



# “Owyhee Gem”



## Owyhee Gem & Mineral Society

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### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**PRESIDENT:** Willa Renken  
362-3941, Wlr\_dkr@msn.com

**VICE-PRESIDENT:** Nancy Farrell  
914-3236, giddeyupgirl@live.com

**SECRETARY:** Debbie Lawrence  
453-1496

**TREASURER:** Janie Ehlers  
674-1213

**FEDERATION DIRECTOR:** Ed Moser  
340-8060, edmoser15@gmail.com

**FIELD TRIP CHAIRMAN:** Ithel Kildow  
455-7960, ithelk@gmail.com

**ASST:** Gene Alvey  
440-3067, fosselmoss@msn.com

**SHOW CHAIRMAN:** Susan Beattie  
466-6184

**ASST. SHOW CHAIRMAN:** Darell Ehlers  
674-1213, ddehlers@fmtc.com

**BULLETIN EDITOR:** Denise Stringer  
283-1903, denisemstringer@gmail.com

**HISTORIAN:** Pauline Prather  
459-4139

**MEMBERSHIP:** Kathi Larson  
465-8083, redkatnthat@gmail.com

**REFRESHMENTS:** Suzanne Lopez  
936-0328

**ROAD CLEAN-UP:** Ithel Kildow  
455-7960, ithelk@gmail.com

**SUNSHINE:** RoseMary Peterson  
546-1897, nuggetcollector@yahoo.com

**WEBMASTER:** Brad Larson  
idrockman@gmail.com

### June President's Message

Can you believe that our year is almost half over? Each year seems to go faster than the last. We start our month off looking for a new meeting venue. If you have a spot in mind please contact Pauline at 459-4139 she would be grateful for any help you can give her. We will be meeting at the Caldwell Park both June and July so be sure to bring a lawn chair for your comfort and water for hydration.

The field trip chairmen have been hard at work locating fun spots for you, and I understand after some wandering they were able to get some very nice material. It is not easy leading these trips so any and all help you can lend these individuals I am sure they welcome it with open arms. We look forward to this month's trip and it will be announced at the meeting on the 18<sup>th</sup>.

Our Board meeting will be held at Nancy's Boot Hill store on the 30<sup>th</sup> as long as her offer still stands. We will give you more info at the meeting.

I just wanted to take a moment and thank Sylvia Foreman for all her help over the past five years and beyond. She has been a person to turn to and we will miss her helpful “get ‘er done” attitude. She found me some very capable replacements as she feels others need to become involved in the different positions and I look forward to getting to know them also. Thank you so very much my friend for all your long hours of volunteering for your OGMS.

My next question is would you like to have a grab bag contest again this year? Give it some thought and I will be polling you for your comments. I have been approached with a donation for the winner so would like to get your opinion on the subject.

As always keep your head down and may you all find the best rock of your lifetime.

**See you all on the 18<sup>th</sup> at the Caldwell Park at 7:30 p.m.**

Willa Renken, OGMS President

**OWYHEE GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY MEETING MINUTES****May 21, 2014**

**General Meeting:** The meeting was held at The College of Idaho, room 103 and called to order by our President Willa Renken at 7:37 p.m. Willa asked if there were any changes or corrections to the minutes as printed in the newsletter. Hearing none Ed Moser made a motion to accept the minutes as printed and Red Larson seconded the motion. The motion passed. All guests and new members were introduced and greeted with a warm welcome.

**Program:** Our program for the evening was a presentation on our McDermott field trip. David Couch documented through amazing photography the people who attended and the beautiful Nevada landscape. The pictures were presented in a slide show to enjoyable music. Also a big thank you to David Johnson for setting up equipment and presenting the show to the club.

**Secretary Report:** Sylvia Foreman asked Debbie Lawrence to fill in for the secretary position until the end of the year. A flyer was read on a Dredge-In event in July.

**Vice President:** Nancy Farrell presented a quilt she made for a fund raiser to the club. We will be able to purchase raffle tickets for the quilt before our meeting each month. The winner will be selected at the Christmas party. Nancy also asked for volunteers to put in displays at the museum.

**Treasurer's Report:** Janie Ehlers was absent and we had no report.

**Show Chairman, Historian:** Had no new news to report.

**Federation Report:** Ed Moser reminded us to keep collecting postage stamps and bring them to the meetings. Money raised from the stamps will go to cancer research.

