



Rocky Mountain Federation of Mineralogical Societies, Inc.

**RE: 2010 RMFMS Bulletin Editors Contest for bulletins, articles, poems, and special publications published in 2009
DEADLINE for entries is January 15, 2010**

INSTRUCTIONS

Bulletins: Select two of what you consider the best issues of your club bulletin published in 2009. Send two originals of each of the issues you chose for the bulletin contest with the appropriate form attached.

Articles: Send two copies of each original article or poem you are entering in the contest with the appropriate form. Send copies of the actual pages from your bulletin for the original articles and poems categories. Do not retype these articles.

Special Publications: Send two originals of any special publication you are entering in the contest with the appropriate form.

Send all of these items to the address below before January 15, 2010. Allow several days for the mail to reach its destination!

RMFMS 2010 Bulletin Contest
Betty Cain
2702 E. Pikes Peak Avenue
Colorado Springs, CO 80909

2008 RMFMS Trophy winners in all classes are not eligible in the same category for the 2010 contest. 2009 RMFMS Trophy winners in all classes will not be eligible in the same category for the 2010 and 2011 RMFMS contests. If your bulletin was a 1st place RMFMS Winner in 2008 or 2009 but NOT an AFMS 1st place Trophy Winner in 2008 or 2009, you may enter your bulletin in the AFMS contest for 2010. Complete the part of the entry form for **AFMS ENTRIES ONLY** and attach to one original of your bulletin. Send to the address above with other items you are entering in the RMFMS contest. This also applies to original article and poetry authors.

RMFMS CONTEST CLASSES OFFERED:

Class 1 - Mini Bulletin (6 printed pages or less)
Class 2 - Small Bulletin (7 to 11 printed pages)
Class 3 - Large Bulletin (12 printed pages or more)
Class 4 - New Editor Bulletin (any size)
Class 5 - Adult Original Articles

Class 6 - Adult Original Articles - Advanced
Class 7 - Junior Original Articles
a. Author under 12 years of age
b. Author 12 through 17 years of age
Class 8 - Original Poems (all ages)

Class 9 – Special Publications (Anniversary booklets, field trip guides, show or workshop manuals, etc. Please look at the sample judging sheet for this category before sending an entry. Only 1 entry per club, please!)

AFMS CONTEST CLASSES OFFERED

1st place winners in the RMFMS contest who were 1st Place Trophy winners in the AFMS contests for 2008 or 2009 must wait two years before being eligible for competition in the AFMS contest. All contest classes offered are the same as RMFMS, listed above.

RULES FOR COMPETITION

Bulletins

1. A bulletin or newsletter can be entered in one class only. You must enter 2 issues that fit the same page limit for a category. (Both issues classify as mini-bulletins, or both issues classify as small bulletins, etc.)
2. Class is determined by the normal size of the bulletin, though the number of pages may vary periodically, but staying within the number of pages allowed in each class.
3. Scores of the two entries will be averaged to determine the winners.
4. The top scoring bulletin of the first, second and third place winners will be forwarded to the AFMS contest.
5. NEW EDITOR is for one year only – the first year of editing a bulletin. New editors/bulletins are scored separately and the bulletin may be any size and will be eligible for the next year in mini, small or large class.
 - a. An assistant editor, co-editor, or member of the editor's family may not enter competition as a New Editor if they replace the editor.
 - b. An editor who was a 1st place trophy winner as a new editor in RMFMS or AFMS may enter the contest the following year in the mini-, small, or large bulletin category – whichever fits the size of their bulletin.
6. Only ONE ENTRY is allowed per author/editor, per category, per club. If a club belongs to more than one regional federation, the editor should pick the federation contest in which he will participate. If the editor does participate in 2 federation contests, and the newsletter places in the top three in both contests, and both are submitted to the AFMS contest, this newsletter will be disqualified. (AFMS Rule)
- *7. If you store your bulletin electronically or send it out by email only, you may enter your bulletin printed on one side only, just as you would print it from your computer. Do not "re-edit"!**

