

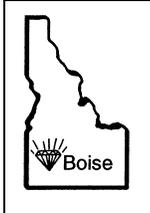
Grindings

Idaho Gem Club, Inc.

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

VOL 73 NO 12

December 2013



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
Jim Clinton
283-8891

Deana Ashton
794-5628

Melodee Worley
890-6834

Phillip Worley
891-3990

Barb Carey
906-5968



SECRETARY

Melodee Worley
322-5985

TREASURER
Barbara Wanner
794-7968

NFMS DIRECTOR
Charles McCreath
344-5085

EDITOR
Tony Griffin
467-9286

highdesert2003@q.com

CLUB WEB SITE
www.idahogemclub.com

President's Message

Congratulations to our newly elected 2014 President, Phil Neuhoff. Congratulations to newly elected Board member, Dana Robinson. I encourage all to offer their congratulations and full support for the upcoming year. Thank you for allowing me to serve you for this past 3 years and I'm looking forward to being able to continue serving in different areas this next coming year.

This month for our meeting we'll have an auction and typically this is completed "finished" items so you can finish your Christmas shopping. However, if you have "raw" materials to donate, we won't turn them down and someone on your list would just love some new material to work on as their Christmas present.

Our annual Christmas Party Workshop will be held at Doug and Willa Renken's place on December 21st and 22nd from 10-5 both days. Everyone is welcome to attend and SHARE use of the machines, learn some new skills or improve old ones, and generally have a good time. The Club is providing chili and everyone should bring a snack or finger foods so we can eat all day while we learn fun new things, and please help to clean up. Come and join in the Holiday fun.

Remember that the show is just around the corner and sign ups will be at the December meeting. I'm in need of a ticket sale chairperson to put together a team for ticket sales.

Tickets for the banquet in January will be on sale at the December meeting and at Stewart's Gem Shop. The Banquet this year will be held at the Red Lion Downtowner Hotel. We had to change locations this year as the Owyhee Plaza Hotel is under renovation.

December is the month for the Project of the Year election. This year there will be two categories, one for the adults and the other for the juniors. The media can be anything as long as the project is related to lapidary and/or earth science.

Thank you to the members and all the help and support that I have received through the years to make this a fantastic club to be a part of! I have thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to serve, support, and help the members of the club as the president for the past three years. I wish everyone Happy Holidays and a Happy New Year!

Brent Stewart
President



**MINUTES OF THE IDAHO GEM CLUB
GENERAL MEETING
November 19, 2013**

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

Andy Housh was asked to lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

There were no guests or new members present for the evening.

Door prizes were drawn for 27 lucky winners.

Junior door prizes were drawn for 4 lucky winners.

Building fund had 4 lucky winners too.

A motion to accept the minutes as printed in the "Grindings" with an amendment about license plates/scholarship information to be submitted. Was made by Phil Neuhoff and seconded by Phil Worley; the motion carried.

Secretary notes--I received bank statements, membership dues, and checks for deposit; all will be given to our Treasurer.

Treasurers report--Barb spoke of balances and disbursements.

Federation report--Charles has advised me to include hotel/motel information for the 2014 NFMS Rock & Gem Show & Convention, in Hermiston, Or. The dates are Friday, August 15, 10 to 6pm. Saturday, August 16, 10 to 6pm. Sunday, August 17, 10 to 4pm.

There will be a Spring meeting about the Sage Grouse Proposal. Charles will let us know the dates as it gets closer.

There will be a Mid-Winter Meeting, in Tri-Cities, Washington April 26-27, 2014.

Multi-Federation field trip in Terry, Montana

July 31 thru August 4, 2014. Chairman Doug True can be called at [\(406\) 670-0506](tel:4066700506) or email at dtruefossils12@yahoo.com.

Juniors--Ed wants to "Thank" Jim and Belle Witt for their donation of leaf fossils and turitella snails.

Workshop report--Willa said there wouldn't be a workshop the month of November, but we would be having our December Workshop, for members to make and finish special gifts.

New business--Andy Housh has found a local company able to laminate anyone's maps. Boise Blue Prints at 6th and Main. The cost is under \$25.00.

