



# "Owyhee Gem"



## Owyhee Gem & Mineral Society

P . O . B o x 1 0 5 3 C a l d w e l l , I d a h o 8 3 6 0 5 - 1 0 5 3

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### August President's Message

Hello everyone, hope your summer is going along nicely. The weather is once again turning hot so take care as you go out into the field. Remember to be conscious of the ability to start fires as the under carriage of your vehicle can ignite the tall grass pretty easily. Take lots of water, shovels and be sure to have some fun.

Thanks to all of you who donated items for the summer auction as it was a big success again this year. We made a little over \$800 on this event but it would not have been possible if you all didn't contribute. I always enjoy the chance to visit and get to know more about everyone. Ed is a great auctioneer and we thank him for his efforts on our behalf. He has asked for some help with the November auction as it is easier with a spotter or two so no one feels left out of the bidding process. If you would like to help please let us know as we welcome any and all volunteers.

It looks like Jim has us set up with a program on "Being Prepared". Dave Seltorzman is going to be our speaker this month. So come ready to learn more about this subject. Jim has asked for recommendations of talks or if you know of a speaker that would be willing to come and do a presentation please let him know. Thank you Jim you have been doing a great job and we appreciate the time and effort you put into these programs.

Susan is gearing up for the next show and has let us know it is time to vote on the theme title for our March Gem Show. If you have an idea let her know as we always like input on this subject. She will present several themes and the general membership will vote on which they like the best. This way we can get the flyers printed so they can be distributed in advance of the show.

Ithel will be leading the field trip to the Pink Plume claim this month. He will be meeting the group in Homedale at the park with the tank at 7:30am leaving at 8am. Be sure to take lots of water, sunscreen, and your digging tools. More information will be available at the meeting.

Randy Whipple is our liaison with the Orma J Smith Museum at the College of Idaho. He came and reported on what the club members and the museum group had been doing. If you would like to get involved, the work days are the first Saturday of each month. They would welcome any and all help in getting the cases fixed and specimens cleaned for exhibit. We will be voting on some funding for the restoration of the display cases at our next meeting. There will also be some discussion on how the club can best support the museum and its efforts in restoring the Glenn Evans collection for all to see. An event that is coming up to support the museum's efforts is on Sept 15<sup>th</sup> "A night at the Museum". There should be more information available for us at this next meeting. We commend all of you who are taking time to support the museum as it is a worthwhile endeavor and one we should all take pride in.

As always I look forward to seeing you all at the next meeting on August 16<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm in the Boone Science Bldg. Come have some fun until then keep on rocking!!

Willa Renken, OGMS President

## OWYHEE GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

July 19, 2017

The General Meeting was held at the Memorial Park in Caldwell, located on the corners of Kimball and Irving. The meeting started at 6:30 with a potluck dinner. Guests were introduced and given a warm welcome. After dinner, President, Willa Renken lead a short meeting. There were no official reports given. The field trip this month will be to Wagon Town to collect petrified wood. There was no unfinished business or new business.

After the short meeting, Ed Moser did a fantastic job as the auctioneer for the evening. Donated items were sold to the highest bidder. Money collected from the auction will go towards the cost of the December Banquet.

Respectfully submitted. Debbie Lawrence, Secretary

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### ATTENTION PLEASE!!

#### Orma J. Smith Museum of Natural History

Have you been to the museum lately? The Orma J. Smith Museum of Natural History features specimens representing the Biology and Geology of SW Idaho, SE Oregon, and northern Nevada. The focal point of the museum is the Evans Gem and Mineral Collections. Curator, Nathan Carpenter, continues to expand the displays and welcomes visitors as well as assistance from volunteers to help build and maintain the displays, conduct tours and classes, and identify and label specimens.

The museum hosts a workday and seminar the first Saturday of every month and will host the annual event, "**Night at the Museum**," from 7-9 pm on September 15<sup>th</sup>. The evening will include award presentations in Boone Hall room 103 and tours of the Museum. The Museum is open to all visitors Tuesday-Friday from 1-5 pm, the first Saturday of every month from 8-5 and the third Saturday of every month from 10-4.

