

# Grindings

**Idaho Gem Club, Inc.**

P.O. Box 8443 ▼ Boise, Idaho 83707-2443

VOL 70 NO 5

May 2010



## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Jason Madsen**  
President  
378-4666

**Willa Renken**  
1st Vice President  
362-3941

**Brent Stewart**  
2nd Vice President  
863-9336

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Deana Ashton  
891-7273

**Phil Neuhoff**  
939-4508

**Ed Moser**  
340-8060

**Rick Corbett**  
383-9930

**Twila Gallaher**  
853-6703

**Dan Phillips**  
585-3019



**TREASURER**  
**Kathy Griffin**  
467-9286

**NFMS DIRECTOR**  
**Charles McCreath**  
344-5085

**EDITOR**  
**Doug Renken**  
362-3941  
WLR\_DKR@MSN.COM

**CLUB WEB SITE**  
www.idahogemclub.com

## President's Message

Charlie Smith presented the 2011 show budget at the May Board Meeting. The budget was approved! Charlie and the Show committee have successfully led the club through the 2010 show. The show had a record breaking attendance of over 3,340 people. I am sure I am not the only one, awaiting with great anticipation, for what the 2011 show will bring.

Many gracious members have given of their time and efforts to do presentations related to lapidary and geology for various schools across the Treasurer Valley. I would like to recognize Brent Stewart as one of the individuals who tirelessly volunteers for presentation after presentation. Some of the schools and educational programs that Brent has done presentations for include:

Rendezvous in Meridian  
Two classes at Whittier Elementary school  
Two classes at Foothills Charter School  
Purple Sage Elementary  
Mary McPherson Science Night  
Two classes at Seven Oaks Elementary  
A presentation for 21 home schooled children in Eagle  
Six classes at Hawthorne Elementary School  
Seven Oaks Elementary Science Night  
Local Health Fair

I would like to thank Brent for sharing his time, talents, and interests.

If you have done presentations related to the Idaho Gem Clubs interests please let me know so you can be recognized for your efforts.

I would like to mention that the May 2010 Rock and Gem magazine has a very interesting article on Darrell "Jake" Jacobitz. Darrell Jacobitz is somewhat of a local legend with the rock hounding community. I had the opportunity to meet him and Gene Muller last summer on a weekend field trip with my family. I was impressed with their pleasant personalities and the kindness they showed to my girls. The May issue of Rock and Gem is available to check out from the club's library.

We'll have an auction this month at the general meeting. Remember to bring good materials to donate for the auction and money to buy materials that others have donated! I anticipate there will be some neat items.

The field trip to Hooker Creek and Jordan Craters area for last month had a good turnout. At one time I counted over 30 vehicles as we were convoying on the highway. Everyone I talked too said that they had found plenty of good specimens. I also met some new members and guests that reported that they were enjoying the trip. I heard of several rattlesnakes that were spotted. One of the snakes that I saw for myself was quite large. Remember there are plenty of critters to be mindful of when on field trips.

For the members that are in ill health this month I wish them a speedy recovery.

*Jason Madsen*  
*President*

**MINUTES OF THE IDAHO GEM CLUB  
BOARD MEETING ♦  
MAY 4, 2010**

Jason Madsen called meeting to order at 7:30 pm.

Board members and officers that were present: Willa Renken, Dan Philips, Brent Stewart, Chuck McCreath, Rick Corbett, Phil Neuhoff, Twila Gallaher, Deana Ashton, and Jason Madsen. Kathy Griffin and Ed Moser were excused.

Guests were Jim Clinton, Charles Osgood, Charlie Smith, Doug Renken, and Shirley McCreath.

Secretary's report – Deana Ashton reported that the club had received several newsletters and an issue of Rock and Gem.

Treasurer's report – No report.

