

# "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

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**PRESIDENT:** Willa Renken  
(208) 362-3941, Wlr\_dkr@msn.com

**VICE-PRESIDENT:** Roxanne Franklin  
(208) 577-7095,  
rocksfrank@cableone.net

**SECRETARY:** Christine Deveau  
(208) 994-8026, dragonflylight@q.com

**TREASURER:** Debbie Lawrence  
(208) 869-7585,  
debbielawrenceogms@gmail.com

**FEDERATION DIRECTOR:** Ed Moser  
(208) 340-8060, edmoser15@gmail.com

**FIELD TRIP CHAIR:** Robert Murphey  
(208) 590-1848  
robert.murpheyogms@gmail.com

**ASSISTANT:** Dale Rawson  
(208) 283-7990

**2021 SHOW CHAIR:** Paul Deveau  
(208) 994-8025 devidaho@q.com

**NEWSLETTER EDITOR:**  
Denise Stringer, (208) 283-1903,  
denisemstringer@gmail.com

**MEMBERSHIP:** Kim Bashford  
(208) 454-7287,  
kmcewan1957@msn.com

**HISTORIAN:** Pauline Prather  
(208) 459-4139

**SUNSHINE:** Jewels Haines  
(760) 331-3443,  
jewelsmalia@yahoo.com

**WEBMASTER:** Brad Larson  
ogms.webmaster@gmail.com

**ROADSIDE CLEAN-UP:** Bill Anderson  
(208) 919-3507,  
billybushman1@yahoo.com

### September President's Message

Hello fellow rockhounds. Hope this month's newsletter finds you well and enjoying the start of the fall weather. I hope that some of you got to go out to Texas Springs with Robert over the Labor Day weekend. He went on Tuesday to scout out different areas to help you all find some nice material. We want to "Thank" him for all the extended effort that he has put out on behalf of you and our club. Robert and Dale have put a lot of effort into seeing that the club members have not only a wonderful field trip but put you in the areas where nice material could be found.

Ed Moser and Howard Emery have been in contact with the Caldwell Library in regards to their showcases. The library has offered the displays to them for the months of October-January. If you are in town, you might want to drop in and check the displays out. I have it on good authority that the material is worth taking the time to see.

Kim has been in contact with the College of Idaho and we have been told we can start having our meetings again at the College starting September 15<sup>th</sup>. Our meeting will be in the Boone Science Building room 103 beginning at 7pm. We encourage you to wear a mask at least until we are in the room at which point you can make the decision to take it off or wear it. I look forward to seeing more of you out to our meetings especially where there will be enough room to spread out.

Our Board meetings will be back at the Caldwell Library starting September 27<sup>th</sup>.

I for one am looking forward to getting back to a more even keel and have set my sites on spring and enjoying the rock shows. See you at the next meeting.

-Willa Renken OGMS President



**OWYHEE GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY GENERAL MEETING MINUTES 18 AUGUST 2021**

**President, Willa Renken**, called the August Owyhee Gem and Mineral Society General Meeting to order at 7:05pm at the Caldwell Memorial Park, 618 Irving Street in Caldwell, Idaho. Roxanne Franklin made the motion to accept the minutes as printed in the newsletter; Ruth Hopkins seconded; motion passed. David and Barbara Korn were our visitors for the evening... we hope you enjoyed your visit!

**Vice President, Roxanne Franklin** is working on various presentations for the club, please contact her if you would like to take part in the club program schedule.

**Secretary, Chris Deveau** received one package from the Bureau of Land Management regarding the OGMS claims. The package was turned over to Dave Schmidt, as he had already submitted the information required.

**Treasurer, Debbie Lawrence** gave a report on the funds raised at the auction last month... newsletter and other bills that she had paid... and all deposits made to the club.

**Show Chair, Paul Deveau** told the group that we have new Co-Assistant Show Chairs, Karen and Brian Davis... thank you both for stepping up to help.

**Northwest Federation Chair, Ed Moser** will be representing OGMS at the Federation Meeting in September in Walla Walla. He will deliver the stamps that we have been collecting for the past year... (they are sold to collectors and the proceeds are donated for breast cancer research).

**Ed Moser** and **Howard Emry** have both contacted the Caldwell Public Library about putting a rock/mineral collection in their display cases. The library is now open... Howard will share his display in October and November and Ed will fill the cases in December and January. Thank you both for presenting our hobby and our club to the community!

