

SCMFS 2024 Convention Packet

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SCMFS 2024 Convention Packet (continued)

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President's Report to the 2024 SCFMS Convention

Don Shurtz, SCFMS President

My report to the AFMS Convention was rather dismal. I would like to think that things are changing for the good, but I am just not sure. I will reserve my judgment until we at least get through the Convention.

A lot of planning went into the 2024 SCFMS Convention. I had confidence that it would be a good convention. It could still be a good convention, but there are some areas of concern. The number of people signing up for the Editors and Webmasters Breakfast was about half of my expectations. Similarly, the sign-up for the awards banquet was about half of my expectations. The good news is that the Breakfast and Awards Banquet will still proceed. The number of people signing up for competitive display cases was ZERO – even fewer than I could imagine. Also, we had a Field Trip to the Perot Museum with one of the finest collections of minerals in the US, and also has a great display of Cretaceous Dinosaurs of Texas. The Field Trip was going to be led by Museum Docents. The total sign-up was just one individual – the lead of the tour. Perhaps the cost (\$15.00 per individual) seemed excessive, but the normal admission price is \$25.00. I am sorry to say that the tour has since been canceled. Finally, the number of Delegate forms received was only a handful. I am blaming that on a confusing form. For next year, the form will be revised to indicate that a club president should fill out a Delegate form for whoever is attending from the club - be it the president, an alternate, or several alternates. I believe most people think the form is to be sent only if an alternate or alternates will be attending.

We have passed the deadline for Dues and Insurance payments. As in recent years, only about half the clubs sent in their forms by the deadline. If your club did not send it a Dues and Insurance Form and payment. You can expect to be contacted by the Executive Secretary and or President. On the positive side, based on the forms that the clubs have submitted, it looks as though we may have an overall increase in the number of members of the SCFMS. With several large clubs yet to report, our member count is over 2,000 Adults and Juniors. If we can get the remaining clubs to join and send in their Dues and Insurance payments, we should exceed 3,500 members for the next year. Of the forms submitted, all of the larger and mid-sized clubs have reported increased membership. Only one small club has reported a decrease in membership. I have my fingers crossed!

At our convention, the only significant item on the table is passing the budget for next year. However, I would like to have a discussion of the future of the SCFMS. In the upcoming budget, we have a proposed line item of \$300.00 for the host club to help defer any extra expenses for hosting the convention. We need an annual meeting, but could we eliminate most of the SCFMS Convention travel budget and switch over to a Zoom meeting format. We had a Zoom meeting in 2023 and it was quite successful. I mentioned that we could save most of the budget for SCFMS Convention travel, but many would argue that we still need to support the Uniform Rules Committee and the Judging of Display Cases. Perhaps we could designate one club show during the year that would support display cases and judging. The \$300.00 budget for deferring extra expenses could still be utilized for such an activity. Additionally, I was recently asked how one entered the SCFMS lapidary contest. The answer was, “We don't have a lapidary contest, but perhaps we should.” It could be part of the Convention or the simplified Display Case-only activity. I would really appreciate it if people gave these ideas some thought and see if we can come to a resolution. Another thought that comes to mind is the election of District Vice Presidents. I was a District VP many (many!) years ago and thought it was a totally worthless job. I see some need for district VPs, but if they represent a District of the SCFMS, why should the whole SCFMS vote on them. Perhaps we can move to a system where the Presidents of clubs in each District select a District VP. Alternatively, and perhaps even easier, have the District VP position rotate between the club Presidents in the District. These changes would require a rework of the Constitution and By-Laws, but that is just paperwork. Please give it some thought. You may have even a better idea!

I again want to note that we have a couple of Officer Positions that need to be filled, and a large number of committee chair and member positions to be filled. These positions have been mentioned several times in the SCFMS Newsletter. At the risk of piling on, I would like to suggest that we need yet another committee to examine if the existing committees need to be eliminated or consolidated.

I hope to see you at the Convention – I am still hopeful that we will have a good turnout this year.

**TREASURER’S REPORT FOR THE 2024 CONVENTION
HENRY ROJAS, SCFMS TREASURER**

This report covers income and expenses for Fiscal Year 2023(FY23). FY23 covers the period January 1, 2023, to December 31, 2023. This report will also cover income and expenses for the Fiscal Year 2024 (FY24) period of January 1, 2024, to August 31, 2024.

FY23 INCOME

The FY23 income is shown in Table 1 below. Note that this includes all income received in FY23 even though the majority of this funding comes from club dues and club insurance for 2023.

