



# Grindings

Idaho Gem Club, Inc.

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

VOL 81 NO 8

AUGUST 2020

## DIRECTORY

ITEM	PAGE
President's Message	1
Calendars	2
Field Trips, Special Events	3
Workshops, Sunshine Lady Report	4
Outdoors Act	5
General Meeting Minutes	6
Board Meeting Minutes, New Members	7

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It has been nice to slowly and cautiously enjoy Idaho Gem Club activities. Our meetings have been creatively cooperative with the stipulations for group activities. The Kids Workshop that Brent and Gia Stewart put together was a very well planned event, and was well attended. Stations were set up and the group divided to make projects. Attendees went home with really cool rocks, geodes, jewelry, cabochons they made and full bellies from a great BBQ lunch! Parents stayed to help out, and we had terrific instructors for cabbing and jewelry! Thank you!

Tony Griffin, big thanks and gratitude for leading our July Succor Creek field trip to find red eggs and jaspers. It was such a rocky road but all vehicles made the destinations. When Tony's sidewall of his truck tire blew out, all the men were quick to change it! Erin Griffin, one of our new members, was kind to give Tony a break and share the driving duty out of Leslie Gulch. It was incredibly hot. Everyone found great specimens and had a great time. Hydration is essential on these trips, please bring a lot of water! It was especially great having Tony take us rockhounding. He is a past club President and has contributed so much to our club.

August field trip will be led by Greg Sandmeyer to South Mountain for crystals, gem minerals. Greg has a wealth of information on the geology of this area and the mine. See details inside.

I am very excited to announce we have a new couple, Jeff and Kathe Miller, who will fill the Field Trip Chairmanship position. The Millers are both hospital employees, enthusiastic, very helpful, and you will really enjoy them. Thank you both for filling this important role with our club. Please share maps, ideas, location information with them and help them out any way you are able! September will be their first official field trip to Glass Buttes for Obsidian. There are people making hotel reservations in Burns, Oregon, since this is an overnight trip.

Sometime in September we will schedule a special Gem Show meeting so we can get a good start for February show. Anyone interested in making items for the Wheel of Fortune, Basket Raffle, ticket sales and hostess table, silent auction, etc., please think of ways you can contribute and get involved. No experience needed! Please try and put together a bucket of extra rocks to donate for our silent auction at the show.

August 18, 2020, General Meeting & Auction...is a potluck picnic dinner at Kristen Armstrong Municipal Park, 500 Walnut Street, beginning at 6:30 pm. Bring a dish to share with serving utensils, and table service (plate, fork, etc.) for yourself. Drinks and ice cream provided by the Gem Club. Wear masks when not eating. The auction needs donations of items. This is a fundraiser where proceeds apply to our Annual Banquet in January. Ed Moser will be our live Auctioneer. If you have items rockhound related, jewelry, tools or anything unique, please bring! We hope to have some bidding wars and raise funds! Come enjoy each other's company and a nice sunny evening in a great riverside park, under the shelter. Bring rocks to identify or show off and talk about! Let's get to know each other and make friends with the really terrific new members joining our club! A lot of you are retirees looking for some fun new adventures and taking up a hobby. Friendships formed this way in the 30's, 40's and beyond have proven to be lifelong bonds between like-minded couples. There is so much to learn and discover in geology.

We hope you are enjoying your summer, staying healthy and making nice family memories. See you all at the Picnic in the Park!

*Respectfully submitted,  
Deana Ashton, President*

The deadline for issues is the Friday after each Board Meeting for the current month's edition. To submit articles, please send them through email to Dana Robinson, Editor [drobinso@boisestate.edu](mailto:drobinso@boisestate.edu)

## ACTIVITY CALENDAR

## JULY

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4
5	6 ROLE Workshop 6-8:45 pm	7 Board Meeting 7 pm	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18 Kids' Workshop 10 am-2 pm OGMS Field Trip Pink Plume
19	20	21 Meeting Picnic, 6:30 Municipal Park	22	23 Workshop 6-8:45 pm	24	25
26 Field Trip Succor Creek Meet 8:00 am	27	28	29	30	31	

## OCTOBER

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3
	4	5 ROLE Workshop 6-8:45 pm	6 Board Meeting 7 pm	7	8	9
	11	12	13	14 National Fossil Day	15	16
	18	19	20 General Meeting 7 pm	21	22 Workshop 6-8:45 pm	23
	25	26	27	28	29	30
						31 Project of Year Workshop 10 am-2 pm
						24 OGMS Field Trip Graveyard Pt.
						31 Workshop 10 am-2 pm