**Membership, Kim Bashford** gave all pending membership funds to the Treasurer, Debbie. Please contact Kim for your name tag, she has lots that haven't been picked up.

**Field Trip Chair, Robert Murphey** said the next field trip is to Wagon Town for Bogwood. The trip is on Saturday, 21 August 2021, meet at the Xtra Mile gas station at the junction of Hwy 55/95, just west of Marsing, Idaho at 7:00am, leave at 7:30am. On Sunday, 22 August 2021, OGMS is invited to go with the Idaho Gem Club to South Mountain for Hedenbergite and Ilvaite mineral specimens. Meet at the Xtra Mile station at the junction of Hwy 55/95 at 7:45 am, leaving at 8:15... then meet back up at the Jordan Valley City Park at 9 am... leaving at 9:30am.

There is also an overnigher planned over Labor Day Weekend to Texas Springs. Robert has maps and information, give him a call or send him an e-mail if you are interested in going. Robert will be marking the 23 miles of road to the Texas Springs site with orange tape. He will be there several days prior to the weekend, but there is limited cell service... so check with him soon. Robert and Deana Ashton shared that Tony Funk has invited our two clubs again for a barbeque and rock trip to his rock yard in Gooding on 2 October 2021.

There was no **Old Business**.

**New Business... watch the newsletter for an update on where the September meetings will be held... the College or the Elks???**

**Dale Rawson** shared that former member, Guy DiTorrice, was moving and donated several buckets of various rocks and a box of fossils to OGMS for the silent auction. Thank you, Guy... we really appreciate it!

The slab drawing was held... plus an auction of some buckets of rock that we missed at the auction last month. Please bring your slabs, there will be a slab drawing at the next General Meeting!

The door prize, (two heavy duty chisels provided by Pauline Prather) was won by Deana Ashton. Deana will bring the door prize to the next General Meeting. If you want to take part in the door prize drawing, sign up on the attendance sheet (Chris has it) at the next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 08:00pm. The remainder of the evening was dedicated to the ice cream social. Homemade huckleberry and chocolate from Willa... homemade vanilla from Paul and Chris... and boxes of Drumsticks from Jim and Ruth. There were all kinds of toppings plus cookies and treats to go along with ALL the GREAT ice cream!!! Thanks to everyone for taking part and helping to make this a fun event! (How can you go wrong with ice cream???) Respectfully submitted, Secretary, Christine Deveau



**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.

**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.



**Robert  
Murphey**

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

**Dale  
Rawson**



### **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.**



### **OGMS 2021 Field Trips**

**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)

### **August Field Trip Report:**

We headed out to Wagon Town on Aug 21 st and it was a sketchy morning as I was heading to the meeting point watching an incredible lightning storm and driving through some rain but the clouds quickly cleared and the trip was a go. We had 15+ people attend and everyone went home with some good material. The Fossil rocks were a big hit and cannot wait to see what others make from their finds. Most were done collecting by 2pm and it was a successful trip.

Over the Labor Day weekend, we had an overnight trip into Texas springs, Nevada. Here we found Limb Casts, pink and red Snakeskin Agate and some interesting petrified wood as well as some nice bogwood. Due to the intense rains they had there recently the float material was abundant. Everyone went home with some really nice pink limb casts and other great specimens. There were 3 campers that brought in trailers, several tent campers and a few that stayed in Jackpot. The roads were very dusty and not much wind making it easy to see if other travelers were coming on the road. The back way in was not recommended due to the 1 mile of 2 feet deep moon dust. My brown truck was tan after a trip to mark the route but was able to get the word out thanks to other members due to my limited services in the area, that is was not recommended to come in that way. It was hunting season so the only people we ran into were mostly hunters but we did meet a few other diehard rock hounds from other states in search of the limb casts. Many stories were shared and overall it was a great turnout of 20 people ranging from campers to day trippers. The nights were cool and the morning temps were in the low 30's. At night you could hear the coyotes looking for dinner and some Elk bugling.

Our next rip is scheduled for the Blue Egg club claim on Sept 18th . We will be meeting at the Homedale park @ 8AM leaving out @ 8:30AM. So far the weather appears to be good and temps in the upper 70's for the day. Hope to see you out there as this claim produces great thundereggs and some are gem quality Blue Opal.



