



Grindings

Idaho Gem Club, Inc.

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

VOL 84 NO 9

SEPTEMBER 2023

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello Fellow Rockhounds:

Well September is upon us and we have a couple more field trips this year. Saturday, September 23rd we're going back to Reynolds Creek; with better directions. We will definitely be getting beautiful, fortified petrified wood. Be prepared to dig! We meet at 8 am at the Philips 66 station at Walter's Ferry. It is located at the end of 12th Ave. in Nampa. We'll be leaving the 66 station at 8:30 am. See you there!

Our next trip is to Beacon Hill for the fall trip to our claim outside of Weiser. We meet at 8 am at the rest stop just over the Oregon Border on I-84, before Ontario, and leave at 8:30 am. The dates are Saturday, September 30 and Sunday, October 1st, weather permitting. It should be a great trip. This field trip is led by Willa and Doug Renken and crosses private properties, so there is no camping on the claim or unauthorized access without the club. It is a very unique location, but you have to dig if you want the beautiful agate geodes. See you there!

Our last field trip to Tony Funk's Rock Yard was a great time. Thank you, Tony, for having our club and for providing a great BBQ picnic. It was so much fun, I never got out of the dollar piles! If you missed it, maybe next year we'll be invited back and you'll have another chance. Best rockhounding all summer.

We had a booth set up at the Gowen Thunder Air Show. Many thanks to the volunteers who were there to promote our club. Greg Sandmeyer, Cheryl Link, Dana Robinson and Deana Ashton were there to run our booth. Thanks everyone!

Our next club meeting on Tuesday, September 19th, starts off with a Trunk Sale from 5:30-6:30 pm. Bring your rocks and jewelry and make a few sales and a few friends. Then we will set up out in the parking lot of the Grange for an outside meeting. We may have the Idaho Flintknappers visit again, but we were unable to confirm.

Congratulations to Robert and Desiree on their recent day of tying the knot -- Marriage. Many good times ahead for you two!

At the picnic in the park last month our auction took in \$1259 in proceeds for our Banquet in January. Great job and thanks everybody for your support! We have two more auctions this year in November and December. All proceeds go to our effort to offset the cost of our Awards Banquet at the Red Lion Riverside.

Our next workshop this month is September 18th for an advanced skills ROLE workshop from 6-8:45 pm. Then on Thursday, September 21st from 6-8:45 pm is a general workshop for everyone and Saturday, September 30th from 10 am-2 pm. Our workshop is located at 2618 W. Idaho St., in the back garage behind Stewart's Gem Shop. Come get your grind on!

We're planning our annual weekend workshop in December for the 16th and 17th from 10 am to 4 pm both days. It is a Pot Luck Lunch, so bring your favorite recipe to share, eat, grind and visit. It's a fun weekend to make those last minute Christmas gifts. See you there.

Respectfully Submitted, Rick Corbett, 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

★★ **DUES ARE DUE IN OCTOBER** ★★

Mail to IGC, P.O. Box 8443, Boise, ID 83707-2443

ACTIVITY CALENDAR

SEPTEMBER

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3	4 ROLE Workshop 6-8:45 pm	5 Board Meeting 7 pm	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18 ROLE Workshop 6-8:45 pm	19 General Meeting 7 pm	20	21 Workshop 6-8:45 pm	22	23 Field Trip Reynolds Crk. 8 am
24	25	26	27	28	29	30 Beacon Hill Trip - 8 am Workshop 10 am-2 pm

OCTOBER

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 Beacon Hill Field Trip 8 am	2 ROLE Workshop 6-8:45 pm	3 Board Meeting 7 pm	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16 ROLE Workshop 6-8:45 pm	17 General Meeting 7 pm	18	19 Workshop 6:45-8 pm	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28 Workshop 10 am-2 pm
29	30	31				

NOVEMBER

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
19	20 ROLE Workshop 6-8:45 pm	21 General Meeting 7 pm	22	23 Thanksgiving	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

DECEMBER

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2 Workshop 10 am-2 pm
3	4 ROLE Workshop 6-8:45 pm	5 Board Meeting 7 pm	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16 Club Xmas Workshop 10 am-4 pm
17 Club Xmas Workshop 10 am-4 pm	18 ROLE Workshop 6-8:45 pm	19 General Meeting 7 pm	20	21 Workshop 6-8:45 pm	22	23
24 31	25	26	27	28	29	30 Workshop 10 am-2 pm



Upcoming Events

Colorado Mineral and Fossil Fall Show, September 8-16, 10 am-6 pm Daily, Crowne Plaza DIA, 15500 E 40th Ave, Denver, CO

Tinker the T-Rex, Monday-Saturday, 10 am-4:30 pm Daily, Discovery Center of Idaho, 131 Myrtle St, Boise, ID

FIELD TRIPS

The field trip for September will be a follow-up trip to Reynolds Creek for petrified wood. We will be meeting at the Philips 66 Station at Walter's Ferry at 8 am on Saturday, September 23rd, leaving at 8:30 am.