Federation report – Chuck McCreath reported that Tenaya Madsen won first place in the NWFMS Junior of the Year for under 12 years of age. To apply she needed to complete a biography listing her talents and accomplishments. She will be recognized at the Portland show in September. At that time she will receive a cash prize, a plaque, and a pen and pencil set. Chuck also reported that the Federation show will be held in Portland September 17, 18, and 19. The Hotel B does have 25 rooms available to reserve for those attending the show that have an affiliation with the Federation. Beth is the contact person for reservations and the number is 503-648-3500.

#### Committee Reports

Field Trip – No report. A report on the April field trip and the coming May field trip will be given at the May General meeting.

Program – Brent Stewart reported that the May program will be an auction. He will be donating some very exciting items. Possibly some morrisonite, bruneau, and a tumbler. He also encourage others to donate suitable items for the auction. Brent also reported that he has visited

several schools throughout the valley to do lapidary and geology presentations.

Juniors – No report.

Editor – Doug reported that submissions for the newsletter are due Friday.

Show – Charlie Smith reviewed the 2010 show budget and proposed the 2011 show budget. A motion was made by Willa Renken to accept the 2011 show budget that Charlie had proposed. Twila Gallager seconded the motion and the motion was carried. Charlie also reported that T&J have retired after many years of being a dealer at various shows.

Building Fund – No report.

License – Charles Osgood led a discussion on the Gem State License plate. The Board discussed the issues with going forward with advertising and funding earth science and lapidary classes.

#### New Business

Jason Madsen announced that Valorie Estabrook will be excused for the May General Meeting and Rick Corbett volunteered to cover the Library for her.

Membership applications were received from Paul and Cherrell Thomas, and Kevin Kelly and his family. Phil Neuhoff motioned that the applicants be accepted as members. Willa Renken seconded the motion and the motion was carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 pm.

*Respectfully submitted,  
Deana Ashton  
Secretary*

**MINUTES OF THE IDAHO GEM CLUB  
GENERAL MEETING ♦  
APRIL 20, 2010**

Jason Madsen called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm.

Sandy Blodgett led the club in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Jason Madsen ask for the guests to stand and introduce themselves.

Jason Madsen thanked the retiring Hospitality Chair Myrtle and Kitty, and introduced Dan and Linda Philips as the new Hospitality chairs. He also gave thanks to Jack Trevithick for assisting Myrtle and Kitty. Linda Philips then led the club in awarding door prizes.

Jason Madsen recognized Joe Nielson's work as the Building Fund Chair and thanked him for his efforts. Jason then introduced Jim Clinton as the new Building Fund Chair and Jim awarded the Building Fund raffle.

Jason Madsen asked if there were any changes to the minutes as printed in the Grindings, then asked for a motion to be made to accept the minutes as printed in the Grindings. Brent Stewart made a motion to accept the minutes, Sandy Blodgett seconded the motion, and the motion was carried.

Jason Madsen introduced the new members and asked for them to stand so they could be recognized.

Secretary's report - Deana Ashton reported that the club received some newsletters.

Treasurer's report – Kathy Griffin reported on the balances and disbursements.

Federation report – No report.

#### Committee Reports

Field trip – Rick Corbett reported on the February field trip. He remarked that there was a good turn out and many interesting specimens were found at both the Queenstone claim and the Wangdoodle claim including some red opal.. Rick also discussed the upcoming April field trip to Hooker Creek for petrified wood, and Jordan Craters for Jasper.

Librarian – Valerie Estabrook reported that all is well with the library. Just a reminder to members to return materials that they have had for awhile.

Juniors – No report. Coyote Short took the Juniors for a class on volcanoes, comets, and meteorites.

Workshop – Willa Renken discussed the upcoming workshop for April. She announced that there will be hotdogs and marshmallows to roast. The workshop is also on Willa's Birthday and she invited all to attend the workshop and enjoy some birthday cake.

#### Old Business

Jason Madsen reported that he had discussed the decision to have the 2011 show close at 6:00 pm instead of 7:00 pm with Charlie Smith and he had approved the change.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 pm.

