


# Grindings

## Idaho Gem Club, Inc.

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

VOL 75 NO 11

November 2015

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**President: Phil Neuhoﬀ**  
939-4508

[pneuhoﬀ@yahoo.com](mailto:pneuhoﬀ@yahoo.com)

**1st Vice President**

**Willa Renken**  
362-3941

[wlr\\_dkr@msn.com](mailto:wlr_dkr@msn.com)

**2nd Vice President**

**Deana Ashton**  
794-5628

[shesteched@msn.com](mailto:shesteched@msn.com)

**Secretary: Melodee Worley**

890-6834

[melphilw@hotmail.com](mailto:melphilw@hotmail.com)

**Treasurer: Barbara Wanner**

794-7968

**NFMS Director:**

**Charles McCreath**  
344-5085

**Board Members:**

**David Douglas**  
208-559-7216

[douglas.dm@gmail.com](mailto:douglas.dm@gmail.com)

**Sandy Blodgett**  
208-859-4080

**Cheryl Peterson**  
208-887-5363

[cpete4421@gmail.com](mailto:cpete4421@gmail.com)

**Dana Robinson**  
345-3823

[drobinso@boisestate.edu](mailto:drobinso@boisestate.edu)

**Brent Stewart**  
863-9336

[gene@stewartsgemshopinc.com](mailto:gene@stewartsgemshopinc.com)

**Ed Moser**  
340-8060

[ed.moser15@gmail.com](mailto:ed.moser15@gmail.com)

**Editor: Linda Barlow**

724-3309

[barlow596@gmail.com](mailto:barlow596@gmail.com)

**Club Website**

[www.idahogemclub.com](http://www.idahogemclub.com)

## President's Message

First off, I would like to thank those club members who stepped up and helped out at the booths at the Idaho Gourd Festival and Gem Faire. Deana Ashton did a great job organizing our presence at these events, and she had considerable help from several club members who I won't list for fear of missing people. Events like these are a great way for the club to network with the community, recruit new members, and share our interests. We have a lot happening at the meetings in November and December and I hope you all can be there. Elections for three seats on the Board of Directors will be held in November. The Nomination Committee will present a slate of candidates, but other club members interested in serving the club are welcome to run as well. In December, we will have voting on Project of the Year. There is still time to put the finishing touches on your masterpieces and bring them to the December meeting for consideration. After both the November and December meetings there will be auctions that are used to offset the costs of the club banquet in January. Typically the November auction includes more rough lapidary materials and samples, while the December auction includes finished pieces of jewelry and other crafts (though not exclusively). Please be generous in donating items for the auctions and in bidding on the treasures that will be on the block. Also, for those of you who didn't pay your dues last month, please do so soon. Plans are underway for renovation of the new space for the club workshop as we discussed at the meeting last month. We are hopeful that the club's equipment will be available either in the new space or at another venue for the traditional December weekend workshop.

It appears that several club offices will need to be filled by the next president. These include the Federation Director and alternate. For many years, Charles McCreath and his wife Shirley have served the club with distinction and dedication as our representatives with the Northwest Federation. I would like to personally thank them and the other club officers for their service. As the next president seeks to fill these and other offices, please consider these opportunities to serve the club. Finally, elsewhere in the Grindings I have posted a proposed change to the club By-laws that the board will vote on in January. Please take the time to read this item and direct any comments or questions to myself or another board member.

*Phil Neuhoﬀ, President*

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

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

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Charles Osgood.

We had several **new members** and guests present for this evening.

Junior and adult door prizes were drawn for 14 lucky winners.

Building fund had 2 winners.

A motion to accept the minutes as printed in the "Grindings" was by Jean Gonzales and seconded by Deana A.

**Secretary report:** I gave a reminder of the "Gem Faire Show", Halloween weekend, at Expo Idaho. As I've mentioned in the previous "Grindings" I have information about the next NFMS Show in Albany, OR. I have lodging, meals, field trips, and local attractions for this Historic City.

**Juniors** will be studying bones and copralite (dino poop). Janelle W. wanted folks to know the Mining Museum is working on their field trips and looking for leaders for these trips. Anyone knowledgeable can contact the Museum.

Our **program** this evening is "Show and Tell" from anyone wanting to share a recent find from any of our field trips or personal trips they may have ventured on.

**Old business** was a discussion about the new Workshop location. A change in the location is in the works, in Brett S. garage, which will be a larger area, for our club equipment and for how to classes. A motion to accept the new workshop space was by Deana A. and seconded by Carl W.