The Museum is located in the basement of Boone Hall on the College of Idaho campus. Visit the Museum website at [www.collegeofidaho.edu/cultural-institutions/orma-j-smith-museum-natural-history](http://www.collegeofidaho.edu/cultural-institutions/orma-j-smith-museum-natural-history) to learn more.





### August Birthdays

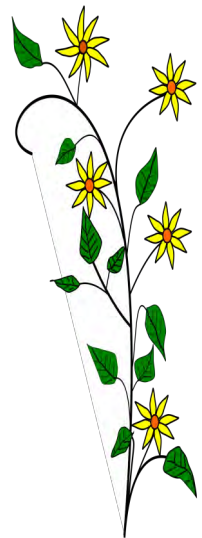
8/4 Tammy Miller  
 8/4 Eric Larson  
 8/4 Betty Ward  
 8/6 Janet Huntley  
 8/6 RoseMary Peterson  
 8/6 Robert Powers  
 8/10 Alica Sherer  
 8/10 Laura Archueta  
 8/12 Ruth Mangrum  
 8/13 James Jarrett  
 8/15 Bill Baker  
 8/18 Larry Beattie  
 8/20 Kai Anderson  
 8/23 Kay Taylor  
 8/28 Jim Hon  
 8/30 Helen Weber



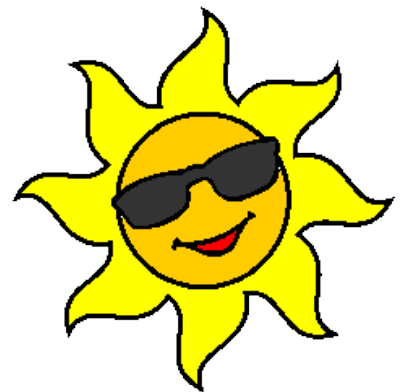
**Bill Stringer wants you to know that he has a 16" saw that needs to be rebuilt. For sell for \$150. Please see Bill for pictures.**

### August Anniversaries

8/4 Larry & Susan Beattie  
 8/7 David & Purchase Dole  
 8/7 Jim & Ruth Mangrum  
 8/8 Jim & Leta Collard  
 8/8 Ernie & Kathy Shell  
 8/10 Pauline Prather  
 8/14 Rick & Celeste  
 8/15 Rich & Kay Taylor  
 8/16 Tom & Lillie Rogers  
 8/21 Howard & Darlene Emry  
 8/28 Chris & Myra Skidgel  
 8/30 Harry & Pat Erichson  
 8/30 Jim & Christie Rettinger  
 8/31 Dave & Cheryl Myers



**Don't forget the Total Solar Eclipse coming August 21, 2017. Go online to [www.eclipse2017.org](http://www.eclipse2017.org) to find out where the best place is to be when it happens.**



**Stone from Arizona**

Anderson Mine—Agate  
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### Please 2017 Field Trip Schedule

- August 19th**      **Pink Plume Agate Claim** (Meet @ Homedale Park 7:30 and leave at 8:00am)
- September 2nd, 3rd, 4th**      **Glass Butte**, (Stink Water) overnigher. **Bring knee pads or pieces of carpet. Glass is sharp.** Details for the trip will be at the meeting.
- September 23rd**      **Grandview** for Petrified Pinecones (Meet @ Walters Ferry 7:30-8:00am)
- October 21st**      **Haystacks Butte** for Red Jasper (Meet @ Homedale Park 7:30-8:00am)
- Blue Opal Egg Claim (single-day trip). If interested please contact Ithel Kildow at 208-455-7960.