There was a 15 minute break for refreshments and Brent Stewart led a program on Cab display boards and showed some great Morrisonite, Owyhee, Bruneau, and agate cabs.

*Respectfully submitted,  
Jason Madsen  
Acting Secretary*

## ROCK'N FUNNIES



No small potatoes! Put the "Gem State" on your plate!



Order the "Gem State" plate today and show your support for our heritage and Earth science education for our youth!

## Workshop Report

Due to prior commitments there will not be a workshop this month. They will resume again next month.

*Willa Renken*  
*Workshop Chairmen*

## Upcoming Show

North Idaho Mineral Club  
**JUNE 2010**  
 5th 9am - 5pm  
 6th 10am - 4pm  
 Kootenai Co., Fairgrounds  
 Kathleen & Government Way  
 2-blocks E. of HWY 95  
 Coeur d'Alene, ID

## April Field Trip Report Hooker Creek & Jordan Craters

Beautiful weather, a cool sunny day, perfect for an April field trip. After the rains we have had this previous week there was little dust to cover the specimens that were found. Grass and weeds are still quite small making it easier to spot potential points of petrified wood sticking out of the ground. We spent a little over two hours at Hooker Creek; most intrepid collectors would like to have left a little earlier. A few of us die hard petrified wood collectors had found a hole or three that produced some very nice larger specimens that we couldn't find our selves leaving for a later trip or for someone else to find.

Remember, twenty five pounds per person plus one piece is the limit on petrified wood per day with a two hundred and fifty pound yearly limit. On agates, jasper, quartz and other mineral specimens the amount you can collect is a "reasonable amount". My interpretation, this means what can fit into the trunk of your car and still be able to drive.

I had stated travel time between the two stops would be about an hour, in fact took about an hour and twenty five minutes. There was quite a bit of dust on the road causing drivers to spread out to keep from choking on dust.

Flora & Fauna are quite abundant this time of year. Ground Squirrels kept running across the road in front of us while hawks circled looking for their next meal. One gentleman stated there was an antelope herd in the area before we all arrived to frighten them away. We encountered two rattlesnakes while at the second stop. Due to the abundance of rodents, grains to feed said rodents from all the good native and planted seeds for cattle, snakes are abundant as well. Please remember these are all wild animals that, when cornered, can and will protect themselves from inquisitive people with cameras.

Multiple diminutive flowers are in blossom, spring having just arrived, plenty of moisture to germinate their seeds; the desert landscape is abundant in wild flowers; a perfect time of the year to take a weekend drive to enjoy nature's beauty!

The drop off into "Hole in the Ground", just before our second stop, is still just a bad as ever. There are three rocks, each spaced apart, that are a potential problem for even high clearance vehicles. Punctured tires are the main problem going over this short distance. There was one vehicle that did have a flat tire which was changed before being able to come out of the canyon. They encountered another flat just as we arrived at Highway 95 on the way out. They were able to get their first flat fixed in Jordan Valley then made a safe trip home. This trip really does require tires in good condition.

There were 53 members of whom 12 were children and 11 guests for a total of 64 on this field trip. Thank you to everyone for making this a successful field trip and helping to make our new members and guests feel welcome!

Respectfully submitted,

*Tony Griffin*  
*Field Trip Chairman*  
*467-9286 home phone*  
*250-3857 cell phone.*  
*Email: [tonygriffin@heritagewifi.com](mailto:tonygriffin@heritagewifi.com)*

