



CFMS NEWSLETTER

Vol LV #1

January 2018



PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

By Jennifer Haley

Happy New Year Everyone,

Thank you for this second opportunity to serve as your president for the California Federation of Mineralogical Societies. I know this is a rare opportunity that you have given to me, and I am

very grateful to be able to work for you once again in this capacity.

Although CFMS meets twice a year to cover business with representatives from all our societies, there is a lot of work that goes on in between those meetings within the Executive Committee, CFMS Chairmen and members of those committees. All of us are here to be accessible for your societies. The Federation newsletters are also a way we can talk together with our societies all at once.

Many of you have sent members from your home societies knowing they'd be great volunteers for CFMS positions. Others hear the Federation call within them and eagerly volunteer, knowing they have something they can offer by participating at the CFMS officer and chairman level. Leadership comes with a welcoming heart, being able to work well with people, a creative mind, structure, and last but not least being able to keep your cool so you are not a fool. I will be talking more about leadership this year.

I've added three ad hoc committees for this year, with hopeful plans for other pots on the fire. I have not given up yet on CFMS being part of a show this year. CFMS is willing to do their fair share of the work involved. I have been doing some groundwork on facilities, crunching the numbers and scouting out locations which I am hoping can work in tandem with one of the society shows easily. I would love to hear one or even more of the societies say that works for them.

Ad Hoc- Grant Research

Purpose: To research the possibility of CFMS using a grant(s) for certain federation projects; its eligibility to do so; identifying specific uses/projects; collect research on writing for grants/legal responsibilities following receiving a grant (s); how to organize the committee to specifically meet the federation's needs. Committee to present their findings to the EC as they gain and group their research findings.

Ad Hoc- CFMS Rules Committee Orientation Workbook

Purpose: To create an easy to follow detailed workbook, which will be given to each member of the Rules Committee and to their assistants in advance; ensuring everyone involved can easily help and assist each other during Competitive Exhibits at a show.

Ad Hoc-Creating a National Day of Awareness for Rockhounds

Purpose: Many of us have been talking about creating a National Rockhound Day. National Awareness Days are given by presidential proclamations, and beginning research looks like we might be able to have our day. This would really give our societies a big boost in becoming increasingly recognized for all the work they've historically done and continue doing, so we become a national treasure; PR for new memberships; greater attendance at shows.

Join us at the **Sixth Annual ALAA Quartzsite Clean-up, January 21, 2018**, Approx. 9:30-12:00 MST. Location TBD. I'll be there along with familiar happy faces who make the journey from different parts of the country to be at Quartzsite to participate in this event. The BLM provides the trash picker upper spikes to save our backs and trash bags, ALAA furnishes their logo trash bags too which we fill with more desert trash and also use to take a group photo of all the volunteers when we're done for your society scrapbooks and ALAA. We could honestly use some more help. 4-wheel drive vehicles are not necessary as the site is along the 1-10 near an offramp. You'll enjoy the company we keep and as always, you'll meet some really nice new friends.

Jennifer

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MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Jan 1..... 2018 Dues/Insurance are due
Jan 5..... Deadline for February newsletter
Feb 5..... Deadline for March newsletter
Mar 25-31..... Camp Zzyzx

CFMS INSURANCE CONTACTS

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

CFMS Insurance Chairman

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CFMS NEWSLETTER SUBSCRIPTIONS

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

CFMS WEBSITE

The CFMS website is accessible at www.cfmsinc.org the email for the web site is cfmswebsite@yahoo.com. Aitors are invited to download articles for their bulletins from this website.

NOTES FROM THE EDITOR

The deadline for the newsletter is the 5th day of the month prior to the month of publication. Articles should be sent to the editor at bplarue@earthlink.net. "snail mail"? Please send to the CFMS PO Box 1657, Rialto, CA 92377-1657.

DONATIONS

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

- CFMS Scholarship Fund
- CFMS Endowment Fund
- CFMS General Fund
- Diedrick Memorial Scholarship Fund
- AFMS Scholarship Foundation
- AFMS Endowment Fund

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

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



CFMS Field Trip-South Collecting Trip Lavic Siding near Barstow, CA

February 17th, 2018

This trip is open to all Rockhounds who agree to abide by the AFMS and CFMS Code of Ethics, the directions of the field trip leader and practice safe rock hounding.

Call the field trip leader beforehand for further information. Remember to sign in and out with the field trip leader. A Consent and Assumption of Risk Waiver of Liability form must be signed upon arrival at meeting site.

WHEN: Saturday February 17th at 8:00 AM

WHERE: Lavic Siding

MATERIAL: We will be collecting Agates and Jaspers.

