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“Owyhee Gem”

Owyhee Gem and Mineral Society

PO Box 1053 | Caldwell, ID | 83605-1053

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

Volume 55 No. 5

May 2023

May President's Message

Hello fellow rockhounds. It is May already and time to start having your outdoor adventures! If you go somewhere fun take a little time and write a small article to share with those who are living vicariously through each of us. It is fun to hear about the adventures others have, where you've been and found along the way.



This month's speaker will be Paul Verhage. He will be presenting the "Origin of the Elements". I look forward to hearing about them. Thank you Paul for taking the time to provide us with more knowledge on this subject.

Were you able to join in on the fieldtrip this last month? If you did get the chance, I hear that there were some real nice eggs found on our claim. Way to go for all who went! This month we will be going to the Rockville area for fossils and petrified wood. John will meet you at the Chevron station on the corner of 55/95 out of Marsing at 8am leave at 8:30am. This will be fun and plenty of material. Maybe you will even find an acorn imprint at the fossil area. Some folks have.

Do not forget Ted Diehr has arranged for the first roadside cleanup to be conducted on May 13th. All who can, please join in this event as it has been sometime since we've been out to honor our commitment to the DOT. You will be meeting at Walter's Ferry, boat launch, at 9am for your instructions and to get your safety vests and garbage bags. Ted has done a fine job of organizing this event and I hope we can all support him in this endeavor. After we have completed the pickup there will be a short mystery fieldtrip as a reward along with drinks for the thirsty.

This month will be the last meeting at the College, as we will be meeting in Memorial Park in Caldwell off Kimball and Grant under the band shelter. Therefore, that will be June (meeting), July (Potluck/Auction), August (Ice Cream Social). Be sure to bring your chairs so you can sit in the shade and be comfortable.

Paul has picked up the tumblers and will be looking for someone to help with the club tumbling for our grab bags that we fill for the Gem Show. If you can help in this project please let us know.

I am looking forward to seeing you all this month on May 17th at 7pm in the Boone Science bld. Till then keep on rockin'. -Willa Renken OGMS President

General Meeting Minutes—April 19, 2023

The April General Meeting of the Owyhee Gem and Mineral Society was called to order by **President, Willa Renken** at 7:05pm at the College of Idaho, Boone Science Center, Room 103. Ed Moser made a motion to accept the minutes as printed in the newsletter; Kim Bashford seconded; motion passed. Willa welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Representatives from the BLM Vale Office gave a presentation on "BLM Rules, Regulations, and Claims". They shared historical, legal, and other various information regarding the claim process and the responsibilities of having a claim. We appreciate their time and effort. This was very interesting and applicable to everyone in our group.

Secretary Chris Deveau gave three memberships to Kim Bashford, Membership Chair for processing. Forms from BLM regarding the OGMS Big Egg Claim were given to Dave Schmidt for resolution. Two statements for advertising for the Rock Show were given to Show Chair, Paul Deveau. A billing notice for website services was confirmed to be a scam by our webmaster, Brad Larson and shredded.

Vice President, Sue Cassidy advised the group that OGMS member, Paul Verhage will give the May General Meeting presentation, "The Story of the Elements".

Treasurer, Roxanne Franklin listed all the income from each venue at the Rock Show.

Show Chair, Paul Deveau shared the expenses of putting on the Rock Show and the final total of revenue. He again thanked everyone that volunteered. It was a very successful event!

Federation Chair, Ed Moser, will be attending the NW Federation meeting in Billings, Montana in August. He reminded everyone to bring in stamps, cancelled or not, for donation to the NW Federation. They are sold by the Federation to stamp collectors and the funds are donated for breast cancer research. Also, if you would like a NW Federation Club and Membership Directory, please let Ed know. The cost is \$20.00, he'll be picking them up at the Federation Meeting.

Membership Chair, Kim Bashford said she had one new membership for the club. She also reminded everyone that she has a lot of badges and membership cards that need to be picked up! Please get with Kim if you haven't gotten your name tag!