**Sunshine Chairman:** RoseMary Peterson reported she sent a card to Myrt Alston. She is out of the hospital now and doing much better. If you have time to call her, she would love to hear from you. A card was sent to Brad Larson, he is out of the hospital and doing better. Walt Barnett had a little mishap and broke his wrist.

**Membership:** Names of 2 new members were read. A motion was made by Ed Moser to accept the new members and was seconded by Red Larson. Willa asked for a vote to accept the new members and all attending voted in favor. Kathy Larson will be the new membership chairman.

**Field Trip:** Gene Alvey will lead the May field trip to Rome, Oregon for snakeskin agate.

**Refreshments:** Thank-yous went out to the people who brought goodies to our meeting. Suzanne asked for more volunteers for our next meeting.

**Web report:** Brad Larson was not present.

**Old Business:** Everyone with extra fabric and the need for a project is encouraged to make grab bags. The secretary has fliers with easy to follow directions.

**New Business:** Our club has been meeting at the College of Idaho since 1938 and paying a reasonable monthly rate for the privilege. We were presented with a new rental agreement that stated we would have to pay more than double the rate we are currently paying if we wished to continue using their facility. After a discussion the group decided to find another location to hold our meetings. A straw poll was taken and there was a unanimous agreement. There was a committee selected; Pauline Prather, Jim Hopkins, and Nancy Farrell, to find another location to hold our monthly meetings. Our June and July meetings will be held at the Caldwell park in the band shell. Nancy offered to let the club use her place of business to have the monthly business meeting. There will be no board meeting in May due to the holiday. The Caldwell Library would like us to present a program to the youth on a Thursday in June. The date is not yet determined.

**Drawings:** Bill Stringer won the door prize donated by Gene Alvey. Meeting adjourned and we all enjoyed refreshments.

Debbie Lawrence for Secretary Sylvia Foreman

## June Birthstone—Pearl

From one of the humblest of life forms, the mollusk, comes the pearl -- a gem of unsurpassed beauty and elegance. Ancient civilizations had many stories to explain the origin of June's birthstone, such as the Greek belief that pearls were the hardened tears of joy that the goddess of love shook from her eyes as she was born from the sea. According to Arab legend, pearls were formed when oysters were lured from the depths of the ocean by the beautiful moon and then swallowed moonlit dewdrops. And the Ancient Chinese thought that these gems originated from the brains of dragons.



The scientific explanation for natural pearls is almost as mystifying as folklore. When an irritant, such as a small parasite or a fish lodges in the flesh of an oyster, mussel, or clam, a protective substance called "nacre" is produced. Over years, layer upon layer of shimmering nacre coats the intruder, creating a lustrous pearl. Natural pearls are relatively rare, so a process evolved in which a piece of shell or bead was placed inside a mollusk to stimulate the production of nacre. This results in a cultured pearl, which accounts for about 90 percent of the pearl industry.

Divers find natural pearls in The Persian Gulf as well as in the waters off Japan, the South Pacific Islands off northern Australia, and the coasts of Panama, Venezuela, and California. Most of the cultured pearl industry is in Japanese and Australian coastal waters. These gems come in a variety of colors, from pure white to pink, yellow, gray and black. They also come in different shapes and sizes.

Pearls have been a passion and even an obsession of people throughout the ages. They have been ground up and used in cosmetics and as a medicine to treat heart and stomach conditions. These gems have adorned crowns, clothing, and temples, and were said to be a favorite of Cleopatra.

Only those with royal status once wore pearl jewelry, but eventually these gems were seen among all classes of people. They continue to be viewed as a mark of taste and refinement as well as a symbol of purity, and they are often given to celebrate a marriage or the birth of a child. Pearls are nature's perfect gift, suitable for all ages, and elegantly worn with everything from jeans to an evening gown.

### Alternate Birthstones

June has two alternate birthstones. The first is **Moonstone**, a type of feldspar named because of its uncanny resemblance to the iridescent sheen of the moon. Varying in color from clear to blue-white or peach, it was considered by ancient civilizations to be a sacred stone, bestowing the wearer with great spiritual understanding. Some believed that the Moonstone could even make a person invisible! Mined in Sri Lanka, Brazil, India, Madagascar, and the United States, a gift of this stone is symbolic of health and longevity.

