



# CFMS NEWSLETTER



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Marcia Goetz

Greetings Rock Friends,

February has Valentine's Day and it is also a great day for loving your rocks and minerals. I have a piece of Biggs jasper I carry in my purse and it is not often I look at it, but maybe once a week I pull it out and love the beauty of the stone again. And, even better, if I'm talking to someone about rocks, I pull the slab out of my purse to show that person the beauty and then I get to admire the rock through their eyes also.

In the last newsletter Pat LaRue asked the societies to be sure to return the Change of Officers form. This form is important as it is used to prepare the Society roster. That roster helps me as the person who does the Electronic Communication emails so I can send out info to the Federation Directors.

Plans for the CFMS/AFMS Show and Convention plans are in the works. Jim Brace-Thompson is collecting donations for the AFMS Endowment Fund as prizes for the AFMS Endowment Fund drawing at the CFMS/AFMS show; the minimum value should be at least \$75. The CFMS Endowment Fund is handled by Sharon Rogow and she accepts all donations. The Endowment Funds help support activities and projects of their respective federations.

If you were able to go to Quartzsite, I hope you had fun and you found a rock or mineral you can carry with you to show to people you have in your life and give them a little joy.

*Marcia Goetz*



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**MARK YOUR CALENDAR**

Feb 5..... Deadline for Mar Newsletter  
Mar 5. .... Dealine for Apr Newsletter  
May 24-26. ... CFMS/AFMS Convention & Show  
Aug 16-31. .... Camp Paradise

**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: [pmcdaniel@mc-d-ins.com](mailto:pmcdaniel@mc-d-ins.com)  
Web Site: [www.mcdanielinsuranceservices.com](http://www.mcdanielinsuranceservices.com)

Ellen Ferrell  
1392 Bouquet Dr. #A  
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**CFMS NEWSLETTER SUBSCRIPTIONS**

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**CFMS WEBSITE**

The CFMS website is accessible at [www.cfmsinc.org](http://www.cfmsinc.org)  
Editors are invited to download articles for their bulletins from this website. Be sure to cite the source.

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**NOTES FROM THE EDITOR**

The deadline for the newsletter is the 5<sup>th</sup> day of the month prior to the month of publication. Articles should be sent to the editor at [bplarue@earthlink.net](mailto:bplarue@earthlink.net). "Snail mail"? Please send to the CFMS PO Box 1657, Rialto, CA 92377-1657. Articles without a byline are written by the editor.

**DONATIONS**

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

- CFMS Scholarship Fund
- CFMS Endowment Fund
- CFMS General Fund
- Diedrick Memorial Scholarship Fund
- AFMS Scholarship Foundation
- AFMS Endowment Fund
- Burns Memorial Camp Fund (benefits Earth Science Studies)
- Facilities Development 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 acknowledgment. Please make all checks payable to CFMS or AFMS as appropriate and note the fund in the memo section.

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## CFMS ENDOWMENT FUND

By Sharon Rogow, Chair

We are now into the new year of 2024, the year that the California and American Federations combine their efforts to sponsor the May 24th to 26<sup>th</sup> show in Ventura, CA. As usual, the California Federation will have three tables set up for fund raising. We will be looking for support and help from individual members and clubs to help at our table spaces at the show in our selling effort of rock related items, our Roulette wheel and our general activities to raise money. It is very enjoyable and satisfying to volunteer, interact with so many rock loving people and all for such a worthwhile cause. To donate money, send to Pat LaRue at P.O box 1567, Rialto, CA 92429. To donate items, bring to the show and drop off at our table space.

To volunteer your time, notify Sharon using the information below.

Sharon Rogow  
P.O box 35078  
Las Vegas, NV 89133  
(702) 499-0272  
[sharonrr@cox.net](mailto:sharonrr@cox.net)



## JUNIOR ACTIVITIES

By Jim Brace-Thompson, CFMS Junior Activities Chair

**Seeking Participants—and Judges—for 2024 Junior Achievement Awards**

**Seeking Participants.** As I've noted in the past, we hope to present our Fourth Annual CFMS Junior Achievement Awards at the CFMS-AFMS Show & Convention Banquet on May 25. As a recap, Junior Achievement Awards acknowledge and reward outstanding kids under 12 (Age Group 1) and ages 12-18 (Age Group 2). Kids submit applications, and winners earn a Certificate-of-Achievement and \$100. An application form was distributed at the Fall Directors' Meeting and may also be found in the December CFMS Newsletter. It's also posted to the CFMS website (<https://cfmsinc.org/juniors-achievement-award/>). Please share this info with parents in your club and help encourage their kids to enter. The **deadline for receipt of applications is March 1, 2024; send to [jbraceth@roadrunner.com](mailto:jbraceth@roadrunner.com).** Applicants must be

enrolled in a CFMS-affiliated society. The child's age as of December 31, 2023 determines the age group. If a child won last year, he or she will need to wait out a full year to enter again UNLESS s/he has moved up from Age Group 1 to Age Group 2. Kids who submitted applications last year but didn't win can enter again this year.

