

"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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(208) 919-3507,
billybushman1@yahoo.com

June President's Message

Here's hoping that you are getting out and enjoying this beautiful weather. Spring has fastly turned into summer with several triple digit days. Be sure to take adequate hydration with you out in the field.

This weekend was a lot of fun up on Beacon Hill and it was nice to see several of our club members joining in. It was perfect weather with sun and not to overly warm days. Those who dug had several buckets of nice material. Thank you for coming out. This month Chris Deveau will be doing our program on her favorite rocks. I can hardly wait to hear about what she finds wonderful and exciting. A big thank you to Bill and Andrea Sawyer for your talk on meteorites and what a variety of beautiful turquoise that you shared with us.

We will be going to the Pink Plume Claim for this month's field trip. Robert will be meeting you at the Owyhee Junction at 7am and leaving at 7:30am. Bring plenty of water, sunscreen, and your digging tools. Robert will fill you in more at the meeting on the 16th.

Thank you to all those who have been donating to our slab drawing. Your participation in providing both material and buying tickets is helping us a lot this year! Robert has polished up some of the slabs from the McConnell's donation to the club and they will be once again in a silent auction format for you to bid on. They are very nice and Robert has done a wonderful job providing us with some very cool items for you to obtain for your collections.

For those of you that would like to attend, there will be a Celebration of Life Service for Pat McConnell on June 17th at 2pm. at the Wild Rose State Park, located below the Blacks Canyon Dam near the Payette River, off State Highway 52, approximately 5 miles northeast of Emmett. Come celebrate with Izzy and the family sharing in all the wonderful things that Pat has done throughout his lifetime. We are very appreciative of the time that we had with him and will miss him terribly! I hope to see you all at the Caldwell Elks on June 16th at 7pm. Come enjoy the comradery of your fellow rock hounds. See you then. -Willa Renken OGMS President



OWYHEE GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY GENERAL MEETING MINUTES 19 MAY 2021

The May General Meeting of the Owyhee Gem and Mineral Society was called to order by **President Willa Renken** at 7:00 pm at the Caldwell Idaho Elks Lodge, 1015 N. Kimball Ave., Caldwell, Idaho. Ed Moser made a motion to accept the minutes as printed in the newsletter; Deana Ashton seconded the motion; the minutes passed. New members and visitors were enthusiastically welcomed to the meeting by Willa and all members of OGMS.

Member, **Bill Sawyer**, gave a presentation on one of his prized specimens, an Allende meteorite, which fell to earth on the 8th of February, 1969 in the Mexican state of Chihuahua. Their formation predates our Solar System. Bill's second presentation was that of specimens from the various turquoise mines from around the world, a collection, he and his wife, Andrea have put together, including several from mines that are now closed. Very interesting, thank you so much, Bill and Andrea.

Secretary, Chris Deveau, picked up mail at the Caldwell Post Office over the past few weeks. OGMS received one membership at the box. I also received a new membership at the rock event in Gooding and one at the General Meeting tonight. There was no other mail. These new memberships will be turned over to Kim Bashford, Membership.

Treasurer, Debbie Lawrence made three deposits for the club from the slab drawing, silent auction, and memberships.

Federation Director, Ed Moser reminded us that the American Federation is meeting in Big Piney, Wyoming on 17-20 June, 2021. He also asked that we continue to save our stamps, both cancelled and uncanceled for donation to the Northwest Federation, where they are sold to stamp collectors and the funds raised are donated for breast cancer research.

Field Trip Chair, Robert Murphey shared information about the impromptu field trip to Tony Funk's rock yard in Gooding. Tony was a great host, providing a barbeque lunch for all those that came and spent the day going through his huge variety of inventory. The May field trip will be this Saturday, 22 May, looking for Miocene era leaf fossils and then on to Maple Ridge for more fossils and petrified wood. We will meet at the Extra Mile Truck Stop at the intersection of Hwy 55/Hwy 95 at 8:00 am, leave at 8:30. Please check in with Robert before the group heads out to the site... we want everyone to have a fun safe experience. Also, a donation to Robert or Dale for gas money is a pretty darn nice gesture... they spend a lot of personal time and money to take the groups out on the field trips... we appreciate it!