Deanna said that license plates sales have gone up 38%.

Project of the Year submissions are due at our next General Meeting. December 17th; Adult and Junior submissions.

There were 3 Board member openings. Nominations of Willa Renken, Ed Moser, and Dana Robinson. By acclamation of Doug Renken to accept these nominees and seconded by Charles McCreath; the motion carried. Also Member passed.

Break was called at 8pm. The next 2 months our programs will be Auctions or raw and finished items; money collected goes towards our Annual Banquet, on January 21, 2014.

The meeting adjourned at 9:30pm.

*Respectfully submitted,
Melodee Worley - Secretary*

**MINUTES OF THE IDAHO GEM CLUB
Board Meeting
December 3, 2013**

President Brent Stewart called our meeting to order at 7:36pm.

Present this evening were, Barb Carey, Phil Worley, Barb Wanner, Deana Ashton, Willa Renken, Ed Moser, Charles McCreath, Dana Robinson, and Melodee Worley. Excused for the evening were Jim Clinton and Phil Neuhoff.

Guests present were Shirley McCreath and Doug Renken.

A motion to accept the minutes as printed in the "Grindings" as printed with corrections, was by Willa Renken and seconded by Ed Moser; the motion carried.

Secretary information, I've received bank statements, memberships dues, and new information from UVtool, that I'll pass along to Phil Neuhoff for ordering.

I've sent a "Thank You" card to Lifetime members the "Skogerson's" for their donation of books to our Library. I've asked Barb, our treasurer, to keep track of dues being paid and names. From October to December 31. This will enable me to update roster information for the NFMS, and allow us to send the correct dues to NFMS, by the New Year.

Treasurer's report from Barb was about balances and disbursements.

Federation report from Charles, he's asked me to include hotel/motel information (see page 8 of this newsletter) for the 2014 NFMS Rock & Gem show & Convention, in Hermiston, Or. He mentioned The AMFS Judges Training Program 2014, is April 10-13. Located in Ogden, Ut. Applications are available at www.amfed.org/nfms

Junior's information from Ed is a "Thank You" to Jim and Belle Witt, for their donation of leaf fossils and turitella to the juniors. "BRING YOUR FOLDERS!"

New program will be another auction of finished items, but raw materials would be welcomed too.

Project of the Year submissions are due on December 17. Adult and Junior projects will be voted on.

Workshop information for December. From December 21-22, from 10-5pm both days. Soup will be provided and everyone is welcome to bring finger foods or home baked Christmas goodies.

Banquet information I have at this time. The location will be the Red Lion Downtowner. Jim DaSilva will have tickets and menu information available at this coming general meeting.

License plate information from Deana. She's been contacting DMV people, it looks like we've got another year to sell plates. The Idaho Statesman will be running a future article about "Specialty" plates; keep an eye out for this article.

New business - suggestions or ideas for case favors for the Idaho Gem Club Annual Show?

The Board held nominations for President, Phil Neuhoff was nominated by Willa Renken and seconded by Phil Worley; the motion carried.

We had one new member application, a motion to accept was made by Phil Worley and seconded by Barb Carey; the motion carried.

We are going to need someone to Chair the following areas for our Idaho Gem Club Show this February 22-23, 2014. Those areas are Show Host, ticket sales, and Grab Bags. There will be sign-up sheets at this meeting coming up and at our Annual Banquet.

There will be a need to fill the Field trip Coordinator position for 2014. Anyone interested contact an officer or board member.

*Respectfully submitted,
Melodee Worley - Secretary*

The Earth Science Lapidary Specialty Plate Program Official News:

From Deana Ashton, Chairperson

I have met with Christine Fisher, the Idaho Trans. Dept. Registration Program Director and Internal Communication Specialist. I received official confirmation that our program has until Dec. 31, 2014 to improve and reach the total number of sales to over 1,000. The Legislature gave us 3 years as an introductory period to get the word out about the plate. Dec. 31, 2012 ended this 3 year trial period. We have just passed our 1st of 2 years which requires us to reach sales of over 1,000 plates per year. The state will compare two years at a time for sales figures to determine success of a specialty plate. We have sold more plates in 2013 than we did last year, 344 as of October, and now, we must sell over 1,000 for 2014, and hold over 1,000 in following years. This should be no problem as our increase had a boost when we sent Idaho Geologic maps to schools the first week of October and generated interest from the Idaho Teachers Associations. So I am confident that the work I am doing with the teachers newsletters etc. will pay off for us. There are still several avenues of advertising underway, they just take time to develop. I am working on developing our website, statewide Facebook ad campaigns and increasing our Google status. Also getting close to printing ads in key county newspapers with our plate ad.

