



# American Lands Access Association, Inc.

[www.amlands.org](http://www.amlands.org)

Volume 12 Issue 1

January - March 2020

## **Shirley Leeson, ALAA President**

[president@amlands.org](mailto:president@amlands.org)

ALAA started off 2020 with a BANG!

Thanks to Amy Granat, our Off Road Director, we were able to have our first teleconference so those unable to be in Quartzsite were able to listen in to the meeting. This was Friday, January 17, 2020.

We accomplished a number of very important things.... We updated the bylaws regarding our annual ALAA business meeting. Instead of having it each year during the national AFMS convention, it will now be in January at Quartzsite or a place determined by the ALAA President. We will continue to be at the national AFMS convention but as an 'informational' meeting, acquainting the rockhounds what ALAA is doing and how they can help.

The 2020 Directors were elected by the general membership present at the meeting. The Directors elected the 2020 Officers.

Because of health reasons, Jack Johnston, from Utah asked us to find a replacement.. Doug True of Montana volunteered and was elected by the Directors. Special thanks to all who attended and those listening in. It was an awesome meeting.

The 2020 budget was approved. Minutes from previous meetings were approved and location of our annual clean-up was set for Monday, January 21 at Gold Nugget Off ramp.

The second meeting at the Quartzsite Community Center on Saturday, January 18, 2020 at 7pm was NOT as well attended as we would have liked but Congressman Gosar, who represents Quartzsite, was delighted with the turnout. He answered our many questions on public land issues, and updated us on other areas of concern. He was given a stunning Black Petrified Wood polished specimen, for his desk and a Bola of Serpentine from the Paulden, Northern Arizona area by Linda & Marty Dougherty, ALAA members & constituents of the Congressman. The items were collected with the Coconio Lapidary Club of Flagstaff, Arizona. Lenora Smith, who had contacted Congressman Gosar and arranged for the meeting, also gave him a polished piece of colorful Petrified Wood from the Holbrook, Arizona area and a wire-wrapped piece of Pokadot Jasper from her area in Oregon.

I'm excited about this year, I hope you are too. Let's, together, get more clubs involved in ALAA... Remember, there is strength in numbers.

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## Recreational Rockhounding - 1950



**"YOO HOO! DON'T WASTE YOUR  
TIME! WE'VE DUG ALL OVER  
THAT MOUNTAIN."**

## NBFT Donation to ALAA and CFMS Endowment Fund

**Dick and Betty Pankey**

North Bay Field Trips disbanded this past September and we performed our last official duties as President and as Secretary/Treasurer. Betty wrote the final 2 checks to the CFMS Endowment Fund and to ALAA; each for \$318.09. I presented the checks to Sharon Rogow, Chair of the CFMS Endowment Fund and to Frank Mullaney, the ALAA Treasurer, during the CFMS Directors' meeting in early November at Visalia, California.



The cartoon at left is from the CFMS show in Trona June 1950. Searles Lake Mineralogical Society, Mojave Mineralogical Society and China Lake N.O.T.S Rockhounds hosted the show. Jack Streeter was the CFMS President and AFMS President for 1949.

## NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Articles for the NEWSLETTER are DUE to the Editor by the  
**10th of January - 10th of April - 10th of July - 10th of October**

For inclusion in each Quarterly Newsletter

Please send articles to: **editor@amlands.org**

Please send articles in plain text, MS Word (.doc)

Pictures in jpg format at not less than 96 dpi or more than 200 dpi.

**Please do not send articles in PDF format.**

**Concerns or questions on article format please contact the editor at  
editor@amlands.org**

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# OREGON NEWS

**Jennifer Haley**

Oregon State Director

[jennifer.haley@amlands.org](mailto:jennifer.haley@amlands.org)

In December my husband and I along with the corgi's moved from California to Oregon. I am grateful for the many years of enduring friendships and the experience working with the California and Nevada rock and gem societies. Although I haven't been in the state for a full month as I write this and am still busy going through mountains of moving boxes, I have been getting familiar with some aspects of the Oregon BLM.

For societies within states which have BLM offices, there is a good website for finding all of BLM's Resource Advisory Councils (RAC's) near you. <https://www.blm.gov/get-involved/resource-advisory-council/near-you> . These councils really need your involvement as Recreational Rockhounds to show up for the meetings, and to apply to be on the committees when there are vacancies. Without your input about the value of our unique historical American recreation when it's needed to protect your collecting sites and educational field trips areas, the councils can't forward your insight and information to the BLM who will in turn use that information in the various stages of developing their planning.