## 2022 Show Dates: March 6 and 7 O'Connor Field House, Caldwell, Idaho

The Gem Show IS getting closer and plans are moving forward – All of the last Gem Show vendors have secured their places. Covington Engineering, manufacturer of lapidary equipment, now located in Meridian, Idaho, will also be present at our 2022 Gem Show.

<b>SHOW VENUE CHAIRS:</b> (2-hour sign-up to take part and have fun)		
Front Door	<b>Roxanne Franklin</b>	208-577-7095
Sand Dig	<b>Jody and Natasha Atwood</b>	208-409-7377
Wheel of Gems	<b>Chris Rawson</b>	208-371-7639
Grab Bags	<b>Janie Ehlers</b>	208-674-1213
Silent Auction	<b>Don Dixon</b>	208-908-3374
Membership	<b>Kim Bashford</b>	208-454-7287
Grand Prize/Basket Raffles	<b>Deana Ashton</b>	208-794-5628
Demonstrators	<b>Willa Renken</b>	208-362-3941

We will have **Jari McClarin** and **Bill Anderson** as our Roving Membership Ambassadors again in 2022.

**Kim Bashford** (208-454-7287) will be taking reservations for the "Showcases", so get your name on her list to reserve one or more for the show. **THESE GO FAST !!**

**Diane Stevens** (208-454-5406) and **Andrea Sawyer** (208-323-1345) will Co-Chair the "Chili Feed" for the Friday show set-up.

**Donations always needed...**

- Wheel of Gems Prizes
- Grab Bag Prizes
- Polished and Faceted Stones for Sand Dig
- Critters and Critter Making Supplies

### **Tumble Rock!**

Please continue tumbling rocks for grab bags, OGMS will pay \$120.00 for a five-gallon bucket of nicely, tumbled rocks. OGMS purchased (2) buckets in July...

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

KAREN & BRIAN DAVIS are the new "CO-ASSISTANT SHOW CHAIRS", thanks guys... looking forward to working with you both... they will be advertising our up-and-coming Gem Show in March 2022. [bkdavis76@gmail.com](mailto:bkdavis76@gmail.com) (208) 409-8936

VOLUNTEERS, please contact any of the SHOW VENUE CHAIRS and sign-up "IT'S THAT EASY"

### **LOOKING FORWARD TO ANOTHER GREAT SHOW...**

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



## September Birthdays

- 4 Roy Bethel
- 5 Kenneth Neufeld
- 7 George Davila
- 8 Janis Benjamin
- 11 Tom Clement
- 12 Dale Brown
- 13 Natalya Hazen
- 14 Andrea Sawyer
- 15 Andy Krivy
- 16 M.K. Braga
- 17 Amanda Todd
- 20 Randy Whipple
- 22 Bill Franklin
- 25 Eva Roberts
- 26 Miguel Lantz
- 27 Chris O'Brien
- 30 Vikki Tibbetts

## September Anniversaries

- 3 Darell & Janie Ehlers
- 11 Jeff & Paula Hales
- 11 Doc & Linda Morgan
- 12 Steve & Barb Narkaus
- 18 Loren & Luva Francis
- 24 Dan & Diane Stevens

### 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.

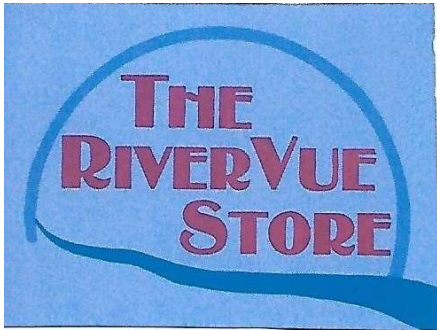
If you would like just the email edition and not the mailed edition, let me know.

Email me at: [denisemstringer@gmail.com](mailto: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, [jewelsmalia@yahoo.com](mailto:jewelsmalia@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

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## September Birthstone— Sapphire

The official birthstone for September is blue **Sapphire** and thus the September birthstone color is **deep blue**. The alternative birthstone for September is **Lapis Lazuli**, which also occurs in a deep royal blue color.



Blue Sapphire is one of the Zodiac birthstones for Virgo (Aug 23 - Sep 23) and Lapis Lazuli is one of the birthstones for Libra (Sep 24 - Oct 23). Other birthday symbols include the birth flowers for September which are the Aster and Morning Glory.

