


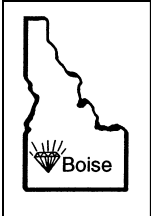
Grindings

Idaho Gem Club, Inc.

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

VOL 74 NO 4

April 2014



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Phil Neuhoff
President
939-4508

Willa Renken
1st Vice President
362-3941

2nd Vice President
Deana Ashton
794-5628

Brent Stewart
863-9336
Ed Moser
340-8060

Melodee Worley
890-6834

Phillip Worley
891-3990

Barb Carey
906-5968

Dana Robinson
343-0487



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

It's hard to believe that Spring Break is over and temperatures are starting to rise. Soon we will be able to get to all of our favorite collecting spots. As we are still getting some much needed precipitation to hopefully carry us through the year, please be careful and stay off of wet or muddy non-paved roads. We all pay for the damage and rutting that this causes. Also, please be safe: Spring brings out ticks, snakes, and rushing water that can dampen the fun. Most of all however---HAVE FUN.

I would like to recognize our Field Trip Chairmen, Aaron Wanner and Brent Stewart, who have taken it upon themselves to increase the number of field trips the club is sponsoring. There will be two field trips this month (April 5 at Haystack Butte and April 19 at the Red Egg Claim; see details elsewhere in the grindings). The plan is to try to have two every month, which along with trips sponsored by clubs in surrounding areas, should provide something to interest everyone.

I hope everyone can join us for the meeting this month. The recipient of the 2013 Idaho Gem Club Scholarship, Hester Mallonee from Boise State University, will be on hand to receive the scholarship and give a presentation.

Phil Neuhoff
President



MINUTES OF THE IDAHO GEM CLUB GENERAL MEETING March 18, 2014

President Phil Neuhoff called our meeting to order at 7:35pm.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Jaden Wanner.

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

Secretaries report--At this time, I'd like to ask that we have a moment of silence, for the passing of Mary Ridley earlier this month.

I've received the normal bills, bank statements, dues, and deposits.

Please be aware unless you are a paid member and on the roster, you won't receive newsletters by mail or e-mail from the editor. I've made copies of camping and motel/hotel information for the 2014 NFMS Rock & Gem Show & Convention, in Hermiston, OR. As well as information for the Inter-Regional Field trip, in Terry, MT. and the Yakima Rock & Mineral Club event.

Tonight, I also oversaw giving away club cookbooks. I'll be trying to do this as I receive more cookbooks.

There were lots of new faces present this meeting. Either visiting or new members. Thanks for joining us!!

Junior doorprizes were drawn for 4 lucky winners. Adult doorprizes were drawn for 8 lucky winners.

Building fund had 6 winners drawn.

Treasurer's report-- Barb spoke of balances and disbursements. A reminder any member wanting to view the treasurers report, can ask Barb.

Federation report-- Charles spoke of camping info, in regards to the 2014 NFMS Hermiston event.

Library report-- I've received a new Rock & Gem magazine. The library will be open at our break.

Our program tonight was given by Bill Carey. He spoke of "Gold Prospecting" and the story of where gold was first found in the Grimes Creek area. He has a sign up sheet for members interested in doing some prospecting, for a future field trip.

Juniors report-- Ed out 5 Discovery Center passes. From our "Silent Auction" table, at the show. Rocks that are florescent were given to the juniors for study tonight. Thanks Cheryl for the specimens.

Field trip report-- Brent mentioned a few of our guests were from the ID Gold Prospectors Club. He's hoping to

have 2 field trips a month. Trips for in and out of state. Graveyard Point is the first trip and Haystack Butte the second. He'll get details to Tony Griffin of times and the meeting place.

Old business-- Barb has written receipts and membership cards. If not picked up, they will be mailed. Name tags can be made by Becky and Rick, at our "Greeting" table.

New business-- A big "Thank You" to Bill Carey for the program tonight and Barb for her organizing.

Janet French wanted to "Thank" all that helped at our show, at the admission tables.

Another show is coming up for Puyallup Valley Gem & Mineral Club. From June 6, 7, and 8th. The hours from 10am to 5pm, each day. I'll have flyers available, including directions.