MEET: Hector Rd off **I-40** on the south side for orientation and sign in. Waiver of liability will be signed at the meeting spot. From the meeting spot we will caravan for about 20 minutes to collecting site. Contact field trip leader for additional information.

VEHICLES: No low clearance vehicles, most will be able to make it to the main collecting area, there is an alternate spot for those with 4X4. Gas and food are available in Barstow.

WHAT TO BRING: Collecting bags/buckets, rock hammer, digging equipment, safety glasses and spray bottles, First Aid kit. Bring lunch, plenty of water and a camera; this widespread field offers no shade so use sun screen and protect yourself.

If you would like to stay for the weekend, this general area offers a wide variety of material so bring your rock collecting guides.

NOTE: This is the heart of the Mojave Desert and the weather can be unpredictable at this time of year so dress accordingly. This trip may be canceled at the last minute due to bad weather, so please feel free to contact us the night before if weather is questionable.

Treat the desert with respect - tread lightly and if you pack it in, pack it out.

For more info contact Field Trip Leaders.

CFMS Field Trips South Co-chairs:

Adam Dean: theagatehunter@verizon.net
(909) 489 4899

Roy Isaac: lbionicdj@gmail.com
(818) 633-3350



ALL AMERICAN CLUB AWARD CONTEST

By Ofelia Warthen, Chair

Attention All CFMS/AFMS Societies! Deadline time is

January 31, 2018 to enter the 2017 All American Club Contest. Make sure you enter and make your members proud they belong to a respective active organization.

This is a fantastic program established to encourage societies to share their activities and expertise with other clubs within their respective regions and with the clubs of the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies. Your entries reflect pride and recognition given to the perspective society for their membership accomplishments.

It is invigorating to pause at the end of the year and reflect on our yearly accomplishments. It's amazing how our committees become so excited once they start putting together (sometime traumatic) all of your 2017 accomplishments. It makes me excited just talking about it!

Please go to the direct link for the form:

www.cfmsinc.org/forms10/AllAmClub/2018_AACA_EntryForm.pdf

I Thank you all for your participation. For more details, please contact me at: odwarthen@hotmail.com

Let's make 2017 a fantastic entry year!

Let's show our pride to be connected with a fantastic organization!

All CFMS societies strive to accomplish great community awareness & that's what makes us great!

ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION COMMITTEE

by Jennifer Haley, Chair

Annual Reminder! If your society has a new federation director for this year, please forward that information to me. I will need their name, the name of your society and their email address. Thank you!



2018 CFMS WEB SITE CONTEST

Merryan O'Neill, CFMS Web Site Contest Chair

OVERVIEW

All CFMS Society Webmasters are invited to enter the 2018 CFMS Web Site Contest.

The major functions of a society's web site are: attracting new members, providing information for its members, public advertising of society activities including shows, and offering educational information. This contest attempts to determine the effectiveness of the society's web site in providing information to meet these goals, not to determine the quality or capabilities of the society.

Even if you don't enter the competition, the guidelines are full of valuable information. One tip to note is that, if you happen to post your newsletter online, don't rely on that to illustrate membership information and other attributes of your society. Include information about your society's programs and activities within the web site itself.

However, be sure to read and follow the **Score Sheet Guidelines**. If you have questions about any of the rules or requirements, please email me at mvoneill@comcast.net.

TO ACCESS THE FORMS: Go to the CFMS web site, www.cfmsinc.org - click on the "**Contest**" link and open the forms from the **Web Site Contest Forms list**. (Note that the rules have not changed for this year's contest, but be sure to use the forms dated 2018.)

The Web Site Contest Entry Sheet and Score Sheet forms are fillable and savable pdf's. Open each form and save it to your computer using a different file name.

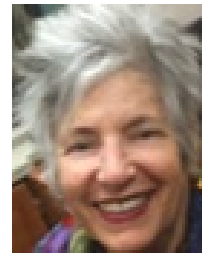
- For the Entry Form, use "entry" somewhere in your file name.
- For the Score Sheet, use "score" somewhere in your file name.
- Include your society's name or an abbreviation in both file names.
- The forms are used by all regions, so be sure to enter and "X" in the CFMS box at the top of the forms.
- Complete the entire entry form and the top of the score sheet. Email the forms to the CFMS Web Site Contest Chair, Merryan O'Neill, at mvoneill@comcast.net.

The deadline for this year's CFMS Web Site Contest is January 10, 2018.

Webmasters may enter their society's web sites in the CFMS competition even if they have placed first the previous year. The top 2 CFMS winners will be forwarded to compete in the AFMS competition (except for those placing 1st in the AFMS contest in the last 2 years). The AFMS will continue to enforce a 2-year waiting period for entries that have placed first at the AFMS level.

