


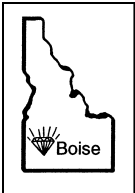
Grindings

Idaho Gem Club, Inc.

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

VOL 75 NO 2

February 2015



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President's Message

I was great to see everyone at the clubs banquet and annual meeting last month. I would like to extend sincere thanks to everyone who worked hard to make the banquet a success, especially Charles McCreath and Deana Ashton who put in tons of effort to find a location and make preparations for the event. Gene Stewart did his usual superb job as emcee, Marge Connelly arranged for the table favors, Barb Wanner and Stewarts managed the ticket sales, and David Douglas added fine entertainment on his accordion. I am sure there are others I have missed. It was a great way to start of what promises to be a great year for the club.

Please read the grindings carefully for details about preparations for the show. The clock is ticking as the show comes a bit earlier than usual this year (February 21-22). Unlike the last few years, the show will not be sharing a weekend with the Children's Carnival which has provided additional impulse attendance in years past from families. Please invite those you know to attend. The success of the show relies on lots of effort from club members so please take time to help when you can. The major events are detailed below:

Tuesday, February 17: last regular meeting before the show. Please come to the meeting to learn about final details and sign up for shifts at the show if you haven't already done so. We are blessed to have a lot of new faces in the club, and we will take time to explain some of the events that go on at the show for the benefit of new members. There will also be a discussion of strategies for setting up effective display cases (more on that below). Parking passes will be available at the meeting as well.

Thursday, February 19, 1 PM: loading of materials at Lock Away Storage, 5246 W. Chinden Ave. in Garden City. This usually takes less than two hours if we have a good group of helpers. Be sure to bring gloves as the tables and display cases can have splinters.

Friday, February 20, 8 AM: Show setup at Expo Idaho. With a good group of helpers, most of the show setup can be completed by lunch or shortly thereafter. For those setting up display cases, please make arrangements to come by later in the day to install your case.

Saturday, February 21 10AM-6PM: First day of the show. Please come early (8-10AM) if you have last minute setup to do. Signups for stations at the show will be available at the meeting on the 17th.

Sunday, February 22 10AM-5PM: Second day of the show.

Sunday, February 22 5PM: Tear down of show at Expo Idaho and loading of show materials at Lock Away Storage. After a fun but exhausting weekend at the show, it is always difficult to get volunteers to help with this part. PLEASE HELP WITH TEAR DOWN! With a sufficient group of volunteers, this will go much quicker than in years past. Our job is not done until the last items are safely back at Lock Away Storage.

One further note on volunteers. Many schools and other programs encourage or require school age youth to engage in public service. As a 501c(3) non-profit, hours spent by youth in service of the club count. There are many opportunities for volunteering by youth at the show, and older (stronger) youth are really helpful with the more physical parts like dismantling the show. I will be happy to provide documentation for any youth doing volunteer work for the club at the show.

Aaron Wanner is in charge of display cases this year and would like everyone to consider putting in a case. Further details about case applications can be found elsewhere in the Grindings. Setting up a display case is a great way to show the public what our hobby is about and to share your efforts with fellow club members.

I look forward to seeing all of you this month at the meeting and the show. Collecting season is just around the corner (unless these warm temperatures are just a tease)!

Phil Neuhoﬀ, President

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MINUTES OF THE IDAHO GEM CLUB GENERAL MEETING January 20th, 2015

2015 76th Annual Banquet of the ID Gem Club

Our master of ceremonies Eugene Stewart, welcomed everyone. A special "Thank You" to David Douglass for his music entertainment.

Introduction of the Head table, Phil & Christy Neuhoﬀ, Charles & Shirley McCreath, Eugene & Alice Stewart, Phillip & Melodee Worley, and Sandy & Judy Blodgett.

Our blessing was given by Chris Blickfeld.

Dinner began at 7pm. Table favors were provided by Dan & Marge Conley. Gene had Aaron Wanner, Jr. draw for a special doorprize.

Deanna Ashton spoke about license plate sales. Sales are still happening. Plates are still available until July 2015.

Congratulations to Charles & Shirley McCreath 60 year anniversary, and Roy & Patsy Bethel 69 year anniversary. Also thanks Patsy for being the club historian for many years. We know Marge Conley will do a good job as the new historian.

A special mention about Shirley McCreath, who very seldom misses a board meeting.

Charles McCreath had a quick mention of the NFMS Show in Ogden, Ut. April 10-12th.

There was a brief mention of birthdays.