**Seeking Judges.** To determine our winners, we need judges! We need at least three volunteers from three different local societies to ensure unbiased results. I wish to thank Yvonne Mack (President of Hi Desert Gold Diggers) for stepping forward already. If you, too, can help, please contact me at [jbraceth@roadrunner.com](mailto:jbraceth@roadrunner.com). As a judge, you'll evaluate each child's application with a score sheet that awards points across four areas of accomplishment: hobby-related, educational achievement, community involvement, and work-related. Scores from all judges will be added together and averaged to select winners. Past judges have said it's a fun and fulfilling job, so here's to having fun in the New Year helping deserving kids earn recognition!

### Encourage Club Kids to become Cub Reporters

The American Federation's Juniors Program has a new opportunity for the kids in your local society. Lora Hall and her team have crafted a new juniors' newsletter, *Crack the News*, written by kids for kids. Submissions may include original articles, poems, photos and drawings, cartoons, and rockhound jokes. Ideas for article topics include your favorite rock, mineral or fossil, your birthstone, a fun-filled field trip recap, your favorite rock shop, gemstone lore and legend, or a jewelry or lapidary project you've crafted.

Kids must be under 18 years of age and should send their submissions to [youth@amfed.org](mailto:youth@amfed.org). Written work should be submitted as a word document or pdf, and artwork should be submitted as a jpg or pdf. Kids also need to accompany submissions with parental consent.

Copies of the newsletter may be downloaded from <https://www.juniors.amfed.org/juniors-newsletter>. That same link also provides info about how to submit material for the newsletter. Don't worry about deadlines. Submissions are accepted throughout the year!

By the way, in addition to the AFMS website for the Juniors Program ([www.juniors.amfed.org](http://www.juniors.amfed.org)), you can keep tabs on the AFMS Future Rockhounds of America program on Facebook! Check it out at [www.facebook.com/AFMS.FRA/](http://www.facebook.com/AFMS.FRA/).

## SECOND CALL FOR GOLDEN BEAR AWARD NOMINEES

*For Outstanding Service to CFMS*

By Jim Brace-Thompson, Golden Bear Committee  
Chair

As noted last month, the Golden Bear Committee seeks your help offering a special award. The Golden Bear Award acknowledges outstanding service to the California Federation of Mineralogical Societies, sort of like a life-time achievement award for sustained service. Nominations may come from the CFMS Executive Committee, Federation Directors of member societies, and/or a CFMS Committee Chair. Within the ranks of CFMS, who has captured your attention and respect over the years? Please note that nominees should not be informed of their nomination. It should come as a surprise honor during the Awards Banquet at our Annual Show & Convention. Simple documentation must accompany the nomination outlining the nominee's service.

**The deadline for nominations is April 30.** Please email your nomination letter to me (Jim Brace-Thompson, jbraceth@roadrunner.com), and I'll share it with my fellow committee members. We look forward to honoring an outstanding member of our CFMS community at the Annual Show & Convention taking place May 24-26 in Ventura, California, but to do so, we need *your* help. Many thanks!



## RULES COMMITTEE

By Jim Brace-Thompson, Rules Committee  
**Exhibit at the CFMS-AFMS Show & Convention!**

It's often said that of the seven regional federations, CFMS always has the most competitive exhibits at its show, but I don't know. This past year, the Northwest Federation seemed to have outdone us. They are one tough act to follow, but follow them we will as we host not just a CFMS show this year, but the combined CFMS-AFMS National Show & Convention.

Let's show 'em how it's done! Here's issuing a challenge to one and all: gather together your best stuff, be it minerals, fossils, thumbnails, meteorites, beading, jewelry, lapidary work, or more, then pull together a fine display and enter it into competition. But perhaps you're a newbie and not all that confident just yet. Not to worry! We're also seeking noncompetitive displays to fill the aisles at the Ventura County Fairgrounds May 24-26.

To enter, whether competitive or noncompetitive, the deadline is May 1. Exhibitor application forms can be accessed at <https://www.2024cfms-afms.com/files.php>. Please share this info with the members of your local society so that CFMS can once again claim bragging rights as the top regional federation for exhibits. Here's to seeing us shine, one and all! (ed. note: space did not allow me to include these in the newsletter.)

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## DUES ARE DUE

By Pat LaRue, Exec. Secretary/Treasurer

It's that time of year again! A few of our member societies/clubs have already mailed their checks for the year but we need all of you to take care of this matter as soon as possible. The insurance policy bill was paid in October and we depend on our members to pay their share of the cost. The cost to you is \$9 per member (yes, that includes juniors who participate in club activities) based on your membership at the end of the year. Of that amount, \$2 is for dues; the remaining \$7 is for your club's share of the cost for the general liability insurance. Deadline to pay is March 1. A late fee of \$50 will apply to any payments not postmarked by April 1.

## CLUB ROCKHOUND OF THE YEAR

By Chris Ward, Chair  
[chris\\_ward678@yahoo.com](mailto:chris_ward678@yahoo.com)

Here are a couple more CFMS societies who made it in before the end of the year. Remember, you do not have to wait until the end of the year to make your submissions. 2024 has already begun, so start early and send me your choices for 2024 Rockhound of the Year. Happy New Year to all my rockhound friends, family and acquaintances!

