

Grindings

Idaho Gem Club, Inc.

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

VOL 72 NO 5

May 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

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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

Charlie Smith presented the 2013 show budget at the May Board Meeting. The budget was approved. Charlie, along with the 2012 Show committee has done another great job making the show a great success. Charlie announced that he would be stepping down as our Show Chairman. Charlie has been the Show Chairman since 1988. Our hats are off to you Charlie for all of your hard work and dedication over the years. You have done a great job for our Club and leaving some big shoes to fill. Thank You!!!

Our first workshop of the year will be held at Doug & Willa Renken's home on May 17th. This is a great opportunity to learn and practice lapidary skills. Thanks to Doug & Willa for allowing us to congregate at their home. I wonder if s'mores will be on the menu...hint, hint.

I hope everyone is excited for this rock-hunting season; we already have two field trips under our belts. The next trip will be out to Graveyard Point for famous plume agate. You will find all of the details inside this issue of the Grindings. HAPPY HUNTING.

Plans are in the works for a star garnet field trip up to northern Idaho in August. Looks like it could be August 25-26. This will be an overnight or two nights trip, so pencil those dates on your calendars.

Start collecting your auction goods. We will start having our auctions in the next couple of months during our meetings, so start gathering.

Brent Stewart
President



**MINUTES OF THE IDAHO GEM CLUB
GENERAL MEETING
APRIL 17, 2012**

The meeting was called to order by President Brent Stewart at 7:30pm.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all present.

Juniors Report: Ed Moser introduced himself and spoke about the pending fieldtrip to Dry Creek in the Hidden Springs area on May 26th. Janelle Wintersteen explained that limb casts and garnets are some specimens they'll be finding.

Guests were asked to stand and introduce themselves, there were eight.

Adult door prizes were drawn for seven winners.

Building fund tickets were drawn for three winners.

Motion to accept the minutes as printed in the "Grindings" made by Jim Story and seconded by Kathy Griffin.

New members present were David and Lorene Alley and their children.

Secretary Report: received at the P.O. Box were some bills, returned mail, and bank statements.

Library Report: we've received a new Rock & Gem magazine. The library will be open during refreshments. I am looking for a replacement librarian, due to being made the permanent secretary; contact me if you might be interested.

Treasurers Report: Kathy Griffin spoke of balances including show sales and disbursements for the clubs annual show. Kathy has statements available to see upon request.

R.O.L.E Report: Ron Bailey is wanting to encourage all members to keep making cabs and other rock-hounding projects.

Fieldtrip Report: Phil Worley reported a good turn out for the Queenstone Jasper trip. The next outing will be to Whang Doodle on April 21st. Meet at the ION station outside of Marsing at 9am and traveling at 9:30 to the claim.

Workshop Report: Willa Renken was excused from the general meeting.

Phil Neuhoff offered information about the new fluorescent lights now available for sale. They are valued

at \$120.00 and will sell at a discounted price of \$95.00.

License plate update: Charles Osgood and Deana Ashton with help from Mike Dimick are in the process of contacting other Clubs to get the word out. They are also looking for a website developer to promote these license plates, anyone interested can contact Charles or Deana. We only have eight months left to continue our sales of the plates. They have placed ads in Rock & Gem magazine starting with the June issue and in each till the end of the this year. Currently we've raised approximately \$9000.00.

Charles McCreath made inquiries about any members not receiving their "Grindings" or their Federation Newsletters? Each of these can be received by mail or email. He also wanted to remind members of a rock sale occurring over the weekend from April 20-22 that is located near Cole and Ustick.

The Refreshment Break was called at 8:24pm.

Phil Neuhoff presented a program about Opal specimens in conjunction with our outing to Whang Doodle.

The meeting was adjourned after 9pm.

*Respectfully submitted,
Melodee Worley
Secretary*

**MINUTES OF THE IDAHO GEM CLUB
Board Meeting
May 1, 2012**

The meeting was called to order by President Brent Stewart at 7:32pm.

