


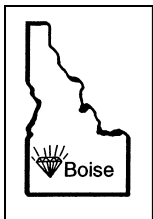
# Grindings

**Idaho Gem Club, Inc.**

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

**VOL 72 NO 4**

**April 2012**



## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**Brent Stewart**  
President  
863-9336

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

**2nd Vice President**  
**Phil Neuhoﬀ**  
939-4508

**Ed Moser**  
340-8060

**Rick Corbett**  
383-9930

**Deana Ashton**  
794-5628

**Jim Clinton**  
283-8891

**Phillip Worley**  
322-1812

**Ben Nunez**  
853-6710



**SECRETARY**  
**Melodee Worley**  
322-1812

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

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

**EDITOR**  
**Tony Griffin**  
467-9286  
highdesert2003@q.com

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

## President's Message

Snow has still been in the forecast along with 80-degree weather. It is really hard to plan on any outdoor activities as I have a hard time wondering how to dress for the day. Spring in Idaho...

Our first official field trip is now under our belts, and everyone had a great trip to our Queenstone claim. Next on the agenda is the Wang Doodle field trip on April 21. See the field trip report inside this "Grindings" for more information.

Again, if you see some new faces in our midst, please make them feel welcome!

Update on our Gem Show down in Turlock CA. I'm always impressed on what a wonderful show the Mother Lode Club puts on. Over the past five years they have doubled the size and attendance of their show. This year they had a record-breaking show over 7,215 people attended both days! Weather was also a nice bonus and enjoyed wearing short sleeves for a few days. We did hit a snowstorm over Donors Summit, which is not uncommon this time of year.

I hope everyone had a nice Easter. I am now in full rock hunting / garden mode. My backyard has been torn upside down getting ready for a garden...my first, so wish me luck.



*Brent Stewart*  
*President*

## MINUTES OF THE IDAHO GEM CLUB GENERAL MEETING MARCH 20, 2012

The meeting was called to order by Brent Stewart at 7:30p.m.

Second Vice President Phil Neuhoﬀ led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ed Moser had a special "Thank You's" for several of the Juniors that helped with a Black light room display. Charles McCreath had provided some great florescent specimens as gifts for their work. Ed also commented since the Juniors had some knowledge of how to set up displays, they would want to consider doing so for our next Gem and Rock Show in the new year. There was also mention of the upcoming Juniors field trip in May and that there are permission slips available for parents to fill out. Juniors were excused to their own meeting and activities.

Guests were asked to stand and introduce themselves. There were 5 in attendance. Several New Members attended for the evening totaling 6.

Adult door prizes were drawn for. Junior door prizes were given out at their meeting.

Building fund: Jim Clinton drew for 2 winners for tickets sold.

Secretaries report: several bills were received, some returned mail, and flyers to announce upcoming Rock Shows.

Library report: the library will be open at our refreshment break for the return and check out of materials.

Treasurers report: Kathy discussed balances and disbursements. She also had some preliminary numbers from our recent Rock and Gem Show.

Minutes of the "Grindings" were accepted as printed with one correction of the date of our General Meeting from March 21 to March 20 by Bill Belknap and seconded by Deana Ashton.

Field trip report: Our first trip is planned for March 24, 2012, to our Queenstone Jasper Claim. People going need to meet outside of Marsing, ID at the ION/Chevron station at 9am and everyone will be departing at 9:30am, to continue traveling to our claim. Of course all trips are subject to weather conditions. Phil Worley also had some specimens to show interested members of the kinds of Jasper to be found.

Workshop report: Willa stated the first shop would be in May, due to Willa's and Doug's busy schedules at this time of year. The New Saw may be operating at this time, but  
(continued at top of next column)

Willa will keep us informed. She is also wanting members to be aware of fees to be charged for future rock cutting. These fees will help with the power and oil used to operate the saw.

Old Business: an inquiry was made about the Idaho Gem Club license plate sales and that our time for the sales is almost over. They are available through the license branch and considered under "Earth Science". Deana Ashton asked about possibly creating a committee to help with the sales and advertising. Additional information will be discussed at our upcoming Board Meeting and in the new "Grindings".

