

Grindings Idaho Gem Club, Inc.

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

VOL 84 NO 5 MAY 2023

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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

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello Rockhounders:

Spring is finally here. And with a very successful field trip to Graveyard Point and the Queenstone areas, we're off with a bang. We had 18 cars and trucks full of rockhounds. Thirty-five adults and eleven kids made the hills crawl with activity. This month we're heading to our Whangdoodle Opal claim and then off for some beautiful petrified wood at Mahogony and Hooker Creeks. We will meet on Saturday, May 20th, 8 am at the Ion Truck Plaza on the corner of Hwys. 55 and 95, departing at 8:30. All are welcome; club members and friends. We may have to combine our vehicles as there is limited parking at the Whangdoodle claim.

Our next trip is a two day trip to our world famous Beacon Hill claim Saturday, June 3 and Sunday, June 4 over to the Weiser area. Willa and Doug Renken will be leading us to a very special area. Come both days to really take advantage of this special trip. We will be meeting at 8 am at the Rest Stop on I-84, just over the Idaho/Oregon border by Ontario. We will do a head count and leave at 8:30 am both days.

Don't forget to come to our workshops this month. The first one is Thursday night, May 18, from 6:00 pm to 8:45 pm. The second one is on Saturday, May 27, from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. There is also a ROLE workshop on Monday, May 15, from 6:00 pm to 8:45 pm for more advanced grinders. See you there!

Brent Stewart has set the dates for two Kid's Day Workshops. They are both on Saturdays, July 15 and August 12, from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. Let's get those kids involved in our passion for rocks and the lapidary world.

Don't forget we're having a Trunk Sale at the Maple Grove Grange parking lot starting at 5 pm on Tuesday, May 16, meeting night. Bring your rocks, cabs, slabs, specimens and jewelry. Maybe sell a few things and, as always, lots of visiting.

At our next meeting we're having a double monitor micro specimen viewing slide show during our meeting. Cheryl Link will set up and give a brief summary of some of the cool equipment we have. Looking forward to that.

The Hell's Canyon Rock Club has invited us to a weekend rock adventure up north in the Lewiston area for sugar garnets and garnet crystals. Please contact Deana Ashton for more information. The dates are July 1 and 2 for that adventure. Again, call Deana to get on the list and for trip information.

It's almost time for Thunderegg Days in Nyssa, OR, July 6-9. Get ready to get your rock on! A fun time for all. Come help set-up, support our club and have a rocking good time. See you there!

Respectfully Submitted, Rick Corbett, President

ACTIVITY CALENDAR

10 am-2 pm

TUE	MON	SUN	SAT	FRI	THU	WED	TUE	MON	SUN
			6	5	4	3	2 Board Meeting 7 pm	1 ROLE Workshop 6-8:45 pm	
6	5	4	13	12	11	10	9	8	7
Board Meeting 7 pm	ROLE Workshop 6-8:45 pm	Beacon Hill Field Trip 8 am							
13	12	11	20	19	18	17	16	15	14
			Field Trip Whangdoodle/ Hooker Creek		Workshop 6-8:45 pm		General Meeting 7:00 pm	ROLE Workshop 6-8:45 pm	
20	19	18	27	26	25	24	23	22	21
General	ROLE								

JUNE						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3 Beacon Hill Field Trip 8 am
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Beacon Hill Field Trip 8 am	ROLE Workshop 6-8:45 pm	Board Meeting 7 pm				
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	ROLE Workshop 6-8:45 pm	20 General Meeting 7 pm	21	22 Workshop 6:45-8 pm	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

JULY						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1 Workshop 10 am-2 pm
2	ROLE Workshop 6-8:45 pm	4 Board Meeting 7 pm	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	Kids' Day Workshop 10 am-2 pm
16	ROLE Workshop 6-8:45 pm	18 Annual Picnic 6 pm	19	20 Workshop 6-8:45 pm	21	Field Trip Silver City 8 am
23 30	24 31	25	26	27	28	29 Workshop

