


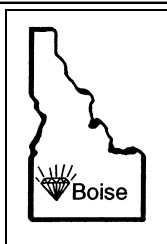
# Grindings

**Idaho Gem Club, Inc.**

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

**VOL 71 NO 9**

**September 2011**



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www.idahogemclub.com

## President's Message

We have some fun field trips coming up and its wonderful that the weather is cooperating for now and maybe a little cooler would be ideal. I will be off to Denver for the Gem Show and will be there September 12th – 17th. I hope to have some fun reports for you.

The September field trip will be to Carey, Idaho on September 24th to look for green Carey moss agate. There are some rare finds of tube agate, some jasper, and black moss agate in this area also. Many people who attended this trip last year said they had a great time and found wonderful specimens! And it is a very scenic area to enjoy nature. Looks like a trip to Beacon Hill to gather some nodules will be on October 1st and 2nd. This will be a fun camp out.

It is getting to be that time of year again to announce that Dues are due. One thing that members can do to help keep expenses of the club down is to have the Grinding sent to you electronically. Please give this some consideration and let Tony Griffin know if you would prefer the Grinding sent via email, instead of regular post. For the current year, dues will remain the same.

Just a reminder that this months meeting will be at the usual spot on 2823 N. Cole Road at the Mountain View Church of the Brethren. The meeting time is 7:30 pm on September 20.

A gentle nudge, to keep working on grab bags and tumbled rocks for the annual show in February. We sell through them every year.

*Brent Stewart*  
*President*



**MINUTES OF THE IDAHO GEM CLUB  
GENERAL MEETING □  
August 20, 2011**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Bill Belknap and was followed up by an invigorating prayer given by Jim Da Silva.

Guests: Ed, Eve, and Tamra (last name un announced)

Door prizes were only given to the juniors due to a lack of material. Next month there will be double door prizes due to this shortage!

Motion to accept the grindings as printed: Motioned by Bill Belknap, 2nd by Coyote Short; motion carried.

New Members: Jerry Adamson, Greg and Mary Ellen Biebel, Darlena Rowland, Barb and Bill Carey, Keith Lenzer, Don Huston, Karla Glick, Corey & Karla Glick, Sharron Surrarrer. Welcome to the club guys!

Secretary's Report: New newsletter from Hells Canyon Club!

Treasurers Report: Kathy discussed balance and disbursements of gem club funds

Federation Report: Washington State now requires a 30 dollar permit to rockbound on Wildlife & Fisheries Lands. Citations will be and have been written; the citation price is unknown at this time.

Refreshment Committee Report: Refreshments need more volunteers for the following months!

R.O.L.E. : No report

Sunshine Report: No report

Field Trip Report: Sat the 20th's fieldtrip will be to Graveyard Point, meet at Ion Station in Marsing. We will be departing at 7 -730. Beacon Hill field trip is unannounced due to complications with private property.

Librarian Report: No report

Workshop: Willa: Don't be afraid of giving advice to those who are misusing or having trouble with lapidary equipment

Juniors Report: Ed Moser: make sure juniors bring their folders to the next meeting!

Old Business: Charles McCreath: Discussed purchase of jade being shipped down from Alaska.

New Business: No report

*Respectfully submitted,  
Ben Nunez  
Recording Secretary*

**Dues  
Annual dues are coming up  
In  
October**

**MINUTES OF THE IDAHO GEM CLUB  
BOARD MEETING □  
August 2, 2011**

**No minutes submitted**

**Eleven Ways to Become a Fossil**

**Freezing** - This rare creature has suffered a minimum of change. His arteries may still contain dried blood, his stomach undigested food. Most common is the Ice Age mammoth of Siberia and Alaska.

**Drying or Desiccation** - If these organisms were thoroughly dried, they can be of high quality. Best known are the camels and sloth found in our Southwest caves.

**Wax and Asphalt** - Natural paraffin makes an excellent preservative, as proved by specimens found in Polish mines. The most famous asphalt fossils are still embedded in the La Brea Tar Pits in California.

**Simple Burial** - English bogs are famous for their buried forest. Sand dollars, sea urchins, and mollusks have been preserved by this method for up to 75 million years.

**Carbonization** - incomplete decay of volatile substances leaves carbon behind, sometimes reducing organisms to paper thin layers of shiny black film that reveal much detail.

**Petrification** - Our common stony fossils got that way by pre-mineralization, the replacement of the structure by dissolved minerals, or secondary replacement, such as when lime fossils are dissolved and replaced by silica.

**Molds and Casts** - Natural molds in sediment remain after organisms decay. Sandstone beds reveal molds of shells and trees, and the finest molds are Northern European amber, which has perfectly preserved the forms of insects.

**Imprints** - Sandstone, shale and tuff reveal external molds of very thin objects such as leaves. Best known of these are the Illinois Coal Age plant imprints.

