone else learn about the CFMS.

He also does speaking engagements for other clubs in order that he can help us meet our teaching requirements. There are many times he comes in and cleans the shop and fix equipments, along with getting vendors to donate their time or materials to the club. If he can't make it to the club and something is broken, he will stay on the phone and talk us through the maintenance. He has donated countless hours to our club and has encouraged others to do the same. He always donates materials for new members to begin their lapidary journey and never hesitates to give to the club what is needed. He is an asset to our club and deserves to be Rockhound of the year!

Submitted by: Tony Gilham

Thank you for submitting these two wonderful recommendations for Rockhound of the year!

-Loretta



FIELD TRIPS - NORTH

Austin Nevada Area

By Jonathan North

Last month I presented the initial information about the upcoming field trip to Austin, Nevada.

Here it is again with modifications, primarily concerning the camping accommodations.

WHERE: Austin, Nevada Area

TRIP DIFFICULTY RATING SCALE

Vehicle Access & Parking: #4, vehicle access and parking good for most vehicles and RV's, no specific handicap parking.

Collection or view Site: #5, 2 wheel, vehicle parking on rough terrain or trail end.

WHEN: June 12-13, 2010 with June 11 as a travel day.

SPONSOR: California Federation of Mineralogical Societies (CFMS) Field Trips North

PARTICIPANTS: Open to all CFMS members and guests.

COLLECTION MATERIAL: Green and Purple fluorite, Snakeskin agate, and Blue chalcedony. Note: Fluorite collecting area is private property. Owner doesn't mind collecting if it is done responsibly and area is left in good condition.

LEADER & CONTACT INFO: Jonathan North (916) 768-0137, jonnorth@comcast.net. If you plan on going on this field trip, contact Jonathan North in advance so he has an idea of how many will be attending.

PROPOSED SCHEDULE: Waiver sign-ins will be at 7:30 a.m. and trips start at 8 a.m. Saturday morning: Drive to Fluorite area and dig for Fluorite in tailing piles, lunch, drive to Snake Skin agate area (no digging required). Sunday morning: Drive to Mt. Aerie area and collect Blue chalcedony in alluvial slopes (no digging required). Mt. Aerie area is on the way home.

CAMP/MEETING LOCATION: Camping at the collecting site is not suitable for RVs and trailers; therefore, another camping area has been designated. Take Hwy 305 north off Hwy 50 just before Austin, NV. Travel 14 miles north on Hwy 305 and go left off highway and down a short incline to a large gravel quarry used by the Department of Transportation. A sign will be posted at the turnoff. The field trips will begin from this camping area after sign-in is complete. Motels and RV parks are available in Austin, NV, however you will need to be at the designated camping area to sign in for field trips.

VEHICLE REQUIREMENTS: Most areas are 2WD accessible, although care should be used in some areas where clearance could be a problem. Carpooling is encouraged to cut down on number of vehicles at collecting sites. A full tank of fuel is a must. Best place to get fuel is in Fallon, but it is available in Austin if needed.

CAMP/FACILITIES: There is sufficient room for any kind of RV. This is dry camping with no facilities.

TOOLS NEEDED: Easy digging tools like shovels, and hand tools.

SAFETY CONCERNS: Rocky and hilly in collecting areas, watch for snakes and other critters.

CLIMATE/WEATHER: Being a high desert area, it could be hot in the daytime and cold at night. Rain is unpredictable.

CLOTHING: Bring something for any kind of weather.

OTHER REMARKS: You must observe CFMS/AFMS Code of Ethics and sign a consent and assumption of risk waiver of liability form.

Don't forget water, and food. We hope to have a potluck dinner on Saturday.

Be aware that this is a remote and undeveloped area. Collect responsibly.

Please help preserve our collecting areas and pack out what you pack in. Let's leave it clean for future Rockhounds.

- Jonathan

different materials in the area. At 11:00 we rounded up and we were off to the next site. We made a quick stop in the sagenite area so the group could hunt around the wash and eat lunch. Some even found some nice sagenite. Check out the pictures and you'll see a beauty! Eventually we got to the fluorite area. At first some needed a little guidance, but once they saw what we were looking for, they were off and running. Everyone seem to enjoy the fluorite location, which offers far more then just fluorite! There is yellow plume, and all kind of jaspers along with the agates mixed in the main wash. There were some nice finds! All too soon it was time to head back. We sure built up an appetite, which was a good thing because we had a potluck planned. We had a little hick-up when we got back to the campsite. The Railroad Police and the BLM Ranger showed up and told up we couldn't camp there any more and need to move! We were lucky though, because the Railroad Police let us stay the night with the agreement that we would be off the property by 4:00 pm the next day. He said that we could continue to cross the tracks but couldn't camp on railroad property any more. I guess we just have to camp down the road. Well after he took pictures of our Driver Licenses and explain the situation to the BLM guy, we finally got to eat! Boy was it great! We had all kinds of food. Shari from our group was celebrating her Birthday so we sang to her and ate cake. I ate so much I could hardly walk.

