



Grindings

Idaho Gem Club, Inc.

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

VOL 87 NO 9

SEPTEMBER 2026

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★★ DUES ARE DUE IN OCTOBER ★★

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

or pay at the September or October Meetings

Membership Term is from October thru September

Single \$22, Couple \$25, Family \$28

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello Rockhounds.

September is here along with the cooler weather. The summer is slipping by, but we still have a couple of field trips to do. This month on the 19th we're heading to Silver City, a very historical town founded over 160 years ago. We'll meet at Dan's 66 Station at Walter's Ferry at 7:30 am, leaving at 8 am. If you come through Nampa, follow 12th Ave. right to Walter's Ferry. A brief visit to town to stretch our legs, then off to the tailing piles for quartz crystal clusters discarded by the miners, large chunks and very cool.

Possibly the following weekend on the 26th and 27th of September we will be going to Beacon Hill outside of Weiser, depending on fire damage and accessibility. We will know more by our meeting on Tuesday, Sept. 15th. If we go to Beacon Hill, we'll meet at 8 am at the rest stop just before Ontario, OR, on I84, leaving at 8:30. Bring your high clearance vehicle, plenty of water, digging tools, shovel, gloves, buckets and lunch. This location is a club claim with very unique moss agate nodules found in abundance. This will be the last field trip of the year as bad weather is coming and we don't want to tear up the roads we travel on.

At our upcoming meeting we're having a Trunk/Rock Sale in the parking lot of the Maple Grove Grange starting at 5 pm and going to 6:40 or so. Come and sell some of your unique finds, jewelry, rocks, cabachons, equipment, slabs, or just come early to visit and spend a few bucks. Money comes and goes, but rocks are forever!

During the meeting I'll provide a few minutes to have a little show and tell time. Weather permitting we will have our meeting outside on the side of the Grange. For the next three meetings we will be having auctions after the meetings, so consider items that can be donated or items you want to purchase or bid on. All proceeds help offset the cost of our Awards Banquet in January.

Come to a field trip and bring your friends or family, or come to a rock sale. Come and be a part of the best gem club in Idaho.

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

TRUNK SALE

from 5-6:40 before the meeting in the Grange parking lot

Come check out new treasures!

ACTIVITY CALENDAR

SEPTEMBER

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

OCTOBER

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3 Beacon Hill Moved to Sept 26-27
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 General Meeting 7 pm	21	22 Workshop 6-8:45 pm	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31 Workshop 10 am-2 pm

NOVEMBER

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

DECEMBER

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

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



Upcoming Events

Cache Rock & Gem Show, October 16-17, 10 am-6 pm, October 18, 10 am-5 pm. Cache County Fairgrounds Event Center, 450 S 500 W, Logan, UT

Springfield Thunderegg Rock & Gem Club Show, October 24, 10 am-5 pm, October 25, 10 am-3 pm. Willamalane Adult Activity Center, 215 W C Street, Springfield, OR

Southern Utah Rock & Gem Show, November 6-7. Washington County Legacy Park (Grafton Building), 5500 West 700 South, Hurricane, UT

2026 FIELD TRIPS

Sept 19 Silver City for Quartz Crystals

Sept 26-27 Beacon Hill for Geodes (if accessible)

SEPTEMBER FIELD TRIP

The field trip for September will be to Silver City for quartz crystals. We will be meeting at the Dan's 66 Station at Walter's Ferry at 7:30 am, leaving at 8 am.

We will be visiting Silver City to look around town and visit the shops. Then we will go to the rockhounding area.

You will need lunch, water, your rock hammer and buckets.

The fire danger is high so be sure to park in a safe place, not on dry grass, and no smoking outside vehicles.

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	Insect Repellant

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

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 plenty of room for anyone who wants to come and there is so much to learn. Please call to reserve your place. Check it out!

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



Projects from May and June

AUGUST PICNIC



AUGUST FIELD TRIP



Application

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

Description: 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).

Eligibility: 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.

Terms of acceptance: 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.

Instructions: 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 2026-2027 academic year. Completed applications should be **received by September 30, 2026** 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, 2026 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.) in 2023-2024*: _____

Major(s) and Minor(s)*: _____

Department(s)*: _____

Current G.P.A.*: _____

Name and department of Faculty member sponsoring application*:

APPLICATION ESSAY*:

The Idaho Gem Club, Inc was formed for purposes that included promoting “the interests of its members in mineralogy, geology, gemology, the art of lapidary and kindred arts and sciences.” Please write a 1-2 page essay describing your career goals, and how it will benefit the public good through application of your education in earth science to education, natural resource development and stewardship, hazard evaluation, or similar pursuits as a professional.

Note to applicants:

The scholarship will be awarded at one of the Club's regular monthly meetings, held on the third Tuesday of each month. We are asking the recipient to present a short program (relating to earth science) at a meeting. Would you be willing to do this*? _____

SIGNATURE

By signing this application, you certify that the above is true and correct. Also, you certify that you will use Idaho Gem Club Inc. Scholarship funds only for the purpose of defraying the cost of attending an institution of higher education (i.e., tuition, books, etc.)