After refreshments, Phil Neuhoﬀ is speaking about florescent lighting. He'll demonstrate the new lights we are ordering to be available for sale to members.

The meeting was then adjourned.

*Respectfully submitted,  
Melodee Worley  
Secretary*



## MINUTES OF THE IDAHO GEM CLUB Board Meeting April 3, 2012

President Brent Stewart called the meeting to order at 7:30pm.

Board members present: Willa Renken, Phil Neuhoﬀ, Jim Clinton, Ed Moser, Phil Worley, and Rick Corbett.

Officers present: Melodee Worley and Charles McCreath. Kathy Griffin was excused for the evening.  
Guests present: Doug Renken

Motion to accept the minutes as printed in the "Grindings" by Willa Renken and seconded by Ed Moser.

Secretaries report: There will be a new Rock and Gem magazine available in the library. I conveyed some special "thanks" from Mike Jones and Laura Lindsay for (Board Meeting minutes continued on page 3)

(Board Meeting minutes—continued from page 2)

everyone's help with tables at our Rock and Gem Show.

**Treasurers report:** no report was available due to Kathy's excused absence.

**Federation report:** Charles spoke of updated information about the upcoming Tri-Cities Show in May. Reservations are being confirmed. He advised us of numerous field trips that are planned. The newest NFMS newsletter has calendar information about next years Annual Meeting for 2013, August 16-18, in Butte, MT.

**Field trip report:** Phil Worley stated there was a good turn out of 32 members, 3 guests, and 8 children. Everyone found specimens of Queenstone Jasper and had a good time. Our next trip is to our claim at Wang Doodle, on April 21, 2012. This trip will be the finding of Opal specimens. Of course weather permitting.

**Program report:** Phil Neuhooff was "thanked" for his last florescent light demonstration. He is planning his upcoming program on April 17, to discuss Opal. He may also present "How Wang Doodle" got its name.

**Juniors report:** Ed Moser spoke about the Juniors future field trip in May. He has had an adult contact him about helping with the trip. If there are Juniors still interested in going, be sure to obtain your permission slips for your parents to sign.

**Building fund report:** Jim had nothing new to report.

Charles Osgood advised the Board of the license plate sales and how our time will soon be up for meeting our sales goal. He stated he has contacted numerous sources for possible advertising, but has had no answers back. At this time and with the help of Deana Ashton and Mike, Charles is going to advertise in the remaining part of this years issues of Rock and Gem magazine and an RV magazine. They are also going to contact Gem Club members by email and USPS.

**Scholarship report:** Phil Neuhooff stated Ben Nunez is our recipient, but he hasn't returned to the club because of classes he's attending. Once back a ceremony will take place. Paperwork will be updated as needed.

**Old Business:** The new lights will be available on April 17 at our General Meeting. The cost will be \$95.00.each. A motion by Phil Worley, to apply money to our general fund with profits going to the Scholarship fund, motion was accepted by all.

(continued at top of next column)

**New Business:** Charles McCreath announced an upcoming Rock and Estate Sale. Information was forwarded to our Editor, Tony Griffin, for printing in the next "Grindings".

A motion was made by Willa Renken, due to the unknown return of Ben Nunez, to have Melodee Worley installed as the permanent Secretary. It was seconded by Ed Moser and accepted by all.

**New Memberships:** there were 4 applications and a motion to accept the new members by Ed Moser and seconded by Willa Renken.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:30pm.

*Respectfully submitted,  
Melodee Worley  
Secretary*



### UV Lights for sale at the April Meeting!

The club has purchased twenty multi-wave (long-wave, short-wave, and mid-wave) 4W ultraviolet field lamps that will be sold at the meeting in April. These are the same lamps that Phil Neuhooff demonstrated at the March meeting.

The lamps come with a carrying case and a telescoping magnetic pole that allows the lamps to be used to survey the ground for fluorescent minerals without bending over! In addition, there will be a special fluorescent mineral sample provided with each lamp.

We are offering these packages for \$95, which is \$5 less than retail. Single wavelength 4W lamps typically run \$40-\$45, and as Phil demonstrated do not perform nearly as well.

Since you get all three wavelengths with each lamp, this product is clearly the best value for an introductory field lamp. Proceeds from the sale of these lamps will support the clubs scholarship program.