Sunday I took our group to one of my favorite location on top of the cliffs. We had a scenic view of Afton Canyon above The Canyon of the Animals. We took some photos and then headed off to collect some nice moss and black and white sagenite. We wandered around and filled our bags and enjoyed a quiet day hunting. Teresa found a perfect black and white nodule and many wandered over to the old onyx mine and found some very nice stuff. But like all good things it had to end. We honored our agreement and packed up and Got Out of Dog before the Sheriff came to run us out! It is always a great day when I get to see smiling faces when the day is over. Here is what some of our group had to say...

Our last trip with Adam and Teresa took us deep into the Cady Mountains. We followed him onto a forsaken desert road devoid of any civilization. The Cady's have some of the richest deposits of agate that I have ever seen. Seams of agate lie



Field Trips – South

Double Tourmaline Field Trip

By

Shep Koss & Adam Dean



CFMS CADY MOUNTAIN FIELDTRIP REPORT APRIL 17TH & 18TH 2010

The weather was perfect, a little warm but it made that night very comfortable. We had a good turn out. After the sign in and some introductions we were off to the Green Angel Wing Collecting Site. This is an area Teresa and I came across a few years back and it has beautiful green and burgundy angel wings on the bottom with snow-white plumes on top. We felt it was time to let everyone in on our secret. It was funny because when we got there, many on the trip told us they drove pasted this area and never saw the turn off. We all had an enjoyable time searching the hills for the

exposed on the hillsides, constantly being eroded by wind and rain. I was able to easily follow the float trails up the mountains to find the originating seams. The first seam that I found contained a light blue agate with red plumes. What an amazing find! The day culminated with a visit to a fluorite mine. My wife was able to locate some small pieces of green fluorite crystal in a rhyolite matrix. Our 3 children had a good time running in the pristine desert washes, exploring natural caves and playing with the colorful rocks procured by the dedicated searchers. The group had a huge potluck on Saturday night and we were privileged to be part of the eclectic group of rock hounds. Various issues were discussed that night, but the overriding theme seemed to be how to stop the bureaucrats from taking land rights from its citizens. As with all issues, no resolutions seemed have been agreed upon. It is my opinion that some action definitely needs to be taken.

Only the die-hards stayed for Sunday's morning trips and, of course, that did not include us. We enjoyed a nice breakfast, mingled with some soon to be departees, and prepared to leave.

My son, reading from his Bible, quoted this poignant verse from Joshua 3:3...

"When you see the ark of the covenant of the LORD your God, and the priests, who are LEVITITES, carrying it, you are to move out from your positions and follow it."

Follow it we will.....I don't know about the Leaverites though,

-Rex



Dear Adam:

Thank you for what you did for us Rockhounds this past weekend. One of the reasons I enjoy going out on rockhounding trips with you is that they are well planned and the day flows very smoothly. Another big asset is that you can identify and name rocks and minerals and help us amateurs. To me the most exciting find was the fluorite. I appreciate you stopping by and helping Linda and I with our questions and showing us where to dig.

Thank you again for a good trip.

-Dennis & Linda Gibbs

Gordon from Rosamond (the guy with his grandson)

CFMS Cady's Trip 2010

This was my first time going rockhounding with the CFMS. Fortunately, when my grandson and I arrived at the dry camping site on a very windy Friday night, we met very friendly folk who were more than helpful to a couple of field trip newbie's. Saturday dawned with beautiful clear skies and light winds. I was very anxious to get started finding promised agates, sagenite, and fluorite. Thanks to the kindness of Carl from Ridgecrest, and the company of Ron, also from Ridgecrest, we were able to hitch a ride out to the sites and the fun. The first site was for angel-wing agate. What a find! I had to keep reminding myself to be selective and only take a few samples. There was just so much angel-wing, calcite crystals, and agate all over! But we were also going to be visiting two more sites and I needed to leave room in the bucket. The second stop was for sagenite. While we mostly found calcite everywhere, there were those who found some sagenite samples. My grandson got a little bored, so he picked on a small mound in a gulley and tried to level it with a small sledge hammer. At least he was enjoying himself. The third site was the fluorite mine. Okay, we couldn't actually go in the mine, but climbing the crumbling hillside in the canyon entry and finding the sunlight-faded crystals was a lot of fun (and work). Digging around the faded crystals did produce some nice green fluorite in bands. These were not the crystals I've seen for sale at some of the shows, but it was still very nice. Finally we made it back to camp and eventually to the potluck. (I'll leave to others to talk about our brush with the law.) I was very surprised to see the variety and quality of the food offered. The homemade tacos, barbecued chicken, two kinds of chili, salads, fresh pineapple, spiced cashews, and on and on, and let's not forget the birthday cake! What a great time sitting around sharing a meal, chatting, and making new friends from all over Southern California. We had to leave early the next morning, but for those who could stay, the hunt continued. I don't know what else they found, but if it was as productive as Saturday, I'm sure they had fun.