The meeting adjourned at 9:15pm.

MINUTES OF THE IDAHO GEM CLUB Board Meeting April 1, 2014

President Phil Neuhoff, called the meeting to order at 7:30pm.

Present were Willa Renken, Barb Wanner, Dana Robinson, Brent Stewart, Phil Worley, Melodee Worley, Charles McCreath, and Ed Moser. Deana Ashton arrived later in the meeting.

Guests present were Shirley McCreath and Doug Renken.

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

Secretary report-- I don't have anything to report. I just ask that information about upcoming field trips or shows be added to the newsletter.

Treasurers report-- Barb spoke of balances and disbursements.

Federation report-- see page 3 REGULATION NATION – Our Public Lands— So be sure to check your information before you head out!

(Board Meeting continued on page 3)

(Board Meeting continued from page 2)
Our Scholarship winner, Ms. Hester Mallonee will be providing our program for this months general meeting.

Juniors report-- "BRING YOUR FOLDERS". Ed mentioned a concern about our juniors in attendance dwindling. We're going to look into providing Brent Stewart flyers for his school visits. Juniors will be receiving polished rocks at this meeting.

License plate report-- Phil Neuhoﬀ has been recently contacted by a local paper out of Moscow, ID; they are writing an article about our plates. Brent Stewart has been traveling to local schools and speaking about our club and showing specimens. Deana has been working with several persons from the DMV about our plates. Sales are still going well.

Workshop report-- no workshop at this time.

New business-- Phil Neuhoﬀ will be trying to find a replacement for board member, Barb Carey. She's had to resign due to working out of town for the next 6 months. He'll keep us advised.

Membership applications-- 13 new applications. Single persons and families. A motion to accept these applications was by Brent Stewart and seconded by Dana Robinson. The meeting was adjourned at 8:37pm.

*Respectfully submitted,
Melodee Worley - Secretary*

Page 3 PAGE 13

COMMITTEE REPORTS REGULATION NATION – Our Public Lands

By Andy Johnson

In his book, "Public Lands – Public Debates" (OSU Press/2012), Author Char Miller points to a November 2006 memorandum of understanding that the BLM and the Forest Service signed in partnership with the US Fish & Wildlife Service and the National Parks Service. This pact committed the four agencies "to carry out shared joint management activities to achieve mutually beneficial resource management goals".

This is now all playing out and unfolding as the Federal land management agencies promote the implementation of their Travel Management Plans (FS), Resource Management Plans (BLM), and the Endangered Species Act (USFWS) throughout the country. These agencies have lost their capacity to listen to the American people and

address their varied concerns regarding the nature of public lands management.

As I have written before, it has become increasingly clear to me that the underlying intent and mission of our federal land management agencies is to restrict and limit the recreating public's ability to use and enjoy the public lands in a multitude of ways. As we begin this new year, let me say again that the future of our Public Lands and the access and use we enjoy on them are more threatened and in danger than at any time in the past.

No relief is in sight from the onslaught of regulations which are being proposed to guide and govern our Public Lands over the next 15-20 years. With a congress that is stagnated and fiscally corrupted one can only hope that common sense, honesty and integrity will someday return to the American scene. However, until that happens, which is unlikely, rock hounds, recreationalists and the public in general will continue to get the short end of the stick.

On a more positive note, the Bureau of Land Management in conjunction with other agencies within the Department of the Interior will waive recreation related fees for visitors to the National System of Public Lands for Martin Luther King, Jr. Day (Jan 20), Presidents Day weekend (Feb 15- 17), National Public Lands Day (Set 27), and Veterans Day (Nov 11) in 2014.

BLM Deputy Director Linda Lance said, "I'm pleased to announce the fee-free days for 2014 and I invite people to take full advantage of these opportunities to explore and enjoy their public lands. BLM-managed lands offer more diverse recreational opportunities than any other federal agency."

More details about fee-free days and activities on BLM-managed public lands are available at: http://www.blm.gov/wo/st/en/prog/Recreation/BLM_Fee_Free_Days.html

New "Grindings" Editor needed

Responsibilities include putting together our newsletter, finding a printer to publish the "Grindings", maintaining an email list of everyone in the club for quick communication, a birthday list to celebrate birthdays, and a USPS mailing list for those that want the "Grindings" by Postal Service.

