




Grindings

Idaho Gem Club, Inc.

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

VOL 87 NO 1

JANUARY 2026

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello Rockhounds.

A new year is here and 2025 is a distant memory. 2026 will be a great year with many trips and activities in store.

I want to thank everyone who made our Christmas weekend workshop a fun time of eating and grinding. Thank you, Brent Stewart, for the heated porta-potty . . . and a great fire pit on Saturday. Thank you to Jean Hoene for hosting a wirewrapping class on Saturday, and thank you Willa and Dana for the great chili and chowders. Also a big thanks to Liz for her hard work sawing and helping in the workshop, and to everyone else who helped their fellow grinders.

Our next get together is next Tuesday at our annual Awards Banquet at Waters Edge Event Center in Eagle. It starts at 6 pm with dinner at 7 pm. Our MC this year is Brent Stewart, and I'm looking forward to seeing everyone. As of January 10th we have 89 people signed up.

Our next event is a Bag Filling party on Saturday, the 24th, so bring your tumbled stones and we'll fill bags for our show. We start at 10 am at our workshop behind Stewart's Gem Shop. Please don't park along Stewart's building or in front of the business. There is plenty of parking across the street or on the other side of the alley.

February 20th is show set-up day starting at 8 am at the fairgrounds. If you're doing a case, bring your stuff and you can start setting up after noon. All cases must be filled by 5 pm on Friday. The show opens at 10 am Saturday, so sign up for some of the many jobs that it takes to run this show. We have the largest and best gem show in Idaho and the northwest, so come be a part of it.

Terri is still looking for people or businesses to fill baskets for our raffle. This is a big hit at the show and brings a lot of money to our club, so let's get those baskets filled.

After our show on Sunday, we'll need everyone to help break down the show and load up the trailers. Many hands make the work a lot easier and more fun. Remember to bring your gloves and your sense of humor!

If you want to have a showcase or a black light case, be sure to contact me. I'll be calling everyone who had a case last year, but don't miss out if you've never done a showcase. It's a great opportunity to show the world your treasures or hard work. In March we'll be starting our field trips again. Our field trip coordinator, Brandon, and I will have a trip list by show time.

A lot of fun adventures in the works this year so come enjoy being a part of the Idaho Gem Club, the best gem club in Idaho. See you soon!

*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

JANUARY

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1 New Year's Day	2	3
4	5 ROLE* Workshop 6-8:45 pm	6 Board Meeting 7 pm	7	8	9	10
11	12	13 Wire Wrap Workshop 6-9 pm	14	15	16	17
18	19 ROLE* Workshop 6-8:45 pm	20 Banquet Meeting 6:00 pm	21	22 Workshop 6-8:45 pm	23	24 Grab Bag Stuffing Party 10 am
25	26	27	28	29	30	31 Workshop 10 am-2 pm

FEBRUARY

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 Wire Wrap Workshop 6-9 pm	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 Gem Show Set-up 8 am	21 Gem Show 10 am-6 pm
22 Gem Show 10 am-5 pm Tear Down	23	24	25	26	27	28 Workshop 10 am-2 pm

MARCH

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 Wire Wrap Workshop 6-9 pm	11	12	13	14
15	16 ROLE* Workshop 6-8:45 pm	17 General Meeting 7 pm	18	19 Workshop 6-8:45 pm	20	21 Field Trip
22	23	24	25	26	27	28 Workshop 10 am-2 pm
29	30	31				

APRIL

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 Wire Wrap Workshop 6-9 pm	15	16	17	18
19	20 ROLE* Workshop 6-8:45 pm	21 General Meeting 7 pm	22	23 Workshop 6:45-8 pm	24	25 Field Trip
26	27	28	29	30		

*To participate in the ROLE workshops, you must complete your first level in the general workshops.



Upcoming Events

PowWow Gem & Mineral Show, January 21-25, 9 am-5 pm. QIA Show Grounds, 235 E Ironwood, Quartzsite, AZ

Pueblo Gem & Mineral Show, January 20-February 10, 10 am-6 pm. Ramada Tucson Conference Center, 777 W Cushing Street, Tucson, AZ

Quartzsite Gold & Treasure Show, February 13-14, 9 am-4 pm, February 15, 9 am-3 pm. QIA Building, 235 N Ironwood St, Quartzsite, AZ

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)



WIRE WRAPPING WORKSHOPS

Idaho Gem Club Wire Wrapping Workshops

2nd Tuesday of each month
6 pm to 9 pm

\$10 to participate, includes copper wire and stone

Maryann Weed is offering Wire Wrapping Workshops for club members at her shop. There is no longer a sign-up sheet. There is plenty of room for anyone who wants to come and there is so much to learn. Check it out!