MAY

AUGUST						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1 Board Meeting 7 pm	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	ROLE Workshop 6-8:45 pm					Kids' Day Workshop 10 am-2 pm
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
		General Meeting 7 pm		Workshop 6-8:45 pm		Field Trip Gooding 8 am
20	ROLE Workshop 6-8:45 pm	22	23	24	25	Workshop 10 am-2 pm
27	28	29	30	31		









Upcoming Events

North Idaho Mineral Club Annual Show, June 3, 9 am-5 pm, June 4, 10 am-4 pm. North Idaho State Fairgrounds, Jacklin Building, 4056 N. Government Way, Coeur d'Alene

Obsidian Days Rock & Gem Show, June 9-11. Hines City Park, Hines OR (Burns)

Prineville Rockhound Pow Wow, June 15-17. 9 am-5 pm, June 18, 9 am-4 pm, Crook County Fair Grounds, 1280 S. Main St., Prineville, OR

Madras Rock & Gem Show, June 22-24. 9 am-6 pm, June 25, 9 am-2 pm, Jefferson County Fairgrounds, 430 SW Fairgrounds Rd., Madras

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29

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FIELD TRIPS

The field trip for May will be to our Whangdoodle Opal claim, and to Mahogany and Hooker Creeks for petrified wood. We will be meeting at the Gas 'n Go Station at the corner of Hwys. 95 and 55, just outside of Marsing, at 8 am on Saturday, May 20th, the same as the last field trip. Jenni Gudapadi will take a head count and then lead us out to the collecting areas. We will likely need to combine vehicles as there is limited parking at Whangdoodle. Be sure to bring lunch, water and any snacks you may want.

FIELD TRIP SUPPLIES

Rock Hammer Water

Chisel, Pick, Pry Bar Sunscreen and a Hat

Shovels Knee Pads
Garden Claw Rake Safety Glasses

Buckets or Sacks Gloves
Screening Box First Aid Kit

Map or GPS

Good boots or hiking shoes are recommended Rain Coat (dress in layers for cooler mornings) Lunch/Dinner/Snack Foods/Camping supplies





SCHOLALRSHIP WINNER

Kathleen Whitacre is our lucky scholarship recipient for 2022. She is a non-traditional student studying geology, biology and soil science. She is studying the comparative dating of rocks and fossils from around the world. The Isotope Geology Lab at Boise State is using



Uranium 238, lead and zinc to give more accurate dates on rocks

She did an interesting program at our April general meeting. With the help of volunteers from the group she gave a visual demonstration of Earth's timeline. It was very interesting to see how little of the planet's life people have been around.

Thank you Kathleen for an interesting program and Congratulations!

On this subject, Robin Solt found an interesting website to visit that gives an interactive graphic of what the Earth looked like at various ages. Check it out: https://dinosaurpictures.org/ancient-earth/#470

WORKSHOPS

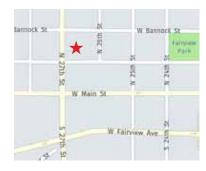
See the calendar for upcoming workshop dates. Come cut your rocks and learn cabochon making. Brent Stewart, Rick Corbett, and Liz Warner keep the club lapidary workshop operating year round.

Third Thursday of each month from 6:00 pm-8:45 pm Saturday the week after general meeting — 10:00 am-2:00 pm

WORKSHOP LOCATION

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

\$5 Fee for each visit (kids free)



Application

Earth Science Scholarship Awarded by the Idaho Gem Club, Inc.

<u>Description:</u> The Idaho Gem Club, Inc., a 501c3 non-profit organization devoted to promoting "the interests of its members in mineralogy, geology, gemology, the art of lapidary and kindred arts and sciences" is offering a \$500 scholarship for to help defray the educational costs for a local undergraduate Earth science student (see eligibility criteria below).