The Vice President, Membership Chair, Historian, and Sunshine were not at the meeting. The silent auction of thundereggs and petrified wood from Pat and Izzy McConnel's donation to OGMS raised over \$100. Robert will continue to bring specimens for the silent auction to the General Meetings.

New Business: Deana Ashton invited everyone from OGMS to an overnighter Memorial Day weekend field trip with the Idaho Gem Club to Thompson Butte and Glass Butte in the Burns, Oregon area. They will meet at the Ontario, Oregon rest stop at 6:00am on Friday and caravan over. Then Saturday will meet at the Burns McDonald's at 10:00am to head out for the day. Any questions please contact Robert or Deana Ashton.

Willa announced another fun field trip coming up on the 5th and 6th of June to Beacon Hill, near Weiser. Meet at the Ontario, Oregon rest stop at 08:00am, leave at 8:30 to caravan to the gate into the site. Do not head into the claim, without Willa or Doug Renken... we are crossing private land... please respect those landowner rights.

Old Business: NONE

Paul Deveau won the door prize drawing, a delicate rock creation handmade by Ruth Hopkins... last month's winner.

The slab drawing was held... \$54.00 was raised for the club... thank you all for your donations. Please bring your slabs to the next General Meeting, which will be held at the Caldwell Idaho Elks Lodge, 1015 N. Kimball Ave., Caldwell, Idaho on Wednesday, 16 June 2021 at 7:00pm.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20pm.

Respectfully submitted, Christine Deveau, Secretary



Vice President's Corner—Roxanne Franklin

[Owyhee Gem & Mineral Society | Facebook](#)

**Monthly Meeting Topic**

If you have an idea for a presentation or information session, please contact me: Roxanne Franklin (208) 577-7095, rocksfrank@cableone.net

Trade a Slab

Bring a slab to the next meeting and trade it for someone else's slab.

"My Favorite" Presentations

If you have a favorite rock, gem, mineral, or fossil you would like to talk about and share with the members at the next meeting and in the newsletter, please contact Roxanne.

GEM FIELD

While exploring west central Nevada, my husband and I found a fabulous place to find gem stone quality jasper/agate. Just 3 miles out of Goldfield, Nevada. The Gem Field claim is considered to be one of the BEST Chalcedony Claims in the WORLD.

It is easy to find and actually signed by the highway department. It is about a 4 mile drive off the highway. There is an information area set up under a cedar tree. The information includes a map of the roads for finding the different colors. Also, an address for sending in payment for the rock you collect. I used my cell phone to take a photo of the map and the payment information and off we went. There was so much to pick up and look at! I would make a pile and choose my favorites to keep. We had just moved to the section for purples and started finding some when a desert thunderstorm came in. We decided we ought to head out. We will be going back!

My recommendation would be to plan on 3 days. It is about 8 hours from Boise. Make sure you have plenty of room to bring home your finds.





**Robert
Murphey**

Robert Murphey (208) 590-1848
or Dale Rawson (208) 283-7990



**Dale
Rawson**

OGMS 2021 Field Trips

USEFUL ITEMS TO BRING ON YOUR TRIP

Buckets, Shovels, Rock Hammer, Pick (Large and Small), Sieve, Gloves, Spray Bottle for Water, Small Scrub Brush, Knee Pads, Magnifier, Plenty of Drinking Water, Food, Appropriate Clothing, Protective Eyewear, Sun Protection, Day Pack or Back Pack, Umbrella, Pry Bar, Tick Spray, First Aid Kit, Shovel and fire extinguisher to put out any fires that may start.

Trips can last most of the day.
Generally, a High-Clearance vehicle and sometimes 4WD or an ATV is required.