Special thanks goes to Brent Stewart and Charles McCreath who are called to present information about rocks minerals and gems at schools statewide. Their time and effort is priceless. And I appreciate their enthusiasm and dedication to the kindred art of lapidary. These folks directly impact the minds and

creativity of students when they learn about our great states resources. Thank you, thank you, thank you.

The Specialty Plate Administrators were also in favor of me submitting a mockup of a poster I think should be displayed at every DMV which shows the specialty plates and a explanation of what purchase supplements. If the Idaho registrants were able to see where their money goes when buying special plates, sales should increase across the board.

In regards to the Legislation processes acknowledging Idaho Heritage Plates (the plates representing Idaho official state symbols as a new category with special sale requirements) was encouraged by the ITD. They are hopeful we can band together and have support of a few legislators and Senators who love our plates and will carry the legislation through and garner support and a positive vote. Retired Senator Heimrich will meet with a group of people involved with the plate to discuss these options soon. It was very encouraging to learn the staff of Idaho Transportation Department and many DMV officials are really hoping our plate succeeds. I know the posters and flyers and cards I weekly drop off at Boise DMV are being replenished often. If people consider the extra fees they pay are similar to if they paid for two students to go on a field trip, or a whole classroom to receive a new lesson on geology, it seems more affordable.

Mr. Luna and even the US President are pushing an increase in Math and Science grades across the nation. Education materials are essential to accomplish their goal. We were very fortunate that sending award

(Specialty Plate continued on page 5)

(Specialty Plate continued from page 4)

winning new Idaho Geologic maps to all schools in Idaho was suggested and completed. Thank you Dr. Phil Neuhoff (and family) for all of your assistance, enthusiasm and ideas.

A special thank you to the club members who dedicated time and effort to helping this year with our plate sales ad campaigns... Barbara Carey, Phil, Christy, Sarah, and Jackson Neuhoff, Chris Wheeler, Rick Corbett, Dr. Charles Osgood, Andy, and Debbie Housh, their mother in law, Jim Clinton, and Treasurer Barbara Wanner for making sure our account is accurate and current, and that last minute requests for funding came through because she made it happen! . Your help and ideas were what got us this far!

Bench Tips

MOBILE STAND

A handy mobile stand for your flex-shaft can be made easily and quickly from the base of an old swivel office chair. You can find these chairs being thrown out at office buildings and schools. I just asked the custodian in my building to set one aside for me.

To separate the chair from the wheeled base, simply remove the spring clip from the center bottom. I use a small screwdriver or a pair of pliers.

To make the stand, you'll need two pieces of threaded galvanized steel pipe and a pipe fitting from a hardware store. The first length of pipe is 3/4 inch diameter to fit the hole in most chair bases. The second piece is a length of less expensive 1/2 inch pipe.

Total length of the two pipes should be about five feet. I used a two foot length of 3/4 pipe and a three foot length of 1/2 pipe. They are joined together by a pipe fitting called a 3/4 to 1/2 reducing coupler.



For those of you who can't get out to classes and workshops, spend some time checking out the extensive resources on Ganoksin. Reading the Orchid list for a year or two is almost like getting a Masters degree in jewelry technology.

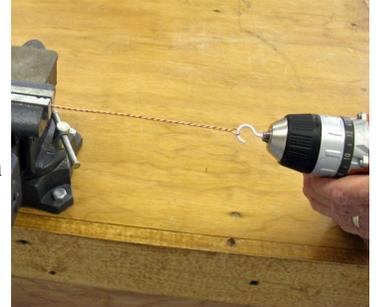
https://www.facebook.com/ganoksin?directed_target_id=0

<http://www.ganoksin.com/index.htm>

TWISTING WIRE

Twisting wire can be done with an old hand drill but goes much faster with a power tool. My preference is to use a screw gun, although a Dremel or Freedom should do well.