### Member dues are due.

At the November General Meeting, will be elections for open Board Positions. The nominees will be presented by Dana R. and Sandy B. Anyone in the club interested in submitting their Bio for consideration is welcome to do so.

**New business** the Gourd Society and Gem Faire have invited the ID Gem Club to join them. Providing us with tables to promote our club and what we do. Sign up sheets are available for persons wanting to help out.

**Project of the Year** entries are due at our December meeting, for Adults and Juniors. (12-15)

Our meeting adjourned at 9pm.

## MINUTES OF THE IDAHO GEM CLUB Board Meeting November 3rd, 2015

Our meeting was called to order at 7:30pm.

A motion to accept the minutes as printed in the "Grindings" was by Willa R. and seconded by Dana R.

**Present** this evening were Cheryl P., Phil N., Willa R., David D., Melodee W., Deana A., Dana R., Sandy B., and Ed M. **Guests:** Doug R. Barb W. and Brett S. were **excused** this evening.

**Secretary report** I had nothing new at this time.

The **Treasurers report** was sent to Phil N. to go over balances and disbursements.

**Federation report** there was nothing new to discuss.

Charles M. wasn't present.

**Juniors report**, "BRING YOUR FOLDERS". Ed M. will be talking about numerous rock specimens.

**Workshop** information, Brett S. has mentioned that in a few weeks some work will be taking place. More news to follow in the future.

**Old business:** Election of Board Members, the Elections Committee will be presenting their candidates. Bios will be submitted to the Editor to view in the upcoming "Grindings". Our **Banquet** location has been confirmed, it will be at the Red Lion Downtowner. Same location and menu. Tickets will go on sale soon. As well as pricing for members and non-members, so to be able to take advantage of pricing you must be a paid member. Marge and Dan C. have secured table favors. Dana R. will be getting nut/mint cups. Mr. Eugene Stewart has agreed to MC the Banquet this year.

We're still on the hunt for new storage containers for our new table coverings. A good size would be 58 quart size.

**New business:** Deana A. would like to look into pricing for several display boards (4). Dana R. will be looking into pricing. Deana would also like to get different specimens, to show interested persons what we find in the field.

Willa R. is wanting to submit persons for **Lifetime Membership**. 3 possible couples. Through further discussion the Board has decided to amend the bylaw. A motion to amend the bylaws to recommend lifetime membership from 25 to 20 years to be determined by a majority vote of the Board. By David D. and seconded by Dana R. Motion carried. This a **proposed amendment** that will need to be ratified by the general membership at the General Meeting in December. (12-15). The Board can propose an amendment, but it has to be approved by the membership.

We had 4 **new membership** applications for review, a motion to accept these members was by Ed M. and seconded by

Sandy B. The meeting adjourned at 9pm.

*Respectfully submitted, Melodee Worley - Secretary*

## NOMINEES for NEW IGC BOARD MEMBERS

The Nominating Committee, composed of Dana Robinson and Sandy Blodgett, submit the following nominees for new Board members. We will also be accepting nominations from the floor during the regular meeting before voting.

Deana Ashton:

Thank you for your nomination to participate with the Board of Directors for our club.

I am a private home health care/hospice provider.

I have a background in art, marketing, sales, medical, fundraising, volunteering, and rockhounding!

It would be a pleasure to add ideas and assist our group in expanding and enriching the lives of rock lovers.

There aren't a lot of clubs around who embrace children like IGC. I am proud to be a part of it.

To be on the board will be in honor to my late Great Aunt Recene V. Ashton-Priest who was an avid rockhound and educator. She was in the Who's Who Book of American Women as an innovator and Professor of Geology.

She passed down a lot of her teaching materials and ideas to create interest in what forms our earth. She

resided in Silver City, NM, and founded a science education center there, focusing on rocks and gems and

gold and silver prospecting and processing. I love sharing some of her ideas with our group.

The past year Deanna has served as Second Vice President of IGC, does the Gem License Plate promotion, and the Refreshment Committee. She also attended the NFMS 2015 annual meeting in Ogden, Utah.

Brent Stewart:

I work at Stewart's Gem Shop. Our family business has been open for 71 years. Married 3 years to my wife Gia Stewart.