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

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

Guests present were Jim and Belle Witt, and Charlie Smith.

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

Secretary Report: we've received a bank statement, a newsletter from another club, and a bill.

(Board meeting continued on page 3)

(Board meeting continued from page 2)

Treasurers Report: Kathy spoke about receipts, deposits, and disbursements.

Federation Report: Charles McCreath has some new information about a fieldtrip to be posted from the 2012 Tri-Federation until June 2013. Everything for the Tri-cities Show from May 18th to May 20th is still looking good.

Fieldtrip Report: Phil Worley said it was another good turn out of thirty members, nine guests, and eight kids. Specimens were found by most folks. Three Blue Racer snakes and four Gopher snakes were found under several rocks and an elder member educated interested people about the snakes. Our next outing is to Graveyard Point. May 19th meeting at the ION station at 8am and traveling at 8:30. High clearance vehicles are recommended for the rough terrain.

Juniors Report: Ed Moser spoke about the upcoming fieldtrip on May 26th, he'll have more information in the new "Grindings". A leaf rake is a tool best for this outing. Juniors need to bring their folders for the general meeting on May 15th. Ed would like to remind juniors during refreshment break to keep food and drinks in the main meeting area.

Workshop Report: Willa Renken said there will be a workshop on May 17th, hours are from 6:30pm to 9:30pm. Clean up starts at 9pm so that everything is ready for the next months workshop in June. Cutting rocks for members will be for a fee which is for the up-keep of the saw and the oil used.

Willa mentioned she would be needing hot dogs, buns, and s'mores ingredients. We'll have a fire for cooking hot dogs and s'mores.

Old Business: Kathy wanted input about the renewal of a CD or to put this money into a Money Market account? It was decided to roll it into a Money Market so the money's would be more readily available for future purchases. Money from our general fund will be used to reimburse the Banquet Fund. A motion to accept this decision was made by Ed Moser and seconded by Phil Worley.

Phil Neuhooff is firming up Scholarship acceptance with Ben Nunez. He'll let us know of the future date for the presentation.

Old Business: Deana Ashton has placed the ad for our license plate sales in the future Rock & Gem magazine. She has been contacted by someone from the magazine who is wanting to do an article about our Idaho Gem Club and it's activities. She'll be collecting pictures and other items for this article. Anyone having items of interest to contribute please contact Deana.

(continued at top of next column)

New Business: Charlie Smith proposed a budget for our 2013 Gem Show. Motion to accept the budget was made by Ed Moser and seconded by Willa Renken. Charlie Smith has also advised the board of his future resignation after the 2013 show. He's been doing the Idaho Rock and Gem Show for the past 25 years. A new Chairman will be needed.

Jim Witt spoke about necessary repairs needing to be done on the Garnet Tables we use at our show. New lights with timers and said the cost would be about \$80.00. He has offered to do the repairs. Motion to approve the repairs was made by Phil Neuhooff and seconded by Phil Worley.

Willa Renken presented a proposed 2012 budget. A motion to accept the budget as proposed by Jim Clinton and seconded by Ed Moser.

Membership dues were discussed. It has been years since an increase has occurred. Effective October 2012 new dues will be: Family \$23, Couples \$20 and Singles \$17; motion to accept the proposed new dues made by Phil Neuhooff and seconded by Phil Worley.

Jim Clinton and his wife Christi have been handling the "Meet and Greet" table in the absence of Dan and Linda Phillips who have been traveling and won't be returning to our club. Jim said Christi is wanting to continue to handle the table. Jim stated he'll be needing to step down from the Building Fund come July due to his work schedule changing. Anyone interested in this post contact Jim.

Charles McCreath expressed a special "Thank You" for all the help with a recent rock sale a few of our members helped with.