10417 W. Shiloh Dr.
Boise, Idaho
208-412-0205



GRAB BAG FILLING PARTY

We will be having our annual Grab Bag Filling Party on Saturday, January 24th, 2026, in preparation for the February show.

It will be at the Gem Club Workshop, 2620 W. Idaho St. in the back garage. Bring any grab bags you have sewn and the tumbled stones you have been polishing. We meet at 10 am and are usually done by noon. It is a fun get-together and we get to see lots of different material from all of the members. See you there!



SAVE STAMPS PROGRAM

NFMS members are encouraged to use and save commemorative stamps. Cancelled stamps are collected and sorted, then sold to stamp collectors. Cut a 1/4" or larger margin around the stamp. The money generated is then donated to scholarships. The collected stamps can be given to Debbie Mitchell, the Federation Director in our club.

HOLIDAY WORKSHOP



PROJECT OF THE YEAR WINNERS

The winner of the 2025 Project of the Year contest is Maryann Weed. Congratulations! From many great entries, the membership selected the beautiful necklace and earrings set that she made.

Thank you to everyone who entered projects. They were all great and very creative. Start thinking about next year's contest and keep entering. You, too, can win!



The winner of the 2025 Project of the Year contest in the junior division is Claire Blaine. She did a great job on her project. Congratulations!



ANNUAL GEM SHOW SIGN-UP TIME

Once again it is time to start thinking about the annual show. It takes everyone to jump on board and participate by signing up for the different events we have. There is a Wheel of Fortune, Garnet Dig, Grab Bag Sales, Basket Raffle, Silent Auction, Club Merchandise Sales, Scholarship Fundraiser Sales, Hospitality Table at the front door directing visitors, and Entry Ticket Sales that all need volunteers! We also need a good crew for setting up the tables, Black Light Room and Display Cases. Please get involved and help us out. This show is a regional favorite and we always receive a big turnout. This is a fun way to learn more about rocks, meet fellow members and the community. Sign-up sheets will be available at meetings. You may also call the chairpeople to get added on the lists.

Our show will be held February 21 and 22, 2026 at Expo Idaho.

Schedule:

Friday, February 20, 8 am to 6 pm. Show Set Up at Expo Idaho

We need volunteers to unload the trailers and set up the entire show, including display cases, dealer tables, blacklight room, demonstration area tables, and tables for the various Club Events. Please pitch in by giving a couple of hours helping the club bring this great Gem Show to life.

Saturday, February 21 10 am-6 pm. Show opens at 10 am.

All stations need full volunteer schedules.

Sunday, February 22 10 am-5 pm. Show is open.

All stations need full volunteer schedules.

Sunday at 5 pm-8 pm Show. Tear Down.

Volunteers needed to disassemble the show and load everything back into trailers. We can't do it without you!

Members are encouraged to contact Rick Corbett to reserve a display case where you can show off your treasures to the public. You may install your case during the afternoon on Friday. You must have the glass door fronts on and secured by Saturday's door opening at 10 am.



DISPLAY CASE APPLICATION FOR 2026 IDAHO GEM CLUB ANNUAL GEM & MINERAL SHOW

NAME: _____

PHONE NUMBER: (_____) _____

ADDRESS: _____

CLUB MEMBER: _____

NON-MEMBER: _____

NUMBER OF CASES: _____

CLUB'S: _____ OWN: _____

MATERIAL IN CASES: _____

INSIDE DIMENSIONS OF CLUB CASES ARE 46.5" WIDE BY 22.5" DEEP
BY 22.5" HIGH.

LINERS AND LOCKS WILL NOT BE PROVIDED (BRING YOUR OWN).
ALSO BRING GLASS CLEANING SUPPLIES FOR CASE FRONTS.

RETURN APPLICATION TO **RICK CORBETT** AT 930 E. BERGESON DR.,
BOISE, ID 83706 or CONTACT HIM AT 208-890-2599

CASE SET UP: FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 20TH, AFTER 1:00 P.M.

SHOW DATES: FEBRUARY 21ST-22ND

**IDAHO MUSEUM OF
MINING & GEOLOGY****Bruneau Petrified Wood
Geologic Field Trip****Date:** January 24, 10 am to 3 pm

This geologic field trip will be to a new area of Bruneau Petrified Wood. You can collect petrified wood and other fossils without any digging! We'll be meeting to carpool from the Albertsons Parking Lot (near McDonalds but not at McDonalds) at 6574 S. Federal Way and Hwy. 21 at 9:45 am, departing at 10 am. We will spend about 2 hours exploring a new area and picking up petrified wood, having lunch and then return to One-Stop and finally to the meetup location by 3-4 pm. Full refunds will be given if the IMMIG cancels the trip due to the weather.

