




# Grindings

*Idaho Gem Club, Inc.*

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

**VOL 85 NO 2**

**FEBRUARY 2024**

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello Fellow Rockhounds:

Spring is almost here and there are exciting times ahead this year in our club. We just had our Gem Show a couple of weeks ago, and it was a grand affair. We got many new members and lots of excitement for things to come. Thank you members for all the hard work setting up and a record time tearing down and loading the trailers. Thanks also to all of our vendors, who make it possible for us to host the biggest and best gem show in Idaho.

This month's field trip will be to the Idaho Museum of Mining and Geology, located at 2455 Old Penitentiary Rd. next to the Old Penitentiary entrance. The museum opens at 12 noon so we'll meet there at noon on March 23rd. Coyote Short is working there and will answer any questions you have about rocks or minerals. She is one of our geologists and is full of information. We are doing an indoor field trip in March because the weather in Idaho is unpredictable and we don't want to tear up roads and damage fragile areas during the wet season.

In April we'll be going to our claim at Graveyard Point for the world famous Plume Agates. Sometimes lace agates can also be found. It is always a great time with lots of material to be found. The date of that field trip is April 20th. We'll meet at 8 am at the Chevron Truck Stop just outside of Marsing on the corner of Hwy. 55 and 95. We'll be leaving at 8:30, so don't be late. A high clearance vehicle is nice, but four wheel drive is usually not necessary, weather depending. If the weather is not cooperating we will go to Plan B and head for Sommer Camp Rd. and the Queenstone claim.

Also in March we are having a Show Pizza Party to thank all who helped work, set-up and tear down the show. This will be on Wednesday, March 27 at 6 pm. We'll be dining at Idaho Pizza Co., located at 7444 W. Fairview Ave. in Boise, west of Fairview and Cole, so bring your appetite and call everyone who helped with the show. The club will provide pizzas, salad bar and sodas. Alcohol will not be purchased by the club.

At our next meeting, Tuesday, March 19th at 7 pm, we will meet at the Maple Grove Grange, 11692 W. President Dr. in Boise. We will be doing a fossil fish preparation presentation put on by me. The fish are from Kemmerer, WY, from the Thompson Quarry and were collected by Becky Gibson and Rick Corbett. I'll go through the steps of preparation and preservation for these fantastic and fragile 50 million year old fish.

On Thursday, March 21st we're having an open workshop starting at 6 pm until 8:45 pm. Our workshop is located behind Stewarts Gem Shop at 2618 W. Idaho St. Come and get your grind on!

The ROLE (Recognition of Lapidary Excellence) workshop is Monday, March 18 at 6 pm. This workshop is for advanced students of lapidary studies and only available for members who have completed their first level of training and have turned in their first two stones to be graded.

Come join us for an exciting, informative meeting and welcome to our club for all new members. We're looking forward to an exciting year of field trips and other activities sponsored by the Idaho Gem Club.

*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

## ACTIVITY CALENDAR

## MARCH

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2 OGMS Gem Show 10 am-5 pm
3 OGMS Gem Show 10 am-4 pm	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 Mining Museum Opens at Noon
24 31	25	26	27	28	29	30 Workshop 10 am-2 pm

## APRIL

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

## MAY

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 Workshop 6-8:45 pm	24	25 Field Trip Tony Funk's 8 am
26	27	28	29	30	31	

## JUNE

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1 Field Trip Beacon Hill 8 am
2 Field Trip Beacon Hill 8 am	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 ROLE Workshop 6-8:45 pm	18 General Meeting 7 pm	19	20 Workshop 6:45-8 pm	21	22
23 30	24	25	26	27	28	29



## Upcoming Events

**Southeast Idaho Gem & Mineral Society Show**, March 23-24, 10 am-5 pm. Bannock County Fairgrounds, 10588 Fairground Dr., Pocatello

**The Crystal Festival -- Easter Crystal Festival**, March 30-31, 10 am-5 pm. Spark Conference Center, 4590 S. Virginia St., Reno, NV

**Gemstone Junction Rock & Gem Show**, April 12, 9 am-6 pm, April 13, 10 am-6 pm, April 14, 10 am-4 pm. Golden Spike Event Center, 1000 N 1200 W, Ogden, UT

## JUNIORS 2024 CALENDAR

We will be working on 4 badges this year from the AFMS Badge Program. You are welcome to bring a geological treasure for a quick show-and-tell at the beginning of the Juniors class.