The contest results will be announced at the 2018 AFMS and CFMS Shows. We hope you and others in your society can attend.

Thank you for your participation in the CFMS/AFMS Web Site Contest!



VISUAL PROGRAMS

By Sharon Rogow, Chair

Happy New Year Everyone! I hope that your holidays were wonderful. But now down to business.

Back in December, we received a program request for a later January meeting. That is a good start for the year. Considering that our DVD library provides a quality service to our societies with educational, instructional and "travel/visit" types of presentations, it seems a convenient and advantageous method of supplying quality programs.

This is easily accomplished by accessing the CFMS web site, completing the form after clicking on Visual Programs and making your choices. If you need assistance, just email me or call. I'll look forward to hearing from all of you.

Happy 2018!

sharonrr@cox.net
(702) 499-0272

DUES ARE DUE!!



INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR YOUR MINERAL COLLECTION

By Mark Nelson, Insurance Chair

Let me introduce myself. I'm your new Insurance Committee Chair! My background in insurance comes from my career in the mechanical construction industry - mainly sheet metal, controls, air conditioning and refrigeration. I found that safety and insurance are partners in getting a job done and keeping a business running in the black!

As clubs and societies with rock and mineral hobbyists we are very fortunate to have a well-run insurance program. This year I will try to explain what it is, what it can do for us – as well as what it isn't and doesn't do for us.

On a subject that's closer to home, in 2017 we learned about thefts of rock and mineral collections throughout the state – as well as wildfires that wiped out entire neighborhoods. While it may be difficult to track down some of these thieves to retrieve our beautiful specimens, we may be able to protect ourselves from total loss and enable us to receive help from insurance to replace those specimens.

All homeowners and renters insurance policies provide coverage for a wide array of our personal belongings against losses such as fire and theft. The losses covered by our policy are subject to the policy's deductible, and every policy contains limits on certain 'categories' of personal belongings (such as jewelry, computers, guns, etc.). For rockhounds, mineral collectors and others in our hobby, it's important that we know what 'special limits' exist within our own policy so that we aren't surprised and disappointed when submitting a claim. Some policies limit coverage for gold, silver and other precious stones with additional limitations for any items that are used in a business. While homeowners and renters insurance policies contain many similar limitations, there are also important differences between policies issued by one insurance company compared with another. Be sure to contact your insurance agent or broker to confirm exactly what limitations exist within your policy.

To help your insurance adjuster, you might want to consider creating a simple database with "cloud storage" to store pictures and information about your collection.

This is actually easier than it sounds. Most computers come with the Microsoft Excel program. Create a spreadsheet and list your minerals and specimens on the sheet and save it in a file called "My Minerals" on your computer. At the same time, take photos of the items on your spreadsheet and store them in the same computer file.

Then subscribe to a service such as Carbonite. Carbonite automatically backs up all of your data and photos to its "cloud storage" facility. At the time of this writing the cost was \$59.99 per year. I've used it for over a year and like the fact that I can access any file in my home office computer from a computer while I'm away. If my home burns or my computer crashes all of my files and photos still exist and can be quickly accessed. Does this still sound difficult? At least take pictures of your specimens and store them somewhere other than your house. I hope you never need it, but it is good to be prepared just in case!

ROCKHOUND OF THE YEAR

by Gary Levitt

garytherockhound@sbcglobal.net

Melanie DeMont, Woodland Hills RockChippers

It gives me great pleasure to announce the selection of Melanie DeMont as the Woodland Hills Rock Chippers Rockhound of the Year. Usually, individuals that receive this in honor are "old-timers" that have demonstrated their efforts over multiple years. So it was special to select a "newbie" as our selection.

Melanie has been a member for about three years. And this past year has to be counted as one really tough one for her. I am sure all of you have heard about Aliso Canyon and its impact on people that live close by. And yes, Melanie is one of the group. Needless to say she has had some health impact due to this.

Yet despite the challenge, she volunteered to be our newsletter editor and has done an excellent job. Any of you who have been your organization's editor know this is far from a trivial exercise.

With a rock bag that is very full of appreciation, I'm glad to announce Melanie DeMont has been selected as our Rockhound of the Year.

submitted by Gary Levitt, Federation Director

TOOLBOX TALKS FOR THE ROCK AND MINERAL CLUB

by Mark Nelson, Safety Committee Chair

In addition to having a written set of safety guidelines we must be able to communicate these to our members in a way that will not overload them. In the construction industry we see this type of communication called “toolbox talks” referring to a mechanic’s tool box, or “tailgate talks” referring to an area where a job site foreman will lay down the tailgate of his or her truck and discuss a safety issue pertinent to that day’s job site assignments. If they are welding, the talk is about eye, skin and clothing protection. If they are digging a trench it is about shoring and cave-in prevention. If they are rigging equipment with a crane, it is about checking the straps and protection from falling objects, electricity hazards and so on.