### USEFUL ITEMS TO BRING ON YOUR TRIP

**Buckets, Shovels, Pick, Rock Hammer, 3 prong rake, 1/2" to 3/4" screen, Spray Bottle for Water, Small Scrub Brush, Magnifier, Gloves, Plenty of Drinking Water, Appropriate Clothing, Food, Protective Eyewear, sun protection knee pads or carpet square to kneel on.**

**For field trip Information**, contact Ithel Kildow at (208) 455-7960,  
Or David Schmidt (408) 489-3996

Trips can last most of the day. Generally, a high-clearance vehicle and sometimes 4WD or ATV is required. **Remember, when you finished to fill in all holes that are dug at the site.**

**ALL FIELD TRIPS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE DEPENDING ON  
WEATHER AND ROAD CONDITIONS**

**We will be voting on a theme for the 2018 show at the August meeting.**

Please bring your great ideas to add to our existing list.

The Themes to choose from so far are:

**Sparkle and shine**  
**Rock it to Me**  
**Welcome to Bedrock**  
**Ready to Rock**  
**Gemstones are Keen for 2018**  
**Come Rock With Us**  
**18 Tons of Fun**  
**Rockety Rocks**  
**Have a Rockin' Time**



Thanks for all of your great ideas!

See you at the meeting. Susan

**OGMS Board Minutes for July 31, 2017**

The Board meeting was held at the Caldwell Public Library and called to order by President Willa Renken at 7pm. Janie Ehlers made a motion to approve the minutes as written; seconded by Jim Hopkins, motion carried.

**Secretary Report:** None

**Vice President:** There will be a presentation by David Seltzorman on Being Prepared.

**Treasurer:** Janie reported that we made \$801 on the picnic auction. There was a discussion about having more help during the auction to help keep things straight with money due and collections.

**Show Chairman:** It was noted that Darrel has received 30 buckets of material for the rock auction. Thank you donators. Susan would like to discuss and vote on the theme for next years rock show during the next general meeting.

**Federation Chairman:** Ed says "Save your Stamps"

**Historian:** There was no Report.

**Sunshine:** Give Jules a call if you know of someone who may need a get well card or note of cheer.

**Membership:** Please come to the next meeting and get badges and nametags if you have not gotten them.

**Field Trip Chairman:** The next field trip will be the Pink Plume Agate claim. Meet at the Homedale Park by 7:30 am and leave by 8 am. Also discussed was the Glass Butte trip planned for Sept. 2nd.

**Webmaster:** The website is up to date.

**Museum Liaison:** Randy Whipple thanked the volunteers for their work at the museum. Especially noted Don Dixon who give many hours of support on first Saturday of each month. The museum still has many items that need to be catalogued and would appreciate extra help.

**Unfinished Business:** There was no unfinished business.

**New Business:** There was no new business

Meeting adjourned at 7:50 pm.

Submitted by Kim Bashford

**Sunshine Report**

Hi, I am Jewels Haines and I am your Sunshine Chairman. If you hear of anyone needing a get well card or visit, please give me a call at 760-331-3443