Gordon Butler
Rosamond (unaffiliated)

I thank you for the input on the trip. I feel it is important for others to hear what the group felt and not only from the leader, that way those that didn't make it can see what happened from different points of view.

-Adam



**Report on Claims Seminar
Field Trip North
By Dick Pankey**

The CFMS Field Trips – North Land Claims Seminar was held at the Community Center in Empire, CA on Saturday, April 24th. This special event was hosted by the Mother Lode Mineral Society and let me say **"They did a bang up job!"** **Bud McMillin** coordinated the arrangements and many members made light work of the setup/takedown. Betty and I didn't want the early morning drive so we pulled our trailer over and camped at the meeting site. Bud and the crew were there early Saturday morning and the coffee, muffins and doughnuts were out and ready when people started showing up a little after 8:00. For lunch they served us big, grilled hot dogs with all of the trimmings, potato salad, chips and cold drinks. Really great Polish dogs! **A BIG SPECIAL THANK YOU** to Bud McMillin, all of the members who showed up and helped, and the entire Mother Lode Mineral Society!

Also, a Special Thank You to Fred Ott for video taping the seminar. He plans to transfer the tapes to a DVD and provide copies to the CFMS Slide and Video Library.

There were 35 people from 13 CFMS societies and one unaffiliated person. The purpose of this seminar is to encourage CFMS societies to establish and share claims and to provide them with the information to do so. Filing land claims on our threatened and historic collecting sites is one way to protect them and to assure access and our collecting rights.

I started the seminar with a welcome and a presentation of background and need for the seminar. **Bud McMillin**, CFMS Insurance Chairman then talked about the need and procedures to obtain Liability Insurance for society claims. Then **Gregg Wilkerson**, BLM Mineral Examiner and Mining Law Administration Specialist, presented an overview of the claim process – history, how to file a claim, where and how to get information on the claims process, claims and claimed land and answers to our questions. Bud and Gregg had good handouts for the group.

There were 5 plus hours of presentation, questions and discussion. We don't have enough room in this newsletter to tell you every detail. I will try to cover the highlights and important details.

In my presentation I discussed the threats to access and to our collecting rights from the Wilderness acts, the proposed "Hard Rock Mining and Reclamation Act," the new/proposed "Desert Conservation and Recreation Act," new/proposed National Monuments and from new/changes to BLM/FS Resource Management Plans. But the biggest threat to our rights and ability to use and collect on our Public Lands is complacency - is to do nothing! We should file claims to preserve collecting rights, to preserve access and to have control of collecting and use. I proposed that CFMS societies file claims on our collecting sites and share them with other rockhounds. We should file claims on our known/historic sites in threatened area and in areas and/or material that should be preserved. The next steps for the future of our collecting sites are up to the societies. But we do have other options, also. That is to get involved in the legislative and regulatory process. Get involved; learn about proposed laws and regulations; attend meetings and write letters and get your society members involved with you.

Bud McMillin explained the reasons that societies should have liability insurance on society claims. This insurance is available from the federation's insurance broker and is similar to the society's premises liability insurance. Bud passed out the required forms and took us through them with explanation and answered questions. Liability insurance for a society claim is relatively inexpensive; \$.33 per acre with a

minimum charge of \$40. For details and specific questions contact Bud or Patt McDaniel (broker).

Before starting on his Claim presentation Gregg talked about participating in the regulatory process. Government affects you and you can affect government, in this case BLM and FS by participating in the Land Use Planning process. This is the “other options” that I spoke about. We have “rights,” but with those rights come “responsibilities.” Gregg suggests making contact with a local BLM/FS office, get to know people and ask to be put on their mailing list. When asked for comments and input, send letters and e-mails; personal letters best, but form letters better than nothing. When writing to BLM/FS send a copy to your representative.

Gregg recommends that we inventory our collecting sites and areas; including access roads and camping sites. Share this information with BLM/FS. For cost purposes there is a big push to eliminate roads. If they don't know that we use roads and a site/area, they have no reason not to close off an area. Now I can hear some people yelling already, “If we tell them where our collecting sites are they will shut them down!!” Just the opposite is true. If an area is not being used, there is not a reason to keep it open. We need to tell BLM/FS where we collect, what roars we use and where we camp. We need to develop a friendly working relationship with the BLM/FS; not perpetuate an antagonistic relationship. We need to tell them what we want and help them provide it to us.