**Tracks, Trails, Burrows** - Dinosaur prints are the most famous of these. But Nebraska's "Devil's Corkscrew" once housed a beaver who dug an eight foot spiral hole.

**Castings and Coprolites** - Ancient worms swallowed sand to help digest small organisms. They regurgitated these casings. Coprolite is a polite word for petrified "dung."

**Gastroliths** - Many ancient reptiles ground their food with these stones (as do our modern fowl). The stones are rounded, smooth, and even polished at times. Also known as Gizzard Stones."

Source: Gems of the Rogue – July 2011 and  
Rock Chips 8/11; Golden Spike News Aug 2011

**Yester Year**

**March 1965**

Correspondence was received from the Mountain Home Club that they were having a show in April and hoped we could attend.

A field trip was planned to Bruneau Canyon, information that the road had been washed out so they decided to look for nodules that were between the highway and Given's Hot Spring. The next field trip will be to the thunder egg bed on Squaw Creek Road.

The Spring Pot Luck Dinner was held at Campus School, with 60 people attending. Jasper and agate from Hay Stack Butte was displayed.

Material for 6 Federation size case's was ordered for the display to be put in the County Fair.

The next field trip was for agate near DeLamar.

July's Pot Luck Dinner was held at fireplace #7 at the Municipal Park.

It was reported that the rock cases had been assembled and help was needed to put the finishing sanding and painting needed. Also members were needed to look after them at the fairgrounds.

The Pot Luck dinner for August was also held at the Municipal Park, The field trip was planned for Rocky Joes claim on Willow creek. Arrangements were made to have a bull-dozer remove some of the overburden on the Whangdoodle Claim before the next field trip. An unofficial field trip was planned for the next weekend to Dismal Swamp.

*In Loving Memory*  
*Patsy Bethel*

## Bench Tips

### BALL BURS

I use ball burs quite a bit for carving and for cleaning up bits of solder that need to be removed. Ball burs seem to be more controllable than other cutting burs. They're less apt to grab and walk over your piece leaving nasty scars. And I've found that size matters. The large 8-10 millimeter size is a useful size for carving off bulk material while the small half millimeter or less size can be used at high speed for signing your name on the back of the piece.

### CLEANING STEEL SHOT

Steel shot in a vibratory or rotary tumbler works great to burnish up your finished silver pieces. Surfaces are shined and hardened by the shot impinging on it. Carbon steel shot can get rusty and even stainless steel can develop a blackish coating that's hard to remove. My solution of choice to clean the shot is Classic Coke. Just pour an ounce or two over the shot and let the tumbler run for an hour or so. A bad case might require a second cleaning. I'm no chemist, but I've heard that it's the phosphoric acid in Coke that does the trick.

While you're waiting for the shot to clean up, just settle back and enjoy the rest of the Coke.

### DEBURRING A HOLE

When you drill a hole, there's usually a burr produced on the underside of the metal. Typically you would then file or sand this smooth, but doing so will put scratches on your piece that will take time to polish off. A quick way to remove the burr is to grab a drill that's about three times as large as your hole. Simply twist it in the hole to cut off the burr. I usually do this by hand but if you have many holes to do, put the drill into a holder like a pin vice.

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Acknowledgement to be included with each publication:

More BenchTips by Brad Smith are at

[groups.yahoo.com/group/BenchTips/](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/BenchTips/)

or

[facebook.com/BenchTips](https://www.facebook.com/BenchTips)

## BEACON HILL

### When:

Oct 1<sup>st</sup> – 2<sup>nd</sup> 2011 weather depending.

### What:

Beacon Hill agate nodules at the clubs claim.

### Where:

7:00 am: Meeting @ Flying J 3512 Franklin Rd  
Caldwell, ID 83605 just off Hwy 84. Take Exit  
29 and a left at the light. Go over Hwy84 and a  
right in to the parking lot of Flying J.

7:30 am: Travel to Weiser, Id. All vehicles OK.

### Equipment needed:

Rock hammer, chisel, shovel, bag or bucket for  
specimen collected, appropriate clothing for the  
weather and location, lunch, water, fuel, and  
any items you need for your personal use. Don't  
forget your EYE PROTECTION!

### Other equipment you may need:

Sledge hammer, rock bar, pry bar, and a spray  
bottle with water.

If you would like more information, please come  
to our Gem Club Meeting: Sept. 19th, 7:30 p.m.  
at the Mountain View Church of the Brethren  
2833 N. Cole Rd.

OR

Call our Field Trip Chairman

Aaron Wanner @

208-794-9474 cell phone or

Email: [aaronwanner@gmail.com](mailto:aaronwanner@gmail.com)

### August Field Trip Recap Graveyard Point

There were 20 members, 14 guests, and 5 kids  
in attendance for this field trip. We had a good  
time collecting. We were lucky, there were no  
scorpions and no snakes.