-Jewels Haines, Sunshine Chairman

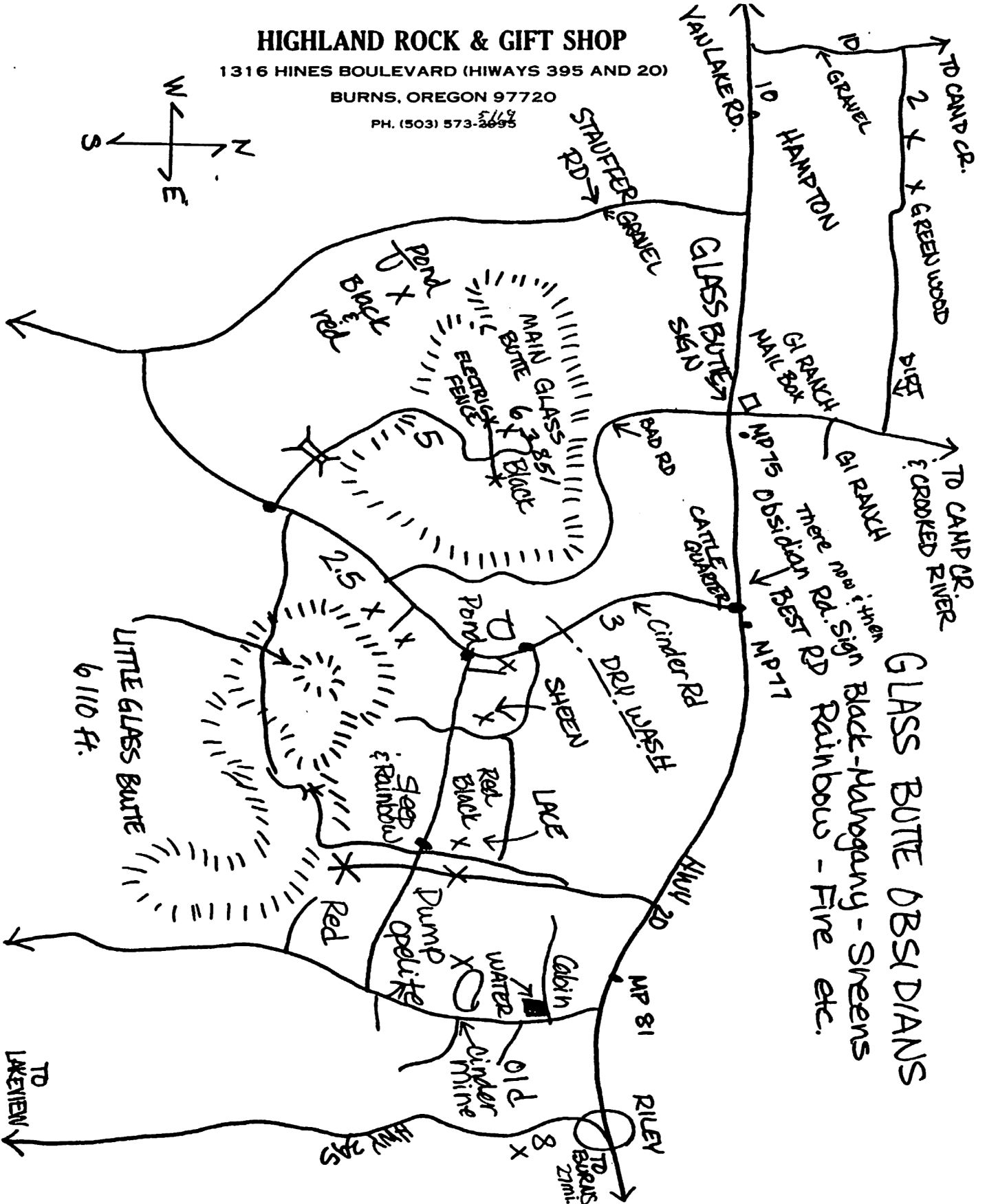
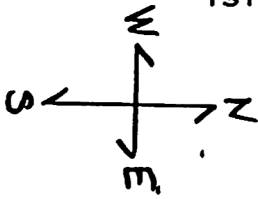
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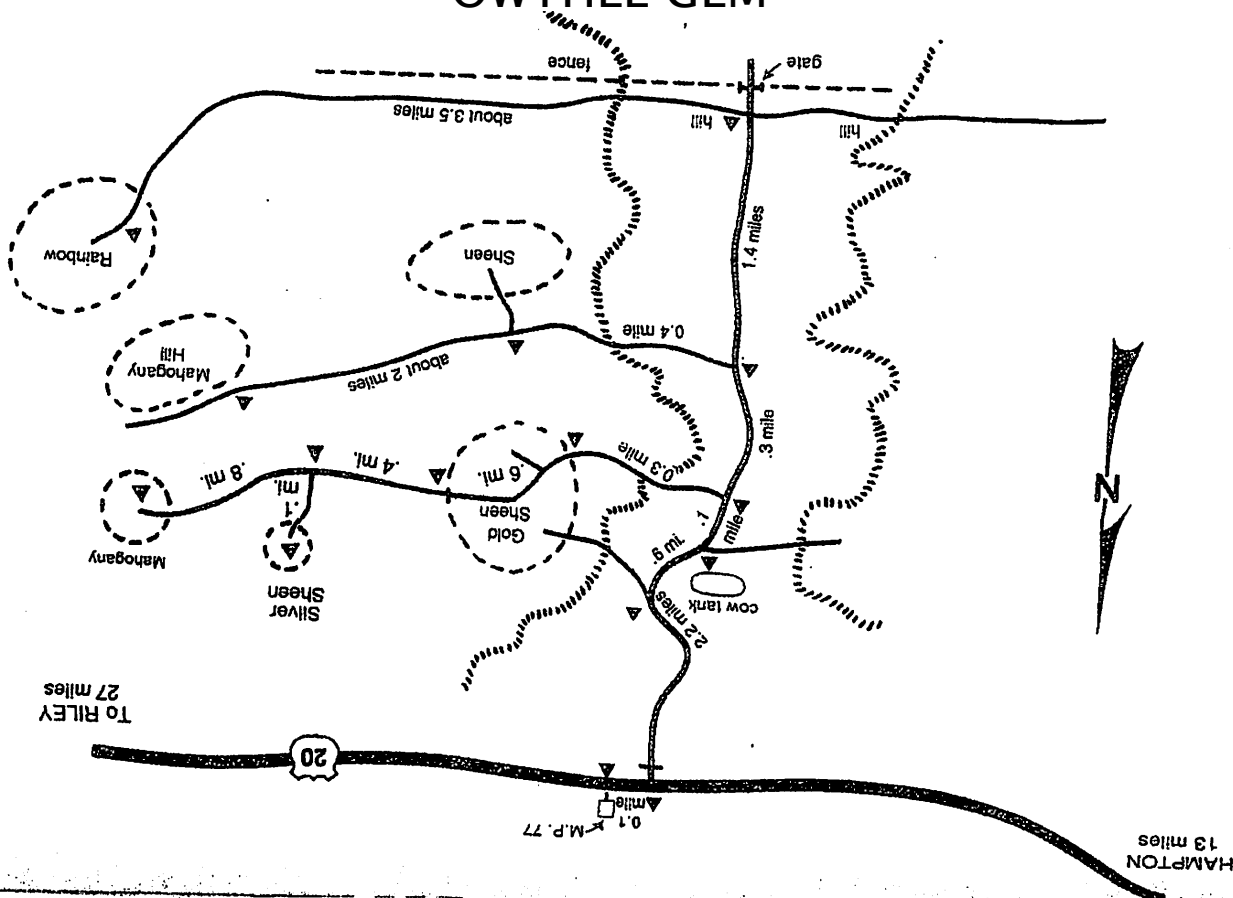
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GLASS BUTTE OBSIDIANS