## Jewelry Tips

### Cheaper & Better Pickle

Most jewelers use a granular pickle called "Sparex" mixed with water. The active ingredient is sodium bisulfate. This can be purchased locally from most hardware stores as a common pool chemical used for adjusting the acidity of the water. It's sold under various names, so just look at the list of active ingredients for 95% or so sodium bisulfate.

An added benefit is that the pool chemical is more pure in form and does not cause the often found brown grime floating on the top of a Sparex pickle pot.

--- In [BenchTips@yahoogroups.com](mailto:BenchTips@yahoogroups.com),  
I plan to use Iron meteorite in designs with gold and silver. Can you solder the meteorite to the gold or silver? How do you do it?

Tom

Reply from Brad Smith  
Interesting question Tom

I would think that you could solder to a piece of nickel-iron meteorite as easily as any other joint we make ... but ...

there's a risk of damaging the Widmanstätten (sp?) pattern in the piece of meteorite with the high soldering temperatures.

cleanup and polishing after the solder job would be much more work because you could not put the piece in the pickle. Iron or steel in the pickle causes everything to be coated with copper.

any water-based quenching or cleanup might cause the meteorite to rust.

My preference would be to set the piece of meteorite the same way you'd set a  
(continued at top of next column)

gemstone - bezel, prongs, etc. Guess you could also set it with a magnet. Just build your piece with a recess for the meteorite to sit in and embed a small, powerful magnet at the bottom. Then you'd be able to take the meteorite out to polish it or to show to someone.

- Brad

If you have a Foredom flexshaft, it makes sense to check it over every so often to be sure it's running properly. But how to do that? You've probably lost the little booklet that came with the unit. Well being the good company it is, Foredom has put together an extensive set of videos on how to do it. The series covers set-up, lubrication, replacing a sheath, motor maintenance, and handpiece maintenance. Few if any special tools are needed. You can see them all at:

[www.foredom.net/videolibrary.aspx](http://www.foredom.net/videolibrary.aspx)

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](http://facebook.com/BenchTips)

### 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)





**LAND USE UPDATE**

Washington State HB 2600

Washington State Mineral Council Report

By Brian Waters, President

Early this year I tried to contact as many rock hounds in Washington State that I could through the various club newsletters and e-mail lists. This is the follow up to that.

As most of you know HB 2600 was given a hearing in the Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee. Despite the low number of rock hounds that showed up and the even smaller number of us that testified this hearing actually went well. I don't remember everyone that showed up at the hearing to support the bill, but thanks to all that did. The rock hounds that testified in favor of the bill were Me, Brian Waters, representing the WSMC, James Keffer, representing the Puget Sound Knappers, and Christina Morrissey, representing the Marysville Rock and Gem Club.

That hearing was on January 27th. On January 31st the bill was passed out of the Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee, but before it was it was amended so that the only state agency that would be effected was the DNR. The WDFW and the State Parks were taken out of the bill, and the limits for collecting rocks was lowered to 25 lbs per day and 250 lbs per year. At this point the WSMC and PSK no longer supported the bill because the collecting limits were too low and the state agency that we really wanted to target with these bills, the WDFW, was taken out of the bill.

HB 2600 actually made it out of another committee after it had been amended, but it was amended one more time during that process so that if it did not have a funding source by June 30th of this year the bill would be null and void. Since we no longer supported the bill that was fine with us.

SB 6057 never made it out of the Senate Energy, Natural Resources & Marine Waters Committee. Therefore, at this point, we are no longer asking people to contact their state legislators to support these bills.

Since this time members of the WSMC and the PSK have met with people in the DNR. The meeting was actually requested by both the WSMC and the DNR almost simultaneously. Both of us felt that we could work together to find a solution to our problem of collecting on state lands without having to go through the legislative process. At least we felt we could do this with the DNR, if not the WDFW.

Our meeting went well, though it seems that it was a kind of "getting to know you" meeting and that we are really starting from scratch in this process with the DNR. At the meeting we discussed our desire for

collecting on state lands and explained who rock hounds are and what we do, and the DNR expressed their concerns. I think both sides left the meeting with the feeling that we could work together so that amateur rock collecting will be allowed on DNR lands. We left the meeting agreeing to meet again after the legislative session and come back with some ideas that we can discuss.