### **Donna Rodriguez - San Joaquin Valley Lapidary Society**

Donna is an amazing member. She has served as Vice President of our club for several years, serves as our educational director for the annual Wind Wolves event and sets up a great fossil/mineral display for those attending the event. Donna is very knowledgeable on rocks/minerals as well as the geology of our area and what plants we might come across during our field trips. Donna is always the first to volunteer for whatever needs being done for the club. She is a great mentor and has taught a lot of us how to be good rockhounds while being considerate of the environment. In addition to her many duties as Vice President she also runs the club shop. She is always there to see that the shop is set up and ready for us to work. She helps maintain the equipment and teaches every new person interested in making cabs how to do it properly. Donna is a wealth of information and never hesitates to help any of us. Donna has also served as co-chair of the fair booth and has entered many display cases to help promote what the San Joaquin Valley Lapidary Society is about and how members of our community can become involved. Donna is an exceptional member and is very deserving of the Rockhound of the Year award.

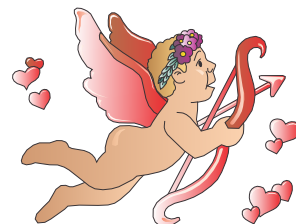
Submitted by: Sherlee Bailey - Treasurer San Joaquin Valley Lapidary Society

### **Liz Navarro - South Orange County Gem & Mineral Society**

The South Orange County Gem and Mineral Society takes great pride in recognizing Liz Navarro as Rockhound of the Year for 2023. Liz has been an invaluable asset to the club since assuming the position of Secretary in 2018. Her dedication and hard work in meticulously documenting and executing many of the administrative functions of the club have been commendable. In the wake of the unfortunate passing

of our long-time president and his wife, Liz became the institutional memory of the club and she has kept careful records that maintain our standards and ensure our smooth functioning. Liz also co-chairs the Ways and Means Committee with fellow board member, Marjorie Woodbridge, and together they are able to pull out of her garage or storage shed, just the right box of slabs, cabs or jewelry items needed for any club fundraisers. When gifts of rocks or materials are provided to the club, Liz is on hand to help pack up, separate, clean and pack the donations in an organized manner for upcoming events. As secretary, Liz sets up the monthly Board Agenda, and then graciously hosts the Board meetings at her home, offering delicious snacks. Her minutes are very thorough and because of that she is able to remind us of decisions or actions taken in the past to keep us on track. Her "To Do" lists are always a friendly reminder to each of us about upcoming tasks. When challenges arise at a board meeting, Liz often provides a considered and thoughtful response or action that moves us forward. Liz's commitment extends beyond administrative duties. When our former President, Gary Martin passed, Liz was right at hand to help his widow Sheila, with the many daunting tasks needed to sell and clear out their decades of collected gems and minerals. She and Sheila bonded and their friendship reflected Liz's remarkable empathy and compassion. Liz is always available to members with a welcoming smile and a helping hand. Her calm and collected personality makes her a perfect sounding board to bounce ideas off and keeping others focused. On behalf of the SOCG&MS Board, thank you Liz Navarro for your kindness and generosity and especially your commitment to the South Orange County Gem and Mineral Society. It's wonderful to see your efforts not only recognized by your peers locally, but also recognized by the American and California Federations of Mineralogical Societies. Thank you for your commitment to the club and for your willingness to go above and beyond. You deserve this!

Submitted by: Ellen Dupuy - President South Orange County Gem and Mineral Society



## 2024 CFMS-AFMS SHOW & CONVENTION

By Jim Brace-Thompson, Federation Director

### Follow the Mermaids to Ventura! Part 4

By now, you should know the drill: each month leading to the national 2024 CFMS-AFMS Show & Convention on May 24-26, we'll present a different mermaid photo shot in the host city of Ventura, California. The person attending the convention who can correctly identify the specific locations of the most mermaids will receive a rocky reward at the show banquet. If we have tied scores, the winner will be drawn from a fish bowl. (Perhaps by a real live mermaid!) To keep things fair-and-square, I'll have two prizes: one for locals and one for out-of-towners.

That all said, here's this month's Ventura mermaid. Where is she located? This one is locally famous and can be found fairly easily simply by googling "Ventura mermaid."

Keep tabs on resources and new show developments at the official show website, [www.2024cfms-afms.com](http://www.2024cfms-afms.com) We'd like to see as many exhibits as possible at the show, and exhibitor application forms (both competitive and noncompetitive) may be found on the site. See you in Ventura!



## AFMS ENDOWMENT FUND

By Jim Brace-Thompson, CFMS Rep to AFMS

### Support the American Federation: Here's How!

Every year at the national show and convention, the AFMS Endowment Fund holds a fund-raising raffle. Moneys earned support new programs, the Future Rockhounds of America youth program and the free badges it provides to local clubs, and more. We invite your help and participation. How so?

***Make a purchase!*** Endowment Fund tickets are available for donations of either \$5.00 for one or \$20.00 for five. Please spread the word to your fellow club members by reprinting this article in your local newsletter and by making announcements at your monthly club meetings.

***Make a specimen donation!*** We invite hobby-related items such as gem, mineral or fossil specimens, metal work projects, jewelry, bead projects, etc. For instance, see the accompanying photo of a pure silver sand dollar pendant I'm donating for the 2024 raffle. Items should have a minimum value of \$75. We also request a maximum weight of not more than five pounds to keep postage at a minimum if necessary to ship the item to the winning ticket holder. Tickets will be drawn at the 2024 CFMS-AFMS Show & Convention taking place May 24-26 in Ventura.