- Feb 20 — Show prep, Field Trip badge intro
- Feb 24-25 — Gem Show  
Sat 10 am-6 pm / Sun 10 am-5 pm
- **Mar 19 - Field Trip badge**
- Apr 16 - Field Trip badge - Finalize plans for trip
- Mar/Apr — Potential Shoofly Oolite Field Trip - Bruneau Area
- May 21 — Collecting Badge
- Jun 18 — Collecting Badge
- Jul 16 — Picnic: Stone Age Tools & Art badge activities at park
- Aug 20 — Picnic: Stone Age Tools & Art badge activities at park
- Sep 17 — Lapidary Arts - help them prep for "Project of the Year"
- Oct 15 — Lapidary Arts - help them prep for "Project of the Year"
- Nov 19 — Lapidary Arts - help them prep for "Project of the Year"
- Dec 17 — Juniors' projects due for competition — Something fun, Christmas crafts



## Pizza Party!!

**Thank You** to all who helped set up the show, run the tables, and take it all down again. We have again successfully produced a great show. It is becoming so popular that people drive long distances to come see all of our vendors, cases, and many old friends.

To show our appreciation, we are inviting everyone to a Pizza Party Tuesday, March 27th at the Idaho Pizza Co., 7444 W. Fairview Ave., in Boise. We will meet there at 6:00 pm for dinner and comraderie. The Gem Club will provide the pizza, salad bar and sodas.

The location is in the Westgate Shopping Center at the corner of Fairview and Cole Rd. right next to the CVS Pharmacy.

***We Hope You Can Join Us!***

## MARCH PROGRAM

The program for this month will be presented by Rick Corbett. He is going to do a presentation on Fossil Fish Preparation and Preservation. The fish are from Kemmerer, Wyoming, from the Thompson Quarry. They were collected by Becky Gibson and Rick Corbett.

Rick will explain the steps for preparing and preserving these fragile fish fossils.

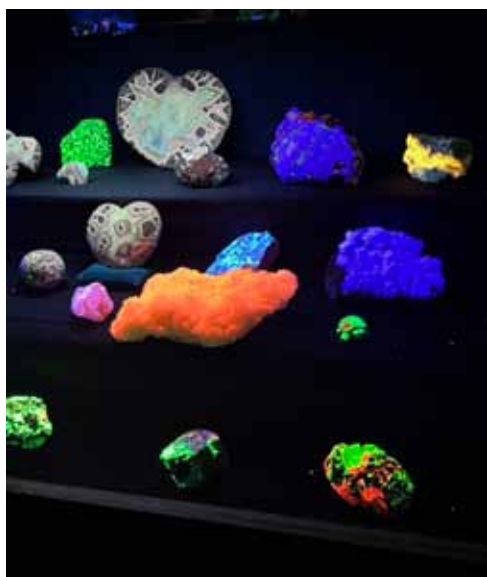
## FIELD TRIP

For the first field trip of the year we are going to have a Meet and Greet at the Idaho Museum of Mining and Geology on Saturday, March 23rd. The museum opens at Noon so we will meet at that time. It is located at the old Idaho Penitentiary, 2455 Old Penitentiary Rd. in Boise. For parking turn left at the roundabout. The museum is located next to the penitentiary entrance.

Coyote Short, one of our geologists, will be on hand to answer any questions you may have.



2024 IDAHO GEM SHOW



## 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)



## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Jack & Renee Martin	Melissa Meyer
Kevin Shane & Linda Black	Joe Lam
Michael & Theresa Hachigian	Darl Allred
Rachelle & Michael Campbell	April Wall
Julio Vega & Terri Taylor	Ted Diehr
Richard & Kathleen Smith	Robert & Laura Carrico
Patricia & Savannah Goates	Amber & Donald Lingle
Napolian Stewart & Amy Collnege	
Bob Shirley & Sylvia Sweetland	

## WELCOME NEW JUNIORS

Jenna Meyer	Jillian Meyer
Tenna Meyer	Alex Campbell
Lilli Allred	Aspen Allred
Kahlila Stewart	Inga Stewart



**Patsy Rae (Phipps) Bethel**  
Sept. 4, 1925-Mar. 1, 2024

Patsy Rae (Phipps) Bethel, our eldest female club member at age 96, died Friday, March 1, 2024, at her home. Patsy was a lifetime member of the Idaho Gem Club and served as President in 1971. She was married to Roy Bethel, for 76 years. Roy passed away October 4, 2023.