Admission:

IMMG Members & Children — Free
Non-members — \$20 plus Eventbrite fee

Pre-registration is required at:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/bruneau-petrified-wood-geologic-field-trip-tickets-1979672973154?aff=oddtcreator>

Please contact operations@idahomuseum.org if you have questions

Sponsored by
Idaho Museum of Mining and Geology
2455 Old Penitentiary Rd.
www.idahomuseum.org

**Shoofly Sand Pit
Geologic Field Trip****Date:** February 7, 10 am to 3 pm

Join Steve Schaps for a brand new geologic field trip to the Shoofly Sand Pit located about 70 miles from Boise. The sand pit contains abundant small fossils from Lake Idaho deposits and odd sandstone sculptures that you collect off the surface. The IMMIG also has an archeologist shaker table that people can use to sift sand for fossils (kids love doing this). We will meet at the Albertsons Parking Lot on Hwy. 21 and Federal Way at 9:45 am (near McDonalds but not at McDonalds). We will arrange carpools at this location. The roads are paved except for the last 1.7 miles, which is a good quality dirt road suitable for most vehicles.

We will return to the carpool location at about 3 pm.
No dogs, please.

Admission:

IMMG Members & Children — Free
Non-members — \$20 plus Eventbrite fee

Pre-registration is required at:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/shoofly-sand-pit-fossils-tickets-1980134355160?aff=oddtcreator>

Please contact operations@idahomuseum.org if you have questions

Sponsored by
Idaho Museum of Mining and Geology
2455 Old Penitentiary Rd.
www.idahomuseum.org

AMETRINE

Ametrine, also known as trystine, golden amethyst or bolivianite, is a variety of quartz with alternating zones of purple and yellow-orange coloration. Its name is a combination of amethyst and citrine. Amethyst is clear quartz with the presence of manganese, making it purple. Citrine is clear quartz with the presence of iron, making it golden yellow. While ametrine is commonly referred to as a combination of these two quartz varieties, some sources claim this is not accurate. Almost all commercially available ametrine is mined in Bolivia (bolivianite).



History

Ametrine is a combination of amethyst and citrine, which are both a variety of quartz. Quartzes make up approximately 12% of the Earth's crust.

Ametrine was not readily available on the market until the 1970s, when a lost mine was found in Bolivia. The legends say a Spanish conquistador discovered the ametrine mine in the 1600s, then the mine was lost for centuries. When it was rediscovered, it was named after a legendary princess whose land it once was. The Anahi mine produces natural amethyst, citrine and ametrine.

Color

Ametrine is commonly believed to be a combination of citrine and amethyst in the same crystal. However, sources do not agree that the yellow-orange quartz component of ametrine may properly be called citrine. Like the purple color of amethyst, the yellow color in ametrine originates from trace amounts of iron in the crystal structure. The difference in coloration is due to the iron existing in different oxidation states. The yellow segments have been oxidized by heat, while the amethyst segments remain unoxidized. This definition excludes any amethyst that has been oxidized by heat. Therefore, the yellow quartz in ametrine would not be considered true citrine.

Structure

Ametrine is composed of silicon dioxide (SiO_2) and it is a tectosilicate, which means it has a silicate framework linked together through shared oxygen atoms. Ametrine is typically quite transparent. While minor inclusions can occur, in most gem-grade ametrine, flaws aren't visible without magnification. Any inclusions present usually don't affect the stone's durability or beauty. It rates a 7 on the Mohs scale.

Ametrine is a macrocrystalline variety of quartz that occurs rarely in nature. For ametrine to occur naturally, iron impurities—combined with differing oxidation states—are subjected to varied temperatures. The temperatures need to be slightly higher on some of the surfaces, slightly cooler on others, and the delicate balance of the two temperatures would need to be maintained during the crystallization of the quartz.

Simulated ametrine is created when amethyst is subjected to the same type of conditions in the lab, turning purple areas various shades of yellow. Most ametrine in the market today is heat-treated amethyst.

Origin

Naturally occurring ametrine is sourced almost exclusively from a single mine in Bolivia. Deposits also exist in Brazil and India. The different oxidation states occur due to a temperature gradient across the crystal during its formation. However, most ametrine on the market is created by partially heating or irradiating amethyst.