<u>Eligibility:</u> Applicants must be a full time, undergraduate student majoring or minoring in Earth science (including geology, geophysics, and earth science education) at a two- or four-year college or university in the Treasure Valley region of Idaho during the 2023-2024 school year. Although not required, preference may be given to Idaho residents.

<u>Terms of acceptance:</u> The funds provided through this scholarship are to be used solely for the purpose of meeting the costs of undergraduate education, including tuition, books or materials, or field camp fees. Awardees are requested to visit a general meeting of the Idaho Gem Club, Inc. to give a short 15-20 minute presentation on an Earth science topic of general interest to our members.

<u>Instructions:</u> Please fill out in full the two page application form on the following pages. Note that as part of the application, a 1-2 page essay is required in addition to the information requested in the application. Applicants must have their application endorsed (via signature) by an Earth science faculty member at the institution they are attending during the 2023-2024 academic year. Completed applications should be **received by September 30, 2023** either by email (pneuhoff@yahoo.com) or at the following address:

Scholarship chair person Idaho Gem Club Inc. P.O. Box 8443 Boise, Idaho 83707-8443



IDAHO GEM CLUB, INC.

FREE APPLICATION FOR EARTH SCIENCE SCHOLARSHIP



The Idaho Gem Club Inc. is offering a \$500 scholarship for any full time college or university student majoring in Geology, Geophysics, or Earth Science Education.

Applications must be filled out and either emailed (pneuhoff@yahoo.com) or returned to:

Scholarship chair person Idaho Gem Club Inc. P.O. Box 8443 Boise, Idaho 83707- 8443

before September 30, 2023 to be eligible for the scholarship. Scholarship forms can be obtained in the Geology department or Financial Aid offices or on the web at http://www.idahogemclub.com

{Please type or print legibly; asterisk (*) indicates required information}

PERSONAL DATA Name*:					
Address*:					
Email:					
Local Phone*:					
Are you a resident of Idaho*?					
Have you ever been a member of a gem or mineral club*?					
If yes give name and location*:					

College or University Attending*:	
Class Level (e.g., Sophomore, Junior, etc.) ir	n 2023-2024*:
Major(s) and Minor(s)*:	
Department(s)*:	
Current G.P.A.*:	
Name and department of Faculty member sp	onsoring application*:
APPLICATION ESSAY*:	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
The Idaho Gem Club, Inc was formed for pur interests of its members in mineralogy, geolo kindred arts and sciences." Please write a 1-2 and how it will benefit the public good through science to education, natural resource developmental evaluation, or similar pursuits as a profession	gy, gemology, the art of lapidary and 2 page essay describing your career goals, h application of your education in earth opment and stewardship, hazard
Note to applicants:	
The scholarship will be awarded at one of the the third Tuesday of each month. We are ask program (relating to earth science) at a meet	king the recipient to present a short
SIGNATURE	
By signing this application, you certify that the certify that you will use Idaho Gem Club Inc. defraying the cost of attending an institution of	Scholarship funds only for the purpose of
Student Signature*:	Date*:
I know the above student and certify that they standing and endorse their application.	y are an earth science student in good
Signature of faculty sponsor*:	Date*:

ROCK & EQUIPMENT SALE

June 2 through June 11

Howard and Jeannette Bushman 14901 SW Glade Ln. Sherwood. OR

We are planning our huge rock sale this year from June 2 through June 11. It will be different from before. We are now 95 and 96 years old. We do not walk well so we cannot lead you to various areas to talk about rocks. One of us at a time will sit outside and point. You can spend as much time as you want to see the good stuff and choose what you want. Tons of good rock. Most of it is \$1.00 a pound. A real bargain! We have buckets for you to use for collecting, but we can't give them away.

We are out of tumbled stones, but you probably have a hammer. We also have beads cheap.

Glass Display Cases — \$50 (open or closed)
2000 Cabs and Many Slabs — .50
Finished Jewelry, Buckles and Faceted Stones —
1/2 Price
Plating Equipment and Instructions — \$500
so you won't need to polish
sterling silver so much
Vacuum Pump and Bell Jar — \$100

New Members:

Our website at idahogemclub.com has all of the information regarding our club operations. We also have a facebook page for interacting and socializing. Please contact any Officer or Board Member with questions or suggestions! Welcome to your Gem Club!