Blue Sapphire is extremely valuable and is one of the four precious gemstones, together with Diamond, Ruby and Emerald. Besides being a meaningful September birthday gift, Sapphire is also given to celebrate the 5th and 45th wedding anniversaries, and Star Sapphire is the traditional 65th anniversary gift.

The origin of the word 'sapphire' appears to come from Latin *sapphirus* and Greek *sappheiros* meaning 'blue' or 'precious stones'. The brilliant blue Sapphire gemstone is associated with truth, sincerity, constancy and purity of the soul.

Blue Sapphire is a form of the mineral corundum and there are many other colors of corundum known as 'fancy sapphires'. The exception is red corundum which is in fact the Ruby gemstone and is treated separately. Pure corundum is actually colorless and traces of other elements produce the different colored Sapphires. In the case of blue Sapphire it is traces of iron and titanium.

Brilliant blue Sapphires were found historically in the remote mountainous regions of Kashmir of northern India. Today most high quality Sapphires come from the Asian countries of Myanmar (Burma), Sri Lanka, Thailand and Cambodia and the African country of Madagascar. Commercial grade Sapphires are found in East Africa, Australia and Montana, USA.



## Alternative September Birthstone: Lapis Lazuli

The alternative or second birthstone for September is Lapis Lazuli, which is also a beautiful deep blue color.



Lapis is not actually a crystal like most gemstones, but a type of metamorphic rock made up of dark blue lazurite, golden pyrite flecks and white calcite veins. Due to its exquisite coloring it has been used in jewelry and sculptures for centuries.

Lapis Lazuli has been mined in Afghanistan for more than 6000 years and is still sourced from there today. Other locations include Italy and Russia in Eurasia, Argentina and Chile in South America, and Canada and the USA in North America.

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



**UPDATE – 31 AUGUST 2021  
THE OGMS SEPTEMBER GENERAL MEETING WILL BE AT BOONE SCIENCE  
BUILDING, ROOM 103 ON THE COLLEGE OF IDAHO CAMPUS AT 7:00PM**

**OWYHEE GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY BOARD MEETING MINUTES 30 AUGUST 2021**

The OGMS Board Meeting was called to order by President, Willa Renken at 7:00pm at the Caldwell Memorial Park, 618 Irving Street, Caldwell, Idaho. Ed Moser made the motion to accept the minutes as printed in the newsletter; Kim Bashford seconded; motion passed.

**Roxanne Franklin, Vice President**, brought some purple agate slabs from Nevada. NICE!!! She discussed programs for the meetings. If you would like to share a 'favorite' or make a presentation to the group, please contact Roxanne. Karen Davis volunteered to demonstrate her rock cleaning device to the group at the September meeting.

**Chris Deveau, Secretary**, picked up several mail items. Dave Schmidt was notified that his receipt from BLM came in; Show Chair, Paul Deveau was given a dealer contract for the 2022 Rock Show; Webmaster, Brad Larson was notified of a website listing service – junk – tossed; Membership, Kim Bashford was given two memberships for processing; and one other advertisement for a 'Gem' auction was shared.

**Paul Deveau, Show Chair** discussed Vendor applications for the 2022 Show.

**Ed Moser, NW Federation Chair** advised he will be going to the NWF Meeting in September.

**Kim Bashford, Membership** said she received two renewals today.

**Karen Davis, Co-Assistant Show Chair** says she is looking forward to working with everyone on the 2022 Show.

**Robert Murphey, Field Trip Chair** was unavailable for the meeting since he was headed to Texas Springs for the week and Labor Day weekend overnigher. He advised Willa there were 13 vehicles and 20 people on the Wagon Town field trip. Everyone found nice Bogwood and good fossil material. He added an FYI... there are No Fires Allowed in Nevada until 31 October.

**Unfinished Business:** NONE

**New Business:** Kim has been checking with the Caldwell City Library and they are finally open for our Board Meetings. The Board will meet at the Caldwell Library at Dearborn and 10<sup>th</sup> Street in Caldwell on the following Mondays for the rest of the year; September 27<sup>th</sup>, October 25<sup>th</sup>, and November 29<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm. There will be no Board meeting in December. Kim is still waiting to hear from the College Idaho to see if OGMS will be allowed to hold the General meetings there. Elks or College of Idaho?????? – where will the General Meetings be held???

Bring your slabs for the slab drawing.