Remember, when you are finished, fill in all holes that are dug at the site.



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

June 19th: Pink Plume Club Claim for plume agate. Meet at Owyhee Junction (Hwy 201 and Owyhee Ave) @ 7AM and leaving @ 7:30AM

Hello All, Due to weather we were unable to go out for Leaf Fossils near Rockville OR for the May trip. At our next meeting I will propose changing our Coal Mine basin trip and attempt to revisit the Fossil beds. Please come out to our monthly club meeting and voice your preference.

This month we will be visiting our Pink Plume Claim for some of that great seam agate. Last year we had a great turnout and some found great material with 2-inch plumes. We will be meeting at the Owyhee Junction on the corner of Highway 201 and Owyhee Ave @ 7AM and leaving @ 7:30AM. It will be hot later in the day so come prepared with plenty of water and your heavy digging tools. There is float material for those who prefer to wander and collect. This will be a great time and hope to see you there.

OGMS 2021 Field Trips

July 24th: ** Coal Mine Basin for Petrified wood and agate, Meet at Gem Stop / Chevron (Hwy 55&95)

Aug 21st: ** Wagon Town for Bog Wood, Meet at Gem Stop / Chevron (Hwy 55&95)

Sept 4th - 6th: *** Texas Springs, NV for Pink Limb Casts and opalized wood. (Contact Robert or Dale for more information)

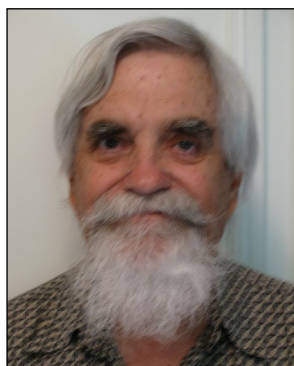
Sept 18th: * Blue Egg Club Claim for Blue Opal Thunder Eggs. Meet @ Homedale City Park with Tank (just east of four corners).

Oct 23rd: * Graveyard Point for agate and Jasper. Meet at Gem Stop / Chevron (Hwy 55&95).

*(meet @ 8am – leave @ 8:30am) **(meet @ 7am – leave @ 7:30am) *** (Overnight Trip)

My Favorite - by Bill Sawyer

The Allende Meteorite



As many club members know, one of my favorite collectable categories is meteorites. I have heart palpitations when I see the large, beautiful iron meteorites which have been sculpted by their fiery, high speed, entry into our atmosphere. However, one of my favorite meteorites is the plain looking stony meteorite, the Allende. Named after the small Mexican town (Pueblito de Allende) where it fell on February 8, 1969 it is in many ways an unremarkable looking grey stony rock with chondrules and small white spots. Most of the many thousands of specimens known are relatively small, baseball to marble size. The main mass exploded multiple times on entry into the atmosphere and many specimens have a black fusion crust because they were still going fast enough to burn as it fell at 1:05 AM that eventful morning.

In a recent description in his 2020 book, *Meteorite*, Tim Gregory discusses how evidence of the special nature of this meteorite was obtained. Apparently relatively significant amounts of the Allende meteorite were crushed and dissolved in an acid bath using concentrated hydrochloric acid (HCl), fuming nitric acid (HNO₃), deadly hydrofluoric acid (HF), and aqua regis (Latin for "royal water") a combination of HCl and HF which can even dissolve gold. After cooking in this profoundly caustic soup there was still something remaining in the test tube. It was a small but visible accumulation of nanoparticles of diamonds (pure elemental carbon), graphite (also pure elemental carbon but the "softer" crystal form), and silicone carbide (very rare mineral almost exclusively found only in meteorites).

Further investigation of the remaining nanoparticles eventually revealed the presence of isotopes of many of the inert Noble gases (He, Ne, Kr, Xe) as well as C and N. These unique elemental isotopes were present in concentrations hundreds and even thousands of times greater than they are found in our solar system. They are only produced by supernovas, the explosions of gigantic stars.