Field Trip Chair, John Wright shared that the March Field Trip to Oreana was a huge success. Lots of new members, but everyone seemed to enjoy themselves and collected lots of fossils and Apache tears. The April Field Trip will be to the OGMS 'Big Egg Claim' for Thundereggs... on Saturday, 22 April 2023. Meet at the Chevron (Hwy 55/95 Junction west of Marsing) at 8:00am; leave at 8:30am. Don't forget to sign in with John so he knows who is with the group.

OGMS member and Secretary of the Nampa Chapter of the Gold Prospector's Association of America, **Christina Wiener** expressed her thanks on behalf of the GPAA for allowing them to do demonstrations at our Rock Show.

Unfinished Business: Ted Diehr is coordinating the OGMS Roadside Clean-up project. This year it will be held on Saturday, 13 May between 9:00am and 12:00. Our section of Highway to clean is Hwy 45, south of Nampa. We will meet at the Walters Ferry Boat Ramp parking lot at 8:30am. Ted will have bags and reflective vests, but you need to bring gloves to wear.

New Business: none

The slab drawing raised \$88.00 for the club. Thank you to everyone that donates slabs and buys tickets to make this happen!

Robert Murphey won the door prize, a nice rock hammer... from last month's winner, **Gail Villarreal**. (Whoever wins the door prize, brings a rock related gift for the door prize next month.)

The April Board Meeting will be held at the Caldwell Public Library on Monday, 24 April 2023 at 7:00pm.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50pm. Respectfully submitted, Christine Deveau, Secretary



Vice-President's Corner—Sue Cassidy

"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 Sue.

Monthly Meeting Topic

If you have an idea for a presentation or information session, please contact Sue at (603) 548-8822, pypnhot@comcast.net



Sue Cassidy

May 17	Paul Verhage Topic: The Story of the Elements
June 21	Bill Todd from the Flintknappers Topic: Flintknapping
July/August	No speakers -club activities in the park
September 20	Bill Sawyer Topic: My favorite biggest rock and It's not a Meteorite
October 18	Bill Nance Topic: Select Minerals of Central America/Mexico
November 15	Auction & Voting
December	Christmas Party

Amber Pike, BLM, speaking
at the April General Meeting



Federation Director—Ed Moser



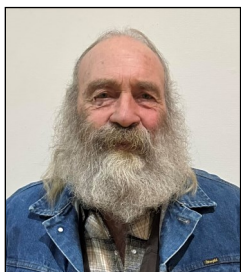
Bring your postage stamps to the next meeting. Remember to **cut ½ inch all the way around the stamp**. The money raised will go to help support cancer research. Thank you all for this. It helps others and it might just help someone you know.

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

Website:
[Northwest
Federation
Mineralogical
Society](#)

Field Trip Report —John Wright



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, Protective clothing and sunscreen to avoid burns.

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.
- Please remember to not park on tall grass or sagebrush as the fire season is in full swing and watch out for snakes.
- 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.



OGMS 2023 Field Trips

May 20th—Rockville (morning), Maple Ridge (afternoon) - Leaf Fossils and Petrified Wood

Meet at Chevron-Hwy 55/95 Junction at 8:00 a.m., leave at 8:30 a.m. (5644 Buntrock Rd, Marsing)

June 24th—Pink Plume Claim—Pink Plume Agate

Meet at Owyhee Junction Hwy 201 and Owyhee Ave at 7:00 a.m., leave at 7:30 a.m. (2499 OR-201, Nyssa, OR)

July 22nd—Wagon Town—Bog Wood

Meet at Chevron-Hwy 55/95 Junction at 7:00 a.m., leave at 7:30 a.m. (5644 Buntrock Rd, Marsing)

August 19th—Graveyard Point— Agate and Jasper

Meet at Chevron-Hwy 55/95 Junction at 7:00 a.m., leave at 7:30 a.m. (5644 Buntrock Rd, Marsing)

September 23rd—Blue Egg Claim—Blue Opal Thundereggs

Meet at Homedale Park (by the tank) at 8:00 a.m., leave at 8:30 a.m. (E Idaho Ave and S 2nd St E)

October 21st—Bruneau Wood Pile—Petrified Wood and Pine Cones

Meet at Walter's Ferry Boat Ramp, Melba, at 8:00 a.m., leave at 8:30 a.m.