IDAHO MUSEUM OF MINING & GEOLOGY

The following events are for the month of May and require preregistration. To register, go to idahomuseum. org/events. Email operations@idahomuseum.org with any questions. The Idaho Museum of Mining and Geology is located at 2455 Old Penitentiary Rd., Boise.

May 13 — Placerville or Bust

This field trip is to the historic mining town of Placerville. Meet up at 7:30 am at the Museum, returning about 4:30 pm. IMMG Members \$10, Nonmembers \$20, Children Free.

May 21 — Gold Panning for All Ages

Join us at the Museum between noon and 3 pm and learn how to pan for gold. Panning is scheduled in 30 minute increments. The gold gravel is out of historic Grimes Creek. Children must be accompanied by an adult. \$5 general admission, free for children and IMMG members.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Ursula & Don Blaskiewicz Rebecca & Rick Freeman Ketch & Camille DeGabrielle Rob Frank & Theresa Smith Ashley Gonzalez & Alex Lopez Sheila Marie Worth & Cory Law

Robert Betts
Jeff Hales
Ken & Michele Freeze
Greg & Elley Bond
Micaela Hurcuk

WELCOME NEW JUNIORS

Liam Jackson Lilliana Blaskiewicz Gwen Freeman Tripp Jackson Leo Blaskiewicz Lily Freeman

LECHATELIERITE & MOLDAVITE

LECHATELIERITE

Lechatelierite is a mineraloid as it does not have a crystal structure. It is a natural silica glass that has the same chemical composition as coesite, cristobalite,

stishovite, quartz, and tridymite but without the crystal structure. Although not a true mineral, it is often classified in the quartz mineral group. Two varieties are included: meteoritic silica glass,



produced in the intense heat and pressure created by the impact of large meteorites; and fulgurite, produced in the heat generated by a lightning strike. Tektites, tearshaped meteoritic glass, often contain strings or grains of lechatelierite.

A mineraloid is a naturally occurring minerallike substance that does not demonstrate crystallinity. Mineraloids possess chemical compositions that vary beyond the generally accepted ranges for specific minerals. For example, obsidian is an amorphous glass and not a crystal. Jet is derived from decaying wood under extreme pressure. Opal is another mineraloid because of its non-crystalline nature.

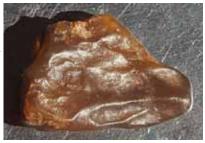


Formation

One common way in which lechatelierite forms naturally is by very high temperature melting of quartz sand during a lightning strike. The result is an irregular, branching, often foamy hollow tube of silica glass called a fulgurite. Not all fulgurites are lechatelierite; the original sand must be nearly pure silica.

Lechatelierite also forms as the result of high pressure

shock metamorphism during meteorite impact cratering and is a common component of a type of glassy ejecta called tektites. Most tektites are blobs of impure glassy material, but tektites from



the Sahara Desert in Libya and Egypt, known as Libyan desert glass, are composed of almost pure silica that is almost pure lechatelierite. The glass was discovered by the international scientific community in 1932, but it had been used by the Ancient Egyptians as a gemstone.

High pressure experiments have shown that huge shock pressures are required to produce lechatelierite in



quartz grains embedded in granite. Lechatelierite was formed during the impact of a meteorite into a layer of Coconino Sandstone at Meteor Crater in Arizona. During the rapid pressure reduction following the impact, steam expanded the

newly formed lechatelierite. The shattered and expanded glass has a density less than that of water.

Lechatelierite may also form artificially, a unique example being the trinitite produced by melting of quartz sand at the first nuclear bomb explosion at Trinity Flats, White Sands, NM.

MOLDAVITE

What is Moldavite?

