OCTOBER 2018



Idaho Gem Club, Inc.

P.O. Box 8443

Boise, Idaho 83707-2443

VOL 78 NO 10

October 2018

2019

DUES

PAY NOW AVOID

THE RUSH !!!



NEWSLETTER DEADLINE: The deadline for issues is the Friday after each Board Meeting for the current month's edition. For deadline and to submit articles Contact Linda Barlow Email: barlow596@gmail.com

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE by DANA ROBINSON

The days are getting shorter and the nights have that nice crisp fall feel. It's quite refreshing after all the heat. October is also the month for Dues renewal so be sure to send it in. Using the mail can alleviate some of the congestion at the front table for the October meeting.

The field trip to Hogg Creek went very well. Everyone found some good material and had fun. This month we will be going to Haystack Butte for jasper, agate, and petrified wood. Details for meeting times and places will be provided at the general meeting (see page 8).

At the board meeting (page 2), we discussed screening one of our movies again, but Deana has come up with a better idea. She will be doing a program on "Cosmic Rocks - Glow Show". I know I have always liked the fluorescent minerals, so it should be very interesting.

There are several items to bring up in this month's newsletter. First, there is a November deadline to submit nominations to the NFMS for Rockhound of the Year. We have some dedicated collectors in our club, so I'm sure we can come up with a couple of names to submit. Deana Ashton would like to ask for a volunteer to help her with the January Banquet. She needs help with selling tickets at the general meetings and setting up the table favors. Please contact her at the general meeting if you are interested. If you can't make it, her contact information is in the Grindings.

The Project of the Year is coming up shortly as well. I know quite a few of you have been creating some great pieces over the last year, so please submit one of your favorites for us to vote on. The winner will have their name engraved on the Project of the Year plaque and have a case at the February show.

We should all be thinking about the February show by now. Janelle has been working with the juniors on setting up display cases and they seem excited about it. As well as display cases, we need to keep working on tumbling rocks and sewing grab bags.

Respectful submitted, Dana Robinson, President

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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wlr_dkr@msn.com

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Ed Moser, 208-340-8060 ed.moser15@gmail.com

MINUTES OF THE IDAHO GEM CLUB BOARD MEETING OCTOBER 2nd, 2018

Meeting called to order at 7:33 p.m.

Present: Dana Robinson, Willa Renken, Cullen Anderson, Sandy Blodgett, Twila Gallaher, Ed Moser, Rochelle Eytchison, Deana Ashton, Christine Anderton, Cheryl Peterson, Linda Barlow Absent: Brent Stewart

Guests: Mike Dome, Deanna Moser, Janelle Wintersteen, Cheryl Link

Minutes Corrections: The last item discussed was left out. Willa Renken will be the Board of Directors Committee Chairperson for nominations. Willa Renken made a motion to accept the minutes as corrected. Ed Moser seconded. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report by Rochelle Eytchison:

-Monthly financial statement reviewed with the new report format explained. She has suggestions and ideas about how to track the expenses more accurately, so next month the report may look different again. Federation Director's Report by Linda Barlow:

-The AFMS and NFMS news was reviewed. Several positions were filled in the NFMS, but a couple still need volunteers. The meeting for the AFMS is in March for 2019 and they are looking for a host for the 2020 meeting.

-Linda has joined the ALAA as an individual as part of responsibility as the club's Federation Director and encourages the club to join as well. There is concern about the lobbying activities jeopardizing our nonprofit status.

The deadline for the Rockhound of the Year nominations for NFMS is November. The relevant information will be printed in the Grindings.
The dues are due for both AFMS and NFMS at the end of the year.
Meeting Program Report by Deana Ashton: Deana plans to screen one of the movies from the library. Dana will bring in the equipment for that.

Junior's Report by Janelle Wintersteen:

-Janelle received a display case from Sandy to use for junior demonstrations. It was a hit last month and there was such a large group of kids that she needed more help. There was also a wide range of ages in the group.

-She is encouraging the kids to think about setting up displays for the show in February.

-She also asked to get name tags for the kids and have them wear them at each meeting.

Field Trip Report by Cullen Anderson:

-Cullen reported on the trip to Hogg Creek last month. About 30 people went and good material was found. He has pictures for the newsletter this month.

-The October field trip is to Haystack Butte for jasper, agate and petrified wood on October 20th.

-The meeting point is at the junction of Owyhee Ave. and Mitchell Butte Road at 8:30, leaving at 9:00. There is a parking lot across from the store there for everyone to gather.

-Sandy Blodgett mentioned a location for wonder stone on the way as well

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MINUTES OF THE IDAHO GEM CLUB BOARD MEETING (continued) SEPTEMBER 4th 2018

-Cullen also told us about a field trip on Saturday, October 13th, with the Idaho Falls club. They asked for help with a field trip to the area and a member from the Caldwell club offered to take them to the Blue Egg Claim. They also invited members from the Caldwell and Boise clubs to join in. As soon as he receives details on meeting times and places he will update Linda Barlow, editor, so she can send an email to club members.

Workshop Report by Brent Stewart: None. Brent Stewart was absent.

Scholarship Report by Dana Robinson: No applications have been received yet. Some discussion on possible promotion of the scholarship was offered.

Old Business:

-Willa Renken reported that nominations for the Board are going well. She also reported on the progress of the trailer. It is nearly done and she will organize a work party to get the cases loaded.

-Reminder that Dues are Due. Rochelle Eytchison asked that Linda Barlow, editor, to put the notice on the front page of the Grindings to encourage people to renew on time.