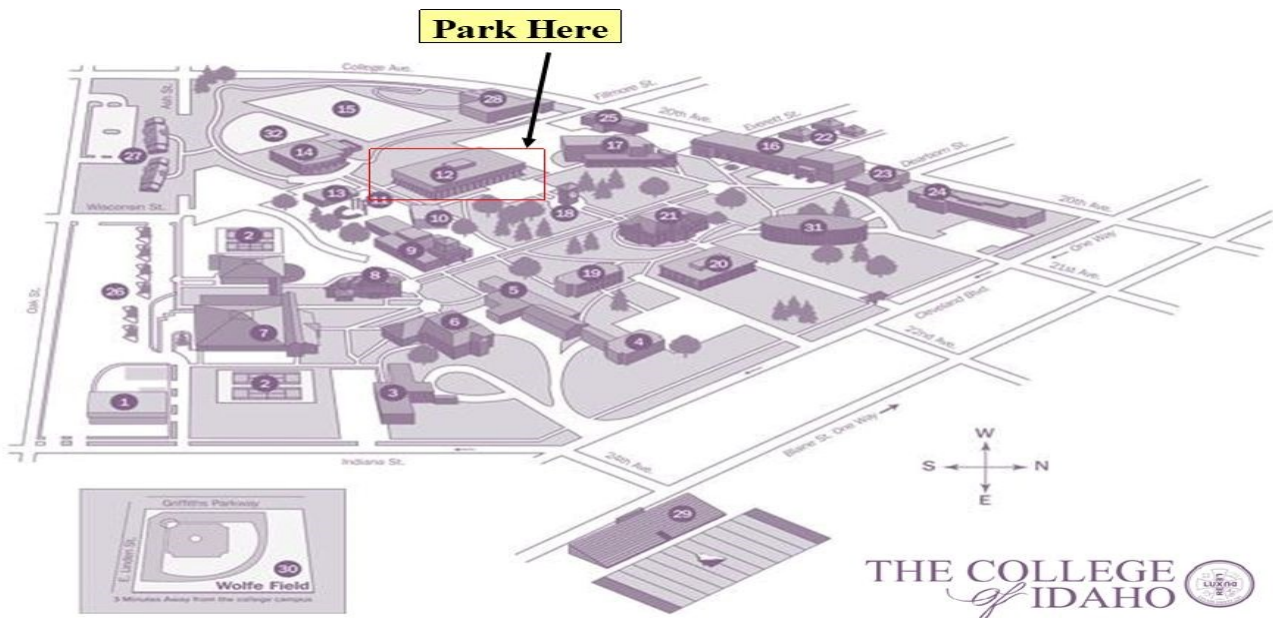
For further information contact John Wright at 208-571-6873 or Red Lovette at 208-965-7624

May General Meeting

The May 17th General Meeting will be in the Boone Science Hall at the College of Idaho, Room 103 at 7 p.m.

If you are heading SW on 20th Ave, you will take a left at Filmore St and go through the parking lot to the side entrance of the building.

General meetings are the third Wednesday of each month.



Orma J. Smith Museum of Natural History
College of Idaho—Boone Science Hall basement— Caldwell, Idaho
Hours: Monday—Friday, 12:15 - 5:00 p.m.

[Orma J. Smith Museum of Natural History | The College of Idaho](#)

As the only natural history museum in the region encompassing southwestern Idaho, southeastern Oregon, and northern Nevada, The College of Idaho's Orma J. Smith Museum of Natural History is the premier resource for environmental and natural history education in the region. The Museum is listed in the "30 Most Amazing Higher Education Natural History Museums," compiled by Best College Reviews.

You can check them out on [Instagram](#) or call (208) 459-5507.