· My Grandfather, Dudley Stewart was the 5th President of the Idaho Gem Club 1942-43. My father, Eugene Stewart was also President of the Club in 1976. I'm the third generation in the Stewart family to have served as President of the Idaho Gem Club, and I served 3 years.

· I currently serve as the co-chairperson for the I.G.C field trips.

· I'm also the show chairman for the I.G.C Annual show.

· Proud to be a member of three gem clubs here in Idaho and one in California.

· In the process of getting a workshop for the club in my garage that will be very available several times a month for the club members to work material and learn how to cut and finish stones. I feel that the workshop would help keep members interested in the club.

· I enjoy educating kids of all ages about rocks and fossils, and where they can find stones from our gem state. My presentations last about an hour just depending on the group. I do about 25 presentations a year from elementary schools to retirement centers...like I said, kids of all ages. I have also taken my presentation on the road. I now travel to Idaho Falls, Lewiston, and Salmon Idaho. The kids like to call me a "Rock Star".

· I travel once a year to the world's largest gem/mineral and fossil show in Tucson Arizona. Always-great new ideas and new finds at this show.

· I also travel once a year to the next largest gem show, which is in Denver Colorado, so this keeps me on top of new and exciting things in the gem world.

· I along with other I.G.C members were just featured in the Outdoor Idaho PBS show about the "Gems" of the Gem State.

· Bottom line I have a love for rocks, not just because I was born into this rock life, I have found my true passion and have been fortunate to make a living out of what is a hobby for others.

Twila Gallaher:

I am a native Idahoan and have lived all over the state. I have loved rocks my whole life, but joined the Idaho Gem Club in 1978 after taking a community education class from Del Blickfeldt. I belonged for about five years until I moved to CDA due to work. I was active in the North Idaho Mineral club there. I moved back to Boise and rejoined the Idaho Gem Club in 1996. I spent five years as the newsletter editor, was the club secretary and also served a previous term on the board. I have also been active with the club show being in charge of the Wheel of Fortune for many years and organizing the club display cases.

## **Notice: Proposed Changes to the By-laws of the Idaho Gem Club, Inc.**

Be it here noticed that the Board of Directors of the Idaho Gem Club, Inc., have proposed the following changes to the club By-laws. Pursuant to Article XXII of the By-laws, notice is hereby given in this, the club's official publication, at least 30 days in advance of the vote on the changes (which will occur at the January, 2016 meeting of the Board of Directors).

Changes: Revise Article XVI-Membership, Section 4 to the following

**"Article XVI-Membership, Section 4.** Any club member in good standing may recommend a person, or a couple, for a lifetime membership. Recommendations shall be made in writing to the President or in person at a Board of Directors meeting. To be eligible for a lifetime membership, the person must be a member in good standing, having contributed exemplary service with a minimum of twenty years of membership.

If a club member is recommended and approved for Lifetime Membership, then the 20 year membership requirement shall be waived for his or her spouse, if they are determined to be otherwise eligible.

For approval of a Lifetime Membership, the recommendation must receive a majority vote of the Board of Directors."

Note: The changes above reduce the time of membership necessary for consideration as a life member from the current 25 years to 20 years.

### **Why is the Board considering this change?**

The Board each year considers recommendations for life membership each year prior to the club banquet. Determining eligibility under the current 25 year requirement has proven difficult in some cases due to imperfections in record keeping in the past. Several club members have been recommended recently whose eligibility via 25 years service is probable but cannot be documented and who would be clearly eligible under a 20 year rule. Furthermore, it is the feeling of a majority of the board that the 25 year requirement has proven over time to be long enough that we are not able to recognize some worthy members before they pass on.

## NFMS NEWS

December 5 & 6 Sat – 9 – 6 Sun – 10 - 5 Winter Bazaar Maplewood Rock and Gem Club Maplewood R&G Club-house, 8802 196th ST SW, Edmonds WA Mike Collins 206 714 6861

Feb. 13 - 14, 2016 Sat – 9 – 5 Sun – 9 – 4 Whidbey Island Gem Club Oak Harbor Senior Center 51 SE Jerome Street Oak Harbor WA Keith Ludemann 360 675 1837 rock9@whidbey.net

March 5 & 6, 2016 Sat – 10 – 6 Sun – 10 – 5 East KingCo Rock Club Pickering Barn 1730-10th Avenue NW Issaquah WA Cindy Smith cndysmith@gmail.com PO Box 2203, Redmond WA 98073