## AUGUST

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1 Workshop 10 am-2 pm
2	3 ROLE Workshop 6-8:45 pm	4 Board Meeting 7 pm	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18 Meeting Picnic, 6:30 Municipal Park	19	20 Workshop 6-8:45 pm	21	22 Kids' Workshop 10 am-2 pm OGMS Field Trip Wagontown
23 30 Field Trip South Mtn. Meet 8:30 am	24 31	25	26	27	28	29 Workshop 10 am-2 pm

## NOVEMBER

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2 ROLE Workshop 6-8:45 pm	3 Board Meeting 7 pm	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14 Project of Year Workshop 10 am-2 pm
15	16	17 Meeting 7 pm Board Elections	18	19 Thanksgiving	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28 Workshop 10 am-2 pm
29	30					

## SEPTEMBER

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1 Board Meeting 7 pm	2	3	4	5
6	7 ROLE Workshop 6-8:45 pm	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15 Meeting 7 pm	16	17 Workshop 6-8:45 pm	18	19 OGMS Field Trip Blue Egg Claim
20 Field Trip Glass Buttes/ Hampton Butte	21	22	23	24	25	26 Workshop 10 am-2 pm
27	28	29	30			

## DECEMBER

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1 Board Meeting 7 pm	2	3	4	5 Wire Wrap Workshop 10 am-2 pm
6	7 ROLE Workshop 6-8:45 pm	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15 Meeting 7 pm Project of Year Contest	16	17 Workshop 6-8:45 pm	18	19 Holiday Party at Workshop 10 am-5 pm
20 Holiday Party at Workshop 10 am-5 pm	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

## IDAHO GEM CLUB MEMBER FIELD TRIPS

Our field trip day is the 3rd Sunday of each month with additional trips on other weekends. The 3rd Saturday is the Owyhee Gem & Mineral Society Field Trip day. This year, you may go to OGMS and IGC trips.

Aug 22	OGMS Wagontown - Bog Wood
AUG 23	SOUTH MOUNTAIN - Ilavite/Hedenburgite/ Crystals
Sept 19	OGMS Blue Egg Claim
SEPT 20	GLASS BUTTES and HAMPTON BUTTE with Cathy Parsons
Oct.	BEACON HILL - Date yet to be determined
Oct 24	OGMS Graveyard Point

### Field Trip Leaders Contact Information:

Cathy Parsons, 208-957-9938

OGMS Trips: Robert Murphey, 208-590-1848

## AUGUST FIELD TRIP

The field trip is Sunday August 23rd and will be to South Mountain with Greg Sandmeyer for ilavite, hedenburgite and crystals. The meeting place is at the Extra Mile station at the intersection of Hwys. 55 and 95, just past Marsing, at 7:45 am, leaving at 8:15. Then we will be meeting Greg at the Jordan Valley City Park at 9 am. You will need a high clearance vehicle, hand shovels and rakes, your lunch, and plenty of water.

## OGMS FIELD TRIP

Owyhee Gem & Mineral Society Field Trip is Saturday August 22, 2020. They are going to Wagontown for Petrified Bog Wood.

Meet at the Gem Stop (Extra Mile Chevron Gas Station) at the corner of Hwy 55 and Hwy 95 at 7:00 am, leave at 7:30am. Robert Murphey and Dale Rawson are leading this trip. You are welcome to attend OGMS trips. Robert does a lot of preparation work ensuring a fantastic and successful adventure for club members. Join the fun!

## SPECIAL EVENTS

### Summer Pot Luck Picnic Meetings

It is that time of year again to have outdoor summer picnics for the July and August meetings. There will not be anyone at the church location. Please bring a dish to share along with a serving utensil and your own table service (plate, utensils, etc.). The club provides drinks and ice cream. We will need to spread out a bit more than we usually would and wear masks when not eating. An Auction will follow the dinner and meeting. Please bring a donation item to auction. Auction benefits the annual banquet fund.

It is also recommended that we not exceed 50 in our group. Please stay home if you are sick!

*Hope You Are Able Join Us!!*



Map to Picnic Location  
Kristen Armstrong Municipal Park  
500 S. Walnut St., Boise  
Tuesday, August 18, 2020  
6:30 p.m.