Take the N. Franklin Blvd. exit off I-84 (Exit 36) and turn left onto Franklin Blvd. Go down to 11th Ave. N. and turn right. Follow that into downtown and turn left onto 3rd St. S. Go one block and turn right onto 12th Ave. S. That street will take you all the way to Walter's Ferry. It is a little odd because of one-way streets downtown.

The October field trip will be the second trip out to our Beacon Hill claim on Saturday, September 30 and Sunday, October 1. We will meet at the Rest Area off I-84 West just across the Snake River into Oregon at 8:00 am, leaving at 8:30 am. The Renkens will lead us into the claim. Many geodes were found here earlier this year.



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
ROLE Workshops are the First and Third Mondays —
6:00 pm-8:45 pm

WORKSHOP LOCATION

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

\$5 Fee for each visit (kids free)



AUGUST PICNIC



GOWEN THUNDER STEM EXPO

by Deana Ashton

Idaho Gem Club participated in the Gowen Thunder Air Show on August 26 and 27 this year. We had a booth in the STEM Education Kids Zone hangar and displayed microminerals. As this was a family event, we got good exposure to promote our club. In particular we had meteorites and three specimens provided by Roger Beck that are used in the aerospace industry; molybdenum, beryllium and manganese.

Cheryl Link, Dana Robinson and Deana Ashton managed the booth during the air show. We had excellent seats for viewing, too! It was really fun to visit with the kids and fellow vendors.

Greg Sandmeyer joined us on Saturday. With his unique style of teaching science and math he helped all visitors connect the industry with geology. We thank him wholeheartedly for coming out.

The next air show will be in five years and we hope to be involved again.





IDAHO MUSEUM OF MINING AND GEOLOGY

There are several upcoming events for the museum. You will definitely enjoy getting involved. Preregistration is required at idahomuseum.org under Special Events.

October 3 — Celebrate Idaho Geology and Earth Science Week

You'll find activities for all ages and treasures for the kiddos. Hunt for gems, explore Idaho rocks and minerals, and more.

We are scheduling 25 people per hour between 1 pm and 4 pm and requiring everyone 3 and older to wear a mask that covers the nose and mouth. The museum door will be open. The gift shop will also be open.

October 6 — Online Lecture:

Uncovering the Legacy of Idaho's Chinese Pioneers

The event will be a Zoom on-line lecture by Renae Campbell, University of Idaho. The presentation will summarize research being conducted to uncover the stories connected to Idaho's Chinese pioneers in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century Boise Basin.





Rock and Gem Show

October 21-22 | Saturday 10-5 | Sunday 10-4

Presented by the Hells Canyon Gem Club
 At The Nez Perce County Fairgrounds
 1229 Burrell Avenue, Lewiston, ID



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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. New issues of *Rock & Gem Magazine* are added monthly.

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.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

William & Diane Holleman Jay & Christine Brown
 Bryan Cloudt & Kay Harrison Eric & Rhonda Sudduth

WELCOME NEW JUNIORS

Preston Holleman

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!



BERYL/BERYLLIUM

Beryl is a mineral composed of beryllium aluminum silicate. Naturally occurring, hexagonal crystals of beryl can be up to several meters in size, but terminated crystals are relatively rare. Pure beryl is colorless, but it is frequently tinted by impurities. It is an ore source of beryllium.

Beryl is a most alluring and popular mineral. It occurs in a diversity of colors, and has several important gemstone varieties. The green variety, Emerald, is a very precious gem. Only Beryl with a deep green color is called Emerald; light green Beryl is simply "Green Beryl", or Heliodor if it has a yellowish color.

Aquamarine, another important gemstone, is the greenish-blue to blue variety of Beryl. Green Beryl from particular localities can be heat treated to produce sky-blue Aquamarine. Other popular gem varieties of Beryl are the pink Morganite, and the yellow Heliodor and Golden Beryl. A deep red variety of Beryl, called Red Beryl, or Bixbite, is extremely rare, and only comes from two localities in Utah. Good specimens of Red Beryl command an outstanding premium and are very difficult to obtain.

