


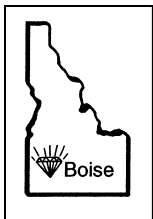
Grindings

Idaho Gem Club, Inc.

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

VOL 72 NO 7

July 2012



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863-9336

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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

The General meeting for July and August will be at the Old Timer's Shelter in Ann Morrison Park at 6:30 pm. There will be a potluck and an auction with choice material to follow. Please come and join the fun and bring a hot or cold dish to share. This is a great time to socialize and show off your culinary skills along with acquiring some nice material from the auction. The Club provides the drinks and ice cream but you will need to bring your own table service. The Old Timer's Shelter in Ann Morrison Park is off 9th Street and Royal Blvd. See map inside for directions. Remember there will be an auction after each picnic so if you have a rock or item you would like to donate for this it would be greatly appreciated. Our auctions go toward off setting the cost of your Banquet each year so the funds are applied to help with this event.

Remember the Star Garnet Dig trip on August 25th -26th. This trip will be a wonderful adventure so plan on making this trip a fun working vacation. This will be the first time in a long time that the club will be going to the garnet dig so pack your old duds as this will be a dirty, but fun trip.

It's also not too early to begin working on your Project of the Year contest entry. We would love to see as many entries as possible. It's so much fun to see the variety and quality of the projects presented and it would be wonderful to be able to award everyone for their beautiful work. The winner (club members vote at the December meeting) will have his or her project in a display case with the plaque [which travels with the winner for the year] at the club show in February.

Brent Stewart
President



**MINUTES OF THE IDAHO GEM CLUB
GENERAL MEETING
June 19, 2012**

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

Dennis Montgomery was asked to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

A motion to accept the minutes as printed in the "Grindings" was made by Duane Mayer and seconded by Kathy Griffin.

Guests present were the Seaman family, consisting of Justin, Erin, and their son William. Also present were their parents Chuck and Lyn Peterson. Additional guests present were Dawn Schuldenfrei and her daughter Rebecca and Tammy Horton and Mike Baker.

Secretary's report: we received some mail, new Rock & Gem Magazine, some new NFMS items for our Library, and a magazine called the "Range".

Junior door prizes were drawn for, there were 10.
Adult door prizes were drawn for, there were 12.
Building Fund door prizes were drawn for 3 winners.

Juniors report: Ed Moser spoke about the Kennewick trip. Ed had returned a specimen box to NFMS but to his surprise it was given back to the club for the juniors to use, it will be available in the Library. Ed also mentioned several juniors did display cases at this recent show and wanted those juniors to be planning display cases for our new Rock & Gem Show in February 2013.

Treasurer's report: Kathy spoke of balances and disbursements. Reports are available to view upon request.

Federation report: Charles spoke of the NFMS report information he's acquired for the Library and a few extras for anyone wanting a copy. The information lists all Clubs and current members.

The Northwest Federation of Clubs collected \$5000.00 worth of cancelled stamps to go towards Cancer Re-

search. Thank you to all members of our club that contributed to this needy cause!

Field trip report: our next excursion is to Rome, OR for snakeskin agate and apache tears.

Workshop report: Willa stated a workshop would be held on June 21, 2012 from 6:30pm to 9:30pm. If you want to eat hotdogs, buns, and s'mores fixins, please bring contributions and for your consumption.

"The Great Grab Bag Sew Off" bags are used for our Rock & Gem Show in February 2013 and future shows. There will be 2 prizes awarded (1st & 2nd) at our annual banquet in January 2013. The prizes will be viewed at our September meeting.

License Plate report: Deana discussed current sales, renewals, and transfers of ID Gem Club plates. A dollar amount is available if you are interested in how much money has been collected. Deana stated she has recently seen a current list of discontinuing plates, but ours is not on this list; so there is still time to get our plates.

New business: Jim Story made mention to members that the Spencer Opal Mine will be open after the 4th of July, but the last chance for visiting will be the 5th & 6th of July.

Break was called at 8:27pm.