FY23 Budget	FY23 Amount Budgeted	FY23 Actual Revenue
Dues and Insurance	\$11,420.00	\$10,508.63
From Endowment Fund	\$6,000.00	\$0.00
Miscellaneous Credit/Deposits /Beginning Balance	\$4,245.00	\$18,981.46
Total	\$21,665.00	\$29,490.09

Table 1, FY23 Income, Budgeted and Actual

FY23 EXPENSES

The FY23 budget and actual expenses are shown in Table 2 below. Based on 3100 Adult and 300 Junior Members totaling 3,400 members.

FY23 Allocated Expenses	FY23 Budgeted	FY23 Actual Expenses
AFMS Dues	\$2,550.00	\$1,890.00
Insurance Premiums	\$7,140.00	\$6,027.00
Executive Secretary Contract	\$1,200.00	\$1,200.00
SCFMS Tax Preparation	\$150.00	\$140.00
SCFMS Taxes	\$250.00	\$198.80
Travel to SCFMS Convention -\$150 each	\$2,400.00	\$0.00
Travel to AFMS Convention (President, Exec. VP, URC Chair	\$4,500.00	\$4,500.00
Travel to AFMS Convention for AFMS VP	\$1,300.00	\$0.00
Additional Hotel for URC Chair if required	\$450.00	\$0.00
Directory	\$25.00	\$0.00
Postage and Supplies	\$100.00	\$46.80
Office Supplies	\$100.00	\$0.00
Awards	\$200.00	\$0.00
Bulletin Aids Expense	\$700.00	\$285.00
Website Contest	\$100.00	\$0.00
Website (Domain and Renewal of Hosting	\$250.00	\$160.00
Website Contest	\$50.00	\$78.00
Miscellaneous	\$200.00	\$94.29
Total	\$21,665.00	\$14,284.39

Table 2, FY23 Expenses, Budgeted and Actual

FY24 INCOME

The FY24 budgeted income and actual revenues through August 31 are shown in Table 3 below.

FY24 Budget	FY24 Amount Budgeted	FY24 Actual Revenue through August 31, 2024
Dues and Insurance	\$13,336.00	\$1,747.00
From Endowment Fund	\$3,000.00	\$0.00
Estimated Beginning Balance	\$6,000.00	\$15,172.95
Total	\$22,336.00	\$16,920.75

Table 3, FY24 Income Budgeted and Actual

FY24 Expenses

The FY24 budget and actual expenses through August 31 are shown in Table 4 below.

FY24 Expenses	FY24 Budgeted	FY24 Actual Expenses
AFMS Dues	\$3,000.00	\$2,395.00
Insurance Premiums	\$6,000.00	\$0
Exec. Secretary Contract	\$1,200.00	\$800.00
SCFMS Tax Preparation	\$150.00	\$140.00
SCFMS Taxes Due	\$250.00	\$220.43
Travel to SCFMS Convention (\$200.00 each for the President, Executive VP, 8 District VPs, Secretary, Treasurer, URC Chair, BEAC, Newsletter Editor, Website Contest Chair)	\$3,200.00	\$0.00
Travel to AFMS Convention (President, Exec. VP, and URC Chair)	\$4,500.00	\$4,500.00
Travel to AFMS Convention for AMFS VP	\$1,300.00	\$0.00
Additional Hotel day for URC Judge, if required	\$450.00	\$450.00
AFMS Scholarship Committee (Travel to Convention for SCFMS Honoree and Scholarship winners)	\$600.00	\$0.00
Directory	\$25.00	\$0.00
Postage and Supplies	\$100.00	\$0.00
Office Supplies	\$100.00	\$0.00
Awards	\$200.00	\$0.00
Bulletin Aids Expense	\$700.00	\$0.00
Website Contest	\$75.00	\$28.95
Website (Domain and Renewal of Hosting)	\$100.00	\$0.00
Website Contest	\$100.00	\$0.00
Miscellaneous	\$286.00	\$134.86
Total	\$22,336.00	\$8,669.44

Table 4, FY24 Budgeted Expenses and Actual Expenses through August 31, 2024

September 18, 2024

RE: DISTRICT 1 ANNUAL REPORT

Don,

My apologies for failing to get you a proper report. I have nothing to report at this time.

SINCERELY,

EDDIE HARMON
DISTRICT 1 V.P

SCFMS Annual Report
District VI, Rollin' Rock Club
Betty Goseweh, District VI Vice President

Nothing to report this year.