Moldavite (also called Bouteille Stone or vltavin) is a natural glass that is thought to have formed in the heat of an asteroid impact. This event occurred about 15 million years ago, and a splatter of hot glass formed a strewn field across central Europe.



Moldavite is usually yellowish green, green, or greenish brown in color. It has been cut into faceted and cabochon gemstones since the mid-1800s These are used in rings,

earrings, necklaces, pins and other types of jewelry.

Nice specimens of rough moldavite are popular with meteorite and mineral collectors. The extraterrestrial origin of moldavite gives it a special appeal to many people interested in new age, astrological, and spiritual practices.

Moldavite is thought to have formed about 15 million years ago in the impact event that produced the Ries and Steinheim craters in southeastern Germany. An incoming asteroid is thought to have broken into two pieces that produced this pair of craters. They hit with a high enough velocity to melt and splatter the target rock across a strewn field that includes portions of what is now the Czech Republic, Austria, and Germany.

Most of the splatter solidified in the air and fell to Earth in the Czech Republic. Meteorite experts have named these materials "impactites." Moldavite is also considered to be a mineraloid because it is a naturally occurring, inorganic solid that does not

have a crystalline structure.



It solidified so quickly that atoms did not have enough time to organize themselves into minerals.

IGC LIBRARY

Our Club Library will be open during the general meetings. Take a look at the books, magazines and videos available for check-out.

If you have any books you would like to donate to the library, please contact Cheryl Lawson at dizzyphalarope@gmail.com. You may bring books to donate in a bag marked for Cheryl and leave it on top of the library cabinet.



SUNSHINE LADY REPORT

By Deana Ashton

IGC Sunshine Lady sends cheerful greetings to club members needing, get well wishes, sympathy and anniversary expressions. If you know someone in need of cheer or attention, Please text or call Deana at 208-794-5628.

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GEM CLUB OFFICERS

PRESIDENT: Rick Corbett, 208-890-2599

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HISTORIAN: Jean Hoene

360-961-4241, greyhorsejean@aol.com

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2.11112. miowidanogomorao.com

MINUTES OF THE IDAHO GEM CLUB GENERAL MEETING

APRIL 18, 2023

Meeting called to order at 7:07 by Rick Corbett, and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Becky drew winning door prize tickets for 4 juniors and then gave out three adult door prizes. Six guests introduced themselves.

Rick asked for any corrections to the minutes as printed in the *Grindings*. Willa made a motion to accept the minutes, Coyote seconded, the membership voted and the motion passed.

Juniors head back to their meeting.

Secretary Report: No report.

Treasurer Report: Teresa went over the financial statements, including the final totals for the show. The full detailed report is on the front table to look at.

Cheryl Link is selling the small display boxes at the front table for \$5 each. Great to show special pieces!

Federation Director Report: Debbie reminded everyone about saving stamps. Please cut them out with a 1/4" border except postcards. Don't cut them. They will be turned in at the annual meeting and sold to collectors. The proceeds are used for cancer research and prosthetics.

If you want a NFMS Directory, contact Debbie Mitchell to order. They are \$20 each.

Program: Rick introduced our Scholarship Winner, Kathleen Whitacre, and presented her with a check. She is a non-traditional student studying geology, biology and soil science. She is also interested in the comparative dating of rocks and fossils from around the world. The Isotope Geology Lab at Boise State is giving actual dates from rocks using Uranium 238, lead and zinc. This dating scheme gives more accurate information. There are very few labs like it in the country. She gave a visual demonstration of Earth's timeline with the help of volunteers. It was a very interesting talk.

Field Trip Report: The field trip will be to Graveyard Point. Rick asked for members only to attend this field trip due to muddy roads. More discussion on field trip attendance will be at the next board meeting.

Workshop Report: Brent reported on the upcoming dates. The regular workshops will be Thursday after the general meeting, 4-20 from 6-8:45 pm, and Saturday, 4-29, 10 am-2 pm. The May workshops are 5-18 from 6-8:45 pm and 5-27 from 10 am-2 pm. The next ROLE workshops will be on 5-1 and 5-15 from 6-8:45 pm.