Next Gregg gave us an explanation of claims process and procedures to file a claim. A claim is a property right and can't be removed without due process. It gives the claimant the right to use and the right to exclude others from using (no trespassing). It also provides for right of access. All claims are considered valid until proven invalid in a court or judicial review. Extraction permits are required for collecting for commercial purposes. Casual use collecting for personal use does not require a permit.

To find out if a claim is current or valid it is best to check with the BLM or County Recorder. You will need the location of the claim in question in map terms of Township, Range and Section. Claim locations can also be

found on www.geocommunicator.gov web site. If you are out on BLM land and come upon a claim, locate the Discovery Marker to see if the paper work in it is current. To be current the paper work must list the name of the claimant, the material claimed, the location of the claim (Township, Range and Section) and filing date/update in the current year (September 1 to August 31.) If not current you are free to collect.

This was a great informative and productive seminar. We learned why and how to use the claim process to protect access and our right to collect on Public Lands. And we were introduced to the “Other Option” – working with the BLM and FS to maintain access and collecting rights. Looks like we have the basis for our next seminar.

–Dick



Insurance

Junior Rockhound Groups



By Bud McMillin & Patt McDaniel

Patt, A lot of societies are starting to form Junior Rockhound groups within their societies now as more societies see the advantages of bringing in younger families and “new blood” to our societies and our wonderful family hobby. My question this month has to do with how our liability insurance covers our Juniors and is there anything special we should do to insure their safety? I know, in the Mother Lode Mineral Society, we now have a two step process for accepting new members that was established to protect our 41 Junior Rockhounds. We have a request for an Application for Membership so we can run all potential new members through “Meagan's Law List” prior to sending out an application for membership. We also require a parent or responsible adult to accompany their Junior on all field trips and to sign the Release of Liability form prior to attending the field trip.

So, how are our Juniors covered on the policy and can you suggest any further measures we

should take to insure the safety of our Juniors?
Thanks, Bud

Bud, thank you for this question. It is wonderful that CFMS is making this knowledge and appreciation of the geological world available to young people. The insurance company understands that this may well be part of CFMS's mission as a nonprofit public benefit corporation. I have never seen an insurance policy that has wording regarding minors or persons of any particular age. The law, of course, has much to say and many legal precedents. I am certainly not a lawyer, but we all know that very young persons are not responsible for their own actions and as a child's age increases he or she becomes progressively more responsible. This puts responsibility on the parents, guardians or caretakers. It is important that in providing these services to young people, you do not put yourselves in the position of caretakers. Parents or other responsible persons should always be there for that.

Federation clubs always carry some responsibility to those for whom they provide services or whom they instruct in a workshop but that duty is increased when young people are involved. Increased care and consideration of the well being of these young people is obviously called for and the Federation people I have spoken with seem to have an appreciation of this responsibility.

As with any club's insured activity, the company will respond if the club or its officers or volunteers are held responsible for injury or property damage to others. Children are considered as 'others', even if acting as volunteers, because the ultimate responsibility must reside with an adult.

The above considerations do not begin to address the potential for sexual misconduct and I am glad to see that the Federation is proactive in taking precautions. One of the most important guidelines is never to allow a minor to be alone with just one adult (other than his or her parent or guardian), no matter whom. All activities should be in the open as much as possible. The Federation does not have sexual misconduct insurance. This would be a separate policy that would be very carefully underwritten.

I hope this addresses your questions and I invite any of you to call with any additional questions. It is my understanding that Bud McMillin and Richard Pankey have worked to familiarize themselves with the concerns and precautions for these types of activities and I am sure they would be willing to discuss it with any members as well.

Patt Wilson McDaniel



JUNIORS ACTIVITIES
Seeking Volunteers for Jrs.
Booth at CFMS Show

By Jim Brace-Thompson

At the upcoming AFMS/CFMS Show & Convention, there will be an area for juniors activities, and within that area, we'll have a table for promoting the AFMS Future Rockhounds of America Badge Program.

Because much of my time during the show will be tied up in meetings between my duties for the AFMS and the CFMS, I'm seeking volunteers who can help by giving an hour or two of their time to sit at the AFMS/CFMS Juniors table to field questions and promote the badge program. So, if you're using the AFMS/FRA Badge Program in your club and are planning to be at the show in La Habra this June, I welcome your help. Please contact me at (805) 659-3577 or jbraceth@roadrunner.com. The job will be fairly easy. You just need to let folks know that to utilize the badge program, they need to be members of a club affiliated with the AFMS (many times, we'll have Scout leaders or home schoolers asking if they can use the program), and we'll have a flyer to give to interested parties that gives full details about the program. We'll also have a "Treasure Chest" of tumble-polished stones to give to kids. Finally, we'll be selling "Paint-a-Fossil" plaster casts at fifty cents apiece to help raise funds to underwrite the AFMS/FRA badge program via the AFMS Endowment Fund.