Just make a little hook out of coathanger wire (or find a screw-in cup hook) and chuck it up in your screw gun. Fasten the ends of the wires in a vice and slip the other ends on your hook.



Keep a little tension on the wires as you twist.

Note that a power drill is too fast a tool for this unless you have one with variable speed.

- Brad Smith

Attribution requested with each publication:

More Bench Tips by Brad Smith are at: <https://www.facebook.com/BenchTips> or see the book "Bench Tips for Jewelry Making" on Amazon

Welcome New Members

**Andy and Tahnee Main
Carter Berryman and Cooper Berryman**

**1211 1/2 Leadville
Boise, ID 83706
(208) 286-6251**



HAPPY



BIRTHDAY

DECEMBER

12/3 Bob Mayes
 12/3 John Merritt
 12/3 David Schmidt
 12/4 Lorene Alley
 12/4 Shannon T. Tharp
 12/4 Jack Trevithick
 12/4 Tenaya Madsen
 12/6 Jason Hathaway
 12/7 Chris Zeller
 12/8 Lillie Rogers
 12/9 John Sandmeyer
 12/9 Beau Thornock
 12/10 Joan Alvey
 12/10 Cheryl Link
 12/10 Dee Hanes
 12/11 Scott Schuldenfre
 12/11 Gia Ilers
 12/15 Cris Wheeler
 12/17 Carolyn Whipple
 12/18 Dan Phillips
 12/19 Robert Burns
 12/19 Doug Renken
 12/21 Dee Hanes
 12/22 Stacie Brock
 12/22 Steve Longbottom
 12/22 PJ Suttle
 12/23 Joe Nielson
 12/23 Christi Hogle
 12/25 Thomas Langford
 12/26 Wesley Capps
 12/26 Rory Miles
 12/26 Mary Ruppert
 12/27 Brian Gimmel
 12/28 Carmen Becker
 12/28 Nolan Crowe

12/29 Kelly Peneira
 12/30 Tony Griffin

December Birthstones
 Faceted - Blue Zircon
 Cabochon - Turquoise

JANUARY

1/3 Helen Dillion
 1/04 Dave Dore
 1/5 Becky Gibson
 1/5 Jeri Kelly
 1/8 Ronald Ridenour
 1/8 Audra Weslowski
 1/9 Julie Mayer
 1/11 Ron Bailey
 1/11 Terry Tomberlin
 1/12 Deborah Shaffer
 1/12 Stephanie Potter
 1/15 Arlene Bailey
 1/18 Cami Horton
 1/19 Greg Biebel
 1/21 Jordan Lindsay
 1/21 Jerry Schwartz
 1/22 Steve Lane
 1/22 Mary Ostrander
 1/23 Gena Grissom
 1/25 Alice Stewart
 1/27 John Chaplik
 1/27 Matt Leslie
 1/27 Valerie Lesur
 1/29 Marion Phillips
 1/31 Katelyn Luercher

January Birthstones
 Faceted - Garnet
 Cabochon - Star Garnet

Dates To Remember

GENERAL MEETING

3rd. Tuesday of every month
 December 17, 2013
 Church of the Brethren
 2823 N. Cole Road, Boise, Idaho
 Meeting Starts at 7:30 p.m.

BOARD MEETING:

1st. Tuesday of every month
 January 7, 2014
 Church of the Brethren
 2823 N. Cole Road, Boise, Idaho
 Meeting Starts at 7:30 p.m.

December Refreshment Committee

Chair: Heather Madsen 378-4666
 Brent Stewart 863-9336
 Barb Carey 906-5968

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

January will be our

Annual Banquet

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



SUNSHINE LADY REPORT:

Please let me know if you are aware of any of our members having surgery, an illness, or just in need of cheer. We all can use some good cheer! We try and keep in touch with all our members, and I apologize if we have overlooked any member who has lost a loved one. Please let us know if we can help in any way. Contact Deana Ashton at 208-794-5628 or any Idaho Gem Club Board Member/officer.



IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO ATTEND ANY GEM CLUB FUNCTIONS BUT ARE UNABLE TO DRIVE, CALL ME! WE WILL DO OUR BEST TO GET YOU THERE!

Deana- 208-794-5628

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

NFMS—Newsletter available at:

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

AFMS—Newsletter available at:

<http://amfed.org/news/default.htm>

December Program:

The programs for December will be our traditional pre-Christmas auctions with proceeds helping to defray the cost of the January club banquet. The December auction is generally dedicated to finished jewelry, crafts and other items that would make good gifts during the holiday season. Please be generous in donating items to be auctioned and come prepared to bid on those must have items for your collection and gift list.

YESTER YEAR**November 1972**

There were numerous rockhound books and maps being put out by clubs that we could send for. The club ordered fifty books from Winne-mucca's Chamber of Commerce, by ordering 50 books they would only cost .50 cents each. There was a motion that a copy of the book by John Beckwith be put in the libraries of all the schools in Boise.

The November's field trip was a success, but there would not be a field trip in December. The annual Banquet and installation of officers was to be at the Downtowner.

The Forest Service gave the program for December. There was to be a restriction of activities on certain area's starting on July 1, 1973 and asked the club to send in their wishes before July'

A Note From Patsy

Sorry my computer is being worked on and it is usable in some areas. I could not do anything with my YESTER YEAR though, and am not sure when I will get the guy back as he works two jobs. Hope all is well=have some stuff for the club and will try to get it back to them. I'll keep on working on YESTER YEAR, but will probably have to give the job of historian over as I just don't know the club members well enough to catch their names. I do Know Marian Phillips is in a nursing home now and has a broken leg. Also Al Let me know I didn't spell his name right. I spelled it right once and once it was wrong. Hilda is at her daughters and in a wheel chair, so Al is up in their canyon home alone.

Hope you guys are doing okay-we know that this is not a good year right now I would love to get out in the desert once more just to smell the smells and maybe find a 3 caret diamond, just not sure may have to settle for a throwing rock.

*In Loving Memory
of Days Gone By
Patsy Bethel—Historian*

Hermiston hotel/motel information**Best Western Hermiston Inn**

[\(541\) 564-0202](tel:5415640202) or email
www.bestwestern.com

Motel 6

[\(541\) 567-7777](tel:5415677777) or www.motel6.com

Oak Tree Inn

[\(541\) 567-2330](tel:5415672330) or www.oaktreeinn.net/hotels/hermiston.htm

Oxford Suites

[\(541\) 564-8000](tel:5415648000) or
www.oxfordsuiteshermiston.com

River Lodge & Grill

[\(541\) 481-6800](tel:5414816800) or
www.riverlodgeandgrill.com

Tillicum Inn

[\(541\) 922-3236](tel:5419223236)

The Way Inn Motel

[\(541\) 567-5561](tel:5415675561) or http://www.hotelsone.com/hermiston-hotels-us/rodeway-inn-suites.html?as=g&aid=8659331918&dsti=347572&dstt=8&label=ggehoeu-bh347572&akw=way%20inn%20hermiston&asrc=Search&ast=&gclid=CK22sJrUpLsCFYt_Qgod2VQAXQ

Wildhorse Resort & Casino

[\(541\) 278-2274](tel:5412782274) or www.wildhorseresort.com

Federation & Other Club News
More Dates to Remember

Kitsap Mineral & Gem Society. November 23-24 from 10-5pm. Free admission. At the Presidents Hall on the Kitsap County Fairgrounds, Bremerton, WA. Email www.kmgs.org.

Inter-Regional Fieldtrip in Terry, MT. July 31, August 1-3, 2014. Email dtruefossils12@yahoo.com2014

NFMS Rock & Gem Show & Convention. Hermiston Conference Center. August 15-16 from 10-6pm, and August 17 from 10-4pm.