May Birthdays

- 1 Grayceen Gann
- 2 David Baldwin
- 2 Walt Barnett
- 2 Celeste Brose
- 2 Eliza Callahan
- 3 Caden Helmer
- 7 John Farnham
- 6 Kurt Branham
- 8 Jim Collord
- 8 Carol Farnham
- 9 Harmony Dunne
- 8 Earl VanCampen
- 11 Bob Bashford
- 12 Dave Conrad
- 12 Bill Stringer
- 17 Pauline Prather
- 17 Mary Beth Prince
- 19 Doug Elliott
- 19 Jeff Hales
- 22 Harald Villarreal
- 26 Chuck Fawcett
- 28 John Akin
- 29 Paul Deveau

May Anniversaries

- 6 David & Helen Baldwin
- 14 Dee & Janet Huntley
- 15 Theo & Mercedes Rawson
- 15 Bill & Andrea Sawyer
- 17 Cameron & Melody Dunne
- 20 Dave & Teresa Conrad
- 25 Charles & Francisca Russell
- 27 Greg & Valerie Tucker
- 29 Jim & Vickie Wise
- 30 Mike & Tammy Markel

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.

jewelsmalia@yahoo.com

Newsletter Editor

If you have articles or information for the newsletter, please submit to denisemstringer@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.

May Birthstone

Emerald



Thought to improve memory, faith, and intuition, **emeralds** are a symbol for constancy and true affection. Some cultures believe them to grant their owner foresight, good fortune and youth. The name emerald is derived from the Greek word 'smaragdus' meaning 'green'.

Board Meeting Minutes—April 24, 2023

The OGMS April Board Meeting was called to order by **Vice President Sue Cassidy** at 7:00 pm at the Caldwell Public Library, 1010 Dearborn, Caldwell, Idaho. Ed Moser made the motion to accept the minutes as printed in the newsletter; Roxanne Franklin seconded; motion passed.

Secretary, Chris Deveau advised the Board that there was no mail.

Vice President, Sue Cassidy confirmed that presentations are lined up for the rest of the year. OGMS Member, Paul Verhage will do "The Story of the Elements" at the May General meeting.

Treasurer, Roxanne Franklin discussed the renewal of a 'CD' for OGMS. The Board approved redoing it at a new, higher rate.

Show Chair, Paul Deveau talked about several ideas and options for the 2024 Show. He gave two dealer payments for the 2024 Show to the Treasurer for deposit.

Federation Director, Ed Moser, asked that anyone who wants a Federation Club and Membership Directory to let him know before he goes to the Federation Meeting in August. The book sells for \$20.00. He wants to remind everyone to bring in their stamps (cancelled, or not, so he can take them to the Federation Meeting. The stamps are sold by the Federation to stamp collectors and the proceeds are donated for breast cancer research. Ed also invited OGMS Members to plan on a Field Trip with the Idaho Gem Club on 7 July 2023... They are going up near Lewiston for star garnets. We will get more information about this trip.

Membership Chair, Kim Bashford presented several new memberships for consideration: **Jessica Cogan and family; Dave & Teresa Conrad; Kristi Little; John Merritt; Richard & Sarah Wallace and family; Trent & Cecile Young and family; and Norman & Sandra Young and family.** Roxanne Franklin made the motion to accept the new members to OGMS; Ed Moser seconded; the motion passed unanimously. **We would like to extend our heartfelt welcome to each new member!**

John Wright, Field Trip Chair advised the Board of the successful April field trip to the Big Egg Claim. There were 50 vehicles with over a hundred people... everyone found eggs... many "Big" ones. The next field trip will be on Saturday, 20 May 2023, to Rockville for leaf fossils in the morning and Maple Ridge for petrified wood in the afternoon. We will meet at the Chevron on the corner of Hwy 55/95 west of Marsing at 8:00 am, leaving at 8:30 am.