Please contact a member of the
Idaho Gem Club Board of Directors
to volunteer or for more information

Bench Tips

Foredom Maintenance

If you have a Foredom flexshaft, it makes sense to check it over every so often to be sure it's running properly. But how to do that? You've probably lost the little booklet that came with the unit. Well, being the good company it is, Foredom has put together an extensive set of videos on how to do almost anything.

The series covers set-up, lubrication, replacing a sheath, motor maintenance, and handpiece maintenance. Few if any special tools are needed. You can watch the videos

at www.foredom.net/videolibrary.aspx particularly under "Foredom

Basics" or the "Foredom Shafting..." categories. Any repair parts needed are available on the Foredom site or from most jewelry supply catalogs.

Bezel Setting a Transparent Cabochon

When bezel setting a transparent cabochon in silver, I usually cut out the back of the bezel to allow background light to show off the colors and patterns in the stone. If this is not possible or appropriate, I worry that the silver bezel will tarnish under the stone and will ruin its brilliance. What to do?

My solution is one extra step before setting the stone. I place a piece of thin silver Mylar plastic under the stone to act as a mirror that will never tarnish. Mylar is readily available in craft and gift wrap stores, or in a pinch from a party balloon supplier. You may even want to experiment with using colored or patterned Mylar (i.e. diffraction pattern) under some stones.

CLEANING SOLDER OUT OF A BEZEL

Sometimes when you solder a bezel to a base plate you end up with excess solder that needs to be removed before setting the stone. My

choice of tool for this is called an "Inverse

Cone" bur used in a rotary tool or flexshaft. It cuts on both the bottom and the side and is shaped so that there's less chance of cutting into the bezel wall than if



you used the more common cylinder bur shape. I find the 2 mm size useful for almost any bezel.

Storing Wire Sheets

The more you work with jewelry, the more problems you have finding the piece of metal you need. My pieces of sheet were generally stored in various plastic bags, and the wire was in separate coils. Few were marked, so it often took me a while to locate that piece of 26ga fine sheet I bought last year, especially since I usually take my supplies back and forth to classes.

A tip from a friend helped me organize everything. I bought an expanding file folder from the office supplies store (the kind that has 13 slots and a folding cover) and marked the tabs for each gauge of metal I use. Then I marked all my pieces of sheet with their gauge, put them in plastic bags, marked the gauge on the bag, and popped them into the folder. I usually store coils of wire loose in the folder, but they can also be bagged if you prefer. I use one tab for bezel wire and one for the odd, miscellaneous items.

The resulting folder is really convenient when I want to take my metal out to a class or workshop, and it's colorful enough for me to easily find in the clutter of the shop !

MAGNETIC TOOL BAR

An easy way to keep all your files organized at the bench is to use a magnetic tool strip.

They're not expensive and help keep a lot of small tools from cluttering the bench top. I got a couple of them from Harbor Freight for about \$5 each. See



<http://www.harborfreight.com> and search on-"magnetic-holder"

My only regret was putting some of my small drills on the magnets. The drills got a little magnetized and now stick together when I carry them in a bottle in my tool box.

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

2014 IGC Field Trip list

19 April Bruneau woodpile
 3 May Queen Stone – Whangdoodle
 24 May Grassy Mountain area
 7-8 June Beacon Hill
 21 June Emerald Creek Star Garnets
 5 July Dismal Swamp
 19 July Montana Sapphires
 2 August McBride creek
 23 August Sun Stone
 6 September Virgin Valley
 20 September Big Egg
 11 October-----TBA

Bruneau Woodpile

When: April 19TH 2014 Rain or shine.

What: We'll be collecting petrified wood

Where:

8:00 am Meeting @ D & B Supply 555 Airbase Rd, Mountain Home, ID 83647

8:30 am Travel to Bruneau woodpile. High clearance vehicle needed for rocky terrain or ride with others from the club. Location to the site is tricky, so the best way is to follow your way with the others.