# HAPPY BIRTHDAY



## MAY

5/2 Frank Masley  
 5/2 Marshall Robbins  
 5/5 Deb Butte  
 5/6 Richard Clark  
 5/6 Jeremy Schuster  
 5/7 Larry Arnold  
 5/8 Leah Kelly  
 5/14 Carl Woodland  
 5/15 Dick Corbett  
 5/16 Mike Witschen  
 5/18 Gerri Whitlach  
 5/19 Twila Gallaher  
 5/20 Camille Ridenour  
 5/21 Amy Watson  
 5/21 Nathan Brasley  
 5/22 Janice Egner  
 5/22 Larry Odell  
 5/24 Deanna Holloway  
 5/24 Mary Ridley  
 5/24 Chelsey Griffith  
 5/25 Mike Egner  
 5/26 Chuck Fawcett  
 5/27 Joan Dethlefs  
 5/31 Alea Ingle

**May Birthstones**  
**Faceted — Emerald**  
**Cabochon —**  
**Chrysoptase**

## JUNE

6/1 Robert Drake  
 6/1 Larry Brasley  
 6/3 Keith Chipman  
 6/3 Carolyn Nelson  
 6/8 Pat Kowalski  
 6/11 Robert L. Turner  
 6/12 Teri Hetherington  
 6/13 Connie Greer  
 6/13 Rindy Quijas  
 6/15 Sarah Neuhoff  
 6/16 Chris Blickfeldt  
 6/16 Mathew Kelly  
 6/17 Sandy Blodgett  
 6/18 Margaret Loewen  
 6/18 Gary Scott  
 6/21 Laura Lindsay  
 6/21 Glen Hackwell  
 6/24 Gabrielle Loewen  
 6/25 Sharon Allen  
 6/26 Gene Snyder  
 6/28 Carol Knudsen  
 6/30 Jonathan Barnett

**June Birthstones**  
**Faceted — Alexandrite**  
**Cabochon — Moonstone**  
**Traditional — Pearl**

## May Program

There will be an oral auction for the May program. Please bring any extra material you would like to donate to the auction. Also bring some spare changes to purchase items from the auction.

*Brent Stewart*

## DATES TO REMEMBER

**GENERAL MEETING:**  
**3rd. Tuesday of every month**  
 May 18, 2010  
 Church of the Brethren  
 2823 N. Cole Road, Boise, Idaho  
 Meeting Starts at 7:30 pm.

**BOARD MEETING:**  
**1st. Tuesday of every month**  
 June 1, 2010  
 Church of the Brethren  
 2823 N. Cole Road, Boise, Idaho  
 Meeting Starts at 7:30 pm.

## May Refreshment Committee

Chair: Twila Gallaher 853-6703  
 Liana Rodden 631-7700  
 Jonathan Barnett 869-5164  
 Terry Tomberlin 343-7506

### REFRESHMENT COMMITTEE GUIDELINES

Need approximately 15 dozen cookies. Wrapped door prizes are also needed. Arrive early enough to set up the chairs. The chairperson brings the coffee urn, coffee, punch, cream, sugar, cups and napkins. Afterward, put meeting tables & chairs away, clean kitchen and sweep the room. Gather and take all the trash with you. Don't forget it is the responsibility of the chair for the coming month to pick up the coffeepot, take it home and bring it the next meeting.

## June Refreshment Committee

Chair: Debra Burns 841-1321  
 Ron Mummy 376-4133  
 Vicki Stark 939-2731

## Idaho Gem Club May Field Trip

**Haystack Butte: petrified wood & jasper**

**When:** May 22nd; meet between 8 a.m. and 8:30 a.m.  
We will leave promptly at 8:30 a.m.

**Where to meet:** Kmart parking lot on Karcher Rd (Highway 55). We will caravan from Kmart.

**How to get there:** travel West on I-84 to Exit 33A, the new Nampa Highway 55 exit. We will travel West on Highway 55, before reaching Huston we will turn North on Chicken Dinner Road, go one mile north then west on Homedale Road until we reach Highway 95 just east of Homedale. Go south west on Highway 95 over the Snake River then west (right) on Highway 19 through Homedale to the Idaho/Oregon border. Highway 19 becomes Oregon Highway 201; stay on 201 to Owyhee, Oregon passing through Adrian before arriving at Owyhee. Turn west on Owyhee Ave. at the gas station on the west side of Highway 201 in Owyhee.

