


# Grindings

Idaho Gem Club, Inc.

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

VOL 77 NO 9

SEPTEMBER

## President's Message

### DIRECTORY

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It's September already and school is back in session. I hope everyone is weathering the smoky conditions without too much trouble. It should have improved by the time of this printing.

Did everyone get out to see the Total Eclipse on Aug. 21st? I was in Cascade for the event and it was totally awesome! The town was definitely hopping with the extra visitors. Even leaving after 5 pm it was a very long drive home.

It is time to start thinking about the Project of the Year. Always a good time to show off your creativity and craftsmanship. The entry needs to be something made during this year. I look forward to seeing the entries every year.

Many thanks to Mike and Sue Witchen for the donation of a canopy for the workshop. It is very nice to have the rock saw in a shady place. We can always use donations to keep growing our shop.

It seems we are not having a good year. We lost another member recently. Randy Benson has passed away. We all extend our sincere condolences to all of his family and friends.

The field trip for September should be a good one. Cullen will be leading everyone out for pink limbcast and bog wood. It is always a popular trip and everyone usually finds beautiful material.

I want to encourage all our Rocky Rattlers to write about their field trips and all of the good rocks they collected over the summer. You can also write a small article for inclusion in our Grindings newsletter. We all would love to hear what you've discovered.

*Respectfully submitted, Dana Robinson, President*

Day of  
INTERNATIONAL PEACE  
SEPTEMBER 21

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**Club Website**

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

**MINUTES OF THE IDAHO GEM CLUB  
GENERAL MEETING  
AUGUST 15TH, 2017**

The meeting was called to order at 6:35 p.m. by the President. Linda Barlow gave the blessing and then everyone had a great dinner.

Dana Robinson welcomed several guests and new members.

Door Prizes drawn by Rick Corbett for 2 kids and 8 adults.

Raffles tickets: Duane drew for 16 winners.

No corrections were needed to the minutes in the last Grindings issue. Willa made a motion to accept the minutes as printed, Sandy Blodgett seconded and the motion was passed.

**Treasurer Report:** None d/t her absence.

**Federation Report:** Director Linda Barlow noted a change to the mid-year meeting date. It will be on October 21 in Lewiston, ID.; the same weekend as their Gem Show.

**Program tonight:** Auction at the end of this meeting.

**Field Trip Report:**

Cullen reported that several people went on the field trip for snakeskin agate last month. The trip went very well.

This month Cullen and Brent will be leading a trip to Emerald Creek for star garnets. The meeting point will be at the Emerald Creek parking lot at 8:30 am. The dig sight is about 1/4 mi. up the hill from there. The cost is \$10 per person with a 5 lb. limit. You can camp at the Emerald Creek or Cedar Creek campgrounds. Equipment is provided, but if you bring your own, be sure to put your name on everything.

Howard and Linda Roose brought coupons for the local stores in Kellogg for anyone going. Brent will distributed them to those interested.

**Workshop Report:** Given by Brent Stewart.

The schedule will be as normal, Thursday after the general meeting from 6 pm to 9 pm at the shop and the Saturday after the field trip from about 10 am to 2 pm.

He also reviewed a few of the rules, such as no crosses or hearts.

He is working to schedule a dedicated wire wrapping class with Marge soon.

The 30" rock saw is ready to go as soon as the oil is loaded into it.

The meeting adjourned at 7:40 pm.

*Respectfully submitted, Dana Robinson, President*

## MINUTES OF THE IDAHO GEM CLUB BOARD MEETING SEPTEMBER 5TH, 2017

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 p.m.

Visitors: Deana Moser, Duane Winterroth, & Doug Renkin.

Present: Dana Robinson, Willa Renkin, Deana Ashton, Brent Stewart, Twila Gallaher, Cullen Anderson, Cheryl Peterson, Rochelle Eytchison, Sandy Blodgett, Ed Moser, and Linda Barlow.

Absent was Christine Anderton.

There were no changes to the minutes as printed in the Grindings, Willa made a motion to accept them, Brent seconded and the motion passed.

**Secretary's Report:** None.

**Treasurer's Report:** Rochelle reviewed written report of expenses. Willa noted a minor change to be made. The proceeds from last general meeting auction and building fund will show on the next statement.