The DNR representatives also expressed that while they are totally separate agencies than the WDFW and State Parks that by working with them we may be able to make some inroads with the other agencies.

To wrap this up, I have two requests of the Washington State rock hounding community.

First, if any of your state Senators or Representatives wrote or co-sponsored either of these bills please contact them and thank them for doing so. The Senators were Senators [Honeyford](#), [Hatfield](#), [Becker](#), [Schoesler](#), [Shin](#), [Delvin](#). The Representatives are Representatives [Bailey](#), [Blake](#), [Chandler](#), [Kelley](#), [Goodman](#), [Anderson](#), [Reykdal](#). If you are still uncertain on whom your state legislators are you can find out here:

<http://apps.leg.wa.gov/DistrictFinder/Default.aspx>

Second, if you know of any places on state lands, whether they are DNR, WDFW or State Parks where there is material that rock hounds would be interested in collecting please let me or someone from the WSMC or PSK know.

The reason for this is that at the meeting with the DNR we had spoke with them of the possibility of setting up one or more designated areas for amateur rock collecting that could be used as test sites for several years. The other reason is that the legislature has in the past made both the WDFW and the State Parks do a two year study to see if certain activities such as gold prospecting on salt water beaches would be practical within each of the agencies mandates. This may be a route that we might want to take in the future.

Thanks to everyone that wrote letters, made phone calls, talked to folks or went to Olympia. Without your support none of this would have been possible.



HAPPY



BIRTHDAY

**APRIL**

4/1 Ryan Kinnaird  
 4/3 Karen Beers  
 4/3 Marcy Belcoe  
 4/3 Rochelle Smith  
 4/4 Jerry Adamson  
 4/10 Douglas Williams  
 4/11 Marian Alvis  
 4/13 Tony Lamansky  
 4/13 Edwin Moser  
 4/13 Rick Olmstead  
 4/14 Liam Baron  
 4/15 Dorothy Snowball  
 4/17 Jim Da Silva  
 4/17 Jeanmarie McAvoy  
 4/20 Dalina Chase  
 4/22 Willa Renken  
 4/23 Kevin Kinnaird  
 4/24 Sarah Chase  
 4/27 Terry Belcoe  
 4/28 Kyleigh Jackson  
 4/28 Pam Montgomery  
 4/29 Dennis Montgomery

**MAY**

Keegan Chase  
 5/1 Peter Santarone  
 5/5 Deb Butte  
 5/6 Richard Clark  
 5/10 Tyler Gomm  
 5/13 Pat Hobbs  
 5/14 Carl Woodland  
 5/15 Dick Corbett  
 5/16 Mike Witschen  
 5/16 Sue Woodbridge  
 5/18 Mary Ellen Biebel  
 5/19 Twila Gallaher  
 5/20 Camille Ridenour  
 5/21 Amy Watson  
 5/22 Janice Egner  
 5/24 Deanna Holloway  
 5/24 Mary Ridley  
 5/25 Mike Egner  
 5/26 Cheryl Coates  
 5/26 Michael Dimick  
 5/26 Chuck Fawcett  
 5/27 Joan Dethlefs  
 5/27 Kyle Eden

*April Birthstones*

Faceted — Diamond  
 Cabochon —  
 Rock Crystal

*May Birthstones*

Faceted — Emerald  
 Cabochon —  
 Chrysoprase

**April Program**

The program for the April meeting will be a discussion of the mineralogy of precious opal and the geology of opal deposits.