March 12-13, 2016 Sat – 10 – 6 Sun – 10 – 4 Magic Valley Gem Club Twin Falls County Fairgrounds, Merchant Building #1, 215 Fair Avenue, Filer ID Shirley or Rocky Metts 208 423 4827 rmetts@magicvalleygemclub.org

March 25-27, 2016 Fri – 10 – 6 Sat – 10 – 6 Sun 10 – 4 Rock Rollers Club of Spokane WA Spokane County Fair & Expo Center, N.604 Havana at Broadway Spokane WA Vonnie Dillon 509 951 8173 showchair@rockrollers.org

July 29-31, 2016 Willamette Agate and Mineral Society AFMS and NFMS MEETINGS Linn County Expo Center, Albany Oregon Janice Van Cura 541-753-2401 jvancura@peak.org , www.wamsi.org

**Field Trip – 2016** By Doug True It is time to start planning for 2016, the Multi federation trips will be in conjunction with the 2016 **AFMS show in Albany, Oregon, July 29th - 31st** . Two days later more trips will begin from Prineville, Oregon. We plan to have 4-6 trips per day, more if needed, leaving in all directions. Thunder eggs, petrified wood, jaspers and agates will be on the menu. We will have a balance of free and fee sites for 4-5 days. The base camp will be at the Crook County Fairgrounds in Prineville, Oregon. Camping with water and electricity, dump station and motels are in town. Potlucks are planned and I working on having some programs, Lots of collecting and get together fun Watch for further updates. Doug True dtruefossils12@yahoo.com

## The Scottish Swap

**You, Too, Can Take Part!** By Jim Brace-Thompson, Museum & Educational Outreach As I've reported in prior newsletters, during our June trip to Scotland Nancy and I provided an "exchange box" of western U.S. rocks and minerals with the Scottish Lapidary & Mineral Club (SLMC) in Edinburgh, the current home to our daughter and former VGMS pebble pup, Hannah. While we await an exchange box in return, one individual within SLMC, David Andrews, has already grabbed the bull by the horns and has done two individual exchanges with me and would be interested in continued exchanges with our VGMS members. David is interested primarily in agates and jaspers, both as specimens and as slabs for cabbing and other lapidary work. So far, I've boxed up one supply of agates and jaspers from across the western U.S. and have received two boxes in turn, one containing small agates for slicing from Perth and slabs of jaspers from the beaches near Dunbar (birthplace of American explorer, naturalist and conservationist John Muir) and a second with more Dunbar jaspers and interesting small banded agates from the Kinnoull region of Perth. Per David, the Dunbar area is locally referred to as "Sunny Dunny", which I have to question, given the daily rainfall we encountered during our visit to Scotland... If interested in arranging swaps of your own as an individual or as a group, David's contact info is ris4uris@gmail.com, mailing address 29 Steadings Gardens, Dunbar, East Lothian, Scotland, EH42 1Gs, UK. I'm happy to participate and to facilitate. Just see me, email me, or give me a call, and let's all keep the exchanges going! I'll also let you know once we receive an exchange box from SLMC, much of which will reside in our club museum and/or will be offered to members during our silent auctions to raise funds for the society. Here's hoping we can generate and facilitate still more international exchanges such as these!

## ALAA NEWS

The AMERICAN LANDS ACCESS ASSOCIATION (ALAA) is a 501(c)(4) organization. Its purpose is to promote and ensure the right of amateur hobby fossil and mineral collecting, recreational prospecting and mining, and the use of public and private lands for educational and recreational purposes; and to carry the voice of all amateur collectors and hobbyists to our elected officials, government regulators and public lands managers. Your annual individual/couple membership fee is \$25 which helps support their activities. Club membership is \$50 per year. Send to Treasurer, P.O. Box 54398, San Jose, CA 95154. Make checks payable to: American Lands Access Assn. Applications can be downloaded at: [www.amlands.org](http://www.amlands.org) on the left side of the page. For more Information contact: Shirley Leeson, President at: [president@amlands.org](mailto:president@amlands.org) or P.O. Box 23, Tendoy, ID 83468

- Senator Risch meeting to discuss the Lochsa Land Exchange November 23, 6 pm [Grangeville Elementary Gym](#)



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

## Refreshment Committee:

Refreshment Committee is a lot of fun to do as a member. I have a refreshment box, I bring to each meeting. It holds a coffee pot, coffee, sugars/creamers, napkins, cups, plates, trays, punch and drink mixes to add to a gallon of water! You need to provide 8 dozen cookies, cupcakes, veggies, snacks or whatever you wish to share during the break.