**Federation Report:** Given by Linda Barlow

H.R. 527 & S. 273 Bills regarding Sage Grouse Protection sitting before US Congress were not voted on by September 1 as required implementing the restrictions to Recreational Rockhounding. She contacted Rep. Labrador office for clarification and was told that the Secretary of the Interior has issued a directive for BLM lands under sage grouse protection to be opened to gas and oil production. Rep. Labrador's office is to return a report regarding the interpretation and implementation of this direction regarding Recreational Rockhounding.

National Public Lands Day is Sept. 30<sup>th</sup>.

The Mining Museum Rock Party is on Sept. 17<sup>th</sup>.

AFMS Convention 2018 & 2019 as per AFMS report in Grindings.

AFMS Scholarship donation procedures reviewed.

AFMS Safety Issues were reviewed regarding Oxalic Acid toxicity and Grindstone Safety (see AFMS Report in Grindings)

NFMS Placements in AFMS Bulletin Editor's Contest were reviewed. (See AFMS Report in Grindings)

**Program Report:** Ed Moser will hold show and tell rock identification for the entire group and discuss material hardness.

### Field Trip Report:

Cullen and Brent reported that quite a few people went to Emerald Creek, but it was a bit disappointing because not much material was left at the end of the season.

The next field trip will be to Texas Springs for pink limbcast and bog wood. Meeting will be in the Horseshoe parking lot in front of the store at 8:30 a.m. on Saturday. It will be an overnight trip. Twila noted there is a popular country artist performing that weekend so get your room reserved early. High clearance vehicle required.

### Workshop Report:

Brent updated us on the workshop.

A new trim saw blade is needed.

He has been having good turnouts.

Mike and Sue Witcher donated a canopy to put over the saw outside.

We also need a form for keeping track of the cutting charge. Dana will get some printed.

Still need to schedule with Marge for wire wrapping class.

**Old business:** There were no changes to the inventory list as printed in the Grindings.

### New business:

Claims work has been completed by Cheryl Link per Willa Renkin after contacting Cheryl during the Board meeting.

Need donation letter for the scholarship donation in Lynne's name to NFMS.

Deana Ashton will be the Banquet Chairperson again this year. She will need two volunteers to help out.

Time to bring up that dues are due in October.

It is time to think about the Volunteer of the Year project, too.

Sandy let us know that Randy Benson has passed away. Deana will order flowers for the service on Saturday, Sept 9 at 2 pm, Cloverdale Funeral Home.

Nominating Committee will be chaired by Twilla.

Three Board seats are open for 2018.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 pm.

*Respectfully submitted, Dana Robinson, President*

## VICE PRESIDENT MESSAGE

### 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!**

If you know of any members in need of cheer or to request flowers be sent, and to inform us of illnesses and those who have passed on, please contact Deana Ashton at [208-794-5628](tel:208-794-5628).

**Deana- 208-794-5628**

**\*\*\*SUGGESTIONS? IF YOU HAVE IDEAS FOR PROGRAMS, WORKSHOP PROJECTS, THOUGHTS ON BUILDING MEMBERSHIPS, EDUCATION, COMMUNITY OUTREACH, OR QUESTIONS ABOUT ANYTHING .....PLEASE ASK OR LEAVE A NOTE TO DEANA ASHTON, 2ND VP, IN THE REFRESHMENT KITCHEN. I WOULD LOVE TO HEAR YOUR INPUT!!! MANY THANKS!!!**

### REFRESHMENT COMMITTEE GUIDELINES

*We encourage member participation in bringing cookies snacks and beverages to share during break at general meetings. Total provision among members assigned to bring refreshments is for 8 dozen cookies or snacks and drinks/ juice. That can be veggie trays, breads, any other treats.*

*We ask for **10 adult and 10 youth door prizes** which are wrapped in a bag. Usually minerals or rocks or slabs. Club provides coffee service and paper plates napkins and cups. The basic duties of refreshment committee includes chair set up, cleanup and take down. Please come early and remain late to assist with these.*

Please contact **Deana Ashton, 208-794-5628**, and let her know if and what you will be bringing for the current month so she can coordinate and be sure enough is provided for snack, beverage, and **door prizes**. Some could bring food, some could bring beverages, some could bring door prizes. Thanks for your participation.