Ametrine in the low price segment may stem from synthetic material. Green-yellow or golden-blue ametrine does not exist naturally. Synthetic ametrine is grown with the hydrothermal method using solutions doped with specific elements, followed by irradiation of the created crystals.



Cleaning Ametrine

This stone is fairly hard, so you can use an ultrasonic cleaner with it. As most ametrine is created using heat treatments, steam cleaning is not recommended. Store ametrine in a cool, dark place to prevent it from losing color in the sunlight due to both heat and light. Regular gentle cleaning also helps preserve its shine.

Designing with Ametrine

Ametrine comes in a variety of shades from pale lavender to a deep purple to yellow-purple to yellow-orange. Paralleling its colors, ametrine is stunning combined with rainbow fluorite, citrine pearls or lavender amethyst. Depending on its color saturation, it can be mixed with muted hues such as blue lace agate and rose quartz, or with deep jewel tones such as iolite and spinel. Ametrine works well with both gold and silver.



Metaphysical Properties

Ametrine is loved not just for how it looks but also for what people believe it can do.

It is said to bring balance and harmony, combining the calming energy of amethyst with the energizing power of citrine. This gemstone is believed to relieve tension, boost creativity and focus, and promote emotional balance and clarity. On a physical-wellness side, some say it supports the immune system, circulation, and digestion. Ametrine also includes spiritual growth, inner strength and enhanced decision-making. Seen as a powerful detoxifier, it's said to shift negative energy into positive energy and align the mind, body and spirit for overall well-being.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Forrest Burt	Bryan & Michelle Oakes
Chris Hanau & Tara Ethridge	James Wyckoff
Judy Hutchison	Thais Holladay
Joe & Erica Myers	Maria & Randy Barnack
Frank & Barbara Kerbs	Erin Kelly
Hailey Christiansen	Breka Wilkinson
& Andrew Swenson	& Cody McGee

WELCOME NEW JUNIORS

Maybelle Myers	Amilya Myers
Kale Parker	Kennedy McGee

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!

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, you may bring them in a bag marked for the Librarian and leave them on top of the library cabinet. If you have questions, please contact Tia Call at tcall76@yahoo.com.



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.

GEM CLUB OFFICERS

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ricksrocks17@gmail.com

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wlr_dkr@msn.com

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MINUTES OF THE IDAHO GEM CLUB GENERAL MEETING DECEMBER 16, 2025

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 by Rick Corbett and the pledge was recited. Seven guests introduced themselves and commented on what brought them to our club.

Becky drew winning door prize tickets for 4 juniors and 12 adults.

Rick asked for any corrections to the minutes as printed in the *Grindings*. Willa made a motion to accept the minutes, Ed seconded, the membership voted and the motion carried, with Mike opposed.

Treasurer Report: No report. Please talk to any board member with questions.

Juniors Report: The juniors will be working on their badges again starting in February.

Federation Director Report: Debbie reminded everyone to keep saving those stamps and wished everyone Happy Holidays.

Field Trip Report: Brandon is working on the field trip list and it will be coming soon. Send him an email with any suggestions you have for possible trips.

Workshop Report: The two-day Holiday Workshop/Potluck is this weekend, Dec. 20 and 21, 10 am to 4 pm both days. Please do not park at the shop. There is plenty of space across Idaho St. The saw room will be open if you have something to cut. The wirewrap class will be Sat. 11 am to 1:30 pm. Brent will also have a bonfire going.

Liz went over the workshop dates for January. The Jan. general workshops are Jan. 18, 6-8:45 pm, and Jan. 31, 10 am-2 pm. The next ROLE advanced workshops will be on Jan. 5 and Jan. 19, 6-8:45 pm.

The Wire Wrap workshop for January will be on the 13th, 6-9 pm, at a cost of \$10.

Board Election: Rick asked Willa to present the nominees for the Board of Directors election. She asked the nominees to stand; they are Liz Warner, Willa Renken and Dana Robinson. Rick opened the floor for nominations from the floor. After none were received Terri made a motion to close the floor, Becky seconded, the membership voted and the motion carried. Coyote made a motion to accept the nominees presented by acclimation, Ed seconded, the membership voted and the motion carried.

Banquet: Tickets are still available for our Annual Banquet. It is on January 20, 2026, at the Waters Edge Event Center. The cost for members is \$25, and for guests it's \$35. It is a very nice venue. Brent will be doing the emcee duties again this year. Thanks!