There is a nice Subway Sandwich shop right after turning onto Highway 19 in Homedale. There a couple of Convenience stores at the intersection of Highways 19 & 95, a block west of the Subway Sandwich shop.

**Equipment needed:** rock hammer, rock pick or chisel, shovel, safety glasses, appropriate clothing for the weather and location, food for the time you will be there, water, full tank of gas, and any items you need for your personal use. It is tick season, so bring tick spray or wipes! Rattlesnakes have been reported, if you have children or pets that will be with you; please teach your children the dangers of wild animals. If you would like more information, please come to our Gem Club meeting. May 18th, 7:30 p.m. at the Mountain View Church of the Brethren 2823 N. Cole Rd. or Call our Field Trip Chairman

*Tony Griffin*  
*Field Trip Chairman*  
*467-9286 home phone*  
*250-3857 cell phone.*

*Email: [tonygriffin@heritagewifi.com](mailto:tonygriffin@heritagewifi.com)*



## Sunshine Lady

Arlene Bailey is the club sunshine lady. Her job is to send some cheer to members who are ill or just need some cheering up. But she needs your help in doing this job. If you know of someone who has been recently ill let her know so she can send them a card. Her phone number is 562-8030. Thank you in advance for your help.

## Sunshine Report

In The month of April the club sent flowers to Judy Blodgett who had hip surgery.

Chuck McCreath had his second knee replaced.

Ed Moser is in a Washington Hospital. He has had a triple by-pass for his heart. He is still there recovering.

We hope all of you are healing well and will be up and about real soon.

*Arlene Bailey*  
*Sunshine Lady*

*Welcome New Member*

**Kevin & Nikki Kelly**  
**12236 W. Ardyce Dr.**  
**Boise, ID 83713-5815**  
**(208) 571-0703**

**Paul & Cherrell Thomas**  
**P. O. Box 140661**  
**Boise, ID 83714-0661**  
**(208) 284-2232**



## Idaho Gem Club Beacon Hill Field Trip

### Beacon Hill Claim: Geodes

**When:** Saturday June 12th; meet between 8:30 a.m. and 9:00 a.m. We will leave promptly at 9:00 a.m.

**Where to meet:** Rest area on I-84 just after crossing the Snake River going into Ontario Oregon.

**How to get there:** Travel West on I-84 to Exit 377 rest area. Pull into rest area.

**Equipment needed:** rock hammer, bucket, rock pick or chisel, shovel, safety glasses, appropriate clothing for the weather and location, food for the time you will be there, water, full tank of gas, and any items you need for your personal use. The claim is located on private property so club field trips are the only time we can access the claim.

## Recognizing Brent Stewart

Many gracious members have given of their time and efforts to do presentations related to lapidary and geology for various schools across the Treasurer Valley. I would like to recognize Brent Stewart as one of the individuals who tirelessly volunteers for presentation after presentation. Some of the schools and educational programs that Brent has done presentations for include:

- Rendezvous in Meridian
- Two classes at Whittier Elementary school
- Two classes at Foothills Charter School
- Purple Sage Elementary
- Mary McPherson Science Night
- Two classes at Seven Oaks Elementary
- A presentation for 21 home schooled children in Eagle
- Six classes at Hawthorne Elementary School
- Seven Oaks Elementary Science Night
- Local Health Fair

I would like to thank Brent for sharing his time, talents, and interests.

If you have done presentations related to the Idaho Gem Clubs interests please let me know so you can be recognized for your efforts.

*Sincerely,  
Jason Madsen  
President*

## TRI- FEDERATION FIELDTRIP

The Tri-Federation trip is scheduled for May 28-June 2nd, there are several trips scheduled for different locations within a 40-50 mile radius of Fontanel, Wyoming, the Blue Forest Petrified Forest area.