New Memberships: Five new applications were reviewed. Motion to accept the new members by made Willa Renken and seconded by Deana Ashton.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:16pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Melodee

Worley



Jewelry Tips

MOTOR SAFETY - THE LITTLE THINGS CAN BITE

Most jewelers treat motorized equipment with caution. We've all heard stories about work pieces coming loose in the drill press or about getting long hair or clothing caught in the polishing machine. It stands to reason that a machine with a motor of half a horsepower or so is going to win out over its operator. We all know that, and I'm not going to harp on it. That's not the point of this story.

But the point here is with the smaller powered machines we often use, the ones with little 3 inch diameter motors. For instance, these small motors are used in flexshafts and micro buffers. They're so small that many of us forget caution when using them. I'm guilty of it myself sometimes, and believe me it can get you in trouble.

One friend had a polishing bur bend in the hand piece and then whack the thumb that was holding the work piece so badly that it seemed the bone might be broken. The swelling was substantial, and it took several weeks to regain normal use. A small underpowered motor? I don't think so.

Another friend was using one of the small buffing machines, the kind you can stop when you apply too much pressure to the wheel. Not to worry about such an underpowered beast you say. Wrong, it literally jumped up and bit the hand that feeds it! Buffer was set on a low table to do a quick polish, so was not mounted or clamped. A buff was installed on the right spindle, no buff on the left. Friend was wearing a tight-fitting, long-sleeved sweater. While buffing on the right wheel, the left tapered spindle caught a thread on the friend's left sleeve and started grabbing more and more threads and sleeve.

Rather than pulling the arm into the machine, the light buffer quickly lifted off the table and started climbing up the underside of the friend's arm. There was no way to get a hand of the on/off switch because the unit was spinning wildly and battering my friend like a club wielded by a mad man. Only when my friend could grab the gyrating power cord and yank it from the wall did the mayhem stop.

So when you're in the shop, please think safety. Don't take even those little motors for granted.

GARNET BULLETS

A cool fact about garnets is that they were actually used in ancient Asia and the American Southwest as bullets in guns. The strong, deep red of the stone was said to cause wounds worse than bullets. Read more about it on the Omnigems Blog -

<http://omigems.com/blog/category/gemstones/>



(continued at top of next column)

E-Book on Blacksmithing

For those interested in the field of blacksmithing and ornamental ironwork, a free downloadable book called "The Blacksmith's Craft" has been prepared by Herefordshire College of Technology in England.

The book, first published in 1952, was written for craftsmen, technical schools and apprentice training programs. Though 60 years old, the book continues to be a good introduction to the blacksmith's craft. It can be downloaded from http://www.hct.ac.uk/Downloads/cp_blacksmith.html

Laser Welding

A question came up this week about how to solder some jump rings to hold blue topaz briolettes onto a necklace. We've all heard about ways to do some soldering close to a stone, and some of us have sized a ring without taking the stones out of their mounts. We've used wet paper towels, garnet sand, cooling gels, and my favorite of suspending the stone in a dish of water. All techniques bank on the principal of using a small, hot flame to do the job quickly before the stone gets hot enough to crack or change color.

But each job is somewhat of a gamble. Some stones are hardy and some are frail. Jades and jaspers will generally take a lot of heat, but I'd never chance it with the likes of topaz or opal. Trying to shield a stone from the torch is always a betting game, and sometimes you lose.

If you're worried about soldering something close to a stone, perhaps it's time to consider a no-heat method like laser welding. Most jewelry stores have laser welders these days, and the cost of having it done is quite affordable. They used to have problems doing silver, but now seem to do it routinely.

I've used a local shop twice in the last year, once for a piece with little emeralds a "friend" asked me to repair and for a second piece where I needed a safety catch and didn't want the torch heat to expose all the solder lines again.

Acknowledgement to be included with each publication:

More BenchTips by Brad Smith are at

groups.yahoo.com/group/BenchTips/

or

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



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.

World largest Meteorite Discovered in Permafrost

Moscow, AP, Iswestija

Russian scientists holding a press conference in Vladivostok yesterday made public the discovery of the "largest meteorite ever found intact on earth".