We had a few guests, if anyone remembers Quincy Howell. His grandson Aaron Howell and his great-grandson Drew Howell were present this evening. Quincy was a member of the ID Gem Club many years ago. Thanks so much for joining us this evening.

There was mention of past presidents; 1971 Patsy Bethel, 1976 Gene Stewart, 1997 Charles McCreath, 1998-99 Chris Blickfeld, 2000-03 Willa Renken, 2004 Ron Ridenour, 2005 Marge Conley, 2006-08 Cathy Parsons, 2009 Tony Griffin (resigned July 09 term finished by Marge Conley), 2010 Jason Madsen, 2011-13 Brent Stewart, and 2014 Phil Neuhoﬀ.

There was a moment of silence for members who have passed this past year Hilda Larson, Frank Markham, Vicki Bickford, and Mary Ridley.

Project of the Year winners were Else Schreiner and our Junior winner Natalie Douglass. Congratulations to you both.

Special mention to Tony Griffin for his hard work as the "Grindings" editor. Thank you to our new editor Linda Barlow.

At this time the "Role Program" per Brent Stewart is wanting to recognize Aaron Wanner with a "Novice" award.

President Phil Neuhoﬀ conducted a brief business meeting.

A motion to accept the minutes as printed in the "Grindings" was by Phil Worley and seconded by Gene Stewart.

Phil Neuhoﬀ reflected on the past year and spoke of future plans for our club. Gene presented Phil with a hammer.

Lifetime members were recognized; Roy & Patsy Bethel, Chris & Peggy Blickfeld, Charles & Shirley McCreath, Charlie & Helen Smith, Marion Phillips, Betty Trebick, Mattie Clay, Al Larson, Gene & Alice Stewart, Marge Conley, Lynne Davis, Mike & Sue Witschen, and Sandy & Judy Blodgett.

There were no new lifetime members at this time.

Installation of officers; President Phil Neuhoﬀ, 1st Vice president Willa Penken, 2nd Vice president Deanna Ashton, Secretary Melodee Worley, Treasurer Barbara Wanner, Federation director Charles McCreath, Librarian Melodee Worley, Historian Marge Conley.

Installation of Board of Directors; Brent Stewart, David Douglass, Willa Renken, Phil Neuhoﬀ, Deanna Ashton, Ed Moser, Dana Robinson, Sandy Blodgett, and Cheryl Peterson.

A big "Thank You" to the Banquet committee; Deanna Ashton, Charles & Shirley McCreath, and Marge & Dan Conley.

There was a mention of the ID Gem Club Show Feb 21-22.

Past presidents gathered for pictures.

President Phil Neuhoﬀ was presented with the club "opal" and the Jade gavel. Our meeting was adjourned.

*Respectfully submitted,
Melodee Worley - Secretary*

**MINUTES OF THE IDAHO GEM CLUB
Board Meeting
February 3rd, 2015**

Our meeting was called to order by 2nd Vice President Deanna A. at 7:30pm.

Present this evening were Barb W., Dana R., Charles M., Ed M., Sandy B., and Melodee W.

Absent were President Phil N., Willa R., Brent S., Cheryl P., and David D. Most were excused due to being out of town.

Guests present this evening were Shirley M., Aaron W., and Doug R.

A motion to accept the minutes as printed in the "Grindings" with a correction, that help is needed for our show set up, not to help Doug Renken as previously printed. Due to not enough board members present, for a quorum, there was no 1st or 2nd on this motion.

Doug R. advised the members present that all advertising for our ID Gem Club Show, extra tables from Tates Rents, insurance information to the Expo Center, and other things have been taken care of.

At this upcoming "General Meeting" we'll be looking for more volunteers for all locations at our show. Sign up sheets will be available. Please sign up, don't wait!!

The Building Fund will have 8 raffle baskets and tix sales will be \$1 or 6 for \$5. Deanna will also have a "sand dig" for building fund activities.

There's still time to get your showcase applications in.

DISPLAY CASE APPLICATION

**Idaho Gem Club Annual Gem & Mineral Show
February 21 & 22 2015**

Display Application

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Address: _____

Club Affiliation: _____

Type of material and/or type or kind of display: _____

Number of cases: _____

Borrow a case _____

Will provide own case _____

Size of your case: _____

Inside Dimensions of club cases are 46.5" wide by 22.5" deep by 22.5" high

(Please note: Loaned cases do not have liners -- you need to bring your own.)

Show dates: Saturday, 21 February and Sunday, 22 February, 2015

Set-up: 3:00 P.M. Friday, 20 February, 2015

A maximum of 150 watts of lighting will be provided per case. Security is provided around the clock.