Pure Beryl is colorless. It is also naturally transparent, however inclusions and impurities may make it opaque. A wide range of impurities cause the diverse amount of colors. The green color in Emerald is usually caused by traces of the element chromium, and the blue color of Aquamarine is usually caused by iron. All gemmy transparent varieties are highly valued, but the other forms of Beryl in opaque crystals are much more common. Some of the largest natural crystals known are of Beryl, with enormous crystals having been found.

Crystal Structure

Beryl often crystallizes in perfect, six-sided hexagons. The bases of Beryl crystals are usually flat; pyramidal terminations are rare. Crystals are usually individual prismatic hexagons and may be enormous in size; up to 30 feet long. They may also be short, stubby crystals, in drusy or platy aggregates and as bundles of thin, long crystals. Crystals may be striated lengthwise.

Aquamarine

Aquamarine is a blue or cyan variety of beryl. It occurs at most localities which yield ordinary beryl. The gem-gravel placer deposits of Sri Lanka contain aquamarine. The deep blue version of aquamarine is called maxixe. Its color results from a radiation-induced color center.

Emerald

Emerald is green beryl, colored by around 2% chromium and sometimes vanadium. Most emeralds are highly included, so their brittleness (resistance to breakage) is classified as generally poor.

Golden Beryl and Heliodor

Golden beryl can range in colors from pale yellow to a brilliant gold. Unlike emerald, golden beryl generally has very few flaws. The term “golden beryl” is sometimes synonymous with heliodor (from Greek *hēlios* – ἥλιος “sun” + *dōron* – δῶρον “gift”) but golden beryl refers to pure yellow or golden yellow shades, while heliodor refers to the greenish-yellow shades.

Goshenite

Colorless beryl is called goshenite. The name originates from Goshen, Massachusetts, where it was originally discovered. In the past, goshenite was used for manufacturing eyeglasses and lenses owing to its transparency. Nowadays, it is most commonly used for gemstone purposes.

Morganite

Morganite, also known as “pink beryl”, “rose beryl”, “pink emerald” (which is not a legal term according to the new Federal Trade Commission Guidelines and Regulations), and “cesian (or caesian) beryl”, is a rare light pink to rose-colored gem-quality variety of beryl. Orange/yellow varieties of morganite can also be found, and color banding is common.

Red Beryl

Red variety of beryl (the “bixbite”) was first described in 1904 for an occurrence, its type locality, at Maynard’s Claim (Pismire Knolls), Thomas Range, Juab County, Utah.

Deposits

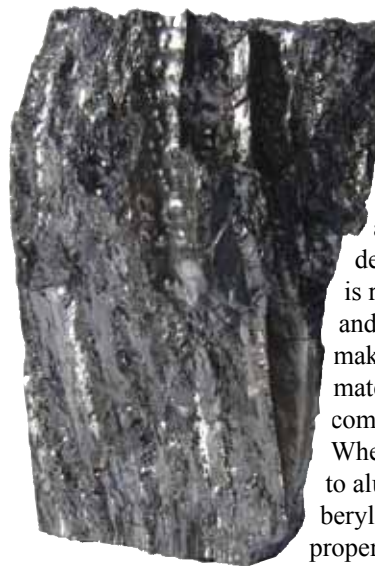
Common beryl, mined as beryllium ore, is found in small deposits in many countries, but the main producers are Russia, Brazil, and the United States.

Beryl is a common mineral, and it is widely distributed in nature. It is found most commonly in granitic pegmatites, but also occurs in mica schists, such as those of the Ural Mountains, and in limestone in Colombia. Beryl is often associated with tin and tungsten ore bodies formed as high-temperature hydrothermal veins. In granitic pegmatites, beryl is found in association with quartz, potassium feldspar, albite, muscovite, biotite, and tourmaline.

New England’s pegmatites have produced some of the largest beryls found. It is also New Hampshire’s state mineral. Currently the world’s largest known naturally occurring crystal of any mineral is a crystal of beryl from Madagascar, 59 ft. long and 11 ft. in diameter.