GLASS BUTTE OBSIDIANS - Sheens  
Rainbow - Fire etc.

## GLASS BUTTE



## Region IV — GLASS BUTTE —

This is indisputably Oregon's premier obsidian site. There are many other locations that offer gem quality volcanic glass, but none can match the variety and consistent quality available here. This is virtually a supermarket for obsidian. Within a very tight radius, one can obtain gold sheen, silver sheen, mahogany, red, flame, lace, jet black, double flow, brown, snowflake and highly prized rainbow material. This site is so prolific that gem grade specimens can even be found along the road leading in from the highway.

Of all the various digging sites at Glass Butte, the rainbow excavations are probably the most highly regarded. As you might expect, that site is also the most remote and difficult to get to. Follow the well-traveled dirt tracks, as illustrated on the map, and you will find yourself near pits left by previous rockhounds. It is there you should start to work, hoping to unearth some chunks of that elusive and beautiful volcanic glass.

The two sheen sites, pinpointed on the map, are also well worth stopping at. Obviously, all material found there will not show an iridescent, colorful internal glow, but quite a lot does. Once again, look for the holes left by previous collectors for indications as to where work should be started.

Mahogany Hill is interesting, being a miniature mountain of solid, cutting quality, mahogany obsidian. There is so much available, and the quality is so high, that it almost becomes overwhelming trying to sort out the best.

Showing only six specific collecting sites on the map in no way should imply that those are the only places you should inspect. It is not out of the question to stumble upon something of value. While driving on any of the ruts that crisscross through the Glass Butte area, keep an eye out for places where previous rockhounds have been digging. Those pits often indicate something special was found there, and it might be worth making a stop to investigate.