## AUGUST PROGRAM

The August meeting program is an Auctions after everyone has enjoyed the picnic. Please bring something you would be interested in donating for this fundraising event. Clean out sofa cushions for all your extra money!

## WORKSHOPS

We are back to our normal workshop schedule of the Thursday evening after the general meeting, and the Saturday of the following week. Please be sure to bring your mask. The dates are listed on the calendars on page 2.

*\*Experienced lapidary members, please volunteer to help at the workshops. See Brent Stewart.*

## KID'S WORKSHOP

The next Kids' Workshop will be on Saturday, August 22nd from 10 am-2 pm. There will be the usual activities, as well as a hot dog lunch. Please bring your own masks! Please sign up by calling Brent Stewart at 208-342-1151 (Stewart's Gem Shop).

## WORKSHOP LOCATION

2620 W. Idaho St., Boise, ID  
Next door to Stewart's Gem Shop  
\$5 Fee for each visit (kids free)



## SUNSHINE LADY REPORT

Condolences to Greg Sandmeyer and family for the loss of their loved one recently.

Please keep Robert and Lori Coggins in thoughts and prayers for support and strength.

Contact Deana Ashton for any members in need of prayer, cheer, assistance, the Sunshine Lady. 208-794-5628 - text is best!

## JAMES (JIM) EDWARD DILLION

**1926-2020**



The spirit of James (Jim) Edward Dillion left us here in Boise on July 30, 2020, for the golden shores on the other side of the River Jordan.

Jim was born 22 October 1926 at Middletown, Missouri, to John E. and Cora (Holt) Dillion. Jimmy, as he was known as a kid, attended Middletown Grade and High School. After graduation he was drafted into the Navy. He then enrolled in the University of Missouri Agricultural where he met his wife to be. He and Helen Capps were married 7 June 1950

after both graduated from the University. Jim also received a master's degree and taught at the University for two years. He went to Decatur, IL, and was a Farm Manager at Central National Bank. He then went to Sterling, IL, and was a Senior Vice President at Central National Bank. Jim and Helen (from teaching) retired in 1988 and moved to Boise, Idaho, in 1989.

Jim was always a member of the Christian Church-Disciples of Christ and in Boise he and Helen were members of the University Christian Church. That church was sold to Boise State University. The Church relocated to Meridian and is now known as Parkview Christian Church.

Jim was known by his family and friends for his hobbies over the years. He liked hunting and fishing as a young lad and worked on the farm with chores and other duties. He also enjoyed bowling, golfing, weaving, and gardening. He had a great time rock hounding in Boise as a member of the Idaho GemClub.

He was left by Helen when she passed away 22 September 2017. He is survived by a son, Lee and daughter, Melinda, and several grandchildren.

No local services are planned. The ashes of Jim and Helen will be returned to Middletown, Missouri, by the family and will be interred at Fairmont Cemetery by the side of his parents.

Jim hopes that his family and friends will gather from time to time in his memory to pray and have a party and a toast to a good life!

## GREAT AMERICAN OUTDOORS ACT

The Great American Outdoors Act, which was officially signed into law at a White House ceremony, is the most significant conservation legislation in a generation. It will protect wildlife habitat, conserve public lands and waters, and expand outdoor recreation opportunities across Idaho – and across the nation. The law, which was passed by overwhelming bipartisan majorities in Congress earlier this summer, will permanently fund the Land and Water Conservation Fund and will provide up to \$1.9 billion a year to address deferred maintenance issues at our national parks, forests, wildlife refuges and other public lands.

“For over 50 years, the Land and Water Conservation Fund has helped maintain such beloved recreation areas as Tubbs Hill in Coeur d’Alene, the Boise Greenbelt, Hagerman WMA, and much more. It has helped connect families with nature, increased access for hunting and fishing, and fueled a burgeoning outdoor recreation economy,” said Brian Brooks, executive director of the Idaho Wildlife Federation. “The Great American Outdoors Act now guarantees that our public lands and recreation areas will thrive for future generations to enjoy. And none of it would have been possible without the extraordinary efforts of Congressman Mike Simpson.”