We can learn from this to increase safety in our hobby. Safety messages that are brief and stick to one subject are more effective than going through the entire book of safe practices. At CFMS we want to make the safety message easy to deliver. This year we will prepare a series of “toolbox talks” designed to be presented at shop and field activities that deal with a specific subject. They will be short and easy to present and to understand. At the end of the year they will be available on the CFMS web site for reference. Before then they will be available in the monthly newsletter on the CFMS web site!

Toolbox Talk #1 — Eye and Face Protection in the Shop.

Safety glasses/goggles are required before entrance into the working areas of the shop.

Protecting the eyes and face from hazards is extremely important considering all of the organs and soft tissue in the area. For example, a projectile to the eye not only damages the eye, but potentially the ligaments and muscles that move it, and in some cases the brain. Furthermore, lacerations to the face can damage muscle tissue and leave life-long scars.

Always make sure that your eye Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) is properly rated for the job, fits properly, and doesn’t obstruct your view.

Causes of Eye and Face Injuries

- Splashes from harmful liquid chemicals such as acids or cleaning solutions

- Flying debris, chips and dust from grinding
- Flying projectiles from objects colliding, falling or being dumped
- Extreme heat and light radiation from exposure to flames, welding or torches

Types of Personal Protective Equipment

Safety Glasses or Goggles: enclose the area around the eyes to provide the highest protection against airborne particles, flying projectiles and splash hazards. Safety glasses are made of impact resistant material and many are available with UV protection &/or tinted lenses.

Prescription Safety Glasses: Standard prescription glasses are not made to protect you from eye hazards. To be protected, wear safety glasses that fit over top of your prescription or have prescription safety glasses made for you.

Face Shields also protect the face from grinding debris, flying projectiles, radiant heat and chemical splashes. Face shields should be used in conjunction with eye protection to be fully protected.

Discussion Topics:

- What causes eye and face hazards in your work area?
- What behaviors cause a person not to wear required PPE?
- How do you get eye and face protection?
- When is eye and face protection required?

Discussion Date: _____

Supervisor: _____

Participants: _____



CFMS RULES COMMITTEE

By Jennifer Haley, Chair

It's Time for the Annual AFMS Show & Convention

As I write this, the information for the AFMS National Show & Convention is not on the AFMS website yet. This year the Annual AFMS/Regional Show & Convention will be held in Raleigh, North Carolina, on April 4-8 2018. It will be hosted by the Tar Heel Gem & Mineral Club, a dual Federation club (EFMLS & SFMS). The club show has always been an excellent one. North Carolina is home to numerous ruby, sapphire and emerald mines to name just a few of the gemstones found there. Fieldtrips are being planned during the show and after.

Road Trip! Many of our CFMS members who participated in last year's Competitive Exhibits at the Annual CFMS Show & Convention, hosted by the Ventura Gem & Mineral Society, "flew up," becoming eligible as AFMS DIRECT entries. Eligibility earned in a Regional Federation Show shall remain in effect in the class for which it is earned through the 12th annual AFMS competition thereafter, except for Juniors whose eligibility will continue until their 18th birthday. Please refer your members to page 19 of the AFMS Uniform Rules Manual online for entry application information. The winner of an AFMS Trophy may not compete in the same class until the 3rd annual AFMS competition thereafter.

It would be really fun to see some of our members in Raleigh. If you can't travel this year, the 2019 national show will be in Cedar Rapids, IA, March 16-17. Now is a good time to plan for your next exhibit if you are planning on entering at a regional or national show in the future.

Be kind to yourself. Review the AFMS Uniform Rules Manual way ahead of time so you have the time to absorb the information. Often people wait until just before the show to read up, and are so focused on their display case and what is going in it, that they overlook the first part of the manual, S-I-1-2011 thru S-1-12-2011, which has important information for you as an exhibitor that you need to know.

The time you spend preparing for your exhibit, practicing setting up the display and asking questions if you need to, is time well spent on you.

For more information about the show in Raleigh, check the AFMS website.



ROCKHOUND SOAP BOX

CFMS Public Lands Advisory
Committee

John Martin – Committee Chair

plac@antelecom.net

john.martin@amlands.org

Welcome to 2018 and the beginning of another great year for Recreational Rockhounding and the enjoyment of all the Lapidary Arts.