SCFMS District VII Arkansas 2024 Report

For the 2024 South Central Federation of Mineral Societies Convention

By Raymond Lynch

THE HOT SPRINGS GEOLOGY CLUB

Hot Springs, Arkansas

The Hot Springs Geology Club (HSGC) was founded 50 years ago in 1974. I have been a member of the HSGC for the past 25 years and have served as president, vice-president, treasurer, and editor of the club newsletter for twenty-two years, and as SCFMS vice-president for District VII for 17 years. I continue to be the Editor of the Hot Springs Bulletin beginning my 22nd year. Our small club consists of approximately 20 local active members and many more non-active (not local) dues-paying members. About 10-15+/- members attend the monthly meetings at any one time. We have long distant members in South Carolina, Louisiana, and Texas. Our membership includes: geologists retired from the Arkansas Geological Survey & from Weyerhaeuser, a college geology professor, a consulting geologist, and a geotechnical engineering geologist. The late well-known Arkansas amateur mineralogist Henry de Linde for whom the mineral *delindeite*, was first discovered in Arkansas and the world (at the Diamond Jo Quarry, Magnet Cove) was for many years an HSGC member. The rare mercury mineral Artsmithite, so far found only in Arkansas, was named after the late Art Smith, another club member. Recently, two new minerals known to science and first discovered in Potash Sulfur Springs Arkansas, have been named (year 2021) for club members: the late geologist Don Owens (*Donowensite*) and retired geologist Mike Howard (*Mikehowardite*).

Our club newsletter, "**THE HOT SPRINGS BULLETIN**," is theme-oriented to some aspect of Arkansas Geology of which there is much to report. Our club Bulletin is sent to our members as well as many more non-members by email (107+) in the hopes that it will keep those informed of club happenings and encourage membership. The Bulletin is also forwarded and redistributed by others. The subject matter has included: the Hot Springs area with its world-famous thermal waters that gush from springs on the side of Hot Springs Mountain in Hot Springs National Park, the equally well-known world-famous clear quartz crystals that formed in the nearby Ouachita Mountains, the many unusual exotic minerals and rocks of the geologically interesting Magnet Cove Intrusive, the Potash Sulfur Springs locality, and the numerous micro minerals of Granite Mountain near Little Rock and the Martin Marietta quarry adjacent to Magnet Cove, quartz from Jeffrey Quarry, wavellite, variscite, bauxite, smithsonite, and of course diamonds at the "Crater of Diamonds State Park", Blanchard Springs Caverns, the Buffalo National River, the Rush Zinc District, the Ponca Lead District, pink dolomite crystals and fossils to name a few. Other geological items of interest are included in the Bulletin from the state and world, current geological events and happenings, field trips, and news and articles from other clubs, the SCFMS and AFMS. Recently, the current 2024 contest for club newsletters, published the previous year 2023, **won first place in the national contest** thus bringing recognition to the "**THE HOT SPRINGS BULLETIN**" and the "**THE HOT SPRINGS GEOLOGY CLUB**".

Our membership has generally been stable with new additions coming on board as members are lost. We have trouble attracting young people, as most of the members are older or of retirement age. The young people of today have other interests or distractions other than mineral collecting. That is a failure to inform or expose younger people to this interesting hobby for whatever reason. We conduct our monthly meetings/speaker programs at the *Arkansas School for Math, Sciences, and the Arts* (ASMSA), a college prep school for academically gifted Arkansas high school students who live on campus in a college academic environment. It has been an encouragement that ASMSA students and their geoscience instructors have joined our club and have presented speaker programs on various science projects that they are involved in at the school. We conduct interesting speaker programs at our meetings and conduct summer field trips with the goal of attracting new members.

Raymond Lynch

SCFMS District VII - Arkansas Vice-President

Hot Springs Geology Club

P.O. Box 257, Hot Springs, Arkansas rlynch52@yahoo.com

District VIII Louisiana VP Report by Del Glasner rev 9/12/24

Touched base with the following clubs to check how they are doing

N.E. Louisiana G&M Society – West Monroe, LA

The club is still alive. Do not have a shop or equipment. Jennifer Morris visited the Bossier show and viewed some equipment used for demos to possibly purchase some equipment for their club. They have regular monthly meetings and members take small group field trips. Upcoming trip to Mt. Ida. This year will mark their 50th anniversary. Lost one member to the West Nile Virus.

Deridder G&M Society – Leesville, LA

Tricia Cruse said elections are in October. They only have 8-9 people, and the show is scheduled for December. Betty Gosewehr is working on a Federation report. Programs on La Opal and Wire Wrap. See notes on meetings on the Facebook page.