The meteoritic iron was uncovered during bauxite mining operations north of Vladivostok. Olga Tankova from the department of Mineralogy at the Vernadsky Institute in Moscow who is in charge of investigating the find told journalists: "The iron was found after excavating permafrost ground in the Sikhote-Alin Mountains 120 miles northeast Vladivostok for mining operations. When the machines worked at the ground a cliff collapsed and gave free a huge lump of iron.



Because the famous meteorite fall of Sikhote-Alin had happened only 45 miles further north from the site in 1947 the head of operations of STREANAG mining assumed the iron could be of meteoritic origin. This was confirmed last week as a team of the Vernadsky Institute arrived. With approximate dimensions of 16 by 10 by 8 feet the meteorite is the largest cosmic body ever discovered on earth. Its weight is estimated to be more than 450 metric tons.

"When the iron was first uncovered in the permafrost it had gun blue appearance, after several days it started to rust. We must now hurry to proceed with our investigation, before the meteorite starts to oxidize further. This is the discovery of a lifetime" said Tankova.

http://www.rocksfromspace.org/April_1_2009.html

Buchanan Thunder Eggs May 25th through May 28th

First and foremost, EVERYTHING I KNOW IS IN THIS ANNOUNCEMENT, there is no need to RSVP, so please limit your inquiries to details that are not mentioned here, as I have very limited time and I will just send you this announcement if your questions are answered here. If any of the details change I will send notices out ASAP and post them to the link below.

This announcement can also be found at http://orerocon.com/ore_rock.htm Scroll down to the link for Buchanan Thunderegg Dig

After a wildly successful trip last September, again Rod, the rancher who owns the famous Buchanan thunderegg beds 20 miles east of Burns, OR will host a weekend dig for all rockhounds! The pits will be open to digging Memorial Day weekend Friday May 25th through Monday May 28th 2012. Plan on arriving at 8:00 AM for check-in at the gravel pit across the road each morning and getting up to the pits before 9:00 AM. You can dig as long as you like but you must check out and pay for your eggs at the bottom of the hill before dark. We will be digging with hand tools and Rod will be charging \$1.00/pound for eggs you dig and \$1.25/pound for already dug eggs - which is a very reasonable price for these much sought after thundereggs. There will also be many tons of already dug eggs for sale at the bottom of the ridge from each pit so if you can't or don't care to dig you can still shop among eggs from all the pits. We opened five pits last year and plan to have these open, and all will be freshly prepared and ready to dig for the weekend.

Rod is also planning on hosting a FREE BBQ dinner at least **Saturday** and almost certainly **Sunday** as well! He along with generous members of some local clubs will be supplying the main dishes so PLEASE bring side dishes and/or desserts, or plan on a donation toward the cost of food to show your appreciation. ANY help is appreciated - if you can bring something to BBQ (as long as it fits on the grill LOL). Also plan on bringing plates and silverware, chairs, and your own favorite beverages.

Access to the beds is by short dirt roads which are suitable for high clearance vehicles or SUVs. Be prepared to carpool since parking at the digs is extremely limited and passenger cars are definitely NOT suited for the road! Digging should be fairly easy; the best tools to bring are a pick, rock hammer, shovel, and buckets. Rod will do his best to get the pits cleaned out with a backhoe to prepare for our digging beforehand; about 5 pits are currently open from last year's trip and should be easy to dig with some cleanout and hand tools. Each of the Buchanan pits contains different types of eggs, so there is a huge variety available. Last year we found many eggs with beautiful pockets filled with fully terminated quartz crystals, lots with spectacular druzy quartz, botryoidal clear agate, some blue and pink opal, zeolite minerals, and other formations. Also eggs with agate "scenes" and fortifications are possible. For a hint of what you can find check out the photos I have posted on the web page above. Believe it or not, much better are available but I don't yet have photos posted.