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

3rd. Tuesday of every month  
 April 17, 2012

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

**BOARD MEETING:**

1st. Tuesday of every month  
 May 1, 2012

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

**April Refreshment Committee**

Chair: Dana Robinson 343-0487  
 Penny Dudley 949-4965  
 Chuck and Shirley McCreath 344-5085

**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.

**May Refreshment Committee**

Chair:

TBA

**Save Stamps For 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!**

## ADVENTURES IN GEOLOGY (for kids)

*a Geo-Science Educational Program*

A 4-day, intensive, 5-hour per day  
program of geology exploration and  
learning for physically active boys and girls  
4<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grades

Study area is the Old Penitentiary Historic Dis-  
trict hillside around Castle Rock

To be held at *The Idaho Museum of Mining and  
Geology*

2455 Old Penitentiary Road  
Boise, Idaho 83612

Grades 4 – 6

2 sessions: June 4-7

Aug 6-9

Grades 7 – 12

1 session: July 16-19

for registration and information,  
call Lois McDonald (208) 713-2061  
or contact at  
[Loismcdonald2008@live.com](mailto:Loismcdonald2008@live.com)



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

## YESTER YEAR

Jan. 1968

Dr. Alfred N. Stone was the Master of Ceremonies at the January installation of officers, he introduced Governor and Mrs. Samuelson and Lowell and Mrs. Fields, NWF President, along with the 1967 and 1968 officers of the club. Invocation by George Fields and the pot luck dinner started. Ham, hot rolls and beverages, were furnished by the club, members brought the rest.

Dr. Stone spoke of some of the accomplishments the club had made in the past year. Gov. Samuelson spoke of his own experiences as a rock hound and how he got into the rock shop business in Sandpoint, and about a cave near Riggins. Lynne Knight was sworn in as president of the club.

Night guards for the show were discussed. It was suggested that the members do guard duty in two hour shifts.

The BLM sent a letter announcing a public hearing on the proposed reclassification of public lands in Owyhee Co. The meeting will be held in Murphy.

The week of June 16 thru 22<sup>nd</sup> was set for the club trip to Prineville, Oregon. They will have the diggings cleaned up and also some rocks to sell for those who don't want to dig.

The next field trip will be to Graveyard Point.

*In Loving Memory*  
*Patsy Bethel*  
*Historian*

## Geology of the Whangdoodle Opal Deposit, Owyhee County, ID

Philip S. Neuhoff, Ph.D.

The Whangdoodle opal deposit held under claim by the Idaho Gem Club is perhaps the best known of a host of precious opal occurrences in Owyhee County, Idaho. The deposit reportedly was discovered in the 1890's during a time in which opal mining in Idaho was at its peak. The famed Hungarian opal deposits had nearly played out, the great opal deposits of Australia we just beginning to be mined, and Owyhee County appeared poised to be one of the world's great sources of precious opal. (The Gem City deposit near Moscow and Opal Butte in Oregon were also very active during this period; Spencer would not be discovered for another 50 years). Considerable opal was mined during this period from a number of localities in Owyhee County, including Whangdoodle, until the difficulty of extracting opal from the volcanic rocks and the prolific supply from Australia caused the end of commercial opal mining in western Idaho.

During its main production years, the Whangdoodle deposit was said to have consisted of an open cut and a 40 foot shaft (cf. Eckert, A.W., 1997, *The World of Opals*. John Wiley and Sons, 448 pp.). Today little remains of these workings, with the claim occupying a low knob in the Squaw Creek canyon that shows little evidence of mining except for some hand-dug pits and piles of broken rock. Nevertheless, the locality still produces precious opal of fine quality with exquisite flash fire patterns primarily in red and green.

The deposit is located within a series of relatively young volcanic rocks that cover the flank of the Owyhee Mountains. The host rock for the Whangdoodle deposit is a Miocene lava flow within a formation referred to on geologic maps as the "Lower basalt of the Owyhee Mountains". The age of this flow is likely between 5 and 16 million years old. Deposited on top of this lava flow are a series of other volcanic rocks including latites, more basalts (the upper basalt of the Owyhee Mountains), and

rhyolites.

The Whangdoodle deposit is fairly typical of precious opal deposits occurring in basaltic lavas. The opal-bearing lava is a fairly typical basalt lava flow that was erupted subaerially (that is, on land). These lavas typically are very massive in the centers of the flow, with the bottoms and especially the tops containing abundant vesicles, or gas cavities, that formed as gases came out of solution once the lava erupted and was no longer under pressure. These vesicles provided pore space for fluids to move through the lavas, dissolving minerals and volcanic glass within the flow and depositing new materials such as opal, clays, and calcite within the vesicles. Vesicles within this lava flow typically range in size from 1 mm to a cm, though occasionally larger vesicles are found. This limits the size of opals found in the deposit, though sometimes larger opals are found (up to a couple of cm) that formed in unusually large vesicles or veins (a good example is the President's opal entrusted to the club's president each year).