Below is the Oregon BLM boundary map for all the state's current RACs.

[https://www.blm.gov/sites/blm.gov/files/getinv\\_rac\\_orwa\\_racboundarymap.pdf](https://www.blm.gov/sites/blm.gov/files/getinv_rac_orwa_racboundarymap.pdf)

Below is the website for the Federal Register, which is the daily journal of the United States government. It is easy to use their Search engine to find out the latest on RAC meeting dates, etc., for your and other boundary areas around the country. <https://www.federalregister.gov/>

Depending on the issues and who uses the public lands within your RAC boundary areas, members of the RAC usually/may include a variety of individuals involved with ranching, outdoor recreation, industry, state and local government, tribal lands, academia, conservation and environment. To give you an example of how diverse the members of RAC's can be, the Desert Advisory Council (DAC) which is a RAC in California, has a member representing the film industry's access to the desert. Another member of the DAC is a lifelong resident with a family history of living in the area for many generations, who saw the increasing lack of freedom in recreational use in the desert since his youth and wanted to get involved to help keep access open for the public. I hope these examples show you, that you don't need to be a rocket scientist to be on these councils. Recreational Rockhounds have a place on the councils, and by attending the meetings or being on a RAC, you will be an immense help.

Council members serve three-year terms on a staggered basis. This means that one-third of the council is subject to appointment or reappointment each year. These Advisory Council meetings are open to the public and meetings are announced in the Federal Register and through news releases.

The Dept of the Interior has been actively promoting recreational activities on public lands through news releases since last year, so this is an opportune time for your societies to jump in if you haven't before and become involved and make some friends at BLM. Good ongoing relationship with the BLM is now a necessity, because what happens to one state's recreational rockhounding area(s) affects all of Recreational Rockhounding, and what will become of our hobby as an American historical recreation in the future.

***Continued on page 16 .....***



# QUARTZSITE 2020



AMERICAN LANDS ACCESS ASSOCIATION, INC.  
Board Meeting - Quartzsite, Arizona  
January 17, 2020

The **American Lands Access Association** held its annual Board of Directors Meeting in Quartzsite on January 17, 2020 and successfully elected its Officers and Directors for 2020. The officers and directors for 2020 are as follows:

President: Shirley Leeson  
Vice President: Hedimi Kira  
Secretary: Susy Martin  
Treasurer: Frank Mullaney  
Membership: Ronna Watkins  
Permanent Directors  
Registered Agent: Sandy Hansen  
Website Manager: John Martin

Editor: John Martin - ProTem

Directors are as follows: David Wayment, Amy Granat, Ken Zahn, Lenora Smith, Jennifer Haley, Marion Roberts and Doug True. Richard Pankey and Jack Caufield accepted the position as ALAA Ambassadors at large.

Our General Public Meeting was again a big success. We want to thank Lenora Smith for arranging for Congressman Paul Gosar, of Arizona's, 4th congressional District, and Chair of the Congressional Western Caucus, to be our guest speaker for the evening's program. Left Picture: Lenora holds a piece of Arizona Petrified Wood with Congressman Gosar and in the right picture Congressman Gosar address Public Land Issues as they may affect the Rec-



recreational Rockhound. We again Thank Congressman Gosar for taking time from his busy schedule to speak at our meeting and Lenora for making the contact and Arrangement.



Once again the American Lands Access Association sponsored its 8th annual Recreational Rockhound - BLM Public Land Litter Removal and Clean up. This year we were at Gold Nugget Road just east of Quartzsite, AZ. We had a very good turn out with Rockhounds from the Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies, Rocky Mountain Federation of Mineralogical Societies, California Federation of Mineralogical Societies and several Recreational Rockhounds at large. The collection of litter was very successful and we thank the Yuma BLM Field Office for their support in properly disposing the collected trash.

# NEVADA OHV

**Al Bolshazy**

**ALAA Nevada State Rep.**  
**al.bolshazy@amlands.org**

To learn about Off Highway Vehicle registration go to this site: [OHV.NV.GOV](http://OHV.NV.GOV)

The above site will give you all the information about your off road vehicle. Here is a synopsis of the information.

Off Highway registration is very straight forward.