She had creativity and artistry which enhanced her skills as a lapidarist, silversmith and goldsmith. She was an intelligent, resourceful woman who contributed to our club in many ways. Patsy and Roy loved looking at gems and minerals all of their lives. They created a way to identify petrified wood using a microscope and recording cell structure. They shared their knowledge with others and continued to collect all woods from Lake Bonneville, which covered our region. They hosted evenings of crafts and lapidary at their home with other couples, and camped out at most collecting locations. They traveled to the coast in groups of 10 or more, forming the lasting friendships that kept our club fun and family oriented, growing together.

The couple made jewelry boxes of slabs, framed cabochons within rings made of stone, faceted gemstones, and created settings from lost wax casting and solid design drawn by Patsy. Patsy also created critters from snakeskin agates which filled the wheel of fortune tables at our show. Roy tumbled thousands of rocks for grab bags and they graded ROLE students' stones in the program. In 2015 they donated a massive collection of rocks to the club.

Quincy and Tej Howell, Mildred and John Beckwith, and the Stewarts were part of their generation, and each left a legacy in the world of rockhounds. The pioneers who discovered most of the stones we love to work with today.

The Bethels were the eldest couple in the club. When we lose these masters, our loss is great. To have learned from them is a fortunate experience.

A memorial service will be held Saturday, April 6, 2024, at 2:00 pm at Boise Valley Church of the Brethren, 4721 N. Star Road, Meridian. Afterwards, Patsy will be laid to rest next to her husband at the Idaho State Veterans Cemetery.

*In Loving Memory,  
Deana Ashton*





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## MINUTES OF THE IDAHO GEM CLUB GENERAL MEETING FEBRUARY 16, 2024

Meeting called to order at 7:10 by Rick Corbett and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Two guests introduced themselves.

Becky drew winning door prize tickets for 6 juniors and 9 adults.

Rick asked for any corrections to the minutes as printed in the *Grindings*. Liz corrected the workshop time from 6:45 to 6:00 pm, and Rick corrected a picture caption below the board photos. Tia Call is pictured, not Jenni Gudapadi. Also, Teresa will bring donuts for show setup, not Deana. Twyla made a motion to accept the minutes as corrected, Terri seconded, the membership voted and the motion carried with one opposed.

**Juniors Report:** Juniors were excused for their meeting. They will return for the program.

**Treasurer Report:** Teresa went over the financial statements. A detailed report is on the front table for anyone who wants to review it.

**Program:** Brent went over how to set up a case for the show. He went over case liners and risers, making ID tags and exhibitor tag, and the importance of not over-filling the case. Balancing the display is also important. Be sure to bring locks and glass cleaner.

**Field Trip Report:** The March field trip will be a Meet and Greet at the Mining Museum. More trips will be coming up as well.

**Workshop Report:** Liz went over the next dates for ROLE and general workshops. They are also on the calendar in the newsletter.

She reported the ROLE program is going well. If you have any questions, you can contact her.

**Show Report:** We start setting up at the fairgrounds at 8 am on Friday. Bring your gloves. Tear down is on Sunday starting at 5 pm. We should be done by 9 pm.

Dealers will start coming in around noon and you can set up your display case after that. There is a case location sheet at the front table. Cases on the main floor are filled but need more filled in the black light room. The cases will have a name tag in them and also a case favor.

There will be guards overnight at the show. Keep your eyes open for any problems. If you see something, say something.

Willa has parking passes, but they are very limited this year due to other events the same weekend. May need help to direct guests to our door and not Kids' Fair.