Unfinished Business: Ed Moser advised the Board that he will have a display in the showcases at the Caldwell Public Library this month and member, Howard Emry will fill them next month. Calling all OGMS members... go to the library and see these collections. Our members have amazing specimens that they share with the public to promote our wonderful hobby of rockhounding.

New Business: John Wright discussed putting some large rocks on either side of the gate to the Big Egg Claim to block 'some' 4-wheel traffic into the claim area.

The May General Meeting will be on Wednesday, 17 May 2023 at 7:00pm at the College of Idaho, Boone Science Bldg., Room 103. The May Board Meeting will be held a week early, on Monday, 22 May 2023 due to the Memorial Day weekend holiday. We will meet at 7:00pm at the Caldwell Public Library, 1010 Dearborn, Caldwell, Idaho.

There will be a slab drawing at the general meeting... please bring your slabs!

The Board Meeting was adjourned at 07:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Christine Deveau, Secretary



Show Report



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

**OGMS 2024 Show Dates—March 2 and 3
O’Connor Field House, Caldwell, Idaho**

Just a quick note... in March OGMS started the 2023 monthly fieldtrips with great turnouts Thanks to John Wright. This time of year brings us many opportunities to add to our personal collections, build new friendships and strengthen long standing relationships. Rockhounding has a special way of bringing us all a little closer together.

Please remember along your travels this summer, to setback a few of your findings for our "2024 ROCK & GEM SHOW", which brings to mind... It won't be long till we start placing ads in Rock & Gem magazines and website calendars and we'll need a catchy name for the '24 show.

We share our knowledge while learning from others and I would like to thank the Nampa GPAA (Gold Prospectors Association of America) for setting up their panning demonstration at our show. This was mutually beneficial to both clubs. Hope they will return in 2024, Thanks Guys!

OGMS stills pays \$120 per five-gallon bucket of nicely tumbled rock... So get those tumblers going!

"Picnics, Friends & Rocks" Now that says a lot... STAY SAFE AND HAVE FUN...

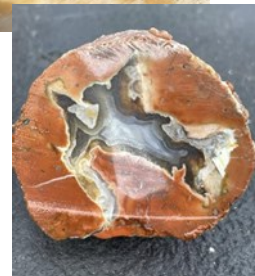
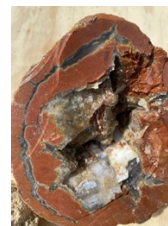
Road Side Cleanup—May 13, 2023

Ted Diehr has arranged for the first roadside cleanup to be conducted on May 13th. All who can, please join in this event as it has been sometime since we've been out to honor our commitment to the DOT. You will be meeting at Walter's Ferry, boat launch, at 9am for your instructions and to get your safety vests and garbage bags. Ted has done a fine job of organizing this event and I hope we can all support him in this endeavor. After we have completed the pickup there will be a short mystery fieldtrip as a reward along with drinks for the thirsty.

If you have questions, contact Ted at:

(713) 301-8684
tdiehr@comcast.net

Big Egg Claim Field Trip – April 22, 2023



Community Corner—Karen Davis

As I continue to teach rock & mineral classes to children, teens and adults, I am amazed at the interest in all three groups of people. In February, I was approached by a woman who was looking for something that could help her connect with her step-daughter who wasn't really interested in outdoor pursuits. She thought maybe she could interest the 16 year old in rockhounding, so they could do it together. I messaged her that I was willing to help her out and set up a time when they could both come to my house. Her step daughter was VERY interested and was given a sample rock collection. They stayed over 2 hours, learning about rocks, minerals, lapidary equipment, the hobby of rockhounding, and had a blast picking through my discard pile after the class (what a great way to get rid of my excess rock!).

I held a class in Feb. for a boy named Hunter whose dad was looking for help because he wanted to help with his son's rock obsession and didn't quite know how. Hunter turned out to be the most knowledgeable kid in all the rock classes I have taught. He knows his rocks and minerals and has an impressive collection. He and his father have since joined OGMS and attended our rock show. Hunter was excited to show me the large thunderegg he won at the silent auction.