1. Obtain the registration form from the above site or from the Department of Motor Vehicles.
- 2). Take the completed form to an Official Off Highway Vehicle dealership or any Sworn law enforcement Officer. They will verify the VIN number. Note: The DMV office will NOT verify the VIN number.
- 3). The registration is done by mail only. You can send a check or money order to the Department of Motor Vehicles or take it to the Authorized Off Highway Vehicle dealership and they will finish the registration for you for about \$2.00 or so.

The fee structure is listed on the above site and ranges between \$21.00 to about \$44.00 or so. If you are mailing your registration form in, send it to:

DMV  
555 Wright Way  
Carson City, NV 89711

Where can you ride your OHV? On the same site above click on the Trial Maps and it will show you several sites where you can ride your vehicle. If you are riding in an area controlled by the BLM, check with the BLM office that controls that area. Normally it is not a problem.

In conclusion, do the following to register your Off Highway Vehicle and where to ride:

- 1). Download the registration form and fill out
- 2). Have the VIN verified.
- 3). Send in your completed form or take it to an authorized dealership.
- 4). Check the OHV site and find out where you can ride and or check with the BLM office in the area you want to ride.
- 5). Most important: WEAR YOUR SAFETY EQUIPMENT!!!! ***Have fun and be safe.***

## **Fieldtrip Journal for Public Lands**

***(Blank Forms are on Page 6 & 7)***

This is the simple Journal to document your Fieldtrip Activities and record the access routes needed to get to and from collecting sites. This data will be useful when asked to submit comments to Public Land Managers during the Public Comment Period on potential Public Land Access Closures proposals.

Your information could save your collecting sites from route closures and access restrictions.....

**ALAA – DATA BASE OF COLLECTING SITES  
BY STATES**

**PRIVATE COLLECTING SITES**

NAME OF SOCIETY/CLUB: \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_  
Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Field Trip Leader:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Collected Material: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Name of Company, Ranch or Owner: \_\_\_\_\_

General Manager: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_

Liability Insurance Requirement: Yes: \_\_\_\_\_ No: \_\_\_\_\_

Location (Address): \_\_\_\_\_

GPS: \_\_\_\_\_

Distance from your Club: \_\_\_\_\_

Frequency of leading trips to this location: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of attendance: \_\_\_\_\_

Day trip or Overnight: \_\_\_\_\_

Closest Town: \_\_\_\_\_

Groceries, gas, restaurants, motels, hardware stores or other impact on the town:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Other Comments for this site:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Date Filled in Form: \_\_\_\_\_

Please keep copy for your files, send a copy to [fieldtrip@amlands.org](mailto:fieldtrip@amlands.org)

**ALAA – DATA BASE OF COLLECTING SITES  
BY STATES  
GOVERNMENT COLLECTING SITES**

NAME OF SOCIETY/CLUB: \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_  
State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Field Trip Leader:  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Collected Material: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

FOREST SERVICE \_\_\_\_\_ GRASSLANDS \_\_\_\_\_ BLM \_\_\_\_\_  
Did you contact District Manager? Yes: \_\_\_\_\_ No: \_\_\_\_\_ Contact Name:  
\_\_\_\_\_

Did you have to register your group? Yes: \_\_\_\_\_ No: \_\_\_\_\_

Routes to the exact collecting site: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

GPS: \_\_\_\_\_  
Closest Town: \_\_\_\_\_  
Groceries, gas, restaurants, motels, hardware stores or other impact on the town:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Other Comments for this site:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Date Filled in Form: \_\_\_\_\_

Please keep copy for your files, send a copy to [fieldtrip@amlands.org](mailto:fieldtrip@amlands.org)

# OREGON COUNCIL OF ROCK & MINERAL CLUBS

## HAMPTON BUTTE REMEDIATION PROJECT

By Dave Williams – OCRMC President

By way of introduction, the Oregon Council represents 16 clubs statewide whose 1535 members enjoy recreational rockhounding on our public lands. Our mission is to advocate for access to collection areas and promote stewardship of the resources at these sites. As part of our stewardship efforts, we adhere to the AFMS Code of Ethics which prescribes a set of guidelines for responsible rockhounding. Two important elements of the Code state:

- I will fill all excavation holes which may be dangerous to livestock.
- I will appreciate and protect our heritage of natural resources.