Gem, Mineral and Lapidary Society of Central Louisiana – Pineville/Alexandria

Arklatex G&M Society -Shreveport/Bossier City, LA

Member Tom Stringfellow passed away. Wire Wrapping, and lost wax investment casting classes were held. The annual show in August was a success. Field trips were made to Arkansas. Judged and awarded two scholarships to science fair earth science winners. Participated in Archaeology Day at the LA State Exhibit Museum by displaying rocks and fossils, and setting up a table for kids to paint rocks. Awarded a scholarship to William Holland to one member in a drawing. Meetings are still held at the Sci-Port. During Dino summer camp at SCI-PORT club furnished some dino bone slabs helped 20 little kids saw off a piece, and made an I.D. tag and bag. During Shark summer camp little kids wrapped a shark tooth and made a necklace. The shop/classroom is active most Saturdays and some weekdays as noted on the Facebook page.

Gem & Mineral Society of Louisiana -New Orleans

Sec. Terry LaBlanc reports Oct 4-6 show will have 15-18 dealers. Field trip scheduled to Kentucky. Do not have a shop, use member's house.

Baton Rouge G&M Society – Baton Rouge, LA

Anthony Rouchon reports their Show had a good turnout of 1700 people. Field trips in small groups to local gravel bars. Elections in October.

Recommendations:

- Donate equipment no longer used to club in need of.
- Suggest clubs visit other club shops to gather ideas. Maybe a virtual tour.
- Gather a list of modern program ideas to present at club meetings.
- Share contacts of guest speakers.
- Share how to get younger members/and retain them.
- Clubs that don't have a shop might have a show to raise funds for one.

Suggestions:

Retain Membership-

- Well planned Field trips
- Educational meeting presentations that appeal to young and old
- Classes and Demos
- Communication. Follow up with prospective and existing members.
- Assign members a specific task to do.

SCFMS BUDGET COMMITTEE REPORT for 2024 Convention **This Budget is for Fiscal Year 2025 (Jan 1, 2025 to Dec 31, 2025)**

The following proposed budget covers the period of the Fiscal Year 2025 (FY2025) (January 1, 2025 to December 31, 2025). The total proposed Income for FY2025 is \$22,336.00 and is composed of the estimated income from dues, insurance, potential use funds from the SCFMS Endowment Fund, and the estimated beginning balance of the SCFMS Treasury account. The total proposed expenses for FY2024 are \$22,336.00.

The estimated Dues and Insurance income are based on an estimated membership of 4000 members (3600 adult and 400 junior members). Dues are estimated to be \$2.00 for adult members and \$0.40 for junior members while the insurance is estimated at \$1.50 per member (both adult and junior members). The estimated income from Dues is \$7,336.00 and from Insurance is \$ 6,000.00. The proposed budget requests \$3,000.00 to be available from the Endowment fund to cover contingency expenses. Any money required from the Endowment Fund will be requested as needed. The Estimated Beginning Balance is shown as \$6,000.00. The actual balance may be different than the \$6,000.00 shown and will not be known until the Treasurer's Books for 2024 are closed. If the Beginning Balance is more than \$6,000.00 then the excess will be used to offset the requested amount from the Endowment Fund. The Projected Income for FY2025 is \$22,336.00.

Allocated expenses for 2025 are shown in the proposed budget on the following page. The amounts suggested for AFMS Dues and the SCFMS Insurance are based on the same rates per person as 2024 but adjusted for greater membership, 4,000 total members (3600 adult and 400 junior members). The estimated Executive Secretary expenses are the same as the 2024 budget. The amount for travel to the SCFMS Convention is \$200.00 per individual. It is highly recommended that clubs provide at least the same amount for their Delegate to attend the convention. The AFMS Scholarship Committee is allocated \$600.00 for the Scholarship Honoree and scholarship winners to attend the convention. The amount allocated is the same as that for SCFMS Officers. The Host Club Assistance expense of \$300 has been added as well. All other expense allocations remain the same as the FY2024 budget except for the miscellaneous entry. The miscellaneous entry is simply used to match the Projected Income with the Allocated Expenses. The total Allocated Expenses are \$22,336.00

I would like to thank SCFMS Budget Committee Chair Sigrid Stewart for her assistance in submitting the SCFMS FY2025 Budget. I would also like to thank former Budget Committee member, Don Shurtz. As a previous SCFMS Budget Committee Chair and SCFMS Treasurer, Don has been able to provide insight and details into the details of the FY2024 Budget which greatly aided in the development of the FY2025 budget.