There were 118 Bills Introduced in 2017 that affect Parks, recreation areas and trails which could have an impact on our ability for Recreational Rockhounding. All of the bills are currently in committee and working their way through the legislative process. They will remain active through 2018. A listing of the bills may be viewed at the website below:

https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/subjects/parks_recreation_areas_trails/6289

There was not much change in the status of recreational rockhounding opportunities in 2017 and there not a lot of changes expected in the first half of 2018. The Review of the National Monuments, as required in the President's Executive Order of early 2017 is complete and the report has been submitted for review by the President. There have not been any changes to the Monument status of any monuments in California or Nevada. They are still being reviewed.

At the Visalia Directors meeting the PLAC Committee was discussed and as a result of the resignation of PLAC North Sub-Committee Chair, Al Bolshazy, the committee would return to only a PLAC North and PLAC-South Sub-committee. It was decided to divide the North and South area of the state at about Visalia with PLAC-North being covered by Mike Hunerlach, mphunerlach@comcast.net, and Plac-South being covered by Lisbet Thoresen, lisbet@lthoresen.com, and for the time being we will discontinue the PLAC-Central position. Please feel free to contact Mike or Lisbet concerning rockhounding PLAC concerns or questions in their respective areas of the state and for fossil related issues please contact Andrew Hoekstra, ajhoekstra@yahoo.com. For any PLAC issue, question or concern I also can be contacted at plac@antelecom.net. We will strive to keep you informed and answer any concerns or questions that arise. I am currently looking for a PLAC Committee member to represent the State of Nevada.

**“Happy Rockhounding and Enjoy Your Public
Lands”**

PROMOTING CAMP PARADISE

Part 2

by Jill Atkins, Camp Attendee

Last month I described the physical layout of Camp Paradise jewelry camp. This month I want to tell you about “The Barn”. If you remember, it is located up a little rise. Just before you get to the barn itself there is a swimming pool to the right. On the concrete pad outside the barn is the lapidary area. Two rows of tables are set with trim saws (2), a large Titan grinding/polishing machine, numerous Genie grinding/polishing machines, an elk hide polisher, a bigger polisher...well, you get the drift.

Tom is in charge of this area and Duncan was his helper last year. Let me tell you a little about Tom. He has been a lapidary instructor for more years than he wants me to tell you. Talk about the Stone Age. Yes, pun intended. Diamond Pacific has always been generous in lending machines to the ESS camps, and Tom and Duncan have provided their expertise to teaching students how to make a perfect cabochon. Once you have done that, the sky’s the limit with what you can do in stone cutting and jewelry making.

Before we go into the barn I should point out that next to the mess hall is the soft stone carving area taught by Margaret, who was President of CFMS during 2017. Nestled under the shade of the trees, she gently guides your decision making about what you want to create. A little or maybe not so little piece of soapstone, some hand tools or maybe electric tools and you are on your way to making your vision a reality.

Also in this area and situated inside the mess hall is the faceting area. Yes, the fascinating faceting. Diane teaches this and is a hoot. Don’t tell her I said so! Here the students learn how to make stones flat as opposed to lapidary where they teach making stones round. Ahem...I digress. If you have ever seen the difference between a rough stone just from the ground and that same stone faceted then you know that this is magical. The way the light is captured and bounces back to you is a sight to behold. You can do that in this class.

It looks like I didn’t get to the barn again this month but I will endeavor to do that next month.

Keep saving that \$40.00 for the next 9 months, and you will have your entry fee to a world of creativity.

IDENTIFYING AND MENTORING MEMBERS FOR CLUB LEADERSHIP

By Bob Rush, Membership Chair

As a result of recent surveys of the various CFMS member societies one of the most pressing problems facing most societies is identifying and mentoring candidates for positions in guidance and leadership in their society. One means of achieving the goal of having enough suitable trained and willing candidates for these leadership positions is to have an ongoing dialog and nominating activities with the society's members about the positions. This includes the position's primary responsibilities, incidental responsibilities, the time commitment to fulfill these responsibilities and the personal rewards gained by serving in these positions.

A monthly agenda item for all the general meetings should be adhered to so that the information about the positions will always be presented and the importance of having these discussions is emphasized. The information presentation at the meeting should not exceed 5 to 7 minutes so that the general flow of the meeting isn't disrupted or prolonged. The presentation should preferably be done by a current member in that position. It is recommended that the priority for selecting the monthly presentation be based on the most likely open leadership positions for the next year's elections.