Members whose last name begins with letter listed below, are asked to bring after meeting snacks and door prizes for the month indicated.

JANUARY	BANQUET
FEBRUARY	--A-D
MARCH	--E-K
APRIL	L-R
MAY	--S-Z
JUNE	A-D
JULY	PICNIC: A-K*
AUGUST	PICNIC: L-Z*
SEPTEMBER	--E-K
OCTOBER	--L-R
NOVEMBER	--S-Z
DECEMBER	HOLIDAY COOKIES BY ALL



## NOTICES

### Orma J. Smith Museum of Natural History

Have you been to the museum lately? The Orma J. Smith Museum of Natural History features specimens representing the Biology and Geology of SW Idaho, SE Oregon, and northern Nevada. The focal point of the museum is the Evans Gem and Mineral Collections. Curator, Nathan Carpenter, continues to expand the displays and welcomes visitors as well as assistance from volunteers to help build and maintain the displays, conduct tours and classes, and identify and label specimens.

The museum hosts a workday and seminar the first Saturday of every month and will host the annual event, "Night at the Museum," from 7-9 pm on September 15<sup>th</sup>. The evening will include award presentations in Boone Hall room 103 and tours of the Museum.

The Museum is open to all visitors Tuesday-Friday from 1-5 pm, the first Saturday of every month from 8-5 and the third Saturday of every month from 10-4. The Museum is located in the basement of Boone Hall on the College of Idaho campus.

Visit the Museum website at [www.collegeofidaho.edu/cultural-institutions/orma-j-smith-museum-natural-history](http://www.collegeofidaho.edu/cultural-institutions/orma-j-smith-museum-natural-history) to learn more.

### IDAHO MINING MUSEUM FIELD TRIPS <http://www.idahomuseum.org>

Members, Non-members, clubs, etc. can advertise in the Grindings Newsletter. This service is provided to help defray the cost of printing and mailing the newsletter and is encouraged by the NFMS. The only criteria for the ad is that it be hobby related (e.g. rocks, equipment, grit, shows, etc.).

Ads for the Grindings Newsletter  
**2" x 4" (business card size):** Non-members \$15,  
Member notices are \$5.

**4" X 6" AD (1/4 page):** Non-members \$30,  
Members \$10

Payable to Idaho Gem Club. Give monies to Treasurer & AD to Editor

## WORKSHOP SCHEDULE By Brent Stewart

**THURSDAY** after General Meeting (usually 3rd Thursday), Sept. 21

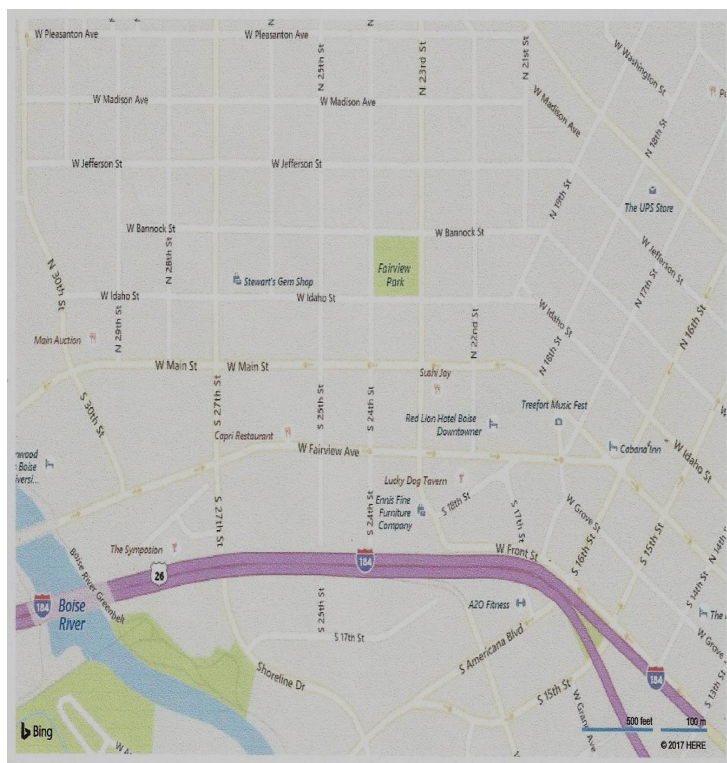
**SATURDAY** one week later usually 4th Saturday (Saturday after General Meeting is Field trip day), Sept. 30

Helpers available for selecting stones, cutting and sawing stones, preparing stone for cabochon: size selecting, cutting, grinding, polishing, finishing.