-Sandy Blodgett has one estimate on an audit from H & R Block. It will not be an audit, but a fact check from them. He will be obtaining two more estimates before submitting them to the board. He is concerned about an assets list. Rochelle Eytchison, treasurer, needs to have details on what will be provided by each estimate.

New Business:

-Several of the board members think we should nominate Linda Barlow and Mike Dome for Rock Hound of the Year this year. They have been on many field trips over the summer and brought back lots of specimens to share.

-Sandy Blodgett reported on the Gem Faire that we participated in last weekend. It went very well. Lots of volunteers came in and helped out. Sandy Blodgett, Rick Corbett, and Twila Gallaher were there all weekend doing demonstrations and answering questions. Lots of applications were handed out. One of the other vendors at the show provided us with a pile of sunstones to hand out to the kids. It was suggested that we have a Wheel of Fortune next year, maybe have some one-year memberships as prizes for adults. More discussion is needed next year. In light of all the brochures and applications given out, we are likely to have a very large October general meeting.

-Christine Anderton and Deana Ashton got a donation of material for the sand dig from Dustin in Nampa. He will probably have more to donate after he sorts through his material. -Sandy Blodgett spoke with Gene Stewart about a 12" Lortone rock saw that he acquired. It would be a good size for the workshop as it would cut faster than the larger saw. He will follow up on the condition and price and report at the next meeting.

-Willa Renken thinks the refreshment situation needs to be looked at. For meetings that members do not bring treats, the club has been purchasing them. That was never the intention. The club will reimburse for drinks only. It was agreed among the board members that the question will be put to the membership at the general meeting. If they can't support it, we should not be doing it.

-Sandy made a motion to change the Board Meeting start time from 7:30 to 7:00 from now on. Ed seconded and the motion was passed.

-Only one membership application for this meeting. Twila Gallaher made a motion to accept the new member. Ed Moser seconded. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Dana Robinson, President

MINUTES OF THE IDAHO GEM CLUB GENERAL MEETING (continued) September 18th, 2018

-Sandy Blodgett brought some beautiful plume agate from Graveyard Point.

-Edith Williams showed heated and faceted Sapphires from Gem Mountain, Montana.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m. to look at the material everyone brought and have snacks.

Respectfully submitted, Dana Robinson, President **Welcome New Members** ADULT: 1. Marsha McDonald, Boise 2. Jennifer Katsch-Johnston, Boise 3. Donald Johnston, Boise

MINUTES OF THE IDAHO GEM CLUB GENERAL MEETING September 18th, 2018

Meeting called to order at 7:30 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Dana Robinson **Door Prizes by Rick Corbet**: Juniors: 13, Adults: 8. **Minutes as Printed**: Willa Renken Motioned to accept. Deana Ashton Seconded. Motion Passed. **Juniors** dismissed to go with Janelle and Coyote. **Secretary's Report by Christina Anderton**: None. Christina absent.

Treasurer's Report by Rochelle Eytchison: Finances of last month were reviewed. Everyone was reminded that October is the month that Dues are due. Clarification of couples are those living in the same household.

Federation Director Report by Linda Barlow: NFMS information was reviewed.

-The Federation is requesting timely dues payment as paying late means the membership numbers aren't reported accurately and it is a hassle to correct after the fact. -Volunteers are needed for several events and offices. She reminds us that it takes everyone to keep up on all of the things that need our attention. Please get involved.

-Endowment Fund Raffle tickets are available for the AFMS meeting that is coming up in March 2019. Ticket sales will help support the Junior Badge Program & Videos availablilty from NFMS for our programs.

-It was explained how the ALAA, American Lands Access Association, affects all of us with proposed closures of federal lands.

Refreshment Committee by Deana Ashton: Everyone was asked to please watch the Grindings for the monthly assignment for refreshments and door prizes, as well as setup and clean-up of the meeting room.

Field Trip Report by Cullen Anderson:

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-The field trip to Dismal Swamp last month was described.. The road was very rough. Mike Dome cleared a downed tree to provide access. Many thanks to him.

-The information for the field trip to Hogg Creek this weekend was reviewed. We will meet at 8 a.m. at the first rest area just over the border to Oregon on I-84. Be prepared to walk in a ways. Bring a bucket, rock hammer, water, lunch, etc (see Grindings for supply list). We will be collecting agate and quartz crystals. Sandy Blodgett encourages everyone to pick up information from the rest area Visitors Center about rockhounding in Oregon.

Library Report by Dana Robinson: Position is vacant. Our last volunteer has not been able to do it. If anyone is interested, please see Dana Robinson at the next meeting. Workshop Report by Brent Stewart:

-Everyone was reminded to wear our name tags at workshops. Don't forget that you need to put a quarter in the box if you forget to wear it. Rick Corbett has quite a lot of name tags that have not been picked up.

-On Sept. 27th there will be a wire wrapping class from 6:15 to 8:45 p.m. There is a \$10 charge for sterling silver and gold filled wire, but copper wire is free. Please bring a cab with you to wrap.

-There will also be a workshop on Saturday the 29th from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

-The next Kids Workshop will be on October 13th from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Old Business:

-Chris Dail notified us that the Forest Service and BLM are making changes to the regulations. This is our opportunity to make suggestions for those changes. It is in our best interest to send letters expressing concerns and viewpoints. Many letters make more of an impact than a general letter from the club as a group. Linda will forward information from him to the general membership. Some points to be considered will be suggested. Coordinating with other organizations with like needs can help our causes.