With these continuous presentations the importance of these positions gets elevated within the minds of the general members and there will be more interest among the members in maintaining the continuity of the society. These discussions will help educate the members and will hopefully reduce their fears and anxiety when it comes time to asking them to step up to volunteer for the positions.

Shown on the next page is a sample guideline document that will assist in preparing and presenting the information at the general meeting.



**GUIDELINES FOR A MONTHLY DISCUSSION
ON LEADERSHIP POSITIONS
TO BE FILLED OUT FOR EACH SOCIETY
LEADERSHIP POSITION AND USED IN THE
MONTHLY DISCUSSION**

POSITION

1. PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITIES:
(These can be copied from the Bylaws or other society documents as necessary)

2. INCIDENTAL RESPONSIBILITIES:
(These can also come from the above listed documents or discussions with members that have served in these positions)

3. TYPICAL TIME COMMITMENTS PER WEEK/MONTH:

4. SPECIAL SKILLS OR TRAINING REQUIRED OR DESIRED FOR THE POSITION (IF ANY):

5. THE PERSONAL REWARDS THAT YOU HAVE EXPERIENCED BY SERVING IN THIS POSITION:

6. OPEN DISCUSSION - INCLUDE ASKING IF ANYONE IS INTERESTED IN THE POSITION THAT WAS JUST DESCRIBED

**CONSUMER ALERT: IRS WARNS
TAXPAYERS, TAX PROS OF NEW EMAIL
SCAM TARGETING HOTMAIL USERS**

WASHINGTON — The Internal Revenue Service today warned taxpayers and tax professionals of a new email scam targeting Hotmail users that is being used to steal personal and financial information.

The phishing email subject line reads: Internal Revenue Service Email No. XXXX | We’re processing your request soon | TXXXXXX-XXXXXXX”. The email leads taxpayers to sign in to a fake Microsoft page and then asks for personal and financial information.

The IRS has received over 900 complaints about this new phishing scheme that seems to exclusively target Hotmail users. The suspect websites associated with this scam have been shut down, but taxpayers should be on the lookout for similar schemes.

Individuals who receive unsolicited emails claiming to be from the IRS should forward it to phishing@irs.gov and then delete it. It is important to keep in mind the IRS generally does not initiate contact with taxpayers by email to request personal or financial information. For more information, visit the “Tax Scams and Consumer Alerts” page on IRS.gov.

From *IRS Newswire*, Issue Number: IR-2017-203, Dec 13, 2017

Editor’s Note:

Don Warthen submitted a report on the proposed tax law changes currently being considered by Congress. Because the proposed legislation will either be passed or rejected by the time this newsletter is in the hands of the reader, I made a decision not to include this item. The above piece is timely and reminds us to be ever alert to individuals seeking to steal our personal information.

On a related topic, club treasurers need to continue to be alert to phishing emails from individuals posing as one of your club officials requesting payment of some amount for an alleged “expense”. As the AFMS Treasurer, I get these phony requests on a regular basis. How do you deal with them? You **never** respond and **above all delete**. If there is an attachment or a link, don’t even think about clicking on it. If in doubt as to the origin of the email, a quick email or phone call will verify its authenticity.

CFMS SHOW DATES

Shows and Events

sponsored by

CFMS Clubs & Societies!

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

*Email or mail to:
SHOW DATES*

*Use the Online Show Form
at www.cfmsinc.org*

(click on Shows)

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

2018

January 20-21, Exeter, CA
Tule Gem and Mineral Society
Exeter Veterans' Memorial Building
324 N Kaweah Ave
Hours: Sat, 10-5; Sun, 10-4
Contact: Margaret Buchmann, 559-799-6034
Email: margaretbu03@gmail.com
Website: www.tulegem.com

February 16-25, Indio, CA
San Geronio Mineral & Gem Society
Riverside County Fair & National Date Festival
82-503 Hwy 111
Hours: 10AM-10PM
Contact: Bert Grisham, 951-849-1674
Email: bert67@verizon.net

February 17-18, Antioch, CA
Antioch Lapidary Club
Contra Costa County Fairgrounds
1201 West 10th Street
Hours: 10-5
Contact: Brenda Miguel, 925-301-6957
Email: brenda.miguel@yahoo.com
Website: www.antiochlapidaryclub

February 24-25, Vallejo, CA
Vallejo Gem & Mineral Society
Solano County Fairgrounds, McCormack Hall
900 Fairgrounds Drive
Hours: 10-5
Contact: Daniel Wolke, 707-342-2950
Email: dncwolke@sbcglobal.net
Website: www.vjgems.org