EARTH SCIENCE AND LAPIDARY SPECIAL INTEREST PLATE:

Another new and exciting development and hope for saving our license plate from extinction, was joining forces with the Idaho Science Teachers Association President. We are composing a letter directly to teachers in Idaho, and he promises to get in in their email boxes directly. He really values the concept and with over 4,000 science teachers statewide, we may just get lucky and sell the 1,000 plate minimum soon! I also plan on attending a Science Teacher Conference in Pocatello in the fall to speak and show the plate design and promote our program.

We are working on a promotional sticker for the back windows of cars sharing information about the plate. Hopefully we can make sure the text on sticker is large enough we don't end up with hazardous rear end crashes from motorists trying to read them! Pretty creative ideas...we have to try it all! Ask me for the business cards to pass out for anyone you know. We have plenty!

Thank you for supporting the Earth Science special interest plate!



Idaho Gem Club Banquet 2014:

Tuesday January 21, 2014

Red Lion Boise Downtowner, 1800 Fairview, Boise

6:30 pm no host cocktail reception

7:00 pm dinner served

Club members: \$12.00

Non-members: \$24.00

Choice of one of the following entrées:

• Roasted Prime Rib

Roasted with rosemary & cracked pepper, served with creamed horseradish, au jus and an Idaho baked potato

• Char-Grilled Northwest Salmon— Smoky char-grilled and basted with garlic pinot grigio butter

• Chicken Breast Cordon Blue— Breast of chicken surrounding smoked ham and aged Swiss cheese, topped with moray crème sauce

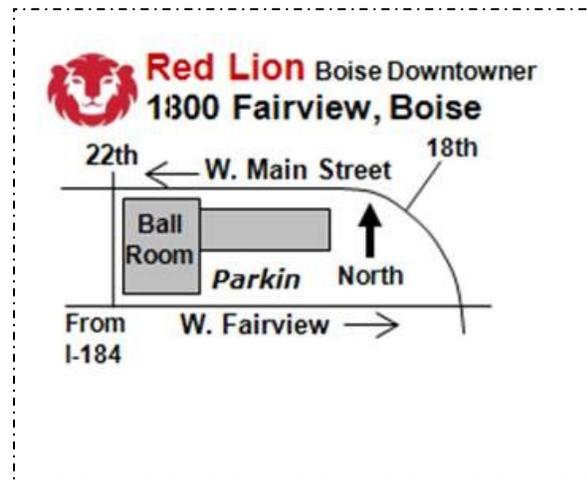
• Herb Roasted Pork Loin— Served over mashed potatoes and topped with forest mushroom crème sauce (no garlic present)

• Vegetarian Entrée

All the above entrées include pasta, vegetables, rolls and butter, house salad, coffee or cold/hot tea.

Dessert: Apple Pie or Chocolate Layer Cake (must choose at the time of the ticket purchase)

After the December club meeting (12/17/13), tickets will ONLY be available for purchase at Stewart's Gem Shop, 2618 West Idaho Street, Boise (Phone 208-342-1151). To guarantee the choice of an entrée, tickets must be purchased by end of day January 14, 2014.



Blood found in 46-million-year-old mosquito

The Sidney Morning Herald — October 15, 2013
By Nicky Phillips

<http://www.smh.com.au/technology/sci-tech/blood-found-in-46millionyearold-mosquito-20131015-2vjed.html>

Culiseta species (USNM 559050) (Diptera: Culicidae), a blood-engorged female from the Middle Eocene Kishenehn Formation of northwestern Montana. Note the distended and opaque dark-colored abdomen (compare to the male USNM 559051 in SI Text). From Hemoglobin-derived porphyrins preserved in a Middle Eocene blood-engorged mosquito



by Dale E.

Greenwalt, Yulia Gorevab, Sandra M. Siljestr^{mb,c,d}, Tim Roseb, and Ralph E. Harbache

Improbable event: The fossilized mosquito was found in a US lakebed.

Latest science news

Mozzies have been annoying humans for centuries, but they've been sucking blood from other creatures for far longer, close to 50 million years, say scientists, who have ancient blood to prove it. Researchers have found components of red blood cells in a 46-million-year-old fossilized mosquito.

While the discovery sounds like the plot of the popular sci-fi novel *Jurassic Park* – where scientists use DNA extracted from an amber-encased mosquito to revive dinosaurs – the female specimen represents the world's first fossil of a blood-engorged mosquito.