The base camp will be at Slate Creek Campground, just east of Fontenelle, next to the Green River. This is a no fee campground with fire pits, tables and restrooms. We will post the area with signs marking the camp area on Thursday May 27th. Trips will leave from the camp for the Blue Forest Dig area, one trip to the Eden Valley area, and others. Most of the trips will be related to collecting Petrified Wood. At the base camp we will have maps available for other areas, like algae, turitella agate, agates and fee fossil areas in the Kemmerer area and the Jade areas. There are millions of acres of wide open country, most of which will be BLM ground. You are expected to follow all rules on the collecting of petrified wood on public lands.

The schedule for the weekend follows. On Friday a group will leave for the Blue Forest dig area at 9 am. Then on Saturday at 9 am to the Blue Forest and at 6pm we will have a potluck and camp fire to get to know each other and share stories. On Sunday a trip to Eden valley area will leave at 8:30 am. Sunday evening is set aside for a swap session so bring some good trade material. Monday there will be another unnamed trip leaving at 9 am and an open day for you to go anywhere you like.



ROCK and MINERAL  
IDENTIFICATION WORKSHOPS

The IDAHO MUSEUM of MINING and  
GEOLOGY

is sponsoring two Identification workshops  
again this year, taught by Coyote Short  
and Lois McDonald.

Tentatively, the first (MINERAL IDENTIFI-  
CATION) workshop will be  
Sunday, June 6, 2010.

The second class (ROCK and MINERAL  
IDENTIFICATION) workshop is sched-  
uled for Sunday, August 15 (not the 22nd as  
previously announced in the IMMG activity  
calendar).

Class sizes will be limited. To reserve a  
space and obtain further information,  
call Lois McDonald, 713-2061.

**Yesteryear**  
**May 1960**

Filing on the Morrisonite claim has been done for this year. Field trips were planned to the Haystack Butte Area and the last of the month a gold panning trip which is very popular. So far none of the members have made a fortune from their efforts.

The State house Gem display is finished. The twelve members that made the trip to the Morrisonite claim reported good luck for all.

A field trip for petrified wood was set for September to McBride Creek.

A letter was received from the Rare Metals Corporation of Weiser answering the request to visit the mine. They said a date in October would be set for the club to visit.

The Secretary of State gave a report on the attraction the gems displayed at a convention of the States Secretaries held in New York City.

A specimen of sodalite was displayed that had been found on the Payette River.

The November trip to Alkali Springs was postponed because of the weather.

There was singing, and stories at the annual Christmas party. They had a gift exchange and refreshments.

Ralph Hearn was elected President for the year 1961.

*Patsy Bethel*  
*Historian*

**In Remembrance**

F.M. Miller died April 2nd. She had been at a local care facility ever since Ted had suddenly died from a Heart Attack

Ted and F.M. had belonged to our rock club until they took up selling at shows and decided to belong to the Owyhee Gem Club where they sold their rocks and gem under the name of Millers Minerals.

F.M. loved flowers and had many that you didn't find very often. She also had roses, until Ted lovingly treated them with Round up.

F. M. did all the sawing of their rocks as she didn't trust Ted to get the best out of each of them.

Visitors were always welcomed with cookies, coffee and a show of their latest finds.

*In Loving Memory*  
*Patsy Bethel*

## FROM THE EDITOR

The deadline for articles is the board meeting, if it needs to be typed. If the article is sent via e-mail the deadline is the Saturday after the board meeting.

**Phone: (208) 362-3941**  
**E-mail: WLR\_DKR@MSN.COM**  
**My mailing Address is:**  
**Doug Renken**  
**12843 S. Five Mile Rd.**  
**Kuna, ID 83634**

## Electronic Grindings

Thanks to those who signed up for the electronic Grindings. Not only does this save the club money it helps save me time putting on labels and postage. Currently it costs around \$1.70 per issue or \$20.40 per year to print and mail each newsletter.