Beryllium

Beryllium is a chemical element that is a steel-gray, strong, lightweight and brittle alkaline earth metal. It is a divalent element that occurs naturally only in combination with other elements to form minerals. Gemstones high in beryllium include beryl and chrysoberyl. It is a relatively rare element in the universe, usually occurring as a product of the spallation of larger atomic nuclei that have collided with cosmic rays. The world’s annual beryllium production of 220 tons is usually manufactured by extraction from the mineral beryl, a difficult process because beryllium bonds strongly to oxygen.



In structural applications, the combination of high flexural rigidity, thermal stability, thermal conductivity and low density make beryllium metal a desirable aerospace material for aircraft components, missiles, spacecraft, and satellites. Because of its low density and atomic mass, beryllium is relatively transparent to X-rays and other forms of ionizing radiation, making it the most common window material for X-ray equipment and components of particle detectors. When added as an alloying element to aluminium, copper, iron or nickel, beryllium improves many physical properties. For example, tools and components made of beryllium copper alloys are strong and hard and do not create sparks when they strike a steel surface.

In air, the surface of beryllium oxidizes readily at room temperature to form a thin layer that protects it from further oxidation and corrosion.

Human Health Impact

Beryl is a beryllium compound that is a known carcinogen with acute toxic effects leading to pneumonitis when inhaled. The commercial use of beryllium requires the use of appropriate dust control equipment and industrial controls at all times because of the toxicity of inhaled beryllium-containing dusts that can cause berylliosis. Berylliosis causes pneumonia and other associated respiratory illness. Care must thus be used when mining, handling, and refining gems.

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MINUTES OF THE IDAHO GEM CLUB GENERAL MEETING

AUGUST 15, 2023

We met and got set up at the park and at 6:40 Ed Moser offered the prayer and everyone lined up to enjoy a very nice dinner.

The meeting was called to order by the president, Rick Corbett, at 7:16 with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Rick asked for new members or guests in attendance. We had one Derick as a guest.

A motion was made by Willa Renken and seconded by Coyote Short to accept the minutes in the *Grindings* as printed. The membership voted and the motion carried with one exception by Mike Dome.

Secretary Report: No report.

Treasurer Report: Teresa Nebeker had a copy of the July expense report available for anyone to take a look at should you be interested.

Federation Director Report: The report was given by Debbie Mitchel. 1 -- Debbie provided a big box of stamps representing the Boise club and Ed gave a big box of stamps representing the Caldwell club. 2 -- The federation wants to move to an electronic newsletter and if members want a paper newsletter they will have to pay extra for it. This motion did not pass. It will be revisited next year. 3 -- The federation show will be in Lewiston, Idaho, next year in the month of April.

Junior's Report: All juniors at tonight's meeting are invited to go to the picnic table in the shade and create a geologist as their craft project.

Rick called out door prize ticket numbers with nine juniors in attendance receiving a door prize gift. Six adults also received their random chance for a slabbed stone.

Field Trip Report: Rick went over the instructions for this weekend's field trip to Wendell, Idaho. Rick was going down to Tony Funks Rock Yard early to help setup the tables for the club to sit at during the lunch break. Tony is providing hamburgers and hot dogs and the club members are asked to bring items to share. The club members need to bring drinks (pop and water), side dishes (salads, pasta, fruit, etc.) and desserts (cookies, brownies, cupcakes, etc.). Field Trip time is to meet at Tony's at 10:00 am.

September's field trip will be back at Reynolds Creek on Saturday, September 23rd. Rick has the instructions to get everyone to the actual dig site. They will meet at the boat landing at Walters Ferry just past the bridge on the right hand side of the road by the porta pottie.

Workshop Report: August still has remaining dates for workshops, which are 8-17 from 6-8:45 pm and 8-26 from 10 am-2 pm for general attendance. The next ROLE workshop will be on 8-21 from 6-8:45 pm.

September dates are Mondays for the Role Program on the 4th from 6-8:45 pm, and the 18th from 6-8:45 pm. Thursday for general attendance on the 21st from 6-8:45 pm, and Saturday the 30th from 10 am-2 pm.

Old Business: Rick went over the details for the January Banquet. The location selected is the Red Lion Riverside on January 16th, 2024. He asked everyone to dress appropriately as this is a nice event center and it would be nice to have those attending to represent the club with nice clothing and brushed hair.

With no new business by any members, Rick reminded everyone to go over to the table in the shade and check out the items up for auction that we will be bidding on shortly.

Rick also asked everyone to gather up their wonderful potluck items that might be left over and to help clean up the tables we are all sitting at.