Student Signature*: _____ Date*: _____

I know the above student and certify that they are an earth science student in good standing and endorse their application.

Signature of faculty sponsor*: _____ Date*: _____

PROJECT OF THE YEAR CONTEST

Every December, we hold a contest for projects members have made related to lapidary, jewelry, earth science or geology. There are categories for Adults and Youth. The projects must be made by you, and made within the current year.

There is a special showcase dedicated to display the winning entry during the Annual Gem Show and your name is added to the plaque displayed at the club workshop.

Many people have been making cabs and wire wrapping this year so there should be some great entries for judging. Show off your creations to the club!

ELECTION TIME

Each October we nominate 3 members for positions on the Board of Directors. The term is 3 years. The President is chosen from the Board members. Then the President selects the officers.

Board members are required to attend monthly Board Meetings held on the first Tuesday of each month at 7:00 pm. This meeting lasts until about 8:30. All club financial and business decisions are discussed and voted on by the Board. The Directors usually contribute in other areas of the club as well. A well rounded board is desired to reflect all club members' interests.

The Nominating Committee Chairperson this year is Willa Renken. You can contact her if you are interested. She will then submit nominations at the Board meeting. The nominees will submit a biography for the newsletter and elections will be held in November. You can also be nominated from the floor during the meeting.

Contact Willa Renken if you are interested in serving on the Board. Her contact information is in the newsletter.

**IDAHO MUSEUM OF
MINING & GEOLOGY****Shoofly Oolites - Landscape of Mars**

Date: October 3, 10 am to 3 pm

Join Steven Sawyer for a popular field trip to the Shoofly Oolites, one of the largest outcrops of Oolites in North America, located 70 miles from Boise near Grand View. We will meet at 9:45 am near the McDonald's, 6574 S Federal Way (Albertsons Shopping Center) near the intersection of I-84 and Hwy 21 for a 10 am departure. Home early afternoon. Please carpool as much as possible. Paved roads the entire way.

Admission:

IMMG Members & Kids — Free

Non-members — \$20

(plus Eventbrite fee)

Pre-registration is required at:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/shoofly-oolites-landscape-of-mars-tickets-2000049635299?aff=oddtcreator>
Contact operations@idahomuseum.org if you have questions.

Sponsored by

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

**Baker Heritage Museum and Sumpter
Dredge: Geologic & History Tour****Date:** October 3, 10 am to 6 pm

Explore the rich geological and mining history at the Baker Heritage Museum and the Sumpter Dredge with Professional Geologist Mark Ferns. You'll receive an incredible Heritage Museum tour followed by a visit to the historic Sumpter Dredge. Meet-up at Lowe's in Meridian, 305 W. Overland Rd, near the NE end of the parking lot at 9:40 am for a 10 am departure. Return home about 6 pm.

Admission:

IMMG Members & Kids — Free
Non-members — \$20
(plus Eventbrite fee)

Details and registration on this link:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/baker-heritage-museum-sumpter-dredge-an-historic-tour-tickets-1998678798088?aff=oddtcreator>

Contact operations@idahomuseum.org if you have questions.

Sponsored by

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

Mineral Identification**Date:** October 4, 1 pm to 2 pm

Need help identifying rocks you've found or purchased? Coyote Short, Professional Geologist, can identify rocks, minerals, fossils and Native American artifacts. Bring your specimens and she will help you identify them. Plus, you'll learn steps to identifying rocks and minerals.

Admission:

IMMG Members & Kids — Free
General — \$5
(plus Eventbrite fee)

Pre-registration is required at:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/mineral-identification-class-tickets-2000052426648?aff=oddtcreator>

Contact operations@idahomuseum.org if you have questions.

Sponsored by

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

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 1/2" 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.

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

PRESIDENT: Rick Corbett, 208-890-2599
ricksrocks17@gmail.com

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wlr_dkr@msn.com

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2020hansen@gmail.com

WEBSITE: www.idahogemclub.com

EMAIL: info@idahogemclub.com

MINUTES OF THE IDAHO GEM CLUB
GENERAL MEETING

AUGUST 18, 2026

Everyone gathered starting at 6 pm. At 6:30 Ken gave the invocation and everyone enjoyed a great meal. Doug and Brent passed out ice cream for dessert.

Rick called the meeting to order at 7:19 and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Becky drew winning door prize tickets for 9 juniors and 8 adults.

Rick asked for any corrections to the minutes as printed in the *Grindings*. Willa made a motion to accept the minutes, Terri seconded, the membership voted and the motion carried (no Mike tonight).

Treasurer Report: No report. Barb has a copy if anyone wants to see the activity for the month.

Federation Director Report: Debbie again encouraged everyone to save their stamps and turn them in for the meeting next spring.

Field Trip Report: The August field trip is to the Queenstone and Whangdoodle claims on Aug. 22. We will meet at the Ion station at the intersection of Hwys. 55/95 just outside of Marsing at 7:30 am, leaving at 8 am. You will need rock hammers and chisels. A spray water bottle is also helpful to see the opals. You will also need eye protection and good shoes. There is no parking on grass and no smoking outside your vehicle.