**Wrapping needs prior notification.**

**Cost for cutting and wrapping wire.**

**LOCATION:** see map below. It is located next to Stewart's Gem Shop on corner S. 27th St & W Idaho St. Driveway is between Stewart's and Brent's house on corner. Extra Parking is across W. Idaho St. or on street.



**Applications are now open for the 2017 Idaho Gem Club Scholarship, which provides \$500 to a Treasure Valley post-secondary Earth science student. The application can be downloaded from the club website. If you know of any eligible and deserving students who will be actively enrolled during the 2017-2018 academic year (or are one yourself) please encourage them to apply.**

**Applications are due September 30, 2017.**

## REMEMBERING WITH LOVE

RANDY WAYNE BENSON

*Randy W. Benson passed away August 24, 2017 surrounded by family.*

*Randy was born December 15, 1947 to William and Leona Benson. Randy was born with a congenital hip condition in his childhood years. He was put in a body cast; which he had to endure for approximately 18 months or so! Doctors indicated that he may never attain full use; however, as proven in years to come, you didn't want to issue Randy a challenge as he overcame extreme endurance tests in RE, Army, & Police.*

*Randy being born of identical twins and the family of the twins being a close unit, if one twin moved, the other usually followed frequently through childhood. Many homes & many different locations over the years; brothers and cousins became very close due to relocation, anxiety, schools, etc. However, anxieties were overcome by Randy and another challenge was conquered.*

*Because Randy had lost a cousin in Vietnam, as soon as he was old enough he joined the army and volunteered to be a crew chief in Vietnam. He was prayed for extensively and miraculously survived three helicopter crashes.*

*After his three years in the army, Randy joined the Seattle police department. He could have retired on a medical while still in the academy since they blew out his knee while demonstrating a tactical move. He had many knee surgeries to patch his knee until he was ready to retire after 27 years on graveyard duty. While on the police force Randy used his spare time to rebuild engines, hunt, and attended college in paramedic and art classes.*

*With his multifaceted artist abilities, he was self-taught in many areas, to include being a superb lapidarian. His rock collection is extensive proving his love for Rockhounding.*

*Jan and Randy were fortunate enough to go on two cruises, Alaska being their favorite. They travelled to many states seeing unusual things and hunting for rock. Randy was Jan's cheerleader as she learned to wire wrap the many beautiful rocks he had cut, shaped, and polished. I had always wanted to learn about rocks and God provided the perfect person to teach her.*

*Preceded in death by his parents, Leona and Bill Benson, and his brothers, Terry and Craig.*

*Survived by his wife, Jan, son, Jacob, adopted children, Stephen and Chrissy, many cousins, and his Uncle Don Ben-*

*son.*



## NFMS CLUBS SHOW SCHEDULE

October 7 & 8 Sat – 10 – 5 Sun – 10 – 5  
 Marysville Rock and Gem Club Totem Middle School  
 Gym 7th Street and State Avenue Marysville WA  
 Bill Moser bill-jj@comcast.net 425 238 8222  
<http://sites.google.com/sit/marysvillerockngemclub>

October 13, 14, & 15 Fri – Sat – 10 – 6 Sun – 10 – 5  
 Portland Regional Gem & Mineral Show Association  
 Washington County Fair Complex 873 NE 34th Avenue Hillsboro OR 97124  
 Linda Harvey lindaharvey2010@gmail.com Portland  
 Regional Gem and Mineral Show Association PO Box  
 5401 Portland OR 97228

October 21 & 22 Sat -10-6, Sun 10-4  
 Hells Canyon Gem Club  
 Nez Perce County Fair Building, 1229 Burrell Ave.,  
 Lewiston, Idaho; Linn Enger 208-746-4957  
[engerocks@yahoo.com](mailto:engerocks@yahoo.com)