As research has shown DNA cannot survive more than 6.8 million years, no genetic material was recovered. The insect, with its visibly extended abdomen,

was found trapped in oil shale, a sedimentary rock from an ancient lakebed in north-western Montana. Advertisement

Researchers, led by Dale Greenwalt from the National Museum of Natural History, said the specimen was unique; its preservation an extremely improbable event. "The insect had to take a blood meal, be blown to the water's surface, and sink to the bottom of a pond or similar structure to be quickly embedded in fine anaerobic sediment, all without disruption of its fragile distended blood-filled abdomen," the researchers said in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences.

Using non-destruction technologies, the team screened the fossil for a range of compounds, including two components of heme, the protein that transports oxygen in red blood cells.

The detection of these components, iron and porphyrin molecules, in the abdomen of the female – only females suck blood – confirmed the iron was from the insect's last meal and not part of the fossilization process.

The female specimen was one of 36 mosquitoes recovered from the Kishenehn Formation, part of which formed around 46 million years ago during a time known as the middle eocene.

The fossils are unique because they were preserved in shale rather than amber, the material in which most fossil insects have been found, said the re-

Another article:

DNA has a 521-year half-life

Genetic material can't be recovered from dinosaurs – but it lasts longer than thought.

<http://www.nature.com/news/dna-has-a-521-year-half-life-1.11555>

December Workshop

Just a reminder in this month's newsletter, that we will be having our Annual Christmas Workshop on December 21st and 22nd this year. The shop will be open at 10 am and run until 5 pm. All club members and guests are welcome to attend. The club will furnish the chili and soup if you could bring a favorite snack or dish to share that would be great.

There will be wire wrapping and cab making to be had by all. I will need folks to help with those who don't know how to make a cab so come prepared to share a little knowledge with our newer members and help me with over seeing your machines. I really enjoy December's workshop as it is a time to share and get to know more of you in our club. I hope you will all come and share in this activity so you get a chance to know your fellow rock hounds.

The address is 12843
S. Five Mile Rd, Kuna ID and the phone number is 362-3941. See you there.

Willa Renken
Workshop Chairman

For a map to the Workshop see
<http://www.idahogemclub.com/pages/grindings.html>— August on page 11.

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!

DO YOU REALIZE THAT OUR SHOW IS ONLY 3 MONTHS AWAY?

It's not too early to be making items for our show -
Wheel of Fortune
Silent Auction
Grab Bags
Garnet Dig
Door Prizes

Idaho Gem Club Show
February 22nd & 23rd, 2014

Expo Idaho (Western Idaho Fairgrounds)
5610 Glenwood,
Boise, Idaho
Chinden & Glenwood

Things you should be thinking about:
Finish polishing as much tumbled rock as you can;
Collect your specimens to donate for the Silent Auction;
Make cute items for the Wheel of Fortune (we need lots of them);



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:

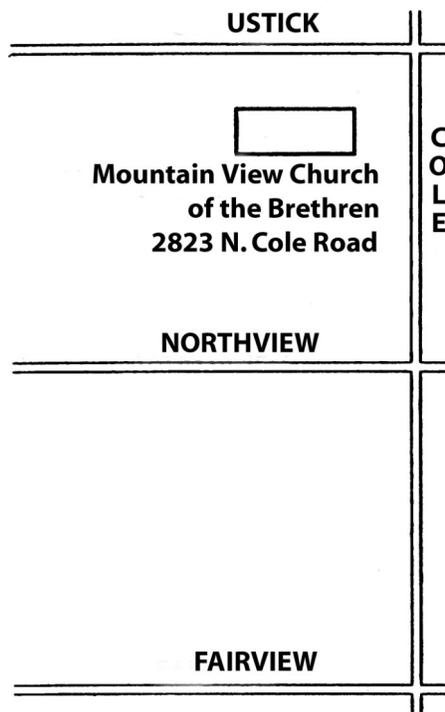
- \$17.00 per person
- \$20.00 per couple
- \$23.00 per family

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



Rocky Rattlers

Juniors need to bring their folders to the meeting this month