Equipment needed:

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

Other equipment you may need: Sledge hammer, rock bar, pry bar, and a spray bottle with water.

If you would like more information on up coming trips please come to our Idaho Gem Club meeting on April 15th, 7:30 p.m. at the Mountain View Church of the Brethren 2833 N. Cole Rd.

Call our Field Trip Chairmen

Aaron Wanner @ 208-794-9474 cell or

Email: aaronwanner@gmail.com

Brent Stewart @208-863-9336 cell

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>

Joe Nielsen

Rockhounds Rock & Slab Sale

Approximately 1000 slabs

New material—rough rock—lots of good stuff

Top varieties will be available

Stones, garnets, sapphires, blue opal

Date of sale: weekend of May 23rd, 24th, & 25th

For more information call Joe Nielsen at
 869-6325

Federation & Other Club News

More Dates to Remember

Multi—Club Field Trip planned for April 25,26,27 2014.
 Plan on collecting invertebrate fossils, jasper, and agate.

Mike Shaw from the Spokane club is our host and has invited anyone that would like to come along. We will camp at Succor Creek Campground and plan day trips from this base camp; possible trips will include Graveyard Point, Succor Creek, and Grassy Mountain (near Adrian, Or.) Field trips will be led by Tony Funk from Gooding, Idaho and Tony Griffin from Nampa, Idaho. High clearance vehicles are a must for these trips! Bring your own food and gear!

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.

Unique Field Trip

Al Larson has made available his rocks collected over a number of years to the newer members of the Idaho Gem Club. This is an opportunity to see and collect many varieties that are no longer available.

Chris Blickfeldt has made available his property to host this field trip. Chris lives at 236 Tollgate Rd., Boise, Idaho 83716

Directions to Chris's place are: take Highway 21, east of Boise, towards Idaho City; at Milepost 22 go left on Robie Creek, go 6 1/2 miles and turn left uphill on Tollgate. At 1 1/2 mi. yellow cement mixer on left, on right a bus stop sign on Big Bear go straight there. At no smoking sign turn right and you are there.

Date is May 31st between 11 A.M and 2 P.M.

For more info you can email Chris at: grumpies@q.com

Idaho Gem Club

General Meeting Program Schedule

April - CAVING! by Hester Mallonee 2013 IGC Scholarship Winner

May- ROCKHOUNDING 101 - Making the most of your field trip experience - tools/ techniques by Field trip Committee.

Refreshment Committee:

Provides refreshments and door prizes for Idaho Gem Club members.

Arrive at General Meeting early to set up chairs and tables. Meeting at 7:30pm.

Please provide at least 8 dozen cookies, and/or alternate snacks for the break.

Punch, tea, juice, and coffee are served.

Door prizes for adults and juniors, wrapped please! About 15 prizes adult, 15 children.

After meeting concludes, please put up chairs and tables, take trash out to dumpster, and turn off lights and leave kitchen as clean as you found it!

Thank you for participating and sharing your kindness with the members!

Chairperson is responsible to round up a few folks to help them out!

Here is the 2014 Refreshment Committee Schedule:

April - Becky Gibson & Rick Corbett

May - Larry and Carol Lugar

June - Diane Perkins & Cheryl Peterson

****July and August meetings are held in the park. Come early to put paper on tables.**

July - Jan Johnson

August - Dan and Marge Conley

September - Sandy Blodgett

October - Ron & Jean Dingley

November - open? please volunteer!

December - Cookie Exchange for all members wishing to bring 1 dozen cookies and 3 door prizes!

Thank you for helping keep our refreshment tradition fresh and tasty!!