The program was an auction of slabs and non-slabbed specimens of jasper and agate.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:36pm.

*Respectfully submitted,
Melodee Worley
Secretary*



Independence Day

**MINUTES OF THE IDAHO GEM CLUB
Board Meeting
July 3, 2012**

First Vice President Willa Renken called the meeting to order at 7:39pm.

President Brent Stewart, Phil Neuhoff, and Jim Clinton were excused from this meeting.

Board members present: Willa Renken, Ed Moser, Phil Worley, Deana Ashton, and Rick Corbett.

Officers present: Melodee Worley, Kathy Griffin, and Charles McCreath.

Guests recognized were Shirley McCreath and Dick Corbett.

A motion to accept the minutes as printed in the "Grindings" was made by Ed Moser and seconded by Phil Worley.

Secretary's report: there was nothing to report.

Treasurer's report: Kathy Griffin discussed balances and disbursements.

Federation report: Charles had nothing new to report.

Field trip report: the recent trip to Rome, OR for snakeskin agate went quite well, nice specimens were found. Next trip is July 21st, to Reynolds Creek for petrified wood.

The program at this next meeting will be our July 17th picnic, starting at 6:30 p.m.; there will also be another auction. The picnic will be held at the Old Timers Shelter in Ann Morrison Park; see map on page 5 for directions. Please bring a dish of a favorite food to share with others and don't forget to bring your own place settings. Drinks and ice cream will be provided by the club.

Building fund report: Dick Corbett advised of money recently collected from the raffle sales.

Workshop report: there will be a workshop on the 19th of July from 6:30pm to 9:30pm.

A motion to accept the applications of four new members was made by Ed Moser and seconded by Phil Worley.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:18pm.

*Respectfully submitted,
Melodee Worley - Secretary*

Jewelry Tips

STRAIGHTENING WIRE

Have you ever pulled out your silver wire and found that it's all bent up. The easiest way I've found to straighten it out is to stretch it a bit. Simply put one end in the vise and grab the other end with a pair of serrated tip pliers. Then pull just enough to feel the wire stretch like a rubber band.

This works best on smaller wire diameters, up to about 16 ga. If you're working on thick wires and pulling hard, be sure to brace yourself in case the wire breaks or pulls out of the pliers.

Finding the right Balance Point

Sometimes you need to find the right balance point to place a bail on a pendant or a loop on an earring so that the piece hangs straight. I use some tweezers that I modified to suspend the pendant or earring between two sharp points, allowing it to swing. Any old set of tweezers will do. Spread the tips, sharpen them with a file, and bend the tips at a right angle to point towards each other.

Acknowledgement to be included with each publication:

More BenchTips by Brad Smith can be found at

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

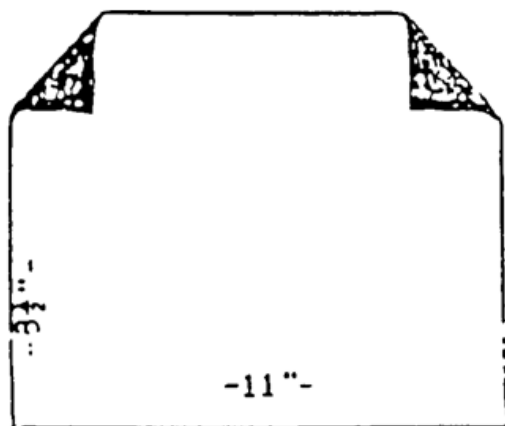
or

groups.yahoo.com/group/BenchTips/

(more on page 4)

Easy Grab Bags for Grab Bag Contest

The easiest method of cutting out grab bags is to cut fabric into 8 ½" strips. Press down ½" on the top edge of each strip. Fold strip in half and cut on fold (you'll have two 22 1/2 inch pieces. Cut each of those halves into two pieces (fold & cut on fold). Following the pattern, fold up the outer edges of the top hem and make the dog ears, and then place your drawstring under the hem (but over the "ears"). (I place a few pins in the edge of the hem to make sure it stays put before I sew. And, I sew each seam factory-style/chain stitching—not cutting between each bag, etc. So, if I cut out the 4 strips from the yard of fabric, I'm going to stitch down the top hem on all the bags before I go to the next step, etc.