New Business:

-Dana Robinson announced that new board member elections are coming up. Each year three people end their three year terms. Willa Renken and Cheryl Link are the nominating committee this year. Willa explained the process to nominate and elect the board members. If you are interested or have questions, please talk to either of them. -Sandy Blodgett went over the upcoming Gem Faire that we have been invited to participate in. It is similar to our show and we will have a booth set up for demonstrations and information. They are only charging us \$1 for our table space. Sandy is the committee chairperson for this event. He will have a genie for demonstrating and needs volunteers to help man the booth for the weekend. The hours are Friday 12-6, Saturday 10-6, and Sunday 10-6. In the past they have rewarded us with a donation for participating, so we need support for this event. A sign-up sheet is on the back table.

Program: SHOW & TELL was presented tonight by several members.

-Linda Barlow and Mike Dome did a lot of traveling this past summer and showed Geodes & Thundereggs from around the world, Sunstones from Oregon, Garnets from Emerald Creek, Idaho, Sapphires from Gem Mountain, Montana, and Crystals from Crystal Park, Montana. -Deana Ashton visited a Tourmaline mine in California and brought great material to show. It is a fee dig site and

will also ship bags of ore to screen at home.

-Ashley and Aiden Ludwig showed some cool things that they collected from places closer to home, such as Beacon Hill, Dismal Swamp and Succor Creek.

-Twila Gallaher showed petrified wood specimens from Grassy Meadow, Texas Springs, Succor Creek, McDermott and the Bruneau Wood Pile.

ROCKY RATTLER'S PAGE By JANELLE WINTERSTEEN, Juniors Chairperson

Suddenly there are 15 kids attending the Rocky Rattlers, ages three to 15! We will wear name tags so everyone gets to know each other. Two mothers came and sat in the back to observe. There is plenty for parents to do like taking attendance, supervising an activity, and working with the little ones on the side. I look forward to the parents becoming involved also.

We started the session by checking clothes with the small blacklight flashlights that Coyote brought in. A number of shirts lit up nicely with "oohs" & "ahhs" from the kids.

I brought in a display case, curtesy of Sandy Blodgett. I explained to the kids that members are entitled to display cases and that includes "junior" members. I had them all practice sorting rocks and making displays. One group used my limb casts to do a display and I will let other kids make a display in October. I had brought my two cans of agates, jaspers, and opalites and those not working on the case, sorted those rocks. Most of these are from the pastures by Jackpot, Nevada. One the Vania girls laid aside my Labradorite specimen to ask me about because she could see it was something different. I commended her for realizing that. There were some boys, whom I know to be very knowledgeable about rocks, did not get involved. I will watch especially for them and try to help them become involved during October.

For October, I am bringing my Rhyolite specimens and my Chalcedony cans again, plus the display case. We will talk about volcanos, the different lavas, and why Rhyolite produces the gems stones we all love. I may bring a children's book about rocks ask a mother to read to the youngest ones. Coyote had coloring for them to do but they come to Rocky Rattlers for rock experience just like the other children too. I may bring the limb casts again and try those blacklight flashlights on them. I suggest parents let their children bring any rocks they cannot identify and let Coyote do so. She is probably one of the ten best people in this region at doing so and is an incredible resource. All of us need to check gravels, hillsides and dry creeks after the fall rains. Good specimens often turn up after a rain.



Earn this free AFMS badge in our Juniors program!

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KIDS DAY & WORKSHOP PICTURES

We apologize for no pictures this month. We have a policy change for the **safety** of our Rocky Rattlers: parents signature required for release of pictures for the Grindings. Please see Brent Stewart during Kids Day Workshop for proper papers to sign. Look forward to continuing to show our Rocky Rattlers having fun. Editor

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.).

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





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IDAHO GEM CLUB (IGC) CALENDAR

See Workshop Schedule See Field Trip Schedule

Oct. 12: Columbus Day

Oct. 13: Field trip w/Idaho Falls & Owyhee Club to Owyhee Blue Egg Claim & Windy Ridge

Oct. 13: Idaho Museum of

Mining & Geology presentation: Cambrian "explosion" of invertebrates & Idaho's bountiful Paleozoic Fossil record by Dr. Peter Issacson (University of Idaho, Retired)

- Oct. 16: General Meeting
- Oct. 20: Field Trip: Haystack Butte, eastern Oregon
- Oct. 23: Gem Show Chairpersons Meeting, 7pm (a) regular meeting place
- Oct 31: Hallowe'en or All Hallows Eve or All Saints Eve
- Nov. 1: All Saint's Day or Samhain
- Nov. 11: Veterans Day

NOTICES

Since it is getting closer to the show I would like to call for a special meeting for all show chairpersons. It will give us a chance to talk about what went well in the past, and what things could use some changes. It will be on Tuesday, October 23, 7 p.m. at the regular church meeting room. I will send individual emails to the chairpersons so they will be sure to know. Dana Robinson President





THURSDAY after General Meeting (usually 3rd Thursday), October 18th: 6pm-8pm SAT./SUN. (Saturday/Sunday after General Meeting): Oct. 20th: General Workshop, 10-2pm

WORKSHOP SCHEDULE

Bv **Brent Stewart**

Junior Workshop:

ADDRESS: 2620 W. Idaho St., Boise, Idaho Next door to Stewart's Gem Shop



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2ND VICE PRESIDENT MESSAGE

SUNSHINE LADY REPORT Please let me know if you ar		T COMMITTEE
aware of any of our member		ELINES
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overlooked any member who ha		eggie trays, breads,
ost a loved one. Please let u		- <u> </u>
know if we can help in any way	any other treats.	
Contact Deana Ashton at 208	🖉 💎 💎 We ask for 10 adul	and 10 youth door
794-5628 or any Idaho Gem Clu	prizes which are y Usually minerals or	rapped in a bag.
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BLE TO DRIVE, CALL ME!	committee include	
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ent, and to inform us of illnesses	Please contact Deana	Ashton 208-794-
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<u>08-794-5628</u> .	can coordinate and be	sure enough is pro-
WE WILL DO OUR BEST TO		rage, and door prizes.
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OCTOBER PROGRAM	FEBRUARY-	——————————————————————————————————————
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COSMIC ROCKS		—PICNIC: ALL
GLOW SHOW	AUGUST	
	SEPTEMBER—— OCTOBER——	
	NOVEMBER— DECEMBER—HOL	
		BY ALL

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Idaho Gem Club Member Field Trips



Oct. 13/14: Joint w/Idaho Falls & Owyhee to Owyhee "Blue Egg" Claim & Windy Ridge, for Thundereggs, petrified wood, & picture Jasper Meet @ 8:30 Homedale City Hall/Police Station (SEE MEMO page 14)
Oct. 14: Depends on input from Saturday participants
Oct. 20:Haystack Butte, eastern Oregon (possible joint with Owyhee Club) Meet @ 8:30 am. Leave 9 am. Location: north Adrian Owyhee @ grocery store @ corner of Owyhee Ave. & Hwy 201 for jasper,

agate & petrified wood ALTERNATE TRIPS TBD: Squaw Butte

FIELD TRIP SUPPLIES

- Rock Hammer Chisel, Pick, Pry Bar Shovels Buckets or Collecting Sacks Screening Box Map or GPS
- Water Sunscreen and a Hat Knee Pads Gloves Safety Glasses First Aid Kit

Good boots or hiking shoes

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

FIELD TRIP REPORT By Cullen Anderson

Again, we had a good time at the last trip to Hogg Creek on 9/22 with around 30 people joining in. We didn't get to the "old" site, but still found plenty of cloudy agate and jasper, some finding very large pieces of material.



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Jelly Stone Jasper at HAYSTACK BUTTE

HOGG CREEK FIELD TRIP PICTURES By Cullen Anderson, Edith Williams, & Teresa Lyons Nebeker

















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GRINDINGS

Hearing: Wildfires and Air Quality. In the wake of another disastrous summer wildfire season, the House Energy and Commerce Environment Subcommittee held a hearing on September 13 entitled "Air Quality Impacts of Wildfires: Mitigation and Management Strategies." The Energy and Commerce Committee is arguably the most powerful committee in Congress and is chaired by Rep. Greg Walden, who has a long track record of leadership on forestry issues.

The hearing featured several witnesses from the Pacific Northwest, including Oregon State Senator Herman Baertschiger, Montana State Forester and DNRC official Sonya Germann, and Mary Anderson of the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) – Air Quality Division. Also testifying were Tom Boggus, Texas State Forester and Director of the Texas A&M Forest Service, and Collin O'Mara President and CEO of the National Wildlife Federation.

In his opening statement, Chairman Walden noted that over 700,000 acres had burned in Oregon so far this year and that Medford, Oregon had experienced the worst run of unhealthy air quality since EPA began keeping records in 2000. Walden outlined some of the serious and deadly public health effects of wildfire smoke and how overstocked, unhealthy federal forests are fueling the worsening wildfire seasons and the many impacts to forests, communities, and people. Walden cited statistics from Oregon showing that 90 percent of the acres burned in 2017 were on Forest Service lands.

Oregon State Senator Baertschiger's testimony focused on his 40-plus years of experience in wildland firefighting, concerns about the Forest Service's approach to wildfire suppression, and the real life impacts of wildfires and smoke to local communities, including over \$50 million in lost tourism revenue for Oregon in 2017 alone. Montana State Forester Sonya Germann shared similar stories from Montana, which also experienced a devastating wildfire season in 2017, and efforts underway to use new tools like the Good Neighbor Authority to treat at-risk federal lands. Idaho DEQ's Mary Anderson noted that Idaho's 2017 fire season released an estimated 111,000 tons of direct fine particulate pollution into the air, which is about 25 times the amount of fine particulate pollution emitted by all the cars and trucks in Idaho in a vear.

The National Wildlife Federation's Collin O'Mara also testified about the serious environmental and public health effects of worsening fire seasons and the need for proactive management. Mr. O'Mara testified in support of additional legislative action to enhance the use of the 2014 Farm Bill authorities like the Insect and Disease Categorical Exclusion (CE) and Good Neighbor Authority (GNA) – a promising sign about the level of support that exists for restoring the health of federal forests. While there was ample agreement among the witnesses, some

Committee Democrats chose to focus on larger policy debates about climate change and downplay active forest management strategies. Frank Palone (D-NJ), the full committee's ranking Democrat, said "If this Congress wants to truly address the increase in extreme wildfires, we must act to slow the global warming that is driving changes in climate and weather patterns."

While the Energy and Commerce Committee does not have jurisdiction over federal land management, under the leadership of Chairman Walden this is the second hearing in as many years focused on the air quality impacts of catastrophic wildfires.