Welcome New Members

John & Teresa Benedict
9913 W. Java Court
Boise, Idaho 83704-6775
340-9371

Blaine Dahlstrom
11300 Sweet Ola Highway
Sweet, Idaho, 83670-5071
584-3610

Nate & Joanie Demer
Landon & Cameron
1383 S. Hidden Island Pl.
Eagle, Idaho 83616-5335
867-8931

Steve Fogdall
PO Box 44319
Boise, Idaho 83711-0319
407-1707

Diane Freitas
917 N 7th St. #4
Boise, Idaho 83702-4356
336-9330

Emily Goodstein
1508 S. Riverstone Ln. #202
Boise, Idaho 83706-4079
253-225-1285

Paul & Sandra Jewell
9622 W. Sagebrush St.
Boise, Idaho 83709-7068
907-715-8859 or 907-715-1500

Edward & Victoria Kerpa
Serra & Dane
4474 S. Carie Way
Boise, Idaho 83709-5893
899-3267

Kaj & Brenda Kolding
Gannon
PO Box 44319
Boise, Idaho 83711-0319

Jim & Jan Martinek
6159 N. Bandon Place
Garden City, Idaho 83714-4057
513-515-3182

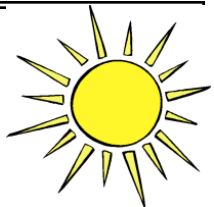
Cory & Rachelle Petross
Cameron & Ryan
10792 W. Treeline Ct.
Boise, Idaho 83713-1860
440-2725

Norma Russell
1181 W. Darrah Dr.
Meridian, Idaho 83646-3122
350-8033

John & Melanie Wold
Kyle, Sydney, & Ryan
4503 W. Longmeadow
Boise, Idaho 83714-5047

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

HAPPY



BIRTHDAY

APRIL	5/5	Victoria Johnson
4/2	5/6	Richard Clark
4/3	5/10	Ronel Selbach
4/10	5/14	Artie Hutson
4/13	5/14	D.J. Johnson
4/13	5/14	Carl Woodland
4/13	5/15	Dick Corbett
4/13	5/16	Mike Witschen
4/17	5/18	Mary Ellen Biebel
4/19	5/19	Twila Gallaher
4/22	5/22	Janice Egner
4/27	5/22	Duane Mayer
4/28	5/25	Mike Egner
4/28	5/26	Chuck Fawcett
4/29	5/26	Wilma Redman

April Birthstones
 Faceted — Diamond
 Cabochon — Rock
 Crystal

May Birthstones
 Faceted — Emerald
 Cabochon —
 Chrysoprase

MAY
5/5 Deb Butte

Dates To Remember

GENERAL MEETING
3rd. Tuesday of every month
April 15 2014

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

BOARD MEETING:
1st. Tuesday of every month
May 5, 2014

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

April 2014

Chair: Becky Gibson & Rick Corbett
383-9930

Need Volunteers to help

REFRESHMENT COMMITTEE GUIDELINES

Need approximately 8 dozen cookies.

Wrapped door prizes are also needed.

Arrive early enough to set up the chairs. The chairperson brings the coffee urn, coffee, punch, tea, cream, sugar, cups and napkins.

Afterward, put meeting tables & chairs away, clean kitchen and sweep the room. Gather and take all the trash with you. Don't forget it is the responsibility of the chair for the coming month to pick up the coffeepot, take it home and bring it the next meeting

May 2014

Chair: Larry and Carol Lugar
362-1277

Need Volunteers to help

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!**

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



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:

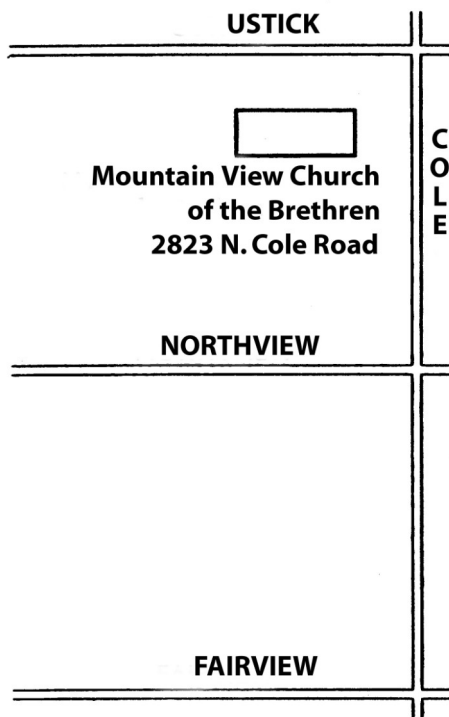
.....\$17.00 per person
\$20.00 per couple
\$23.00 per family

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