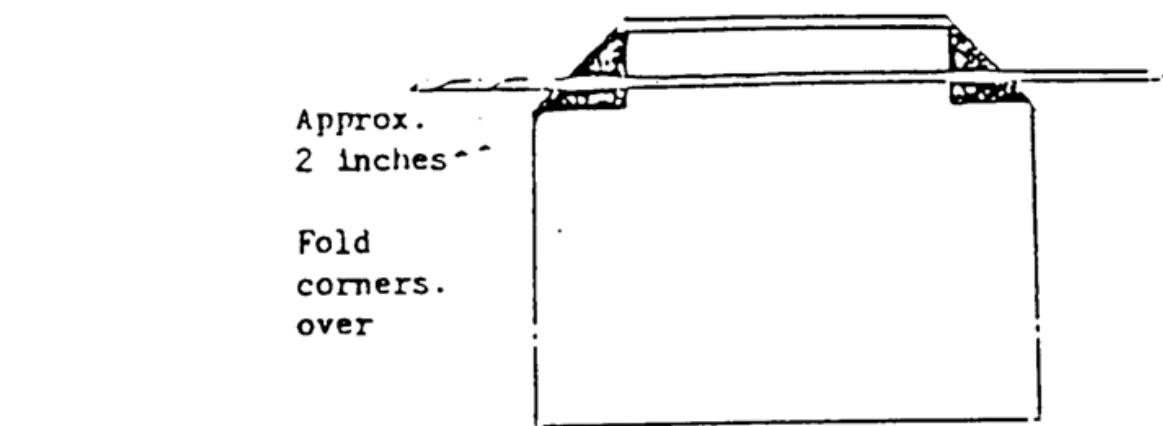


Time is saved by folding the two corners over diagonally, then folding The top down over the cord. Try it.

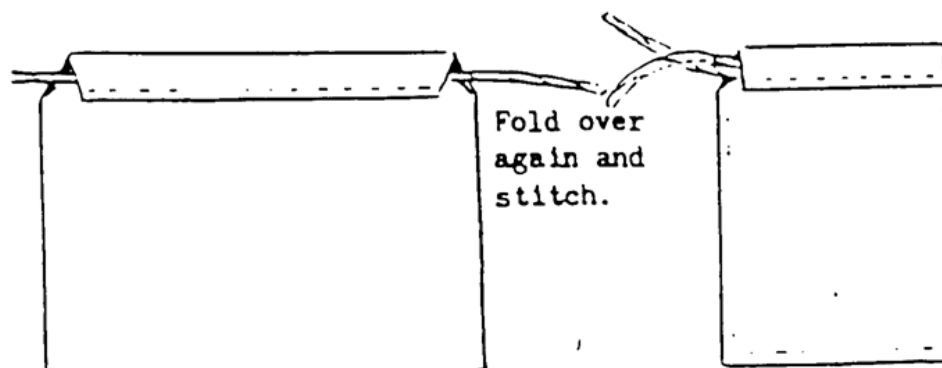
Fold over 1/2 inch and crease. Lay cord in place.

Approx.
2 inches

Fold
corners.
over



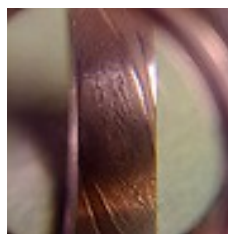
Fold over
again and
stitch.



BenchTips for the Month

METEORITE RING

Want to make your own special "out of this world" ring? Take a chunk of Gibeon meteorite, forge it into a thin strip, and cut the strip into several short lengths. Then forge weld the lengths together, twist the resulting ingot, and finally form it into a ring shape.