The Allende has long been known to be relatively unique. The rare materials in it were flung through space as stardust from a distant supernova and eventually encountered the nebula of our forming sun, planets and moons. While most of the stardust was simply dispersed throughout the solar system and was no longer detectable, some concentrated into rocks in space becoming meteorites when they encountered the Earth's gravity and were pulled to the ground. As a consequence, when you hold a specimen of the Allende in your hand you realize it is older than any Earth rock because it is about one-half to one billion years older than the Earth, in fact, older than our entire solar system.



June Birthdays

- 1 Jessica Coleman
- 1 Red Larson
- 2 Jim Mangrum
- 3 Judith Hart
- 4 Isaac Ward
- 7 Mikyla Carpenter
- 9 Tom Gordon
- 10 Carol Perrine
- 11 Rick Fleischman
- 12 Cheri Gordon
- 13 Justin Tibbetts
- 15 Gerri Smith
- 16 Chris Blickfeldt
- 16 Patti Powell
- 17 Jay Erb
- 17 Helen Baldwin
- 17 Janie Ehlers
- 18 David Butler
- 19 Corbin Coble
- 19 Dave Young
- 20 Randy Harrison
- 20 Linda Morgan
- 21 Rick Brose
- 22 Kathi Larson
- 23 Christine Deveau
- 23 Dana Schuck
- 28 Rowena Burnum
- 30 Freda Babbitt

June Anniversaries

- 1 Ron & Jean Dingley
- 2 Lynn & Susan Cameron
- 5 Jim & Ruth Hopkins
- 8 William & Mary Clark
- 8 Bill & Roxanne Franklin
- 8 Dennis & Linda Waller
- 9 Brad & Theresa Larson
- 14 Tim & Tanya Hoekstra
- 18 Karissa & Robert Sudweeks
- 19 Miers & Sandi Johnson
- 24 Randy & Jodie Harrison
- 25 Rodger & Marilu Jones
- 26 Todd & Misty Joyner
- 29 Gary & Sue Chambers
- 29 Ed & Deanna Moser

Newsletter Editor

Please let me know if I don't have your correct information, or if you are not on the lists here and should be.

If you would like just the email edition and not the mailed edition, let me know.

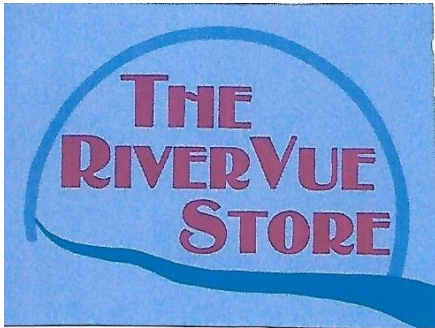
Email me at: denisemstringer@gmail.com



Sunshine Report

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

- Jewels Haines, Sunshine Chair, jewelmalia@yahoo.com



Stone from Arizona

Anderson Mine—Agate
Brenda—Agate & Jasper
Burro Creek—Pastelite & Agate

Stone from Australia

Noreena
Mookite

Stone from Idaho & Oregon

Owyhee Picture Jasper
Green Moss Agate
Tumbled Stones

Amethyst from Uruguay
Slabs & Rough
Hammers/Tools/Gold Pans
Brazilian Agate

Located at the corner of US 95 & Homedale Road
26736 Homedale Road, Wilder, Idaho
Phone (208) 861-8229 or Text: (208) 258-4250
rivervu1@msn.com
Open Saturdays 9:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m.
April—October

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Nampa, Idaho 83651

Halfway between Midland and Middleton Roads

(208) 466-5169

Please Call First Before Visiting

M-F 1:30-5:30 pm, Saturday 10 am—2 pm

Check this website for info about the
Inventory Reduction Sale
www.stringersgems.com

Would you like to see your ad here?

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month for only \$5.00.

A 12-month ad is only \$50.00!