Show Report: The sign-up sheets for the various jobs at the show are on the front table. We need all the volunteers we can get to run the show. Setup is on Feb. 20 at 8 am at Expo Idaho. The show is Feb. 21, 10 am-6 pm, and Feb. 22, 10 am-5 pm. On Feb. 22 at 5 pm we will need volunteers to help with the tear down, too. There are also still many cases available, regular and black light. Contact Rick to get your case reserved.

Old Business: The second Tuesday each month is a wire wrapping workshop with Maryann Weed for a minimal charge of \$10. Tonight she showed examples of the next project: adjustable rings.

New Business: We will have a Grab Bag Filling party on January 24th at 10 am at the workshop. The club pays \$125 for each 5-gal bucket of tumbled material to offset grit costs. It is a fun event and helps supply the grab bag table for the show.

Facebook entries are going to be standardized. Entries showing work or finds, but no clip art or material that could possibly be copyrighted. Please ask any board member if you have questions.

There is a break for the Project of the Year vote.

After the votes were counted Maryann Weed was the winner. Congratulations! There was only one entry for juniors. Claire Blaine did a great project for the contest.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:51 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Dana Robinson, Secretary

MINUTES OF THE IDAHO GEM CLUB BOARD MEETING JANUARY 6, 2026

Present: Rick Corbett, Willa Renken, Teresa Nebeker, Lynn Hansen, Cordell Blaine, Terri Frostrom, Jason Smith, Liz Warner and Dana Robinson

Excused: Debbie Mitchell

Guest: Brent Stewart

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 by Rick Corbett.

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 Jason. Board members voted and the motion carried.

Treasurer Report: Teresa went over the financial statements for deposits and disbursements. Another quarter of the deposit was made to Expo Idaho for the show venue. Liz had some workshop expenses and will have a few more coming.

Federation Director Report: No report.

Banquet Report: Brent went over the Banquet program information. Dinner will actually be at 7 pm. Debbie Mitchell and Ed Moser are the new life members. Dana will get certificates made. We also need to send a group email to encourage everyone to get their ticket by Friday, Jan. 9. Also ask about basket donations.

Juniors Report: Cordell reported that he is working on an agenda and it will be coming soon.

Workshop Report: Liz went over the dates for the next workshops. The ROLE workshops will be Jan. 19, 6-8:45 pm and Feb. 2 and 16, 6-8:45 pm. The January regular workshops will be Jan. 22, 6-8:45 pm, and Jan. 31, 10 am-2 pm. The February regular workshops will be Feb. 19, 6-8:45 pm, and Feb. 28, 10 am-2 pm.

The Bag Filling party will be Jan. 24 10 am at the workshop. Terri will bring donuts and Dana will bring juice.

Rick also mentioned he will need machines for demonstrating at the show.

Show Report: Case favors were discussed. The shot glass vendor couldn't do our logo so we need a new estimate. Check with International Minute Press, we need at least 100. Also order 2.5" stickers and a new show flyer. Email the flyer to Rick for OK.

Old Business: No old business.

New Business:

Liz suggested that we make a plaque for our first member who has reached Artisan level in the ROLE program. After discussion it was agreed to have that made.

There were twelve new member applications this month. Jason made a motion to accept the new members, Liz seconded, the board voted and the motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:08 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Dana Robinson, Secretary



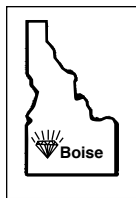
THE GRINDINGS

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www.idahogemclub.com



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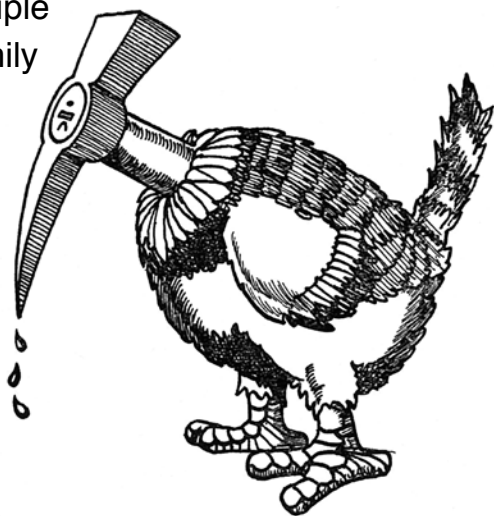
The purpose of the Idaho Gem Club is to promote mutual, educational and scientific interests and benefits of it's members in mineralogy, geology, gemology, the art of lapidary and kindred arts and sciences. Applications and/or renewals may be sent to the Idaho Gem Club, P.O. Box 8443, Boise, ID 83707-2443.

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