Let Brandon know if you have places you would like to go for next year's field trips.

The September field trip will be to Silver City for quartz crystals. Fire restrictions may be in place.

Workshop Report: Liz went over the next workshop dates. The August regular workshops are on August 20, 6-8:45 pm, and then on August 29 from 10 am-2 pm. The September workshops are 9-17, 6-8:45 pm, and 9-26, 10 am-2 pm. The ROLE workshops for September are on 9-7 and 9-21, 6-8:45 pm.

The wire wrapping workshops will be on September 8 from 6-9 pm. All students are doing great. The Tree of Life will be the next project.

Old Business: Many thanks to the Renkens for bringing the pop and ice cream for both picnics.

The last auction brought in \$810. It was a great auction to support our banquet.

New Business: The September general meeting will be back at the Grange on the 15th. We will have a trunk sale in the parking lot from 5-6:40 before the meeting. Bring your work and rough rock.

Maryann is starting wire wrap classes for the Caldwell club on the second Wednesday of each month. Please don't come to both classes, even if you have dual membership. That way others have a chance to learn wire wrapping.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:40 pm for the auction.

Respectfully submitted, Dana Robinson, Secretary

MINUTES OF THE IDAHO GEM CLUB BOARD MEETING SEPTEMBER 1, 2026

Present: Rick Corbett, Willa Renken, Barb Lee, Terri Frostrom, Cordell Blaine, Jason Smith, Lynn Hansen, Debbie Mitchell and Dana Robinson

Excused: Liz Warner

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 by Rick Corbett.

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

Treasurer Report: Barb asked if there were any questions about the financial sheet she sent to all in email. There were no questions.

Federation Director Report: Debbie reminded us to keep saving our stamps.

Program Report: Chris was unable to do the program so Terri is checking to see if Bill Todd is available.

October, November and December will have auctions benefiting the banquet.

Juniors Report: No report.

Field Trip Report: The trip to the Queenstone and Whangdoodle claims had 15 adults and 7 kids attend. Everyone found good material at Queenstone, and one person found a couple of good opals at Whangdoodle. Jason also found material from where the power line pads had been dug.

The September trip is to Silver City for quartz crystals. The fire situation seems to be under control in the area at this time. We will meet at 7:30 am at the Phillips 66 station in Walters Ferry, leaving at 8 am. We will caravan to Silver City and tour the town and support the local stores. You will need good shoes and buckets for surface collecting.

There is extreme fire danger, so don't park on any dry grass and no smoking outside vehicles.

The Beacon Hill trip has been moved due to a scheduling conflict. If the weather and ranchers permit, we will be going on September 26 and 27. More details as we get closer.

Workshop Report: No report. Check calendars for dates.

Old Business: The August picnic meeting auction brought in \$737. The "Buy it Now" section has been well received, especially for those who can't stay for the auctions.

The next meeting in September will have a trunk sale from 5-6:40 and possibly an outdoor meeting, weather permitting.

New Business: Liz got all the claims forms filled out and sent in for the year. Great job!

Jason Smith won first place prizes for his entries at the fair this year.

Rick asked Barb to check on ordering a porta-potty for the Christmas Workshop weekend. He also asked for ideas for case favors for next year's show. Some suggestions were made, price needs to be \$10 or less each piece. Bring ideas to next board meeting.

The November election will be coming up soon. Willa will check on who is up for election this year and put together a nominating committee.

It is also time for the Project of the Year competition. A lot of folks have been making cabs and wire wrapping this year so there should be some good entries.

It is also time to get table favors and door prizes for the banquet in January.

There were no new applications this month.

Meeting adjourned at 7:36 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Dana Robinson, Secretary

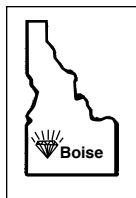


THE GRINDINGS

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

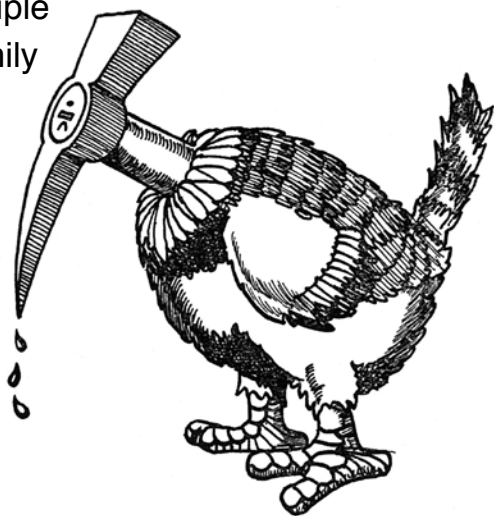
The purpose of the Idaho Gem Club is to promote mutual, educational and scientific interests and benefits of it's members in mineralogy, geology, gemology, the art of lapidary and kindred arts and sciences. Applications and/or renewals may be sent to the Idaho Gem Club, P.O. Box 8443, Boise, ID 83707-2443.

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