So if you can spare the time, here's to helping out and to having fun!

-Jim



**2010 Mid-Year Public
Lands Advisory
Committee Report
By John Martin**

Listed below is the latest status on Proposed Legislation that will have an unfavorable affect on Rockhounding when passed. Getting involved with the process can help to keep our collecting locations open and accessible to all Rockhounds.

S. 787: Clean Water Restoration Act

A bill to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to clarify the jurisdiction of the United States over waters of the United States .

April 2, 2009: Introduced

Jun 18, 2009: Committee on Environment and Public Works. Ordered to be reported with an amendment in the nature of a substitute favorably.

April 9, 2010: Still in Committee

**S. 796: Hardrock Mining and Reclamation
Act of 2009**

A bill to modify the requirements applicable to locatable minerals on public domain land, and for other purposes.

April 2, 2009 Introduced

July 14, 2009: Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. Hearings held. Hearings printed: S.Hrg. 111-116.

April 9, 2010 Still in Committee

**H.R. 699: Hardrock Mining and Reclamation
Act of 2009**

To modify the requirements applicable to locatable minerals on public domain lands, consistent with the principles of self-initiation of mining claims, and for other purposes.

January 27, 2009 Introduced

February 26, 2009 the bill has been referred to the following committees:

House Natural Resources, Subcommittee on House Natural Resources, Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources -- Hearings Held

April 9, 2010 Still in Committee

**S. 799: America's Red Rock Wilderness Act of
2009**

A bill to designate as wilderness certain Federal portions of the red rock canyons of the Colorado Plateau and the Great Basin Deserts in the State of Utah for the benefit of present and future generations of people in the United States .

April 2, 2009 Introduced

Apr 2, 2009: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

April 9, 2010 Still in Committee

**H.R. 1925: America's Red Rock
Wilderness Act of 2009**

To designate as wilderness certain Federal portions of the red rock canyons of the Colorado Plateau and the Great Basin Deserts in Utah for the benefit of present and future generations of Americans.

April 2, 2009 Introduced

Oct 1, 2009: The bill has been referred to the following committees:

House Natural Resources, Subcommittee on House Natural Resources, Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests and Public Lands --

Hearings Held

April 9, 2010 still in committee

**S.2921: California Desert Conservation and
Recreation Act**

A bill to provide for the conservation, enhanced recreation opportunities, and development of renewable energy in the California Desert Conservation Area, to require the Secretary of the Interior to designate certain offices to serve as Renewable Energy Coordination Offices for coordination of Federal permits for renewable energy projects and transmission lines to integrate renewable energy development, and for other purposes.

December 21, 2009 Introduced -- California Desert Protection Act of 2010 - Amends the California Desert Protection Act of 1994.

December 21, 2009 Senate Energy and Natural Resources

April 9, 2010 still in committee with no (0) co-sponsors

H.R. 2454: American Clean Energy and Security Act of 2009 (CAP and TRADE)

To create clean energy jobs, achieve energy independence; reduce global warming pollution and transition to a clean energy economy.

May 15, 2009 Introduced

Jun 26, 2009 Passed House 219 -212

Jul 7, 2009: Read the second time. Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 97.

This is the most restrictive and regulating bill to come before congress in US history. If passed and signed into law it will have some controlling effects on each and every one of us in our daily lives. Even the short summary is to long to place in this article and the full text of the bill is over 1000 pages. To see the full text of the bill go to

<http://www.govtrack.us/congress/bill.xpd?bill=h111-2454> .

For more detailed information on these issues go to the American Lands Access Association Website www.amlands.org

-John

been known to pursue their enemy ¼ mile or more. They can sense a threat from people and animals 50 or more feet from their nest and can sense vibrations from power equipment 100 feet away. They swarm frequently to establish new nests.

Nesting sites for the Africanized honey bee include empty boxes, cans, buckets or other containers, old tires, lumber piles, holes and cavities in fences, trees or the ground. They will also nest in sheds, garages, and other buildings. Remove potential nest sites around buildings. Be careful wherever bees may be found.

To keep bees away, wear light-colored clothing and avoid scented soaps and perfumes. Don't leave food, drinks, and garbage uncovered.

Don't pen, or tether animals near bee hives or nests and never attempt to remove a nest yourself. Find a reputable pest control company that specializes in bee removal. Check with your local extension office or the State Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services for trained and licensed pest control operators in your area.