October 28 - 29 Sat – 9 – 6 Sun – 10 – 5  
 Clackamette Mineral and Gem Club  
 Clackamas County Fairgrounds, 694 NE 4th Ave, Canby, OR  
 Beth Heesacker, [heesacker@coho.net](mailto:heesacker@coho.net), 4145 NW  
 Heesacker Rd., Forest Grove, OR 97116

October 28 & 29 Sat – 10 – 6 Sun – 10 – 5  
 Bellevue Rock Club Vasa Park, 3560 West Lake  
 Sammamish PKWY SE Bellevue WA 98008  
 Bruce Himko PO Box 1851 Bellevue, WA 98009  
[bellevuerockclub@comcast.net](mailto:bellevuerockclub@comcast.net)

November 11 & 12 Sat – 9 – 5 Sun – 10 – 5  
 Maplewood Rock and Gem Club Maplewood Rock  
 and Gem Clubhouse, 8802 196th ST SW, Edmonds  
 WA  
 Mary Ann Collins 206 714 3922  
[collmal@comcast.net](mailto:collmal@comcast.net)  
 December 9 & 10 Sat – 9 – 5 Sun – 10 – 5

Maplewood Rock and Gem Club Maplewood Rock  
 and Gem Clubhouse, 8802 196th ST SW, Edmonds  
 WA  
 Mary Ann Collins 206 714 3922  
[collmal@comcast.net](mailto:collmal@comcast.net)

**CALIFORNIA FIELD TRIPS:****25th Annual Big Sur Jade Festival, Big Sur, CA**

October 6th-8th(?), Fri. (12am-6pm), Sat.  
 (10am-6pm), Sun. (10am-5pm). Public event.  
 See website: <http://bigsurjadefest.com/>



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

NFMS – Newsletter available at:

[http://www.amfed.org/nfms/  
 newsletters.asp](http://www.amfed.org/nfms/newsletters.asp)

AFMS – Newsletter available at:

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

**Save Stamps For Cancer Research**

**Cut at least 1/4 inch margin around the  
 stamps. You can turn them into Linda  
 Barlow, NFMS Federation Director, at  
 our next meeting. THANK YOU!**

## IDAHO GEM CLUB (IGC) CALENDAR

Sept. 19: General & Jr. Rattlers Meeting 7:30-9pm

Sept. 21: Autumn Equinox

Sept. 21: Workshop 6-9pm

Sept. 21; Day of International Peace

Sept. 23: Field Trip, details pg. 11

Sept. 30: Workshop 10 am—2pm

**Welcome New Members****ADULTS:**

1. Jerry Hendershot & Dorota Siejek-Hendershot
2. Keith & Christy Powers

**Jr. Rattlers**

1. Mikos Hendershot
2. Bianka Hendershot



# AFMS NEWS

## NFMS PLACEMENTS IN AFMS BULLETIN EDITOR'S CONTEST:

- Small Bulletins:** (3<sup>rd</sup>) Rock-A-Teer,  
Gina Acosta,  
Puyallup Valley Gem & Mineral Club, Puyallup, WA.
- Large Bulletins:** (8<sup>th</sup>) The Clackamette Gem  
Beth Heersacker  
Clackamette Mineral & Gem Club, Oregon City, OR.
- Adult Articles:** (6<sup>th</sup>) Thunder-Egg Extravaganza at Rice Northwest Museum of Rocks and Minerals by Hidemi Kira  
Beeth Heersacker, Editor – Oregon City, OR  
(10<sup>th</sup>) Fossil Hunting in Glendive, Montana  
by Gary Burgess from Puyallup  
Gina Acosta, Editor – Puyallup, WA.
- Written Features:** (7<sup>th</sup>) You Know You Are Having an Interesting Club Show Experience  
by Brett Lawrence  
Gina Acosta, Editor – Puyallup, WA.

## AFMS SAFETY MATTERS:

- Oxalic Acid:** No correlation between an acid's strength and its toxicity. Its toxic potential can be inhaled or readily absorbed through the skin. Follow very strict safety measures to address oxalic's toxicity.
- Grindstone Safety:** Do not sit or stand directly in front of a grindstone while one is starting the machine or shutting it down. Not wise to position oneself in front of it while it is running. The reason is that grindstones have the potential to break. Equipment guards do mitigate some of the risk potential but not all the risk.