How to make arrangements to purchase tickets or to donate items? It's easy! Just call (805-659-3577) or email me ([jbraceth@roadrunner.com](mailto:jbraceth@roadrunner.com)) and I'm happy to help.



Sterling silver sand dollar

## CAMP PARADISE REGISTRATION OPENS MARCH 15

Jill Atkins recently received a letter from a student at last year's session and wanted to share.

### My Summer Vacation at Camp Paradise

In the spring of 2023, I was a new member of the MGSCV and I saw posted on the board in the Shop an announcement of Camp Paradise, the Rock Camp run by the California Society of Gem and Minerals. (ed note: California Federation of Mineralogical Societies) It was one week of Camp for \$500. Really, \$500 for a week's classes, food and shelter. What a deal! I decided to go, even though I didn't know anyone else who would be going. It turned out that everyone at Camp was friendly, so not knowing anyone on day one wasn't a problem. Although we stayed in a dormitory, we each had our own room. The bathroom/shower area was shared. I brought a mattress topper for the bed, and a small lamp. I was very happy to have those "extras".

There were so many classes to choose between. I took the Beginning Metal Smithing Class, which was an intensive three-day class. It was limited to 6 students, so each of us received plenty of help. The teacher started us with practicing sawing and filing. And then went on to complex things like soldering, and bending the bezel wire smoothly around our cabochon. At the end, we each had a beautiful silver pendant. For this class the teacher supplied all tools which would be used.

For the last 2 ½ days of camp, I chose to work with one of the two old timer lapidary teachers. My teacher had expert knowledge of scribing lines and/or making bubbles on the backs of stones, so that light shown through. Part of the class involved making "tools". It turns out that you can polish stone using wooden dowels, after you have properly shaped them. We also had instruction in drilling a hole through glass or stone. Rather than using a solid drill bit, your bit is an "O" shape. The process is drill, dip in water, drill, more water. Using a caliper, you can figure out when you are close to going through. When you only have another few millimeters to drill, you start on the other side. That provides you a clean edge to both ends of the hole.

There were other classes that would have been great if I had more time: lost wax casting, intarsia, faceting, soft stone carving, advanced silversmithing, to name just a few.

It is my intention to return this upcoming summer. I hope some of you will join me at camp so that I'm not the lone MGSCV (ed. note: Mineral and Gem Society of Castro Valley) member there. If you have questions, I would be happy to tell you more about my experiences.

Submitted by Jill Atkins, Earth Science Studies co-chair

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## IMPORTANT REMINDERS

By Pat LaRue, Executive Secretary/Treasurer

Please take a few minutes to fill out the officer change form for 2024. The form was published in the January newsletter and is available on the CFMS website at [www.cfmsinc.org](http://www.cfmsinc.org). It is important that we have this information so member societies/clubs are kept informed of what's happening. You are entitled to receive up to 3 free hard copy newsletters, but we need to know who should receive them. Please include the complete address of each person you designate. If your members prefer to read the newsletter on the website, please let me know and I won't include their name on the mailing list. Please be aware, that I do not email the newsletter—my particular web-based email does not have the capacity to do so. Marcia Goetz posts the newsletter to the website generally within a day or two of receiving the file and she already sends it to the Directors who provide email contact information to her as part of the electronic communications program. Those persons are encouraged to email it to their members. Please contact Marcia if you need to be added to her list or you need to update your contact information.

One last reminder—if you have moved, please let me know so your mailing address can be updated. The postal service does not forward bulk mail. Is your address correct? A simple typo or failure to include the entire address (think apt or space number) can also result in a returned item. If you are expecting to receive a newsletter and for some reason you aren't, email me and I'll double check the address on file and make any needed corrections.

## SO YOU WANT TO EXHIBIT HOW DO I START

By Pat LaRue, AFMS/CFMS Rules Committee Chair

You can approach the prospect of exhibiting something by simply deciding what type of display you wish to create. Most of us are primarily interested in one or two areas of the gem and mineral realm. Some areas are highly specialized, others are more general.

My primary area of interest is minerals, specifically thumbnail (1" x 1") specimens. Someone else may specialize in some type of lapidary or jewelry arts. Maybe you prefer to develop a display which will help teach someone a concept or a skill. Whatever you decide to do is your biggest hurdle.

Once you decide what you want to do, it is important to look at the requirements for your display. If you are entering a display in competition, the guidelines are spelled out in a manual. If you are entering a non-competitive exhibit, I still recommend you consult the AFMS Rules book since the guidelines provided will help you create a display that will appeal to the viewing public.

Where is this manual, you may ask. The AFMS Rules Book is available on the AFMS website; a link is on the CFMS website as well. Don't be put off by the volume of sections and pages. All you have to do is go to the section which covers the type of exhibit you want to develop. There is some general information that applies to everyone who decides to enter competition, but for now just concentrate on the guidelines covering your proposed exhibit. This past year it was decided to break down the manual into separate sections to make it easier to find the section which applies to you.