Details of the proposed FY2025 budget are shown in the table on the following page.

Very Respectfully Submitted
Henry Rojas
SCFMS Budget Committee Member and Treasurer

Proposed FY2025 Budget

Projected Income

Dues	\$7,336.00
Insurance	\$6,000.00
From Endowment Fund	\$3,000.00
Estimated Beginning Balance	\$6,000.00
Total Proposed Budget	\$22,336.00

Allocated Expenses

Membership Related

AFMS Dues	\$3,000.00
Insurance Premiums	\$6,000.00

Executive Secretary Related

Executive Secretary Contract	\$1,200.00
SCFMS Tax Preparation	\$150.00
SCFMS Taxes	\$250.00

Convention Related Expenses

Travel to SCFMS Convention (\$200.00 each for the President, Executive VP, 8 District VPs, Secretary, Treasurer, URC Chair, BEAC, Newsletter Editor, Web Site Contest Chair)	\$3,200.00
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Travel to AFMS Convention (President, Exec. VP, and URC Chair)	\$4,500.00
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Travel to AFMS Convention for AMFS VP	\$1,300.00
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Additional Hotel for URC Judges, if required	\$450.00
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AFMS Scholarship Committee (Travel to Convention for SCFMS Honoree and Scholarship winners).	\$600.00
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Host Club Assistance	\$300.00
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Administrative & Award

Directory	\$25.00
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Postage & Supplies	\$100.00
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Office Supplies	\$100.00
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Awards	\$200.00
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Bulletin Aids Expense	\$700.00
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Website contest	\$75.00
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Website (domain renewal and hosting)	\$100.00
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Miscellaneous Expenses

Miscellaneous	\$86.00
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Total Allocated Expenses	\$22,336.00
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SCFMS Scholarship Committee 2024 Report

Don Shurtz

September 22, 2024

The SCFMS does not sponsor its own scholarship(s). Instead, we participate in the AFMS Scholarship program. The AFMS Scholarship Foundation funds two scholarships of \$4,000 each in each regional federation except for the Southeast Federation which has its own scholarship program.

This year was a good year for donations to the AFMS Scholarship Foundation from the SCFMS. Unfortunately, it was for not the best of reasons. At the end of 2023, the Pine Country Gem and Mineral Society folded. They donated the balance of their treasury to the AFMS Scholarship fund which was recorded in 2023. They also promised to donate additional funds from the sale of their clubhouse. As previously mentioned in an SCFMS Newsletter article, they hope for a few thousand dollars. It turned out that the property was worth a lot more than they thought. It sold for \$50,000. They donated 50 percent of the proceeds to the SCFMS Endowment Fund and 50 percent to the AFMS Scholarship Foundation. The \$25,000 donation was thought to be the largest single donation that the AFMS Scholarship Foundation had ever received. Additionally, the Victoria Gem and Mineral Society folded and donated the balance of their treasury to the AFMS Scholarship Foundation, (\$591.93)

In addition to the donation from the Pine Country Gem and Mineral Society sale of its clubhouse and the donations from the Victoria Gem and Mineral Society, donations have been received from the Rollin' Rock Club (auctioning of the rights to win the Traveling Treasure Chest - \$2028.75), The ARK-LA-TEX Gem and Mineral Society (club donation of \$500.00), and the Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Club (\$426.50 from half the proceeds of items donated to the club). The total donations from the SCMF were \$28,547.18. Included in this total was a matching fund program offered by the SCMF President for 2024 donations. The matching funds were a one-time per club \$0.50 per member up to the total reported membership count of the club. This program has not seemed to stimulate donations from SCFMS clubs (our goal is \$1.00 for each club member); the program will continue until the SCFMS Convention, and then the program will be discontinued.

UNIFORM RULES REPORT FOR 2024

At the AFMS Convention in Billings, Montana the Uniform Rules Committee decided to divide up the online version of the Rules into individual files, each containing one division of the rules. The current version is all one file which is quite long and may contain more information than a potential exhibitor may need to have. This revision will make it easier for someone to download only the rules that pertain to the division in which he wants to exhibit.

Rules for all divisions will still be available online; the only difference is that they must be accessed and downloaded individually.

The revised rules for Division J (meteorites) will be included in the new version when it is published.