Aaron Wanner

## CAREY

### When:

Sep 24th 2011 weather depending.

### What:

We'll be collecting agate. This trip will also  
have a demonstration on scouting your  
hunting area.

### Where:

7:00 am Meet @ Pilot Travel Centers

Address: 1050 Highway 20 Mountain  
Home, ID 83647

7:30 am Travel to Carey, Id. All vehicles OK.

### Equipment needed:

Rock hammer, chisel, shovel, bag or  
bucket for specimen collected, appropriate  
clothing for the weather and location,  
lunch, water, fuel, and any items you need  
for your personal use. Don't forget your  
EYE PROTECTION!

### Other equipment you may need:

Sledge hammer, rock bar, pry bar, and a  
spray bottle with water.

Carey is about 4hrs. from Boise.

If you would like more information, please  
come to our Gem Club Meeting: Sept. 20th,  
7:30 p.m. at the Mountain View Church of  
the Brethren 2833 N. Cole Rd.

OR

Call our Field Trip Chairman

Aaron Wanner @

208-794-9474 cell phone or

Email: [aaronwanner@gmail.com](mailto:aaronwanner@gmail.com)

Owyhee Gem & Mineral Society  
September 24th Field Trip  
McDermitt for an abundance of  
petrified wood; agate; wonderstone



# HAPPY BIRTHDAY


**September Birthdays**

9/1 Vern Tumell  
 9/3 Donald Clark  
 9/4 Roy Bethel  
 9/5 Steve Hetherington  
 9/5 Conner Betz  
 9/12 Sue Witschen  
 9/12 Myrtle Trevithick  
 9/12 Bill Carey  
 9/15 Ronald Mummey  
 9/15 Celeste Jackson  
 9/16 Dana Robinson  
 9/16 Robin Solt  
 9/16 Aaron Wanner Jr  
 9/18 John Stillinger  
 9/20 Clarence Trebilcock  
 9/24 Melodee Worley  
 9/26 Brent Stewart  
 9/27 Delorese Dewayne  
 9/28 Annalies Clark  
 9/30 Les Murray

**October Birthdays**

10/3 Phil Romans  
 10/4 Gina Gartman  
 10/6 Dick Reed  
 10/8 Todd Jackson  
 10/9 Jo Thompson  
 10/9 Cindy Woolsey  
 10/13 Bo Romans  
 10/14 Rebekah Jackson  
 10/15 Grant Dorough  
 10/15 Bob Chen  
 10/15 Steve Taormina  
 10/22 Jim Dillion  
 10/22 Betty Trebilcock  
 10/22 Bryce Dethlefs  
 10/26 Lois McDonald  
 10/26 Christopher Griffin  
 10/26 Janelle Wintersteen  
 10/28 Sue Clark  
 10/28 Allan Young  
 10/29 Sandy Johnson

**September Birthstones**

Faceted - Sapphire  
 Cabochon - Lapis Lazuli

**October Birthstones**

Faceted — Tourmaline  
 Cabochon — Opal



*See our club website  
 for colors of these  
 beautiful stones*

**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.

**Dates To Remember****GENERAL MEETING**

3rd. Tuesday of every month

**September 20, 2011**

**Church of the Brethren**  
**2823 N. Cole Road, Boise, Idaho**  
**Meeting Starts at 7:30 pm.**

**BOARD MEETING:**

1st. Tuesday of every month

**October 4, 2011**

**Church of the Brethren**  
**2823 N. Cole Road, Boise, Idaho**  
**Meeting Starts at 7:30 pm.**

## September Refreshment Committee

**Chair: Jason & Heather Madsen 378-4666**  
**Pat Hobbs 283-3823**  
**Carmen Becker 860-6012**

**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.

## October Refreshment Committee

**Need Volunteers**

## 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) 467-9286**  
**E-mail: highdesert2003@q.com**  
**My mailing address is:**  
**Tony Griffin**  
**4126 Apache Dr.**  
**Nampa, Idaho 83686-8978**