Speaking of wildfires and smoke, Senator Ron Wyden (D-OR) recently introduced legislation to allow residents of areas with smoke-filled skies to apply to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for assistance with temporary lodging in areas with better air quality. / *Heath Heikkila*

Boise National Forest visitors asked to participate in recreation surveys

Boise, Idaho, Oct.3, 2018 -- Beginning in October and continuing through next September, visitors to the Boise National Forest may see employees gathering information for the National Visitor Use Monitoring Program (NVUM). The program was developed to gather information about recreation sites along Forest Service roads. Employees will wear bright orange vests and be near a sign that says "Traffic Survey Ahead." A similar survey was conducted five years ago.

The approximately 10 minute confidential surveys gather basic visitor information. Questions include: where they recreated on the Forest, how many people they traveled with, how long they stayed, what other recreation sites they visited, and how satisfied they were with the facilities and services provided. About a third of the visitors will be asked to complete a confidential survey on recreation spending during their trip.

"These well-trained interviewers will use the information about a visit to the national forest to help with forest planning and local community tourism planning," said Danelle Highfill, Boise National Forest Recreation Program Manager. "It is entirely voluntary, and the information will indicate recreation trends over the years which improve facility development and economic benefit in our local area."

Information gathered provides an estimate of how many people actually recreate on federal lands and what activities they engage in. It also includes how satisfied people were with their visit and the economic effect on the local economy.

This periodic on-going national forest survey was last conducted in 2014. The current survey updates information previously gathered and looks at recreation trends over time.

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SAFETY

ROCK SAWING, GRINDING AND POLISHING SAFETY by Chris Dahl

After collecting rock specimens *"in the wild,"* risking trips and falls, snake bites, bear mauling, blood sucking mosquito and tick attacks, as well as punctured flesh from various cacti, blackberry bushes and Devil's Club and nasty rashes from poison ivy, oak, and sumac, we often neglect



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to think about the next stage of safety in our efforts to turn our raw mineral specimens into gems and works of art. Surviving all of the above, it's a prudent thing to thing to consider the next stage of activities that can make all that sweating, blisters and sore legs and backs meaningless the risks to one's health and well-being cutting, grinding, polishing steps back at the lab, shop, house or club facilities.

So, what are those risks and how can we mitigate the potential damages from them? Obviously the first step is usually sawing slabs or blanks. Many of the hazards with sawing also apply to grinding and polishing. These things come with numerous risks including: pinched fingers when saw blades jam or even worse, bad abrasions or even catastrophic injuries like cut off digits. Other risks include hearing loss from the high frequency sounds emanating from the saw, motor and rock specimen as it is cut away by the high-speed saw blade. Damages to one's eyes are also a risk - fine mists of ground up rock, and cutting fluids can cause find abrasions to your retina and a sharp flying rock chip into an eye can blind you. Those same fine mists can send very finely ground up rock materials into your lungs and damage your sinuses, bronchial tubes and lungs leading to long term health issues such as silicosis, or even lung cancer. Some rock materials, including many agates and jaspers may contain very high levels of elements that can be harmful to your health if ingested or inhaled such as mercury, arsenic, selenium and antimony or base metals such as copper, lead, zinc and cadmium. The saw blades themselves can degrade and shed fine particles containing other metals such as chromium, vanadium and iron that over time can have negative effects on your lungs capacity to absorb oxygen. Water and electricity don't mix, so there is always a risk of electrocution when wet sawing. Grinding media on grinding wheels (silicon carbide and diamonds are often embedded in epoxy or silica-based cements that can produce fine dusts that can be an inhalation hazard.

Polishing compounds (such as cerium, chrome, tin and aluminum oxides), are almost uniformly hazardous when inhaled and can be acutely toxic or cause chronic problems or even be carcinogenic if inhaled over long periods of time in large quantities.

So how do we prevent these things from hurting us: 1) ensure your saw blade is the right size and type for the materials you are cutting and that it's spinning at the right rpm and is dressed (sharpened) properly; 2) Ensure the saw's kickback guard or grinders splash shields are functional and at the right angle and level for samples being cut, ground or polished; 3) make sure there is GFI protection on your saw, grinder or polisher and check that cords and all electrical connections are shielded and protected from water spray. Wear good leather or rubber soled shoes when wet sawing, grinding or polishing and use a grounding mat to stand on if one is available; 4) wear ear plugs or ear muffs when around operating saws AND not just when you are operating the equipment; 5) wear googles or safety glasses that include side shields if you are cutting, grinding or polishing by hand; 6) wear some sort of respiratory protection appropriate for the task at hand – and make sure it fits and works; 7) and lastly, use common sense, it if looks wrong and dangerous, it probably is and figure out a way to do it safely. Since after all the other hazards you survived to get the sample back to the shop, no need to get hurt turning it from raw rock into a fine gem or piece of art.



WILDFIRES & AIR QUALITY (continued)

Information collected is used in local forest planning, at the state level, and even by Congress. The information helps managers provide better service.

"Although the survey is entirely voluntary, we sure would appreciate it if local and out-of-area visitors would pull up and answer a few questions," Highfill added. Further information about this program is at: <u>https://www.fs.fed.us/recreation/programs/nvum/</u> ###winter survey photo.jpg

<u>10-3-2018 Forest Visitors asked to participate in recreation survey.pdf</u>



OCTOBER 10/01 Loah Helderman 11/02 James Roethig 10/01 Wesley McCurdy 11/03 Cooper Bybee 10/02 Robert Ingersoll 10/03 Daniel Grimes 10/03 Shelby Stamnes 10/04 Quincy Bybee 10/05 Micah McCurdy 10/05 Jason Smith **10/06 Arthur Church** 10/08 Todd Jackson 10/09 Brady Smith 10/11 Barbara Kerbs 10/11 Vickie Wise 10/13 Claire Blaine 10/14 Cherry Mallard 10/17 Leo Hennessy 10/19 Dawn Prather 10/20 Bill Sawyer 10/20 Linzey Snyder 10/22 Bryce Dethlefs 10/22 James Dillion 10/22 Terry Legg 10/22 Betty Trebilcock 11/28 Bonnie Sarchet 10/23 Chuck McGuire 10/26 Janelle Wintersteen 10/30 Scarlett Russell