We ask that you bring door prizes for adults(10-12) AND Juniors(10-12). The prizes are typically rocks, slabs, cabs. Last month I almost brought kites for the junior prizes. so use your imagination. There is a lot of creative things you can bring to the club by volunteering for this committee.

Please sign up for next year!

November 2015: Melodee Worley is going to provide the refreshments this month. Door prizes will come from Ed Moser this month.

DECEMBER REFRESHMENTS WILL BE A COOKIE EXCHANGE AND HOLIDAY TREATS. BRING 2 DOZEN COOKIES/TREATS TO SHARE AND AN EMPTY PLATE TO TRY A SAMPLE FROM THE SHARED COOKIES!! PLAN ON BRINGING YOUR SPECIALTY !!

## NOVEMBER GENERAL MEETING PROGRAM

## "DAYS GONE BY..."

Our program during the general meeting this month will be a slide show from the early days prospecting and collecting in the Owyhee's and at our club claims.

Marge Conley our Historian is helping by gathering the old slides from yesteryear.

We also will have time to hear more fun stories from your rockhounding experiences this year or in the past. I had good feedback about opening up some time to tell stories and to do show and tell and want to make sure everyone is getting what they want out of our programs.

Sandy Blodgett has offered to help identify your rock specimens and have the Show and Tell as a feature at all our meetings. Before the meeting begins, we usually have time to mingle. I will have an area designated to ask Sandy your questions and share what you found!

Any suggestions for upcoming programs, please contact Deana Ashton and I will get a program scheduled!!

## THANK YOU! THANK YOU!! THANK YOU!!!

## Idaho Gem Club participated in two community events late October:

1. Idaho Gourd Society Festival: A successful introduction of our club to the creative minds at the gourd festival. Rock chips, cabochons, gemstones are inlaid into gourds. They reached out to us to join the festival.

Many thanks to member Suzanne Lewis for allowing me to display her artistic and healing gourds. Marge Conley was most helpful by helping me all weekend and display some of her gorgeous wire wrapped pendants and cabochons. Twila Gallagher volunteered to help represent the club and devoted her weekend to helping both days. She sold some small cabs and tiny stones which will decorate gourds. Linda Barlow, Marge Conley, Suzanne Lewis and Twila Gallagher, you are true Idaho Gems and I am grateful for your presence and willingness to give your time on behalf of our growing club.

## 2. Idaho GEM FAIRE...

## Idaho Gem Club ROCKED THIS SHOW!!!

Aaron Wanner gave his time and enthusiasm helping me set up two Genie cabochon making machines and brought his trim saw and dop sticks. He demonstrated cab making all weekend and reached out to a lot of curious youngsters by teaching them how to form cabs. He displayed many of his wonderful lapidary pieces. Even "Junior" Wanner was taking Faire attendees to make cabs.

Rick Corbett also demonstrated cab making and displayed his magnificent wire wrapped pendants and talked to the many visitors.

Marge Conley was ever present with her wirewrapping talents being

demonstrated for spectators. Thank you Tara Lancaster, Phil and Jackson Neuhooff for standing in, and Sandy Blodgett for being on hand to share his knowledge and encourage sign-ups. One vendor used the Genie to polish a gorgeous Ethiopian Opal purchased at his booth. Our club had such inspiring volunteers and demonstrators at this Gem Faire that we caught the attention of all vendors and the promoters of Gem Faire. Thanks to all the hard work and your outreach to those attending. I could not have done either show without the volunteers help. I am most grateful to all of you!!

Idaho Gem Club was presented with a \$500.00 check from the promoter at end of show. What a generous surprise!!

*Deana Ashton, 2nd VP*

**GOURD FESTIVAL ART**

Gourd with rock center



Inverted Gourd with rock center



Suzanne Lewis gourd art

**GEM FAIRE**

Rick Corbett demonstrating cabochon making



Aaron Wanner and Aaron Wanner Jr. demonstrating cabochon making for children



## YESTERYEAR

### YESTERYEAR

**JULY 1982:** Norm Matlock made a motion to pay the \$378.00 storage fee for one year. We will consider other methods in the future.

Field trips: We went to Chuck McCreath's claim last month, and found "painted" picture rock. 15 people attended in spite of the warning of an up hill climb after the dig.