See pics of this special wedding ring at <http://imgur.com/a/ZjCaW/all#0>

More BenchTips by Brad Smith can be found at [facebook.com/BenchTips](https://www.facebook.com/BenchTips) or groups.yahoo.com/group/BenchTips/

The July and August meetings are both picnics. They will be held at the Old Timers Shelter at the East end of Ann Morrison Park. If you drive from 9th Street turn right on Royal Blvd. and shortly after entering the park turn into the parking lot on your right and you will see the shelter next to the River. If driving from the south turn left on Ann Morrison drive then turn right on Lusk St then left on Royal Blvd. and go to the parking lot. The picnic begins at 6:30 p.m. and is a potluck. Bring your favorite dish, plates, and silverware. The club will provide soft drinks and ice cream.



HAPPY



BIRTHDAY

JULY

7/1 Mike Jones
7/1 Paula Lane
7/2 Wayne Snowball
7/5 Andrea Kinnaird
7/10 Renee Carpenter
7/10 Lonnie Hicks
7/12 Debra Burns
7/12 Loren Francis
7/13 Anna Gomm
7/15 Gordon Roberts
7/17 Jennifer Wilson
7/18 Kathy Griffin
7/20 Pat Bethel
7/20 Lynne Davis
7/22 Tom Rogers
7/24 Amy Hinkler
7/24 Keith Lenzner
7/24 Maxine Smith
7/25 David Douglas
7/26 Larry Ridley
7/28 Philena Thompson
7/29 Catherine Parsons
7/30 Debbie Housh

July Birthstones
Faceted — Ruby
Cabochon — Carnelian

AUGUST

8/1 David Alley
8/1 Cody Jackson

8/6 Michael Gartman
8/6 Craig Kaumans
8/7 Gene Thompson
8/8 Charles Peterson
8/10 Dan Conley
8/10 Cindy Hicks
8/11 Daniel Asp
8/11 Corey Glick
8/16 Carla Arnold
8/16 David Snyder
8/17 Chris Mangrum
8/17 Gabriel Miles
8/19 Salma Gomm
8/22 Debbie Baldwin
8/22 Betty Hare
8/23 Chester Carpenter
8/24 Fred Hodges
8/24 Walt Woodall
8/26 Deana Ashton
8/26 Nora Kreitzer
8/27 Miers Johnson
8/27 Christine Neuhoff
8/27 Linda Phillips
8/28 Mettie Clay
8/28 Misty Parker
8/28 Carol Da Silva
8/30 Erick Davies

August Birthstones
Faceted — Peridot
Cabochon — Jade or
Sardonyx

Dates To Remember**GENERAL MEETING**

3rd. Tuesday of every month

July 17, 2012

Old Timers Shelter

Ann Morrison Park

Royal Blvd.

Picnic Starts at 6:30 pm

BOARD MEETING:

1st. Tuesday of every month

August 7, 2012

Church of the Brethren

2823 N. Cole Road, Boise, Idaho

Meeting Starts at 7:30 p.m.

July Refreshment Committee

Chair: Phil Neuhoff & kids
Kathy Griffin

REFRESHMENT COMMITTEE GUIDELINES

1. Have tables covered with paper obtained from Statesman and ready by 6:00 p.m.

2. Bring door prizes

3. Order ice cream and arrange for pickup.

4. Serve ice cream

When picnic is finished, clear all paper from tables and deposit all litter and debris in trash containers

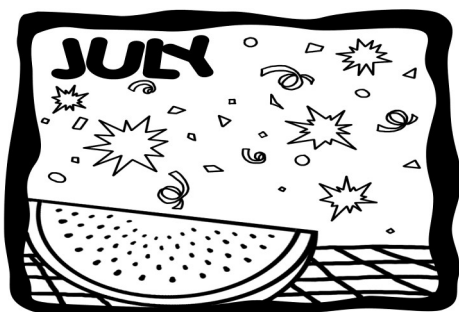
Potluck Dinner

Ice cream and sodas provided

Bring your own plates and silverware

August
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
4th through 12th 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**



Sunshine Lady or Gent

**The Idaho Gem Club is in need of a
Sunshine person!**

This important position includes, but not limited to sending some cheer to club members that are ill, in the hospital, have had a death in the family, or are just need some "cheering up".