In order to advance the aims of these guidelines and implement the stewardship component of the Council's mission statement, we were looking for projects which would allow us to get some "Boots on the Ground". Our search resulted in a club member directing our attention to the Hampton Butte petrified wood site in central Oregon which has been extensively impacted by surface collection activities. A field inspection of the site with BLM staff revealed numerous shallow excavations which had not been filled. The affected area covered several acres open to both livestock and game. As the result of these observations, the Council decided to sponsor a remediation work party to address surface disturbance at the site. On September 28, 2019 eleven club members and three BLM staff met at Hampton Butte to fill as many of the digs as time allowed. This date was selected to coincide with National Public Lands Day. After a day's hard work and several changes in the weather, we were able to fill twenty to thirty excavations covering approximately ¼ acre. Our volunteers and BLM personnel were very pleased with the degree of participation and the amount of ground we were able to cover. Below are several pictures of the crew in action.



***Dig site requiring remediation***



***Crew after filling and leveling dig site***

Although we were only able to mitigate a small portion of the Hampton Butte collection area, we made a great start and developed a good working relationship with the local BLM staff. The Council is currently pursuing a formal partnership agreement with the BLM Prineville office and we are hoping to secure a permit to use a small garden tractor for future work.

***Continued on page 9.....***



.....Continued from page 8



**OCRMC and BLM work crew at Hampton Butte, OR**

At a minimum, we want to make these remediation projects an annual or bi-annual event. As part of an educational outreach program, the Council is also looking at posting signage with the AFMS Code at various rockhounding locations. We also hope individual clubs will conduct "fill and level" projects for some of their local dig sites. I know my club, the Umpqua Gem & Mineral Club here in Roseburg, had a very successful work party to help restore one of our popular collection areas.

I want to thank all the volunteers from our member clubs who made the time to help out with this effort. I particularly wish to acknowledge Hidemi Kira for initially suggesting the Hampton Butte area for our first project. Last but certainly not least, thanks to the three BLM staff, Tom Beaucage, Michael Anderson and Kevin Weldon who made a significant contribution to our endeavor.

## **American Lands Access Association**

Recreational Rockhound - BLM ~ Public Land Clean-Up  
Quartzsite, Arizona

Year one - January 29, 2013



Year eight - January 20, 2020



# Recreational Rockhounding

## As defined in the

# United States Code of Federal Regulations

43 CFR § 8365.1-5 Property and resources.

(a) On all public lands, unless otherwise authorized, no person shall;

- (1) Willfully deface, disturb, remove or destroy any personal property, or structures, or any scientific, cultural, archaeological or historic resource, natural object or area;
- (2) Willfully deface, remove or destroy plants or their parts, soil, rocks or minerals, or cave resources, except as permitted under paragraph (b) or (c) of this paragraph; or
- (3) Use on the public lands explosive, motorized or mechanical devices, except metal detectors, to aid in the collection of specimens permitted under paragraph (b) or (c) of this paragraph.

(b) Except on developed recreation sites and areas, or where otherwise prohibited and posted, it is permissible to collect from the public lands reasonable amounts of the following for noncommercial purposes:

- 1) Commonly available renewable resources such as flowers, berries, nuts, seeds, cones and leaves;
- (2) Nonrenewable resources such as **rock and mineral specimens, common invertebrate and common plant fossils, and semiprecious gemstones;**
- (3) **Petrified wood** as provided under subpart **3622** of this title;  
**Subpart 3622—Free Use of Petrified Wood**
- (4) Mineral materials as provided under subpart **3604**; and  
**Subpart 3604—Free Use of Mineral Materials**
- (5) Forest products for use in campfires on the public lands. Other collection of forest products shall be in accordance with the provisions of Group **5500** of this title. **PART 5500—NONSALE DISPOSALS; GENERAL**

(c) The collection of renewable or nonrenewable resources from the public lands **for sale or barter to commercial dealers may be done only after obtaining a contract or permit** from an authorized officer in accordance with part **3600** or **5400** of this chapter.