In August Norm Matlock will lead a trip to Mann's Creek which will involve an uphill climb to get to the dig, but down with the rocks, this trip will be for opalized wood. The Mann Creek trip had been planned for July but was moved to accommodate another invitation.

We have been invited to join in a fish fry, camping trip with the Mountain Home Club on the 24th at Pine, Idaho. Non-campers can meet us up there on Sunday morning for a trip to Dismal Swamp for smoky Quartz and Topaz. Bring your bug repellent. Trip to the Swamp is pending being able to get in after snow melt problems. Prepare for cold weather (in which case you can probably forget the bug repellent).

In Loving Memory of Days Gone By

Marge Conley - Historian

## Welcome New Members

1. Theresa Buris, Boise
2. Denise & Shawn Bowlin, Boise
3. Jewels Haines, Boise
4. Kory & Evette Syverson, Boise
5. Kitty Bryner, Boise
6. Jonathan Barnett, Horseshoe Bend
7. Shiori & Rina Furuya, Boise
8. Kelly Sass, Boise
9. Mitchell Smith, Eagle
10. Addison Syverson, Boise

## Bench Tips

"Bench Tips for Jewelry Making" and "Broom Casting for Creative Jewelry" are available on Amazon [www.BradSmithJewelry.com](http://www.BradSmithJewelry.com)

### HOMEMADE WAX TOOLS

Save your used X-Acto or scalpel blades for utility work on the bench. They're wonderful for delicate wax work. Use a cutoff wheel or other type of grinding wheel to shape the blades to what you need. For instance, you can carve away excess metal on the spine to make yourself some narrow carving knives that do a great job of detailing small pierced areas of your waxes.



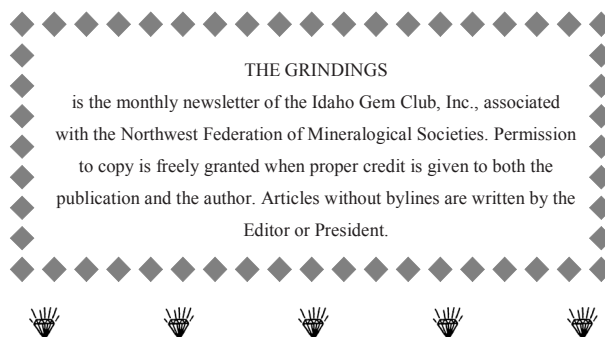
### REMOVING A STONE FROM BEZEL SETTING

If you've forgotten to use dental floss and got your stone caught in a bezel, there's one thing you can try before starting to pry.

Find some sticky wax or beeswax. Roll it into a pencil-sized cylinder and stick the end onto the top of the stone. Mold it on well and yank.

But if the stone is really stuck, there are two other tricks - but each with risks and consequences. The first is to pry open the bezel with a sharp knife blade being very careful not to wrinkle or tear the bezel. If you try this, make sure to pry gently in several passes around the stone.

The last solution is to drill a small hole into the bezel setting from the back side so that you can push the stone out. Note that this does leave a hole, but in some cases you can use it to saw out a design under the stone.





HAPPY



BIRTHDAY

## DECEMBER

## CABUCHON: TURQUOISE

12/3 David Schmidt  
 12/4 Shannon Tharp  
 12/6 Clint Wheeler  
 12/8 Lillie Rogers  
 12/9 John Sandmeyer  
 12/9 Bob Redman  
 12/10 Joan Alvey  
 12/10 Cheryl Link  
 12/11 Michael George  
 12/11 Gia Stewart  
 12/11 Ron Gambassi  
 12/13 Heather Fisher  
 12/15 Cris Wheeler  
 12/17 Carolyn Whipple  
 12/18 Debbie Allen  
 12/18 Dan Phillips  
 12/19 Doug Renken  
 12/23 Joe Nielson  
 12/24 Christina Anderton  
 12/25 Jan Johnson  
 12/29 Darci Rainey  
 12/31 Janelle Raber



## FACETED: BLUE ZIRCON



## White Buffalo Turquoise

(Rock Rollers-5/01, via Rockhound Gazette-12/00, Glacial Drifter-4/01)

When discovered in the Dry Creek Mine on the Shoshone Indian Reservation near Battle Mountain in 1993, the [the discoverers] were not sure what it was. Because of it's hardness, it was decided to send it to have is assayed. Their suspicions proved correct. It was, in fact, white turquoise. It was not until 1996 that it was finally made into jewelry. The Shoshone Indians are not known for jewelry work and as a consequence they sell or trade it to the Navajo in Arizona who then work it into jewelry. Because white turquoise is as rare as a white buffalo, the Indians call it "White Buffalo" turquoise.