Now that you know what you want to display, it's time to gather up everything that you will need. Does your club have a case you can borrow or will you be able to rent one from the club hosting the show. Measure the inside dimensions of the case so you will know what size to cut the forms you will use to create your liners. The easiest forms to make are cardboard. If you or a friend have access to a table saw you can use thin particle board or masonite. I personally like cardboard because all you need to cut it is a box cutter or exacto knife. Once the forms are ready, it's time to cover them with some type of material. As mentioned in a previous article, smooth textured materials in neutral colors are recommended. Do avoid bright colors or shiny materials. Spray on adhesives are generally okay to use but be sure it doesn't bleed thru. Packaging tape is okay but it sometimes pulls loose.

Now that you have your liners done, it's time to decide what is needed to display the items going into the display. I sometimes refer to these accessories as "furniture". These can range from risers made from fabric covered styrofoam to a dais on which to display the items. I will be the first person to admit that covering risers, especially those which have squared off corners is not easy. It helps if you use fabric which has an amount of stretch. As a person who displays minerals, I use a fabric covered wooden dais which a neighbor made for me many years ago.

When you decide what items are going in the display, it's time to make your labels. It really isn't necessary to go to the expense of having engraved plastic name plates made although I have seen these. There are less expensive alternatives. White cardstock or transparency material is what I recommend. Once the labels are created and printed, you can use a paper cutter to cut them to a uniform size. Scissors are okay in a pinch but a paper cutter makes the job easier and your labels will be more even. Hint: before you hit print, be sure to proofread everything to make sure all spelling is correct and needed information is there. There is nothing more annoying than realizing you have a typo after you've printed everything and have to redo one or more of the labels.

Why labels? You might know what everything is but remember you are putting in this display to help inform the viewers. People want to know what they are looking at. The whole idea behind this whole exhibiting thing is to get people interested in what we do and hopefully learn something new.

How much should I put in my display? Is there a preferred way to arrange everything? The quantity of stuff you put in is dictated by what it is you are displaying. If a case is too busy, the eye is confused and people will tend to walk on by because they are unable to focus on anything. Aim to set up a display which is pleasing to the eye; you might consider placing your showiest or most unusual piece toward the center where it is easily seen. Most people tend to view things from one side of the case to the center and on around to the other side.

Now that you have your case done and all set up, it's time to get a second opinion. Have someone else take a look at the display to see what they think. Last but not least, take a moment and make a diagram of the display so when you get to the exhibit hall, you know exactly where everything is supposed to go. There will be plenty of cases available to borrow. See you at the show.

Originally published in the 12/21 *CFMS Newsletter*



**2024 CFMS SHOW DATES**

*Shows and Events*

*Sponsored by*

*CFMS Clubs & Societies!*

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

*Email to:*

**SHOW DATES**

*Use the Online Show Form*

*at [www.cfmsinc.org](http://www.cfmsinc.org)*

*(click on Shows)*

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

**CLUB/SOCIETY SHOWS ARE LISTED HERE**

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**2024**

**February 17-18, 2024 – Antioch, CA**

Antioch Lapidary Club  
Contra Costa County Fairgrounds, 1201 West 10th Street, Antioch, CA  
Hours: Sat 10–5, Sun 10-5  
Contact: (510) 693-9075, [kellyplumb900@yahoo.com](mailto:kellyplumb900@yahoo.com)  
Website: <http://antiochlapidaryclub.com>

**February 24-25, 2024 – Vallejo, CA**

Vallejo Gem and Mineral Society  
Solano County Fairgrounds, McCormack Hall, 900 Fairgrounds Drive, Vallejo, CA 94589  
Hours: Sat & Sun 10–5  
Contact: (415) 254-1506, [dduhonvgms@gmail.com](mailto:dduhonvgms@gmail.com)  
Website: <https://vjgems.co>

**March 1-3, 2024 – Newark, CA**

Mineral and Gem Society of Castro Valley  
Newark Pavilion, 6430 Thornton Ave, Newark CA  
Hours: Fri 11-5, Sat 10-6, Sun 10-5  
Website: <http://mgscv.org>

**March 2-3, 2024 – Ventura, CA**

Ventura Gem & Mineral Society  
Ventura Co. Fairgrounds, 10 W. Harbor Blvd., Ventura CA  
Hours: Sat 10–5, Sun 10-4  
Contact: (805) 312-8467, [info@vgms.org](mailto:info@vgms.org)  
Website: <http://www.vgms.org>

**March 8-10, 2024 – Victorville, CA**

Victor Valley Gem and Mineral Club  
Stoddard Wells area  
Hours: 9–5 daily  
Contact: (760) 243-2339, [president@vvgc.org](mailto:president@vvgc.org)  
Website: <http://vvgmc.org>

**March 9-10, 2024 – Turlock, CA**

Mother Lode Mineral Society  
Stanislaus County Fairgrounds, 900 N. Broadway, Turlock, CA  
Hours: Sat & Sun 10-5  
Contact through website  
Website: <http://www.turlockgemshow.com>