(To be continued in next newsletter)

Source: Riverside County Open Spaces District handout

-Bural



Safety

Bee Alert, Bee Prepared!

By Bural LaRue

Flowers everywhere are blooming and attracting bees in large numbers. This is the time of year to be especially alert to large numbers of bees appearing to set up housekeeping near areas of activity. The Africanized honey bee (AHB) and the European honey bee look the same. Both species protect their nest and sting. Their venom is the same and they can sting only once. Both species are beneficial in that they pollinate flowers and produce honey and wax.

Why the concern? The Africanized variety is much more aggressive than its European cousin and poses a far greater threat to people and their pets. When disturbed, they respond quickly and sting in large numbers. They have



CFMS SCHOLARSHIP

By Jennifer Haley

With gratitude we recieved a letter from SJSU student Bret Treece thanking CFMS and our Honoree Frank Monez for awarding him a scholarship this year. In his words, receiving this gift helped him in his decision to continue on to graduate school next year. In June Bret will be studying Paleozoic and Cenozoic rocks of the Schell Creek Range in eastern Nevada. He will be constructing a geologic map of the area, cross sections, and writing a final report. The students will be tent camping for 4 weeks. Brett will be field assisting with Ashley Van Dyne, a

graduate student at SJSU, with her thesis project on plutons, in the Sierras. This year I think we can all feel that we received an award too by the impact we had as members of CFMS societies who made it possible to make a dream come true for a student such as this. Congratulations everyone!

-Jennifer



ALAA REPORT

WHY I DO WHAT I DO

By Marshall Havner,

President Tule Gem & Mineral Society

&

Dick Pankey

I must confess that five years ago I did not know that American Lands Access Association (ALAA) even existed. I had just retired from a long and mutually beneficial career as an employee of the State of California. I was ready and willing to become one of the willingly ignorant members of society who reaps the profits of accumulations and blindly ignores the sufferings of others. My first resolution was to stop reading newspapers and watching the news on television as they were just too depressing. All that travail the news medias continually focused on was upsetting my peace of mind. After all, I reasoned, it was only right that I should enjoy the comfortable lifestyle I had worked hard to accomplish.

I started looking around my community and talking to friends and acquaintances about events and activities that were fun to do that required little input on my hard earned retirement time. I heard about a local trip to look for jade and decided to go. During the trip I was invited to visit the workshop of a local rock club and I accepted. At the rock workshop I discovered a host of lapidary equipment that I could use to make jewelry out of rock that I had collected. This was what I was looking for as I liked rocks and had already used them to decorate the flower beds around my house. I fondly remembered that as a boy I always had

a pocket full of rocks. I joined that local rock club and in no time I was turning plain rock into beautiful polished pieces I used to make jewelry.

After I had been in the Tule Gem & Mineral Society for two months I received a telephone call from the present President Don Vieira informing me that I was going to become an officer. I replied that I had just joined the club and had no experience with the club's management and that I needed time to get informed of club policies and just to think about this proposal. His only response was "don't argue with me" to which I had to reply simply "yes sir". Don Vieira had been one of my High School teachers who I have a great deal of respect for and a man I can not say no to. It was also Don Vieira who at the Tule Gem & Mineral Society November 2009 meeting proposed I be a TGMS Representative for ALAA.

After becoming actively involved in ALAA I realized and became inspired by a host of members who individually were making a huge difference in ALAA's goal of preserving multiple use and access of our public lands for our and future generations. I remember a Math Professor who stated that for every problem there is a minimum of seven solutions. In ALAA it has been my experience that for every difficult situation I have been in I have had a minimum of seven dedicated individuals I can turn to for advice and inspiration. I can only hope to walk in the shadow of these individuals who are making a life's practice of service for others. Therefore, I dedicate all that I do and all that I will accomplish for American Lands Access Association to all the individuals who mean so much to me.

-Marshall

(I first met Marshall last November when I gave a presentation on ALAA and Claims to the Tule G&MS. The society had just joined ALAA and Marshall was to be the society representative liaison. Marshall is what ALAA is looking for as an "involved member" and demonstrates what can be done and how to do it. I hope Marshall's testimonial will serve as an example and inspiration to others to get involved. Dick Pankey, President, ALAA)

-Dick

CFMS SHOW DATES

Shows and Events
sponsored by
CFMS Clubs & Societies!

Please submit your
Show or Event information
as soon as you have a date.