Turquoise gets it's color from the heavy metals in the ground where it forms. Blue turquoise forms when there is copper present, which is the case with most Arizona turquoise. Green turquoise forms where iron is present, as with most Nevada turquoise. White turquoise forms where there are no heavy metals present, which turns out to be a very rare occurrence. To date, no other vein of white turquoise has been discovered anywhere else. When this current vein runs out, that will be the last of it.

METAPHYSICAL PROPERTIES  
OF STONES & CRYSTALS

## GEM: TURQUOISE

COLORS: BLUE, GREEN, BLUE/GREEN, WHITE (WHITE BUFFALO)

ASTROLOGICAL ASSOCIATION:

SAGITTARIUS, SCORPIO, PISCES

CHAKRA: THROAT, HEART, NAVAL

Crystalized forms of masses, stalactites, veins, crusts, and short small brilliantly colored prismatic crystals (latter found in Virginia). This stone is used for protection during travel and around your property including environmental pollution. If you are a writer or doing public speaking, wear or carry on your body to assist with this creative expression, your courage, & communication. Do you need help with your expression during romance, love, or friendship, then this is the stone for you.

As a physical aid, there are many areas that it can assist you but the biggest one is assisting with detoxification, post-operative recovery, stress-related skin disorders, and harmful effects of radiation.

It is excellent for spiritual attunement by healing and cleansing the energy centers and the physical body. Turquoise is a "HEALER OF THE SPIRIT" by soothing and bringing peace of mind.

It is a stone esteemed by the Tibetan shamen used in the sacred valley of Shambhala (Shangri-La or a province of Tibet). Native American Indians used this as a protective stone and bestower of goodness. Also for "cloud-busting", rain making by throwing it into a river or holding under running water!

VIBRATION: # 1

## GEM: BLUE ZIRCON

COLORS: RED, BROWN, GREEN, YELLOW, GREY, BLUE, & COLORLESS

ASTROLOGICAL ASSOCIATION: LEO, VIRGO, & SAGGITARIUS

CHAKRA: BASE, SOLAR, & HEART

This crystallizes in the form of grains & short square prismatic crystals, often exhibiting the double pyramid structure with curved faces and edges.

This is the "STONE OF VIRTUE" which means it brings ones virtuous nature back into the balance with the universal forces. It enhances relationships and personal magnetism and brings out the best in you. It encourages purity, toughness, wisdom, & dependability.

It has been used as antidote for poison. It has assisted in the treatment of sciatic nerve disorders. It has assisted in healing bones and muscles.

VIBRATION: #4

Above information gleaned from THE CRYSTAL HEALER by Philip Permmtt & LOVE IS IN THE EARTH by Melody

**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

**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

**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.

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>

**Here is a really good sight from NOAA on weather issues.**

[http://www.nws.noaa.gov/com/weatherreadynation/summer\\_safety.html#.VaUvP2dFDcu](http://www.nws.noaa.gov/com/weatherreadynation/summer_safety.html#.VaUvP2dFDcu)

**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:**

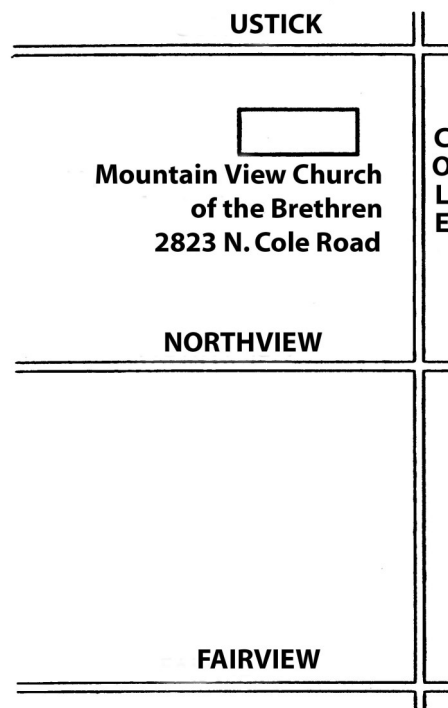
\$22.00 per person  
\$25.00 per couple  
\$28.00 per family

**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)