Your ad will be seen by over
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To place an ad, please email:
denisemstringer@gmail.com

(Ads are subject to Board approval)

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June Birthstone— Pearl



The birthstone for June is the **Pearl**. Alternative and other official birthstones for June are **Moonstone** and **Alexandrite**. Pearl and Moonstone are Zodiac birthstones for both Gemini (May 22 - Jun 21) and Cancer (Jun 22 - Jul 22) star signs.

Pearls are associated with purity, fidelity and integrity and are often worn by brides on their wedding day. Pearl jewelry is the gift given to celebrate 1st, 3rd and 30th wedding anniversaries.

Pearls are the only organic birthstone (derived from a living organism) and are formed inside mollusks around a foreign particle. Cultured pearls are simply farmed pearls, where a foreign particle has been introduced deliberately into the mollusk, causing a pearl to form.

'Pearl' comes from the Latin word "pirum" which means "pear", reflecting the pear shape of pearls.



The **Moonstone** birthstone is considered sacred by many cultures and is used as a dream or spiritual stone. The moon-like appearance and blue-white shimmer is caused by light reflecting off alternating layers of different minerals within the stone. There are many different types of Moonstone which can vary from transparent, through white, green, yellow-brown, grey to almost black with a shimmering effect of blue, silver or white.

High quality Moonstone is found in Myanmar and Sri Lanka, which is also the main producer of this gemstone globally. Other deposits are found in Brazil, Mexico and the USA (Americas), Madagascar and Tanzania (Africa), India (Asia) and Norway and Switzerland (Europe).

Moonstone is usually cut as a cabochon or in a moon shape to reveal the shimmering effect at its best.



Alexandrite is a rare variety of gem-quality chrysoberyl which has a fascinating color change from blue-green in daylight to red-purple in artificial light. Due to its rarity, most Alexandrite in jewelry is lab created, having the exact same chemical and light changing properties as natural Alexandrite and just as beautiful.

[June Birthstone Color and Flower & more June Birthday Symbols \(monthlybirthstones.com\)](http://monthlybirthstones.com)

McConnell Estate Club Meeting Silent Auction

We will be having the last silent auction this month at our club meeting on the 16th of June. There will be several more Surrender Ridge eggs available along with some polished petrified wood slabs and some rough petrified wood chunks varying in size. The remainder of the material will be sold by the pound at our upcoming July picnic, what does not sell will go into the trailer and held for the Club's yearly show and put into the silent auction. Thank You to all who have participated in the silent auctions as it helps us to generate funds to keep our club going. I also want to give thanks to the McConnell family for their generous donation.

Those Surrender Ridge eggs have been very popular as well as the petrified wood.

OWYHEE GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY – BOARD MEETING MINUTES 24 MAY 2021

President, Willa Renken called the May Board Meeting to order at 7:00pm at the Caldwell Idaho Elks Lodge. Ed Moser made the motion to accept the minutes as printed in the newsletter; Roxanne Franklin seconded; the motion passed.

Secretary, Chris Deveau had no new mail from the Caldwell Post Office.

Vice President, Roxanne Franklin is working on presentations for future club meetings... if you have a FAVORITE to share... please let her know.

Show Chair, Paul Deveau gave a short talk on the 2022 Rock Show.

Federation Chair, Ed Moser wanted to thank everyone that brought stamps for donation to the Northwest Federation. The stamps are sold to collectors and the proceeds are donated for breast cancer research.