We'll have signs posted on the road for the camping area and the pits. Dry camping is available across the road from the pits at a
(Buchanan—continued on page 9)

HAPPY



BIRTHDAY

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
 5/22 Duane Mayer
 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
 5/30 Jesse Lane

Cabochon —
 Chrysophrase

JUNE
 6/1 Nathan Nagy
 6/3 Keith Chipman
 6/4 June McConnell
 6/5 Sherry Woodbury
 6/6 Michiel Bugher
 6/6 Angie Gomm
 6/11 Robert L. Turner
 6/12 Teri Hetherington
 6/14 Darlena Rowland
 6/15 Sarah Neuhoff
 6/16 Chris Blickfeldt
 6/17 Sandy Blodgett
 6/18 Karla Glick
 6/18 Ben Nunez
 6/21 Laura Lindsay
 6/24 Bill Carey
 6/24 Ethan Chase
 6/25 Barbara Davenport
 6/30 Jonathan Barnett

June Birthstones
 Faceted — Alexandrite
 Cabochon — Moonstone
 Traditional — Pearl

May Birthstones
 Faceted — Emerald

May Program

The program for the May meeting will be by Brent Stewart on star garnets. The club is planning a trip to Emerald Creek this summer, so come here Brent's tips on collecting at this classic Idaho locality.

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!**

Dates To Remember

GENERAL MEETING
 3rd. Tuesday of every month
 May 15, 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
 June 5, 2012
 Church of the Brethren
 2823 N. Cole Road, Boise, Idaho
 Meeting Starts at 7:30 p.m.

May Refreshment Committee

Chair: Deana Ashton
 794-5628
Mike Dimick
 938-2910
Rick Corbett
 383-9930

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: Brent Stewart
 863-9336
Kathy Griffin
 467-9286
Rick Bidwell
 629-6291

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 District 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



Special field trip on May 26th—
see page 10 for more details.

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

YESTER YEAR

February 1968

There were very poor results from the bulletin requesting members to display at the show. Another questionnaire will run in the February Grindings. Ralph Tuttle ask for permission to spend \$25.00 for advertisement for the show.

Cost of off duty police to be at the show during the night would be quite a bit, members protecting in displays in 2 hour shifts was discussed.

Cap Root suggested a hand out paper about the club be distributed at the show.

The field trip will be to Graveyard Point.

The March show made \$343.81 from the dealers, sale of tumbled rocks, refreshments and donations. The members of the club that protected the club were allowed to bring their campers inside the building and sleep in them, the men doing the two hour patrols. (At that time there was no kitchen or office in the back of the building, so there was plenty of room)

The club will leave for Prineville June 15th.
The gathering point is to be decided later.

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

Haley Chown
1608 S. Denver Ave #1
Boise, Idaho 83706-3512
208-249-5563

Tom & Amy Hinkler
3772 W. 12680 South
Payson, Utah 84651-3609
208-599-5809

Steve & Paula Lane
Beau Thornock, Kyle Thornock
6507 W. Russett St.
Boise, Idaho 83704-7663
208-284-3548

Katherine Luercher
Katelyn, Kensie
1300 E. Carter St.
Boise, Idaho 83706-5360
208-890-3325

Duane & Julie Mayer
1108 W. Stafford Dr.
Eagle, Idaho 83616-6449
208-377-9404

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.



(Buchanan continued from page 5)

large, flat gravel pit area that is suitable for trailers and tents.

Those wishing for a “wilderness experience” can camp among the bountiful sagebrush anywhere on the rancher’s property (ask Rod or myself for directions). Other spots to camp are the Crane Hot Springs resort (electric, water, hot springs!) or the Burns RV park (all services), both less than 30 minutes from the beds. There are also a few BLM camping areas that you can use for a small fee (dry camping is free anywhere you are permitted to drive on BLM land). Other nearby rockhounding areas within an easy drive include Stinkingwater petrified wood, birch limbs and other wood, agate, plume agate, Burns obsidian, fossil leaves, and more.