Also, the Guidelines for Judges and Guidelines for Exhibitors handbooks are being updated to include these latest changes. At the Rocky Mountain Federation convention in Oklahoma City, we will discuss possible ways to encourage more competitive exhibits.

Respectfully submitted,

Ronald R. Carman, SCFMS URC representative

SCFMS Website Report for the 2024 SCFMS Convention

Don Shurtz, SCFMS Website Chair

The SCFMS Domain Name (scfms.net) and Website Hosting were extended for two years in 2023. No action was required during 2024 as the Domain Name and Hosting are good through August 19, 2025.

Routine updates (e.g., updated forms, show or show changes, etc.) and new files (e.g., bi-monthly SCFMS Newsletter) are posted to the appropriate website page as received.

I would appreciate receiving any input from SCFMS officers or members about the layout or content changes to the website. I would also like any input from committee chairs or officers for posting updates.

On a related topic, the SCFMS Facebook page remains active. The Facebook page was established several years ago by Kimber Brannon. At that time, Kimberly was the SCFMS Executive Secretary. At the time it was established, Kimberly added me (Don Shurtz) as a manager on the Facebook account. The bad news is that I knew virtually nothing about Facebook and the administrative matters associated with Facebook. Kimberly is no longer with the SCFMS. **I would like to transfer the Facebook administrative duties to someone familiar with Facebook activities.** Please let me know and I will add you as a new manager to the account.

In the same vein as the previous paragraph, it is time that I step down as the SCFMS Website Chair (Webmaster). My knowledge of website design dates back about 20 – 30 years. I have tried to keep abreast of changes in website design, but I feel that the website design technology has passed me by. I believe the SCFMS Website needs a serious update, but I am not the person to do that. I would like to step down as the SCFMS Website Chair (Webmaster). If you have any questions, please send them to me. The administrative duties of the Website Chair are minimal – keeping the domain name and hosting active and writing a report each year. The administrative duties take less than 5 hours a year to complete. Keeping the website up to date takes a bit more time, but I believe it is less than 20 hours or less in a year. A similar appeal for the Website Contest Chair is expressed in the Website Contest Report. I believe the Website Chair and the Website Contest Chairs are best handled by a single individual. Please give it some consideration.

Very Respectfully,

Don Shurtz

SCFMS Website Committee Chair

SCFMS Website Contest Report for the 2024 Convention

Don Shurtz, Website Contest Chair

In 2022 the SCFMS Website Contest had exactly zero entries. This improved to three entries for the 2023 SCFMS Website Contest. Things were looking up. For 2024 there was a dramatic change in how the contest was conducted and in the scorecard to evaluate the entries. Because the early AFMS convention would have required the entries to be submitted by late February or early March. This would lead to a 2024 contest that only had 3 months of 2024 to evaluate. The AFMS and all of the Regional Federations decided to break their link to ending contests to support the 2024 Conventions. Instead, all the Website Contests went to a fixed schedule. All of the entries would be due at the end of September. The judging for the Regional Federations and the AFMS Contests would occur in October through December. The results would be announced in the first part of next year and the Awards presented at the Conventions in the year following the contest. This would be true from year to year – a fixed schedule. For the SCFMS, no 2024 awards will be presented at the 2024 conventions – they will be awarded in 2025.

The contest judging will focus more on how the requirements are implemented in the website. Bonus points would be awarded for how well the bonus items are implemented, not just points awarded because the bonus item is described in the website. This was done to make it easier for small clubs to be competitive. In addition, a non-competitive category was implemented so that webmasters could have their websites evaluated to help them improve their websites. For the SCFMS 2024 contest, something about the new contest resulted in zero entries for the 22 September deadline. The deadline was extended to 30 September and an appeal for entries was sent out to the webmasters. The final entry count for the 2024 Website Contest was one entry. If the SCFMS results are consistent with the other Region Federations, the AFMS Website Committee will need to reevaluate the changes implemented in 2024.

I believe that the fixed schedule will remain – it simplifies the entire contest administration. For 2025, the SCFMS Website contest will have an entry deadline of September 30, 2025. The results will be made available in the 2026 January-February SCFMS newsletter and the 2025 winners recognized at the 2026 SCFMS Convention. I can only hope that the Webmasters in the SCFMS will take advantage of the 2025 Website Contest to help them improve their website.

As an appeal, I have been the SCFMS Website Contest Chair for a very long time. It is time that the responsibility be passed on to someone else. If you are interested or have any questions about being the SCFMS Website Contest Chair, please let me know.

Very Respectfully,
Don Shurtz
SCFMS Website Contest Chair