March 2-11, Imperial, CA
Imperial County Gem & Mineral Society
California Mid-Winter Fair & Fiesta
200 East Second St
Hours: Fri 12pm-11pm, Sat 12pm-11pm,
Sun 12pm-11pm, Mon 4pm-11pm, Tue
4pm-11pm, Wed 4pm-11pm, Thurs
4pm-11pm, Fri 4pm-11pm, Sat
12pm-11pm, Sun 12pm-11pm
Contact: John Pyle Jr., 760-562-3453
Website: www.ivgms.org

March 2, 3, 4 Newark, CA
Mineral & Gem Society of Castro Valley
Newark Pavilion
6430 Thornton Ave
Hours Fri. & Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5
Contact: Cathy Miller, 510-887-9007
Email: showchair@mgscv.org
Website: info@mgscv.org

March 3-4, Arcadia, CA
Monrovia Rockhounds
Los Angeles County Arboretum and
Botanic Garden
301 Baldwin
Hours: 9-4:30 Daily
Contact: Jo Anna Ritchey 626-359-1624
Email: joannaritchey@gmail.com
Website: www.moroka.com

March 3-4, Torrance, CA
South Bay Lapidary and Mineral Society
Ken Miller Recreation Center
3341 Torrance Road (entrance on
Madrona)
Hours: Sat 10-5, Sun 10-4
Contact: Nancy Pekarek, 310-257-8152
Email: pekareks@hotmail.com
Website:
southbaylapidaryandmineralsociety.com

March 3-4, Ventura, CA
Ventura Gem & Mineral Society
Ventura County Fairgrounds
10 W Harbor Blvd
Hours: Sat 10-5, Sun 10-4
Contact: Diane Cook, 805-312-8467
Email: info@vgms.org
Website: www.vgms.org

March 10-11, San Marino, CA
Pasadena Lapidary Society
San Marino Masonic Center
3130 Huntington Dr
Hours: Sat 10-6, Sun 10-5
Contact: Ellen Ferrell, 727-512-0381
Email: pasadenalapidary@aol.com
Website: pasadenalapidarysociety.org

March 10-11, Spreckels, CA
Salinas Valley Rock & Gem
Spreckels Vet's Memorial Hall
5th & Llano Streets
Hours: 10-5
Contact: Gary Beck, 831-679-2896
Email: garybeckpca@yahoo.com
Website: salinasrockandgem.pagecloud.com

March 10-11, Turlock, CA
Mother Lode Mineral Society
Stanislaus County Fair Grounds
900 North Broadway
Hours: 10-5 daily
Contact: Bud & Terry McMillin, 209-484-4416
Email: terry.mcmillin@yahoo.com
Website: www.motherlodemineralsociety.com

March 17-18, Lemoore, CA
Lemoore Gem & Mineral Club
Lemoore Trinity Hall
470 Champion Street
Hours: Sat 10-6, Sun 10-4
Contact: Chris Wertenberger, 559-309-3433
Email: kim-morrell@hotmail.com
Website: Facebook: Lemoore Gem and Mineral Club

March 17-18, San Jose, CA
Santa Clara Valley Gem & Mineral Society
Santa Clara County Fairgrounds
344 Tully Rd
Hours: 10-5
Contact: Sonia Dyer, 408-629-5735
Email: Sonia.dyer@sbcglobal.net
Website: www.scvgms.org

March 24-25, Angels Camp, CA
Calaveras Gem and Mineral Society
Calaveras County Fairgrounds
101 Frogtown Rd
Hours: Sat 10-5, Sun 10-4
Contact: Robin Williams, 209-728-8277
Email: robinski@yahoo.com
Website:
calaverasgemandmineralsociety.org

March 24-25, Roseville, CA
Roseville Rock Rollers Gem and Mineral Society
Placer County Fairgrounds
800 All American Blvd (off Washington)
Hours: Sat 10-5, Sun 10-4
Contact: Gloria Marie, 916-216-1114
Email: gloriarosevillerockrollers@gmail.com
Website: www.rockrollers.com

April 7 – 8, Mariposa, CA
Mariposa Gem & Mineral Society
Mariposa County Fairgrounds
5007 Fairgrounds Road (South of Mariposa off Hwy 49)
Hours: Sat 10 - 5; Sun 10 - 4
Contact: Meredith Meehan, (559) 868-3535
Email: mcmc@sti.net
Website: mariposagemclub.org

April 21-22, Paso Robles, CA
Santa Lucia Rockhounds
Paso Robles Event Center
2198 Riverside Ave
Hours: Sat 10-5, Sun 10-4
Contact: Tina Clark, 805-305-0246
Email: slrockhounds.org