## AFMS SCHOLARSHIP:

They do not hold bake sales, car washes, etc. They do not have any individual memberships, dues or newsletter. They have no membership renewal notices to send out. Our only income is from donations from you and your club. If they do not receive any donations, we have no income. They only accept checks. Donations of vehicles, boat, airplane, or estate must be sold by you and send the check for the cash value. Anytime is time to consider your tax status for charitable donations. Send donation checks to your regional federation scholarship coordinator who forwards them directly to scholarship treasurer, Gene Maggard.

**AFMS 2018 Convention** will be hosted by Eastern Federation in a Southeast Federation location, Raleigh, North Carolina, on April 6-8, 2018 hosted by the Tar Heel Gem & Mineral Club.

**AFMS 2019 Convention** in conjunction with MWF will be in Cedar Rapids, Iowa at Cedar Valley Club show on March 16-17, 2019. AFMS meeting to be March 14.

**National Public Lands Day** is Last Saturday in September: September 30<sup>th</sup>. AFMS Conservation and Legislation Chairman, John Martin, suggests that clubs do some positive public relations for our hobby by cleaning up, maintenance, etc. as a group. Fees are waived on that day to the national parks and monuments.

**AFMS Junior Programs** has distributed 12,000 badges since the free program was approved in 2003. There is also a Youth Poster Contest for juniors that is open to the whole country.

H.R. 527 & S. 273 did not pass by Sept. 1, 2017 per Rep. Raul Labrador's office. Secretary of the Interior has issued directive for BLM lands sage grouse protection to be opened to gas and oil production. How report is interpreted and implemented by BLM and Dept. of Interior remains to be seen!

**Yesteryears:** Sept 20, 1983: The general meeting of the Idaho Gem Club was held at the Idaho Fish and Game Building. At 8pm the meeting was opened by First Vice-President Ned Millard due to Pres. Matheson being absent. Delegate Alice Sellers reported that our club took third place in Society Case Competition and Editor Bobbi Eckerle received third place award for Novice Bulletin Editor at the National Show held by the NFMS & AFMS.

The upcoming field trip would be at the McCreath-Clifton claim in the Owyhees and everyone was to meet at Vista and Elder at 7:00am. Queenstone had burned and claims may need restaking so the following Sunday there would be a trip to reassess the situation. The club auction netted \$77.50 and name badge fines collected were \$3.70.



# HAPPY BIRTHDAY

## SEPTEMBER

09/01 Lochlan Patrick

09/05 Scott Anderson

09/09 Arcelita  
Gulbranson

09/11 Derek Scheyer

09/12 Sue Witschen

09/15 Jessica Jenkins

09/16 Carol Hines

09/16 Robin Solt

09/16 Steve Ostrander

09/16 Aaron Wanner,  
Jr

09/16 Dana Robinson

09/17 Lauren Ashby

09/17 Dale John

Durbin

09/17 Pete Moore

09/20 Randy Whipple

09/23 Jonathan

Basabe

09/24 Melodee Worley

09/26 Desert Rose

09/26 Brent Stewart

**FACETED:** Sapphire

**CABOCHON:** Lapis  
Lazuli

## OCTOBER

10/03 Shelby Stamner

10/07 Carol Bice

10/07 Darueb Deal

10/10 Jess Biggs

10/11 Charlie Melichar

10/15 Mike Beavers

10/18 Tyler Martin

10/20 Randy Knigge

10/21 Shawn Trussell

10/22 Bryce Dethlefs

10/22 James Dillion

10/22 Aiden Ludwig

10/22 Betty Trebilcock

10/23 Colleen

Lamanksy

10/23 Chuck McGuire

10/23 Wuincy

Unterseher

10/26 Janelle

Wintersteen

10/27 Amy Connell

10/30 Brad Hoyd

**FACETED:** Topaz

**CABOCHON:** Amber

From: <http://geology.com/gemstones/fancy-sapphire/>  
**What Are Fancy Sapphires?**

A fancy sapphire is a gem-quality corundum that is any color other than red, blue, or colorless. The mineral known as *corundum* occurs in an infinite number of colors. When it is red, it is known as "ruby," when blue it is known as "sapphire," and when colorless it is known as "white sapphire." All other colors of gem-quality corundum are "fancy sapphire."