Rick closed the meeting at 7:34 pm

Respectfully submitted, Dana Robinson, Secretary

MINUTES OF THE IDAHO GEM CLUB BOARD MEETING SEPTEMBER 5, 2023

Rick Corbett called the meeting to order at 7:06 pm.

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

Excused: Terri Frostrom and Jason Smith

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

Secretary Report: No report.

Treasurer Report: Teresa went over the financial statements for deposits and disbursements. Interest payments on new investments are great. Received a refund from Lockaway Storage.

Federation Director Report: Debbie Mitchell gave a report at the last general meeting for the NFMS/AFMS show and meeting in Billings.

Program Report: There will be a Trunk Show from 5:30-6:30 pm before the next general meeting. Come early for set-up. We will then have our meeting in the Grange parking lot. May have a flintknappers demonstration. Deana will contact them.

Junior's Report: Saturday, September 16th, Guy DeTorres is doing a fossil presentation in Mountain Home. Trying to go to that and then do a Junior Field Trip to the Bruneau Wood Pile. They are working on their Field Trips badge. Will contact club juniors to encourage participation.

Field Trip Report: The trip to Tony Funks in Gooding had 22 adults and 4 kids attend. There was great food and good material. There was great material from Chuck Goertzen's estate on the piles.

The September field trip will be on the 23rd out to Reynolds Creek with better directions. Meeting at the Philips 66 station at Walter's Ferry again, 8 am leaving at 8:30.

The October field trip will be out to Beacon Hill. It is scheduled for Saturday, September 30th and Sunday, October 1st. Meeting at Ontario rest stop as usual. Four-wheel drive and clearance are recommended.

Workshop Report: Brent went over upcoming workshop dates. They will be Sept. 21 and 30 with ROLE workshop on Sept. 18. For October ROLE will be the Oct. 2 and 16, regular workshops on Oct. 19 and 28. They are all on the calendars.

Teresa donated a large amount of great material to the workshop for workshop participants. Larry Cook also donated a bucket of slabs. Thanks to all!

Air Show Report: There were lots of people moving through the STEM Education Hangar. It was a good time, but could use improvement in transportation. Only four people volunteered to man the booth for the weekend.

Old Business: The menu for the Banquet has been updated to the desired potatoes. After discussion it was decided to increase the price to \$20 per person for tickets. Need to order table favors.

New Business: There is a donation that needs to be looked over by the committee. They will coordinate a time.

Brent and Liz met with a lady with equipment to sell. Liz purchased 6" and 14" saws and would like the club to purchase them from her for the workshop.

After much discussion, Cheryl made a motion to purchase the 14" Highland Park saw and the 6" Lortone saw from Liz Warner to replace worn equipment in the workshop with a total cost of \$1700. Willa seconded, the board voted and the motion was approved.

The Christmas Party Workshop will be on Dec. 16 and 17 from 10 am to 4 pm both days. Brent can order the Porta Potty.

We will have the usual auctions in November and December to add to the Banquet fund.

Will will look up the board members whose terms are up this year and report next month.

Jim Witt has an obsidian donation. Cheryl will coordinate a pickup.

Cheryl reported that all of the claim paperwork is good for Oregon. There is an active bond for Lakeview Co. in place. Need an official document for the treasurer to keep on file.

Four new member applications were reviewed. Dana made a motion to accept all the new applications, Cheryl seconded, the board voted and the motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Dana Robinson, Secretary

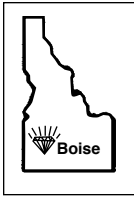


THE GRINDINGS

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www.idahogemclub.com



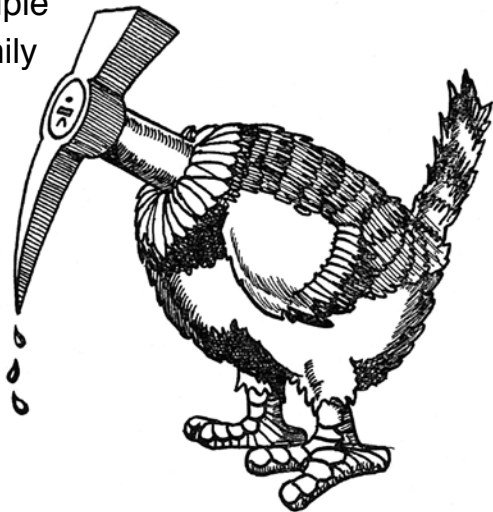
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Dues:
\$22.00 individual
\$25.00 couple
\$28.00 family

Subscription only:
\$10 per year



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