April 28- 29 Lancaster, CA
Antelope Valley Gem & Mineral Club
Lancaster High School
44701 -32nd Street West
Hours: 10-5 daily
Contact: Susan Chaisson-Walblom 661-406-0143
Email: slchaisson@yahoo.com
Website: www.avgem.weebly.com

April 28-29, Reno, NV
Reno Gem & Mineral Society, Inc.
Reno/Sparks Livestock Events Center
1350 N Wells Ave.
Hours Sat 10-5, Sun 10-4
Contact: Daniel Ellis, 775-359-6068
Email: saliondan55@aol.com
Website: www.renorockhounds.com

June 8, 9, 10 Escondido, CA
Palomar Gem & Mineral Society
Details to follow

September 23 – 24, REDWOOD CITY, CA
Sequoia Gem & Mineral Society
Details to follow

National/Regional Shows:
2018 –When details are available

AFMS/Eastern Federation
April 6-8
Raleigh, NC

California Federation

Midwest Federation

Hosted by Lincoln Orbit Earth
Science Society,
Springfield, Illinois
October 2018

Northwest Federation

Rocky Mountain Federation

Hosted by Western Dakota
Gem and Mineral Society
Rushmore Civic Center
444 Mount Rushmore Road
July 20, 21, 22, 2018
Rapid City, SD

South Central Federation

SCFMS Convention
Hosted by Lubbock G&MS
Lubbock Memorial Civic
Center
8233 Will Clayton Pkwy
May 5-6, 2018
Lubbock, TX
<http://www.scfms.net/show>

Southeast Federation

**EACH CLUB/SOCIETY SHOW
SHOULD BE LISTED HERE**

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

REMINDER

Advertise your Show in as many
Free locations as possible!

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

**Advertise your shows in
the *Rock & Gem Magazine!***

[www.rockngem.com/
showdate-submissions/](http://www.rockngem.com/showdate-submissions/)

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

**CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF MINERALOGICAL SOCIETIES
Officer Change Form 2018**

Director: Please provide us with the information we ask for below. To insure your club/society listing in the annual roster, we must have this information on or before **March 31** of the current year. Please note that your club/society permanent mailing address as well as one (1) telephone/e-mail contact will be published. **If you wish that addresses of members not be published, simply send me only the addresses of those members who are designated to receive the Newsletter.**

Please provide ZIPcode plus 4 for those designated to receive the Newsletter

Society Name & Address: _____

Telephone/E-Mail: _____

Pres.: _____

V.P.: _____

Sec.: _____

Treas.: _____

Fed. Director: _____

Address: _____ Phone: _____ Em ail: _____

Editor: _____

Address: _____ Phone: _____ Email: _____

Programs: _____

Meeting Place: _____

Day & Time of Meeting: _____

Bulletin: _____

Number of Members: _____ Junior Members: Yes No

Each Club/Society is entitled to three (3) free copies of the CFMS Newsletter. We like to send one (1) copy to the Federation Director at his/her house with all Federation mail, one (1) copy to the Bulletin Editor and the third copy to whomever you wish to receive it. Please mark the appropriate name above.

All Federation Mail and one (1) copy of the Newsletter sent to - please mark the appropriate name above.

Signed: _____ Phone/e-mail _____

Contact person: _____ Phone/email _____

Please mail or FAX completed form to:

Pat LaRue, Exec Sec/Treas
PO Box 1657
Rialto, CA 92377-1657
(909) 874-5664
(909) 874-7430 FAX
e-mail: bplarue@earthlink.net

**California Federation of Mineralogical Societies
COMBINED DUES AND INSURANCE
2018**

2018 Dues/Insurance are due by January 1 Delinquent
if not paid by March 1

CFMS Dues: \$2.00 per member
Insurance: \$6.00 per member
Total: \$8.00 per member

Society: _____

Address: _____

Treasurer: _____

We have _____ members as of 12/31/17.

I have enclosed a check for: \$_____ and a list of members as of 12/31/17.

Make check payable to CFMS
Send to: Pat LaRue
PO Box 1657
Rialto, CA 92377-1657

Questions: Contact Pat LaRue, CFMS Exec Sec/Treasurer at bplarue@earthlink.com

**CFMS NEWSLETTER SUBSCRIPTION
2018**

Note: Please review the Officer Change Form for details about designating individuals in your club/society who are to receive the three (3) free copies of the CFMS newsletter.

Additional Newsletter Subscriptions: \$5.50 per Calendar Year (Not Prorated)

Please include your ZIPCode plus 4 for mailing efficiency

New _____ Renewal _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State _____ Zip+4 _____

Club/Society: _____

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Pat LaRue, Editor

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