The second alternate birthstone for June is the **Alexandrite**. A yellowish or brownish green in color, this gemstone has the unique characteristic of changing color to a red hue when exposed to a glowing light source, such as candlelight. Because of this quality, it has been characterized by poets as "an emerald by day, a ruby by night." Alexandrite was first discovered in Urals in 1830 but is mined today primarily in Sri Lanka, Zimbabwe, Brazil, Burma, Madagascar and Tanzania. It is a rare and expensive gemstone, symbolic of joy and good fortune.



**June Birthdays**

- 1 David Johnson
- 1 Red Larson
- 2 Myrt Alston
- 3 Judith Hart
- 4 Isaac Ward
- 15 Curt Smith
- 15 Bradley Stephens
- 16 Chris Blickfeldt
- 17 Janie Ehlers
- 18 David Butler
- 19 Richard Coulson
- 19 Linda Fosnaugh
- 19 Lloyd Summers
- 19 Dave Young
- 20 Amber Kiester
- 20 Robyn Turner
- 22 Kathi Larson
- 27 Nancy Farrell
- 30 Freda Babbitt



**June Anniversaries**

- 1 Ron & Jean Dingley
- 2 Earnest & Neava Jo Haney
- 2 Dibrell & Dana Stowell
- 5 Jim & Ruth Hopkins
- 8 Dennis & Linda Waller
- 17 Kelly & Amanda McConnell
- 17 Curt & Jan Smith
- 18 Karissa & Robert Sudweeks
- 23 John & Sydney Priester
- 29 Ed & Deanna Moser



Please let me know if I don't have your correct information, or if you are not on the lists above and should be.  
 Email me at: [denisemstringer@gmail.com](mailto:denisemstringer@gmail.com)

# Rock -N- Gifts

942 South Lincoln • Jerome, Idaho 83338

(208) 324-8860

## Bruneau Jasper

Cabs - Slabs - Specimens - Rough

Gerald & Joy Scarrow

(208) 324-4024

Rocky & Kelley Scarrow

(208) 324-1034

rockingift@cableone.net

## STRINGER'S GEM SHOP

Idaho Opals

Picture Jaspers & Plume Agate

Rough Rock and Slabs

Bolos & Buckles

Bookends & Specimens

Tumblers & Equipment

## WHITE'S METAL DETECTORS

W.A. (Bill) Stringer

1812 West Orchard

Nampa, Idaho 83651

1 Mile South of Karcher Mall

**(208) 466-5169**

M-F 1:30-5:30 pm

Other Hours By Appointment

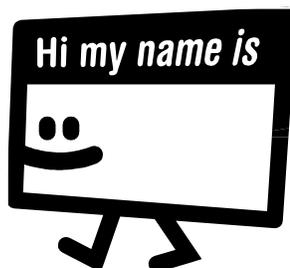


### Membership Report

Do you know of someone that is interested in joining the club? Invite them to our next meeting! Membership forms are available at the meetings.

If you have not received your name badge and/or membership card, my contact information is listed below. Please contact me either by phone or email so I can have it ready for you at the next meeting.

Reminder: You get with "New Membership" – A membership card, a small patch and your name badge at no charge. With your "Renewal" you will get your membership card for the New Year. (Usually you can pick up your name badge at the next club meeting while enjoying refreshments and meeting new friends after the meeting.)



We have had some inquires for replacement of Name Badges or small patches that have gone astray. You can purchase the Name Badge for \$2.00 and/or the small patch for \$3.00 each. We also have the big patches for \$10.00.

Remember to wear your name badge at the monthly meetings so everyone knows who you are.

-Kathi Larson, Membership Director  
465-8083, redkatnthat@gmail.com

## Owyhee Gem & Mineral Society June Field Trip

June 21, 2014— Pink Plume Agate Claim

We will meet at the O'Connor Field House in Caldwell at 7:00 a.m. and leave from there at 7:30 a.m.

Our second pick-up spot will be at the school in Nyssa at 8:00 a.m. and leave from there at 8:30 a.m.

The pink plume claim is about 70 miles from Nyssa.

Useful items to bring: bucket/canvas bag, shovel, pick, rock hammer, gloves, appropriate clothing, first-aid kit, sunscreen, drinking water, lunch and snacks.

**You will need a high-clearance vehicle or a 4WD for this trip.**

For field trip information, call:

Ithel Kildow (208) 455-7960 or Gene Alvey (208) 440-3067

\*All field trips are subject to change depending on weather and road conditions.