NOVEMBER 11/03 Duane Winterroth 11/04 Mike Allen 11/06 Jaden Wanner 11/07 Peggy Blickfeldt 11/08 Sandy Mills 11/13 George Everett 11/14 Robert Burns 11/15 Chris Clougherty 11/17 Canyon Sandoval 11/18 Otto Yurke 11/19 Richard Ames 11/19 Misty Payne 11/20 Alisa Palmer 11/22 Boulton Blaine 11/22 Patty Harris 11/23 Marge Conley 11/25 Nick Smith 11/26 Mark Clary 11/26 Phil Neuhoff 11/27 Charles Smith 11/30 Jason Russell **FACETED:** Topaz or Citrine FACETED: Tourmaline CABOCHON: Amber

CABOCHON: Opal



OCTOBER 2018

Which Birthstone matches which month?











OCTOBER 2018

GRINDINGS

Bench Tips

LAYOUT TOOLS

Dimensions on some features of a design can be fluid while others must be accurate for the design to work. When precision on a piece is important, good layout techniques are essential.



www.BradSmithJewelry.com

These are the tools that I rely upon to get holes in the right place, to achieve correct angles, and to cut pieces the correct length.

I like crisp sharp lines to follow, so I often coat surfaces with a dark marker and scribe my layout lines onto the metal. A square makes quick work of checking right angles or marking where to cut, and the thin center punch helps me mark a place to drill holes exactly where I want them. Finally, a good set of dividers is probably my favorite layout tool. They let me quickly mark a strip for cutting, swing an arc, and divide a line or curve into as many equal segments as I need. I keep at least one set of dividers in every toolbox.

SPOT SANDING BRUSH

Sometimes you have a little discoloration or debris to clean from the bottom of a pocket, from an area of coarse textured surface, or from a small space between two soldered ob-



jects. Finding something to get into those close areas is always an effort in creativity.

One tool I have for these special occasions is a glass fiber spot sanding brush. It's great for cleaning a small area and doesn't leave deep scratches, only a faint satin finish. There are probably several manufacturers of these pens, but one is the PrepPen Adjustable Sanding Pen selling for US\$ 10.95 from Amazon. You can see it at

http://www.amazon.com/Prep-Pen-PrepPen-Adjustable-Sanding/ dp/B000J18RT6/



SILVER SOLDER FROM SCRAP

See all Brad's jewelry books at Amazon.com/author/bradfordsmith

Sometimes you need a lot of silver solder to complete a piece the way you want it to be. For me it was when I was trying to join several castings. But silver solder is expensive, so I found a way to make my own from scrap with a little help from a penny.

First step is finding out what's in a solder. A search through the reference books (Tim McCreight or Erhard Brepohl) or a Google search will turn up recipes like:

- * Hard AG 80% CU 13% ZN 7%
- * Medium AG 70% CU 20% ZN 5%
- * Easy AG 63% CU 30% ZN 7%

The silver (AG) and the copper (CU) are easy to come by, but finding some zinc (ZN) has always been my problem until I found out that our pennies are almost all zinc. According to Wikipedia a US penny minted after 1982 weighs 2.5 grams and is 97.5% ZN and 2.5% CU. So all I had to do is add a penny to some copper and a pile of silver scrap.

I chose to use Sterling scrap so I adjusted for the amount of copper in it as well as the amount of copper from the penny. Here's what I used for components of Medium solder:

- * Sterling 36.90 grams
- * Copper 9.35
- * Penny 2.50

Melt the silver and copper first in a melting dish, mix well with a carbon rod or titanium solder pick, add the zinc (penny) last, mix again, and pour into a small mold. The zinc is added last because melting it causes some to vaporize, and the fumes are a safety problem (They're a gray -green color). Be sure to have good ventilation. To check the solder's melting temperature is correct (medium), I put a sample of the homemade solder on a piece of copper sheet along with a known sample of hard, medium and easy solders. I then heated the plate from the bottom and watched as the easy first melted, the medium melted, the homemade melted, and finally the hard. Additional notes on converting the ingot to sheet, strip or wire form - If you have access to a rolling mill, that will be the fastest way to proceed. Either roll out the ingot into a sheet and cut strips or roll it out as wire if your mill has the grooves. If you don't have a mill, all you have to do is forge out the ingot into a rough sheet of the gauge you'd like and then cut thin strips with bench shears. Be sure to anneal the sheet every so often as you forge it.



INVENTORY RECORD

In an ideal world each of us has a complete pictorial record of all pieces of jewelry in our inventory. We use the pics for marketing, and we use the record for insurance. We use it to remember which items have been sent out on consignment, or we use it to mark which items we're taking to a show. And eventually, we note in the record the pieces that have sold.

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Unfortunately, we don't always have time to take good pictures of each piece for a detailed inventory. In situations like this I've been able to make a quick group shot with the help of a smart phone, a camera, a scanner, or a color copier. The quality is more than sufficient to accurately identify the pieces.