Once again EVERYONE will be required to sign a liability waiver for the Mt. Hood Rock Club’s insurance policy which will cover us in event of an emergency (free of charge). You don’t have to be a rock & mineral club member to attend. Print this out and bring this to your next club meeting, email and call all your rockhound friends - we need a good turnout so the ranchers will be happy with the trip and invite us back again!

Here is a list of places to set up and directions.

GPS coordinates of the camp and pits for are: 43.596 N -118.619 W

DIRECTIONS: From Burns: from the east end of town, travel 1 mile northeast on Hwy 395 (the Burns RV park is here on your right). Turn right at the junction with Hwy 20 and proceed exactly 20 miles east to the Buchanan store at milepost 154. Just before the store turn right onto Crane-Buchanan Road. Travel south to a 90 degree left turn after 3 miles. SLOW DOWN, the camp area and dig are less than ¼ mile immediately east of the big hill! If you miss the turn at Buchanan, turn around at the rest area 1 mile to east.

From Crane Hot Springs – the resort is 25 mi. east of Burns, turn right onto Hwy 78 in town to milepost 25. Travel east to the hamlet of Crane, here turn north onto Crane-Buchanan Rd. and follow it just under 13 miles to the camp area & pits.

From Idaho and points east: From Nyssa OR, follow Hwy 20 for 111 miles west to Buchanan, turn left at the store and proceed as above.

PLACES TO STAY: Contact them for further information!

BLM camps: Here’s a link to the BLM maps of the area: http://www.blm.gov/or/districts/burns/files/NewRecMap_May2010.pdf
And also here: <http://www.blm.gov/or/gis/geoscience/transport.php>

FEE CAMPGROUNDS AND MOTELS: (these may or may not be current, please contact them directly). Plan on making reservations as there will be a LOT of people attending this trip!

The Old Camp Casino 2205 W. Monroe | Burns, OR 97720 (888) 343-7568 toll free | (541) 573-1500 local

The Narrows RV Park
Phone: (541) 495-2006 / 800-403-3294
Fax: (541) 495-2009

Address: 33468 Sod House Lane
Princeton, OR 97721
E-mail: thenarrows@highdesertair.com

Burns RV Park
1273 Seneca Dr, Burns, OR 97720, Phone: (541)-573-7640, email: burnsrvpark@centurytel.net

Crystal Crane Hot Springs
59315 Highway 78, Burns, OR 97720, (541) 493-2312, email: info@cranehotsprings.com

Idlewild Campground
Burns, OR 97720, phone: (541) 573-1292

Village RV Park
1273 Seneca Dr., Burns, OR 97720-1352, toll free: (800) 573-7640

Best Inn
999 Oregon Ave, Burns, OR 97720, toll free: 877-678-9330

Bontemps Motel
74 W Monroe St, Burns, OR 97720-2040, phone: 541-573-2037

City Center Motel
73 W. Monroe, Burns, OR 97720, phone: (541) 573-5100

Days Inn Hotel
577 West Monroe Street, Burns, OR 97720, phone: 541-573-2047, email: wweramsey@earthlink.net

Horseshoe Inn
30836 Hwy. 20 East, Burns, OR 97720, phone: (541) 573-2034

Orbit Motel
P.O. Box 785, Burns, OR 97720, phone: 541-573-2034, toll free: (800) 235-6155

Royal Inn Motel
999 Oregon Ave, Burns, OR 97720-2309, phone: 541-573-5295

Silver Spur Motel
789 N Broadway Ave, Burns, OR 97720-1335, phone: 541-573-2077, toll free: (800) 400-2077, email: silverspurmotel@yahoo.com

Tim Fisher
OreRockOn.com—rockhound1@orerockon.com



Federation & Other Club News More Dates to Remember

Idaho Gem Club April Field Trip

Our field trip to Wang Doodle was a very fun time and good weather made it pleasant. Some nice specimens were found by several who attended the trip. This was another good turn out of thirty members, nine guests, and eight kids. Three Blue Racer snakes and four Gopher snakes were found under several rocks and an elder member educated interested people about the snakes. I would like to thank Tony Griffin, Mike Jones and Laura Lindsey for their assistance with this trip.