However, no responsibility will be assumed by the Idaho Gem Club, Inc.

Application deadline is: Tuesday, 17 February 2015

Mail application directly to: Aaron Wanner 208-794-9474

Or

4100 W. Columbia Rd. aaronwanner@gmail.com

Meridian, ID 83642

NOTICE: If you put in a show case please securely affix a padlock or carabineer. If you don't secure your case front and it falls and breaks you will be financially responsible for replacing it and the club Board will be sending you the bill. Thank you the board felt this might help to prevent the continued breakage of glass doors we are experiencing.

Thanks,

The Idaho Gem Club Board of Directors

*Respectfully submitted,
Melodee Worley - Secretary*

Federation report is as follows, per the NFMS newsletter:

DEC/JAN 2015 NORTHWEST NEWSLETTER VOL. 55, NO. 2 PAGE 7 **2015 NFMS SHOW UP-DATES, APRIL 10-12, 2015** **OGDEN-GRAM #2**

By Evan Day

For those who like to make their reservations early; the **Headquarters** for the **NFMS 2015 Show and Annual Meeting** is Ogden's "**Comfort Suites Hotel**". At this "full service" inn, we will not only have exceptionally nice rooms with full breakfasts included; but the committee luncheons and the Awards Banquet are also taken care of by their on-site restaurant. Just off I-15, it is a short drive to the show site, and 21st street is an easy access road to downtown Ogden with all of its attractions. For reduced rates, be sure to mention you are with the "NFMS convention". Call (801) 621-2545 or visit their website at "<http://www.comfortsuites.com/hotel-ogden-utah-UT422>".

On the other side of I-15 is the full hookup **Century Mobile Home and RV Park**. They also will offer a reduced rate if enough folks make reservations. (801-731-3800) or "<http://centuryparkrv.com>") There is free dry camping in a paved parking lot right next to the Show; and the fairgrounds has several "electric only" spots next to the equestrian facilities about a block away.

The **NFMS Annual Meeting** will be at 4:00 on Friday afternoon, about 100 yards from the show building in the Golden Spike Events Center. The **ALAA meeting** will be just before, at 1:00 Friday in the same conference room. We have invited **U.S Representative Rob Bishop**, whose district includes Ogden, to speak to us. Mr. Bishop is the designated Chairman of the House Natural Resources Committee in the incoming 2015 Congress! This is the key body for everything we Rock-hounds are concerned about! Rob's schedule is not yet settled, but we are optimistic we can get him.

The **Awards Banquet** will be in the Baja Room of the Hotel, buffet style so we all get good hot servings. **Bob Jones**, editor of "Rock & Gem Magazine, will probably be our featured speaker at the Dinner. He will confirm this later (after his computer gets fixed. (Even HE isn't immune!)

Elsewhere in this NFMS newsletter, you will find the application forms for exhibiting at the Show.

The same forms serve for both **Competitive and Non-competitive** displays. Just fill in the appropriate parts pertaining to your application. We will have a at least 60 cases, with first priority given to Competitive exhibits; next to Non-competitive exhibits from folks in clubs outside of Ogden, and the rest from around the area. At Hermiston last August, the **Rice Museum** in Portland offered to bring one of their wonderful items, a special treat indeed.

In addition, we will be delighted if folks in the NFMS volunteer to **Demonstrate** their many skills during the Show. Let me know if you can do so, and I will have our Demo chairman call you for details.

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>

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



2015 Gem Show Chairmen

Grab Bags—Barb Wanner 794-9474
 Garnet Table--Dana Robinson 343-0487
 Wheel of Fortune—Melody Worley 890-6834
 Ticket Sales—Janet French
 Hostess Table—Ed Moser 340-8060
 Silent Auction—Cheryl Link 375-5360
 Showcases—Aaron Wanner 794-9474
 Building Fund—David Douglas 559-7216
 Demonstrators—Willa Renken 362-3941

Call the above chairmen and get signed up for a time slot.

It takes us all making a commitment in order for the workload to be shared. Your help is

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



Rocky Rattlers

Welcome New Members

Utah's Dinosaur 'Death Trap' Reveals Trove of Giant Predators - located north of Moab, Utah.

A nine-ton block of sandstone that was pulled from a Utah mountain late last year holds the biggest fossil trove ever found of the giant predatory dinosaur known as *Utahraptor*. Covered in feathers, with a huge sickle claw on each second toe, *Utahraptor* looked like a pumped-up version of the *Jurassic Park* star *Velociraptor*.