OCTOBER 2018



NFMS NEWS

- Organizational Meeting, October 20, 2018 @ 2pm in Lewiston, ID in conjunction with Hells Canyon Gem Show.
- Need host for 2020 NFMS Annual Meeting, contact Keith Fackrell
- National Rockhound & Lapidary Hall of Fame, contact Hidemi Kira
- Endowment Fund Tickets, contact Judi Allison
- Supports Video presentations creation and availability from NFMS
- Jr. Rockhound Badge Program
- ALAA: ask club to join
- AFMS dues pay on time like we ask our members to pay on time.
- Ken Zahn, 1st VP: valid mining claims prevent loss of rockhounding sites when Congress jumps to declaring pseudo-wilderness full wilderness. He describes mining claim process
- October 15th deadline for commenting on USDA Forest Services revision of Agency's regulations.
- 2nd VP Beth Heesacker talked on Volunteering for new Cell: (509) 961-2313 members alongside established members brings new perspectives.
- Jack Roberts, Committee Chairperson for Endowment Fund reported on Committee actions.
- Editor, myself, did changes in Newsletter and discussed how do you use crystals & rocks metaphysically
- NFMS Rules & Awards chairperson, Bob Gibson, reviewed committee responsibilities and that 2 new team members are needed.
- Librarian, Darrell Watkins, discussed what and how to compete in NFMS award for digital presentation or videos r/t Earth Sciences.
- Notice regarding Diamond Dan Mini-Miner Monthly program in which we are currently participating.



Subject: RE: Cat Creek Wind Turbine project -Hazard to Idaho back country air navigation

I'm sending this to a few pilots in my contact list that live or regularly fly in southern Idaho.

Attached is a letter I just sent to the Elmore County Idaho Board of Commissioners. The letter is self-explanatory, but it concerns a wind turbine project that would be detrimental for low-altitude air navigation in south-central Idaho and potentially put pilots lives at risk.

Those affected might want to spread the word amongst the Idaho pilot community, or even possibly advocate against this project.

Chris Stephens, a Carbon Cub owner with property in the local area where the Cat Creek Turbines would be located. can also provide more information. He can be contacted at: cstephens@5BI.com

Sincerely,

Brad Damm – VP / Sales and Marketing

CubCrafters - Yakima, Washington Office: (509) 248-9491

See the NFMS on Facebook

https://www.facebook.com/groups/NFMS1 (for the desktop/laptop/tablets) https://m.facebook.com/grups/NFMS1 (for mobile devices like phones)



OCTOBER 2018



AFMS NEWS

- UN General Assembly proclaimed 2019 as International year of the Periodic Table of Chemical Elements on 20 Dec. 2017. It recognizes the importance of raising global awareness of how chemistry promotes sustainable development & provides solutions to global challenges in energy, education, agriculture, & health. This is to promote & celebrate the significance of Periodic Table of Elements & Its applications to society through many different societies, institutions, organizations, & the private sector.
- President wants to help us focus our efforts on making our clubs stronger. This includes outreach with welcoming mat, new ideas, competitive programs and strengthening our members with increasing their skills with education, workshops, and our friendships.
- New positions filled: Afms Website Contest Chair is Don Shurt, Afms Club Rockhound of the year is Judi Allison (NFMS), & Program Competitions Chair is Darrel Watkins (NFMS).
- Safety includes hazard preparation like checking weather patterns, remembering all rockhounding materials, preventing and treating bug bites and animal attacks.
- Honoring our Rockhounds with submission for Rockhound of the Year. Suggest IGC submits now d/t early AFMS 2019 meeting requiring all competition submissions by November to NFMS.
- Albert B. Dickas has published book: 101 American Fossil Sites You've Gotta See (Mountain Press, 2018). The book opens with quick romp through history of paleontology as a science, provides basics of fossils & fossilization,& explores history of life on Earth, eon-by-eon, period-by-period. Then 101 sites from Alabama to Wyoming (includes Alaska & Hawaii) with 2page spread for each site with overview of site, GPS coordinates, significance of site, description & paleontological history w/color illustrations, maps, & photos.
- Resources: all are copyrighted and need permission with credit to use.
- JohnBetts-fineminerals.com spectacular photos, details of specimen, size, condition, fluorescence, price, & provenance.

Wikipedia

www.architecturendesign.net/45-extremely-beautifulminerals-and-stones

http://www.johnbetts-fineminerals.com/museum http://mindat.org

https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Main_Page

- Scientists are working to slow global warming by removing carbon dioxide from atmosphere with magnesite. https://phys.org/news/2018-08scientists-mineral-co2-atmosphere.html#jCp
- ALAA=American Lands Access Association <u>http://</u> <u>amlands.org/6601.html</u>
- AFMS Convention 2019 in Cedar Rapids, IA on March 23-24

Owyhee Rockhounding Trip – 10/13/2018

I'll be the wagon master Gerry Gibeault, and Dale Rawson of the Caldwell (Owyhee) gem and mineral club has agreed to be guide. Right now we plan to visit "Windy Ridge" picture jasper, Succor Creek thunder eggs from the Owyhee club's claim, leaf fossils, and a petrified wood site. The specific sites we visit may change depending on weather. Rain may make some roads impassable. I will be bringing a camp trailer and will be staying at the Snake River RV Resort, returning to Idaho Falls Monday

morning.

Several people have expressed an interest in the trip but I will not know who is going for sure until after our club meeting Monday.

On Saturday morning I plan to meet at 8:30 am next to the Homedale City Hall/ Police Station. Sunday's field trip depends on the group's input.