**PART 3600—MINERAL MATERIALS DISPOSAL**

**PART 5400—SALES OF FOREST PRODUCTS; GENERAL**

[48 FR 36384, Aug. 10, 1983; 67 FR 68778, Nov. 13, 2002; 75 FR 27455, May 17, 2010; e-CFR data is current as of October 18, 2019]

**Subpart 8364— Closures and Restrictions** [Read them here..](#)

**Electronic Code of Federal Regulations:** [43 CFR....](#)

Do **you** have a definition of “**Recreational Rockhounding**”? If you do please let us know, we would really like to see your definition... [info@amlands.org](mailto:info@amlands.org)

# NAS Fallon Range Training Complex Modernization Final Environmental Impact Statement

Al Bolshazy  
ALAA State Rep - Nevada  
al.bolshazy@amlands.org  
Reno Gem and Mineral Society

On January 26, 2020, the representatives from NAS Fallon presented their final environmental impact study (EIS) to a crowd of over 200 people. Capt. Evan Morrison is the Commanding Officer of NAS Fallon. Alex Stone is the EIS program manager of the US Pacific Fleet. I want to give you one website that has all the detailed information about the expansion of NAS Fallon: [www.frtcmodernization.com](http://www.frtcmodernization.com).

I will give you an overview of the meeting and keep it as brief as possible. I know a lot of this will not make sense but if you go to the above website it will give you a clearer understanding of this gigantic land grab. If I would to go into too much detail this would be hundreds of pages long. The initial environmental impact study was comprised of two volumes comprising approximately 3000 pages. Now, they reduce it down to a pamphlet of 30 pages.

There were approximately a dozen representative each standing by various pictures and maps of the areas the Navy wants which is over 600,000 plus acres. The representative could only talk about their specific map or pictures and it seemed as they had a "canned" speech about their area. They were very nice but very unresponsive to questions outside of their specific area.

Mr. Stone was the main speaker. He talked as though Congress have already approved their request. He talked about how they were going to close off all of these areas to the public. (From Dixie Valley to a couple miles North of Gabbs Nevada) How they were going to close off areas to the Native Americans sacred sites. Oh yes, he did say they would escort the Native Americans to their sites once a year for a few hours. In my opinion, this is outrageous! What about our treaties with our Native Americans giving them access to their native lands?

He talked about how they responded to our concerns and made some adjustments to one of the major areas (B 16). This is the area that extends down towards Gabbs Nevada. He then went on to talk about the 15 areas of potential environmental impact mitigation.

- |                                 |                           |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Geological resources         | 9. Water resources        |
| 2. Land use                     | 10. Biological Resources  |
| 3. Mining and mineral resources | 11. Cultural Resources    |
| 4. Live stock grazing           | 12. Recreation            |
| 5. Transportation               | 13. Social economics      |
| 6. Airspace                     | 14. Public health         |
| 7. Noise                        | 15. Environmental justice |
| 8. Air quality                  |                           |

In listening to Mr. Stones talk about each one of these areas of mitigation, his overall answer was "We're Gonna"! "We're Gonna" find an answer to that problem later. When talking about noise mitigation one of a resident of Gabbs, NV said, they fly over my house so close I can see their faces. Just think, if they do that now what it will be like when they're just a couple miles from my home?

***Continued on page 12.....***

..... **Continued from page 11**

When asked questions by the audience, the answer was "Were Gonna" work on that but we don't know how yet. I got the distinct feeling that once approved by Congress the solution will just go away. To me it felt like there was very little effort made to find the proper solutions to questions on mitigation issues as the answer was "Were Gonna".

Closing off thousands of acres to our citizens of not only Nevada, but from every State who visit Nevada. This area is a popular for recreation, off road vehicle activities, collecting minerals found nowhere else in the world,, camping, hunting, etc. Also looking for essential minerals for our national security as this is a highly mineralized area.

Of the 15 areas of mitigation, I heard no solution to the problems just "Were Gonna". To find an answer and have positive solution is something that should be done before any approval is given by Congress. I doubt we will hear anything more about solutions once this is approved by Congress.

There is another solution to this land grab. Why can't the Navy cooperate with the Air Force and use their 2.2 million acres of military training area and share this training range? The Navy would keep what they have now saving millions and millions of dollars from the taxpayers to convert the land to a training area. That was suggested at this meeting but fell on deaf ears. In my opinion, this is the best solution. Our military is our military comprising of all branches not just one.

Now we have the final EIS report. To them this is a done deal. But wait, we do have a recourse. If all of us were to contact our representative in Congress and our Senators and express our opposition to this excessive land grab, request they deny their request, this is our only viable solution. Our own Nevada Legislature has approved two resolutions opposing this land grab.

So please, write, email, call your representatives, your Senators even the President of United States and object to this takeover. With this takeover I feel the state of Nevada will become a military state and we the citizens of this State will be confined to our cities and no longer be able to enjoy our backcountry. (Personal opinion)

So please go to the website: [www.frtcmodernization.com](http://www.frtcmodernization.com) and take a look. This will give you a better understanding of all the implications involved in this land grab. Again we are loosing over 600,000 plus acres we can't walk on!