**March 16-17, 2024 – San Jose, CA**

Santa Clara Valley Gem & Mineral Soc.  
Santa Clara County Fairgrounds, 344 Tully Road, San Jose, CA 95111  
Hours: Sat and Sun 10-6  
Contact: [info@scvgms.org](mailto:info@scvgms.org), (408) 265-1422  
Website: [info@scvgms.org](mailto:info@scvgms.org) or [facebook.com/santaclaravalleygemandmineralsociety](https://facebook.com/santaclaravalleygemandmineralsociety)

**March 16-17, 2024 – Lemoore, CA**

Lemoore Gem & Mineral Society  
Trinity Hall, 470 Chamoion St., Lemoore, CA 93245  
Hours: Sat 10-6, Sun 10-4  
Contact: [https://www.facebook.com/events/99972608444006/999726087777339/?active\\_tab=about](https://www.facebook.com/events/99972608444006/999726087777339/?active_tab=about)

**March 22-24, 2024 – Clovis, CA**

Fresno Gem and Mineral Society  
748 Rodeo Drive, Clovis, CA 93612  
Hours: Fri and Sat 10-5, Sun 10-4  
Website: <https://fgms.rocks>

**March 23-24, 2024 – Angeles Camp, CA**

Calaveras Gem and Mineral Society  
2465 Gun Club Rd., Angeles Camp CA 95222  
Hours: Sat 10–5, Sun 10–4.  
Contact: (209) 736-4892, [dbrooks49@att.net](mailto:dbrooks49@att.net)  
Website: <http://CalaverasGemandMineral.net>

**April 6-7, 2024 – Vista, CA**

Vista Gem and Mineral Society  
Antique Gas and Steam Engine Museum, 2040 N. Santa Fe Ave., Vista, CA 92083  
Hours: Sat 10–5, Sunday 10–4  
Contact: [info@vistarocks.org](mailto:info@vistarocks.org)  
Website: <https://vistarocks.org/>

**April 13-14, 2024 – Mariposa, CA**

Mariposa Gem and Mineral Club  
Mariposa County Fairgrounds, 5007 Fairgrounds Rd., Mariposa, CA 95338  
Hours: Sat 10–5, Sun 10–4  
Website: <http://mariposagemclub.org>

**April 13-14, 2024 – Placerville, CA**

El Dorado County Mineral and Gem Society  
El Dorado County Fairgrounds, Placerville, CA  
Hours: Saturday 10-5, Sun 10–4  
Contact: (530) 676-2472, [office@edcmgs.org](mailto:office@edcmgs.org)  
Website: <http://edcmgs.org>

**April 20-21, 2024 – Thousand Oaks, CA**

Conejo Gem & Mineral Club  
Borchard Park, 190 N. Reino Rd, Thousand Oaks, CA  
Hours: Sat 10-5, Sun 10-4  
Contact: (805) 209-3173  
[conejogemandmineral@gmail.com](mailto:conejogemandmineral@gmail.com)  
Website: <https://cgamc.org>

**April 27-28, 2024 – Santa Cruz**

Santa Cruz Mineral and Gem Society  
307 Church St., Santa Cruz, CA 95060  
Hours: Sat 10-5, Sun 10-4  
Contact: [scruzmgms@gmail.com](mailto:scruzmgms@gmail.com)  
Website: <https://scrockngem.org>

**May 3-4, 2024 – Yucaipa, CA**

Yucaipa Valley Gem & Mineral Society  
Yucaipa Blvd near Adams Street, Yucaipa CA 02399  
Hours: Fri 5-10, Sat noon-9  
Contact: [grandpasgems@gmail.com](mailto:grandpasgems@gmail.com)  
Website: <https://www.yvgms.org/>

**May 4-5, 2024, Lancaster, CA**

Antelope Valley Gem & Mineral Club  
2551 W. Ave. H, Lancaster, CA 93536  
Hours: Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-4  
Contact: [marylandorieole@gmail.com](mailto:marylandorieole@gmail.com)

**May 24-26, 2024 – Ventura, CA**

Ventura Gem & Mineral Society  
AFMS/CFMS Show and Convention  
Ventura County Fairgrounds, 10 W. Harbor Blvd., Ventura, CA 93001  
Hours: Fri & Sat 10-5, Sun 10-4  
Contact: (805) 312-8467, [info@vgms.org](mailto:info@vgms.org)  
Website: <http://www.vgms.org>, <http://www.2024cfms-afms.com>

**June 8-9, 2024 – Escondido, CA**

Palomar Gem and Mineral Club  
California Center for the Arts – at the Conference Center, 340 North Escondido Blvd., Escondido, 92025  
Hours: Sat 10–5, Sun 10–4  
Contact: (425) 281-6218, [tonifloyd41615@gmail.com](mailto:tonifloyd41615@gmail.com)  
Website: <http://palomargem.org>

June 29-30, 2024, Culver City, CA  
Culver City Rock & Mineral Club  
Veteran's Memorial Auditorium  
4117 Overland Ave., Culver City 90230  
Contact: darrellrobb@gmail.com  
Website: <https://culvercityrocks.org>

## REMINDER

Advertise your Show in as many Free locations as possible!

