

NATIONAL ROCKHOUND & LAPIDARY HALL OF FAME

Jim Brace-Thompson

Inducted 2014
Education

Jim Brace-Thompson has devoted many years to educating kids about fossils (his main interest) and the earth sciences. For many years, he served as both the California (CFMS) and American Federation (AFMS) Juniors Chair, faithfully writing columns for their respective newsletters each month and hosting “kids corner” activities at the CFMS annual convention. In 2011 he was elected CFMS president. In addition, he has chaired the juniors program for his local club.



In 2002 he developed a Junior Rockhound program for AFMS that includes a series of badges that kids in participating AFMS affiliated clubs can receive after completing various projects. To date there are over 20 badges! In addition, Jim developed a manual of activities that club youth leaders can download and use in their own program as well as a “Presenters Manual” giving group leaders lesson plans and ideas for leading their kids group.

Because of his dedication to youth, Jim is usually present at all club gem and mineral shows in Southern California, teaching and sharing some aspect of the earth sciences. He is certainly a worthy inclusion in the National Rockhound and Lapidary Hall of Fame.