“The Great American Outdoors Act is a truly historic, bipartisan conservation accomplishment that will protect wildlife habitat, expand recreational opportunities, restore public lands and waters, and create good jobs,” said Collin O’Mara, president and CEO of the National Wildlife Federation. “Time and again, our leaders have shown that conservation can not only bridge the partisan divide, but also put Americans back to work and safeguard wildlife and our way of life for future generations. Congress should build on this bipartisan achievement by jumpstarting our post-COVID 19 economic recovery by passing additional job creating measures such as a 21st Century Conservation Corps and the Recovering America’s Wildlife Act.”

The Land and Water Conservation Fund, which is often called America’s most effective land conservation program, has been a top priority of Idaho Wildlife Federation and the National Wildlife Federation. Fifty-six years ago, the National Wildlife Federation worked closely with Interior Secretary Stewart Udall and leaders in Congress to secure the initial passage of the program, and then worked to increase funding and programmatic impact in 1968, 1970 and 1977. For the past five years, the Idaho Wildlife Federation and the National Wildlife Federation helped lead the charge to permanently reauthorize and fully fund the Land and Water Conservation Fund.

The bipartisan triumph of the Great America’s Outdoors Act is very much the result of the hard work of our members, affiliates, and partners, who spoke with their elected officials, wrote letters, and kept up a steady stream of advocacy for this important program.



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## MINUTES OF THE IDAHO GEM CLUB GENERAL MEETING JULY 21, 2020

**Picnic:** Willa gave the blessing to start the evening. Everyone enjoyed the great picnic offerings.

**Business Meeting:**

Meeting called to order at 7:30 pm by President Deana Ashton.  
There were no visitors to our picnic. There were 17 members present.  
Door prizes were awarded.

Deana asked for any corrections to the minutes of last month's meeting as printed in the Grindings. Willa Renken made a motion to accept the minutes as printed which was seconded by Dana Robinson. Members voted, motion passed.

**Secretary Report** by Gia Stewart: Members are encouraged to sign up for the Rock and Gem Magazine for the juniors.

**Treasurer Report** by Teresa Nebeker: No report.

**Federation Report:** No report.

**Refreshment Committee Report** by Rick Corbett: The August Picnic will also be at the regular time -- 6:30 pm -- and held at the Municipal Park covered area off of Walnut St. Auction to follow.

**ROLE Report** by Brent Stewart: No report.

**Field Trip Report** by Deana Ashton: Everyone had a great time finding pink plume in the Owyhees and jaspers at Haystack Butte. Tony Griffin will lead the field trip to Succor Creek to find red thundereggs. Greg Sandmeyer will lead the August field trip to the South Mountain mines.

**Library Report:** Check out the offerings in our library. The library can be opened. There are lots of books and videos to check out.

**Workshop Report** by Brent Stewart: Regularly scheduled Thursday after meeting workshop will be open from 6:00pm to 8:45pm and on August 1st from 10-2. The next Kids' Workshop is August 22nd. There will be a tour of the shop and rock yard, then to workshop for a craft, making cabs on genie, and a hot dog lunch. Please sign up at Stewart's Gem Shop.

**Old Business:**

The Nyssa Thunderegg Days went very well. There were several members who participated in manning the booth.

**New Business:** Don't forget the August meeting is also a potluck picnic meeting and will be held at the Municipal Park on Walnut Street.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:55 pm for a silent auction.

*Respectfully submitted, Gia Stewart, Secretary*

**THE GRINDINGS**

is the monthly newsletter of the Idaho Gem Club, Inc., associated with the Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies. Permission to copy is freely granted when proper credit is given to both the publication and the author. Articles without bylines are written by the Editor or President.

**CHECK OUT THE CLUB WEBSITE!**

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

## MINUTES OF THE IDAHO GEM CLUB BOARD MEETING AUGUST 4, 2020

Deana Ashton called the meeting to order at 7:08 pm.

**Present:** Deana Ashton, Willa Renken, Ed Moser, Brent Stewart, Teresa Nebeker, Cheryl Peterson, Cheryl Link, Rick Corbett, Cullen Anderson, and Gia Stewart

**Guests:** Dana Robinson, Deanna Moser, Liz Warner

**Absent:** Jason Smith

Deana asked for any corrections to the minutes as printed in the Grindings. Willa made a motion to accept the minutes as printed in the Grindings, which was seconded by Cheryl. Board members voted, motion passed.