### Fancy Sapphire Sources

Sri Lanka, India, Myanmar, Thailand, and Australia have historically been important sources of fancy sapphire. Minor amounts have been produced in numerous other countries. In the United States, Montana has been a source of fancy sapphires for over 100 years. In the 1960s sapphire was named the "official state gemstone." That attention helped Montana sapphires of all colors attract the patronage of state residents and a steady stream of tourists and visitors.

During the past few decades, Africa has become an important source of fancy sapphires. Deposits in Tanzania, Kenya, Madagascar, Ethiopia, Nigeria, and other countries are pro

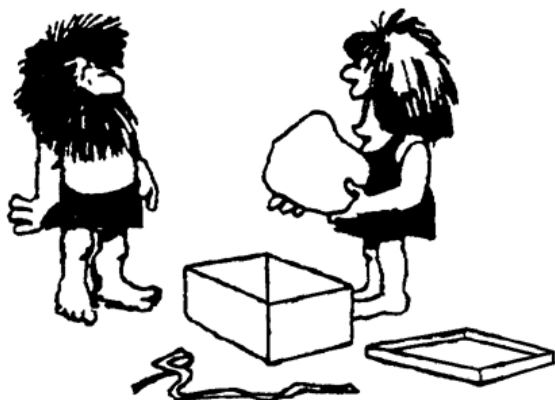
### Natural Color in Corundum

Corundum has one of the greatest natural color ranges in mineralogy. It occurs in hues of red, orange, yellow, green, blue, pink and purple. This is a bit of a surprise because corundum is an allochromatic mineral.

"Allochromatic" means that pure corundum ( $Al_2O_3$ ) is colorless or white. Corundum of other colors is produced when trace amounts of other elements or defects in the corundum crystal lattice cause selective absorption of certain wavelengths of light.

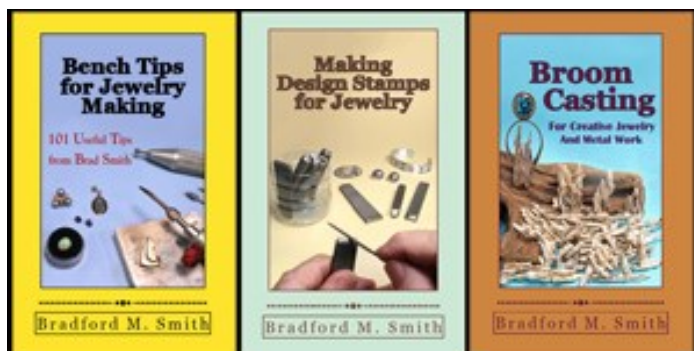
The causes of color in ruby and sapphire are well researched and documented. Chromium is the primary cause of the red color of ruby and the color of pink sapphire. A combination of iron and titanium causes the color of blue sapphire.

The cause of color in the many hues of fancy sapphire is less well researched. Vanadium can cause a grayish blue to green color. Iron and a missing electron can produce a strong yellow color. Iron alone can cause a pale yellow color. Chromium with a missing electron can cause an orange color. Interactions between trace elements and lattice defects produce many other colors. The most popular colors are usually pure hues, such as red, orange, yellow, green, blue and purple. All of these, with the exception of emerald green, are found naturally in sapphire.



"How Sweet... My Birthstone!"

## Bench Tips



See all Brad's jewelry books at  
[Amazon.com/author/bradfordsmith](https://www.amazon.com/author/bradfordsmith)  
[www.BradSmithJewelry.com](http://www.BradSmithJewelry.com)

### New Book on Foredom Tool Bits

Confused by all the tool bits available for your flexible shaft or hand-held motor tool? "Accessories for the Foredom and Dremel" explains what each is good for, which ones save the most time, and the tool bits that best improve the quality of your work. Also included are bench tips for getting good results and cautions for safe use.

The book is available on Amazon at  
[amazon.com/dp/B074LG35ZV/](https://www.amazon.com/dp/B074LG35ZV/)

### 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/flexibleshaftmachinemaintenance.aspx](http://www.foredom.net/flexibleshaftmachinemaintenance.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.

### JUST A DROP

Hobby shops and model airplane stores carry small plastic dispenser bottles that are handy for putting a drop of flux, oil, or glue just where you want it. They have a length of small metal tubing coming out the top that lets you squeeze out very small drops.