Check out the video here: <http://news.nationalgeographic.com/news/2015/01/150106-utahraptor-death-trap-fossil/>

Related: <http://m.deseretnews.com/photo/865581742>



We have a really heavy duty generator available for sale. I thought I would circulate this ad to you hoping if you, or anyone you can refer to me is interested, we could coordinate a sale and delivery for around time for the Idaho Gem Show in Boise Feb. 21,22, 2015.

Please contact seller : Trent at atrentames@aol.com or 208-869-6919 or Deana Ashton gemdigger2014@outlook.com 208-794-5628

Thank you so much!
 Respectfully yours,

Deana Ashton

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!**

Bench Tips

TESTING FOR SILVER

With the price of silver as high as it is, jewelry people need to keep their scrap metals sorted. Part of that process is identifying some of those unknown "silvery" pieces in the bottom of the toolbox.

Silver testing solutions can be used to distinguish high silver content alloys like Fine (.999), Sterling (.925) and Coin (.900) from alloys that have the same appearance but no silver content, like German Silver or Nickel.

I purchased a half-ounce bottle of JSP Silver Testing Solution #GT41 for \$3. With a fresh solution you have an instant reaction after applying it to the metal being tested. Procedure is simple - as you apply a small drop, look for a color change.

Note that the acid will leave a slight mark, so choose a spot that is out of the way or will be easy to polish.

If you suspect the object is silver plated, you should file a little notch somewhere inconspicuous to expose what metal is below the surface. Otherwise, all you test will be the surface plating.

Here's the reaction I get when testing various materials:

Fine silver	Red/Orange
Sterling silver	Brick Red
80% silver 20% copper	Dark red changing to gray
Brass	Yellow changing to blue
Nickel	Gray-green
Copper	Yellow changing to blue
Steel	Black
Stainless Steel	No color change

Caution - If you do any of this testing, know that you are handling a reasonably strong acid. The GT41 label says it includes nitric acid and potassium dichromate.

Wear safety glasses.

Do not get any testing solution on your skin.

Always have a solution of baking soda and water handy to neutralize acid. Wash and clean up well when you're done.

TAPERED REAMERS

A tool you don't see often these days is a tapered reamer. It's not a tool you'll use everyday, but they're particularly useful for making an irregular hole round or for enlarging a hole to an exact diameter. For example, the small set in the yellow pouch is for holes in the range of

0.3mm to 2.5mm. They are great for sizing a tube to fit a hinge pin. Other times when I'm drilling a hole for riveting and can't find the exact size drill, I simply drill the holes with a slightly smaller bit and enlarge them with a reamer until the wire just fits. For larger hole sizes in sheet metal up to 14 ga, I really like the reamer with the black handle. It makes quick work of sizing holes from about 3mm to 12mm. You can find them in well-equipped hardware stores.

You may never use the large diameter reamers, but when sawing out some rings from 4mm thick sheet, I found they worked well for rounding and sizing.



BLM News www.blm.gov

#MyPublicLands

DATE: January 13, 2015

CONTACT: Heather Tiel-Nelson, [208-736-2352](tel:2087362352)

2015 South Hills Seasonal Road Closure About to Begin

BURLEY, ID -- The Burley Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Field Office will implement a seasonal road closure January 16 to March 15 in the South Hills area. This closure, which has gone into effect each winter since 2000, is designed to prevent resource damage and to protect crucial mule deer winter range and sage-grouse habitat. Signs have been posted in the area notifying the public of the closure, and gates have been installed to prevent trespass. The following roads, as well as any two-tracks or trails tied to these roads, will be closed to motorized travel from January 16 to March 15, 2015: Dry Creek, Cherry Spring, Indian Springs (Closure begins 1.5 miles south of Foothills Road) and North Cottonwood Creek.

The seasonal closure applies to all motorized vehicles except those specifically authorized to access the area. Such authorization is provided for search and rescue, emergency medical services and law enforcement personnel, as well as administratively approved actions such as livestock grazing activity, access to private lands and resource monitoring or research studies. The area is open to the public for non-motorized use.

"There is some crucial mule deer winter range in the south hills area," said Jeremy Bisson, BLM wildlife biologist. "Any excessive disturbance is perceived as a threat by the deer causing them to deplete their fat reserves and move away from their important foraging areas. Increased motorized use of public lands in the South Hills could seriously jeopardize the survival and productivity of these animals."

The Magic Valley Regional Office of the Idaho Department of Fish & Game (IDFG) supports the need to protect wildlife in the area. "The habitat is important to maintain mule deer herds overwintering in the south hills, and the area is popular for hunting and wildlife viewing during other periods of the year," said Kelton Hatch, Fish and Game Regional Conservation Educator.