An important word of caution is essential here. Be certain you do not attack an obsidian deposit without wearing gloves and eye protection. Sharp glass splinters and chips fly through the air when struck with a hammer, and severe eye damage could be caused by just one of them.

**Federation Director**

Please save the postage STAMPS for cancer research and bring to this months meeting. Remember to **cut ½ inch all the way around the stamp**. Thanks to all for your help. Please READ the JUNE 2017 Northwest Federation News Letter. If you did not get a copy you can view it at <https://www.amfed.org/nfms/>, for what the monies are being used for. It helps others and it might just help someone you know.

**Federation Director**-Ed Moser, Federation Director  
(208) 340-8060, edmoser15@gmail.com

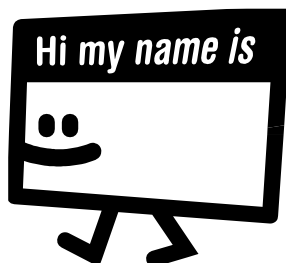
**Membership Report****Now accepting payment of 2018 dues**

Membership forms are available at every meeting. Invite your "rockhound" friends to our next one!

Any member needing a name badge, membership card, or patch, please call me so I can have them ready for you to pick up at the next meeting.

If you need a "replacement" of any of these, there will be a nominal charge of \$2 for the Name badge and \$3 for the Small patch. In addition, large patches are available to members for \$10.

Please remember to wear your name badge to the meetings, as it makes it so much easier to identify you.



Your yearly dues cover membership privileges from October 31st through the following October 31st .

You can either pay at a meeting or by mailing the form below to:

**P.O. Box 1053, Caldwell, ID 83605-1053.**

**Kim Bashford, Membership Chairperson**

**Phone: (208) 454-7287**

**Email: kmcewan1957@msn.com**

**OWYHEE GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY DUES****Year: 2018**Family  
\$20Couple  
\$18Single  
\$12Child  
\$3

LAST NAME: (Please Print) \_\_\_\_\_ Date Paid: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount: \_\_\_\_\_

FIRST NAME(s): \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ ANNIV: \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ BDAY: \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Month Day Month Day Month Day

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

RENEWAL \_\_\_\_\_ NEW \_\_\_\_\_

CASH \_\_\_\_\_ CHECK # \_\_\_\_\_

RECD BY \_\_\_\_\_

Owyhee Gem & Mineral Society  
PO Box 1053,  
Caldwell, ID 83605-1053

#### Owyhee Gem and Mineral Society Purpose:

To promote interest in the wonders of nature and in particular, rocks, gems, minerals, and fossils.  
To conduct field trips for exploration and collection.  
To encourage as wide a participation as possible in the "Rock Hound" hobby and the many activities that go along with it.

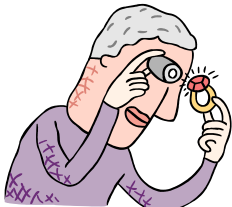
#### MEMBERSHIP DUES:

**Family** - \$20.00 per year  
**Couples** - \$18.00 per year  
**Singles** - \$12.00 per year  
**Children (under 19)** - \$3.00 per year

The Owyhee Gem and Mineral Society was established in 1938 at the College of Idaho in Caldwell, Idaho.

**GENERAL MEETING:** The club meets the third Wednesday of each month at 7:30 P.M. in the Boone Science Hall at the College of Idaho, Room 103, except for the July picnic and the December holiday party. Field trips are scheduled once a month. Visitors are welcome at all these events!

**Bring a friend**—Wear your name tag— Bring an unidentified rock and we'll help you figure out what it is!



#### **Have You Visited our Club Website?**

Our awesome website has great information on it. There are some great pictures of our outings, and our newsletter is posted on it. Brad Larson, our Web Master, does a great job of keeping it up to date with all kinds of information like upcoming shows, field trip dates, times and much more.

<http://www.owyheerocks.com/>