Thank you to Bill & Barb Carey who led a side field trip near our Queenstone Claim to find blue agate/opal and rhyolite concretions in rhyolitic tuff. This location is just off Sommercamp Rd. at Squaw Creek, we parked at the horse trail head and walked the trail next to the creek for about two hundred feet where the concretions start showing in the cliffs; blue agate/opal was also found in these same cliffs.

Idaho Gem Club May Field Trip

MAY 19 Graveyard Point , Plume Agate 8:00 am Meet @ ION gas station 5644 BUNTROCK RD MARSING, ID 83639
West on Hwy 55 through Marsing to inter-section @ Hwy 55 and Hwy 95. **8:30 am** Travel to Graveyard Point. We will be hounding for Plume Agate. All vehicles will be able to travel the roads, however I suggest a high clearance vehicle. Tools needed for this trip are a bucket, rock hammer, shovel and gloves. If you plan on digging out a seam, you may want to add a pick, sledge hammer, heavy chisel and pry bar. Be sure to bring plenty of sunscreen, water and a lunch. This will be a good trip for all, lots of material will be found. Hope to see ya there.

Happy Hounding

Phillip Worley - Field Trip Coordinator

Juniors

Rock Rattlers Field Trip

Saturday May 26, 2012

Meet at the Jackson Store on Pierce Park

Meet Time: 8:30 am Leave Time: 9:00 am

Wear proper clothing, bring water, wear hats and use sun screen;

Bring a container for collected material

Spray bottle, and

Leaf rake if you have one,

No garden rakes will be needed.

The Weather is Heating Up. . .
Watch out for these critters when you're rockhounding!



Other Clubs Field Trips

May 19 Magic Valley Gem Club
Grassy Meadow, Haystack Butte
Meet: 9 am at Adrian Rock Shop
Leave 10 am Field trip leader Tony Griffin (IGC)

May 19 Owyhee Gem & Mineral Society
Big Egg Claim

May 25th—28th Buchanan Thunderegg Beds,
OR.

See pages 5 & 9 for more details

June 13th—16th Tri-Federation to Vale area,
OR - Cancelled

UV Lights for sale at the May 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 May. These are the same lamps that Phil Neuhoff 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 club's scholarship program. The lamps will be for sale at the Building Fund table before the meeting.

Well, it is finally here, the new season of workshops. Are you ready to make a cab or two?