**Public nominations for California Resource Advisory Councils**  
**Deadline to submit nominations is Monday, 24 February 2020**

The [Northern California](#), [Central District](#) and [Desert Resource Advisory](#) Councils are seeking nominations for public members. These citizen-based committees assist in the development of recommendations that address public land management issues. The BLM maintains 37 such advisory committees formally chartered under the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) and the Federal Policy and Land Management Act (FLPMA) across the West. Of those committees, 31 are RACs and the remainder are site or subject-specific advisory councils. Each RAC consists of 10 to 15 members from diverse interests in local communities, and they assist in the development of recommendations that address public land management issues.

***Let the "Voice" of the "Recreational Rockhound" be heard!***



# Big Changes at Davis Creek

Dick Pankey  
ALAA Ambassador  
dick.pankey@amlands.org

Not only at Davis Creek but the entire obsidian area in the Warner Mtn. of the Modoc National Forest. Shirley Lesson sent me an e-mail link from the Forest Service that said "this was found on Facebook, you might want to check it out." So yesterday I checked out the post and learned some things I didn't know about the Forest Service and their procedures and vocabulary, the changes at Davis Creek that have happened and why they happened, and changes to come and when they will happen.

It all started with the FB post: "**No obsidian mining for 2020 season**" for both commercial and **recreational purposes**. The post listed the District Ranger, Lisa Spahr as the contact for more information. I called the Modoc National Forest office in Alturas, CA and got Ranger Spahr voice mail. I left my contact information, reason for my call and requested that she call me when she could. After leaving the voice mail I was given the option to return to the switch board so I took it. As would have it Ken Sandusky, Public Affairs Officer answered the call. He recognized my name and the CFMS because he participated with the Special Use Permit for the CFMS Field Trip in August, 2018. He also was knowledgeable with the issues surrounding suspension of obsidian collecting for 2020. He told me that a permit system needed to be developed for commercial and recreational collecting. This is when my introduction to the "Forest Service double talk" began. I informed Ken that I have 15 to 20 Free Use Permits starting in 1994 issued by the FS. Ken informed me that they were "**Free Use Authorizations**" not permits to collect obsidian. But I said, on the FS web site they are called Permits, on the Free Use Authorization they are called a permit so I was always had the understanding they were permits because FS personnel always had referred to them as "*Obsidian Collecting Permits*". Ken's final words to me were "*no they are not permits they are Authorizations.*"

Since Ranger Spahr was the person in authority that I needed to talk to I soon recognized that this was a discussion that I would not and did not need to prevail. I requested that Ken pass on my contact information and have Ranger Spahr call me. And waited for her call which came fairly soon. Even though Ranger Spahr was away from her office my request had been conveyed to here and she called me post hast. What I learned from Ranger Spahr: There is high demand for commercial quantities of Davis Creek obsidian, especially by overseas customers; commercial mining has created an unsustainable demand for such large quantities; impact has increased due to overseas purchasers; theft and illegal mining activities have increased substantially. In addition the FS is in contact with a judge that has deemed the current "Free Use Authorization" (for recreational collecting) and the "Obsidian Mgmt. Plan - May 2015 (for commercial collecting) to not be adequate for the FS to control and manage the obsidian resources at Davis Creek in a sustainable manner. Ranger Spahr went on to say that FS personnel will be working with stakeholders to identify the concerns and effects. "This will allow the forest, Warner Mountain Ranger District, partners and communities to assess the situation and put plans into place for a more-sustainable program." I requested Ranger Spahr add me to her list of interested and involved people and as a stakeholder.

My take away from all of this is: there has been theft and abuse of recreational and commercial obsidian collecting at Davis Creek; There will be no recreational and commercial obsidian collecting at Davis Creek in 2020. A new plan for recreational and commercial collecting will be developed and implemented; we as ALAA, as rockhounds and frequent collectors of Davis Creek obsidian need to closely monitor and participate in this planning process.

The final thing that I learned it that the FS is heavily relying on social media - Face Book and Twitter to alert and communicate with the public. ALAA, the federation PLAC Committees and all interested and concerned users of our public land need to solicit people to monitor Forest Service FB and Twitter sites and alert the appropriate people in their respective groups of announcements and activity.

Please refer to Page 10 and help  
ALAA Define "Recreational Rockhounding"!