Articles & Poems

1. All entries into the adult, adult advanced, and junior articles and poems classes must be written by a member of an RMFMS affiliated club.
2. Articles and poems must have been published first in a club bulletin or newsletter in 2009.
3. Subject matter must relate to some phase of earth science or the lapidary hobby.
4. Reports, letters to the editor, and travelogues are not considered true articles.
5. Articles or poems written by more than one member will be considered as an individual entry.
6. Authors of articles and poems that were 1st place trophy winners in the 2008 contest are not eligible for the 2010 contest in the same category in which they won. 1st place trophy winners in the 2009 contest are not eligible for the 2010 and 2011 contests in the same category.
7. Some of the qualities judges consider in poems are rhythm, appeal and interest, simplicity and reasonable length.
8. Class 6 - Adult Articles Advanced is for previous AFMS winners in the Adult Article class, authors who have had articles published within the last five years in hobby magazines (i.e. Lapidary Journal, Rock & Gem, etc.), and earth science professionals such as teachers, geologists, mineralogists, and museum personnel.
9. Every author entering the contest grants permission for RMFMS and/or AFMS to reprint the submission either in a booklet or separate publication, providing proper authorship and publication are credited.
10. All submissions must be made as "hard copy." NO CDs, floppies, or electronic entries.
11. If an author belongs to 2 or more clubs and writes for them regularly, each editor may submit an article for that author, providing it was written specifically for and published first in that bulletin.

General Information

1. Absolutely no copyrighted material will be accepted.
2. A sheet of paper printed front and back is considered two pages.
3. Covers and mailers for bulletins are not counted as pages or sheets in determining the class unless there are some major changes each month (i.e., inside the front cover).
4. A show flyer will not be counted as a page, but can be part of the bulletin for judging purposes.
5. If you use a separate mailer or envelope with your bulletin, be sure to attach one to your entry to prevent loss of points for "no return address."
6. Clubs who have monthly board meetings and workshop/study classes should report them in their bulletins.

If a club does not have these events the editor cannot report them, although the bulletin may have good coverage on all club news/ events. **Editors do need to include statements that the club does not have a workshop, study classes, monthly board meetings, or field trips in extreme hot or cold months to keep points from being deducted.**

7. **If a club does not publish minutes** or "highlights," or other score sheet items, **no credit will be given unless there is a statement as to the reason why that item is not published**, (club policy, available separately to members, etc.) or if the answer is obvious.
8. Be sure to complete the application blank fully.
9. Be sure to submit the age of a junior author so they are entered into the proper age group.
10. Use a separate entry form for each article or poem submitted.
11. The editor should choose the best article or poem to submit by each author in each class. Only one article per author is allowed in the top 5 winners in the RMFMS contest. Additionally, the AFMS contest allows only one article or poem in each class from an editor.
12. If your club bulletin was a 1st place winner in the RMFMS mini, small, or large bulletin class in 2006/2007, you may enter the AFMS Bulletin Contest in 2008 providing your bulletin was NOT a 1st place winner in the AFMS contest. Send one copy of the bulletin to the RMFMS Bulletin Contest Chair marked For AFMS contest. This also applies to original articles and poems.
13. If an article is continued from one month to another and even further, we will limit the entry to one month; each month should complete the segment of the series.
14. The editor or author scoring the highest number of points after reaching the minimum score in each class shall be awarded the 1st Place Trophy Plaque and 1st Place Ribbon. Those scoring the next best scores (above the minimum points listed) will win second and third place ribbons. Fourth and Fifth places must achieve the minimum points listed for Honorable Mention Ribbons. There will be no ties.
15. Minimum scores needed in all classes except juniors:
 - a. 90 points for 1st place
 - b. 85 points for 2nd place
 - c. 80 points for 3rd place
 - d. 75 points for 4th place
 - e. 70 points for 5th place
16. Junior entries must receive at least 70 points for 1st place.
17. The top three entries in each class will automatically be entered in the AFMS Bulletin Contest if eligible, plus any other entries eligible for AFMS Contest but not for RMFMS Contest.
18. A Certificate of Participation will be given to each participant in the contest.
19. **Ribbon awards and trophy plaques will be presented at the annual "Breakfast with the Editors" at the 2010 Show and Convention in Wichita, Kansas, April 24, 2010.** Everyone can attend – you do NOT have to be an editor!

These rules have been adapted to agree as much as possible with the AFMS rules.

—Betty Cain, RMFMS Club Publications Chair
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