Sending cheer means sending a card or flowers whenever appropriate, letting the Club Board of Directors and editor know when someone is in need of Sunshine or has received Sunshine.

It is everyone's responsibility to help out the Sunshine Person make this position function properly. Without each of us helping we won't know who is in need of Sunshine. Please see a club officer to volunteer!

Many Thanks to Arlene Bailey for the wonderful job she has done over the years as our Sunshine Lady!

YESTER YEAR

August 1968

Don Forbes offered to tumble rocks for the next show. He had several large tumblers and would need rocks and some one to help him change the grits.

Beacon Hill and Wagon Town were suggested for possible mining claims. The next field trip will be to Wagon Town for petrified wood.

Glen Barker had some interesting new areas for hunting, but nothing concrete yet.. The next field trip is to be for bloodstone in the Hay Stack Butte area.

Was suggested that we write to the Fish and Game for use of their meeting room. The Fish and Game granted use of their building.

The September field trip will be to Beacon Hill.

Harry Samuels showed samples of Sapphire Crystals he collected at Burgdorf.

The members are to start making door prizes for the show. It was also suggested that a permanent sign be made for the show.

The club will attempt to file a claim on Beacon Hill on their field trip.

Because of the limited dining space at the Fish and Game Building we should be thinking of a restaurant for our banquet.

*In Loving Memory
Patsy Bethel—Historian*

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

http://www.amfed.org/afms_news.htm

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

Welcome New Members

Michael Baker & Cami Horton
2214 N. 30th
Boise, Idaho 83703-5620
861-9564

Cliff & Rhonda Iverson
P.O. Box 1578
Hailey, Idaho 83333-1578
788-3962

Charles R. Peterson
638 E. San Pedro
Meridian, Idaho 83646-5669
714-541-9331

Justin Seaman
Erin & William
1295 E. Legacy View Dr.
Meridian, Idaho 83646-5296
938-3778

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



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!

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.



SAGE GROUSE PROPOSAL from Shirley Leeson

ALL, go to the fish & game site below. You will see the proposal for sage grouse in Idaho. There are two maps, check to see if rockhounding areas are impacted. It looks like all of Owyhee is effected. Share with your club members....Sage Grouse Task Force Submits Recommendations to Governor

On March 9, 2012, Governor C.L. "Butch" Otter received and reviewed final recommendations from the sage-grouse task force he appointed in March to develop alternatives to a federal Endangered Species Act listing that could block many traditional land uses and devastate southern Idaho's rural economy.

A two-week public comment period will begin in late June, and submission of a final plan to the federal agencies is targeted for mid- July. The task force's recommendations can be viewed and public comments submitted through the Idaho Department of Fish and Game's Web site at <http://fishandgame.idaho.gov/public/wildlife/?getPage=310>

On March 9, 2012, Governor C.L. "Butch" Otter promulgated **Executive Order 2012-02** [PDF, 341 kb] establishing a 15- member Sage-Grouse Task Force. The purpose of the Task Force is to provide Governor Otter with recommendations by June 1, 2012, to ensure the species' long-term viability in Idaho and to prevent the need for the federal protection under the Endangered Species Act (ESA).

The Task Force recommendations will be aimed at facilitating short- and long-term solutions to the primary and secondary threats to the species and its habitat, all in an effort to avoid the serious and economically damaging impacts an ESA listing would create as Idaho continues to emerge from the national recession. The promulgation of this executive order is an effort to elevate the issue, ensuring swift response to the problem by tasking a wide variety of impacted and interested stakeholders.

Go to the Fish and game website listed above to see what this plan is about. Most of the rockhounding locations are affected either directly or indirectly by roads going through an area designated for sage grouse habitat. Get involved!!