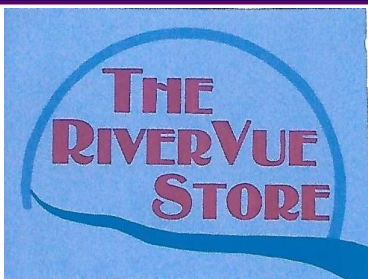
Another parent had a daughter who picked up rocks all the time and wanted someone who could help her identify them. After class, her mother said the best part was seeing all the smiles on her daughter's face as she learned about one of her favorite things. The beauty of rockhounding is that it is a multi-generational hobby where grandparents, moms & dads, teens and kids can get involved...all connecting and bonding over a shared love of nature.

I would like to thank all those OGMS members who have so willingly donated rocks to kids. Don Dixon donated several boxes of calcite/zeolite/limestone specimens that he found off of Sommer Camp Road years ago & Bob Bashford donated several large pieces of Fluorite he found in Challis. Ms. Shauna Wise (Middleton High Geology teacher) was delighted to add these to the Science dept. collection.



And my next endeavor? The Middleton Elementary School librarian is having a rock & mineral theme for one week in April and has asked me to give a 20 minute rock presentation for each class that comes into the library. That means over 500 kids will be learning about rocks that week! (Luckily for me, the school only meets Monday through Thursday, so I will have Friday to recuperate.)

Respectfully submitted,
Karen Davis



Stone from Arizona

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

Stone from Australia

Noreena
Mookite

Stone from Idaho & Oregon Amethyst from Uruguay

Owyhee Picture Jasper Slabs & Rough
Green Moss Agate Hammers/Tools/Gold Pans
Tumbled Stones Brazilian Agate

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April—October

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M-F 1:30-4:30 pm, Saturday 1:30—3:30

Check this website for more info on a special sale of rough rock and stones that are available to view by appointment:

www.stringersgemshop.com

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Tours are by appointment

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2 Highland Park Rock Saws

16 inch and 10 inch

1-55 gal barrel 1/3 full of oil

\$1000 for both o.b.o.

Located in Nampa

Shannon Tharp

shannontt@msn.com

208.250.2470



Membership—Kim Bashford

We are accepting payment of 2023 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: 2023
Family	Couple	Single	Child	
\$20	\$18	\$12	\$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
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

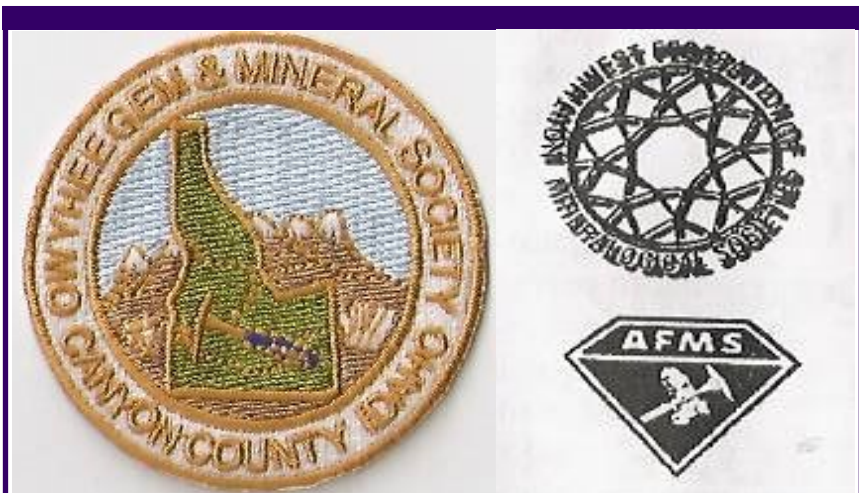
The Owyhee Gem and Mineral Society was established in 1938 at the College of Idaho in Caldwell, Idaho.

GENERAL MEETING: The club meets the third Wednesday of each month at 7:00 P.M. in the Boone Science Hall at the College of Idaho, Room 103, except for the July picnic and the December holiday party.

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/>