New Business:

- Willa shared that there will be a Celebration of Life service for Pat McConnel at Wildrose State Park in Emmett, Idaho on Thursday, 17 June 2021 at 2:00pm.
- The Beacon Hill field trip will be held on Saturday and Sunday the 5th and 6th of June. Meet at the Ontario, Oregon rest stop at 8:00am, leave at 8:30... then caravan to the gate to the claim near Weiser. Do not go through the gate without Willa or Doug Renken leading the group, this road crosses private land to the claim.
- The Caldwell Memorial Park shelter is reserved for our July annual potluck picnic and fundraising auction. It will be held on Wednesday, 21 July 2021. Get your auction items ready and prepare to have some GREAT FOOD and FUN!
- Robert Murphey, (Field Trip Chair), was not at the meeting but sent information that the May field trip for leaf fossils and Maple Ridge petrified wood was cancelled due to rain.
- The June field trip will be to the OGMS club's Pink Plume Claim on Saturday, 19 June 2021. We will meet at Owyhee Junction (Hwy 201 and Owyhee Avenue) at 7:00am and leave at 7:30am. Also, he will be bringing more nice specimens for the silent auction to the next General Meeting.

Old Business: NONE

Please bring your slabs for the slab drawing!

The next General Meeting will be on Wednesday, 16 June 2021 at 7:00pm at the Caldwell Idaho Elks Lodge at 1015 N. Kimball Ave., Caldwell, Idaho.

The June Board Meeting will be on Monday, 28 June 2021 at 7:00pm, also at the Elks in Caldwell.

Respectfully submitted, Secretary, Christine Deveau

**Life Hacks**

What is a life hack? A life hack (or life hacking) is any **trick, shortcut, skill, or novelty method that increases productivity and efficiency**, in all walks of life.

Do you have life hacks you would like to share?
Send to denisemstringer@gmail.com.



2022 Show Dates: March 5th & 6th
O'Connor Field House, Caldwell, Idaho

Please continue tumbling rocks for grab bags, OGMS will pay \$120.00 for a five-gallon bucket of nicely, tumbled rocks.

Save a few of your rock hunting treasures to donate for the 2022 Silent Auction.

Chris and I attended Tony Funk's sale in Gooding, Idaho. It was great having our own Dale Rawson and Robert Murphey in attendance to help me identify material that i was not familiar with, thanks guys... GREAT BBQ

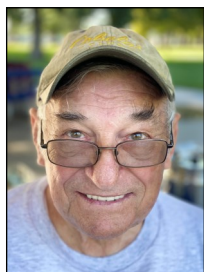
Spent a great afternoon at "Stringer's Gem Shop." Great sale... In the shop, Bill shared many of his time saving lapidary secrets. I am not so sure that our little "Camry" was so happy, having to haul home over 400 lbs. of material. We had a fantastic afternoon of friendship and knowledge... we learned a lot. He has been at it a very long time. His skills are priceless... Bill, thanks for sharing.

Looking forward to another great year.

SHOW CHAIR: Paul Deveau
(208) 994-8025, devidaho@q.com



Federation Director—Ed Moser



Bring your postage stamps to the next meeting. Remember to **cut ½ 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.

Please Respect the Rules when you are out collecting rocks, be careful of ticks and snakes, and have fun.

-Ed Moser, Federation Director

(208) 340-8060, edmoser15@gmail.com

Community Corner

If you are presenting to the community or working with the community on behalf of OGMS, please submit a summary of what you are doing for our "Community Corner". This helps us maintain our non-profit status and gives you a recognition for a job well done.

Membership

We are accepting payment of 2021 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:

Kim Bashford, Membership Director

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

Phone: (208) 454-7287 Email: kmcewan1957@msn.com



OWYHEE GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY DUES

Year: 2021

Family
\$20

Couple
\$18

Single
\$12

Child
\$3

LAST NAME: (Please Print) _____ Date Paid: _____ Amount: _____

FIRST NAME(s): _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

PHONE: _____ ANNIV: _____ - _____ BDAY(s): _____ - _____ / _____ - _____
Month Day Month Day Month Day

EMAIL: _____

RENEWAL _____ NEW _____ CASH _____ CHECK # _____ RECD BY _____

Owyhee Gem & Mineral Society
Primary Business Address
Address Line 2

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.

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

FIELD TRIPS:

Field trips are scheduled once a month.
Visitors are welcome at all these events!



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/>