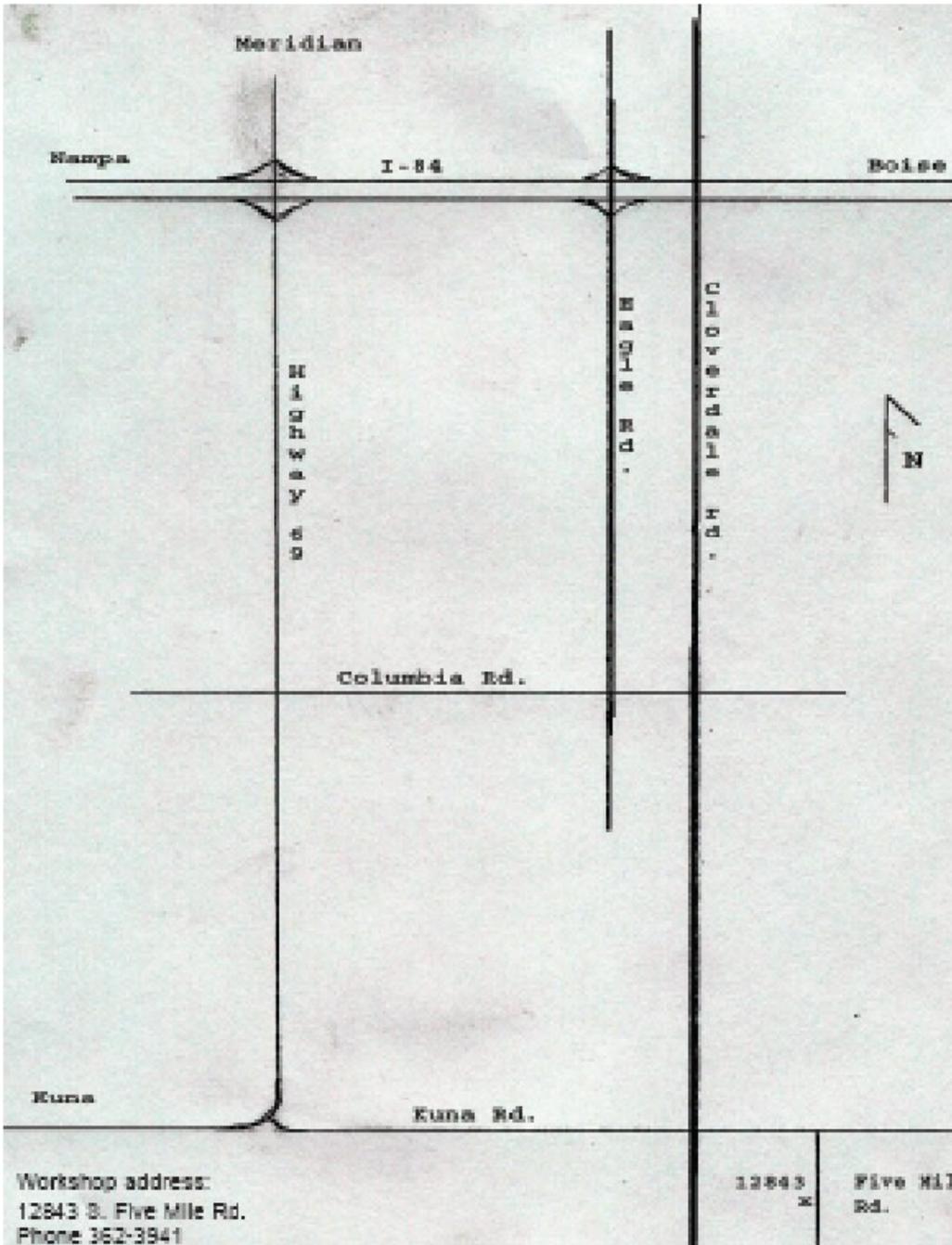
Remember these are for all members or guests. So be sure to bring that special person or child that you want to get interested in our hobby. We will begin on Thursday the 17th, from 6:30pm to 9:30pm.

There will be a fire so if you want hotdogs and buns, please bring them, I will have the condiments. I have marshmallows and graham crackers for s'mores, but you would need to bring chocolate; 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



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:

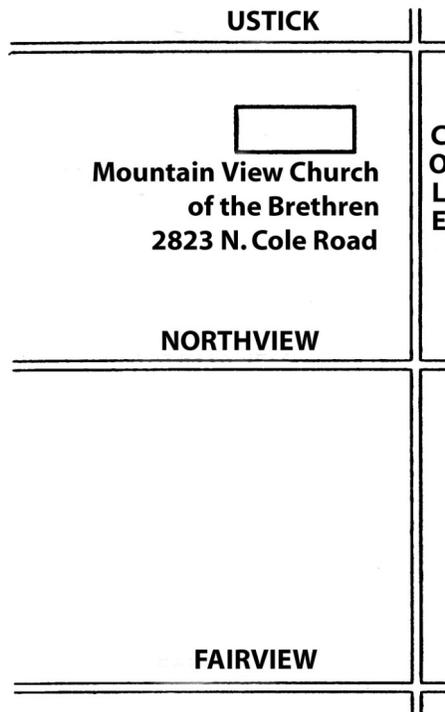
- \$12.00 per person
- \$15.00 per couple
- \$17.50 per family

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.

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