For more information regarding the road closure, please contact Dennis Thompson, BLM Burley Field Office recreation planner, at (208) 677-6600.

HAPPY



BIRTHDAY

FEBRUARY

2/1 Maria Snyder
 2/1 Charles Osgood
 2/5 Skeeter Eversberg
 2/5 John Montgomery
 2/5 Joyce Hackwell
 2/10/39 The Idaho Gem Club
 2/10 Kim Williams
 2/10 Sharon Barnes
 2/10 Hailey Madsen
 2/11 Rick Corbett
 2/11 Jim Storey
 2/11 A. Rene Seeley
 2/12 William E. Crider
 2/13 Terry Potter
 2/16 Kylee Madsen
 2/16 Shawn Blades
 2/17 Kevin Watson
 2/17 Sheryl Crowe
 2/18 Molly Cole
 2/18 Paul Thomas
 2/20 Jackson Neuhoff
 2/20 Sara Cole
 2/22 Aaron Wanner
 2/23 Jim Clinton
 2/25 Deanna Moser
 2/26 Rodney Sharp
 2/28 Veva Jencks
 2/28 Nick Romans

February Birthstones
 Faceted — Amethyst
 Cabochon — Onyx

MARCH

3/2 Lynne Davis
 3/2 Nate Demer
 3/5 Bob Dewey
 3/6 Leon Doar
 3/7 Bob Dodson
 3/10 David Douglass
 3/10 Bryan Ensign
 3/14 Chuck Fawcett
 3/19 Carleigh Femaitis
 3/22 Bruce Fewkes
 3/23 Heide Finnegan
 3/23 Rex Flegel
 3/25 Steve Fogdall
 3/26 Diane Freitas
 3/28 Janet French
 3/28 Twilla Gallaher

March Birthstones
 Faceted — Aquamarine
 Cabochon — Bloodstone



Dates To Remember

GENERAL MEETING

3rd. Tuesday of every month

BOARD MEETING:

1st. Tuesday of every month

2 September 2014

Church of the Brethren

2823 N. Cole Road, Boise, Idaho

Meeting Starts at 7:30 p.m.

AMETHYST magnifies the energy of other crystals. It is good for overall protection, and physical, emotional, and mental balance. It can be used for homesickness. It helps w/ negotiation skills, decision-making, wealth, business success, moving forward in life, coping w/responsibility & change, & public speaking. It is used for purification during ceremonies.

It is good for the health of the immune, circulatory, & sympathetic nervous systems, bones, heart, stomach, skin, teeth, liver, & endocrine glands. Help with drunkenness & addictions, especially alcoholism. Aids detoxing and blood cleansing.

Emotionally it helps with obsessive compulsive disorder (OCD), anger & violent tendencies. It calms passion, nerves, oversensitivity, tension, emotional energy, & grief. It enhances the aura, self-esteem, meditation, spirit contact, and spirituality.

ONYX is good for decision-making. It brings luck & happiness in the home. Physically it is good for bone marrow & feet. Emotionally it helps grief & lack of self control. It helps you take charge of situations. It helps balance yin/yang, connect you to God, & connects you to your roots. It assists in absorbing universal energies needed for healing. It facilitates being master of one's destiny. It is used to heal old grief & sorrows.



Idaho Gem Club, Inc.

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

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:

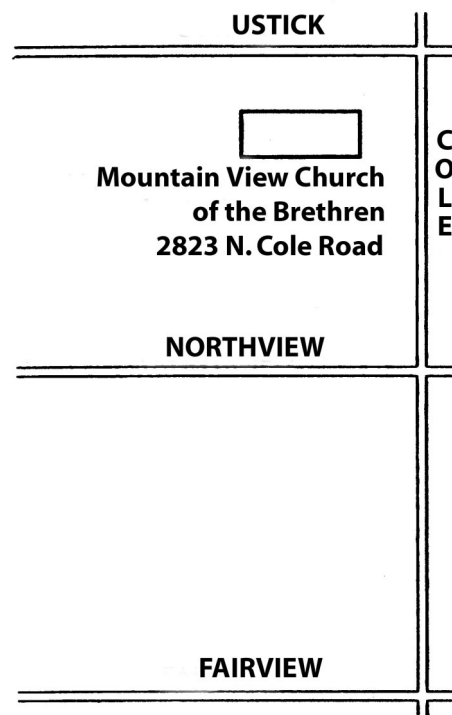
..... \$22.00 per person
..... \$25.00 per couple
..... \$28.00 per family

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)