**Secretary Report** by Gia Stewart: We did not receive the August Rock & Gem magazine.

**Treasurer Report** by Teresa Nebeker: Teresa went over the financial statement of payments and new member dues.

**Federation Report:** No report.

**Program Report** by Brent Stewart: The August program will be an auction after the picnic. Ed Moser will be the auctioneer.

**Juniors Report:** Kids' Day is August 22 from 10-2.

**Refreshments Report** by Rick Corbett: No report.

**Field Trip Report:** Tony Griffin led 13 cars to Succor Creek outing. It was a great turnout, but not many thundereggs found. Site has been heavily picked over. We went to 4 locations; 2 for thundereggs and 2 for jasper. The field trip for August is to South Mountain mines for Ilavite, Hedenburgite, and crystals. Greg Sandmeyer will lead us out to a few locations. Bring your water, shovels, pikes, and buckets.

**Workshop Report** by Brent Stewart: Brent went over the dates for the next workshops. The regular workshops will be August 20 from 6-8:45 pm. The next Kids' Workshop will be Saturday, August 22nd from 10 am-2pm. ROLE Workshop Sept. 5th 10am-2pm, regular workshop Sept. 17th 6-8:45pm and Sept. 26th 10am-2pm. **BRING YOUR OWN MASK FOR ALL WORKSHOPS.**

**Old Business:** No old business.

**New Business:**

Need to get Banquet Committee going.

The new budget for 2020 was reviewed and discussed. Cheryl Link made a motion to accept the budget and it was seconded by Ed Moser. Board members voted and the motion passed.

A sad note this evening. Jim Dillion passed last week. Since we don't have services to send flowers to it was suggested we make a donation to NFMS in his name.

Liz Warner talked about the ROLE program. There was much discussion about how to organize instructors to help others. One person from the ROLE program will volunteer to help at workshops with everybody taking turns. This will ensure everyone is getting the help they need and can move forward.

Starting in September there will be a Theme each month with programs geared toward that theme. September will be Obsidian. The program will be about the stone and the workshop will concentrate on cutting obsidian.

Three new applications were reviewed. Ed made a motion to accept the new members, Wila seconded, the board voted and the motion passed.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:17 pm. Stay Safe!!

*Respectfully submitted, Gia Stewart, Secretary*

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Erin Griffin  
Aaron Wilson and Family

Carrie Wilson  
Betty Wyatt

## REFRESHMENT COMMITTEE

CONTACT RICK CORBETT  
at 208-890-2599

Due to the COVID-19 issues around social distancing, we will not have refreshments at our meetings until further notice. Please bring your own beverage. We will still be having the door prize drawings.

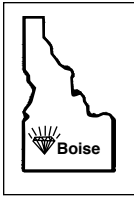
DOOR PRIZES include: One small wrapped item (cab, slab, other)

10 PRIZES FOR YOUTH and 10 PRIZES FOR ADULT

THANKS FOR  
YOUR UNDERSTANDING  
AS WE NAVIGATE THE NEXT FEW MONTHS



Succor Creek Thundereggs

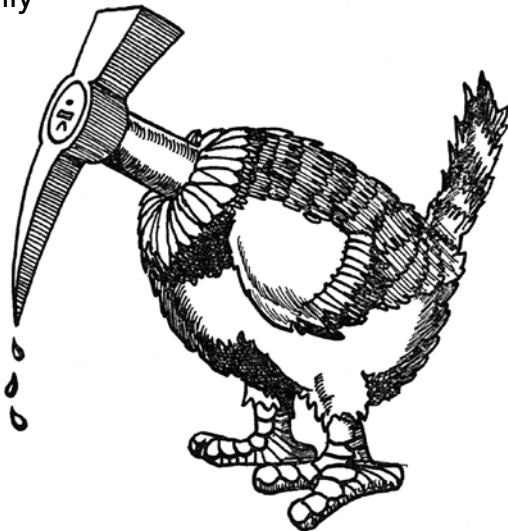


Idaho Gem Club, Inc.  
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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

The purpose of the Idaho Gem Club is to promote mutual, educational and scientific interests and benefits of it's members in mineralogy, geology, gemology, the art of lapidary and kindred arts and sciences

<b>Dues:</b>	<b>Subscription only:</b>
\$22.00 individual	\$10 per year
\$25.00 couple	
\$28.00 family	



**GENERAL MEETING:**  
3rd Tuesday of every month: 7:00 p.m.

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

**ADDRESS:**  
Church of the Brethren