**Rocky Rattlers**  
**Juniors need to bring their**  
**folders to the meeting this month**

**Dues**  
**Annual dues are coming up**  
**In**  
**October**

**Save Stamps for Cancer Research**  
 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.

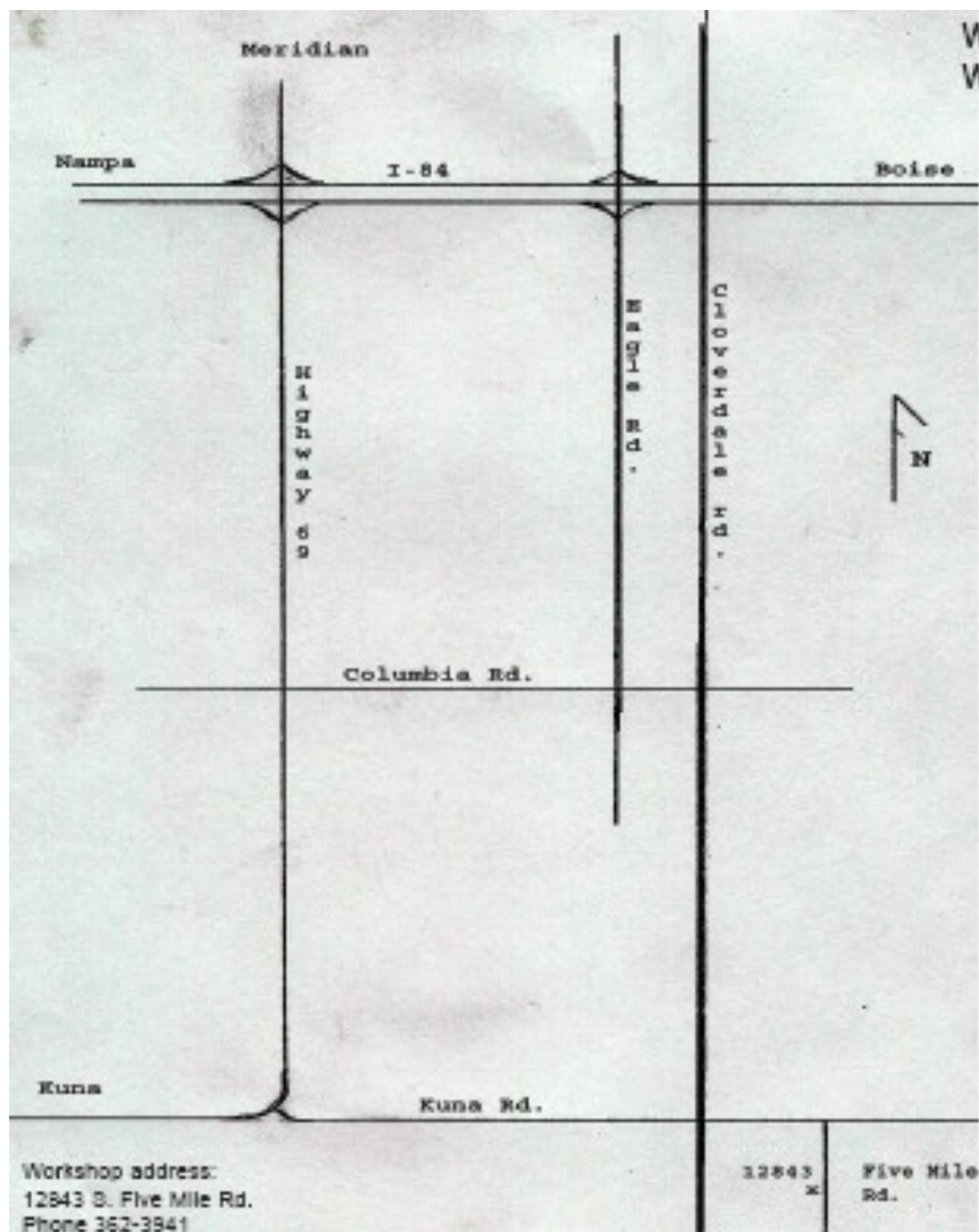
**CHECK OUT THE CLUB**  
**WEBSITE!**

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



## Workshop—September 22nd

Attention all members this month will be a regular cabochon workshop. If you are interested in learning how to cut cabs or wire wrapping the club holds a workshop the Thursday evening after the General Meeting. These start around 6:30pm and run until 9:00pm everyone is welcome. If you have a slab to share there is a box for donations so everyone that doesn't have any material can cut a cabochon as well. I will be needing instructors so if you have the time to spare please come help teach those who are in need of your knowledge. Marge Conley will be available to help those who want to learn wire wrapping and if anyone knows how to do this she can always use the extra help with teaching those who don't. There will be an increase in the cost of each wire wrap project to \$10 as the cost of wire has gone up. There will be a fire so you can roast a hotdog and make a S'more or two as well. We just ask that you help clean up the machines before going home at the end of the evening. This workshop is held at 12843 S Five Mile Rd which can be reached from Cloverdale to Kuna Rd to South Five Mile. See you all there.



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.

USTICK	C O L E
<div data-bbox="803 237 928 289" data-label="Image"> </div> <p>Mountain View Church of the Brethren 2823 N. Cole Road</p>	
NORTHVIEW	
FAIRVIEW	



The Whangdoodle Bird  
(Often seen on field trips)



**Idaho Gem Club, Inc.**

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