**Upcoming Rock Sale—update
August 17th, 18th, & 19th
9a.m. to 6 p.m.**

**Jasper slabs
Deschutes, Biggs, Picture, Owyhee reds, Mushroom,
and Spider web**

**Jasper rough—Queenstone, Haystack, Wildhorse, and
Painted Desert.**

Agate slabs—Mexican Lace plume moss

**Agate rough—Red Top, Polka Dot, Brazilian Laguna
Lace, Moss, fire agate**

**Joe Nielson—8345 Stetson Dr., Boise, Idaho 83709
208-869-6325**

This Biggs is "Old Biggs" It has been in the possession of one of the pioneers who quarried it at Biggs Junction in the '70's. The same is said for the Deschutes.

These are the Original Stuff, if you like Biggs & Deschutes, you don't want to miss this sale.

For more info call Joe at the above number!

Idaho Gem Club Field Trip Report

Our field trip to Rome, Oregon was windy and hot, but everyone had a good time and several very nice specimens were found for the taking. We had 18 members and 3 guests make the long trek in search of Snakeskin agate. No one left empty handed.

The clubs next field trip will be to Reynolds Creek for some petrified wood. All vehicles will be ok for this trip. Tools you will need to bring are shovel, pick, rock hammer, and bucket for your goodies. Personal items to bring are lunch, sunscreen, hat and lots of water, it will be hot. We will meet at Walters Ferry boat docks just south of the Snake River on Hwy 45 south of Nampa at 8:00 am. See ya there.

Happy Hounding

Phillip Worley - Field Trip Coordinator

Recreational Trails Program is Saved!!!

How ARRA helped save our Recreational Trails Program

- Decided to fight the committee's action in order to save RTP
- Participated in recruiting Senator Amy Klobuchar (D. MN) to serve as the chief sponsor of a RTP amendment
- Participated in recruiting Senator James Risch (R. ID) to serve as the lead Republican sponsor of the Klobuchar amendment
- Held more than 30 meetings in the Senate on the RTP issue
- Held strategy sessions with the sponsors of the RTP amendment
- Worked closely with other organizations in the recreation community

Enlisted thousands of ARRA members to contact their Senators and Representatives in support of RTP.

http://www.arra-access.com/site/PageServer?pagename=arra_washingtonnewsletter_jul2012

Federation & Other Club News More Dates to Remember

Other Clubs Field Trips

Nyssa Thunderegg Days
July 12th—14th

<http://www.thundereggdays.nyssachamber.com/index>

MVGC

July 21 Bonanza Bar—Gold Panning
Contact Dave Hughes 886-2014

August 4th-5th Silver City—Wagontown
Meet at Ruby City/Silver City junction
parking area at 9 a.m.

Contact Tony Griffin 467-9286
or DeVone Bates 837-4137

OGMS

July 21st—Wagontown area
Attend their meeting to find out more info.

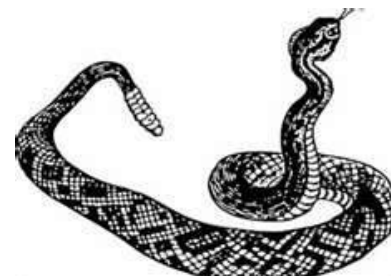
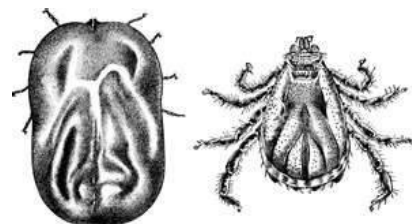
NORTHWEST ROCKHOUND RETREAT

September 3rd thru 9th, 2012

<http://www.amfed.org/nfms/nwnnews/May%202012.pdf>

Watch out for these critters when you are rockhounding!