To join the ROLE program apply at the regular workshop and they will get you started.

Old Business: There is no update on the trailer purchase yet.

Willa is starting her Silversmith Class again. The first class is full, but the next one will be June 8 and 9.

Rick is also doing a Wirewrapping class on April 29 from 1-3 pm. Contact Need to Bead to register. They are located at 1100 N. Orchard St.

New Business: At the next general meeting on May 16, there will be a Trunk Sale in the parking lot from 5 pm until 7 pm before the meeting.

The next section for the Future Rockhounds of America is Earth and Space. A survey is being sent to parents to ask about participation in the club.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:04 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Dana Robinson, Secretary

MINUTES OF THE IDAHO GEM CLUB BOARD MEETING

MAY 2, 2023

Rick Corbett called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Present: Rick Corbett, Deana Ashton, Willa Renken, Teresa Nebeker, Terri Frostrom, Cheryl Link, Brent Stewart, Jason Smith, Liz Warner, and Dana Robinson

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

Rick clarified that the field trip restriction was a one-time deal because of road conditions. BLM not concerned about numbers as much as off-road travel.

Secretary Report: No report.

Treasurer Report: Teresa went over the financial statements for deposits and disbursements. Not too much going on this month. **Program Report:** Cheryl Link will set up the microscope and monitors and explain the micromounts.

Junior's Report: Deana reported that they sent out 38 surveys but only received one back as yet.

The juniors will be creating meteor craters in flour as part of this month's activities.

Field Trip Report: There were 18 cars with 35 adults and 11 kids at the field trip to Graveyard Point and Queenstone. Everyone found good material. The next field trip will be on May 20 going to Whangdoodle for opal and then on to Mahogany and Hooker Creeks for petrified wood. We will be meeting at the Gas 'n Go Station at the corner of Hwys. 55 and 95, just outside of Marsing, at 8 am, leaving at 8:30. June 3rd and 4th will be the first Beacon Hill trip of the year. We will be meeting at the Rest Stop just over the Idaho/Oregon border. Both days will meet at 8 am, leaving at 8:30.

The Hells Canyon Club has invited us to come up to their garnet claim by Clarkia on July 2nd or 9th. You can find facet quality garnet crystals and some large sugar garnets.

Workshop Report: The two Kids' Days at the workshop have been set for July 15th and August 12th, 10 am to 2 pm. You can sign up at Stewarts or at the meetings. The regular workshop for May will be on the 18th from 6-8:45 pm. The next Saturday workshop will be the 27th, 10 am-2 pm. The June workshops are the 22nd, 6-8:45 pm and July 1st from 10 am-2 pm. The next ROLE workshops will be May 15th, June 5th and 19th, all from 6-8:45 pm.

The ROLE program is going well. There are some new students, and the others are progressing well.

Old Business: Willa went over options on a rock trailer. We discussed new vs. used, ramp vs. no ramp, etc. Some new ones have prices close to used. She will check with the company we purchased the other trailer from in Caldwell.

Fuzzy is still getting going on the trailer modifications.

New Business: It is getting closer to time for the Thunder Egg Days event in Nyssa. Will put in information in next month's newsletter.

There will be a Trunk Sale in the parking lot before the next meeting on the 16th starting at 5-5:30 pm.

Nine new member applications were reviewed. Cheryl made a motion to accept the new applications, Liz seconded, the board voted and the motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Dana Robinson, 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



Idaho Gem Club, Inc. P.O. Box 8443 Boise, Idaho 83707-2443

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. Applications and/or renewals may be sent to the Idaho Gem Club, P.O. Box 8443, Boise, ID 83707-2443.

GENERAL MEETING:

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

BOARD MEETING:

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

ADDRESS:

Maple Grove Grange 11692 W. President Dr., Boise

Dues: Subscription only: \$22.00 individual \$10 per year \$25.00 couple \$28.00 family