If you would like to receive the Grindings newsletter through e-mail let me know. Please send an e-mail to WLR\_DKR@msn.com and I will add you to our e-mail list. The Grindings will be sent in PDF format.

## SAVE STAMPS

Just a note to remind people to save their postage stamps to donate to the Federation. The stamps are sold and the proceeds are donated to cancer research. Cut at least 1/4 inch margin around the stamps. You can turn them into Chuck McCreath at our next meeting. THANK YOU!

## "CODE OF ETHICS"

I will respect both private and public property and will do no collecting on privately owned land without permission from the owner.

I will keep informed on all laws, regulations or rules governing collecting on public lands and will observe them.

I will, to the best of my ability, ascertain the boundary lines of property on which I plan to collect.

I will use no firearms or blasting material in collecting areas.

I will cause no willful damage to property of any kind such as fences, signs, buildings, etc.

I will leave all gates as found.

I will build fires only in designated or safe places and will be certain they are completely extinguished before leaving the area.

I will discard no burning material - matches, cigarettes, etc.

I will fill all excavation holes which may be dangerous to livestock.

I will not contaminate wells, creeks, or other water supplies.

I will cause no willful damage to collecting material and will take home only what I can reasonably use.

I will practice conservation and undertake to utilize fully and well the materials I have collected and will recycle my surplus for the pleasure and benefit of others.

I will support the rockhound project H.E.L.P (Help Eliminate Litter Please) and will leave all collecting areas devoid of litter, regardless of how found.

I will cooperate with field trip leaders and those in designated authority in all collecting areas.

I will report to my club or federation officer, Bureau of Land Management or other authorities, any deposit of petrified wood or other materials on public lands which should be protected for the enjoyment of future generations for public educational and scientific purposes.

I will appreciate and protect our heritage of natural resources.

I will observe the "Golden Rule", I will use Good Outdoor Manners and will at all times conduct myself in a manner which will add to the stature and Public Image of Rockhounds everywhere.

## THE GRINDINGS

is the monthly newsletter of the Idaho Gem Club, Inc., associated with the Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies. Permission to copy is freely granted when proper credit is given to both the publication and the author. Articles without bylines are written by the Editor or President.

**CHECK OUT THE CLUB WEBSITE!**

[www.idahogemclub.com](http://www.idahogemclub.com)



## You Might Be a Rock hound If. . .

1.  
 You think road cuts are built as tourist attractions.  
 You describe your vacations by the rocks you brought homemakers.  
 The rick pile in your garage is over your head.  
 Your PC screen saver features pictures of rocks.  
 You find rocks when you empty your pockets at night.  
 You went to a rock festival and you hate music.  
 You gave rocks, tumblers, or rock tools for Christmas.  
 When friends say they're going to Tucson, you assume it'll be in February.  
 You can find Quartzite on a map in less than 5 seconds.  
 When someone mentions "Franklin" you think of New Jersey rather than Ben.

2.  
 You can pronounce "melybdenite" correctly on the first try.  
 The polished slab on your bola tie is six inches in diameter  
 The bookshelves in your home hold more rocks than books; and the books that are there are about rocks.  
 On a trip to Europe, you're the only member of the group who spends their time looking at cathedral walls thorough a pocket magnifier.  
 You think you KNOW how to pronounce "chalcedony."  
 You are thinking about giving rocks out for Halloween.  
 You planted flowers in your rock garden.  
 You purchased things like drywall compound just to have another nice bucket to carry rocks in.  
 The club you belong to uses rocks for center-pieces for the annual Christmas dinner.  
 The first thing you pack for your vacation is a chisel and a hammer.