Precious opal such as that found at Whangdoodle forms under a very restricted set of temperature and pressure conditions. The play of color seen in precious opal is caused by light diffraction by spheres of silica within the opal. For this to occur, the opal needs to be devoid of any regular crystallinity (most common opal is at least partially crystalline with atomic domains similar to the silica minerals cristobalite or tridymite). Completely non-crystalline opal only forms are very low temperatures, probably less than 120 °F. If temperatures are higher than this, common opal, chalcedony, or quartz will form instead. Thus, during formation of the Whangdoodle deposit the temperature must have been quite cool. As one follows the lava flow to the South away from the main digging area, opal disappears and instead the vesicles are filled with chalcedony and quartz, indicating that the fluids altering this portion of the flow were hotter (too hot to form precious opal).



**2012 NFMS SHOW & CONVENTION****Kennewick, Washington****May 18, 19 & 20****Thursday - May 17th - 6:00 pm**

- **All Rockhounds Meet & Greet Potluck**

•

**Friday, Saturday & Sunday - Show Opens 10:00 am**

- **125 Outstanding Collector Displays + Special Displays**
- **25 Gem, Jewelry, Fossil, Mineral & Equipment Vendors**
- **Fantastic Fluorescent Exhibit**
- **Kids Activities Extraordinaire**
- **Demonstrations of Intarsia, Sphere Making, Gold Panning, Knapping, Faceting, Cabochon Making, Chain Crocheting & More**
- **Paleologgers Corner Featuring Walt Wright**
- **Special Lectures by**
  - Dr. Steven Reidel, Washington State University Geologist**
  - Jack Powell, Washington State Geologist**
  - Bob Jackson, Rock Candy Mine & Spruce Ridge Claim**
  - Dick Pugh, Cascadia Meteorite Laboratory, Portland State University**
  - Stone rose Interpretive Center**
  - Garret Romaine, Author - Rockhounding Guides**

**Sunday, May 20th - 7:00 am to 10:00 am**

- **Outside Tailgating - NFMS Members Only**

**Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday - May 21, 22 & 23**

- **Walt Wright Petrified Wood Seminar & Field Trip - \$80 per student**

**On-Site Food Vendor****Breakfast - Saturday & Sunday - Den's Famous Breakfast Burritos or Biscuits & Gravy****Lunch - Friday, Saturday & Sunday - Hot Dogs, Hamburgers, Pulled Pork & More****Camping - \$15 per night - Electricity & Water****For more information [www.lakesidegemandmineraldub.com](http://www.lakesidegemandmineraldub.com)****[cataldoevelyn@yahoo.com](mailto:cataldoevelyn@yahoo.com)****[larryhulstrom@live.com](mailto:larryhulstrom@live.com)**

## Federation & Other Club News More Dates to Remember

### Idaho Gem Club April Field Trip

**APRIL 21** Wang Doodle, Marsing, Idaho: Opal  
9:00 am Meet @ ION gas station 5644 BUNTROCK RD  
MARSING, ID 83639. West on Hwy 55 through  
Marsing to intersection @ Hwy 55 and Hwy 95.  
9:30 am Travel to Whang Doodle from the ION Truck  
Stop go South on Hwy 95 to just past mile post 13.  
High clearance vehicle needed for rocky terrain.

A small screen to catch opal is necessary for ease of finding specimens as you dig for what we are looking for on this trip! The hole size in the screen should be 1/4" or less as some of these specimens are small.

### March Field Trip Recap

Our field trip to the Queenstone claim was a very enjoyable one. We had 31 club members, 3 quest and 8 kids scouring and digging for keepsakes and treasures. Lots of Jasper was found. One member managed to find a beautiful specimen of leaf fossil, well done to all. I personally wish to thank each of you who went on the trip for your support and patience with the new guy. I had a great time leading ya'll on a very cool but nice day. Hope to see ya at the Wang Doodle claim next month.