Female & male tick



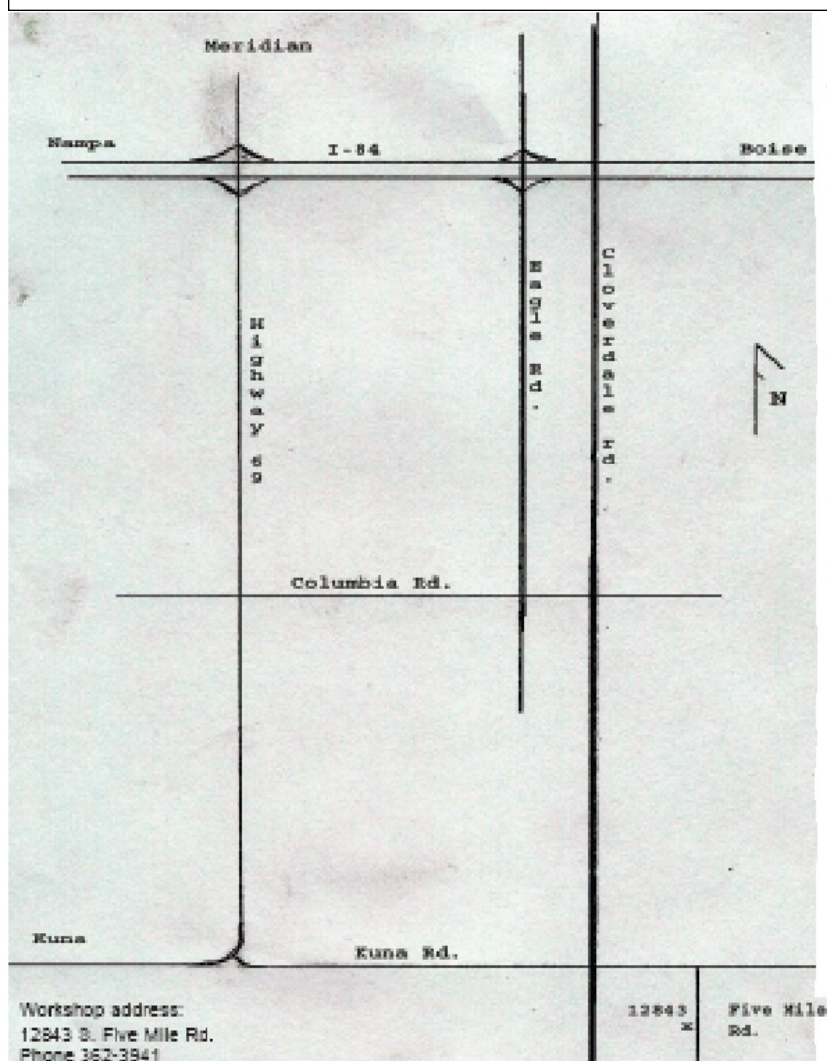
Are you ready to make a cab or two?

Remember these are for all members or guests. So be sure to bring that special person or child that you want to get interested in our hobby. We will begin on Thursday July 19th from 6:30pm to 9:30pm.

There will be a fire so if you want hotdogs and buns, please bring them, I will have the condiments. Supplies needed are hotdogs, buns, and s'mores fixins; so come one come all to 12843 S Five Mile Rd.

You will need to get here off of Meridian and Kuna Rd. or Cloverdale and Kuna Rd. as Five Mile dead ends and starts again.

Marge Conley will be here to help you with the wire wrapping and there will be instructors to help with the cab making.



If you have a slab to make your cab out of feel free to bring it, there will be some material there to choose from if you don't have any. For those of you who have extra material, the workshop always needs donations so that everyone who comes has something nice to cut and chose from. Remember there is a charge for the wire wrapping but the workshop is free. I look forward to seeing you all.

Willa Renken
Workshop Chairman
362-3941

Blacklight sale

Multiwave black light packages consisting of a Way Too Cool 4W multiwave (SW, MW, LW) lamp, magnetic extension pole, carrying case, and fluorescent mineral sample are still for sale.

If you are interested please contact Phil Neuhoﬀ for more information. These lights will be available at the September meeting. Proceeds support our scholarship program!

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 | |
| Mountain View Church of the Brethren 2823 N. Cole Road | COLE |
| NORTHVIEW | |
| FAIRVIEW | |



The Whangdoodle Bird
 (Often seen on field trips)



Idaho Gem Club, Inc.

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

4TH OF JULY