3.  
 You spend hours and hours in the ugliest room in your house.  
 You give directions like "turn right at the green farmhouse..."  
 You brought the ugliest boots available cause they were water proof.  
 You know what findings are for.  
 You watch the scenery in movies instead of the actors.  
 Your company asks you not to bring any more rocks to

the office until they have time to reinforce the floor.  
 The local jewelry store & libraries give out your name for information on rock clubs.  
 You examine individual rocks in driveway gravel.  
 Your wife knows your are down in the basement sorting rocks but can't quite find you nor does she remember that pretty wall down there.  
 Your local rock shops send you get well cards when you don't stop by in more than a week.

4.  
 The baggage handlers at the airport know you by name and refuse to help with your luggage.  
 The local university's geology department asks permission to hold a field trip – in your back yard.  
 The city sends you a letter informing you a landfill permit is required to put any more rocks in the back yard.  
 UPS has a regular pickup and delivery schedule for your house.  
 You can debate for hours on the differences between spectrolite and labradorite.  
 You shouted "Obsidian!" to a theater full of moviegoers while watching the Shawshank Redemption.  
 Your children have names like Rocky, Jewel, and Beryl.  
 You get excited when you find a hardware store with a 16 pound sledge hammer and 5 foot long pry bars.  
 You debate for months on Internet about whether vibratory or drum tumblers are best.  
 You can't remember the last time your car still fit in the garage.

5.  
 Local science teachers plan field trips to your back yard.  
 You have a two car garage and your 4WD pickup has to sit in the driveway.  
 They won't give you time off from work to attend the Tucson Gem and Mineral Show and you go anyway.  
 You begin fussing because the light strips you installed on you bookshelves aren't full spectrum.  
 You've spent more than ten dollars on a rock.  
 You still think pet rocks are a pretty neat idea.  
 You have amethyst in your aquarium.  
 You associate the word "hard" with a value on the Mohs scale instead of "work."

This list was written by members of the Gmeditors email swap group. Contributors include Mel Albright, Richard Busch, Betty Commean, Dan Imel, Bob Keller, Paul Kline

The purpose of the Idaho Gem Club is to promote mutual, educational and scientific interests and benefits of its members in mineralogy, geology, gemology, the art of lapidary and kindred arts and sciences.

**Dues:**

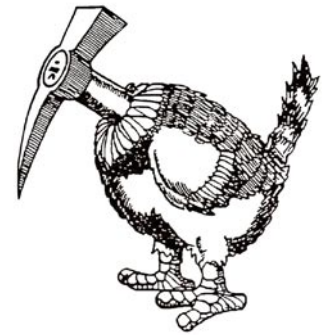
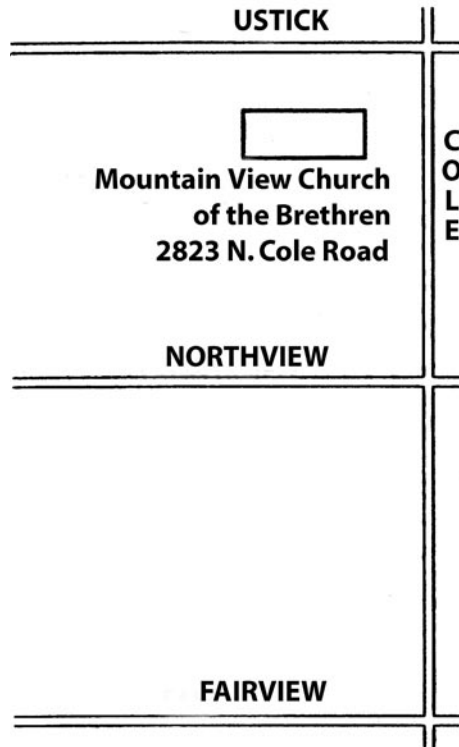
\$12.00 per person  
\$15.00 per couple  
\$17.50 per family

**Subscription:**

\$10.00 per year

**General Meeting:**

3rd. Tuesday of each  
Month at 7:30 p.m.



The Whangdoodle Bird  
(Often seen on field trips)



**Idaho Gem Club, Inc.**

P.O. Box 8443  
Boise, Idaho 83707-2443