I use one with a short length of tubing for oil when I'm sawing or when drilling harder metals like steel. Another bottle I found in a plastics store has a longer length of metal tubing on it. Plastics people use them for dispensing fast drying glues to join pieces of acrylic. The long metal tube let's you reach into tight places. Either of these is handy for flux at the soldering station.



## Idaho Gem Club Member Field Trips



A few from the club were able to make it up to the Forest Service dig at Emerald Creek to search for star garnets in August. We didn't find near as many as we'd hoped for, but we had a great time nonetheless



### SEPTEMBER 23rd: WEEKEND TRIP FOR PETRIFIED LIMBCAST

Location: TEXAS SPRINGS

near Jackpot, Nev.

Most will stay at the casinos.

Meet: Horseshu Hotel & General Store

Time: 8:30, Leave 9am.

Return: Home on the 23rd or stay for another day to explore more, your choice!

### OCTOBER 21st:

HAYSTACK BUTTE tentative trip

ALTERNATE POSSIBLE: DISMAL

SWAMP

More Details to come.

### FIELD TRIP SUPPLIES

Rock Hammer  
Chisel, Pick, Pry Bar  
Hat

Shovels  
Buckets/Collecting Sacks  
Screening Box  
shoes  
Safety Glasses

Water  
Sunscreen and a

Knee Pads  
Gloves  
Good boots or hiking  
First Aid Kit

Rain Coat (Dress in Layers for Cooler Mornings)  
Lunch/Dinner/Snack Foods /Camping supplies  
(Depending on Length of Trip)

### IDAHO FALLS FIELD TRIP SCHEDULE 2017

Date	Location	Contact	Comments	Phone #
September 23 & 24	Methodist Creek and area	Tim Holmes Daryl & Pat	Jasper, exploration for tube	208-541-6168 208-582-8195
September 30	Learning Day Skyline Activity Center	Robin Buchanan Maryann Bailey	½ day	208-522-1599 208-681-6221
October 7	IFG&MS Member's Sale	Sharon Nicklas	Pinecrest Mall, IF	208-522-7336
October TBD	Topaz Mt. & Central Utah	Gerry Gibeault Steve Davis	Topaz, jasper Physically very hard!	208-589-0736 208-709-7211



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

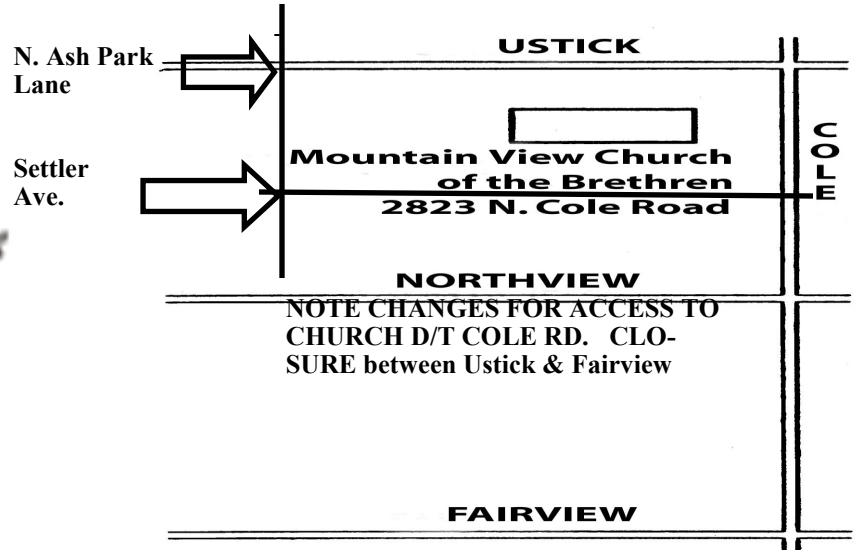
**Subscription:**

\$10 per year



**GENERAL MEETING**  
3rd. Tuesday of every month

**BOARD MEETING:**  
1st. Tuesday of every month  
Church of the Brethren  
2823 N. Cole Road, Boise, Idaho  
ALL Meetings Start at 7:30 p.m.



P.O. Box 8443

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