Email or mail to:

SHOW DATES

Susan Chaisson-Walblom
42122 52nd St. West,
Quartz Hill, CA 93536
Email: slchaisson@yahoo.com

2010

June 4, 5 & 6: WOODLAND HILLS, CA

Rockatomics Gem & Mineral Society
Pierce College
6201 Winnetka Avenue
Hours: 9 am - 5 pm daily
Gary Levitt (818) 993-3802
Show@Rockatomics.or

June 5 & 6: GLENDORA, CA

Glendora GEMS
Goddard Middle School
859 East Sierra Madre
Hours: Sat. 10-5; Sun. 10-4
Bonnie Bidwell (626) 963-4638
Ybidwell2@aol.com

June 18-20: LA HABRA, CA

AFMS-CFMS
SHOW & CONVENTION
No. Orange Co. Gem & Mineral Society
So. CA University of Health Science
16200 E. Amber Valley Road, Whittier
Hours: Fri. & Sat. 10-5; Sun. 10-4
Don Warthen (626) 330-8974
odwarthen@verizon.net
Don Ogden (909) 598-2456
cell (909) 573-7792
donogden@aol.com
www.nocgms.com

June 19 & 20: CAYUCOS, CA

San Luis Obispo Gem & Mineral Club
Cayucos Vets Hall (next to Cayucos Pier)
10 Cayucos Drive
Hours: 9 am - 5 pm Daily
Mike Lyons (805) 610-0757
jadestar@charter.net
slogem.org

July 10 & 11: CULVER CITY, CA

Culver City Rock & Mineral Club
Veterans Memorial Auditorium
4117 Overland Ave. (Overland & Culver)
Hours: Sat. 10-6; Sun. 10-5
Robert Thirlaway (310) 213-7677
thirlawr@earthlink.net
CulverCityRocks.org

August 6, 7 & 8: NIPOMO, CA

Orcutt Mineral Society
St. Joseph's Church
298 S. Thompson Avenue
Hours: 9-5 daily
Wes Lingerfelt (805) 929-3788
Rocks4u@prodigy.net
http://www.omsinc.org

August 7 & 8: SAN FRANCISCO, CA

San Francisco Gem & Mineral Society
San Francisco Co. Fair Bldg. (Hall of Flowers)
9th Ave. & Lincoln Way, Golden Gate Park
Hours: Sat. 10 am-6 pm; Sun. 10 am-5 pm
Carleen Mont-Eton (415) 564-4230
publicity@show.sfgms.org
http://www.sfgms.org

September 3, 4, 5 & 6: FORT BRAGG, CA

Mendocino Coast Gem & Mineral Society
Town Hall
Corner of Main & Laurel
Fri.-Sun. 10 am - 6 pm; Mon. 10 am - 4 pm
Don McDonell (707) 964-3116
Jane Webb at ejwebb@mcn.org

September 11 & 12: DOWNEY, CA

Downey Gem & Mineral Society
Woman's Club of Downey
9813 Paramount Blvd.
Hours: Sat. 10am - 6pm; Sun. 10am - 4pm
Nancy Bird (562) 697-0636
nancyjbird@verizon.net

September 18 & 19: REDWOOD CITY, CA

Sequoia Gem & Mineral Society
Community Activities Building
1400 Roosevelt Avenue
Hours: 10am - 5pm Daily
Carol Corden (650) 248-7155
ccorden@comcast.net
http://sgms.driftime.com

September 18 & 19: PASO ROBLES, CA

Santa Lucia Rockhounds
Pioneer Park
2010 Riverside Drive
Hours: 10 am - 5 pm Daily
Kim Patrick Noyes (805) 610-0603
kimnoyes@gmail.com
slrockhounds.org

September 25 & 26: MONTEREY, CA

Carmel Valley Gem & Mineral Society
Monterey Fairgrounds
2004 Fairgrounds Road
Hours: Sat. 10am - 6pm; Sun. 10am - 5pm
Susie Harlow
Susie@tghcpa.com
www.cvgms.org

October 2 & 3: OROVILLE, CA

Feather River Lapidary & Mineral Society
Oroville Municipal Auditorium
1200 Meyers Street
Hours: 10 am - 5 pm Daily
Connie Rossetto (530) 589-1840
crossetto@aol.com
OrovilleRocks.com

October 3: FALLBROOK, CA

Fallbrook Gem & Mineral Society
Fallbrook G & M Facility
123 West Alvarado Street
Hours 10 am - 4 pm
Mary Fong-Walker (760) 728-1130
ikonmiming@gmail.com

October 9 & 10: TRONA, CA

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

October 9 & 10: VISTA, CA

Vista Gem & Mineral Society
Antique Gas & Steam Engine Museum
2040 N. Sante Fe Avenue
Hours: Sat. 10-5; Sun. 10-4
Fred Wilson (760) 433-8446
Lois Harr (760) 724-0395

October 16 & 17: PLACERVILLE, CA

El Dorado County Mineral & Gem Society
El Dorado County Fairgrounds
100 Placerville Drive
Hours: 10 am - 5 pm daily
Karen Newlin (530) 676-1643
www.rockandgemshow.org