**Old Business:** The Banquet went well. Talk to Terri Frostrom if you have suggestions for next year's event.

**New Business:** The Owyhee show is the weekend after ours on March 2-3, and Magic Valley show is March 9-10.

Teresa went over her duties as treasurer at the show. She will check in periodically to take extra cash. Call her if you need change.

See Cheryl Peterson in the demonstrators area for show name tags.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:07 pm.

*Respectfully submitted, Dana Robinson, Secretary*

## MINUTES OF THE IDAHO GEM CLUB BOARD MEETING MARCH 5, 2024

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

**Present:** Rick Corbett, Deana Ashton, Willa Renken, Teresa Nebeker, Liz Warner, Terri Frostrom, Cordell Blaine, Brent Stewart and Dana Robinson

**Excused:** 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 Terri. Board members voted, motion carried.

Rick presented Teresa with a gift card as a Thank You for all of her hard work during and after the show.

**Treasurer Report:** Teresa went over the financial statements for deposits and disbursements, as well as the money market, bonds and CD totals.

She also presented statements for the show table earnings and expenses, and a comparison with prior years.

Brent will be picking up next year's show grand prize cathedral from one of our dealers at the Montana show.

**Program Report:** Terri is contacting Don Dixon at the CSI museum about doing a program for March. She was also given several suggestions for future programs.

**Junior's Report:** Juniors will be starting on the Field Trip badge this month and in April.

**Field Trip Report:** This month's field trip will be to the Idaho Museum of Mining and Geology on March 23rd. It opens at noon and Coyote will be available for any questions.

April's trip will be to Graveyard Point and May is over to Tony Funk's in Gooding. Jenni Gudapadi will be the chairperson.

**Workshop Report:** Brent went over upcoming workshop dates. The next ROLE workshop will be Mar. 18, 6-8:45 pm. The regular workshops will be Mar. 21, 6-8:45 pm and Mar. 30 from 10 am-2 pm. In April the ROLE workshops will be on Apr. 1 and Apr. 15, 6-8:45 pm. The regular April workshops will be on Apr. 18 from 6-8:45 pm, and Apr. 27 10 am-2 pm.

Kids Workshops will be in May or June and August.

**Workshop Report:** Great tear down timing this year. Great to not unload in a storage bin afterward.

We need to remember to print the reminder postcards next year.

**Old Business:** Deana and Phil discussed the best use for the recent Link Scholarship Raffle funds. Phil will present a proposal at a future board meeting.

**New Business:** Brent and Steve Brittenham want to do a fossil display for next year's show in the same space where the petrified wood display was this year.

The board was in agreement on doing a Pizza Party to thank all show participants. It will be on Wednesday, March 27th, 6 pm, at Idaho Pizza Co. The club will provide pizza, salad bar, and sodas. Rick will check on booking the room.

Sixteen new member applications were reviewed. Willa made a motion to accept all the new applications, Deana seconded, the board voted and the motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 pm.

*Respectfully submitted, Dana Robinson, Secretary*

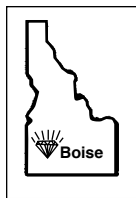


### THE GRINDINGS

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



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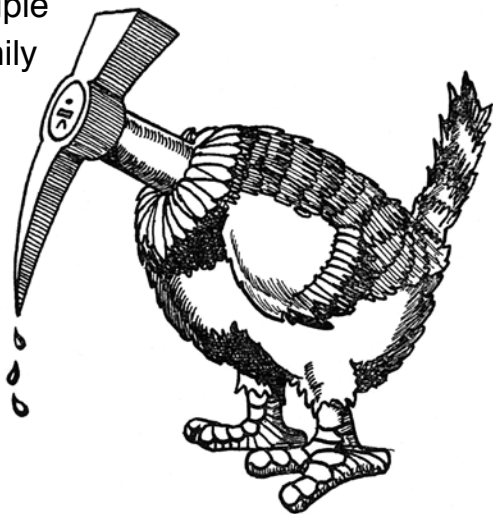
The purpose of the Idaho Gem Club is to promote mutual, educational and scientific interests and benefits of it's members in mineralogy, geology, gemology, the art of lapidary and kindred arts and sciences. Applications and/or renewals may be sent to the Idaho Gem Club, P.O. Box 8443, Boise, ID 83707-2443.

**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