*Happy Hounding*

*Phillip Worley - Field Trip Coordinator*

### IMPORTANT NOTICE FIELD TRIP: Buchanan Oregon Thunderegg Dig Field Trip Memorial Day weekend 2012

Hello folks, sorry about this but I was just asked by the rancher to get a rough estimate of how many folks to expect for the trip to Buchanan thunder eggs on Memorial Day weekend. He would like to know for the purpose of purchasing food & supplies for the barbecue to be held Saturday & Sunday. So if you could bring it up with your club and get back to me in the next few weeks I'd greatly appreciate the effort. I am looking for a ballpark number from your club, not a head count LOL.

Tim Fisher

If you are planning on going on this trip, please let me know and I will give Tim a count from our club so he doesn't get multiple emails.

Tony Griffin 467-9286  
highdesert2003@q.com

### Idaho Falls Mineral Society

#### 47th Annual Gem & Mineral Show

April 14th 10am - 6pm

April 15th 10am - 5pm

Adults - \$2.00

Children under 12 - free

Idaho Falls Recreation Center

Memorial & B Street

Idaho Falls, Idaho

### Field Trips


#### April 21 Magic Valley Gem Club

Dead Horse Crossing, Dove Springs, & Saylor Creek. Meet at Historical Marker pullout just past Miracle Hot Springs and Salmon Creek Falls; heading toward Hagerman.

#### April 21 Owyhee Gem & Mineral Society Pink Plume Claim

#### May 25th—29th Buchanan Thunderegg Beds, OR.

#### June 13th—16th Tri-Federation to Vale area, OR for petrified wood, plume agates, jaspers. AFMS/CFMS/NFMS, Doug True, dtruefossils@yahoo.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.

Two links for additional newsletters we receive as members of the rock club.

[http://www.amfed.org/afms\\_news.htm](http://www.amfed.org/afms_news.htm)

<http://www.amfed.org/nfms/>

## 2012 Idaho Gem Club Scholarship Forms Now Available!

The 2012 scholarship application form and instructions are now posted on the club website

(<http://www.idahogemclub.com>).

Deadline for applications is September 30, 2012. Please encourage any local earth science majors you know to apply!

### Welcome New Members

Matthew Beatty  
5209 Asbury Way  
Caldwell, Idaho 83607

Rochelle Smith & Kelly Peneira  
425 N. Atlantic  
Boise, Idaho 83706

Dennis & Sherry Woodbury  
434 E. Chapparosa Dr.  
Kuna, Idaho 83634

Chris Zeller  
1617 N. 27th  
Boise, Idaho 83702



**Rock Hound Estate Sale**  
**Unique Rocks Available**  
**i.e. Bruneau, Idaho Rhodonite,**  
**Willow Creek, Morrisonite, and**  
**other varieties.**

**Includes rough and slabs**

**April 20, 21, 22**  
**Fri. 9-5 Sat. 9-5 Sun 10-4**  
**7215 Ustick Rd. Boise (Off N. Cole)**

**No sales prior to opening!**

### Rockhound "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 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:**

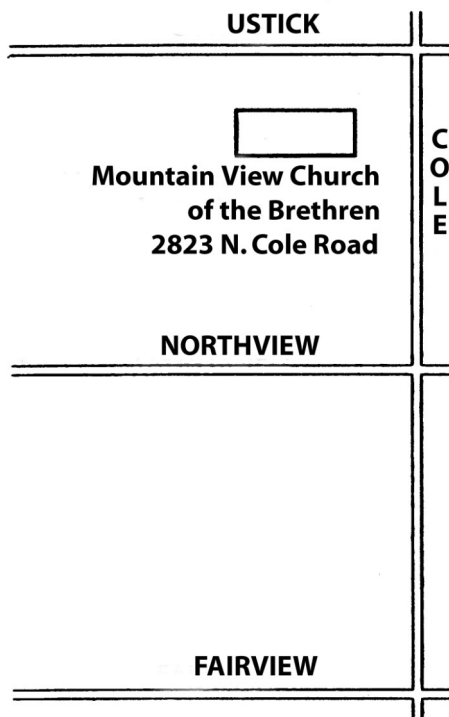
.....\$12.00 per person  
 .....\$15.00 per couple  
 .....\$17.50 per family

**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