The Board Meeting was adjourned at 7:35pm.

Respectfully submitted, Christine Deveau, Secretary



## The General Meeting for September is at the College of Idaho!

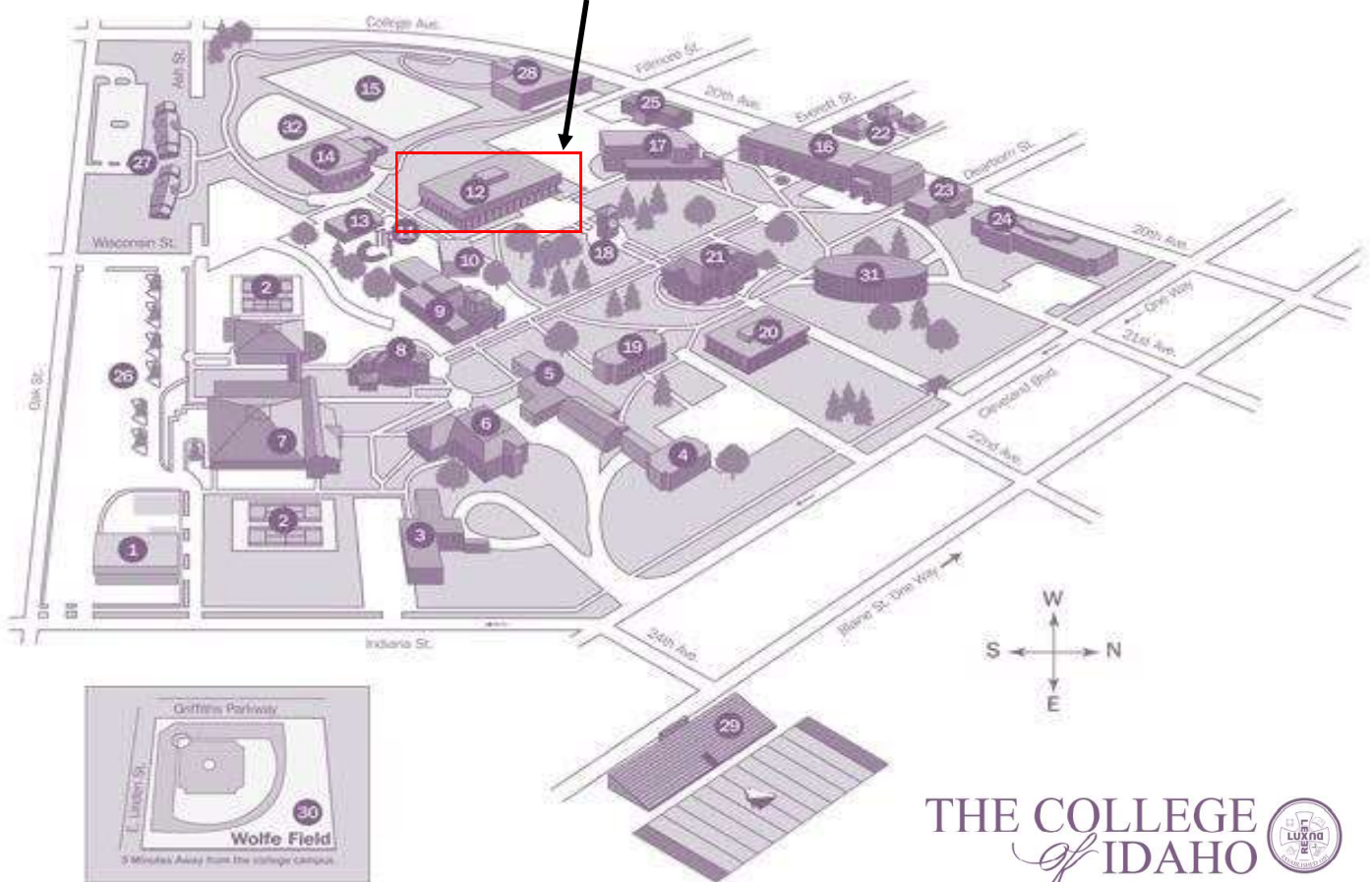
The September 15th general meeting will be in the Boone Science Hall at the College of Idaho, Room 103.

On the map below, the location is Building 12.  
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.

See you there at 7:00 p.m.

General meetings are the third Wednesday of each month.

**Park Here**





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/>