# An Epiphany at Quartzsite

Shirley Leeson  
president@amlands.org

While visiting with the owners of the Idaho Gem Shop, we got to talking about collecting on public lands...I asked them if they would be interested in joining ALAA in a new category....Dealer/Venders. They were interested. I went back and got an application and not only did they join, they gave us a donation too. So I spoke about it before Congressman Gosar arrived on Saturday evening and we signed up three more right then and there. If you know a dealer/vendor who wants to get involved and help ALAA, the membership is \$25. (The same as individual membership) and they will get their business card included in the ALAA Newsletter.

You can download the application off the website or from this newsletter, on the left side of the main page, under 'membership.'

## The First Three Gem and Mineral Dealers To Support ALAA with Memberships



### GREG MUMM

Rest in Peace ol' Friend

We received word that Greg Mumm, former Executive Director of Blue Ribbon had passed away in South Dakota. Our sympathy goes to his family.

Greg was Director when we approached Blue Ribbon in the mid 2000s about rockhounds getting involved in public land issues. He supported us and came in 2009 to Billings, Montana, to the national AFMS show and spoke to a rally of ALAA members and interested rockhounds. He was always there for us and we greatly appreciated his knowledge and the expertise he offered us. In 2013 he walked away from the hectic life of Executive Director of Blue Ribbon and went back to his home in Rapid City, South Dakota.

.....goodbye ol' Friend,  
Shirley Leeson

## Golden Spike Gem & Mineral Society Gem and Mineral Show

April 10-12, 2020

Golden Spike Event Center, Weber County Fairgrounds  
1000 N 1200 W Ogden Ut 84404  
<http://goldenspikegem.org/show.php>



# AMERICAN LANDS ACCESS ASSOCIATION

## NEW MEMBERSHIP and ANNUAL RENEWAL FORM

**PLEASE PRINT ALL INFORMATION**

Must be postmarked by December 31<sup>st</sup> of each year

Member / Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Last First

Member / Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Last First

Organization Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Street City State Zip Code

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
(if different from above) City State Zip Code

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
Primary Secondary

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Alternate Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Member Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Dues are: **New Member:**   **Donation:**    
 \$25 for an individual or couple **Renewal:**   **Amount Enclosed: \$** \_\_\_\_\_  
 \$50 for a Club or Society

Leave a note for us:

Please check an option to subscribe to our Email   or Snail Mail   list.

Please make checks payable to: American Lands Access Association (ALAA)

Please mail this completed form along with your check to the following address:

**American Lands Access Association**  
**C/O Membership Chairman**  
**P.O. Box 54398**  
**San Jose, CA 95154**

For more information or questions, please email: [membership@amlands.org](mailto:membership@amlands.org)

ALAA is a grassroots 501(c)(4) Educational, non-profit organization. Our organization is present wherever there are hobbyists and recreational users of public lands whose interests and concerns are not being heard or are being jeopardized by proposed policy, regulation or legislation at the local, state and federal level.

ALAA Membership Renewal Form Rev. 2016

***Click on the above Membership Form to use the interactive Form  
 (Fillable when opened in Adobe Acrobat Reader)***

ALAA Editor  
2010 West Ave. K #528  
Lancaster, CA 93536-5229



Be sure to renew your ALAA  
Membership by the end of  
March 2020

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**New~ ALAA Recommendation to All AFMS Federations & Your Societies**

We are encouraging you to work closely with your societies to create a display case of the rocks, gems, minerals and fossils of the closed collecting sites in your territory due to public lands regulation, and to display the case(s) at your annual shows and conventions, and at the local society shows whenever possible. If every federation would show a representation of this, it will make a big impression on your members to become more collectively involved in protecting your current field trip areas now and for the future. Take photos of the material along with identifying it and note where the collecting site was. Include this information in your federation and society newsletter issues. ALAA would like to have this information for it's database, website and newsletters, and for articles in the AFMS newsletters. Let's get Rock'N on this project so we can keep on Rock'N our collecting sites.

**THE BLM IS ON THE MOVE**

The **B**ureau of **L**and **M**anagement is moving its Washington, DC office to Grand Junction, Colorado. The exact time frame of the move is not known at this time. Check on the BLM Website for more information. This will make contacting the main BLM Office easier for the Recreational Rockhound.  
Another BLM Move is the California Desert District office is moving from its Moreno Valley, CA location to a new office in Palm Springs, CA.