- Local newspapers
- Current events sections!
- Local TV stations,
- Community calendars!
- Other Local Shows

## National/Regional Shows:

*California Federation/AFMS*  
*May 24-26, 2024*  
*Ventura, CA*

*Eastern Federation*  
*TBA*  
*Hickory, NC*

*Midwest Federation*  
*August 24-25, 2024*  
*East Peoria, IL*

*Northwest Federation*  
*May 10-12, 2024*  
*Hermiston, OR*

*Rocky Mountain Federation*  
*October 25-27, 2024*  
*Oklahoma City, OK*

*South Central Federation*  
*TBD*

*Southeast Federation*  
*TBD*

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

**Check for show links at**  
**[www.cfmsinc.org/shows](http://www.cfmsinc.org/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.**

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## LET'S HEAR FROM YOU

We need to hear from our chairmen more often. As a member of the CFMS leadership team, it is one of your tasks to keep our member societies/clubs informed of what the Federation is doing for them. I'm not asking for something every month but once or twice a year would be great. You can't imagine how much I appreciate the items some of you contribute nearly every month. You know who you are and I thank you for your dedication to helping make this humble newsletter something I hope the readers appreciate and read whether they get the hard copy or read on the website.

One of the highlights of the year is our annual Show and Convention. Because one of my star contributors is so diligent about including promotional info including the mermaid contest, it's hard to believe our readers aren't aware of when and where that annual event is going to take place. This is just one example of how important communication becomes when you want to promote an event or an ongoing service.

I can't wait to see what the Camp Paradise promotional items will be in the coming months. Jill has already started on this project by sharing a letter she received from a first time student. Her goal is to help make each and every member society/club aware of this program so they can encourage their members to participate.

## 2024 CFMS Officers, Chairmen and Committee Roster

**PRESIDENT**

Marcia Goetz (Joe)

(626) 260-7239  
marciagoetz195 at gmail.com

**TREASURER**

Bob Papac (Debbie)

(661) 821-7103  
getback at surfers.net

**FIRST VICE PRESIDENT**

Heidi Hall

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**SECOND VICE PRESIDENT**

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**EXECUTIVE SECRETARY/TREASURER**

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**ALL AMERICAN CLUB**

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**CAB CASES - SOUTH**

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knoxrobert211 at gmail.com

**CAB CASES - CENTRAL**

Bob Papac

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getback at csurfers.net

**CFMS DIRECTORS TO AFMS**

Marcia Goetz (see Pres)  
Heidi Hall ( See 1<sup>st</sup> VP)

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Kimberly Fiala (See President)  
Jim Barton (See Field Trips North)

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Pat LaRue (See Exec Sec/Treas)

**CFMS REP TO AFMS**

Jim Brace-Thompson, chair (Nancy)

(805) 659-3577  
jbraceth at roadrunner.com

**CUSTODIAN**

Heidi Hall (See 1<sup>st</sup> VP)

**EARTH SCIENCE STUDIES**

Gary & Jill Atkins, Co-chairmen

(775) 232-6626  
atkinsdesign at gmail.com

Glenda Keil–Camp Registrar North  
Diane Cook (See 2<sup>nd</sup> VP)

**ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS**

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**ENDOWMENT FUND–CFMS**

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sharonrr at cox.net

Marcia Goetz (See Pres)  
Heidi Hall (See 1<sup>st</sup> VP)

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**FACILITY DEVELOPMENT**

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Jim Barton (Darlene)

(916) 847-7321  
geologist1 at surewest.net

**FIELD TRIPS SOUTH**

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Fred Ott (Susan)

**GOLDEN BEAR**

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Susan Chaisson-Walblom

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slchaisson at yahoo.com

Sharon Rogow (See CFMS Endowment Fund)

Marcia Goetz (See Pres)  
Kimberly Fiala (See Long Range Planning)

**HISTORIAN COMMITTEE**

Susy Martin, Chair (John)

cfms.historian at amlands.org

Memorabilia–Susy Martin  
Past Presidents Case–Sandie Fender (Tony)  
Photo Restoration—John Martin (Susy)

**INSURANCE**

Ellen Ferrell

(727) 512-0381  
ellenbf2007 at aol.com

**INTERNET COMMITTEE**

Nick Hughes, Chair

(650) 400-5090  
wildphotonick at gmail.com

**JUNIOR ACTIVITIES**

Jim Brace-Thompson, chair (Nancy)

(805) 659-3577  
jbraceth at roadrunner.com

**LEGAL ADVISOR**

OPEN

## CFMS NEWSLETTER FEBRUARY 2024

### **LONG RANGE PLANNING**

Kimberly Fiala (Glenn)

(916) 412-0453  
fialakimberly at yahoo.com

All living CFMS Past Presidents  
2024 Executive Committee

### **MEMBERSHIP**

Dick White, Chair (Phyllis)

(805) 404-7197

Bob Rush (Pat)

### **MUSEUM COMMITTEE**

Frank Van Hecke

(530) 575-4252  
4vanclan5 at att.net

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(661) 406-0143  
slchaisson at yahoo.com

Nick Hughes  
Dick White (Phyllis)  
Celia Churchill (Chris)  
Nancy Bird  
Sharon Rogow, alternate  
Glenn Fiala, alternate

### **OFFICERS & CHAIRMEN MANUAL**

Kimberly Fiala (See Long Range Planning)

### **PARLIAMENTARIAN**

Tony Fender (Sandie) (See Bylaws)