October 16 & 17: CAYUCOS, CA

San Luis Obispo Gem & Mineral Club
Cayucos Vets Hall (next to Cayucos Pier)
10 Cayucos Drive
Hours: 9 am - 5 pm Daily
Mike Lyons (805) 610-0757
jadestar@charter.net
slogem.org

October 16 & 17: SANTA ROSA, CA

Santa Rosa Mineral & Gem Society
Veterans' Memorial Auditorium
1351 Maple Avenue
Hours: Sat. 10 am-6 pm; Sun. 10 am-5 pm
Debbie Granat (707) 542-1651
Erica Tanner srmgs-membership@comcast.net
santarosarockshow@hotmail.com

October 30 & 31: LAKESIDE, CA

El Cajon Valley Gem & Mineral
Lakeside Rodeo Grounds
12584 Maplevue Street
Hours: 10 am - 4 pm Daily
Carolyn Boland (619) 561-7498
carolynboland@juno.com
ecvms.com

November 6 & 7: CONCORD, CA

Contra Costa Mineral & Gem Society
Centre Concord (Clayton Fair Shopping Center)
5298 Clayton Road (near Ygnacio Valley Rd.)
Hours: 10 am - 5 pm daily
Harry Nichandros (925) 289-0454
Show09@ccmgs.org ccmgs.org

November 6 & 7: LANCASTER, CA

Palmdale Gem & Mineral Society
Antelope Valley Fairgrounds
2551 West Ave. H & Hwy 14
Hours: 9am - 5pm daily
SusanChaisson-Walblom(661) 406-0143
slchaisson@yahoo.com
www.palmdalegemandmineral.com

November 6 & 7: RIDGECREST, CA

Indian Wells Gem & Mineral Society
Desert Empire Fairgrounds
520 South Richmond Road
Hours: 9 am – 5 pm daily
John DeRosa (760) 375-7905

November 12, 13 & 14: SACRAMENTO, CA

Sacramento Mineral Society
Scottish Rite Center
6151 H Street
Hours: Fri. & Sat. 10-6; Sun. 10-5
Bob Johnson (916) 339-7007
www. Sacramentomineralsociety.org

November 13 & 14: YUBA CITY, CA

Sutter Buttes Gem & Mineral Society
Yuba-Sutter Fairgrounds (Franklin Hall)
442 Franklin Avenue
Hours:
Erik Anspaugh (916) 567-9750
inez_brg@yahoo.com

November 21 & 21: OXNARD, CA

Oxnard Gem & Mineral Society
Oxnard Performing Arts Center
800 Hobson Way
Hours: Sat. 9-5; Sun. 10-4
Frank Boulch (805) 271-0538
Show_info@oxnardgem.com
www.oxnardgem.com

2011

March 5 & 6: ARCADIA, CA

Monrovia Rockhounds, Inc.
L. A. Co. Arboretum & Botanical Gardens
301 Baldwin Avenue
Hours: 9 am – 4:30 pm Daily
Jo Anna Ritchey (626) 359-1624
joannaritchey@gmail.com
www.Moroks.com

March 5 & 6: VENTURA, CA

Ventura Gem & Mineral Society
Ventura County Fairgrounds
10 West Harbor Boulevard
Hours: Sat. 10-5; Sun. 10-4
Andy Anderson (805) 987-0043
lilliananderson@juno.com
www.vgms.org

2010 Federation Shows

California Federation/ AFMS

June 18 - 20, 2010

La Habra, California

South Central Federation

November 13 & 14, 2010

DeRidder, Louisiana

2011 Federation Shows

California Federation

May 13 - 15, 2011

Anderson, California

Eastern Federation/AFMS Show

July 7 -10, 2011

Syracuse, New York

2012 Federation Shows

Midwest Federation/AFMS Show

Minnesota

Eastern Federation

September 16 & 17, 2011

Harrisburg, Pennsylvania

**ADVERTISING
OPPORTUNITIES!**

Lapidary Journal Calendar
60 Chestnut Ave., Suite #201
Devon, PA 19333-1312
eric.vanosten@primedia.com
ljeditor@aol.com

**Rocks & Minerals
Coming Events
rm@heldref.org**

**Rock & Gem
Rock & Gem Show Dates
290 Maple Ct. Suite #232
Ventura, CA 93003-3517
editor@rockngem.com**

**You can also enter your Show Date
Information for Rock & Gem
Magazine via the CFMS website!**

***IS YOUR CLUB/SOCIETY
HOSTING A SHOW IN
2010?***

***IS YOUR SHOW
LISTED HERE?
IF NOT!***

***PLEASE TURN IN
YOUR SHOW INFORMATION
AS SOON AS POSSIBLE!***