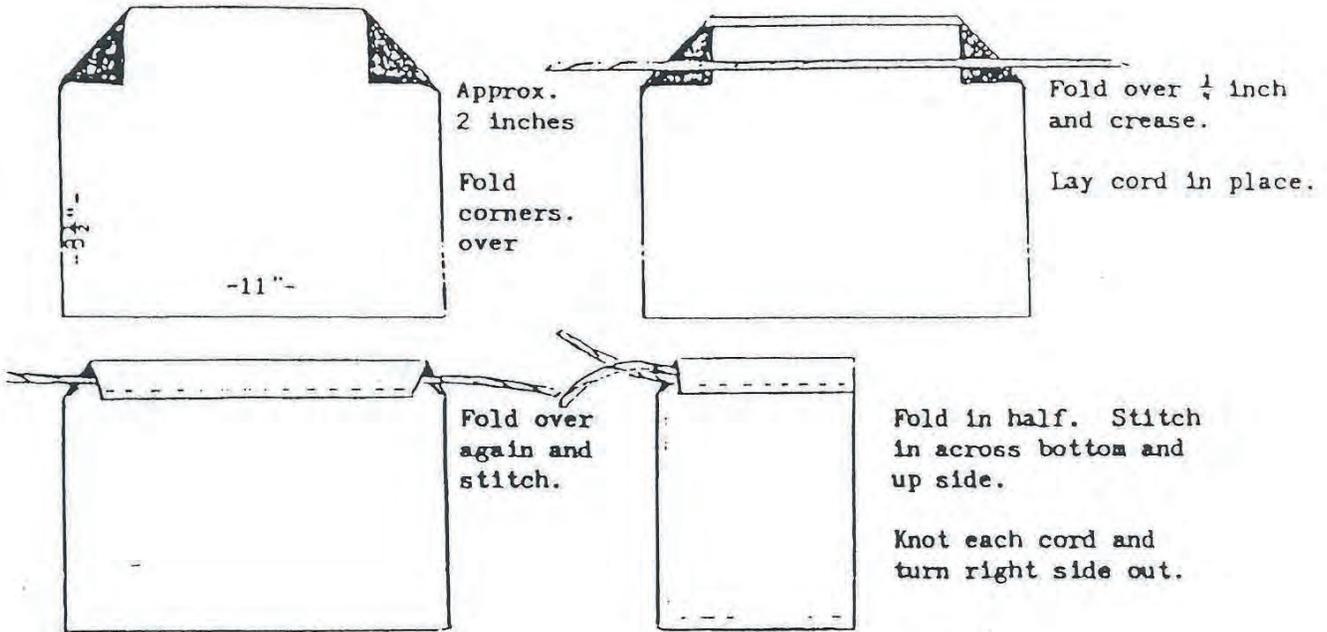
**May 24, 2014 Field Trip  
Rome, Oregon  
Snakeskin Agate**



Grab Bag Instructions

Easy Grab Bags

The easiest method of cutting out grab bags is to first cut out a cardboard pattern 8½ x 11 inches. Lay the pattern on the material and trace around it with white chalk. Cut out material. The strings are made of any heavy cord cut into 24 inch lengths. (Rug yarn is good--strong and colorful ) Follow the diagrams below to sew. Before sewing, press the folds with a hot iron or crease with the fingers to make the sewing job easier.



Please study the grab bag plans shown above. They show an easier and faster way to make grab bags. Jim Olsen deserves the credit for coming up with this easier method. Jim worked for years as a man's tailor and so has picked up quite a few sewing tricks.

Time is saved by folding the two corners over diagonally, then folding the top down over the cord. Try it.

"The Gates Rockhound Bulletin" 2/94 via NEWS AND VIEWS 3/96



I would like to give a special thank you to the members that helped with the spring road cleanup: Larry Beattie, John Chaplik, Darell & Janie Ehlers, Randy Whipple, Lloyd Summers and Gene Alvey. I don't know what I would have done without you. Thank you all very much. Hope to see a big turnout for the fall cleanup!  
- Ithel Kildow

### **Federation Director**

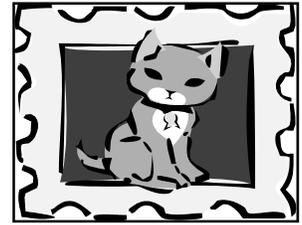
Bring your postage stamps to this month's meeting.