### **PHOTOGRAPHER**

John Martin (see PLAC)

### **PROGRAM AIDS**

Emmy Lam  
(818) 297-7132  
CFMSprogramaids at gmail.com

### **PUBLIC LANDS ADVISORY**

John Martin, Chair (Susy)

(661) 342-8336  
plac at antelecom.net

### **ROCKHOUND OF THE YEAR**

Chris Ward  
(818) 439-0217  
chris\_ward678 at yahoo.com

### **RULES COMMITTEE**

Pat LaRue, Chair (See Exec Sec/Treas)

Jim Brace-Thompson (See Jr. Activities)

Colleen McGannr

(831) 212-1951  
kmcgann0009 at gmail.com

Heidi Hall (See 1<sup>st</sup> VP)

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Bart Solomon (Sharon Rogow)

(702) 499-0272  
sharonrr at cox.net

### **SCHOLARSHIP-AFMS**

Pat LaRue (see Exec Sec/Treas)

### **SCHOLARSHIP-CFMS**

Diane Cook, Chair (See 2<sup>nd</sup> VP)

Executive Committee

### **SHOW CONSULTANT-SOUTH**

Susan Chaisson-Walblom  
(661) 406-0143  
slchaisson at yahoo.com

### **SHOW CONSULTANT-NORTH**

OPEN

### **SHOW COORDINATOR-2024**

Bural & Pat LaRue (See Exec. Sec/Treas)

### **SHOW DATES**

Marcia Goetz (Joe)

(626) 260-7239  
marciagoetz195 at gmail.com

### **TAX ADVISOR**

Pat LaRue (see Exec Sec/Treas)

### **TROPHY COORDINATOR**

Frank Mullaney

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rockyfiv at gmail.com

### **VISUAL PROGRAMS**

Sharon Rogow (Bart Solomon)

(702) 499-0272  
sharonrr at cox.net

### **WEB SITE CONTEST**

Merryan O'Neill

(530) 622-4229  
logtown49 at gmail.com

### **CLOUD AD HOC COMMITTEE**

Marcia Goetz, Chair (See Pres)

Sue Pang  
Sue Webb

# CFMS JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENT AWARD APPLICATION, 2024

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Age (as of 12/31/2023): \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing address: \_\_\_\_\_

*street address or P.O. Box*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*city, state, zip code*

Email address of parent/guardian: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of your local club: \_\_\_\_\_

Signatures of 2 officers in your club: \_\_\_\_\_

**Instructions:** Provide info requested above & accompany this application with full responses to all sections/subsections listed below. Info should be provided for the past calendar year (2023). Also include a brief cover note highlighting accomplishment/s to which you wish to draw special attention where you feel you really shine. Mail or email this application with your responses to:

Jim Brace-Thompson, CFMS Junior Activities Chair  
7319 Eisenhower Street  
Ventura, CA 93003  
Email address: jbraceth@roadrunner.com

All entries should be postmarked by March 1, 2024 (if sent by mail) or should be received via email not later than March 1, 2024. Should you have questions, call or email Jim at (805) 659-3577, jbraceth@roadrunner.com. Winners will be announced at the 2024 CFMS-AFMS Show & Convention in Ventura. Kids who won 1<sup>st</sup> Place last year in the 2 age groups need to sit out a year **UNLESS** they are moving from Age Group 1 (under 12 years old) to Age Group 2 (ages 12-18).

## Section I. HOBBY RELATED (Possible 45 points)

- A. Club involvement (field trips, committees, show participation, etc.). 20 points
- B. Hobby/Craft involvement (faceting, lapidary, metalwork, beading, collecting, etc.). 20 points
- C. Competitive involvement (displays, articles in competition, awards, etc.). 5 points

## Section II. EDUCATIONAL ACHIEVEMENT (Possible 25 points)

- A. Scholastic (GPA, honor roll, advanced classes, improvement of grades, etc.). 15 points
- B. Extracurricular (sports, drama, debate, drill team, music, school clubs, etc.). 10 points

## Section III. COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT & ACHIEVEMENT (Possible 20 points)

- A. Events involvement (charity, volunteer, donation programs, etc.). 10 points
- B. Scouts, Campfire, 4H, church, or other community or youth groups. 10 points

## Section IV. WORK RELATED (Possible 10 points)

- A. Employment, home chores, neighborhood work, sidewalk or beach clean-up, etc. 10 points

**CFMS NEWSLETTER**

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Pat LaRue, Editor

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THE VENTURA GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY  
PROUDLY PRESENTS

# SEASIDE GEMS

## AT VENTURA

GEM • MINERAL • FOSSIL SHOW

### MAY 24-26 • 2024

Friday - Saturday (10am - 5pm) • Sunday (10am-4pm)

**VENTURA COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS**  
10 Harbor Blvd, Ventura, CA 93001

**GEMS, MINERALS, FOSSILS, JEWELRY, DEALERS,  
EXHIBITS, SPEAKERS, DEMONSTRATIONS, RAFFLE,  
SILENT AUCTION, KIDS ACTIVITIES & MUCH MORE!**

**ADMISSION \$8.00**  
Children 12 & under accompanied by an adult are FREE  
On-site Fair parking is additional



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