Our trip will be taking us into rough country and a long way from civilization, no restrooms or restaurants. I know the newsletter describes the trip as "moderate," but after thinking about it, the trip more likely qualifies as "difficult". So, wear appropriate cloths, good hiking shoes, sunscreen, and lots of water, food and snacks. With respect to road conditions and high clearance vehicles I believe most of the roads will be pretty good and sedans should have no problem. I have room for 3 or 4 people in my truck. So, right now I can offer rides for Shannon and her sister and brother-in-law. We can make specific travel arrangements Saturday morning. Dale Rawson, the guide, will be taking his own jeep.



NFMS CLUBS SHOW SCHEDULE

October 20 & 21	Hells Canyon Gem Club	Nez Perce County Fair	Mary Lou Northrup
Sat - 10 - 6 Sun - 10 - 5		1229 Burrell Avenue	208 743 6944
		Lewiston ID 83501	mlandjl@yahoo.com
October 27-28	Clackamette Mineral and	Clackamas County Fair-grounds,	Beth Heesacker
Sat: 9 - 6 Sun: 10 - 5	Gem	694 NE 4th Ave, Canby, OR 97013	heesacker@coho.net,
			4145 NW Heesacker Rd., Forest Grove, OR 97116
October 27 & 28	Bellevue Rock Club	Vasa Park	Bruce Himko
Sat - 10 - 6 Sun - 10 - 5		3560 West Lake Sammamish PKWY SE Bellevue, WA 98008	PO Box 1851 Bellevue, WA 98009
			bellevuerockclub@comcast.net
November 10 &	Maplewood Rock and	Maplewood Rock and Gem Club-	Mary Ann Collins
11 Sat $-9-5$	Gem Club	house, 8802 196 th ST SW, Edmonds WA	206 714 3922
-9-5 Sun $-10-5$		Edmonds WA	collmal1@comcast.net
November 10 &	Skagit Rock & Gem Club	Sedro Woolley Comm. Ctr.,	Debbie Frank
11 Sat $-9-$	Skagit Rock & Gem Club	703 Pacific Street	skagitrockandgem@gmail.com
5 Sun –		Sedro Woolley, WA	shughtookunugomoghuntoom
10 - 4		5 7	
December 8 & 9	Maplewood Rock and	Maplewood Rock and Gem Club-	Mary Ann Collins
$\operatorname{Sat} - 9 - 5$	Gem Club	house, 8802 196 th ST SW,	206 714 3922
Sun - 10 - 5		Edmonds WA	collmall@comcast.net
2019			
February 9 & 10	Whidbey Island Gem Club	Oak Harbor Senior Center,	Keith Ludemann
Sat. $9-5$	54th Annual "Sweetheart of Gem's"	51 SE Jerome,	360 675 1837,
Sun. 9 – 4	Sweetheart of Gem's Show	Oak Harbor WA	rock9@whidbey.net
March 16 & 17	Hellgate Mineral Society	Hilton Garden Inn	Neil Maier
Sat $-9-6$	Thengate Willerar Society	3720 North Reserve St.	atttoodz@yahoo.com
Sun - 10 - 5		Missoula MT	406 240 1079
March 29-31	Rock Rollers Club	Spokane County Fair & Expo Cen-	Mike Shaw ,
Fri – 10 – 6	of Spokane WA	ter N.404 Havana at	509 251 1574
Sat - 10 - 6		Broadway Spo-	showchair@rockrollers.org
Sun 10 – 4		kane WA	
March 30 & 31	Mt. Baker Rock & Gem	Bloedel-Donovan Park,	Dick Carr,
Sat. 10 – 6	Club 58th Annual Rock	2214 Electric Ave.,	rjcarr@juno.com
Sun. $10 - 5$	and Gem Show	Bellingham WA	ijeun (ojuno.com
		6	
April 13 & 14	Maplewood Rock and	Maplewood Rock and Gem Club-	Mary Ann Collins,
$\operatorname{Sat} - 9 - 5$	Gem Club - April Sale	house, 8802 196 th ST SW,	206 714 3922
Sun – 10 - 5		Edmonds WA	collma1@comcast.net
April 27 & 28	West Seattle Rock Club	Alki Masonic Temple,	Annette Nelson,
Sat. $10-5$		4736 40th Avenue SW,	wsrc.show@gmail.com
Sun. 10 – 5 August 10 & 11	Maplewood Rock and	Seattle WA Maplewood Rock and Gem Club-	Mary Ann Collins,
Sat $-9-5$	Gem Club - Rock and	house, 8802 196 th ST SW,	206 714 3922
Sun - 10 - 5	Mineral Sale	Edmonds WA	collma1@comcast.net
November 9 & 10	Maplewood Rock and	Maplewood Rock and Gem Club-	Mary Ann Collins
$\operatorname{Sat} - 9 - 5$	Gem Club - Show	house, 8802 196 th ST SW,	206 714 3922
Sun - 10 - 5		Edmonds WA	collma1@comcast.net
December 7 & 8	Maplewood Rock and	Maplewood Rock and Gem Club-	Mary Ann Collins
Sat - 9 - 5	Gem Club - Rock and	house, 8802 196 th ST SW,	206 714 3922
Sun - 10 - 5	Mineral Sale	Edmonds WA	collma1@comcast.net



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 per year GENERAL MEETING: 3rd. Tuesday of every month: 7:30 p.m.

BOARD MEETING: 1st. Tuesday of every month: 7:00 p.m.

ADDRESS: Church of the Brethren 2823 N. Cole Road, Boise, Idaho



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Mountain View Church of the Brethren 2823 N. Cole Road	COLE
NORTHVIEW	
FAIRVIEW	