Remember to *cut 1/2 inch all the way around the stamp.*

The money raised will go to help support cancer research.

Thank you all for this. It helps others and it might just help someone you know.

-Ed Moser, Federation Director  
340-8060  
edmoser15@gmail.com



### **Refreshment Report**

Suzanne Lopez is our new Refreshment Chairman!

Her contact number is 936-0328.

Thank you to the members that brought refreshments to the May meeting: Nancy Farrell, Janie Ehlers, Jarri McClarin, Diane Barker

A reminder to those signed up for June refreshments:  
Ruth Hopkins, Donna Dale, Diane Barker

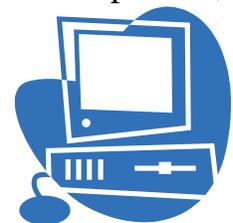
Thanks again to all you members for volunteering to bring refreshments. It sure makes a nice ending to our meetings and adds to enhance our fellowship after the meeting.



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

Our awesome web site 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/>



Upcoming Events**Owyhee Gem & Mineral Society June Meeting**

June 18, 2014—7:30 p.m.

**New Location: Caldwell Park****Owyhee Gem & Mineral Society June Field Trip**

June 21, 2014— Pink Plume Agate Claim

**Nyssa Thunderegg Days Festival—”Rocks and More!”**

July 10-12, 2014—10 a.m.—9 p.m. — Nyssa, Oregon

“Rocks, Gems, Quilts, Art, Cars, Food and More”

Three days of fun for all ages!

Guided rock tours depart at 7 a.m. daily, per car charge.

For more information, please call 541-372-3091, [www.nyssachamber.com](http://www.nyssachamber.com),[nyssachamber@nyssachamber.com](mailto:nyssachamber@nyssachamber.com), Facebook: ThundereggDays&FestivalStill looking for dealers and displays.**Inter-Regional Field Trip in Terry, Montana - July 31, August 1,2,3, 2014**

Four great days in Eastern Montana, numerous trips every day to collect Montana Agate, petrified wood, coral, stromatolites, ammonites, dinosaur fossils and more.

The town of Terry has given us their two-city block park with a big swimming pool, showers and rest rooms.

We can camp around the park with our doors opening into the park. They will have a BBQ benefit with live music one evening. We will have several potlucks, with several speakers and more music. There are two

small RV parks for those that need electricity, one hotel and a motel for those that don't camp. There will also be a guided tour on the Calypso Trail in exotic badlands. Bring the kids for a special trip.

For more information or to jump in and help, email [dtruefossils12@yahoo.com](mailto:dtruefossils12@yahoo.com) or phone (406) 670-0506, Doug True—NFMS and AFMS Field Trip Chair**Federation Show 2014 - Hermiston, OR - August 15-17, 2014**NFMS 76<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Show—Hatrockhound Happenin'**Presented by:** Hatrockhound Gem and Mineral Society of Hermiston, Oregon**Location:** Hermiston Conference Center, 415 S Hwy 395, Hermiston, OR 97838**Hours:** Friday 10 a.m. - 6 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m. - 6 p.m., Sunday 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.**Cost:** \$3.50 per day or \$9.00 for all three days, Children Under 12 free with a paid adultFor more information, visit: <http://amfed.org/nfms/FederationShow.asp>

Mike Filarski (541) 571-2593 and Judi Allison (541) 720-4950 (Co-Chairpersons)

Hotels:

Best Western Hermiston Inn: 541-567-4188

Comfort Inn: 541-564-5911

Economy Inn: 541-567-5516

Motel 6: 541-567-7777

Wildhorse Resort and Casino: 800-654-9453

Oak Tree Inn: 541-567-2330

Oxford Suites: 541-564-8000

Rodeway Inn: 541-567-5561

Stokes Landing B &amp; B: 541-922-3857

Camping:

Hatrock Campground Good Sam Park: 541-567-4188

Boardman Marina &amp; RV Park: 541-481-7217

Pioneer Trailer Park: 541-564-9286

Oasis RV Park (Irrigon): 541-922-2699

Umatilla Marina RV Park: 541-922-3939

Pilot RV Park (Stanfield): 541-449-1189

**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 18)** - \$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. 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 identified rock and we'll help you figure out what it is!



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